

ELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIR

18.1 The Commission elected New Zealand as Chair of the Commission from the end of this meeting until the conclusion of the 2010 meeting.

18.2 In accepting the position of Chair, New Zealand thanked the Members for their confidence and indicated that Ambassador D. Mackay, currently New Zealand's permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva, would assume the role.

18.3 The Commission extended its thanks to New Zealand and recorded its pleasure that Ambassador Mackay will be the Commission's next Chair. It also noted that Ambassador Mackay is well known by many Commission Members and that he has made an enormous contribution to the ATS over many years, not least in chairing the successful negotiations of a Liability Annex under the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (Madrid Protocol).