

ELECTION OF CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION

16.1 The Commission noted that the present Chair's term of office would expire at the end of the present meeting. In accordance with the agreed procedure set out in the footnote to Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure, the Commission agreed that the Republic of Korea should provide the Chair from the conclusion of the 2004 meeting until the conclusion of the 2006 meeting.

16.2 In accepting the nomination, the Republic of Korea regretted that it was not yet able to provide a name for the position as this had not yet been determined. The Republic of Korea assured the Commission that the nominee would be suitably qualified for this important position.

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

17.1 The Commission recognised that the initial contract of the Executive Secretary was due to expire at the end of January 2006, and that if a replacement was required, procedures would have to be instigated immediately. Expressing its satisfaction with the work of Dr Miller, and noting his desire to continue in the position, the Commission, in accordance with Rule 14(a) of the Rules of Procedure, agreed that his office shall be extended for a second four-year term.

NEXT MEETING

Invitation of observers to the next meeting

18.1 The Commission will invite the following States to attend the Twenty-fourth Meeting of the Commission as observers:

- Acceding States – Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, Greece, Mauritius, Netherlands, Peru and Vanuatu;
- non-Contracting Parties participating in the CDS who are involved in harvesting or landing and/or trade of toothfish – the People's Republic of China, Seychelles and Singapore;
- non-Contracting Parties not participating in the CDS but possibly involved in harvesting or landing and/or trade of toothfish – Angola, Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Panama, Philippines, Sao Tome and Principe, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Thailand and Togo.

18.2 The following international organisations will be invited: ACAP, ASOC, CCSBT, CEP, CITES, COLTO, CPPS, FAO, FFA, IATTC, ICCAT, IOC, IUCN, IWC, SCAR, SCOR, SPC and UNEP.

18.3 The Commission agreed that the invitation to IOC should specify that it would be appropriate for its representative to have competence in matters concerning the UN-Oceans network.

Date and location of the next meeting

18.4 The Commission noted that the next meeting would be held at its new Headquarters at 181 Macquarie Street, Hobart, Australia.

18.5 The Commission agreed that its Twenty-fourth Meeting would be held from 24 October to 4 November 2005. Heads of Delegation were requested to be in Hobart for a meeting on 23 October 2005.

18.6 The Commission noted that the Twenty-fourth Meeting of the Scientific Committee would be held at the same location, from 24 to 28 October 2005, immediately preceded by WG-FSA. The meeting of WG-EMM would take place near Tokyo, Japan, in July 2005.