

SCHEME OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATION

10.1 In accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation, scientific observers were deployed on all vessels in all finfish fisheries in the Convention Area. Information collected by scientific observers on board longline, finfish trawl, pot and krill trawl cruises were summarised in SC-CAMLR-XXVIII/BG/2.

10.2 The Commission endorsed the development of standards for all observers participating in the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation (SC-CAMLR-XXVIII, paragraphs 6.8 and 6.9). Such standards include outlining baseline requirements for accredited observer programs for the provision of advice to the Commission in 2011.

10.3 The Commission noted the Scientific Committee's advice on the need for systematic scientific observer coverage by all Member vessels participating in the krill fishery (SC-CAMLR-XXVIII, paragraphs 6.28 and 6.29; SC-CAMLR-XXVII, paragraphs 6.22 to 6.34).

10.4 The European Community recalled that the level of observer coverage had been discussed at length in 2008 (SC-CAMLR-XXVII, Annex 9). In its view, there was no doubt as to the scientific requirements for 100% observer coverage in krill fisheries (CCAMLR-XXVIII/47). The European Community advised the Commission that this requirement had been included in Community legislation.

10.5 Ukraine expressed concern that the level of uncertainty associated with the krill fishery was increasing. This included, for example, uncertainty attached to estimating seabird and marine mammal incidental mortality (paragraph 6.9). Ukraine noted that implementing 100% observer coverage in the krill fishery was essential to discharging the Commission's responsibility in meeting the Convention's objectives.

10.6 The Commission recognised that the issue of implementing observer coverage in the krill fishery was a complex one and that there is a range of views on the matter among Members. In order to make progress on collecting observer data from the krill fishery, the Commission adopted Conservation Measure 51-06.

10.7 The Commission noted that Conservation Measure 51-06 should be reviewed in 2010, and that the Commission shall adopt a systematic observer coverage program in the krill fishery, taking into account Scientific Committee findings on the statistical design of such a program (SC-CAMLR-XXVIII, paragraphs 6.28 to 6.30).