

## DATA ACCESS AND SECURITY

14.1 The Commission considered Australia's proposal to amend the Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data (CCAMLR-XXV/42). The purpose of the proposed amendments was to more readily identify the originator and purpose of data requests, ensure that commercially sensitive data were not released inappropriately and ensure that data owners were adequately consulted before their data are released.

14.2 The Commission noted the Scientific Committee's advice on this matter (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraphs 12.5 to 12.8).

14.3 It agreed that the concerns raised in CCAMLR-XXV/42 may be addressed under the current rules, without any need to revise the current rules. In particular, the Commission agreed that the rights of originators/owners of data set out in paragraph 6 of the rules allowed originators/owners to stipulate additional terms and/or levels of data security under which data may be released following a request under paragraph 2(a).

14.4 The Commission recognised that it would be useful for originators/owners of data to be informed on how the requested data are used. Accordingly, the Commission agreed that Members requesting data under the Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data should report to the Scientific Committee and its working groups on the use of these data.

14.5 The Commission considered a draft policy on the presentation and publication of aggregated fine-scale data in the *Statistical Bulletin* (CCAMLR-XXV/31). The draft had been prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the Commission's request (CCAMLR-XXIV, paragraph 4.62).

14.6 The Scientific Committee had also considered the matter and advised the Commission that the draft policy was suitable for the Scientific Committee's work and that of its working groups. The Scientific Committee recommended that catch distribution maps for each area should be plotted at the same scale, where feasible (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraphs 12.11 to 12.17).

14.7 The European Community supported the Scientific Committee's advice and encouraged the Commission to adopt the policy in respect of the Scientific Committee's and the Commission's work.

14.8 Japan expressed concern on the policy and suggested that the level of aggregation by fine-scale rectangle was too detailed for publication, and could be used to guide IUU fishing.

14.9 Australia also supported the use of the policy for use within the Scientific Committee and its working groups. However, Australian national legislation prevented data from individual Australian-flagged vessels to be released into the public domain. Accordingly, only data aggregated at a broader scale could be published.

14.10 The Commission therefore noted that the draft policy was not suitable for presentation and publication of aggregated fine-scale data in the *Statistical Bulletin*. It also recalled its decision that the policy should be uniformly applied to all fisheries in the Convention Area (CCAMLR-XXIV, paragraph 4.62). In the absence of agreement on a Convention-wide policy, the Commission agreed that the presentation of maps of aggregated fine-scale data for Area 48 in the *Statistical Bulletin* will be discontinued.