

## MANAGEMENT UNDER UNCERTAINTY

7.1 Two different matters were dealt with under management under uncertainty:

- (i) catch and effort data for toothfish exploitation in waters adjacent to the Convention Area;
- (ii) IUU fishing and the close collaboration of WG-FSA and SCIC with respect to IUU fishing.

### Toothfish catch outside the Convention Area

7.2 The Scientific Committee noted the data on catch of *Dissostichus* spp. outside the Convention Area (Annex 5, paragraphs 8.1 and 8.2). Catches of *Dissostichus* spp. were mostly taken in Areas 41 and 87. The catch was lower in 2004/05 than in 2003/04 (8 511 tonnes versus 10 966 tonnes).

7.3 Dr Barrera-Oro provided additional information on the catch of *D. eleginoides* in the Patagonian sector of the Argentine EEZ (Area 41). The Argentine Government introduced additional precautionary measures in this fishery from 2002 onwards to maintain the sustainability of the stocks. As the fishery operates both by bottom trawling and longlining, catches in waters less than 800 m became restricted in order to better protect juvenile fish. In addition, the use of circle hooks became mandatory, with an increase in the gap from 3.5 to 4 cm. All vessels carry scientific observers and inspectors. The catch limit was reduced from 6 000 tonnes in the period 2000–2002 to 4 800 tonnes in 2003 to 2 250 tonnes in the 2004 and 2005 seasons.

### IUU fishing

7.4 There has been a decline in IUU catches over the last years. The Scientific Committee drew SCIC's attention to WG-FSA's considerations that the CDS previously assumed to capture the world trade in toothfish reasonably well, may now be less accurately capturing trade in IUU catch. The Scientific Committee re-emphasised WG-FSA's recommendations that its assessments require the best estimates of IUU fishing as model inputs (e.g. in CASAL) rather than 'conservative' or 'precautionary' estimates (Annex 5, paragraphs 8.5 to 8.7).

7.5 The Scientific Committee endorsed the recommendations of WG-FSA on close collaboration between WG-FSA and SCIC and agreed:

- (i) that the Secretariat should review its annual estimation and extrapolation of IUU catches after the close of the season (Annex 5, paragraphs 8.1 and 8.2);
- (ii) to ask SCIC to consider the further development of estimation methods for IUU catches;
- (iii) to continue work to better understand the effectiveness of different levels of observation in detecting levels of IUU activity (Annex 5, paragraph 8.4);

- (iv) to ask SCIC to consider undertaking a review of the historical series of IUU catches with respect to the assumptions made by WG-FSA in estimating these catches (Annex 5, paragraph 8.8).

7.6 The Scientific Committee supported WG-FSA's findings that compliance and enforcement experts are required to determine the information needed and reiterated WG-FSA's request from 2004 (SC-CAMLR-XXIII, Annex 5, paragraph 8.6) for SCIC to consider whether qualitative information could be provided for each of the CCAMLR areas, so that the level of monitoring needed for those areas can be classified along with an indication as to whether the level of monitoring changed significantly from the previous year (Annex 5, paragraph 8.10).

7.7 In order to take this forward, the Scientific Committee agreed, on the basis of a draft agenda circulated during its meeting, to a proposal by SCIC for an intersessional meeting of the Joint Assessment Group (JAG) for the 'Estimation of IUU in the Convention Area'. The Scientific Committee agreed that the meeting should take place following WG-FSA-SAM in July 2006.

7.8 On request by WG-FSA, the Scientific Committee asked the Commission which body is responsible for routinely estimating and reviewing the IUU catches in each statistical area and by what method this might best be achieved (Annex 5, paragraph 8.9).