

**STATEMENTS BY OBSERVER COUNTRIES**

## **STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF URUGUAY**

Uruguay acceded to the Convention in April 1985 and for the first time a Delegation was present at CCAMLR meetings.

During the past few years, our country has carried out in stages its planned Antarctic activities.

In 1984 a Uruguayan Antarctic Base was set up. It is permanently manned.

In 1985 we became a Consultative Member of the Antarctic Treaty.

We have now been invited as observers to this Commission, to which we attach vital importance in the effective protection of the Antarctic Ecosystem and the conservation of its living resources.

At present, our country does not carry out any harvesting in waters to which this Convention applies; but, as you know, we have placed our hopes in the development of fishing activities, having made significant progress in our own territorial waters.

Our future efforts will, without doubt, be extended to areas that go beyond our territorial waters, including the Southern Ocean.

In the scientific field we are working within the Convention area and we hope to increase this participation in the near future.

We are developing the following scientific research projects related to the marine environment:

- Contribution to the ecological knowledge of the Antarctic coast by way of studies of zooplankton and zoobenthos.
- Obtaining a concentrate of krill protein for human consumption by biological methods.
- Impact of human settlement in Fildes Peninsula, on the waters of Maxwell Bay, King George Island, by way of a study of the possible water pollution produced by those settlements.

- Physical and chemical oceanography studies.

These scientific activities, together with others pertaining to life, earth and atmospheric sciences, which have no relation to CCAMLR; as well as the permanent maintenance of the Base, have contributed to create an awareness of Antarctica among our people and a growing interest in the questions it poses. All this leads to a logical increase of the country's activities in the area.

For that purpose, Uruguay is currently preparing to deploy a vessel suitable for Antarctic operations, to be used to support the logistic and scientific tasks being carried out in the area.

This vessel will be ready during the first months of next year. We intend to offer its services to co-operate with the international scientific programs being carried out, for instance, BIOMASS, if it is decided to continue such, or other programmes which may be developed.

Our country is aware of the possibility of attaining the status of member of the Commission and relinquishing its observer status, which would eventuate following a complete evaluation of its activities in the area and of the contribution that it can make to the development of the activities of the Commission.

I must emphasise the honour that we attach to being the first representatives from our country before this Commission, and I would reiterate the interest of my Government in becoming a member of the Commission in the near future, and to contribute to the best of our efforts.

#### **STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF SPAIN**

Since the last annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, Spain has continued intensifying its operations with a view to a complete integration with the Antarctic System.

With regard to the concrete scope of this Commission, we have developed specific combined actions to attain the objectives outlined by my delegation during the Third Annual Meeting of 1984. Firstly, our competent fishing authorities have notably increased the monitoring of the activities of the Spanish fishing fleet which works in the South Atlantic. With regard to this, and following a detailed analysis of the log books of our refrigeration vessels in this region, we have been able to prove the existence of some isolated fishing activities within the Convention Area carried out by the refrigeration vessel *PESCAPUERTA IV* on the 8, 9 and 10 November 1984 to the east of South Georgia Island, on which this delegation has presented more detailed information in document SC-CAMLR-V/BG/40.

In 1986, thanks to the valuable co-operation of other contracting parties, the participation of Spanish scientists and technicians was able to continue in Antarctic research operations. Three investigators from the Spanish Institute of Oceanography, the Institute of Geology and Mines and the Institute of Natural Organic Products participated in the XXII Chilean Antarctic Operation on board the vessel *CAPITAN LUIS ALCAZAR* in January of 1986. During the following months of May and June, another scientist of the Spanish Institute of Oceanography took part in the Federal Republic of Germany's operation ANT V/1 on board the vessel *POLARSTERN*.

At the same time, a programme of Spanish operations for the 1986–87 season has been completed. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Nutrition, through the technical services of the General Secretariat of Maritime Fishing and the Spanish Institute of Oceanography, has organised a survey operation, in order to carry out an economic study of the real possibilities of Antarctic Resources for the Spanish Fleet and to develop simultaneously research activities that involve species of commercial interest, as well as other species related to the Antarctic environment.

This operation shall be performed by two vessels, which will co-ordinate their activities in order to assure at all times reciprocal logistic support. Two 80 metre long refrigeration trawlers with a GRT between 1500 and 2000 tonnes will be used. These vessels have been specially equipped to operate in polar waters. The first one will carry special scientific material, 50 crew members and 15 researchers who will exclusively perform research activities, including oceanographic fishing, biological and meteorological research. The second, carrying sixty crew members and six sampling observers, will concentrate on performing extractive activities of the commercial type.

Insular platforms up to 500 meters in depth have been selected for the scientific activities and include the archipelagoes of Shag Rocks, South Georgia, South Sandwich, South Orkney and South Shetland, including also the islands of Elephant, Clarence and Gibbs. Approximately 195 oceanographic and 275 fishing stations have been planned, with the total duration of the operation in the specified areas being 80 days and planned to begin on the 15th of November following.

The principal results that are hoped to be obtained are, among others, the following:

- Determining the average yield by species and season, as well as by species and depth.
- Estimating the biomass of the most important species, by archipelago and depth stratum.
- Obtaining biological parameters of the most important commercial species.

- Studying the selection of trawling gear over the most important commercial fish species, and
- Collecting meteorological, geomorphological and oceanographic data.

Spain is confident that by taking up these activities, it is contributing to the important knowledge of the Antarctic ecosystem and the important commercial species that inhabit it, and co-operating in the rational utilisation of its living marine resources, in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Convention. In this context, I wish to reiterate the wish of my government that Spain becomes a member of the Commission in the near future.