

## COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

10.1 The Scientific Committee was chaired during this section by Dr Sullivan, Vice-Chair of the Scientific Committee.

### Cooperation with the Antarctic Treaty System

#### CEP

10.2 Dr Gilbert referred to the Executive Secretary's report of his attendance at CEP X (New Delhi, India, April/May 2007) (CCAMLR-XXVI/BG/4), noting that there were increasing issues of mutual interest to both the Scientific Committee and CEP.

10.3 Dr Gilbert reminded the meeting that the Environmental Protocol provides for the designation of Antarctic species as specially protected species. At CEP X the Committee had considered the potential for designating southern giant petrels as specially protected species. However, in the absence of a scientifically defensible assessment of the status of the species, the Committee felt unable to do so. Ahead of its next meeting, CEP is working with SCAR and ACAP to prepare a more thorough assessment of the status of southern giant petrels. Dr Gilbert requested Members of the Scientific Committee with relevant data to provide it to SCAR so as to assist the assessment.

10.4 At CEP X, the Committee had decided to retain Ross seals on the list of specially protected species given the uncertainty over the status of the species.

10.5 Dr Gilbert noted that the specially protected species provisions of the Protocol were a management tool that provided an opportunity for ongoing cooperation between CEP and the Scientific Committee.

10.6 Dr Gilbert noted that CEP intended to focus attention on the issue of long-term monitoring at its next meeting and welcomed the CCAMLR Observer's offer of reporting on lessons learned in the development of CCAMLR's ecosystem monitoring program.

10.7 Dr Holt welcomed the CEP report and noted several areas of common interest between CEP and the Scientific Committee that needed to be fostered, not least the issue of protected and managed areas with a marine component.

10.8 Dr Constable agreed and recalled his suggestion from last year for a joint CEP-Scientific Committee workshop. To give greater impetus to that proposal, Dr Constable suggested that the Scientific Committee give consideration to holding such a workshop in 2009 and that representatives from WG-EMM in particular be encouraged to participate.

10.9 Dr Gilbert welcomed the proposal for a joint meeting in 2009 and offered that CEP would come forward to the next meeting of WG-EMM and the Scientific Committee with some firm suggestions for agenda items.

10.10 The Committee supported the proposal in CCAMLR-XXVI/BG/4 for the Secretariat's Science Officer to periodically attend meetings of CEP so as to provide continuity in the CEP-Scientific Committee relationship, particularly at times of changeover of the Scientific

Committee Chair. However, the Committee also agreed that the formal observer role to CEP should remain with the Chair of the Scientific Committee. Dr Gilbert welcomed the Science Officer's attendance at future meetings of CEP.

## SCAR

10.11 Dr Hosie presented a report (CCAMLR-XXVI/BG/36) on SCAR:

- (i) It has been a busy year for SCAR in preparation for a number of IPY field projects. Many of these have involved direct collaboration with CCAMLR.
- (ii) CAML participated in the CCAMLR-IPY planning meeting to help extend the range of CCAMLR's pelagic research during IPY. CAML has included the recommended CCAMLR survey protocols into the CAML pelagic protocols.
- (iii) SCAR participated in the CCAMLR Bioregionalisation Workshop with representatives from SCAR-MarBIN and the SCAR Southern Ocean CPR Survey. CPR data were used extensively for the pelagic bioregionalisation analysis and much of the biological data for the benthic classification came from SCAR-MarBIN.
- (iv) SCAR has invited the CCAMLR Data Manager onto the SCAR-MarBIN Scientific Steering Committee and his participation in the SCAR-MarBIN SSC meeting in Poland, in June 2007, was welcomed.
- (v) The SO-CPR Survey continues to expand both its coverage of the Southern Ocean and the volume of data available for use by the Antarctic community. The SCAR Action Group on CPR Research functions as an advisory group to help develop the survey. SCAR has written to the CCAMLR Secretariat seeking a Member from CCAMLR, as CCAMLR is seen as a likely major user of the data.
- (vi) SCAR has been working towards the merger of the birds and seals groups into a new Expert Group on Status and Trends of Top Predator Populations. SCAR should be able to advise CCAMLR of the full details, including the terms of reference, of the new expert group on top predators at CCAMLR-XXVII and how the new group can interact with CCAMLR and WG-EMM.
- (vii) The SCAR/SCOR Oceanography Expert Group convened a meeting in Bremen, Germany, from 1 to 3 October 2007, to further develop the Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) initiative. The Chair of CCAMLR's Scientific Committee was invited to the meeting and the report is contained in SC-CAMLR-XXVI/BG/36. SOOS plans to observe key changes in oceanography and meteorology through time and relate these to the biota, and to use this information to predict future change. The research plan will be presented for further discussion at the SCAR Open Science Conference in St Petersburg, Russia (July 2008), and is scheduled for publication in September 2008.

- (viii) SCAR commissioned a report on the State of the Antarctic and the Southern Ocean Climate System (SASOCS), submitted to CCAMLR for information as CCAMLR-XXVI/BG/37. The report highlighted unprecedented climate change in the last 50 years with ocean warming and sea-ice reduction west of the Antarctic Peninsula and in the Weddell Sea. Projections over the 21st Century indicate a doubling in CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, warming of the sea-ice zone and reduction of sea-ice extent.
- (ix) The first circular of the XXX SCAR meeting and 3rd Open Science Conference in Russia, July 2008, has been posted on the public area of the CCAMLR website in the News section. Abstracts are to be submitted by 15 January 2008. There are numerous themes, including one on harvesting and exploitation of biological resources. CCAMLR's participation in the conference is welcomed.
- (x) SCAR will again invite the Chair of the Scientific Committee to be an observer at the XXX SCAR meetings in St Petersburg and Moscow (Delegates Meeting).
- (xi) The SCAR Executive has welcomed the closer interactions with CCAMLR. SCAR is keen to develop further collaborations with CCAMLR, particularly research projects of mutual interest.

10.12 Dr Constable, as Convener of WG-SAM, was nominated as the CCAMLR representative on the SCAR Action Group on CPR Research (paragraph 10.11(v)).

10.13 Dr Holt welcomed the development of the new expert group on top predators and looked forward to close and integrated cooperative efforts between CCAMLR and this new SCAR group.

10.14 Dr Naganobu noted that Norway seemed to be missing on Figure 1 of CCAMLR-XXVI/BG/36.

10.15 Dr Iversen replied that Norway will indeed perform a survey in Subareas 48.3 and 48.6.

#### SCAR-MarBIN

10.16 In 2006 the Scientific Committee endorsed SCAR's invitation for the Data Manager to join the International Steering Committee (ISC) of SCAR-MarBIN in order to improve the exchange of data and strengthen links between SCAR and CCAMLR. The Data Manager participated in the ISC meeting which was held in Bialowieza, Poland, 6 to 9 June 2007; travel costs were funded by SCAR (SC-CAMLR-XXVI/BG/12).

10.17 Outcomes of the ISC meeting of special interest to CCAMLR included:

- (i) addition of aggregated data on the occurrence of krill provided by CCAMLR via Dr V. Siegel (European Community);
- (ii) progress in establishing the Admiralty Bay Benthos Diversity Database as a sub-network of SCAR-MarBIN;

- (iii) development of an interactive Antarctic Field Guide and identification keys, and improvements to the Register of Antarctic Marine Species;
- (iv) SCAR-MarBIN's contribution to CCAMLR's workshop on bioregionalisation;
- (v) request for CCAMLR to contribute metadata records to SCAR-MarBIN;
- (vi) ISC will hold its next meeting in 2008.

10.18 ISC's request for CCAMLR to contribute metadata records to SCAR-MarBIN joins a growing interest among data users for the development of CCAMLR metadata. Metadata describe how, when and by whom a particular set of data was collected, and how the data are formatted (i.e. data about data). Metadata are essential for understanding information stored in large databases and have become increasingly important in web-based applications and the dissemination of information.

10.19 In light of this growing interest for metadata, the Secretariat proposed developing metadata records for fishery and scientific datasets held in the CCAMLR database. These metadata would be made available on a public-access section of the CCAMLR website, and relevant metadata would be submitted to SCAR-MarBIN and, where appropriate, other international collaborators (e.g. FIRMS).

10.20 The Scientific Committee endorsed the Secretariat's proposal to develop CCAMLR metadata.

#### Reports of observers from international organisations

##### ASOC

10.21 Dr R. Werner drew attention to the papers tabled by ASOC (CCAMLR-XXVI/BG/25 and BG/27).

10.22 With regard to the Antarctic krill fishery, ASOC welcomed the intersessional work of the Scientific Committee towards the development of management options for the krill fishery at SSMUs in the southwest Atlantic. It also welcomed the workshop hosted in May 2007 by the Lenfest Ocean Program to identify and resolve key uncertainties in management models for krill fisheries. This scientific work is crucial to making progress towards ecosystem-based management of krill fisheries.

10.23 ASOC welcomed the staged approach taken by the Scientific Committee towards the establishment of catch limits for krill for SSMUs and hopes that this staged approach will take appropriate account of remaining scientific uncertainties regarding krill and predator-prey interactions. In that context, achieving systematic scientific observer coverage in the krill fishery continues to be an urgent priority, and ASOC regretted deeply that the position of one Member, based on non-scientific considerations, is again hampering the Scientific Committee to deliver appropriate advice to the Commission on this issue. Insufficient scientific observer coverage across fishing areas and seasons and the resulting lack of consistent data should be taken into account when the Scientific Committee delivers advice on catch limits for specific SSMUs.

10.24 ASOC looked forward to further progress on management options for SSMUs in the southwest Atlantic and hoped that Stage 1 of the process will prioritise those options that minimise impacts on krill-dependent predators, as mandated by Article II of the Convention. In addition, CCAMLR should move as soon as possible towards an adaptive feedback management system that uses monitoring data to detect potential impacts of fishing on predator populations, and adopt management measures accordingly. ASOC was concerned that the number of CEMP monitoring sites has been reduced over the years, and that the expected expansion of the krill fishery is not matched by investments in the monitoring effort that is needed for appropriate management of the fishery. ASOC believed that the lack of predator monitoring data is a problem. There should be no expansion of the krill fishery, in scale or location, until a comprehensive monitoring program has been developed and implemented.

10.25 ASOC noted with concern the proposal to introduce pair trawling for krill in the Antarctic. This is a new method which has not been used in the Antarctic. Elsewhere this method has been controversial for catching marine mammals and seabirds. ASOC was concerned that if this method is allowed, it is essential that all vessels carry CCAMLR scientific observers to assess the impact on marine mammals, seabirds and finfish by-catch.

10.26 With regard to the bioregionalisation of the Southern Ocean, ASOC welcomed the intersessional work conducted by CCAMLR and the Scientific Committee, including the holding of the CCAMLR Workshop on Bioregionalisation of the Southern Ocean in August 2007 and the subsequent intersessional work on the benthic habitat classification of the Southern Ocean.

10.27 ASOC welcomed the Scientific Committee's endorsement of the outcomes of the CCAMLR Workshop, including its endorsement of the general methodology used to provide a broad-scale regionalisation of the Southern Ocean from the 2006 Hobart Workshop. ASOC also welcomed the endorsement of the additional intersessional work on benthic habitat classification – this additional work is a significant enhancement of the work of the 2006 Hobart Workshop. ASOC additionally welcomed the Scientific Committee's agreement that, at the broad scale, the primary bioregionalisation from the 2006 Hobart Workshop is a good working product that can be used to inform spatial management of the Convention Area. ASOC also welcomed the Scientific Committee's endorsement that States engage in further fine-scale planning at a regional level. ASOC encouraged States to act on this recommendation.

10.28 ASOC welcomed the strong interest on this issue expressed by the Chair of CEP and the Chair's proposed circulation of the report of the CCAMLR Workshop to CEP members. ASOC particularly welcomed the wish expressed by the Chair of CEP to participate in a partner relationship with CCAMLR.

10.29 ASOC noted the Scientific Committee's acknowledgement that not all the final terms of reference of the CCAMLR Bioregionalisation Workshop were addressed, namely the procedure for identifying areas for protection to further the conservation objectives of CCAMLR. ASOC also noted the referral of future work by the Scientific Committee to WG-EMM. However, ASOC had hoped that the Scientific Committee would have given strong advice on the establishment of a procedure for identifying areas for protection as well

as strong direction on the application of the intersessional work to future spatial decision-making. ASOC also encouraged the Scientific Committee to use the bioregionalisation outcomes in other relevant decision-making including, for example, when assessing the impacts of fishing and other harvesting of species.

10.30 With regard to seabird by-catch, ASOC congratulated both governments and fishers in keeping seabird by-catch by licensed fishers to remarkably low levels. Particularly, ASOC was delighted by commitments by France to improve the by-catch performance of its licensed fishers and urged France to commit to achieving the same by-catch performance as other CCAMLR Members.

10.31 In relation to seabird by-catch occurring outside the CCAMLR Area, ASOC shared the concerns of Members of this committee that neither CCAMLR Members nor other RFMOs within the distribution range of Southern Ocean seabirds have responded to CCAMLR requests to address their seabird by-catch problems with a view to achieving by-catch reduction equivalent to that achieved by CCAMLR. ASOC urged delegates to ensure that their governments heed CCAMLR's calls and engage with relevant Flag States and RFMOs with a view to getting adequate by-catch reduction strategies in place.

10.32 With regard to scientific fishing, ASOC was deeply concerned to hear discussion of proposals to engage in research fishing at commercial levels in high seas in areas subject to distressingly high levels of IUU fishing. ASOC would note that the research exemption provided by Conservation Measure 24-01 is not designed to allow inappropriate commercial exploitation as has occurred in some other fora.

10.33 With regard to bottom fishing, ASOC applauded the work of WG-FSA with respect to its comprehensive consideration of UNGA Resolution 61/105 relating to bottom fishing. ASOC noted the importance of the fishing footprint in the implementation of the UNGA resolution and urged the Scientific Committee to find ways to address this.

Reports of CCAMLR representatives at meetings  
of other international organisations

#### IWC

10.34 The 59th Meeting of the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission (SC-IWC) was held in Anchorage, Alaska, USA, from 7 to 18 May 2007. Catches of 1 847 large whales, mostly minke whales, were reported to the IWC in 2006. The Japanese scientific whaling in the Southern Ocean took 508 minke whales in 2006/07. In addition to direct takes, 258 large whales were reported being killed due to by-catch and vessel collision. A total of 2 105 whales were killed in 2006.

10.35 A progress report was provided on the preparations for the forthcoming CCAMLR-IWC Workshop to review data required for ecosystem models to be held in Hobart, Australia, in August 2008. It provided input to the subsequent discussions on the workshop in WG-EMM and WG-FSA. The IWC continued the in-depth assessment of southern hemisphere minke whales. It has still been impossible to reconcile the large differences in abundance estimates between Circum-Antarctic (CP) cruises I and II and CP cruise III. Changes in sea-ice distribution and abundance have been considered as one of the likely

causes to explain at least part of the differences between CP I and II and CP III. New information was also presented on distribution, movements, stock structure and abundance of pygmy and true blue whales. The current abundance estimate was 2 400 true blue whales in the Southern Ocean. The JARPA program on scientific whaling in the Southern Ocean was reviewed by the SC-IWC in Tokyo, Japan, in December 2006 and a number of possible improvements of the program were discussed by the review group. The SC-IWC did not have time to consider the continuing research proposals from Japan. However, there were no substantial changes in this proposal since the previous review by the SC-IWC.

10.36 The IWC will be holding a Workshop on Cetaceans and Global Change in Italy in the second half of 2008. The IWC envisages a strong participation by CCAMLR Members to contribute to the success of the workshop.

#### Fourth International Zooplankton Production Symposium

10.37 Dr S. Kawaguchi (Australia) reported on the Fourth International Zooplankton Production Symposium: Human and Climate Forcing of Zooplankton Populations, that took place in Hiroshima, Japan, from 28 May to 1 June 2007, which was co-sponsored by PICES, ICES and GLOBEC. There were 10 theme sessions and three workshops covering a wide range of disciplines. More than 400 delegates from 54 countries attended.

10.38 There were many presentations related to the Southern Ocean, in particular in the workshop entitled 'Krill research: current status and its future', which was attended by most of the active scientists working with krill.

10.39 Two special volumes are to be published, one as a main volume for the overall symposium, and another on krill biology and ecology. The details are available through the PICES website ([www.pices.int/meetings/international\\_symposia/2007\\_symposia/4th\\_Zooplankton/4th\\_Zoopl.aspx](http://www.pices.int/meetings/international_symposia/2007_symposia/4th_Zooplankton/4th_Zoopl.aspx)).

#### CWP

10.40 The Coordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics (CWP) provides a mechanism to coordinate fishery statistical programs of regional fishery bodies and other intergovernmental organisations with a remit for fishery statistics.

10.41 The Data Manager participated in the Twenty-Second Session of CWP which was held at FAO, Rome, 27 February to 2 March 2007 (SC-CAMLR-XXVI/BG/7). Outcomes of the meeting of special interest to CCAMLR are as follows:

- (i) CWP will review members' criteria used for defining IUU fishing vessels and the methods used to estimate IUU catches, with a view to provide a basis for harmonising these criteria and methods.
- (ii) CWP recommended that FAO establish a consolidated catch database based on publicly available data from RFBs (e.g. STATLANT data).

- (iii) Changes in European legislation now require EUROSTAT and ICES to report catch data by national EEZs and the high seas. CWP considered this to be an important development, particularly in the light of the recommendations of UNGA to improve data for managing straddling and migratory stocks. CWP encouraged other members to implement measures for distinguishing between catches in national and international waters.
- (iv) CWP agreed to move towards refining best-practice data standards for monitoring fisheries within their ecosystem context.
- (v) Trade documentation systems are now commonly used among tuna RFBs and there is a general shift toward catch certification schemes. CWP had recommended that importing and exporting countries transmit full trade document information to RFBs, and only CCAMLR's scheme has achieved this completely.
- (vi) CWP agreed to exchange information with the MCS-Network and invite the network as an observer for future sessions of CWP.
- (vii) FAO is conducting a review of VMS systems which will provide input into the further development of the North Atlantic Format and the future role of CWP on this issue.
- (viii) CWP agreed to hold an intersessional meeting at the NAFO Secretariat in mid-2008, and elected Dr Ramm as Vice-Chair for the intersessional period.

10.42 The Scientific Committee considered CWP's recommendation that catch statistics be reported separately from national EEZs and the high seas under Agenda Item 13.

#### 5th International Fisheries Observer Conference

10.43 In 2006, the Scientific Committee approved participation of the Scientific Observer Data Analyst and the Science/Compliance Officer at the 5th International Fisheries Observer Conference which was held in Victoria, Canada, 14 to 18 May 2007.

10.44 The conference focused on observer safety and training standards, and included sessions on safety training, training programs and data collection methods. The conference also included a poster session, and the Secretariat submitted a poster on 'Using Observer Data in CCAMLR Management Decisions for Antarctic Fisheries'.

10.45 Information obtained during the conference helped guide the Secretariat's review of observer training (SC-CAMLR-XXVI/BG/9 Rev. 1).

10.46 The Scientific Committee recognised the benefits of the Secretariat's participation in the conference, and endorsed the participation of the Scientific Observer Data Analysis at the next International Fisheries Observer Conference which is scheduled to be held in the USA in May 2009.



## Future cooperation

10.47 The Scientific Committee noted a number of international meetings of relevance to its work and agreed to the following representatives:

- 10th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee, 5 to 7 November 2007, Seychelles – UK (see paragraph 10.48);
- FAO Workshop on Data and Knowledge on Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas, 5 to 7 November 2007, Rome, Italy – Data Manager (participation funded by FAO);
- Fourth International Fishers' Forum (IFF4), 12 to 15 November 2007, Puntarenas, Costa Rica – USA (Mr E. Melvin);
- CoML – All Programmes Meeting, 12 to 18 November 2007, Auckland, New Zealand – New Zealand;
- First Open Science Climate Impacts on Oceanic Top Predators (CLIOTOP) Symposium, 3 to 7 December 2007, La Paz, Mexico – USA (Dr G. Watters);
- International Symposium on Advances in Fish Tagging and Marking Technology, 24 to 28 February 2008, Auckland, New Zealand – New Zealand (Mr Smith);
- 60th Annual Meeting of the SC-IWC, 1 to 13 June 2008, Santiago, Chile – Germany (Dr Kock);
- CEP XI, 2 to 6 June 2008, Kiev, Ukraine – Scientific Committee Chair (representative) and CCAMLR Science Officer;
- ICES 6th Symposium in Fisheries Acoustics: Ecosystem Approach with Fisheries Acoustics and Complementary Technologies (SEAFACETS), 16 to 20 June 2008, Bergen, Norway – UK;
- ICES WGFAST, 23 June 2008, Bergen, Norway – Norway;
- SCAR Meetings, St Petersburg, Russia:  
Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS), 3 to 4 July 2008; XXX SCAR Science Week, 5 to 7 July 2008; and Joint SCAR-IASC Open Science Conference, 8 to 11 July 2008 – SCAR Liaison Officer (Dr Hosie)  
SCAR-MarBIN Steering Committee (dates to be confirmed) – Data Manager;
- XXX SCAR Delegates' Meeting, 14 to 16 July 2008, Moscow, Russia – SCAR Liaison Officer (Dr Hosie);
- Fourth Meeting of the ACAP Advisory Committee (AC4), 22 to 25 August 2008, Cape Town, South Africa – South Africa;
- Fourth International Conference on the Biology and Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, 11 to 15 August 2008, Cape Town, South Africa – South Africa;

- CCSBT meetings, New Zealand – New Zealand (see paragraph 10.48):  
13th Meeting of the Scientific Committee, 2 to 12 September, Rotorua  
15th Annual Meeting of the Commission, 14 to 17 October, Auckland;
- 4th Annual SEAFO Scientific Committee Meeting, 2 to 3 October 2008,  
Windhoek, Namibia – Norway (see paragraph 10.48);
- SCOR 50th Anniversary Symposium and General Meeting, 20 to 24 October 2008,  
Woods Hole, MA, USA – to be advised;
- 5th World Fisheries Congress – Symposium: Seamount Fisheries – from  
Unregulated Exploitation to Sustainable Use, 20 to 24 October 2008, Yokohama,  
Japan – Japan;
- World Conference on Marine Biodiversity, 11 to 15 November 2008, Valencia,  
Spain – to be advised;
- CWP Intersessional Meeting, NAFO Secretariat, Dartmouth, Canada (dates to be  
advised) – Data Manager;
- 4th Regular Session of the WCPFC Scientific Committee (date and venue to be  
advised) – to be advised (see paragraph 10.48).

10.48 The Scientific Committee tasked the Co-convenors of ad hoc WG-IMAF and the Secretariat to develop a briefing package for representatives at meetings of RFMOs, covering Resolution 22/XXV (International Actions to Reduce the Incidental Mortality of Seabirds Arising from Fishing) and WG-IMAF's risk assessments (WG-FSA-07/P2).