TEXT OF A STANDARD LETTER TO BE USED IN THE COURSE OF DIPLOMATIC ACTIONS IN RESPECT OF NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES

To Minister of Foreign Affairs

Dear Minister

I am writing to you at the request of Members of the Commission established by the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). The Members of CCAMLR are: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, European Community, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Republic of, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

During their annual meeting from 24 October to 4 November 2005, Members of the Commission examined information on the vessel[s] [name]] flagged to [Flag State]. Commission Members decided to list these vessels on the CCAMLR Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Vessel List for Non-Contracting Parties, as they were regarded as undermining the objective of the CAMLR Convention. This matter has already been drawn to the attention of [Flag State] in letters of [date] from the Executive Secretary of this organisation. The List of vessels identified in this respect and full details of the activities that led to this decision are attached at Annex 1. The CAMLR Commission would be grateful if you could confirm that the vessel[s] [name] is [are] indeed flagged to [Flag State].

For your information I attach at Annex 2 a copy of CCAMLR Conservation Measure 10-07 on the scheme to promote compliance by non-Contracting Party vessels with CCAMLR conservation measures. In particular I draw your attention to paragraphs [] of this measure, and request that [Flag State] take measures in accordance with its applicable legislation to ensure that the above-named vessels do not conduct any activities that undermine the effectiveness of conservation measures adopted by CCAMLR. All conservation measures and additional information about CCAMLR can be found on its website at www.ccamlr.org.

The international community has recognised that global cooperation is needed to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and is committed to the principle that States not party to regional fisheries management organisations are not discharged from their obligation to cooperate with those organisations. States have agreed to apply the conservation and management measures adopted by the organisation and to ensure that vessels entitled to fly their flag do not undermine such measures. The CAMLR Commission would be grateful if you would ensure that in future vessels flagged to [Flag State] will not fish in the CAMLR Convention Area unless they fully apply CCAMLR conservation measures. The Commission also invites [Flag State] to consider acceding to the CAMLR Convention.

Furthermore, CCAMLR has received information that nationals of Members of the CAMLR Commission might be involved in the operation of these vessels. The CAMLR Commission would appreciate receiving any information on the identity, in particular of operators involved in the operation of these vessels, so that appropriate action may be taken against such individuals in accordance with their own national legislation.

In addition, there are tools available to assist Flag States in pursuing the global approach needed to be a responsible Flag State. Further information is available from the CCAMLR Secretariat.

Finally, I enclose a copy of a resolution on enhancement of cooperation between CCAMLR and non-Contracting Parties which was adopted at this year's CCAMLR meeting. The intention of this resolution is to enhance such cooperation in order to combat IUU fishing. The resolution focuses on non-Contracting Parties that may have the will but lack the capacity to implement CCAMLR's conservation measures.

I thank you in advance for giving this matter your urgent attention and look forward to your prompt reply.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Seo-Hang Lee Chairman, CCAMLR