ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION

14.1 In accordance with the agreed procedure, set down in the footnote to Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure, the Commission agreed that France shall provide the Chairman from the end of the 1994 meeting until the end of the 1996 meeting.

14.2 In accepting the nomination, the Delegate of France expressed the gratitude of his country and congratulated the Chairman for his and the Commission's success in the conduct of the last two meetings.

NEXT MEETING

15.1 To provide SCAF and SCOI with more time for their deliberations, the Commission decided to extend its meeting by one day in 1995. Members agreed that the 1995 meeting of the Commission will be held at Wrest Point Hotel in Hobart during the period Tuesday, 24 October to Friday, 3 November 1995. It was noted that the 1995 meeting of the Scientific Committee will be held at the same location from Monday, 23 October to Friday, 27 October 1995.

OTHER BUSINESS

Conservation Measure 29/XIII

16.1 The Delegation of Australia expressed its disappointment that two Members had reserved their positions with respect to the application of Conservation Measure 29/XIII to the waters around their sub-Antarctic island territories, stating that Australia considered this to be a very important measure, providing essential protection for seabirds against incidental mortality in longlines.

16.2 In reply, the Delegation of South Africa indicated that by reserving its position with respect to the application of Conservation Measure 29/XIII to the Prince Edward Islands, it should not be interpreted that South Africa has any intention of not conforming with the provisions of this important measure.

16.3 The Delegation of France gave its complete support to the Delegation of South Africa and confirmed that it shared the spirit of its reply, which is nothing more than affirmation of incontestable sovereign rights.

Press Release

16.4 The Commission agreed that the wider public knowledge of its work is of great importance. It was noted that the Secretariat had prepared a press release and several suggestions for topics to be included in it were made. It was suggested that, in future, the Commission should devote some time to consideration of the topics it wished to be included in a press release.

16.5 The Commission agreed that it would address this matter in more detail at its next meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

17.1 The report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Commission was adopted.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

18.1 The Delegation of the USA thanked the Chairman for his work in ensuring a smoothly run and productive meeting, and also for his work over the last two years. The USA further extended its thanks to the Secretariat, interpreters and the sound technicians for their high professional standards and contributions to the meeting.

18.2 The Chairman also extended his thanks to all participants, Secretariat and other staff. He then closed the meeting.