

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM

Cooperation with SCAR

10.1 The SCAR Observer (Dr J. Croxall, UK) informed the Commission that the next biennial meeting of SCAR would take place in 1994. As there is no meeting in 1993, there would be no formal report from SCAR to the Commission this year. The SCAR Observer, however, advised that the Scientific Committee had considered several items relevant to cooperation between CCAMLR and SCAR (SC-CAMLR-XII, paragraphs 12.15 to 12.25). These items are:

- transfer of the BIOMASS database to the CCAMLR Data Centre;
- the SCAR Antarctic digital topographic database;
- the SCAR-COMNAP (Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs) *ad hoc* planning group on Antarctic Data Management;
- the SO-GLOBEC (Southern Ocean Global Ocean Ecosystems Dynamics) Program;
- the Coastal Zone EASIZ (Ecology of the Antarctic Sea-Ice Zone) Program which is complementary to SO-GLOBEC; and
- SCAR APIS (Antarctic Pack-Ice Seals) Program.

10.2 In particular, the SCAR Observer noted that CCAMLR co-sponsored with SCAR the recent workshop for the APIS Program and welcomed the decision of the Scientific Committee to establish a liaison between CCAMLR and the SO-GLOBEC Program (SC-CAMLR-XII, paragraphs 12.23 and 12.25).

10.3 The Delegation of New Zealand advised the Commission of the formal opening in September 1993 of the International Centre for Antarctic Information and Research (ICAIR) in Christchurch, New Zealand. ICAIR will use the latest technology to capture, document, manipulate and preserve useful Antarctic data and information. The Commission was advised of the SCAR-COMNAP recommendation to develop an Antarctic Master Directory, of which ICAIR would be a prototype.

10.4 Last year the Commission asked the Executive Secretary to contact the Secretary of SCAR concerning arrangements for CCAMLR participation in SCAR meetings (CCAMLR-XI, paragraph 10.5). The Executive Secretary reported the results of his discussions with the SCAR Executive Secretary, Dr P. Clarkson, that he had had during his visit to the UK in May 1993. As a result of these discussions, all concerns brought up by the CCAMLR Observer to SCAR at the last meeting of the Commission, were successfully resolved.

10.5 The Commission took note that the Scientific Committee would be represented at several SCAR meetings to be held in 1994 (SC-CAMLR-XII, paragraphs 12.27 and 12.28).

Coordination on CEMP Site Protection within the Antarctic Treaty System

10.6 The Commission noted the letter of 14 June from the Convener of the SCAR Group of Specialists on Environmental Affairs and Conservation (GOSEAC) in which GOSEAC drew attention to the desirability of ensuring consistency between areas and sites protected under CCAMLR and the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty. GOSEAC had also stressed the need for continued liaison between CCAMLR and SCAR concerning protected areas in the Antarctic.

10.7 The Secretariat circulated the GOSEAC correspondence in COMM CIRC 93/30 of 28 June 1993, and replies from Australia, Chile, and the UK were incorporated in CCAMLR-XII/11.

10.8 The Commission agreed that the existing procedures for communication and coordination were adequate regarding areas protected under CCAMLR (Conservation Measure 18/IX) and the Antarctic Treaty (at present, the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Flora and Fauna). These procedures ensured liaison between

the respective elements of the Antarctic Treaty System and related organisations, including SCAR. The Commission expressed its desire to maintain strong links with SCAR on this matter.

10.9 It was noted, however, that once Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection comes into force, the procedures for protecting areas under the Antarctic Treaty will change.

10.10 Annex V will simplify the Antarctic Treaty's system for protecting areas by establishing two designations: Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) and Antarctic Specially Managed Area (ASMA). Annex V does not extend this process to protected areas designated by other elements of the Antarctic Treaty System (e.g., CCAMLR, CCAS).

10.11 Examples of promoting consistency and coordination among components of the Antarctic Treaty System are provided by Article 6(2) of the Protocol's Annex V, which specifies that no marine area shall be designated as an ASPA or an ASMA without the prior approval of CCAMLR and by paragraph 5 of Conservation Measure 18/IX which requires that a Resolution of the Commission adopting a CEMP Management Site Management Plan be transmitted to SCAR.

10.12 The Commission stressed that although the responsibility for ensuring protection of CEMP sites resides with CCAMLR, it was entirely appropriate to consider ways in which consistency could be achieved between management plans for CEMP sites, ASPAs, and ASMAs.

10.13 The Commission recognised the importance and timeliness of investigating the implications of harmonising the management plans for CEMP sites with the provisions of relevant elements under the Protocol.

10.14 The Commission agreed that, where appropriate, it would be desirable that Management Plans adopted under CCAMLR are consistent with the provisions of the Protocol. This would reduce inconsistencies between Protected Areas within the Antarctic Treaty System.

10.15 To this end, the Commission requested Members to consider the provisions of Conservation Measure 18/IX during the intersessional period, considering to what extent it

may be appropriate to revise this Conservation Measure so that it would correspond with the provisions of Annex V of the Protocol.

Proposed Antarctic Specially Managed Area in Admiralty Bay

10.16 The Delegations of Brazil and Poland submitted jointly a paper (CCAMLR-XII/BG/13) containing a draft proposal for the designation of an Antarctic Specially Managed Area (ASMA) at Admiralty Bay, King George Island, South Shetland Islands. Both countries operate year-round stations in the area. The proposed ASMA includes land and marine areas and, as such, will require prior approval of CCAMLR in accordance with Article 6(2) of Annex V to the Environmental Protocol.

10.17 Several delegations commended the Delegations of Brazil and Poland on their initiative to present the draft management plan for the Admiralty Bay ASMA to CCAMLR in compliance with the Protocol's provisions.

10.18 The Commission, while recognising that the Protocol is not yet in force, decided that it would be appropriate to review the proposal and draft management plan to help expedite its consideration by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties. However, it was noted that some aspects of the draft plan should be reviewed by the Scientific Committee and its Working Groups.

10.19 Therefore, the Commission requested the Scientific Committee and its Working Groups to review the draft management plan for the Admiralty Bay ASMA during 1994 and to provide advice on the plan to the Commission at its next meeting.

10.20 It was noted that under the new provisions of the Antarctic Treaty's protected area system, as defined in Annex V of the Protocol, it was likely that CCAMLR would be receiving additional draft management plans from the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in the future, with a request for advice and approval by the Commission.

10.21 To ensure that CCAMLR gave such future proposals due consideration, the Commission encouraged Members to consider during the intersessional period appropriate procedures to deal with such draft management plans received from Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty. It was agreed that such procedures would be examined at the next meeting of the Commission.

Other Matters

10.22 CCAMLR was represented at the XVIIth ATCP Meeting (Venice, November 1992) by Italy. The Delegation of Italy submitted to the Consultative Parties a statement of recent developments in CCAMLR which had been prepared by the Secretariat.

10.23 The XVIIIth ATCP Meeting will be held in April 1994 in Kyoto, Japan.

10.24 The Commission agreed that there would be merit in having the Commission represented as appropriate by the Executive Secretary at Antarctic Treaty Consultative Party meetings.