

SECRETARIAT SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Data Management

13.1 The Scientific Committee noted the Data Manager's report on the work conducted in 2007/08 in support of the Secretariat's Data Management Function, and measures taken to maintain the integrity of CCAMLR data (SC-CAMLR-XXVII/BG/3). The Scientific Committee noted that the volume and complexity of this work continued to increase (SC-CAMLR-XXVII/BG/3, Figure 1), and that work had involved:

- (i) database administration and maintenance, processing and validation of data submitted in 2007/08, revision of data forms in accordance with the decisions of the Commission and Scientific Committee, and the further development of database structures, routines and documentation;
- (ii) data analysis and reporting for the Scientific Committee and its working groups and subgroups, and the Joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop;
- (iii) monitoring of catch limits in CCAMLR fisheries and forecasting of fishery closures, reporting of catches, updating of Fishery Reports, preparation of the *Statistical Bulletin*, and support in the submission and administration of fishery notifications (new and exploratory fisheries and krill fisheries);
- (iv) development of international collaborations, including contributions to the work of CWP, FIRMS and SCAR-MarBIN.

STATLANT Data

13.2 The Scientific Committee noted that the Secretariat had implemented the new approach agreed in 2007 to improve the quality of STATLANT data which are submitted annually by Contracting Parties (SC-CAMLR-XXVI, paragraphs 13.5 to 13.11; CCAMLR-XXVI, paragraph 4.89). The new approach had resulted in a marked improvement in the quality of STATLANT data on fishing effort and catches of by-catch species.

13.3 The Scientific Committee also noted that the improved STATLANT data now included a summary of catch data on incidental mortalities associated with fishing (IMAF). The Scientific Committee considered a proposal (SC-CAMLR-XXVII/BG/3) to include these STATLANT IMAF data in the reporting of CCAMLR fishery statistics in the *CCAMLR Statistical Bulletin*.

13.4 The Scientific Committee requested that the Secretariat develop an example of the type of table proposed to summarise the STATLANT IMAF data in the *Statistical Bulletin*, and distribute this example to Members intersessionally. Subject to Members' review, this summary of STATLANT IMAF data may be published in the forthcoming volume of the *Statistical Bulletin*. Such a summary may also serve to encourage the CWP to establish this reporting procedure across all of its Members.

Catch and effort data

13.5 The Scientific Committee endorsed WG-FSA's recommendation to modify the longline haul-by-haul catch and effort data form (C2 data) in order to capture variability in trotlines (Annex 5, paragraph 11.8):

- the number of hooks in a cluster
- the number of clusters on a dropline
- the spacing between the droplines
- the spacing between the hook clusters
- the distance of the lowest cluster of hooks above the bottom.

13.6 The Scientific Committee also endorsed WG-FSA's recommendation that when a vessel sets two sections of line that are joined under water, they be reported as two independent sets, the geographical start and finish positions of these sets being the positions of the anchors or grapnels.

Metadata

13.7 The Scientific Committee endorsed the steps proposed by the Secretariat (SC-CAMLR-XXVII/BG/4) to establish CCAMLR metadata in accordance with the Commission's decision (CCAMLR-XXVI, paragraph 4.89). These steps included:

- (i) using the Global Change Master Directory (GCMD; see <http://gcmd.nasa.gov>) as the repository for metadata;
- (ii) creating a GCMD portal for CCAMLR under the administration of the Secretariat;
- (iii) identifying metadata classifications for CCAMLR fishery and research data;
- (iv) creating and managing CCAMLR metadata records on the CCAMLR portal.

D4Science Project

13.8 The Scientific Committee noted the development of the D4Science Project, a European e-Infrastructure project, which aims to establish a grid-based network to meet the emergent needs of scientific communities affiliated with environmental monitoring and fisheries and aquaculture resources management (SC-CAMLR-XXVII/BG/3).

13.9 In the context of ecosystem modeling, the D4Science Project is developing a networked data environment to facilitate experiments with new assessment models, and may provide a platform to develop global concepts and standards for the exchange of ecosystem model summary data, such as the data used at the Joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop.

13.10 The Scientific Committee requested that the Secretariat investigate the potential application of the D4Science Project to the work of CCAMLR, and report to WG-SAM and WG-EMM in 2009.

Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data

13.11 The Scientific Committee did not provided any new advice on this matter.

Publications

13.12 The Scientific Committee noted that the following documents had been published in 2008 in support of its work:

- (i) Report of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
- (ii) *CCAMLR Science*, Volume 15
- (iii) *CCAMLR Scientific Abstracts 2007*, available on the CCAMLR website
- (iv) *Statistical Bulletin*, Volume 20
- (v) Revisions to the *Scientific Observers Manual*.

13.13 The Scientific Committee also noted the development of a web-based archive of meeting documents (CCAMLR-XXVI, paragraphs 14.3 and 14.4). During 2008 work has progressed and a modified reference library containing links to meeting documents is now available on the CCAMLR website under the relevant Commission and Scientific Committee password-protected sections.

13.14 Development has also been undertaken of a searchable, database-driven web archive. This consists of a single publicly accessible webpage containing a number of search fields. Users can search based on title, keywords, author and year. Users may also browse through the entire archive, with documents sorted by meeting and year.

13.15 Users are able to view the listing of search results for all documents held within the database, however, meeting documents are secured using a username and password combination in accordance with the security protocols of the existing document archive, thereby retaining the hierarchy of privilege currently in use. As a result, although the search results are visible, users are not able to view or save the documents unless logged in.

13.16 This archive has also been expanded to include a database of all publicly available documents, including publications and *CCAMLR Science*. These do not require a username or password to view or save documents.

13.17 The Scientific Committee congratulated the Secretariat for establishing a web-based library which will greatly improve Members' access to reference documents.

CCAMLR Science

13.18 In 2007 the Scientific Committee requested that the Editor, in consultation with the Chair of the Scientific Committee and the conveners of the working groups, prepare a revision of the publication policy of *CCAMLR Science*, including consideration of the procedure for selecting papers (SC-CAMLR-XXVI, paragraphs 13.24 and 13.25).

13.19 The Scientific Committee noted the advice on this matter provided by WG-SAM (Annex 7, paragraph 7.6), WG-EMM (Annex 4, paragraphs 9.10 to 9.14) and WG-FSA (Annex 5, paragraphs 14.5 to 14.8). Contributions by scientists from outside the CCAMLR membership were further considered in paragraphs 10.8 and 10.9.

13.20 The Scientific Committee congratulated the Science Officer for his revision, and endorsed the revised publication policy and procedure for selecting papers for publication, and enhanced role of the Editorial Board (SC-CAMLR-XXVII/6).

13.21 In encouraging a greater involvement of the Editorial Board in the process from submission to publication, the Scientific Committee encouraged the inclusion of relevant experts as members of the Editorial Board. The Scientific Committee requested that where such experts were identified, the Science Officer (Editor in Chief) should work with the Chair of the Scientific Committee to send letters of invitation to join the Editorial Board.

13.22 The Scientific Committee also requested that the Secretariat consider further ways to raise the impact factor of *CCAMLR Science*, and more generally to develop CCAMLR's outreach to the science community and beyond. Options may include the development of a newsletter, and greater use of web-based dissemination.

13.23 The Scientific Committee encouraged Members to continue contributing high-quality scientific papers of relevance to CCAMLR so as to ensure that *CCAMLR Science* continues to publish the best science available.