

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM

Cooperation with Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties

13.1 The Executive Secretary represented the Commission at the 33rd Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM XXXIII) in Punta del Este, Uruguay. The outcomes from ATCM XXXIII relevant to CCAMLR were presented by the Executive Secretary in CCAMLR-XXIX/BG/12.

13.2 The ATCM Parties expressed a range of views in relation to development of mechanisms for the ATCM and CCAMLR to harmonise their approach to the protection of the marine environment following the adoption of the MPA for the South Orkney Islands by CCAMLR in 2009. These included:

- (i) extending the provisions of CCAMLR MPAs to all non-fishing vessels within designated areas would require review by the IMO;
- (ii) that the proposed measure be submitted to the CEP for its review;
- (iii) the relationship with the provisions of the Environment Protocol in respect of ASPAs and ASMAs, as the statutory basis of the designation of any area for environmental protection by the ATCM, noting that there was no definition of a 'marine protected area' in the Antarctic Treaty or the Environment Protocol;
- (iv) the need to capitalise on the momentum achieved by CCAMLR in designating a first MPA.

13.3 The Commission also noted the discussion in the ATCM with respect to the development of the IMO's Guidelines for Ships Operating in Polar Waters and encouraged Members to fully engage in this process (CCAMLR-XXVIII, paragraph 14.8), as well as in the work of the Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA) of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), noting that many areas within the CAMLR Convention Area have not been surveyed to modern standards.

13.4 There were no resolutions or decisions arising from ATCM XXXIII and CEP XIII requiring decisions to be made at CCAMLR-XXIX, although the Commission noted the adopted Resolution 5 (2010) 'Coordination Among Antarctic Treaty Parties on Antarctic Proposals under Consideration in the IMO' and Decision 1 'Compilation of Key Documents of the Antarctic Treaty System'.

13.5 The UK emphasised that coordination across the entire Antarctic Treaty System was essential, especially on cross-cutting issues.

13.6 The Commission agreed that CCAMLR should be represented at ATCM XXXIV by the Executive Secretary and by the Chair of the Scientific Committee and the Science Officer at CEP XIV to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 20 June to 1 July 2011.

Cooperation with SCAR

13.7 The Commission noted the presentation from SCAR to the Scientific Committee (SC-CAMLR-XXIX, paragraphs 10.5 to 10.8). In particular, the Commission endorsed the terms of reference of a Joint CCAMLR–SCAR Action Group to improve the strategic alliance between the two organisations, noting that this would address objectives of the Commission as well as the Scientific Committee.

13.8 The Commission noted the potential importance of ocean acidification and the recognition that, although the focus has been on ice dynamics in the Southern Ocean, acidification is an important component for CCAMLR in the consideration of the impact of climate change. The Commission requested that the issue of ocean acidification be included in the developments of the Joint CCAMLR–SCAR Action Group.