

SECRETARIAT SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Data management

12.1 The Scientific Committee noted the Data Manager's report (SC-CAMLR-XXIII/BG/5) which outlined the work undertaken by the Data Centre in the 2003/04 intersessional period.

Database developments

12.2 The Secretariat has revised a number of databases used in support of the work of the working groups. The revision included simplification of the operating procedures, improving the user-friendliness and further developing the data/error checking routines.

12.3 Intersessional work also included further validation of survey data, and improvements to data form C4 used for submitting data from bottom trawl surveys. This data form is in Microsoft Access format and data may be loaded either manually using the data entry panel, or by direct transfer of data to the tables in the form.

12.4 The Secretariat has also developed detailed documentation for the CEMP database queries used to calculate indices A1 to A9 (penguins) and B1 to B5 (seabirds). It is proposed to extend this type of documentation to the fur seal indices, overlap indices and other indices considered by WG-EMM.

12.5 In addition, in 2003, the Scientific Committee recommended that the Secretariat liaise with WG-FSA-SFA, current acoustic equipment manufacturers and software developers for advice on data storage and collection. The Secretariat has begun this work in consultation with past and present conveners of WG-FSA-SFA.

Fishery Plans

12.6 In 2004, the Secretariat undertook a major reorganisation and reconstruction of the database which holds the time series of information used in the Fishery Plans (see also Section 4). The Scientific Committee noted that Fishery Plans had been developed and updated as follows:

- (i) plans for all fisheries (including closed fisheries) in the Convention Area are complete for the 2003/04 season;
- (ii) plans for toothfish in Subareas 48.3, 88.1 and 88.2 and Division 58.5.2 are complete for the entire time series over which management measures have been in force;
- (iii) plans for icefish in Subarea 48.3 and Division 58.5.2 are complete for the entire time series over which management measures have been in force;
- (iv) plans for krill in Area 48 and Divisions 58.4.1 and 58.4.2 are complete for the entire time series over which management measures have been in force.

Monitoring CCAMLR fisheries

12.7 In 2003, the Commission requested that the Secretariat develop a procedure for forecasting closures in SSRUs (CCAMLR-XXII, paragraph 9.20). This request is addressed in CCAMLR-XXIII/38; other monitoring issues of concern to the Data Centre are also examined, and several changes and improvements were proposed by the Secretariat. The Scientific Committee discussed this matter in section 5.

Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data

12.8 The Scientific Committee endorsed WG-EMM's recommendation that Members making data requests should clearly indicate the nature of their proposed work with respect to distinguishing between the work indicated in paragraph 2(a) and 2(b) of the rules (Annex 4, paragraphs 7.18 and 7.19). It was also agreed that, in the case of work endorsed by the Scientific Committee or the Commission, detailed reference to the relevant sections of their annual reports should be included in the data request. This would assist the Secretariat in evaluating the nature of the proposed work and in determining the applicable process under the rules.

Publications

12.9 In addition to annual reports of CCAMLR, the following documents were also published during 2004:

- (i) *CCAMLR Scientific Abstracts* cover abstracts of papers presented in 2003
- (ii) *CCAMLR Science*, Volume 11
- (iii) *Statistical Bulletin*, Volume 16
- (iv) Revisions to *Inspectors Manual* and *Scientific Observers Manual*.

12.10 The Scientific Committee agreed that language support for *CCAMLR Science* would be required in 2005. As a result, the Commission had approved level funding in 2005 (see section 10).

12.11 The Scientific Committee noted that the special issue of *Deep Sea Research II*, dedicated to the CCAMLR-2000 Survey, was currently in press (Annex 4, paragraphs 7.20 and 7.21). The Commission had contributed A\$10 000 to the costs of publishing this special issue (CCAMLR-XX, paragraph 4.42). The Scientific Committee joined WG-EMM in expressing its gratitude to the CCAMLR-2000 Survey Steering Committee and in particular to the guest editor of the species issue, Dr J. Watkins (UK).

12.12 The Scientific Committee thanked the Convener of WG-EMM (Dr Hewitt) and the former Convener of WG-FSA (Dr I. Everson, UK) for their contribution to the Fourth World Fisheries Congress. The Conveners, together with Dr Jones, had presented a paper describing CCAMLR's approach to resource management (Annex 4, paragraph 7.12). This paper will be published in the proceedings of the conference.

Submission of papers to the Scientific Committee

12.13 The Scientific Committee noted the comments of WG-EMM (Annex 4, paragraphs 7.15 to 7.17) and WG-FSA (Annex 5, paragraphs 14.4 and 14.5) in relation to the guidelines for the submission of papers to the Scientific Committee (SC-CAMLR-XXIII/5 Rev. 1; see also SC-CAMLR-XXII, paragraphs 12.32 and 12.33).

12.14 In considering the comments provided by the working groups and related matters raised by WG-FSA-SAM (WG-FSA-04/4, paragraph 3.54), the Scientific Committee agreed to the following revision of its guidelines for the submission of papers:

- (i) Paragraph 1 was modified to include explicitly consideration of papers submitted by Accessing States. The paragraph was revised to read (in the context of SC-CAMLR-XXIII) ‘Contracting Parties are invited to submit for consideration at the Twenty-third meeting of the Scientific Committee, working papers and background papers related to specific items of the Scientific Committee’s agenda.’ The Scientific Committee noted that Contracting Parties comprise Members and Accessing States.
- (ii) Paragraph 6 was reworded to reflect the current practice. The paragraph was revised to ‘Papers submitted after the start of the meeting will not be accepted for consideration unless specifically agreed by the Scientific Committee due to exceptional circumstances notified to the Chair prior to the meeting.’

12.15 The Scientific Committee noted the revised rules for the submission of papers to WG-FSA (Annex 5, paragraph 2.6), and that these rules also applied to SC-CAMLR and CCAMLR documents which are submitted to the working group.

12.16 The Scientific Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to have guidelines relating to the submission of documents to the Committee and those of its working groups collated into a single reference document.

12.17 The Scientific Committee considered the Secretariat’s proposal regarding the submission to the working groups of published papers or papers accepted for publication (SC-CAMLR-XXIII/5 Rev. 1, Annex 1). This matter had also been considered by WG-FSA (Annex 5, paragraph 14.5).

12.18 The Scientific Committee agreed that the status quo should be maintained in relation to this matter. It was also agreed that the preferred way of dealing with published papers submitted to working group meetings was for Members to provide the reference in advance of the meeting, and for participants to source the published papers and bring these to the meeting.

12.19 The Scientific Committee also agreed that the responsibility for any copyright issue related to the submission of published papers to working group meetings rests with the authors.