

CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME FOR *DISSOSTICHUS* SPP. (CDS)

Advice of SCIC

7.1 The Commission considered information presented by the Chair of SCIC on the implementation and operation of the CDS during the 2003 intersessional period (Annex 5, paragraphs 4.1 to 4.8).

7.2 In particular, the Commission welcomed Canada's advice to SCIC that Canada now intends to implement the CDS and will be in a position to inform CCAMLR of its progress in this regard by the next annual CCAMLR meeting.

7.3 A number of Parties reported on their implementation and operation of the CDS during the 2003 intersessional period (CCAMLR-XXII/BG/18 Rev. 1). Brazil drew the attention of the Commission to CCAMLR-XXII/BG/31 which outlined the recent full implementation of the CDS in Brazil. Argentina drew the attention of the Commission to CCAMLR-XXII/BG/36 which reported on the establishment of a national advisory committee which has the capacity to participate in the verification of landings.

7.4 The People's Republic of China also advised that the China Fisheries Association had recently been authorised to sign landing certificates for toothfish unloaded in Chinese ports. Personnel of the China Fisheries Association would not be able to be present at the time of vessels unloading, but would sign landing certificates based on information from customs declarations.

7.5 The USA submitted a background paper (CCAMLR-XXII/BG/39) on enforcement actions taken in the past year to combat the illegal importation of toothfish into the USA. The paper noted the exemplary cooperation of South Africa leading to the criminal indictment of five persons involved in a conspiracy to import toothfish and lobster, and that of Australia leading to the seizure of approximately 31 tonnes of toothfish harvested by the *Arvisa I*. The paper also detailed a new penalty scheme instituted by the USA to address minor violations of regulations related to the CDS.

7.6 The Commission noted that during the 2003 intersessional period no unloadings of toothfish in ports of non-Contracting Parties not participating in the CDS had been reported. A number of other non-Contracting Parties reported to be involved in the harvesting or trade of toothfish had been provided with information about the CDS and invited to cooperate with CCAMLR.

Development of an Electronic Web-based CDS

7.7 The Commission considered advice from SCIC regarding the development of an E-CDS. A trial of the proposed scheme commenced in 2003. The following Members were selected and invited to take part in the trial: Flag States (Australia, Chile, South Africa and UK (overseas territories)); Port/Export States (Australia, Chile, South Africa, Spain and UK (overseas territories)) and Import States (Japan and the USA). However, the limited time period of the trial had meant that some of these Parties had not had the opportunity to become sufficiently familiar with the system.

7.8 The Commission believed that the limited period of the trial in 2003 was insufficient to recommend a full-scale implementation of the system (Annex 5, paragraphs 4.26 to 4.32). The Commission therefore agreed to extend the period of the trial to the 2004 intersessional period and involve all those Parties wishing to participate.

7.9 The USA expressed its belief that electronic reporting was the way of the future and hoped that next year CCAMLR will be in a position to implement the E-CDS on a full-scale basis.

7.10 Ukraine pointed out that in order to do so, the *E-CDS User Manual* should be made available in all official languages of the Commission as soon as possible.

7.11 Both SCAF and SCIC had recommended that the Commission approve the proposed budget for the continued development of the E-CDS (Annex 4, paragraph 34; Annex 5, paragraph 4.32). It was approved (see also paragraph 3.34).

Improvements to the CDS

7.12 The Commission also noted that the USA had submitted proposals for amending Annex A of Conservation Measure 10-05 and strengthening Resolution 15/XIX (paragraphs 10.8 and 10.33 to 10.35).

Annual CDS Summary Reports

7.13 The Commission considered information presented by SCIC regarding the annual reporting of CDS data to SCIC (Annex 5, paragraphs 4.9 to 4.12).

7.14 The Commission noted that the CDS summary report prepared by the Secretariat was improved as agreed by the Commission last year (CCAMLR-XXI, paragraph 7(i)).

7.15 From the report of SCIC it was noted that differences in reporting periods, sources, definitions of exporters and importers, species identification and the failure to use harmonised custom codes may result in major discrepancies between national trade statistics and CDS data (Annex 5, paragraph 4.12).

Publication of CDS Summary Data

7.16 At CCAMLR-XXI, the Commission agreed that a standard set of summary CDS data should be developed and this should be published annually by the Secretariat in the *Statistical Bulletin* or the CCAMLR website. The development of such a dataset should involve consultations with other international organisations in order to obtain their views on what type of data reporting they might require for their work (CCAMLR-XXI, paragraph 7.11(ii)).

7.17 The Commission noted that a draft dataset had been prepared by the Secretariat and a number of international organisations had been consulted in order to obtain their comments in respect of the publication of CDS data in the CCAMLR *Statistical Bulletin*.

7.18 In addition, IUCN presented CCAMLR-XXII/BG/26 which contained a number of recommendations in respect of CDS data to be published by CCAMLR (see also paragraph 14.21).

7.19 Australia observed that the paper presented by IUCN covers many of the issues which Australia would like to consider in publishing CDS data. It considered that the proposal of IUCN represented a benchmark for the publication of CDS data.

7.20 The Executive Secretary drew to the attention of Members that a methodology for analysing CDS and trade statistics would be considered by a subsidiary body to be established jointly by the Commission and the Scientific Committee. Therefore, it would be advisable to wait until such a methodology to be developed and agreed by the Commission, and then to decide what categories and details of CDS data would need to be published.

7.21 In the meantime, the Commission requested the Secretariat to consider the recommendations of IUCN with a view to reviewing categories and details of data proposed for publication and their utility for comparative analysis of CDS data and trade statistics for the purpose of evaluating performance of CDS in terms of covering the world trade in toothfish. This review by the Secretariat should be carried out intersessionally so that any outcomes can be fully reported to the next meeting of the Commission.

7.22 The Commission also referred to its decision relating to the development of standard 'Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data' which should include CDS data (Annex 5, paragraphs 4.18 to 4.22). The Commission noted the advice of SCIC that further development of the draft rules may be necessary in order to ensure that the current 'Rules for Access to CDS Data' (CCAMLR-XIX, paragraph 5.23) are duly taken into account in the new standard 'Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data'. Until such time as this occurs, the Commission agreed that the current 'Rules for Access to CDS Data' should remain in place alongside the new 'Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data' (paragraphs 12.1 to 12.6).