

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

60. The Executive Secretary of the Commission was appointed to the position in June 1982 and, in accordance with Article XVII of the Convention, his term of office concludes in June 1986.

61. At the last meeting, held in 1984, it was understood that an item relating to the appointment of the Executive Secretary would need to be included on the agenda for the 1985 meeting of the Commission since this would be the last meeting before the expiry of Dr Powell's term of office.

62. The Commission agreed that continuity in the office of Executive Secretary was important in this phase of development of the Commission's work and unanimously decided to re-appoint Dr Powell for a further period. The Chairman of the Commission was asked to write offering him a further term, from 1 July 1986 to 30 June 1990 in accordance with Article XVII of the Convention. Dr Powell expressed his thanks to the members for their support during his first three years and for their vote of confidence in offering him a further term.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

63. The Chairman on behalf of the members thanked Japan (Mr Shima) for its long service in this position, pointing out that in completing two terms of office Japan had been Vice-Chairman since the Commission was established.

64. The Commission agreed to defer the election of a Vice-Chairman until its next meeting. It was agreed that the Chairman be requested to consult members of the Commission and to develop a draft Rule of Procedure for the election of the Vice-Chairman of the Commission with the aim of submitting a draft for consideration at the next meeting. It was understood that such a Rule of Procedure would be consistent with the relevant Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

TIMINGS OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

65. The UK proposed to reconsider the timing of the meetings of the Commission and Scientific Committee taking into account established deadlines for the submission of data, the need for preliminary analysis and pre-processing of data, and the 180-day objection period required for conservation measures to take effect.

66. It was noted that a 30 September deadline has been agreed by the Scientific Committee for the submission of data on commercial fishing. Because the Antarctic reporting period ends on June 30, it was not considered advisable to move forward the 30 September submission deadline. It was felt this would allow too little time for the preparation of data reports.

67. Members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of various timing of annual meetings and finally agreed with the advice of the Scientific Committee that late October-early November would be the best compromise.

68. Accordingly, the Commission asked that the Secretariat make arrangements for the 1987 meeting and that of the Scientific Committee to be held in Hobart in late October to early November.

NEXT MEETING

69. As recommended by the Commission at its last meeting, the Secretariat arranged tentative bookings for alternative times of the year. These were made for 12–23 May 1986, and 8–19 September 1986.

70. It was agreed the next meeting of the Commission and the Scientific Committee will be held in Hobart from 8–19 September 1986.

GUIDELINES FOR ACCEDING STATES SEEKING TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

71. The members of the Commission noted that a number of States had acceded to the Convention on Antarctic Marine Living Resources since the last meeting of the Commission. In view of possible interest by acceding States in seeking membership of the Commission, the members agreed that in light of Articles VII 2 (b) and VII 2 (d) of the Convention that it would be helpful to draw up guidelines relevant to the preparation of submissions by these states and subsequent consideration of such notifications by members of the Commission. Such guidelines should follow objective criteria drawn from the specific content of the Convention, its scope and the geographical area to which it applies.

72. The guidelines at Annex E are intended to assist an acceding state seeking membership of the Commission (as well as members of the Commission), in connection with what is meant by the

requirement that such acceding state shall be ‘engaged in research or harvesting activities in relation to the marine living resources to which this Convention applies.’

OTHER BUSINESS

73. Upon suggestions from delegations, the Chairman of the Commission recalled the need for members to communicate with him on matters of interest and concern during the intersessional period. It was understood that the Chairman will be kept timely informed on all relevant matters and that consultations between the Chairman of the Commission, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee and the Executive Secretary during the intersessional period were very important and that close contact should be maintained among them so as to properly coordinate the work of the Commission and the Scientific Committee and to ensure the efficient conduct of activities, during the intersessional period and for preparing the next meetings of the Commission and the Scientific Committee.

REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

74. The Commission adopted its report and the Chairman closed the meeting.