

REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

(Hobart, Australia, 26 October to 4 November 1994)

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 The Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources was held in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia from 26 October to 4 November 1994 under the Chairmanship of Dr D. Hammer (EEC).

1.2 All Members of the Commission were represented: 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 Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, Greece, Netherlands, Peru, Ukraine and Uruguay were invited to attend the meeting as observers. Canada, Finland, Greece, Netherlands and Ukraine attended.

1.4 In welcoming all Members and observers to the meeting, the Chairman paid tribute to the work performed by observers both in contributing to the meetings and in disseminating information about CCAMLR within their states and organisations.

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. ASOC, IOC, IUCN, IWC and SCAR attended.

1.6 The List of Participants is given in Annex 1. The List of Documents presented to the meeting is given in Annex 2.

1.7 The Provisional Agenda for the meeting (CCAMLR-XIII/1) was adopted without changes (Annex 3).

1.8 The Chairman advised that, unless the meeting decided on changes as a result of discussions under other agenda items, the status of observers at the 1994 meeting would be on the same basis as at the 1993 meeting.

1.9 The Chairman reported on intersessional activities. He informed the meeting that Scientific Committee Working Groups had met during the year in Cape Town, South Africa (Workshop on Evaluating Krill Flux Factors, Working Group on Krill (WG-Krill), Working Group for the CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program (WG-CEMP) and a joint meeting of WG-Krill and WG-CEMP) and in Hobart (Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment (WG-FSA) and Working Group on Incidental Mortality Arising from Longline Fishing (WG-IMALF)). He also reported on representation at the 46th Meeting of the IWC, the FAO Technical Consultation on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing, XXIII Meeting of SCAR and the Third International Conference on 'Marine Debris - Seeking Global Solutions'. Reports of these meetings are discussed in the relevant sections of this report.

1.10 The Delegate of South Africa reminded the Commission of the change in the political situation in South Africa following full democratic elections in April this year. He drew Members' attention to the new flag of South Africa which is symbolic of the new situation.

1.11 Ambassador E.J. Perkins, the US Ambassador to Australia, addressed the Commission and expressed the US support for the work of CCAMLR. He commended CCAMLR's commitment, since its inception, to using a precautionary and ecosystem approach in the management of Antarctic marine living resources and encouraged continued adherence to this approach in the future (CCAMLR-XIII/BG/31).