

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION

18.1 The Commission elected Namibia as Chair of the Commission from the end of this meeting to the conclusion of the 2008 meeting.

18.2 In acceptance, Namibia thanked the Members for supporting it in its role as Chair for the next two years, indicating it will carry out its tasks to the best of its ability. It assured the Commission that together with the dynamic leadership of the Executive Secretary and support from the Secretariat staff, it will work diligently to neutralise threats being faced by the Commission.

18.3 The Commission elected Sweden as Vice-Chair of the Commission from the end of this meeting until the conclusion of the 2007 meeting. This will serve to stagger future elections of the Commission Chair and Vice-Chair envisaged in Article XIII.4 of the Convention.

18.4 In accepting the position of Vice-Chair, Sweden thanked the Commission for the trust and honour bestowed on it. It assured the Commission it will work closely with Namibia, and reinforced the concept of a non-fishing Member playing a role as Vice-Chair when a harvesting Member occupies the Chair.