

REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

(Hobart, Australia, 25 October to 5 November 1993)

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources was held in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia from 25 October to 5 November 1993 under the Chairmanship of Dr Dietrich Hammer (EEC).

1.2 Members of the Commission represented were: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, European Economic Community, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

1.3 Following established practice, Acceding States were invited to attend as observers, and Bulgaria and Greece attended in this capacity.

1.4 In view of Ukraine's fishing activities in the CCAMLR Convention Area and more recently its contribution to the Eleventh Meeting, Ukraine was invited to attend as an observer and was represented at the meeting.

1.5 The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) and the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC) were invited to attend the meeting as observers. FAO, IOC, IUCN, IWC, SCAR and ASOC attended.

1.6 A List of Participants is at Annex 1. A List of Documents presented to the meeting is at Annex 2.

1.7 The meeting was opened by His Excellency General Sir Phillip Bennett, AC, KBE, DSO, Governor of Tasmania.

1.8 In his address, His Excellency drew attention, particularly, to CCAMLR's unique approach to sustainable development in the marine environment. Its integrated approach to resource management was ahead of its time and provided a model which other international organisations were now adopting. His Excellency referred to the reduction in fishing activity, which he hoped would be an opportunity to consolidate the experience, expertise and resources built up during CCAMLR's existence, rather than a reason for reducing research funding. Reference was also made to the introduction of the system of international scientific observation and to the adoption of precautionary approaches towards managing the existing finfish fisheries and the newly-established crab fishery.

1.9 The Governor emphasised the importance of scientific research, not only in the Antarctic, but also globally, and encouraged Members in their endeavours in the twin tasks of scientific research and balancing the conservation of the Antarctic marine ecosystem with the development needs of nations.