

**TEXT OF THE CCAMLR SCHEME OF  
INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATION**

## **TEXT OF THE CCAMLR SCHEME OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATION<sup>1</sup>**

A. Each Member of the Commission may designate observers referred to in Article XXIV of the Convention.

- (a) Activities of scientific observers on board vessels will be specified by the Commission. These activities are laid down in Annex I and may be modified taking into account advice from the Scientific Committee.
- (b) Scientific observers shall be nationals of the Member who designates them and shall conduct themselves in accordance with the customs and order existing on the vessel on which they are operating.
- (c) Members shall designate scientific observers who shall be familiar with the harvesting and scientific research activities to be observed, the provisions of the Convention and the measures adopted under it and who are adequately trained to carry out competently the duties of scientific observers as required by the Commission.
- (d) Scientific observers shall be able to communicate in the language of the Flag State of the vessels on which they carry out their activities.
- (e) Scientific observers shall each carry a document issued by the designating Member in a form approved by the Commission identifying them as CCAMLR scientific observers.
- (f) Scientific Observers shall submit to the Commission through the designating Member, not later than one month after the completion of the observer cruise or after the return of the observer to his/her home country, a report of each observation assignment undertaken, using the observation formats approved by the Scientific Committee. A copy shall be sent to the Member whose vessel was involved.

B. In order to promote the objectives of the Convention, Members agree to take on board their vessels engaged in scientific research or harvesting of marine living resources designated scientific observers, who shall operate in accordance with bilateral arrangements concluded.

In such a bilateral arrangement, the Member wishing to place scientific observers on board a vessel of another Member shall be referred to as the 'Designating Member' whilst the Member who accepts on board its vessel shall be referred to as the 'Receiving Member'.

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<sup>1</sup> As adopted at CCAMLR-XI (paragraph 6.11) and amended at CCAMLR-XVI (paragraph 8.21).

Such a bilateral arrangement shall include the following principles:

- (a) The scientific observers shall be given the status of ship's officers. Accommodation and meals for scientific observers on board shall be of a standard commensurate with this status.
- (b) Receiving Members shall ensure that their vessel operators cooperate fully with the scientific observers to enable them to carry out the tasks assigned to them by the Commission. This will include access to data and to those operations of the vessel necessary to fulfil the duties of a scientific observer as required by the Commission.
- (c) Receiving Members shall take appropriate action on board their vessels to ensure the security and welfare of scientific observers in the performance of their duties, provide them with medical care and safeguard their freedom and dignity.
- (d) Arrangements shall be made for messages to be sent and received on behalf of scientific observers using the vessel's communications equipment and operator. Reasonable costs of such communications shall normally be borne by the Designating Member.
- (e) Arrangements involving the transportation and boarding of scientific observers shall be organised so as to minimise interference with harvesting and research operations.
- (f) Scientific observers shall provide to the relevant masters copies of such records, prepared by the scientific observers, as the masters may wish to retain.
- (g) Designating Members shall ensure that their scientific observers carry insurance satisfactory to the Parties concerned.
- (h) Transportation of scientific observers to and from boarding points shall be the responsibility of the Designating Member.
- (i) Unless otherwise agreed the equipment, clothing and salary and any related allowances of a scientific observer shall normally be borne by the Designating Member. The vessel of the Receiving Member shall bear the cost of on board accommodation and meals of the scientific observer.

C. The Designating Members shall provide details of observation programs to the Commission at the earliest possible opportunity and no later than upon the conclusion of each bilateral arrangement. For each observer deployed, the following details shall be supplied:

- (a) date of signing the arrangement;
- (b) name and flag of the vessel receiving the observer;
- (c) Member designating the observer;
- (d) area of fishing (CCAMLR statistical area, subarea, division);

- (e) type of data to be collected by the observer and submitted to the Secretariat (e.g. by-catch, target species, biological data);
- (f) expected dates of the start and end of the observation program;
- (g) expected date of returning the observer to his/her home country.

D. Members who have designated scientific observers will take the initiative in implementing assignments identified by the Commission.

E. The scope of functions and tasks described in Annex I should not be interpreted to suggest in any way the number of required observers which will be accepted on board a vessel.

**FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC OBSERVERS  
ON BOARD VESSELS ENGAGED IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OR  
HARVESTING OF MARINE LIVING RESOURCES**

1. The function of scientific observers on board vessels engaged in scientific research or harvesting of marine living resources is to observe and report on the operation of fishing activities in the Convention Area with the objectives and principles of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in mind.
2. In fulfilling this function, scientific observers will undertake the following tasks, using the observation formats approved by the Scientific Committee:
  - (i) record details of the vessel's operation (e.g. partition of time between searching, fishing, transit etc., and details of hauls);
  - (ii) take samples of catches to determine biological characteristics;
  - (iii) record biological data by species caught;
  - (iv) record by-catches, their quantity and other biological data;
  - (v) record entanglement and incidental mortality of birds and mammals;
  - (vi) record the procedure by which declared catch weight is measured and collect data relating to the conversion factor between green weight and final product in the event that catch is recorded on the basis of weight of processed product;
  - (vii) prepare reports of their observations using the observation formats approved by the Scientific Committee and submit them to CCAMLR through their respective authorities;
  - (viii) submit copies of reports to captains of vessels;
  - (ix) assist, if requested, the captain of the vessel in the catch recording and reporting procedures;
  - (x) undertake other tasks as may be decided by mutual agreement of the parties involved;
  - (xi)<sup>1</sup> collect and report factual data on sightings of fishing vessels in the Convention Area, including vessel type identification, position and activity;
  - (xii)<sup>2</sup> collect information on fishing gear loss and garbage disposal by fishing vessels at sea.

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<sup>1</sup> Added in accordance with CCAMLR-XVII (paragraph 8.16). The Commission decided to review the effectiveness and the need to continue this activity after a two-year trial period (CCAMLR-XVII, paragraph 8.17).

<sup>2</sup> Added in accordance with CCAMLR-XVIII (paragraph 8.21).