

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

16.1 The report of the Twenty-third Meeting of the Scientific Committee was adopted.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

17.1 The close of the meeting completed Dr Holt's term as Chair of the Scientific Committee.

17.2 In closing, Dr Holt acknowledged Dr K. Kerry (Australia, former Convener of WG-CEMP), who had retired this year, and Mr R. Williams (Australia, former Convener of WG-FSA), who will be retiring in 2005. Both scientists had made significant contributions to the work of the Scientific Committee over their distinguished careers. Dr Holt also thanked Prof. Croxall, outgoing Convener of ad hoc WG-IMAF, for his vision and perseverance in addressing and reducing the incidental mortality of seabirds and marine mammals in CCAMLR fisheries, and Dr Constable, outgoing Convener of WG-FSA-SAM, for his expertise and guidance in the development and application of assessment methods.

17.3 Dr Holt thanked all Members of the Scientific Committee, the rapporteurs, vice-chairs and conveners for their dedication and goodwill. He also thanked the Secretariat for their support as each and every staff member had worked long and hard in support of the Scientific Committee and its working groups in 2004.

17.4 Dr Constable, on behalf of the Scientific Committee, thanked Dr Holt for his tremendous contribution during his four-year term. That period had seen an expansion in the role of the Scientific Committee and Dr Holt had ushered in the changes with grace and responsibility.

17.5 On behalf of the Scientific Committee, and all those at CCAMLR, Dr Miller presented Dr Holt with a gavel in commemoration of his time in the Chair.

17.6 The meeting was closed.

REFERENCES

Hewitt, R.P., G. Watters, P.N. Trathan, J.P. Croxall, M.E. Goebel, D. Ramm, K. Reid, W.Z. Trivelpiece and J.L. Watkins. 2004. Options for allocating the precautionary catch limit of krill among small-scale management units in the Scotia Sea. *CCAMLR Science*, 11: 81-97.