

**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING
OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
(Hobart, Australia, 23 to 27 October 2006)

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 The Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources met from 23 to 27 October 2006 at the CCAMLR Headquarters in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia. The meeting was chaired by Dr E. Fanta (Brazil).

1.2 Representatives from the following Members attended the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, European Community, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

1.3 The Chair welcomed to the meeting observers from the People's Republic of China, Mauritius, Netherlands and Peru (Acceding States), Cambodia and Mozambique (non-Contracting Parties), along with observers from ASOC, CCSBT, CEP, COLTO, FAO, IUCN, IWC and SCAR, and encouraged them to participate in the meeting to the extent possible.

1.4 The List of Participants is given in Annex 1. The List of Documents considered during the meeting is given in Annex 2.

1.5 The following rapporteurs were appointed to prepare the report of the Scientific Committee:

- Dr K. Sullivan (New Zealand) – CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation;
- Drs P. Trathan (UK) and S. Kawaguchi (Australia) – Ecosystem monitoring and management (Advice from WG-EMM);
- Drs P. Penhale (USA) and S. Grant (UK) – Ecosystem monitoring and management (Management of protected areas);
- Dr S. Nicol (Australia) – Krill resources;
- Drs C. Jones (USA) and G. Parkes (UK) – Fish resources (except by-catch);
- Dr E. Marschoff (Argentina) – Crab resources and squid resources;
- Prof. G. Duhamel (France) – Fish and invertebrate by-catch;
- Dr R. Holt (USA) – New and exploratory fisheries;
- Ms K. Rivera (USA) and Mr N. Smith (New Zealand) – Incidental mortality;
- Prof. C. Moreno (Chile) and Dr K. Reid (UK) – Additional monitoring and management issues;
- Dr K.-H. Kock (Germany) – Management under conditions of uncertainty about stock size and sustainable yield;
- Dr A. Constable (Australia) – Scientific research exemption;
- 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-XXV/1). The Scientific Committee agreed to review the Scheme of International Scientific Observation (new Item 2(ii)), consider making *CCAMLR Science* available on the CCAMLR website (under Item 12(ii)) and take an item on the US AMLR Program under 'Other business'. With these changes, the Agenda was adopted (Annex 3).

Dr Geoff Kirkwood (1947–2006)

1.7 The Scientific Committee paused in memory of Dr Geoff Kirkwood (UK), and in recognition of his long and distinguished career in fisheries science and his outstanding contributions to the work of the Scientific Committee and Commission.

1.8 Dr Fanta agreed to communicate the Scientific Committee's condolences to Dr Kirkwood's family. The Scientific Committee noted that the 2006 volume of *CCAMLR Science* will be dedicated to Dr Kirkwood.

Report of the Chair

Intersessional meetings of working groups of the Scientific Committee

1.9 The following meetings of working groups took place in 2006:

- (i) The second meeting of SG-ASAM was held in Hobart, Australia, on 23 and 24 March 2006, to consider models of icefish target strength and classification of volume backscattering strength (Annex 6). Dr R. O'Driscoll (New Zealand) convened the meeting which was attended by four participants representing three Members. Two invited experts attended – Dr R. Korneliussen (Norway) and Dr G. Macaulay (New Zealand).
- (ii) The twelfth meeting of WG-EMM was held from 17 to 28 July 2006 in Walvis Bay, Namibia (Annex 4). It was convened by Dr Reid and attended by 43 participants (including an observer from IWC), representing 14 Members.

The second 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, from 17 to 21 July 2006 and was co-convened by Ms T. Akkers (South Africa) and Dr C. Reiss (USA) (Annex 4, Appendix D). Forty-one participants attended, representing 12 Members.

- (iii) The meeting of WG-FSA was held from 9 to 20 October 2006 in Hobart, Australia, prior to the Scientific Committee meeting (Annex 5). It was

convened by Dr S. Hanchet (New Zealand) and attended by 39 participants representing 12 Members.

WG-FSA-SAM met from 10 to 17 July 2006 in Walvis Bay, Namibia, immediately prior to the WG-EMM meeting (WG-FSA-06/6). The meeting was convened by Dr Jones and attended by 17 participants representing seven Members. An invited expert, Dr M. Maunder (IATTC), also attended.

- (iv) Ad hoc WG-IMAF conducted its meeting as part of WG-FSA-06 (Annex 5, Appendix D). It was co-convened by Ms Rivera and Mr Smith.
- (v) The Second Workshop on Estimating Age of Mackerel Icefish *Champscephalus gunnari* was hosted by AtlantNIRO, Kaliningrad, Russia from 19 to 23 June 2006 (WG-FSA-06/7). The workshop was chaired by Dr Kock and co-convened by Drs N. Timoshenko and Z. Frolkina (Russia) and was attended by six participants representing four Members.

1.10 In addition to these meetings and workshops, a meeting of JAG was held in conjunction with WG-EMM (CCAMLR-XXV/7). The meeting was held from 17 to 19 July 2006, and was co-convened by Ms R. Tuttle (USA) and Dr D. Agnew (UK) and attended by 10 participants representing seven Members.

CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation

1.11 Scientific observers appointed under the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation were deployed on all vessels targeting finfish in the Convention Area, and some vessels targeting krill. Scientific observers have participated in 54 cruises so far this season, as follows:

- 49 cruises on vessels targeting toothfish or icefish (37 cruises on longliners; nine cruises on trawlers and three cruises on pot vessels);
- five cruises on krill fishing vessels.

Fisheries

1.12 CCAMLR Member countries participated in 13 fisheries under conservation measures in force during the 2005/06 season (1 December 2005 to 30 November 2006). In addition, four other managed fisheries were conducted in national EEZs within the Convention Area in 2005/06. Details are given in CCAMLR-XXV/BG/3. The fisheries targeted toothfish, icefish and krill, and included a number of exploratory fisheries.

1.13 Fifteen Members fished: Argentina, Australia, Chile, France, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Ukraine, UK and Uruguay.

1.14 As at 5 October 2006, and subject to various conservation measures in force for 2005/06, Members had reported a total of 105 084 tonnes of krill, 13 704 tonnes of toothfish and 2 434 tonnes of icefish from the Convention Area. A number of other species had been taken as by-catch.

1.15 Fisheries and reported catches are detailed in SC-CAMLR-XXV/BG/1 Rev. 2, CCAMLR-XXV/BG/3 and the 2006 report of WG-FSA (Annex 5).

Representation at meetings of other international organisations

1.16 The Scientific Committee was represented at a number of meetings of other international organisations during the intersessional period. Observers' reports from these meetings were considered under Agenda Item 9.