

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2.1 There was a discussion of some proposals to modify the wording of agenda item 7. It was agreed that the title of this agenda item would remain unchanged, as Ecosystem Monitoring and Management.

2.2 The provisional agenda was adopted (Annex 3).

REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN

3.1 The Chairman noted that decisions of the Scientific Committee at the last meeting had resulted in an active intersessional period. He thanked the Secretariat, and conveners, rapporteurs, and members of working groups and workshops for their valuable work.

3.2 The *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Ecosystem Monitoring, chaired by Dr K. Kerry (Australia), met at the National Marine Mammal Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service, Seattle, USA on 6 to 11 May, 1985.

3.3 A workshop on Krill Catch-Per-Unit Effort (CPUE), chaired by Dr W. Ranke (GDR) and Dr I. Everson (UK), met in Hobart on 21, 22 and 29 August, 1985.

3.4 The *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment chaired by Dr R. Hennemuth (USA), met in Hobart on 23 to 28 and 30 August, 1985.

3.5 The Chairman noted that staff of the Secretariat had visited the fishing nations Chile, France, GDR, Japan, Poland and the USSR, during the inter-sessional period to evaluate data collection and handling procedures. The Secretariat identified some major problems regarding data submission that require the Scientific Committee's further attention.

3.6 Reports of members, reflecting fisheries and scientific activities undertaken during the past year, had not been received from all members as required. Some members submitted their reports well in advance of the meeting, allowing time for translation and distribution early in the meeting. Others submitted reports during the Working Group meetings immediately preceding the Scientific Committee meeting and some members submitted their reports during the Scientific Committee meeting itself. Because of the heavy translation load, the reports submitted immediately prior to and during the meeting could not be translated during the meeting and had to be distributed in the original language only. The Chairman

further noted that reports from three members regarding activities in 1984 had still not been received. The representative from the EEC made a verbal report that no scientific or fisheries activities had been undertaken during the past year.

3.7 It was noted that the importance of submitting reports of members on time, as well as report content, style and uniformity would be discussed in further detail under agenda item 11.

3.8 The Chairman informed the Committee that during the inter-sessional period he had been in contact with the Secretariat of CCAMLR, the conveners of Working Groups and representatives of FAD, BIOMASS and IOC concerning various aspects of the Committee's work.

3.9 The Chairman recalled that the first conservation measures of the Convention came into force in April, 1985. He noted that the international community was watching the Scientific Committee critically for further positive steps towards conservation in support of the Convention by providing sound advice to the Commission.