

## COOPERATION WITH OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM

### Cooperation with Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties

15.1 The Executive Secretary reported on his attendance at ATCM-XXIX in Edinburgh, UK (CCAMLR-XXV/BG/8).

15.2 In accordance with Article 9 of the Antarctic Treaty, a report of CCAMLR activities in 2005/06 was tabled.

15.3 The Commission noted the following main points of direct relevance to CCAMLR-XXV discussed at ATCM-XXIX and presented in the Executive Secretary's report:

- (i) ATCM Resolution 1 (2006) on CCAMLR in the Antarctic Treaty System which aims to improve cooperation between the ATCM and CCAMLR;
- (ii) ATCM Measure 4 (2006) pertaining to the delisting of fur seals as specially protected species, and ATCM Resolution 4 (2006) on the conservation of southern giant petrels;
- (iii) ATCM Decision 2 (2006) and Resolution 3 (2006) regarding ballast water exchange in the Treaty Area as this may relate to fishing vessels;
- (iv) the Edinburgh Declaration as this may integrate with a similar celebratory statement to be developed in relation to CCAMLR's Twenty-fifth Meeting;
- (v) the possible spread of environmentally dangerous pathogens, such as avian influenza, to the Antarctic and how this could affect CCAMLR's work;
- (vi) the potential impact of marine technologies, especially acoustic technologies, on key marine species in the Convention Area;
- (vii) the presence of the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat's Executive Secretary at CCAMLR-XXV;
- (viii) the holding of ATCM-XXX and CEP-X meetings in New Delhi, India, from 30 April to 11 May 2007.

15.4 The UK expressed its delight to have hosted ATCM-XXIX held in June 2006. It had used the opportunity to implement a public outreach program on Antarctica. This had included lectures, films and events in Edinburgh during the two weeks of the meeting. A new interactive educational website ([www.discoveringantarctica.org.uk](http://www.discoveringantarctica.org.uk)) was launched and this is now being translated into other languages.

15.5 The UK noted that ATCM-XXIX had devoted a full day to considering the International Polar Year (IPY) and that the Edinburgh Declaration had been adopted as a result. The declaration outlined a mechanism for presenting the results of the IPY to the international community and highlighted the importance of education and outreach as part of the program's strategic impact.

15.6 The Commission noted that a two-day CEP workshop had been held just prior to ATCM-XXIX to discuss strategic issues. From this, CEP had agreed to develop a five-year work plan that included close cooperation with CCAMLR's Scientific Committee and had been based on a similar program adopted by CCAMLR's WG-EMM.

15.7 In relation to ATCM Resolution 1 (2006), New Zealand noted that this had been developed from a paper presented by New Zealand and that the resolution outlined the important links between the ATCM and CCAMLR as key components of the Antarctic Treaty System. The resolution not only encouraged increased cooperation in respect of such links, but it also highlighted the need for the ATCM to formally reflect on the contribution that CCAMLR makes to the Antarctic Treaty System in respect of conservation and protection of the Antarctic environment.

15.8 The UK noted that Resolution 1 allows more time and effort to be devoted to debate on CCAMLR issues in the ATCM. In this regard, it was worth noting that a number of past ATCM decisions and resolutions had benefited CCAMLR, most notably in relation to the latter's attempt to combat IUU fishing as well as to practical procedures associated with designating specially protected areas containing marine areas (e.g. ATCM Decision 9 (2005)). It urged Members to further consider cooperation between CCAMLR and the ATCM where this could facilitate CCAMLR furthering its work.

15.9 Australia, supported by Spain, urged the Commission to consider strengthening Resolution 22/XXIII as a tool to encourage capacity building with other RFMOs. Such capacity building was important in respect of reducing seabird by-catch for species breeding in the Convention Area and, in particular, to improve global fishing practices in relation to seabird by-catch mitigation as well as to protect southern giant petrels over their entire range.

15.10 Argentina shared these views regarding cooperation with other organisations, but expressed the reservation that CCAMLR conservation measures and resolutions be applied only within the Convention Area.

15.11 The Chair of the Scientific Committee reported on her attendance at CEP-IX (CCAMLR-XXV/BG/40). This report has been submitted to, and discussed by, the Scientific Committee (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraphs 9.2 to 9.4). Following the Executive Secretary's report, the Scientific Committee Chair noted the following additional points:

- (i) WG-EMM's five-year work plan was seen by CEP as a model for organising the latter's future work;
- (ii) CEP encouraged members to provide logistic and financial support for scientific research operations and outreach under the IPY banner;
- (iii) CEP's involvement in the preparation of, and potential participation in, the CCAMLR Bioregionalisation Workshop to be held in 2007 (paragraphs 6.1(i) and 6.2(ii));
- (iv) CEP emphasised the need to maintain a dialogue with CCAMLR on introduced marine species and the potential for fishing vessels to contribute to introducing new species to the Southern Ocean;

- (v) a Workshop on Non-native species in Antarctica was held in New Zealand in April 2006; the report of which was submitted for consideration to CCAMLR (SC-CAMLR-XXV/BG/21);
- (vi) a request to SCAR to take regular advice from CCAMLR on the level of incidental seal mortality arising from fishing operations, in particular during krill fishing;
- (vii) prevention of marine pollution and best practise in terms of dealing with marine debris;
- (viii) the need to receive more information on noise pollution from acoustic technologies being used by CCAMLR fishing and research vessels.

15.12 The Scientific Committee Chair noted that CEP and the CCAMLR Scientific Committee cooperate effectively and stressed the continuing need for the mutual exchange of observers between the two bodies.

15.13 The CEP Observer, Dr A. Press, associated himself with all matters raised in the report of Dr Fanta.

15.14 Australia acknowledged that cooperation between CEP and the Scientific Committee would become increasingly important in the future and expressed the view that it might be worthwhile to schedule a joint meeting of the two bodies in about two years (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraph 9.4).

15.15 The Commission approved CCAMLR's representation at ATCM-XXX by the Executive Secretary and the Chair of the Scientific Committee at the meeting of CEP-X.

#### Cooperation with SCAR

15.16 The SCAR Observer to CCAMLR, Dr G. Hosie, presented a report and focused on intersessional activities of SCAR of direct relevance to the work of CCAMLR (CCAMLR-XXV/BG/22 and BG/23).

15.17 The Commission noted that the SCAR Observer's full report had been submitted to, and discussed by, the Scientific Committee (SC-CAMLR-XXV, paragraphs 9.5 to 9.7).

15.18 The Commission welcomed this report and the continued cooperation with SCAR.