

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH EXEMPTION

8.1 Last year, the Scientific Committee sought advice from the Commission on the minimum level of expected catch which required notification under Conservation Measure 64/XIX (SC-CAMLR-XX, paragraph 8.2). Some Members felt that, in general, surveys which only used small scientific sampling equipment (e.g. RMT) need not be required to notify under this measure. In turn, the Commission referred the matter of a minimum catch level back to the Scientific Committee (CCAMLR-XX, paragraph 4.31).

8.2 The intention of Conservation Measure 64/XIX is to:

- allow catches taken for research purposes to be considered as part of any catch limits in force for each species taken; and
- provide the opportunity for other Members to review and comment on substantial research plans (i.e. catches greater than 50 tonnes of finfish or 10 tonnes of *Dissostichus* spp.).

8.3 Under Conservation Measure 64/XIX, Members undertaking research are required to:

- report the catch of all species in the STATLANT data; and
- report the catch of all species using the appropriate catch and effort reporting system (Conservation Measures 40/X, 51/XIX or 61/XII) whenever that catch within a specified reporting period exceeds 5 tonnes.

8.4 In addition, Members are required to notify their intention to conduct a survey and two levels of notification are defined in the conservation measure:

- (i) where the expected catch is less than 50 tonnes of finfish, including no more than 10 tonnes of *Dissostichus* spp., Members are required to:
 - notify their survey to the Secretariat (who will notify all Members immediately) using the format provided in Annex 64/A; and
 - include this notification in their Member's Activities Report.
- (ii) where the expected catch is more than 50 tonnes of finfish or more than 10 tonnes of *Dissostichus* spp., Members are required to:
 - notify the Commission and provide a research plan to the Secretariat for distribution to Members at least six months in advance of the planned starting date for the research. Based on the submitted research plan and any advice provided by the appropriate working group, the Scientific Committee will provide advice to the Commission where the review process will be concluded. Until the review process is complete the planned fishing for research purposes shall not proceed;
 - report research plans in accordance with the standardised guidelines and formats adopted by the Scientific Committee, given in Annex 64/A;

- provide a summary of the results of any research subject to these provisions to the Secretariat within 180 days of the completion of the research fishing. A full report shall be provided within 12 months; and
- report catch and effort data resulting from the research fishing to the Secretariat according to the haul-by-haul reporting format for research vessels.

8.5 The Scientific Committee agreed that all surveys where finfish were expected to be caught are required to be notified under Conservation Measure 64/XIX. The Committee also recalled that the original version of this measure (64/XII) was more general, requiring Members to notify when surveys were expected to:

- take less than 50 tonnes of catch for any purpose; and
- take more than 50 tonnes of finfish.

8.6 In 2000 the Commission adopted a revision to this measure (64/XIX) which:

- limited notifications to those surveys where finfish were expected to be taken; and
- introduced specific notification requirements with respect to *Dissostichus* spp.

8.7 The Scientific Committee asked the Commission to clarify whether:

- the intent of the revision was to limit Conservation Measure 64/XIX to finfish; or
- the revision in 2000 had inadvertently resulted in the exclusion of species such as krill, squid and crab.

8.8 The Scientific Committee also asked the Commission whether it might be appropriate to alter the language of the measure to better provide for a flexible list of taxa-specific limits to research catches under this measure.

8.9 The Scientific Committee agreed to postpone further discussion of this measure until this matter was clarified.