

ADVICE TO SCIC AND SCAF

12.1 The Chair presented the Scientific Committee's advice to SCIC and SCAF during the meeting. The advice to SCAF is summarised in section 11.

12.2 The advice to SCIC was derived from the Scientific Committee's consideration of information provided by WG-EMM, WG-FSA, WG-IMAF and ad hoc TASO and is contained in sections 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. The Scientific Committee agreed that the points identified by the working groups were not necessarily compliance issues (see also paragraphs 5.5 and 5.6).

12.3 The Scientific Committee agreed that, in future, its working groups will focus on issues of implementation of conservation measures which have implication for the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources.

12.4 The Scientific Committee also advised SCIC that WG-IMAF would now meet every second year and that the next meeting of WG-IMAF was scheduled for 2011. As a result, the annual summaries of scientific observations prepared by the Secretariat (e.g. WG-IMAF-09/4, 09/5 and 09/6) will be forwarded directly to SCIC for evaluation in years when WG-IMAF was not meeting.

12.5 The Chair reported that SCIC had noted this advice.

SECRETARIAT SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Data Management

13.1 The Scientific Committee noted the Data Manager's report on recent work in support of the Secretariat's Data Management Function, and measures taken to maintain the integrity of the CCAMLR database (SC-CAMLR-XXVIII/BG/3 and CCAMLR-XXVIII/BG/12).

13.2 The CCAMLR database provides a secure long-term repository for data used in the Commission's and Scientific Committee's decision-making processes, including stock assessment, ecosystem monitoring and compliance evaluation. The operation and development of this database involves staff from across the Secretariat's functional entities, and tasks include: maintenance and development of the database infrastructure; data processing, validation and quality control; analysis and reporting; processing data requests; and maintenance of the database documentation.

13.3 The Scientific Committee noted the Secretariat's data management activities in 2008/09 (SC-CAMLR-XXVIII/BG/3).

13.4 The Scientific Committee noted that SCAR-MarBIN may provide a valuable source of information for CCAMLR's work on bioregionalisation, MPAs and VMEs. It therefore encouraged development of suitable links with SCAR-MarBIN, and other related data sources (e.g. GBIF).

13.5 The Scientific Committee encouraged the Data Manager to consider additional ways in which selected CCAMLR data may be disseminated to the broader scientific community, subject to the CCAMLR Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data.

13.6 The Scientific Committee noted that the volume and complexity of CCAMLR's holding database continue to expand (e.g. the volume of fishery data has increased 40-fold since 1993). This increase in the volume of data and requirements for detailed, accurate and up-to-date data are placing greater demands on the Secretariat's human and physical resources, including data processing, validation, reporting, correspondence and storage. Some resources have reached full capacity, and regular review is required in order to ensure that adequate resources (human and financial) are available to continue full support of the Secretariat's data management function and the CCAMLR database (see also CCAMLR-XXVIII/BG/9).

13.7 The Scientific Committee noted various other Secretariat documents produced at the Commission's request. These reviewed Secretariat Professional Staff post gradings/functions (including the Data Manager) (CCAMLR-XXVIII/6), outlined a staff succession strategy (CCAMLR-XXVIII/8) and described the pressures associated with CCAMLR's translation requirements (CCAMLR-XXVIII/10 Rev. 1). It agreed that these documents provide useful insights into the Secretariat's day-to-day work in general as well as into its data management needs. It also noted that all the matters concerned were being considered by SCAF.

13.8 The Scientific Committee noted that Ukraine has implemented a research project to digitise haul-by-haul catch and effort data from former Soviet krill fishing expeditions (CCAMLR-XXVIII/BG/18). Data from 56 research and exploratory trips and two commercial trips (representing 5 160 hauls) between 1972 and 1991 have been transferred manually from the data logbooks to CCAMLR data forms (C1). These data have been submitted to the Secretariat and will be entered in the CCAMLR database in 2010.

13.9 The Scientific Committee thanked Ukraine for digitising these data and submitting this valuable historic dataset to CCAMLR.

13.10 Dr G. Milinevsky (Ukraine) advised that further work is under way to digitise krill biological data. The project was funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts' Antarctic Krill Conservation Project.

Publications

13.11 The Scientific Committee noted the various documents published in 2009 in support of its work:

- (i) Report of the Twenty-seventh Meeting of the Scientific Committee
- (ii) *CCAMLR Science*, Volume 16
- (iii) *CCAMLR Scientific Abstracts 2008*, available on the CCAMLR website
- (iv) *Statistical Bulletin*, Volume 21.

CCAMLR Science

13.12 The Scientific Committee noted the *CCAMLR Science* Editor's report (SC-CAMLR-XXVIII/BG/11). *CCAMLR Science* has been published since 1994 and has become a successfully established journal. It has an ISI citation index, is listed by Current Contents and is cited by the ISI Web of Science. The journal now has an impact factor of 1.389 and is ranked 19th out of the 40 journals in the Fisheries subject category in Thomson Reuters *Journal Citation Reports*, Science Edition.

13.13 The Scientific Committee thanked the authors and reviewers for their outstanding contributions to the journal, and the Secretariat's editorial team for maintaining the high publication standards.

13.14 The Scientific Committee recognised the limited time available during its own, and working group, meetings for the Editorial Board to conduct the initial review of papers submitted for publication to *CCAMLR Science*. It endorsed the Editor's proposal that such reviews be conducted by correspondence. The Scientific Committee also agreed that the Editor should expand the membership of the Editorial Board in order to alleviate the workload on Board members and provide greater participation in the journal's activities.

13.15 The Scientific Committee encouraged the Editor to consider ways of simplifying the current procedure required for authors to cite CCAMLR meeting documents, taking account of intellectual property requirements as well as the Rules for Access and Use of CCAMLR Data.

13.16 The Scientific Committee considered a proposal to establish a *CCAMLR Science Supplement*, noting that such a publication may provide a platform for communicating recent advances in CCAMLR's work. The Scientific Committee urged Members and the Editor to further consider this proposal along with possible budgetary implications.

13.17 In respect of the publication of Secretariat papers that provide a description of the work of the Scientific Committee in the peer-reviewed literature, the Scientific Committee agreed that such papers should receive editorial scrutiny from the Chair of the Scientific Committee and the working group conveners.