

**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH  
MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**  
(Hobart, Australia, 27 to 31 October 2008)

**OPENING OF MEETING**

1.1 The Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources met from 27 to 31 October 2008 at the CCAMLR Headquarters in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia. The meeting was chaired by the Scientific Committee's Vice-Chair Dr K. Sullivan (New Zealand).

1.2 The Chair welcomed to the meeting representatives from the following Members: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, People's Republic of China (hereafter referred to as China), 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 Bulgaria, Netherlands, Peru and Vanuatu (Acceding States) and the Marshall Islands (non-Contracting Party), along with observers from ACAP, ASOC, CEP, COLTO, IUCN, IWC, SCAR, SEAFO and WCPFC, and encouraged them to participate in the meeting to the extent possible.

1.4 The Scientific Committee paused in memory of Prof. Edith Fanta, Chair of the Scientific Committee (2005–2007), who passed away in May 2008. Prof. Fanta will always be remembered for her dedication to science-based conservation and management of Antarctic marine resources and her careful, considerate and very successful chairing of the Scientific Committee. She also represented Brazil at SCAR and participated actively in the SCAR Life Sciences Standing Scientific Group, Evolution in the Antarctic, and Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctic Program. Prof. Fanta was a much-loved friend who will be remembered for her benevolence, enthusiasm and tenderness. The Scientific Committee felt a deep sense of loss and was confident that through the research initiated by Prof. Fanta and the students she mentored, her legacy will live long into the future<sup>1</sup>.

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

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

- Dr A. Constable (Australia) – Advances in statistics, assessments, modelling and survey methods (Advice from WG-SAM) and Bottom fishing in high-seas areas;
- Dr G. Watters (USA) – Advances in statistics, assessments, modelling and survey methods (Advice from SG-ASAM) and Interactions between WG-FSA and WG-EMM;

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<sup>1</sup> Readers are referred to the eulogy in *CCAMLR Science*, 2008, Vol. 15.

- Dr K.-H. Kock (Germany) – Advances in statistics, assessments, modelling and survey methods (Advice from the Joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop);
- Drs P. Trathan (UK) and C. Southwell (Australia) – Ecosystem monitoring and management (Advice from WG-EMM);
- Drs S. Grant (UK) and P. Penhale (USA) – Management of protected areas;
- Dr S. Nicol (Australia) – Krill resources;
- Drs G. Parkes and R. Mitchell (UK) – Fish resources;
- Dr S. Hanchet (New Zealand) – New and exploratory fisheries, and squid and crab resources;
- Drs R. Mitchell (UK) and D. Welsford (Australia) – Fish and invertebrate by-catch;
- Ms K. Rivera (USA) and Mr N. Smith (New Zealand) – Incidental mortality;
- Prof. C. Moreno (Chile) and Dr D. Welsford (Australia) – CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation;
- Dr D. Agnew (UK) – Management under conditions of uncertainty about stock size and sustainable yield;
- Dr K. Sullivan (New Zealand) – Scientific research exemption;
- Prof. B. Fernholm (Sweden) – Cooperation with other organisations;
- Dr R. Holt (USA) – Performance Review;
- Drs D. Ramm (Data Manager) and K. Reid (Science Officer) – all other matters.

## Adoption of agenda

1.7 The Provisional Agenda had been circulated prior to the meeting (SC-CAMLR-XXVII/1) and was adopted without change (Annex 3).

## Chair's report

Intersessional meetings of working groups and other groups  
of the Scientific Committee

1.8 The following meetings took place in 2008:

- (i) The Predator Survey Workshop was held at the CCAMLR Headquarters, Hobart, Australia, from 16 to 20 June 2008, and convened by Dr Southwell.

Eleven participants from three Member countries attended, including an invited expert (Dr R. Fewster, New Zealand) and two experts from SCAR (Ms D. Patterson-Fraser and Dr B. Raymond).

- (ii) Three meetings took place in St Petersburg, Russia, in July–August 2008:
  - The second meeting of WG-SAM took place from 14 to 22 July. It was convened by Dr Constable. Thirty-three participants from 10 Member countries attended.
  - The first meeting of ad hoc TASO was held on 19 and 20 July. It was co-convened by Mr C. Heineken (South Africa) and Dr Welsford and was attended by 20 participants representing nine Member countries.
  - The fourteenth meeting of WG-EMM was held from 23 July to 1 August. It was convened by Dr Watters and was attended by 35 participants representing 10 Members. Discussion of the Focus Topic ‘Risk assessment for Stage 1 subdivisions of the precautionary catch limit among small-scale management units in Area 48’ was chaired by Dr Trathan. Discussion of the Focus Topic ‘Discussion to progress the implementation of spatial management measures that aim to facilitate the conservation of marine biodiversity’ was chaired by Dr Penhale.
- (iii) The Joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop to Review Input Data for Antarctic Marine Ecosystem Models was held at the CCAMLR Headquarters in Hobart, Australia, from 11 to 15 August 2008. The workshop was convened by Drs Constable and N. Gales from the Scientific Committees of CCAMLR and IWC respectively. The workshop was attended by 45 invited experts and participants.
- (iv) The meeting of WG-FSA was held from 13 to 24 October in Hobart prior to the Scientific Committee meeting. It was convened by Dr C. Jones (USA).
- (v) Ad hoc WG-IMAF conducted its meeting from 13 to 17 October and was preceded by a one-day workshop on 10 October to consider the future work program for ad hoc WG-IMAF. The workshop and the Working Group meeting were co-convened by Ms Rivera and Mr Smith.

#### CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation

1.9 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 in 2007/08. Scientific observers have participated in 60 cruises so far this season: 52 cruises on vessels targeting toothfish or icefish and eight cruises on vessels fishing for krill (*Euphausia superba*).

1.10 CCAMLR Member countries participated in 12 fisheries under conservation measures in force during 2007/08, and three other managed fisheries were conducted in national EEZs within the Convention Area in 2007/08 (Table 1).

Scientific Committee representation at meetings  
of other international organisations

1.11 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.