

**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH
MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
(Hobart, Australia, 24 October to 28 October 2005)

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 The Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources met from 24 to 28 October 2005 at the new CCAMLR Headquarters in Hobart, Australia. The meeting was chaired by Dr E. Fanta (Brazil).

1.2 Representatives from the following Members attended the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, European Community, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay. Poland was not represented.

1.3 The Chair welcomed to the meeting observers from the Cook Islands (Instrument of Accession deposited on 20 October 2005) and Greece, Mauritius, Netherlands and Peru (Acceding States), the People's Republic of China (non-Contracting Party), along with observers from ACAP, ASOC, CCSBT, CEP, COLTO, FAO, IUCN, IWC, SCAR, SEAFO, UNEP and WCPFC, and encouraged them to participate in the meeting as much as possible.

1.4 Meeting participants are listed in Annex 1. Documents considered during the meeting are listed in Annex 2.

1.5 The following rapporteurs prepared the report of the Scientific Committee:

- Dr V. Sushin (Russia) – CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation;
- Dr K. Reid (UK) – Ecosystem monitoring and management (Advice from WG-EMM);
- Prof. J. Croxall (UK) and Dr P. Penhale (USA) – Ecosystem monitoring and management (Management of protected areas);
- Dr S. Nicol (Australia) – Krill resources;
- Drs C. Jones (USA) and K. Sullivan (New Zealand) – Fish resources;
- Dr G. Kirkwood (UK) – New and exploratory fisheries;
- Dr E. Marschoff (Argentina) – Crab resources and squid resources;
- Prof. G. Duhamel (France) – Fish and invertebrate by-catch;
- Ms K. Rivera (USA) and Mr N. Smith (New Zealand) – Incidental mortality;
- Prof. C. Moreno (Chile) and Dr Reid – Additional monitoring and management issues;
- Dr K.-H. Kock (Germany) – Management under conditions of uncertainty about stock size and sustainable yield, and scientific research exemption;
- Dr R. Holt (USA) – Scientific research exemption;
- Dr H.-C. Shin (Republic of Korea) and Prof. B. Fernholm (Sweden) – Cooperation with other organisations;
- Dr D. Ramm (Secretariat) – all other matters.

Adoption of Agenda

1.6 The Provisional Agenda had been circulated prior to the meeting (SC-CAMLR-XXIV/1). The Scientific Committee agreed to include 'Interactions between WG-FSA and WG-EMM' under Item 3 and to expand Item 13 to include consideration of the outcomes from the CCAMLR Symposium, the proposed restructure of the work of the Scientific Committee and its working groups, and future activities in relation to MPAs and the IPY. With these additions, the Agenda was adopted (Annex 3).

Report of the Chair

Intersessional meetings of working groups of the Scientific Committee

1.7 The following meetings of working groups of the Scientific Committee were held in 2005:

- (i) The first meeting of SG-ASAM was held in La Jolla, USA, from 31 May to 2 June to consider models of krill target strength and classification of volume backscattering strength. It was convened by Dr R. Hewitt (USA). Eight participants representing six Members attended.
- (ii) WG-FSA-SAM met from 27 June to 1 July in Yokohama, Japan, immediately prior to the WG-EMM meeting, and was convened by Dr Jones. Eighteen participants from nine Member countries participated in the subgroup meeting and Dr M. Maunder (IATTC) attended as an invited expert.
- (iii) The Workshop on Management Procedures to Evaluate Options for Subdividing the Krill Catch Limit among Small-scale Management Units was held during the first week of the WG-EMM meeting, from 4 to 8 July, and was co-convened by Drs Reid and G. Watters (USA). The workshop was attended by 34 participants representing 12 Members.
- (iv) The eleventh meeting of WG-EMM was held from 4 to 15 July in Yokohama, Japan. It was convened by Dr Hewitt and attended by 32 participants, representing 13 Members.
- (v) A Workshop on Marine Protected Areas (WS-MPA) was held in Silver Spring, MD, USA, from 29 August to 1 September. The workshop was convened by Dr Penhale and attended by 20 participants representing 10 Members and an invited expert from IUCN-US, Ms L. Kimball.
- (vi) The meeting of WG-FSA was held from 10 to 21 October 2005 in Hobart prior to the Scientific Committee meeting. It was convened by Dr S. Hanchet (New Zealand) and attended by 48 participants from 15 Member countries and a representative from ACAP. Thirteen participants representing seven Members attended an early session of WG-FSA which was held from 6 to 8 October and convened by Dr Jones.

(vii) Ad hoc WG-IMAF conducted its meeting as part of WG-FSA-05. It was co-convened by Ms Rivera and Mr Smith.

1.8 On behalf of the Scientific Committee, the Chair thanked the conveners for their significant contributions to the intersessional meetings. The report of WG-EMM (including that of its workshop) is attached as Annex 4, the report of WG-FSA (including ad hoc WG-IMAF) as Annex 5, the report of SG-ASAM as Annex 6 and the report of WS-MPA as Annex 7.

CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation

1.9 Scientific observers appointed under the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation were deployed on all vessels in all finfish fisheries in the Convention Area. Scientific observers participated in a total of 47 cruises on board longliners (31 cruises), trawlers (14 cruises) and pot vessels (2 cruises) targeting toothfish or icefish. In addition, scientific observers working in accordance with the scheme participated in eight cruises on board krill fishing vessels.

Fisheries

1.10 Under the conservation measures in force in 2004/05, Members fished in 13 fisheries targeting icefish (*Champscephalus gunnari*), toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides* and/or *Dissostichus mawsoni*) and krill (*Euphausia superba*):

- fishery for *Champscephalus gunnari* in Subarea 48.3
- fishery for *Champscephalus gunnari* in Division 58.5.2
- fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* in Subarea 48.3
- fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* in Subarea 48.4
- fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* in Division 58.5.2
- exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Subarea 48.6
- exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Division 58.4.1
- exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Division 58.4.2
- exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Division 58.4.3a
- exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Division 58.4.3b
- exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Subarea 88.1
- exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Subarea 88.2
- fishery for *Euphausia superba* in Area 48.

1.11 In addition, four other managed fisheries were conducted in the Convention Area in 2004/05:

- fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* in Division 58.5.1 (French EEZ)
- fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* in Subarea 58.6 (French EEZ)
- fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* in Subarea 58.6 (South African EEZ)
- fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* in Subarea 58.7 (South African EEZ).

1.12 In all, 16 Members fished: Argentina, Australia, Chile, France, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Ukraine, UK, Uruguay and the USA. In addition, a Contracting Party, Vanuatu, fished for krill.

1.13 As at 21 September, Members had reported a total catch of 124 535 tonnes of krill, 14 074 tonnes of toothfish and 1 991 tonnes of icefish from the Convention Area in 2004/05; fishing is continuing in some of the fisheries which remain open until 30 November 2005. A number of other species have been taken as by-catch.

1.14 Catches are detailed in CCAMLR-XXIV/BG/13 and the WG-FSA report (Annex 5).