

SECRETARIAT SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Data Management

12.1 Dr Ramm reported on the main activities of the Data Centre during the 2001/02 intersessional period (SC-CAMLR-XXI/BG/10). The Data Centre had continued to support the work of the Commission, Scientific Committee and working groups. Major activities and analyses were reported in meeting papers and publications produced by the Data Centre during 2001/02.

12.2 The Scientific Committee noted the Data Centre's activities during the 2001/02 intersessional period, including:

- the further development of the research survey database, including a new database schema and new data upload routines; and
- the development of an electronic version of the *Statistical Bulletin* now available on the CCAMLR website.

12.3 The Scientific Committee also noted that the work on the CDS database had been undertaken by the Database Developer over a period of 4 to 5 months and had taken precedence over other database developments.

12.4 It was also noted that the research survey database had operated satisfactorily during the meeting of WG-FSA, and that the Working Group had outlined further work during the intersessional period (Annex 5, paragraphs 3.2 to 3.8).

12.5 The Scientific Committee endorsed this advice and tasked the Secretariat to complete the acoustic components of the survey database so that data from the CCAMLR-2000 Survey could be archived along with other acoustic survey data such as the BIOMASS dataset. The Secretariat was also asked to consult with Members planning acoustic surveys for icefish to ensure that the CCAMLR survey database was also able to capture these types of acoustic data.

12.6 The Scientific Committee endorsed WG-FSA's request for the Secretariat to further develop the electronic version of the *Statistical Bulletin* so that the public-domain STATLANT database could be queried online (Annex 5, paragraph 13.8).

12.7 The Scientific Committee shared WG-FSA's concern that inconsistencies had arisen in the STATLANT data (Annex 5, paragraph 13.9). It is apparent that some STATLANT data do not reflect Members' official records of catches or may not contain information on all species caught in the Convention Area. The Scientific Committee urged Members to review their submissions of STATLANT data and ensure that these data provide the complete and correct official record of catch and effort.

12.8 One of the Data Centre's key functions was the monitoring of fisheries conducted under conservation measures in force using data from the in-season catch and effort reporting system (Conservation Measures 40/X, 51/XIX and 61/XII). Along with this task, approximately 390 fishery reports had been sent to Contracting Parties fishing in the 2001/02 season.

12.9 The requirement for Members to notify the Secretariat of the movements of their vessels into, and out of, subareas and divisions had greatly assisted the Secretariat in tracking overdue catch and effort reports. However, the Scientific Committee noted that such notifications had not always been reported by Members in 2001/02. The Scientific Committee reminded Members to comply with this requirement (Conservation Measure 148/XX, paragraph 4).

12.10 Dr Goubanov advised that Ukraine had a number of datasets from fishery surveys conducted in Subarea 48.3, as well as haul-by-haul catch and effort data (in paper format) from trawl and longline fishing targeting *D. eleginoides* between 1970 and 1995. The Scientific Committee encouraged Ukraine to process these data and submit available data to the CCAMLR database.

12.11 The Scientific Committee identified the following tasks as priority items for the work of the Data Centre:

WG-EMM

- review of CEMP (Annex 4, paragraphs 6.46 to 6.48):
 - CEMP data validation;
 - basic analysis of CEMP data;
 - matrices of CEMP data availability;
 - enhanced database support for the CEMP review; and
- statistical analysis of CEMP data.

WG-FSA (Annex 5, Table 12.1)

- research database:
 - completion;
 - methods for submission of data;
 - validation and correction of data;
- data extractions for assessments (following subgroup on assessment methods meeting);
- update documentation and procedures for data extraction and analyses;
- by-catch data to be submitted to the CCAMLR database;
- electronic access to STATLANT data;
- software database and archive;
- methods for estimating total removals; and
- update of *Statistical Bulletin* to be aligned with seasons.

12.12 Data-related tasks on behalf of WG-IMAF are specified in Annex 5, Appendix D.

Publications

12.13 In addition to annual reports of CCAMLR, the Scientific Committee noted that the following documents were also published in 2002:

- (i) *CCAMLR Scientific Abstracts* covering abstracts of papers presented in 2001;
- (ii) *CCAMLR Science*, Volume 9 (distributed at the meeting);
- (iii) *Statistical Bulletin*, Volume 14;
- (iv) Revisions to *Inspectors Manual*; and
- (v) Revisions to *Scientific Observers Manual*.

12.14 The Scientific Committee recognised the usefulness of the database of CCAMLR working documents which had been developed in response to requests from the working groups (WG-EMM-02/8; Annex 4, paragraph 6.43; Annex 5, paragraph 11.2), and encouraged the Secretariat to continue this work and make available such a database via the secure pages of the CCAMLR website.

12.15 The Scientific Committee noted that the fishery-related work of both WG-EMM and WG-FSA had been recast in the context of the CCAMLR season (1 December to 30 November of the following year). Consequently, the Scientific Committee agreed that the *Statistical Bulletin* should now be published on the basis of a season rather than a split-year. The Scientific Committee recognised that this shift in reporting period would result in a change in the timing of the annual submission of monthly STATLANT data (at present 31 August) and the publication of the Bulletin (April). The Scientific Committee tasked the Secretariat with rescheduling the submission deadline of STATLANT data and publication of the Bulletin, and advising Members intersessionally.

12.16 The Scientific Committee recalled last year's deliberation on providing assistance with the preparation, in English, of manuscripts submitted to *CCAMLR Science* by authors whose native language was not English (SC-CAMLR-XX, paragraph 14.2). This matter had been referred to the Editorial Board, and a solution was presented to, and agreed by, the Scientific Committee.

12.17 The Scientific Committee agreed that the following steps should be taken to overcome problems with papers for which English is not the author's primary language, and which may need additional language editing assistance (SC-CAMLR-XX, Annex 5, paragraph 11.9):

- (i) request authors first to write papers in their own language and then subject them to thorough scientific editing within their own scientific community;
- (ii) papers should then be translated into the best quality English within the means of the authors;
- (iii) both copies of the paper, in the original language and the translation, should be submitted to the Secretariat;
- (iv) extra funding should be allocated to the Secretariat to deal with language editing which often includes retranslation into English of some sections of the original language; and
- (v) reviewers of papers should also be requested to assist in further editing and English improvement.

12.18 The Scientific Committee emphasised that manuscripts should be submitted to *CCAMLR Science* only after completion of the requirements in paragraphs 12.17(i) and (ii). Further, at the time manuscripts are first considered by the Editorial Board, feedback may be provided to authors regarding the need for language editing. It was agreed that scientific review of all papers could be undertaken prior to scientific editing.

12.19 The Scientific Committee recognised that the Secretariat lacks sufficient resources to provide additional translation and scientific editing.

12.20 The Secretariat estimated it would cost approximately A\$200 per page to provide the cost of translation, including scientific editing, and that assuming the average paper is approximately 15 pages, it would cost A\$3 000 per paper. The Secretariat might expect four such papers per year for a total cost of A\$12 000. This support would extend to all languages of Members.

12.21 The Scientific Committee requested the Commission to approve these additional services and include sufficient funds commencing with its 2004 budget.