

ELABORATION OF THE CCAMLR SYSTEM OF OBSERVATION AND INSPECTION

73. The United States submitted a paper (CCAMLR-V17) elaborating elements of the system of observation and inspection called for under Article XXIV of the Convention. The paper was discussed under agenda item 10 and further considered in an informal working session. There was general agreement that the system of observation and inspection should be developed and implemented as expeditiously as possible.

74. The Commission recalled and re-endorsed the recommendations contained in the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Commission, calling for Members to give sympathetic reception to the requests of other Members for the placement of scientific observers on their vessels. It also recalled that these activities relate primarily to Article XV and, thus, are distinct from the system of observation and inspection required by Article XXIV. Increasing regulation of harvesting activities in the Convention Area makes it important to work rapidly to give effect to Article XXIV.

75. The Commission welcomed the paper put forth by the United States. Some Members expressed concern about the relationship of the elements outlined in the paper to existing international practices relating to observation and inspection. In addition, questions were raised concerning the issue of reporting procedures, the appropriateness of setting up a pool of observers and inspectors, the means for funding such observers and inspectors, and when such a system might take effect. The Members' attention was drawn to CCAMLR-IV/8, a background paper submitted by the Secretariat at the Fourth Meeting of the Commission, which described the observation and inspection systems of other international organisations. Members were urged to review this document.

76. On the basis of these discussions, the United States prepared a revision of its paper (CCAMLR-V/17/Rev. 1), attached as Annex E, as a contribution to moving toward elaboration of a system of observation and inspection under Article XXIV. The Commission agreed that the United States should serve as convener of a Working Group to consider this item at the Commission's next annual meeting. The United States agreed to solicit and collate the views of the Members on elements to be incorporated into the system of observation and inspection, and to provide a summary of those views to Members for use at the Working Group meeting at the Commission's next annual meeting. The Commission agreed that the revised U.S. paper, along with the Secretariat's 1984 summary of other international observation and inspection systems (CCAMLR-IV/8), would be useful in facilitating progress toward the elaboration of the system of observation and inspection at the Commission's next annual meeting.