



# **VMS developments in the EUROPEAN UNION**

**VMS Asia Pacific 2003**  
**Cairns Convention Centre, 27-28 November 2003**

**Jacques Verborgh, DG FISH, European Commission**

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/fisheries/>



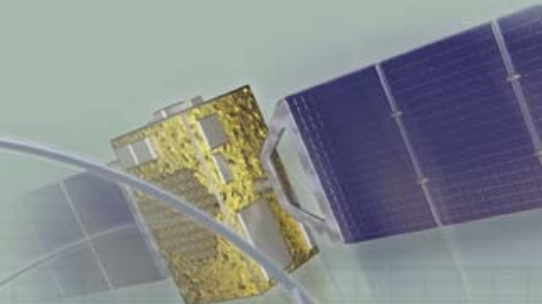
# **VMS CONCEPT**

- **Transceiver ("Blue Box")**
- **Position reports**
- **Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC)**



# F M C

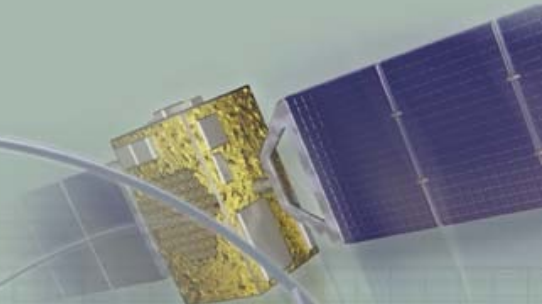
- monitors flag vessels wherever they operate
- monitors other States' vessels while operating in the waters under its jurisdiction





# F M C

- detection of events
- prediction of events

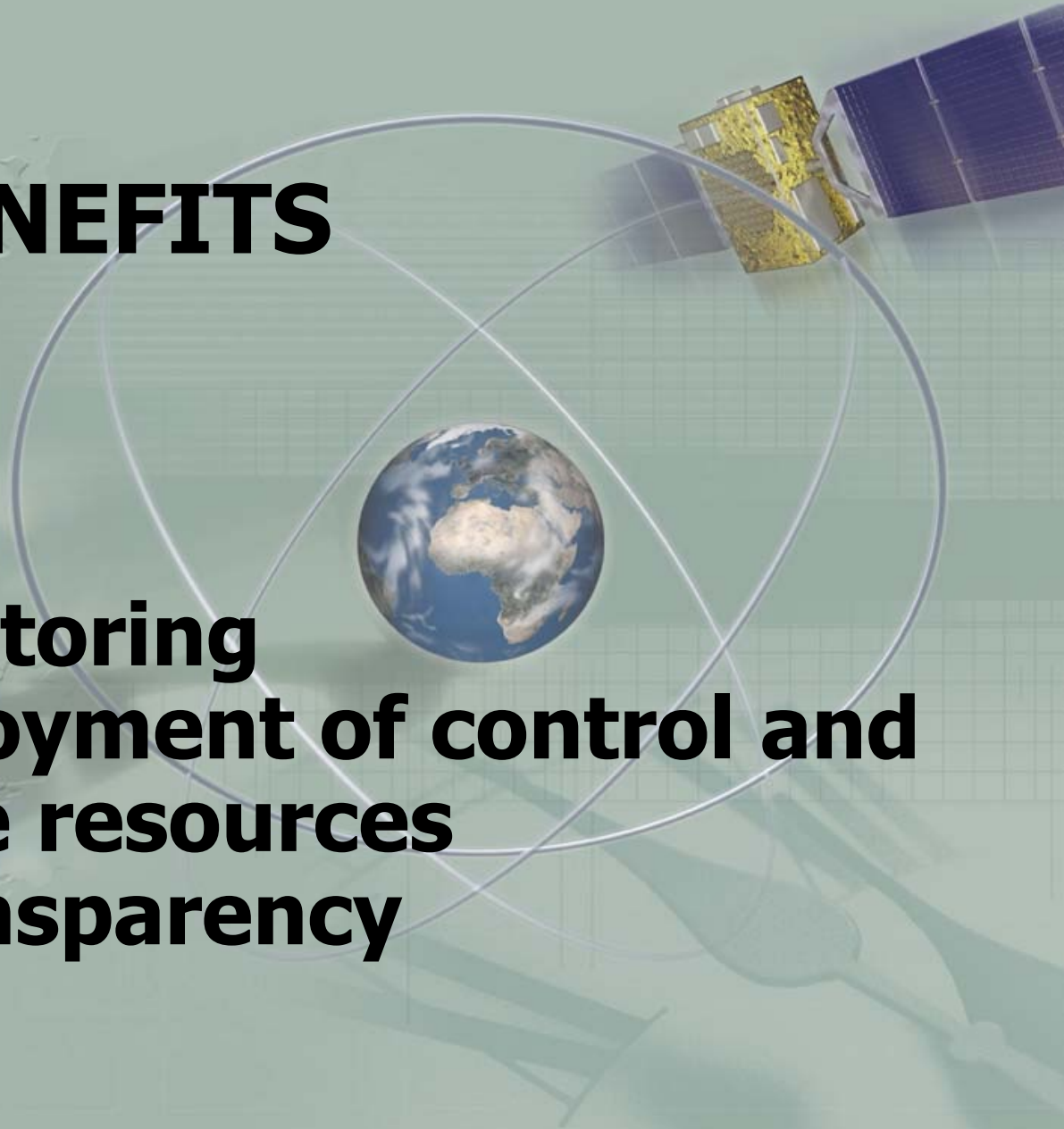






# **BENEFITS**

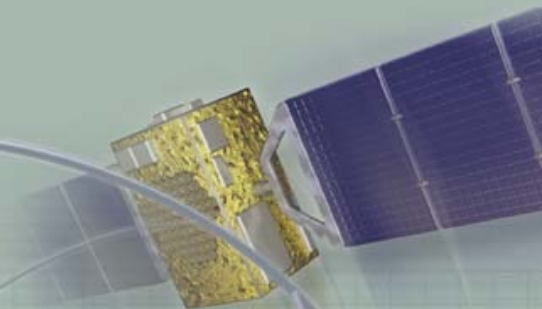
- **better monitoring**
- **better deployment of control and surveillance resources**
- **greater transparency**





# **VMS SCOPE TODAY**

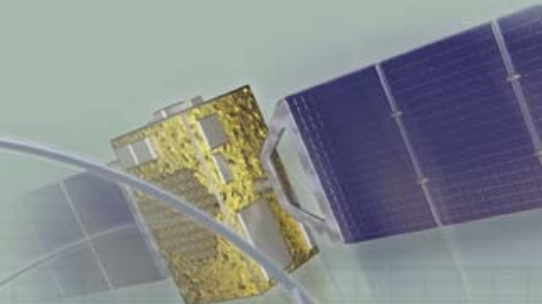
**Fishing vessels exceeding  
20 m length between  
perpendiculars or  
24 m length overall  
wherever they operate**





# **VMS and the COASTAL MEMBER STATE**

**Automatic transmission of position reports to the FMC of the coastal Member State**





# **VMS and THIRD COUNTRY VESSELS**

**VMS applies to third country vessels  
when operating in EU waters  
since 1 January 2000**





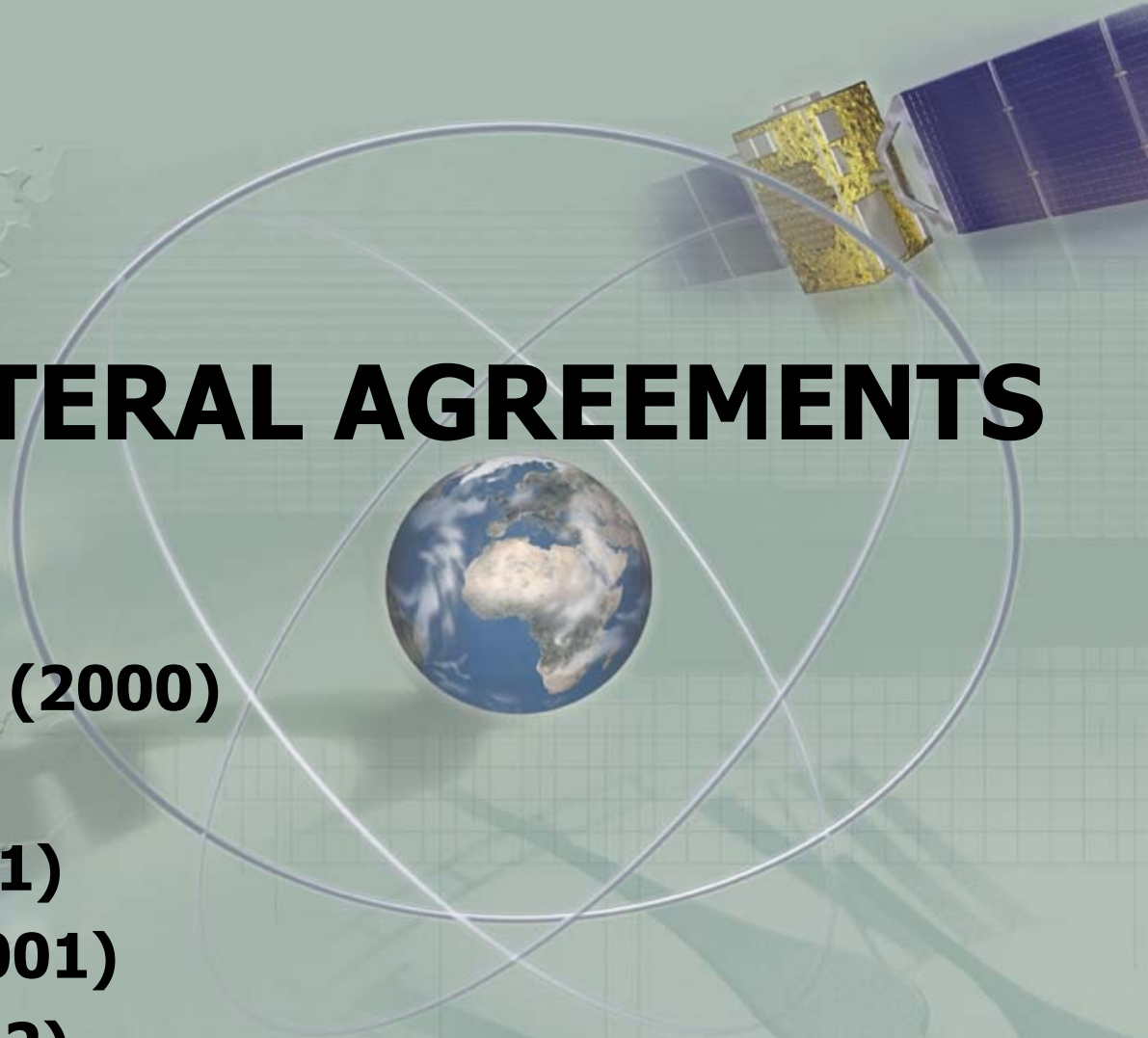
# **INTERNATIONAL VMS ACTIVITIES**

- BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER STATES**
- REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS**



# **VMS IN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS**

- **NORWAY (2000)**
- **FAEROE ISLANDS (2000)**
- **ANGOLA (2000)**
- **GREENLAND (2001)**
- **MADAGASCAR (2001)**
- **SEYCHELLES (2002)**
- **ESTONIA, LATVIA & LITHUANIA (2003)**





# **VMS IN REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

- **CCAMLR (1999)**
- **ICCAT (pilot project)**
- **NAFO (2001)**
- **NEAFC (2000)**
- **.....**





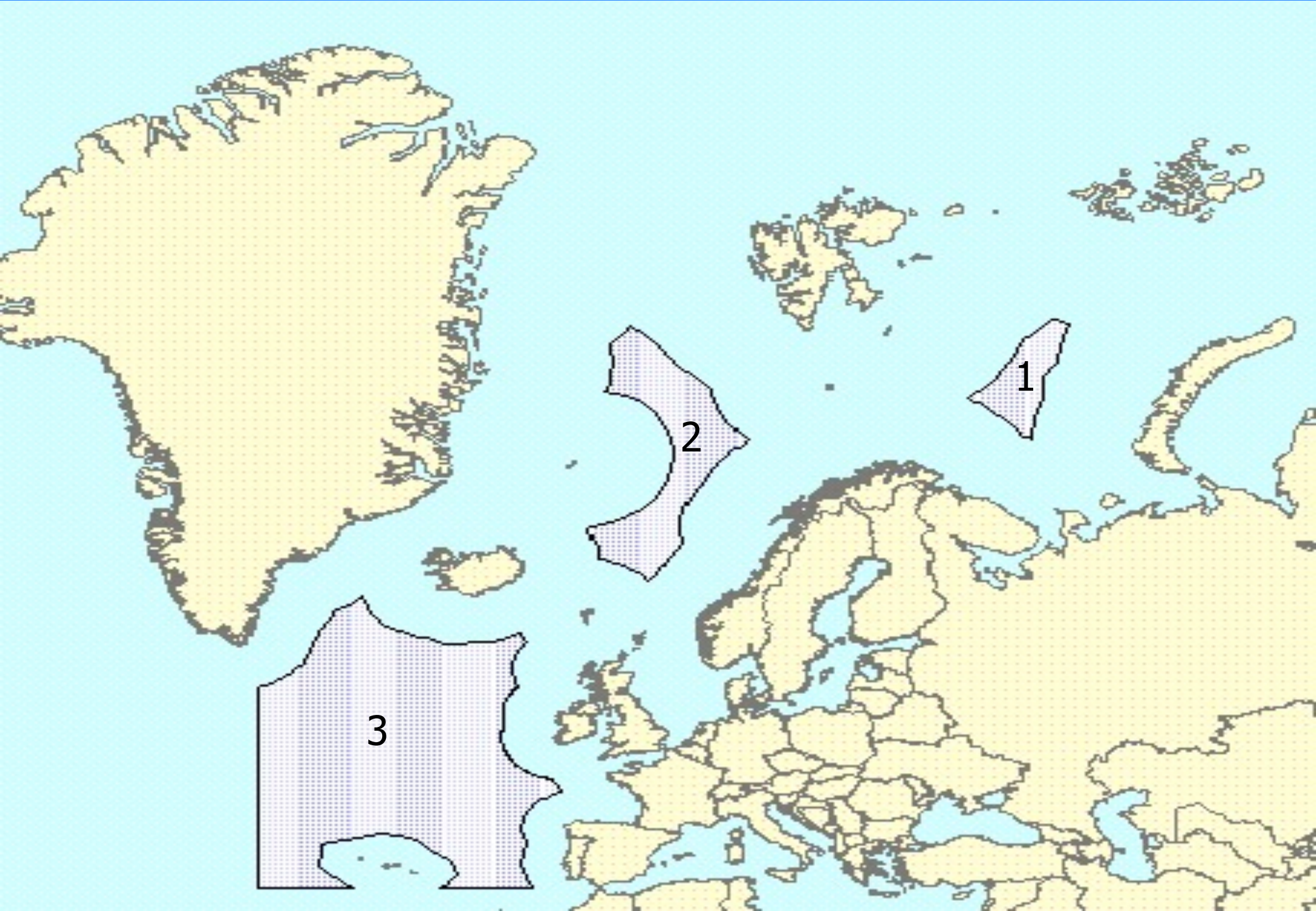
# **NORTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION (N E A F C)**

- CREATED IN 1953**
- 7 CONTRACTING PARTIES: DENMARK\*,  
ESTONIA, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,  
ICELAND, NORWAY, POLAND, RUSSIA**

**[www.neafc.org](http://www.neafc.org)**

**\*on behalf of Greenland and the Faeroe Islands**







# NEAFC

- **CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT SCHEME ENTERED INTO FORCE IN 1999**
- **EACH CONTRACTING PARTY NEEDS TO HAVE A VMS IN PLACE**



# **N E A F C VMS**

## **- CONTRACTING PARTIES TO SECRETARY:**

- **position report upon entry in/exit from the RA**
- **position report every 2 hours within the RA**
- **in a computer readable format ("NAF")**

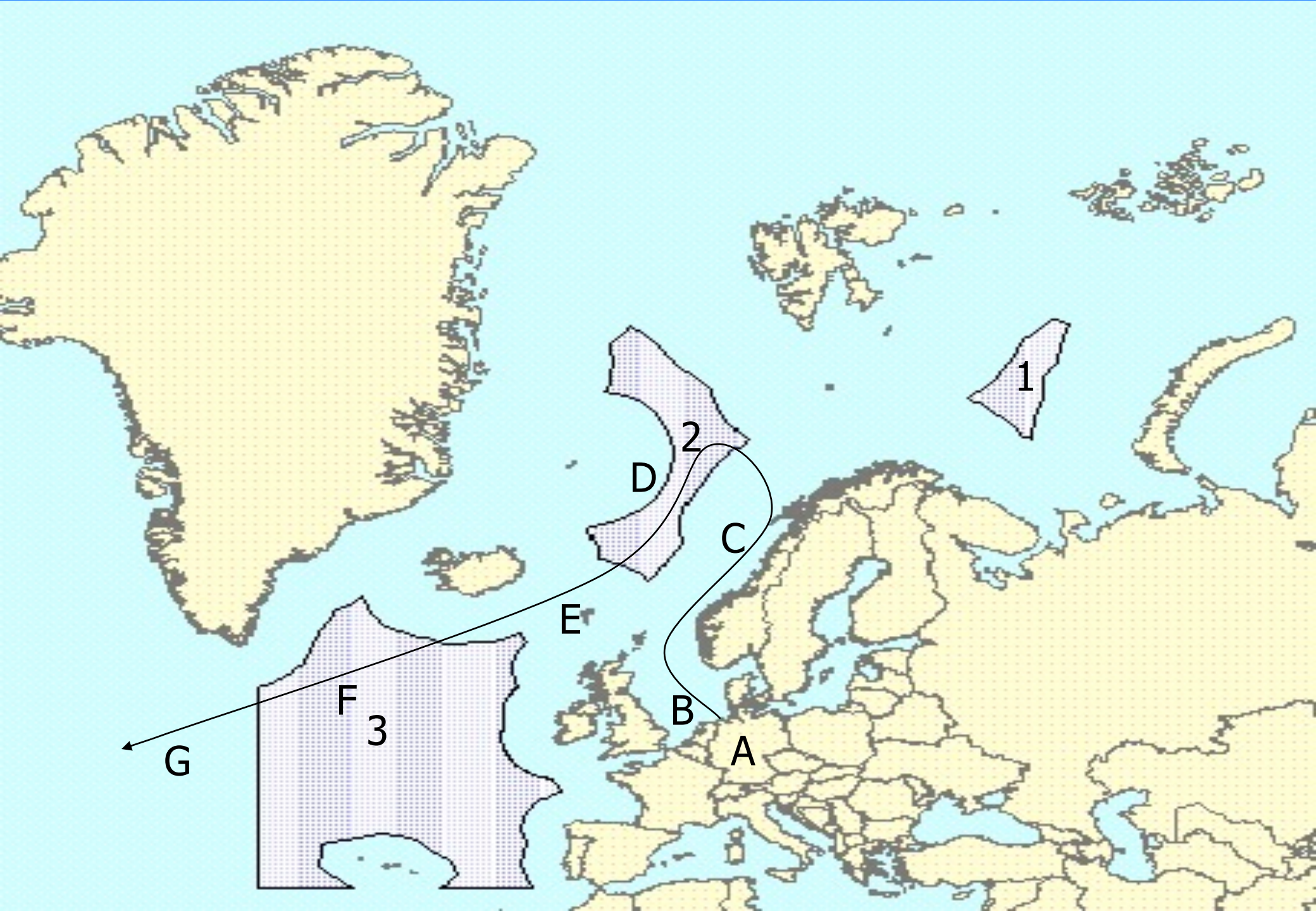




# **N E A F C VMS**

- SECRETARY TO CONTRACTING PARTIES:**
  - retransmission in real time
  - in a computer readable format ("NAF")
  - in compliance with the provisions on secure and confidential treatment







**Turning to a new chapter...**





# **COMMON FISHERIES POLICY REFORM**

**Includes an extension of VMS:**

- as from 2004, to fishing vessels exceeding 18 metres in length,**
- as from 2005, to fishing vessels exceeding 15 metres in length**

**Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002**

**[http://europa.eu.int/comm/fisheries/reform/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/fisheries/reform/index_en.htm)**





# **EU ENLARGEMENT**

**Accession Treaty with 10 applicant countries.**

**On joining the EU in May 2004, the new Member States are expected to accept the "acquis".**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/index_en.htm)





# STRICTER RULES

- single regulation
- less exemptions
- detailed rules for third country vessels in Community waters
- *speed* and *course* mandatory in position reports (as from 2006)
- geographical position expressed in *decimal degrees*

Commission Regulation (EC) No ..../2003



# **STRICTER RULES (Ctd.)**

- uniform reporting frequency (1h / 2h)
- manual reporting every 4 hours in case of technical failure
- prevention of tampering
- responsibilities better specified

**Commission Regulation (EC) No ..../2003**



# **NEW APPLICATIONS**

- **Progressive introduction of electronic logbooks & reporting of information on fishing activities,**
- **Combination with remote sensing data,**
- **...**

**Commission Regulation (EC) No 1461/2003**



# **INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION**

- Global VMS strategies





# **INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION**

- Global VMS strategies
- VMS Standardisation



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**[jacques.verborgh@cec.eu.int](mailto:jacques.verborgh@cec.eu.int)**