

## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION UNDER CONDITIONS OF UNCERTAINTY

13.1 The Commission noted that catches of *D. eleginoides* taken outside the Convention Area originated mostly from Areas 41 and 87 (SC-CAMLR-XXV, Annex 5, Table 3).

13.2 To more adequately assess the *D. eleginoides* stock on the Scotia Ridge in Area 41, the Commission urged Members to provide information on the sustainability of the resource, particularly as the western sector of Subarea 48.3, adjacent to the Scotia Ridge, is currently excluded from the assessment for that species in Subarea 48.3 (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraph 7.3).

13.3 The Commission thanked the Scientific Committee, WG-FSA and JAG for their extensive, collaborative work aimed at better estimating IUU catch levels of *Dissostichus* spp. (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraphs 7.5 to 7.7).

13.4 The Commission agreed that the new methodology for estimating IUU fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. in the Convention Area proposed by JAG be further developed (SC-CAMLR-XXV, Annex 5, paragraphs 8.14 and 8.15). SCIC was tasked to:

- (i) consider whether the weightings of individual categories was appropriate, whether the number of levels in each category was correct and whether there were other useful categories that might be used without overly complicating the analysis;
- (ii) determine the vulnerability of different areas to IUU fishing, for instance using the template provided in SCIC-06/9.

13.5 The Commission also tasked the Scientific Committee and WG-FSA to develop likely catch rate distributions for IUU vessels by area using data from licensed vessels. It noted, that future determinations of credible ranges for IUU estimates should precede investigation of consequences of this uncertainty for assessments of IUU fishing levels (see also section 9).

13.6 In Russia's view the new continuous fishing system used in the krill fishery should be classified as a new or exploratory fishery. This would necessitate obligatory development and implementation of a Fishery Plan, including a research plan as adopted by the Scientific Committee, for all vessels using this fishing method in any season. Russia also emphasised that classifying the continuous krill fishing system as a new or exploratory fishery would in no way create obstacles to its development. On the contrary, within the framework of the new and exploratory fisheries, it may be possible to resolve more rapidly the scientific, methodological and organisational difficulties related to implementation of the new continuous fishing system (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraph 7.8, see also paragraphs 4.40 to 4.42).

13.7 The Commission considered New Zealand's proposal on further improving CCAMLR's ability to manage Southern Ocean fisheries by expanding the current Fishery Plan concept endorsed by the Commission into a forward-looking management plan ('Fisheries Management Plan') (CCAMLR-XXV/39).

13.8 The Commission noted that the Scientific Committee had also considered this proposal and had limited its comment to some of the proposal's technical details (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraphs 7.11 to 7.14).

13.9 The Commission noted that Fisheries Management Plans would provide a mechanism for setting management objectives for a fishery and in defining strategies to achieve such objectives. This would provide a stronger link between objectives and management action to better integrate science, policy and compliance. The Commission also noted that the Scientific Committee's proposal to develop management strategy evaluations may assist both in the evaluation of such strategies as well as in refining operational objectives for fisheries based on the most up-to-date information (paragraphs 4.81 to 4.83; SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraph 4.59).

13.10 Russia emphasised the need to consider human aspects associated with possible implementation of the proposed Fisheries Management Plans. Such aspects, for example, included the impact of fishery regulations on the safety of fishing crews as well as the workload of scientific observers. Australia supported this concern.

13.11 The Commission encouraged New Zealand and other Members to develop the former's proposal intersessionally, including the formation of an ad hoc group if required. Taking account of the above discussion, such a group should then submit a paper to CCAMLR-XXVI on the issue that included an example of a Fishery Management Plan.