

STATEMENTS BY OBSERVER COUNTRIES

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL

The Brazilian Government would like, at the outset, to express its appreciation to the Governments of all parties to the Convention for the invitation that has been extended to it to attend, as an observer, the IV Meeting of the Commission and the Scientific Committee. The Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources is currently being examined by the Brazilian Congress. Although proceedings for accession have not yet been completed, Brazil has been following with close interest the work of these two bodies.

2. The Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources is a major instrument within the Antarctic Treaty system, in which Brazil has been participating as Consultative Party of the Antarctic Treaty since September 1983 and member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research since October 1984. Within the scope of the Convention, the establishment of standards and procedures for the maintenance and protection of species being commercially exploited is a responsibility to be shared by all countries active in Antarctica.

3. Biological research within the Brazilian Antarctic Program has been developing steadily. The Commission was informed, last year, that Brazil participated in the first phase of the SIBEX/BIOMASS Program, in 1983/1984, in five main fields of research: plankton and primary production, marine seabirds of Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic regions, Necton: Antarctic ichthyological fauna, biochemical and morphological studies on Antarctic krill and Euphausiids of the Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic regions. In 1984/1985, during Phase II of SIBEX, the following specific projects were carried out:

1. Biochemical and physiological studies of Antarctic krill;
2. Comparative histology of Antarctic fish;
3. Biochemical and physiological behaviour of animals in the Antarctic region;
4. Continental seabirds of the Antarctic;
5. Qualitative and quantitative studies of ichthyoplankton of the Antarctic region;
6. Necton: ichthyological Antarctic fauna.

Three others are being developed in laboratory: (1) Euphausiids of the Antarctic and Sub-Antarctic regions; (2) Parasites on Antarctic fish and (3) Plankton and primary production.

4. In 1985/1986, most of these projects will be continued. On the basis of the data that is being collected and processed, Brazil is looking forward to contributing substantially to the analysis of the BIOMASS program and in the future planning of activities in this field.

5. Brazil does not undertake, as yet, economically-oriented activities in the Antarctic. For this reason, the country's Antarctic program does not encompass studies directed specifically at population dynamics and stock evaluation. Brazil has, however, a potential interest in engaging in these activities in the future. The research which is being carried out at this stage is of great importance since it is enabling us to gain the necessary experience. We are aware that the Brazilian Antarctic Program will benefit greatly from participating actively in the work of the Commission and the Scientific Committee. We believe, also, that the activities we have been developing qualify us to membership of both bodies. Brazil is thus looking forward to collaborating constructively in the work which lies ahead of us, in this and in future meetings.

**STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

Mr Chairman, distinguished delegates,

It is my great pleasure to attend this meeting today on invitation from this Commission as the first-ever delegate from Korea. I also find an added significance to this attendance since the Republic of Korea acceded in April this year to the Convention for the Conservation of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources, on which this very Commission was founded.

2. As the Government of the Republic of Korea made clear at the time of accession to the Convention, we have much interest in research and harvesting activities concerning the Antarctic marine living resources, and have every intention to faithfully undertake to fulfil and carry out all the relevant provisions of the Convention, while maintaining friendly and cooperative relations with all members of the Convention.

3. My country, as one of the leading fishery nations of the world which has a deep interest in the exploration and conservation measures in the Antarctic, has conducted a series of research and harvesting activities in the Antarctic Ocean since 1978 by sending four (4) survey vessels to this area. As a bonafide of its good faith and spirit of friendly cooperation with this Commission, even before joining the Convention, we have disseminated the research reports to the Commission and other relevant organisations concerned with the conservation measures of this area. Korea will continue its research activities in the Antarctic in the years ahead. We are planning, for example, at least four (4) more cruises to the Antarctic in the next few years. Based on the experiences and results of our previous expeditions, our future expeditions will put more emphasis on broadening the scope of survey items and methods. This kind of active participation by Korea in the activities as envisaged by the Convention will no doubt be further enhanced and promoted in the forthcoming years now that Korea became a contracting party to the Convention.

4. We in Korea view highly the achievements made within the framework of the Convention for the Conservation of Marine Living Resources, along with the positive activities of your Commission, since its inception in 1980. The Convention has been instrumental in the ways of safeguarding the environment of the ecosystem in the Antarctic and ensuring the conservation of marine living resources, through the implementation of various measures provided for in the Convention, and thanks to the positive cooperation among the member states of this Commission. We, indeed, admire the cooperative working relations among yourselves in this Organisation.

5. Thus, it is the intention of the Korean Government to join with other members of this Commission by becoming a member itself of the Commission with a view to more positively contributing to the works of the body, commensurate with the noble letter and spirit of the Convention. I sincerely hope, in this regard, that all member states represented in this Commission would wholeheartedly support our application to becoming a member.

6. Given the fact that the Republic of Korea is currently a member of 14 specialised agencies of the United Nations, as well as many other governmental and non-governmental international organisations including such worthy fishery organisations as IWC, ICSEAF and ICCAT, in which most of you are mutual members and enjoy very fruitful partnerships in the organisations, I have no doubt that we can fruitfully cooperate with you in the future through the Commission works.

7. In concluding my brief remarks, I again appreciate the Commission Chairman giving me this wonderful opportunity to express our aspirations and to seek cooperative relations with you all.

Thank you.

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN

Following the Third Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, the Spanish Administration has been involved in the important task of compiling information on, and analysing and assessing the activities of the Convention. This is a preliminary step towards the development of programs for scientific research and for exploitation of marine living resources in the Convention area.

These actions were paralleled by a complex of scientific activities carried out within both Spain and the Convention area. First of all, relations with Argentine and Chilean scientific institutions have been strengthened through the participation of Spanish scientists in research activities developed by both these member countries during the 1984/85 Antarctic campaign. Scientists from the C.S.I.C.* , thanks to the kind invitation of the Argentine Antarctic Institute, were able to collaborate in the activities of this institute on board the vessel 'Almirante Irizar'. Another group of Spanish scientists from the Oceanographic Institute of Spain took part in the phase of geological studies organised by the Chilean Antarctic Institute on board the vessel 'Capitan Luis Alcazar', this time thanks to the kind invitation of the latter organisation. Similarly, the C.S.I.C.*, signed an agreement with the Argentine University of the South to collaborate in future Antarctic research.

During the first Spanish Symposium of Antarctic Studies held in Palma de Mallorca from June 30 to July 4 last, a first series of contributions was presented, relating to physico-chemical, bacteriological parameters of water and ice, and the Biomass and phytoplankton production of the Weddell Sea, obtained during the campaign of the 'Almirante Irizar'. A study of the sediments collected during the campaign of the 'Capitan Luis Alcazar' was also presented. This meeting also served as a forum to review the different initiatives which are currently being developed by various Spanish public and private bodies with respect to the Antarctic continent. The Symposium included the distinguished participation of experts from various member nations of the Antarctic Treaty, and of representatives of the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR), all of whom contributed to a more precise knowledge on the part of Spanish scientists interested in future Antarctic projects. Valuable orientations for more immediate actions were also obtained.

Although still modest and at an initial stage, these scientific undertakings have made a positive contribution to stimulating public opinion in Spain and arousing the interest of the Spanish media as regards Antarctic System activities. The experience gained through the undertakings mentioned has also made it possible to establish a framework for future actions. At this stage, these actions will consist in broadening the participation of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas de

* Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas, Madrid (Higher Council for Scientific Research).

Madrid (C.S.I.C.) in the program to be developed by the Argentine Institute on the 'Almirante Irizar' in the next Antarctic campaign. Starting with the 1985/86 campaign, the said Spanish body plans to establish, in co-operation with other Spanish institutions, a research program spanning three seasons in the Weddell Sea and the Antarctic peninsula.

Similarly, the relevant Spanish authorities intend, provided that existing technical difficulties can be overcome, to carry out shortly a fisheries research campaign in waters of the Convention area. The details and development of this campaign will be submitted at the appropriate time to the Commission.

With these and other activities in the Convention area, the Spanish government wishes to strongly express Spain's interest in becoming a member of the Commission in the future.

In conclusion, Mr Chairman, I must reiterate that Spain, through her presence at these meetings, wishes to continue supporting the work of the Commission, in its earnest desire to assure the conservation of the living resources of the Antarctic marine environment.