***Agreed Minutes***

**from the meeting between State Secretary Lars Andreas Lunde, Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway, and Head of Cabinet Jukka-Pekka Kataja, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland, in Helsinki 27 August 2015 on a new agreement between Norway and Finland of the River Teno**

The State Secretary and the Head of Cabinet have concluded that they share the following common understanding:

* The situation for the salmon stocks of the Teno River is very severe due to overfishing. Accordingly, there is a need for a major reduction in fishing pressure
* The two Secretaries endeavour to ensure the status of the common salmon stocks in the River Teno by concluding a new agreement between the two Governments that implements modern principles for managing salmon stocks, according to NASCO recommendations, including principles of flexibility, caution and monitoring of the stock status
* Special attention will be paid to salmon stocks whose status have been recognised as poor. Key content of the agreement will include a fishing regulation scheme and a revival plan drawn up to improve the status of salmon stocks
* On the basis of a recommendation made by the Finnish-Norwegian research group and the use of local knowledge, fishing regulations will initially be amended such that fishing mortality is reduced by approximately one-third compared to the current situation
* The new agreement will also review the distribution of the catch between Finland and Norway in accordance with the salmon production areas. The two parties will seek uniform compilation of statistics on catches
* When drawing up fishing regulations, fishing activities based on the culture of the local people will be given priority. Local culture includes, in this case, both recreational fisheries, fishing for food and fishing as a livelihood based on the local salmon population.
* The new agreement will take into account legislation in both countries
* The new agreement, including new regulations, needs to be concluded by the end of 2015, and set in force by 1 January 2017 in both states
* The delegations will put special emphasis on the issue of new regulatory measures in their further deliberations building upon the last proposals exchanged by the delegations, also considering elements proposed by local stakeholders in August 2015
* Considering the very short time we have on our disposal, our delegations will work out a on detailed timetable for the further negotiations and present them to us by the end of week 36
* The further negotiations will be followed closely on political level

Helsinki, 27 August 2015

Lars Andreas Lunde Jukka-Pekka Kataja