

OTHER BUSINESS

20.1 Argentina made the following statement:

‘With regard to incorrect references to the territorial status of the Malvinas Islands, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands made in documents as well in maps distributed at this meeting, Argentina rejects any reference to those islands as being a separate entity from its national territory, thus giving them an international status that they do not have.

Moreover, Argentina recalls that the following actions are illegal and consequently, invalid:

- those actions carried out in the CCAMLR area by vessels based in, or operating out of, the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands, or flagged to alleged British authorities thereof which Argentina does not recognise; as well as
- port inspections and inspections at sea;
- the issuance of, as well the clearing of, catch documents by such alleged authorities;
- the imposition by them of fishing licences;
- the imposition of either a British scientific observer or of an observer designated with British conformity on other Member vessels operating in the CCAMLR area;
- as well as any other unilateral action taken by the abovementioned colonial authorities in those territories.

The Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are an integral part of the Argentine national territory, are subject of a sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and are under illegal British occupation.

Argentina once more wishes to recall that only the multilateral scheme of the Convention is legally applicable in Statistical Subareas 48.2, 48.3 and 48.4.’

20.2 The UK made the following statement:

‘In response to Argentina’s statement and to various statements made during the meeting, the UK reiterates that it has no doubts about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and their surrounding maritime areas, as is well known to all delegates.

In that regard, the UK has no doubt about the right of the Government of the Falkland Islands to operate a shipping register for UK-flagged vessels. As we have stated on previous occasions, the port inspections undertaken by the Port authorities of the respective governments of the UK’s Overseas Territories of South Georgia and the

South Sandwich Islands and the Falkland Islands were conducted pursuant to the UK's obligations under CCAMLR Conservation Measure 10-03 and were reported to the Commission as such.

Furthermore, the UK has the right to undertake inspections within those of its jurisdictional waters that lie within Subareas 48.2, 48.3 and 48.4 in the way that it sees fit. In addition, the UK remains committed to the implementation of the System of Observation and Inspection of CCAMLR and our record of doing so is clearly apparent in this Commission.

The UK would reiterate its views expressed previously that we remain wholly committed to the principles and objectives of CCAMLR. We intend to ensure that the highest standards of fisheries management will be implemented in our jurisdictional waters – through licensing and inspections, and also through the imposition of tough measures that are in line with, and back up, the provisions of CCAMLR.'

20.3 Argentina rejected the UK's intervention and reiterated its legal position which is well known to all Members.