

## MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

6.1 The Chair of the Scientific Committee, Dr Fanta, outlined the Scientific Committee's recommendations in respect of marine protected areas (MPAs), in particular that (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraphs 3.29 to 3.31):

- (i) membership of the 2007 Bioregionalisation Workshop Steering Committee be expanded to include the conveners of the four Scientific Committee working groups and Dr W. Dinter (Germany), an additional member nominated by CEP;
- (ii) following a formal invitation received from Belgium, the Bioregionalisation Workshop will be held in Brussels, 13 to 17 August 2007;
- (iii) standardised terminology be used to distinguish between 'ATCM draft management plans with marine components' and 'marine protected areas (MPAs *per se*)';
- (iv) in accordance with ATCM Decision 9 (2005), at least for the foreseeable future, ATCM proposals with marine components should continue to be provided to CCAMLR for review.

The Commission endorsed these recommendations.

6.2 Members commented that:

- (i) the planned Bioregionalisation Workshop would be an important step in the Commission's activities to develop a representative network of MPAs;
- (ii) CEP has engaged constructively in cooperation with CCAMLR on the preparation and conduct of the Bioregionalisation Workshop;
- (iii) results of an independent expert consultation held in Australia in September 2006 (SC-CAMLR-XXV/7) would be of importance to the CCAMLR Bioregionalisation Workshop and would support the continuing momentum in the CCAMLR work on bioregionalisation of the Convention Area;
- (iv) considerable knowledge regarding boundaries between areas in relation to each other, in particular in terms of ecological and bioproductivity processes, is available and should be used by the workshop;
- (v) there are various examples illustrating the development, designation and management of local MPAs within the Convention Area, particularly in respect of such areas established by Australia, France and South Africa.

6.3 The results of the independent expert consultation on bioregionalisation demonstrated the feasibility of a broad-scale bioregionalisation analysis as an early step towards the identification of MPAs. Thus, from the scientific and technical points of view, the first results might be expected in the short term.

6.4 The Commission noted that MPAs should be effectively administered, a task which requires policy directions. Argentina suggested that these issues should be discussed as soon

as possible, with the participation not only of the CEP but also of the ATCM, thus preventing the risk of having defined the areas and values to be protected, but lacking the mechanisms to afford the protection they need.

6.5 ASOC welcomed these advances by CCAMLR and supported the comments made by Members. It identified that key policy issues in respect of high-seas MPAs still required special attention by CCAMLR and that a timeline should be set out to establish a representative network of MPAs by 2012 in accordance with the timetable set by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa (CCAMLR-XXV/BG/30).

6.6 The Commission appreciated and thanked Belgium for its offer to host the Bioregionalisation Workshop in 2007 (paragraph 6.1(ii)).