

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

31. The Commission received the Report of the 1985 meeting including its proposals for the 1986 Budget. The Report is published separately.

32. The Commission welcomed the Report noting that the Scientific Committee and its Working Groups had been very active and had made good progress. It was noted that although at present Scientific Committee work is mainly undertaken individually by each member, in future there is a possibility for cooperative activities among member countries. The preliminary long-term program of the Scientific Committee which had been developed during its meeting may be an appropriate instrument for the development of such cooperation.

33. Commenting generally on the work of the Scientific Committee, some delegations emphasised that its advice to the Commission should always be based on the results of carefully conducted scientific research. The analyses of fisheries statistical data in their turn should supplement the results of this research.

34. Other delegations, while agreeing that the advice of the Scientific Committee should be based on the results of scientific research, pointed out that much research had already been done, that according to the advice of the Scientific Committee there was a need to institute management measures immediately and the Commission at present had to base its decisions on currently available information.

35. Member countries were encouraged to carry out more research and delegations expressed their willingness to enter into cooperative research projects.