

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2.1 The Chairman noted that since the preparation and distribution of the Preliminary Agenda an additional Item 'Squid Resources' (Item 6) had been proposed by himself after consultation with several members of the Scientific Committee. An explanatory note was distributed to Members as SC-CAMLR-VI/BG/10.

2.2 The Provisional Agenda for the meeting had been circulated to Members in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. In presenting the Provisional Agenda, the Chairman mentioned two requests addressed to the Scientific Committee by the Commission at its 1986 meeting – one concerning conservation measures for Subarea 48.3 (South Georgia) and the other concerning co-ordination of national fish surveys in the forthcoming seasons (CCAMLR-V, paragraphs 52 and 58).

2.3 No amendments to the Provisional Agenda were proposed and the agenda was adopted (Annex 3).

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

3.1 The Chairman noted that members of the Scientific Committee had continued their work during the intersessional period with several meetings taking place. He thanked the conveners, rapporteurs, participants, host countries and the Secretariat for contributing to the success of these meetings.

3.2 The jointly sponsored CCAMLR/IOC Scientific Seminar on Antarctic Ocean Variability and Its Influence on Marine Living Resources, Particularly Krill, was held in Paris from 2 to 6 June 1987. A report by the Convener of the meeting, Dr D. Sahrhage, was distributed as SC-CAMLR-VI/BG/3. Proceedings of the Seminar will be published soon.

3.3 The Working Group for the CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program met in Dammarie-les-Lys, France, from 10 to 16 June, 1987 by invitation of Dr J.-C. Hureau (France) and was chaired by Dr K. Kerry (Australia). A report of the meeting was distributed as SC-CAMLR-VI/4, and is attached as Annex 4.

3.4 The Ad Hoc Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment met in Hobart, Australia from 19 to 23 October, 1987, convener Dr K.-H. Kock (Federal Republic of Germany). A report of the meeting was distributed as SC-CAMLR-VI/3, and is attached as Annex 5.

3.5 An Informal Group on the Long-Term Program of Work for the Scientific Committee, chaired by Dr K. Sherman (USA) met in Hobart, Australia on Sunday, 25 October, 1987. The group plans to meet for the second time immediately after the Scientific Committee meeting. A report of the group will be attached as Annex 6.

3.6 The Working Group for the Development of a Conservation Strategy for Antarctic Marine Living Resources, established by the Commission, was held in Hobart, Australia on 25 October 1987 and chaired by Australia. The development of a framework for management of Antarctic marine living resources is of direct relevance to the Scientific Committee and will facilitate the Committee's role in formulating advice to the Commission.

3.7 Ten Members only had submitted reports on their fisheries and research activities undertaken during the past year in time to meet the deadline for receipt of 30 days prior to the meeting. An additional seven Members submitted their reports after the deadline or at the start of the meeting. The Chairman urged the remaining Members to submit their reports to the meeting as soon as possible.

3.8 The Chairman noted that the USA report contains reports of scientific fishing using commercial gear, but that no catch had been reported. He felt that this was an incorrect interpretation of the Commission's conclusions in 1986 and that all catches using commercial gear needed to be reported on Stalant forms. The US delegate accepted the Chairman's comment and advised the Committee that the catch data had been made available to the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment.

3.9 In closing his report, the Chairman noted that the workload of the Scientific Committee was being continually increased, and emphasised the need for close cooperation between Members to accomplish the tasks of the meeting efficiently.