

RESOLUTION 30/XXVIII

Climate change

The Commission,

Recognising that global climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing the Southern Ocean,

Understanding that the Southern Ocean will continue to warm over this century and believing that the Southern Ocean will experience increased acidification with possible impacts on its marine ecosystems,

Concerned about the effects of climate change in Antarctica, on Antarctic marine living resources,

Recalling Article II of the Convention, which provides, *inter alia*, that any harvesting and associated activities shall be conducted in accordance with provisions of this Convention and with the following principles of conservation:

- prevention of decrease in the size of any harvested population to levels below those which ensure its stable recruitment;
- maintenance of the ecological relationships between harvested, dependent and related populations of Antarctic marine living resources;
- prevention of changes or minimisation of the risk of changes in the marine ecosystem which are not potentially reversible over two or three decades, taking into account the effects of environmental changes, with the aim of making possible the sustained conservation of Antarctic marine living resources,

Conscious of the need to safeguard the environment and protect the integrity of marine ecosystems in the seas surrounding Antarctica in the face of climate change effects,

Noting that management action can help build resilience and protect the unique Southern Ocean environment against potentially irreversible impacts of climate change, and ensure the continued conservation and rational use of the Antarctic marine living resources,

Recalling that the Commission has previously endorsed the work of the Scientific Committee (CCAMLR-XXVII, paragraph 4.61) in relation to the impacts of climate change,

1. Urges increased consideration of climate change impacts in the Southern Ocean to better inform CCAMLR management decisions.
2. Encourages the commitment of all CCAMLR Parties to actively contribute towards relevant science initiatives, such as the *Integrating Climate and Ecosystem Dynamics* science program, and the *Southern Ocean Sentinel* program, which will contribute information needed to improve CCAMLR management actions.

3. Encourages wide dissemination of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research's report on Antarctic Climate Change and the Environment when it is published at the end of November 2009, including among delegations to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 15th Conference of the Parties (CoP15) in Copenhagen in December 2009.
4. Requests that the Chairman of the Commission writes to the President of the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, to express that the CAMLR Commission considers that an effective global response by the UNFCCC is urgently needed to address the challenge of climate change in order to protect and preserve the Southern Ocean ecosystems and their biodiversity.