

## OTHER BUSINESS

### Statements by Argentina and the UK

#### 18.1 Argentina made the following statement:

‘With regard to incorrect references existing in CCAMLR documents related to the territorial status of the Malvinas Islands, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands, for example, references made in documents regarding toponomy and in the Electronic Catch Documentation Scheme, 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. 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. 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.’

#### 18.2 The UK made the following statement:

‘In response to Argentina’s statement, 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 the UK has 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 CM 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 Systems of Observation and Inspection of CCAMLR and its record of doing so is clearly apparent in this Commission.

The UK would reiterate its views expressed previously that it remains wholly committed to the principles and objectives of CCAMLR. It intends to ensure that the highest standards of fisheries management as well as appropriate spatial and temporal marine protection will be implemented in its jurisdictional waters – through licensing and inspections, and also through the imposition of legislation and tough management measures that are in line with, and back up, the provisions of CCAMLR.’

18.3 Argentina rejected the statement made by the UK and reiterated its legal position, which is well known to all Members.

#### Global Environment Facility proposal

18.4 South Africa requested assistance from the CCAMLR Secretariat to coordinate the preparation of a submission of a project proposal to the Global Environment Facility (GEF). As reported to CCAMLR-XXIX (CCAMLR-XXIX, paragraph 4.82), South Africa is seeking GEF support to improve the capacity of Developing State Members of CCAMLR to engage in CCAMLR processes. The proposal would complement the capacity building initiative that has been progressed in the Scientific Committee over the last two years. The Executive Secretary responded that the Secretariat would be willing to assist where appropriate, subject to the agreement of Members. There was no objection to the Secretariat providing such assistance, resources permitting.