

## ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

14.1 Dr Holt's second term as Chair ended with SC-CAMLR-XXIII and the Scientific Committee sought nominations for a new Chair. Dr Barrera-Ora nominated Dr Fanta and this nomination was seconded by Dr Constable. Dr Fanta was unanimously elected to the position for a term of two regular meetings (2005 and 2006) and the Scientific Committee extended a very warm welcome to the incoming Chair.

14.2 Dr Sushin's term as Vice-Chair also ended with this meeting and the Scientific Committee sought nominations for a new Vice-Chair. Dr Sushin nominated Dr Shin and this nomination was seconded by Dr Hewitt. Dr Shin was unanimously elected to the position for a term of two regular meetings (2005 and 2006). A very warm welcome was extended to the incoming Vice-Chair.

14.3 The Scientific Committee thanked Drs Holt and Sushin for their significant contributions to its work (see also section 17).

## OTHER BUSINESS

### External review of the GYM

15.1 The Scientific Committee reviewed progress in conducting an independent external review of the GYM software and manual (SC-CAMLR-XXII, Annex 5, paragraph 9.18; SC-CAMLR-XXIII, Annex 5, paragraphs 13.9 to 13.11). Although the intent of the review was to examine the implementation of the software, the identification of the work to be included in the review had led to the consideration of broader issues (see WG-FSA-04/4, paragraphs 4.1 to 4.12).

15.2 The Scientific Committee agreed that external reviews of software used to implement models, as well as evaluations of assessment methods, would be beneficial to the work of CCAMLR. It was also recognised that such review may be undertaken externally or in collaboration with invited experts at CCAMLR-sponsored workshops and meetings.

15.3 The Scientific Committee noted that the proposed external review of the GYM would be further considered at the 2005 meetings of WG-FSA-SAM and WG-FSA, with a view of undertaking a review in 2006. Funds allocated for the review in 2004 have been carried forward to 2006 (see section 10).

### International Polar Year

15.4 The Scientific Committee noted the suggestions of WG-EMM regarding possible CCAMLR-related activities for the IPY (Annex 4, paragraphs 7.1 to 7.4). These activities included a large-scale synoptic survey, smaller-scale surveys, contributions to the CoML and population estimates of land-based predators.

15.5 A number of Members will be conducting activities during the IPY (2007/08) either as part of their national activities or specifically for the IPY. These include: Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russia, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, UK and the USA. Activities included the CoML, large-scale surveys, small-scale surveys, predator studies and individual studies of key organisms.

15.6 The Scientific Committee recognised that a single large-scale CCAMLR activity for the IPY was most likely to win support of the IPY planning group. The Scientific Committee agreed that a synoptic acoustic survey in the South Atlantic region would be the most appropriate activity for CCAMLR in the IPY. This survey would focus on krill but would collect a range of ancillary physical and biological data including observations on marine mammals, birds and fish. An intersessional steering group was established under Dr V. Siegel (European Community) to progress the concept of a CCAMLR synoptic survey for the IPY and he would contact Scientific Committee representatives from participating Members to nominate national coordinators. This group would formulate a CCAMLR proposal for the IPY and would submit it to the IPY planning group by the deadline early in 2005.

15.7 The Scientific Committee recognised the opportunity offered by the proposed CoML to collect a synoptic series of samples of interest to CCAMLR during the IPY. The Antarctic CoML is likely to consist of a series of meridional transects around the Antarctic using vessels from a number of Members and if this format is followed, the Scientific Committee suggested that standardised measurements were made that included scientific acoustics, krill demographics, samples for genetic analysis of populations of krill and other key pelagic organisms, standardised physical and biological oceanography and ship-based surveys for mammals and birds. WG-EMM will provide standard protocols to CoML for each of these measurements.