

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM

Cooperation with Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties

13.1 The Executive Secretary presented CCAMLR-XXX/BG/6 which summarised the key outcomes of interest to CCAMLR Members from the Thirty-fourth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 20 June to 1 July 2011. As Depository, the USA advised Members that, as of 1 November 2011, Malaysia had become a Party to the Antarctic Treaty with the result that there are now 49 Parties to the Treaty.

13.2 The Commission agreed that CCAMLR should be represented at ATCM XXXV by the Executive Secretary and by the Scientific Committee Chair and the Science Officer at CEP XIV to be held in Hobart, Australia, from 11 to 20 June 2012.

Cooperation with SCAR

13.3 The SCAR Observer (Dr P. Trathan, UK) reported on various activities conducted by SCAR that are of potential interest to CCAMLR, and which are contained in CCAMLR-XXX/BG/11, BG/13, BG/14 and BG/15. SCAR drew attention to the development of a new strategic plan, ‘Antarctic Science and Policy Advice in a Changing World,’ and the establishment of four new research programs. The second SCAR annual update to the Antarctic Climate Change and the Environment (ACCE) report highlighted important scientific developments, including research on the thinning of certain glaciers in West Antarctica, changes to penguin populations in the Antarctic Peninsula region, and faunistic similarities between the Weddell Sea and the Ross Sea.

13.4 The Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) is moving into its implementation phase. SCAR considered CCAMLR as a key partner in this initiative, with the CCAMLR Science Officer, Dr K. Reid, appointed as a member of the SOOS steering committee. Three new SCAR scientific research programs under active development are of relevance to CCAMLR: Antarctic Ecosystems – Adaptations, Thresholds and Resilience (AntETR), State of the Antarctic Ecosystem (AntEco) and Antarctic Climate in the 21st Century (AntClim21). AntEco, as the research program most directly relevant to CCAMLR, is represented on the planning committee by the CCAMLR Science Officer. SCAR has several initiatives of relevance to the work of CCAMLR, in particular, the SCAR MarBIN data portal.

13.5 Belgium advised the Commission that the future of SCAR MarBIN is uncertain due to funding difficulties. Noting that Belgium’s support to SCAR MarBIN had resulted in the systematic compiling of marine biodiversity data for the Antarctic, Belgium invited CCAMLR Members to consider partnering with Belgium to provide funding to support SCAR MarBIN.

13.6 While thanking SCAR and expressing appreciation for its excellent work, Argentina indicated that it employs the term ‘Southern Oceans’ when it refers to the southern zones of the South Atlantic, South Pacific and South Indian Oceans.

Proposals for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas and
Specially Managed Areas that include marine areas

13.7 There were no proposals requiring consideration at CCAMLR-XXX.