

CONSIDERATION OF CONSERVATION MEASURES

48. The Commission undertook a detailed examination of the Report of the Scientific Committee. On this basis, it agreed that Conservation Measure 1/III, Conservation Measure 2/III and Conservation Measure 3/IV should remain in force. In addition, the following measures were adopted:

CONSERVATION MEASURE 4/V

Regulation on Mesh Size Measurement

The Commission hereby adopts the following Conservation Measure in accordance with Article IX of the Convention which supplements Conservation Measure 2/III:

Regulations on Mesh-size Measurement

ARTICLE 1.

Description of gauges

1. Gauges to be used for determining mesh sizes shall be 2 mm thick, flat, of durable material and capable of retaining their shape. They shall have either a series of parallel-edged sides connected by intermediate tapering edges with a taper of one to eight on each side, or only tapering edges with the taper defined above. They shall have a hole at the narrowest extremity.
2. Each gauge shall be inscribed on its face with the width in millimetres both on the parallel-sided section, if any, and on the tapering section. In the case of the latter the width shall be inscribed every 1 mm interval and the indication of the width shall appear at regular intervals.

ARTICLE 2.

Use of the gauge

1. The net shall be stretched in the direction of the long diagonal of the meshes.
2. A gauge as described in Article 1 shall be inserted by its narrowest extremity into the mesh opening in a direction perpendicular to the plane of the net.
3. The gauge shall be inserted into the mesh opening either with a manual force or using a weight or dynamometer, until it is stopped at the tapering edges by the resistance of the mesh.

ARTICLE 3.

Selection of meshes to be measured

1. Meshes to be measured shall form a series of 20 consecutive meshes chosen in the direction of the long axis of the net.
2. Meshes less than 50 cm from lacings, ropes or codline shall not be measured. This distance shall be measured perpendicular to the lacings, ropes or codline with the net stretched in the direction of that measurement. Nor shall any mesh be measured which has been mended or broken or has attachments to the net fixed at that mesh.
3. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, the meshes to be measured need not be consecutive if the application of paragraph 2 prevents it.
4. Nets shall be measured only when wet and unfrozen.

ARTICLE 4.

Measurement of each mesh

The size of each mesh shall be the width of the gauge at the point where the gauge is stopped, when using this gauge in accordance with Article 2.

ARTICLE 5.

Determination of the mesh size of the net

The mesh size of the net shall be the arithmetical mean in millimetres of the measurements of the total number of meshes selected and measured as provided for in Articles 3 and 4, the arithmetical mean being rounded up to the next millimetre.

The total number of meshes to be measured is provided for in Article 6.

ARTICLE 6.

Sequence of inspection procedure

1. The inspector shall measure one series of 20 meshes, selected in accordance with Article 3, inserting the gauge manually without using a weight or dynamometer.

The mesh size of the net shall then be determined in accordance with Article 5.

If the calculation of the mesh size shows that the mesh size does not appear to comply with the rules in force, then two additional series of 20 meshes selected in accordance with Article 3 shall be measured.

The mesh size shall then be recalculated in accordance with Article 5, taking into account the 60 meshes already measured. Without prejudice to paragraph 2, this shall be the mesh size of the net.

2. If the captain of the vessel contests the mesh size determined in accordance with paragraph 1, such measurement will not be considered for the determination of the mesh size and the net shall be remeasured.

A weight or dynamometer attached to the gauge shall be used for remeasurement.

The choice of weight or dynamometer shall be at the discretion of the inspector.

The weight shall be fixed to the hole in the narrowest extremity of the gauge using a hook. The dynamometer may either be fixed to the hole in the narrowest extremity of the gauge or be applied at the largest extremity of the gauge.

The accuracy of the weight or dynamometer shall be certified by the appropriate national authority.

For nets of mesh size of 35 mm or less as determined in accordance with paragraph 1, a force of 19.61 newtons (equivalent to a mass of 2 kilograms) shall be applied and for other nets, a force of 49.03 newtons (equivalent to a mass of 5 kilograms).

For the purposes of determining the mesh size in accordance with Article 5 when using a weight or dynamometer, one series of 20 meshes only shall be measured.

CONSERVATION MEASURE 5/V

Prohibition of Directed Fishery on *Notothenia rossii* in the Peninsula Area (Statistical Subarea 48.1)

The Commission hereby adopts the following Conservation Measure in accordance with Article IX of the Convention:

Directed fishing on *N. rossii* in the Peninsula Area (Statistical Area 48.1) is prohibited.

By-catches of *N. rossii* in fisheries directed to other species shall be kept to the level allowing the optimum recruitment to the stock.

CONSERVATION MEASURE 6/V

Prohibition of Directed Fishery on *Notothenia rossii* around South Orkneys (Statistical Subarea 48.2)

The Commission hereby adopts the following Conservation Measure in accordance with Article IX of the Convention:

Directed fishing on *N. rossii* around South Orkneys (Statistical Subarea 48.2) is prohibited.

By-catches of *N. rossii* in fisheries directed to other species shall be kept to the level allowing the optimum recruitment to the stock.

CONSERVATION MEASURE 7/V

Regulation of Fishing Around South Georgia (Statistical Subarea 48.3)

The Commission hereby adopts the following conservation measure in accordance with Article IX of the Convention:

Without prejudice to other conservation measures adopted by the Commission, for species upon which fisheries are permitted around South Georgia (Statistical Subarea 48.3), the Commission shall, at its 1987 Meeting, adopt limitations on catch, or equivalent measures, binding for the 1987/88 season.

Such limitations of catch or equivalent measures shall be based upon the advice of the Scientific Committee, taking into account any data resulting from fishery surveys around South Georgia.

For each fishing season after 1987/88, the Commission shall establish such limitations or other measures, as necessary, around South Georgia on a similar basis at the meeting of the Commission immediately preceding that season.

RESOLUTION 4/V

Protection of *Notothenia rossii* in the Peninsula Area (Statistical Subarea 48.1) and Around South Orkneys (Statistical Subarea 48.2)

In light of the adoption of Conservation Measures 5/V and 6/V, the Commission decided that the catching of *N. rossii* be avoided in the Peninsula Area (Statistical Subarea 48.1) and around South Orkneys (Statistical Subarea 48.2), pending the entry into force of those measures.

To this end, the Commission requests all parties to the Convention in the 1986/87 season:

- (a) to refrain from a directed fishery for *N. rossii* in the Peninsula Area (Statistical Subarea 48.1) and around South Orkneys (Statistical Subarea 48.2);
- (b) to ensure that by-catch of *N. rossii* in directed fishing for other species in those statistical subareas is avoided.

49. The Commission engaged in detailed discussion of the advice of the Scientific Committee with respect to fish stocks in Statistical Area 48. It had been agreed at the Fourth Annual Meeting that the Scientific Committee would give particular attention to the assessment of these stocks.

50. The Commission was able to agree upon maintenance of the existing measures applicable in Statistical Area 48 and upon extension as conservation measures of requests it made at the last annual meeting that directed fishery on *N. rossii* in Statistical Subarea 48.1 and 48.2 be prohibited.

51. The Commission, however, was unable to agree upon additional measures to limit fishing in Statistical Area 48. There was divergence in views, in particular, over limitations of catch in Subarea 48.3. Members carrying out fisheries in this area took the position that any such limitations of catch for the 1986/87 season should be fixed at the level of catch for the 1985/86 season and indicated that they did not intend to exceed those limits. A number of other Members took the view that such a catch level was inconsistent with the advice of the Scientific Committee which recommended steps to ensure recovery of depleted fish stocks. They noted that continued catch at 1985/86 levels would exceed the Scientific Committee's estimate of the replacement yield of stocks assessed by it this year.

52. In these circumstances, the Commission could not reach agreement on a limitation of catch for Subarea 48.3 (excluding the directed fishery for *Notothenia guntheri* around Shag Rocks). The Commission, however, agreed that such limitations of catch or equivalent measures should be established for the 1987–88 season, at next year's annual meeting, when data resulting from planned fishery surveys in the area would be available. In order to facilitate consideration of such measures, the Commission requested the Chairman of the Scientific Committee to seek the views of Members with the objective of developing specific questions to be addressed in the Committee's assessment activities next year and desirable ways of presenting resulting assessment data.

53. The Commission adopted Conservation Measure 7/V, which would permit the Commission, at its 1987 meeting, to fix limitations of catch for the 1987/88 season as a binding measure. The recommendation would permit a similar procedure for future seasons after 1987/88.

54. The Commission noted the importance of developing effective procedures for regular catch reporting to permit real time determination of whether limitations of catch had been reached if such limitations were agreed. The Commission called upon parties to concentrate upon this effort prior to and at the next meeting for the Commission.

55. The Commission, taking into account data and analyses presented by the French delegation to the Scientific Committee, agreed that Resolution 3/IV – Protection of *Notothenia rossii* around the Kerguelen Islands (Statistical Subarea 58.5) should remain in effect and recommended that current conservation measures applied by the French authorities should continue in this area.

56. The Japanese delegate stated that though he was not objecting to Conservation Measure 7/V, which had been adopted after careful deliberation, he wished to record his delegation's concern that conservation measures be based upon the best available scientific advice. The adoption of Conservation Measure 7/V should not in any way be interpreted as prejudging the results of future analyses by the Scientific Committee.

57. The Commission further endorsed the Scientific Committee's recommendation encouraging co-ordinated surveys aimed at providing independent estimates of fish stocks. In this regard, the Commission took note of the Scientific Committee's stress upon ensuring that methods, timing and location of surveys are appropriate to the requirements of fish stock assessment.

58. The collective fish stock assessment effort by seven countries represents a major contribution to the objectives of CCAMLR. The informal consultation during the meeting allowed for some minor adjustment to vessel operations plans for 1986/87. However, to increase overall effectiveness of survey operations in the future, the Commission agreed that a one-day co-ordination meeting be held prior to each annual meeting to review and plan operations. Prior to the 1987 session, it would be desirable for Members to meet to co-ordinate operations planned for the 1987/88 season and to plan in detail co-ordinated CCAMLR survey operations for the 1988/89 season.