

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH EXEMPTION

8.1 Scientific research surveys notified to the Secretariat under Conservation Measure 24-01 are regularly updated on the CCAMLR website. Notifications of surveys in 2004/05 received by the Secretariat were also listed in CCAMLR-XXIII/BG/8.

8.2 One notification, submitted by New Zealand on 23 July 2004 (SC-CAMLR-XXIII/BG/17), was for a longline survey of *D. mawsoni* in Subarea 88.3. In providing this notification, New Zealand proposed that the survey vessel could take no more than 100 tonnes of *D. mawsoni* and no more than 35 tonnes of all other species combined.

8.3 Under Conservation Measure 24-01, Members are required to respond within two months of circulation of the notification if they wish to request a review by the Scientific Committee. The proposed research plan was circulated on 4 August 2004. No comments were received prior to the start of WG-FSA-04 on 11 October 2004.

8.4 At WG-FSA-04 some Members expressed concern at the high proposed maximum catch for *D. mawsoni* compared to the threshold value in Conservation Measure 24-01, and suggested that in future it would be useful for survey designs submitted under Conservation Measure 24-01 to be referred to WG-FSA for review prior to consideration by the Commission (Annex 5, paragraph 3.32).

8.5 Dr Sullivan explained that the nominated catch of 100 tonnes for *D. mawsoni* was not a catch target, but was an upper limit required to allow the objectives and design of the survey to be achieved. The survey design involved the use of 40 research lines. The sampling of *D. mawsoni* from Subarea 88.3 would allow genetic and non-genetic techniques to be used for stock structure analysis.

8.6 Dr Shust welcomed the New Zealand proposal, noting that it was well presented and would add to the understanding of ecosystem functioning in the region.

8.7 Dr Constable expressed his concern that it was not clear how the research proposal would lead to an assessment program for a new and exploratory fishery, and that the Scientific Committee needed to be confident that the research was not contrary to the intent of Conservation Measure 24-01. Dr Constable suggested that, should the research survey proceed, WG-FSA be given the opportunity to review the information obtained from the research to determine the basis for reviewing and approving any future research proposals and how they might contribute to future assessments for this area.

8.8 Dr Sullivan indicated that New Zealand would welcome any review of the research by WG-FSA and the Scientific Committee, and proposed that future surveys may also be scheduled if the pilot survey was successful.

8.9 The Scientific Committee supported consideration of the New Zealand research survey by WG-FSA in the future, and encouraged Members, if they wished to have research proposals reviewed by the Working Group and the Scientific Committee, to respond within the required period after submission.