

OBSERVATION AND INSPECTION

6.1 The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Observation and Inspection (SCOI) Ambassador J. Arvesen (Norway) introduced the report of the Committee. The Committee had considered Agenda Item 6 referred to it by the Commission. An additional item, "Election of the Chairman of SCOI" was also discussed by the Committee. The report of SCOI is appended as Annex 5.

Reports of Inspection

6.2 Twenty-six CCAMLR Inspectors were nominated by Members in accordance with provisions of the System of Inspection to carry out inspections in the 1992/93 season. Only one inspection was reported (CCAMLR-XII/12). The inspection of the Polish vessel, *Lyra*, fishing for krill in Subarea 48.1, was carried out on 3 March 1993 by CCAMLR Inspectors nominated by the US (Annex 5, paragraphs 6 and 7).

6.3 The Commission endorsed the Committee's suggestion that the System of Inspection, which is available to all Members, should be used more extensively in order to ensure compliance with Conservation Measures, particularly in those Statistical Areas where the majority of Conservation Measures are in force (Annex 5, paragraph 9).

6.4 The Commission endorsed the Committee's recommendation that in order to provide greater flexibility to the System of Inspection, Article I(f) of the System of Inspection be amended in such a way that the deadline for the designation of Inspectors be changed from the existing date of 1 May to a date which corresponds to the last day of the Commission meeting and that designations should remain valid until the last day of the Commission meeting in the following year (Annex 5, paragraph 22).

6.5 The Commission also endorsed the Committee's request that, in addition to reporting inspections carried out, information be provided to SCOI by Members about the actual number of Inspectors deployed at sea, duration of their trips and areas covered (Annex 5, paragraph 11).

6.6 Having adopted the new Scientific Research Exemption Provisions, consisting of Conservation Measure 47/XI and Resolution 9/XI, the Commission, in 1992, decided to review the status of the Register of Permanent Research Vessels (CCAMLR-XI, paragraph 9.12).

6.7 SCOI had several options for the revision of the Register's status described in the paper prepared by the Secretariat (CCAMLR-XII/13). The Committee had also received advice from the Scientific Committee on the matter (SC-CAMLR-XII, paragraphs 6.1 to 6.3).

6.8 The Committee had suggested that the Commission consider deletion of the Register of Permanent Research vessels and amend the Scientific Research Exemption Provisions as follows:

- delete reference to the Register and to the 1986 Scientific Research Exemption Provisions from Article IV(a), and add to Article IV(a) a request that Members submit a list of vessels intending to conduct fishing for research purposes in addition to the list of vessels intending to undertake harvesting activities; and
- amend Conservation Measure 47/XI to specify which exemptions apply to those research vessels intending to catch less than 50 tonnes.

6.9 The Delegation of Spain has made specific proposals on the amendment of Conservation Measure 47/XI (CCAMLR-XII/BG/20). The Commission considered these proposals and adopted Conservation Measure 64/XII to replace Conservation Measure 47/XI and Resolution 9/XI (see paragraph 8.39).

6.10 The Commission noted that the 50 tonne limit may not be appropriate for krill, crab and squid. It recommended that the Scientific Committee study this at its next meeting.

Compliance with Conservation Measures in Force

6.11 The Committee discussed several reported cases of apparent non-compliance with Conservation Measures in force in Subareas 48.3 and 48.4 (Annex 5, paragraphs 27 to 29).

6.12 The Observer from Bulgaria informed the Commission that the reasons for one Bulgarian vessel fishing in Subarea 48.4 contrary to Conservation Measure 44/XI was to avoid high economic losses because the vessel arrived in the area earlier, on 5 November expecting that the fishery would be open on this date as it was in 1991. The Commission expressed its disapproval and disappointment that Bulgaria, as an Acceding State, had not complied with this Conservation Measure.

6.13 The Commission endorsed the Committee's recommendation that Bulgaria be urged to take steps to become a Member of the Commission. The Commission also urged Ukraine, which fishes in the Convention Area, to join the Commission.

6.14 The Observer from Ukraine informed the Commission that the decision of the Government of Ukraine to join the Commission is expected shortly.

6.15 In this connection, the Commission instructed the Chairman to write to appropriate authorities in Bulgaria and Ukraine and advise them of the Commission's concern that all nations fishing in the CCAMLR Convention Area should take steps to become Members of the Commission.

6.16 The Commission noted the statement made by the Delegation of Chile at the SCOI meeting on matters related to the enforcement of Conservation Measures in the Convention Area for longline vessels operating under the flag of Chile (Annex 5, paragraph 31 and Appendix 1).

6.17 The Committee discussed the proposal of the Delegation of Chile that the use of remotely sensed automatic position fixing systems (transponders) on vessels fishing in the Convention Area would help to better meet the objective of the Convention and improve the reliability of fine-scale data which underlie management decisions (Annex 5, paragraph 33). The Commission agreed that the use of remotely sensed automatic position fixing systems would be an important step towards ensuring that objectives of

the Convention were effectively met and that this question be included on the Provisional Agenda of the next meeting of the Commission, and endorsed the Committee's request that the Secretariat prepare a paper on this question to be considered at the next annual meeting (Annex 5, paragraph 35).

6.18 The Commission endorsed the Committee's recommendation that Members participating in any fishery for which catches are to be reported at specified intervals be requested to submit catch reports for the entire duration of the fishery, including periods when no catches were taken, i.e. to report so-called 'zero' catches (Annex 5, paragraph 24).

Operation of the Scheme of International Scientific Observation

6.19 The Scheme of International Scientific Observation was adopted last year by the Commission. The first observation under this Scheme was conducted in accordance with an agreement between Chile and the UK. Under this agreement, a Scientific Observer designated by the UK together with a Chilean scientist undertook scientific observations on board the Chilean longliner fishing for *D. eleginoides* in Subarea 48.4 (South Sandwich Islands) from 25 February to 3 March 1993. The Commission took note of information provided to the Scientific Committee by the Delegation of the USA about plans to conduct scientific observation in cooperation with Japan.

6.20 The Scientific Committee considered results of this first observation and highlighted the important role of Scientific Observers aboard commercial fishing vessels (SC-CAMLR-XII, paragraphs 2.23 and 11.1). The Chairman of the Scientific Committee, Dr Kock, stressed that more Scientific Observers need to be placed on board commercial vessels in order to collect information which is important for management decisions.

6.21 The Commission endorsed the Committee's suggestion that the Scheme of International Scientific Observation, which is available to all Members, should be more extensively used by Members, particularly in Statistical Areas where most Conservation Measures are in force, with the view of achieving the objectives of the Convention.

6.22 The Commission noted the Scientific Committee's indication that it will be some time before comprehensive observer reports become available under the Scientific Observers Scheme and that in the light of the limited experience acquired so far in using the *Scientific Observers Manual* it should be revised and a new edition published only after more information becomes available.

6.23 The Commission recalled SCOR's agreement that there would be need to review the Scheme as experience was gained in its operation (CCAMLR-XI, Annex 5, paragraph 47).