

IUU FISHING IN THE CONVENTION AREA

Current level of IUU fishing

9.1 The Chair of the Scientific Committee advised the Commission that the estimated IUU catch of toothfish from the Convention Area during the 2008/09 season was 938 tonnes. He informed the Commission that six vessels were reported to have conducted IUU fishing activities in the Convention Area during the 2008/09 season and that all six vessels appeared to be deploying gillnets.

9.2 The Chair of the Scientific Committee advised the Commission that new information collected by inspectors in the Convention Area on possible catch rates of gillnet vessels had been used to estimate IUU catches of toothfish from the Convention Area in the 2008/09 season.

9.3 The Chair of the Scientific Committee also advised the Commission that, whilst the overall level of IUU fishing had declined, current estimates were conservative and catches from IUU gillnets were likely to be higher. He further advised that gillnets were not selective and their impact on Antarctic marine resources was unknown.

9.4 The Commission expressed its deep concern at the consequences of gillnet fishing on the Antarctic marine environment. It agreed that every effort should be made to eradicate gillnet fishing in the Convention Area.

9.5 The Commission nevertheless recalled that CCAMLR and its Members had worked extremely hard to eliminate IUU fishing in the Convention Area and that the estimated levels of IUU toothfish catches for the 2008/09 season indicated that progress had been made.

9.6 The European Community reiterated its concern at the sustained levels of IUU fishing, particularly on BANZARE Bank, and pointed to the fact that the Scientific Committee estimate of IUU catch of toothfish was highly conservative and characterised by a high level of uncertainty. It felt that there was little utility in regulating licensed fishing in that area if IUU fishing could not be controlled. It reminded Members that IUU operators enjoyed the benefits of IUU fishing because markets were available to sell their fish. The European Community reiterated that its markets would be closed to IUU catches of all species from 1 January 2010.

9.7 ASOC commended the European Community for its new regulations which it believed were progressive and would complement the recently concluded FAO Port States Agreement.

9.8 Norway agreed that it was important to continue combating IUU fishing and joined ASOC in urging all Members to ratify the Port States Agreement.

9.9 The Commission expressed its gratitude to Members which had conducted at-sea patrols in the Convention Area. The Commission noted that patrol operations were expensive and hazardous but had provided CCAMLR with invaluable information regarding the extent of IUU fishing and the impact of gillnets.

9.10 In particular, the Commission expressed its appreciation to Australia for retrieving a gillnet abandoned by an IUU vessel in Division 58.4.3b. The Commission noted that this had

required considerable resources and that the information provided had been extremely useful in gaining useful insights into the effects of gillnet fishing in terms of the species and quantities of fish taken.

9.11 The Commission recommended that information on CCAMLR Member nationals reported to be involved with IUU fishing be disseminated as widely as possible to assist Members in taking action in accordance with Conservation Measure 10-08.

9.12 The Commission tasked the Secretariat with providing estimates of IUU catches of *D. eleginoides* and *D. mawsoni* in future. The Secretariat was also tasked with recalculating historical IUU data by using new gillnet information as it became available.

IUU Vessel Lists

9.13 The Commission noted that there was no Provisional Contracting Party (CP) or Non-Contracting Party (NCP)-IUU Vessel List for 2009. It considered recommendations from SCIC in respect of vessels which could be deleted from the NCP-IUU Vessel List.

9.14 The Commission agreed to delete the Cambodian-flagged *Taruman* from the NCP-IUU Vessel List as it had been deconstructed by Australia in January 2009.

9.15 The Commission agreed to delete the Panamanian-flagged *Sibley* from the NCP-IUU Vessel List as it was reported to have caught fire and sunk off the coast of Kenya in March 2009.

9.16 The Commission noted that SCIC had not made any recommendations in respect of two vessels, *East Ocean* and *South Ocean*, which China had proposed be removed from the CP-IUU Vessel List.

9.17 The Commission considered China's original proposal in detail.

9.18 The Commission agreed that with respect to the two Chinese-flagged vessels, *East Ocean* and *South Ocean*, these vessels shall be removed from the CP-IUU Vessel List within 10 working days once China informs the Commission via a Commission Circular that the vessels have been sold to the Insung Corp. of Korea. The Commission circular shall have attached copies of the Bill of Sale, Commercial Invoice and Protocol of Delivery and Acceptance of these vessels described in clauses 3(a) and 3(b) of the Memorandum of Agreement (Contract Number: SFV-2009-01), distributed to the Commission via COMM CIRC 09/119.

9.19 The Commission agreed that with respect to the two Chinese-flagged vessels, *North Ocean* and *West Ocean*, these vessels shall be removed from the CP-IUU Vessel List in accordance with CCAMLR-XXVII, paragraph 10.10, or in accordance with Conservation Measure 10-06 (2008).

9.20 The Commission adopted the IUU Vessel List for 2009.