

## BOTTOM FISHING

5.1 The Commission endorsed the advice regarding bottom fishing and vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) which had been provided by the Scientific Committee, WG-EMM and WG-FSA (SC-CAMLR-XXX, paragraphs 5.1 to 5.9). This included:

- (i) the prohibition of bottom fishing in Subarea 88.1 (SSRU G) within the areas of two circles, centred at 66°56.04'S 170°51.66'E and 67°10.14'S 171°10.26'E, with radii of 1.25 n miles to provide protection of registered VMEs from direct effects of interactions with fishing gear (see also paragraph 12.18)
- (ii) tasking the Secretariat with the annual update of the combined cumulative impact assessments for all bottom fishing methods (using the PlotImpact software)
- (iii) requesting that Members with vessels using bottom fishing gear types for which vessel-specific gear descriptions are not yet available in the CCAMLR gear library, be required to provide detailed descriptions of their vessel-specific fishing gear, including gear configuration, setting and hauling procedures, likely bottom fishing footprint (per unit effort) and estimated impacts on VME taxa within the footprint
- (iv) further development of the fishing gear library (see SC-CAMLR-XXX, paragraph 5.7).

5.2 The Commission also agreed that Members intending to use vessel-specific gear configurations already described in the fishing gear library need only to notify their expected level of effort deployment for the coming season, with a cross-reference to an existing gear description/impact assessment in the gear library (SC-CAMLR-XXX, paragraph 5.9). The Commission requested that the Secretariat remind Members of this requirement at the time of calling for notifications for new and exploratory fisheries.