

COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

153. The United States represented CCAMLR as Observer at the 41st Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission held in San Diego, USA from 12 to 16 June, 1989. The US Delegation submitted a report.

154. It was agreed that the organisations invited to attend the Eighth Meeting of CCAMLR should also be invited to attend the Ninth Meeting.

155. It was recalled that the question of inviting ASOC to the next meeting of the Commission would be governed by the Rules of Procedure as would its participation if invited.

156. Some delegations expressed the view that there would be benefit in having ASOC also attend the meetings of the Scientific Committee as an observer provided that its representatives had the necessary qualifications and background to allow effective participation in the Scientific Committee's work. It was acknowledged, however, that ASOC's attendance is a matter for the Scientific Committee to deal with in accordance with its own Rules of Procedure.

157. The Commission considered a proposal from the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) that CCAMLR, together with other interested organisations, sign a Memorandum of Understanding expressing intent to continue cooperation in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Conservation Management and Utilization of Marine Mammals.

158. The Commission noted that the Scientific Committee, in 1985, had discussed the Global Plan, expressed interest and support in principle, but had not decided on any explicit action on its own part in relation to the Plan.

159. The Commission also noted that the Scientific Committee, at its present meeting, had expressed the view that the elements of the Global Plan as it applied to the Antarctic were being adequately addressed by CCAMLR, the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals and other elements of the Antarctic Treaty System. It had agreed that reports of its work that might be of relevance to the Plan should be made available to UNEP.

160. The USSR Delegation said that there was no need for a separate consultative mechanism for cooperation between UNEP and CCAMLR as envisaged in the Memorandum of Understanding. Such cooperation should be achieved within the framework of CCAMLR, as provided for in Article XXIII of the Convention.

161. The Commission felt that it did not have enough information on the UNEP proposal to discuss fully and to decide on the matter.

162. The Commission received on 2 November 1989 an application for observer status at CCAMLR meetings from Stichting Greenpeace Council. Some delegations pointed out that a decision could not be made on this matter which was not on the agenda.

163. The Chairman pointed out that in the introduction to the application, Greenpeace alleged that previous applications had not received serious attention. The Executive Secretary was asked, in his response to Greenpeace, to draw attention to the record in the Reports of the Commission on the consideration of observer status of non-governmental organisations, which had included consideration of applications from Greenpeace.