

ASSESSMENT OF INCIDENTAL MORTALITY OF ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES

6.1 The Commission noted that there had been no meeting of WG-IMAF this year and thanked the Scientific Committee for reviewing information on marine debris and incidental mortality arising from fisheries in the Convention Area in the years when WG-IMAF does not meet, in order to identify any possible anomalous situations and, if appropriate, take the necessary measures (SC-CAMLR-XXIX, paragraphs 4.1 to 4.8).

Marine debris

6.2 The Commission noted the Scientific Committee's advice on marine debris in the Convention Area, in particular the results of surveys conducted by the UK at South Georgia and the South Orkney Islands and Uruguay's survey at King George Island (SC-CAMLR-XXIX, paragraphs 4.2 to 4.4).

Incidental mortality of seabirds and marine mammals during fishing operations

6.3 The Commission noted the Scientific Committee's general advice on incidental mortality of seabirds and marine mammals (SC-CAMLR-XXIX, paragraphs 4.5 and 4.7). The Commission thanked the Scientific Committee for its work, and noted that even though WG-IMAF had not met this year, it was important to continue to review IMAF-related information (see also paragraph 8.4 on compliance with CMs 25-03 and 26-01 during the 2009/10 season).

6.4 France informed the Commission of the success it has had in implementing its plan of action to reduce seabird incidental mortality within its EEZs, which has been ongoing for three consecutive years. This has resulted in significant reductions in the level of seabird mortalities by 84% from 2006/07 to 2009/10.

6.5 France invited all CCAMLR Members to consider taking action on this matter in RFMOs adjacent to the CAMLR Convention Area.

6.6 ACAP expressed its appreciation to all ACAP Parties for their continued commitment to reducing seabird mortalities, and was encouraged to see the reduction in seabird mortality in the French EEZ due to its successful implementation of a national plan of action.

6.7 The EU informed the Commission that at IATTC's last meeting it had adopted a measure to reduce incidental mortality of seabirds, making it one of the last RFMOs to do so. The EU noted that it had worked closely with ACAP and BirdLife International to make this happen.