

REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
(Hobart, Australia, 22 October to 2 November 2001)

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 The Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources was held in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, from 22 October to 2 November 2001, chaired by Dr N. Sasanelli (Italy).

1.2 All 24 Members of the Commission were represented: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, European Community, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

1.3 Other Contracting Parties, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, Greece, Netherlands, Peru and Vanuatu, were invited to attend the meeting as observers. The Netherlands attended.

1.4 The Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC), the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the Commission on the South Pacific (CPPS), the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP), the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) the South Pacific Community (SPC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) were invited to attend the meeting as observers. ASOC, CCSBT, CEP, FAO, IUCN, IWC and SCAR attended.

1.5 Belize, People's Republic of China, Mauritius, Panama and Seychelles, who were known to have an interest in fishing for, or trade in, *Dissostichus* spp., were also invited to attend as observers in accordance with CCAMLR-XVIII, paragraphs 16.2 and 16.5. The People's Republic of China, Mauritius and Seychelles were represented.

1.6 The List of Participants is given in Annex 1. The List of Documents presented to the meeting is given in Annex 2.

1.7 The Chair welcomed all Members and introduced His Excellency the Honourable Sir Guy Green, AC, KBE, Governor of Tasmania.

1.8 His Excellency extended a welcome to all delegates to Tasmania. In his address he outlined the State Government's publication of a new Tasmanian Antarctic, sub-Antarctic and Southern Ocean policy framework, which is a significant development relevant to CCAMLR.

1.9 He acknowledged the success of CCAMLR's dynamic approach, particularly in respect of the Catch Documentation Scheme for *Dissostichus* spp. (CDS), which had to overcome considerable difficulties during its implementation. He paid tribute to the skill and commitment of all those involved and commended the extensive and growing cooperation between various Member and non-Member States, including in particular, the People's Republic of China, Mauritius and Singapore.

1.10 His Excellency noted that the continuing relevance and standing of CCAMLR is demonstrated by the fact that its membership continues to grow with the Republic of Namibia becoming a Member and by the presence at this year's meeting of a delegation from the People's Republic of China.

1.11 His Excellency felt that an important challenge for CCAMLR is to ensure that it is adequately resourced and was pleased to see that special funding had been generated as a result of the operation of the CDS and the control of illegal fishing; a trend he hoped would continue.

1.12 In concluding his address, His Excellency said he looked forward to taking part in the celebrations to mark the Twentieth Meeting of CCAMLR and wished the delegates a productive meeting and enjoyable stay in Tasmania.