

DATA COLLECTION AND HANDLING

Forms and Instructions for Reporting Fine-scale Data

9.1 Members were reminded that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chairman of the Scientific Committee and in accordance with the Commission's decisions (CCAMLR-V, paragraphs 66–71), had prepared forms and instructions for the submission of fine-scale data. These documents were distributed in each of the official languages on the dates given below:

Fine-scale catch and fishing effort data for finfish	27 June 1987
Fine-scale biological data for finfish	22 August 1987
Fine-scale catch and fishing effort data for krill taken from Subarea 48.2 during 1985/86 and 1986/87	27 June 1987

9.2 The Committee decided that the forms and instructions for submitting fine-scale data for each split-year should be finalised and distributed by the Secretariat on or before 31 March each year.

Forms and Instructions for Catch and Fishing Effort Data

9.3 The decision to report fine-scale data for finfish did not become binding until the 1987/88 fishing season but Members had been requested to report fine-scale data for the 1986/87 season as well. It was hoped that the experience gained from the 1986/87 returns would be useful in revising the forms and instructions prior to their distribution for use in the 1987/88 season. It was noted that for the 1986/87 fishing season, Poland, German Democratic Republic, the Soviet Union and Spain had submitted fine-scale catch and fishing effort data for finfish, Korea had submitted fine-scale biological data for finfish, and Chile, the Soviet Union, and Spain had submitted fine-scale catch and fishing effort data for krill caught in Subarea 48.2.

9.4 The Scientific Committee approved the suggestions for revisions to the forms and instructions for finfish catch and fishing effort data contained in the report of the Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment (Annex 5, paragraph 82) and agreed that these changes should be incorporated into the forms used for the 1987/88 fishing season.

9.5 The Committee agreed that fine-scale catch and fishing effort data should be collected and reported on an annual basis for krill taken from the three integrated study areas described in the Report of the Working Group for the CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program (Annex 4, Table 1) as well as from Subarea 48.2 (CCAMLR-V, paragraph 71). The study area in the Antarctic Peninsula region is defined as the area west of 54°W longitude, east of 75°W longitude (or the western ice edge, whichever is further east), south to the Antarctic Peninsula and north to 60°S latitude (SC-CAMLR-V, Annex 6, paragraph 48). The study area in the South Georgia region is defined as the area west of 35°W longitude, east of 40°W longitude, south to 56°S latitude and north to 53°S latitude (SC-CAMLR-V, Annex 6, paragraph 60). The study area in the Prydz Bay region is defined as the area west of 85°E longitude, east of 55°E longitude, south to the Antarctic continent and north to 58°S latitude (SC-CAMLR-V, Annex 6, paragraph 70).

Forms and Instructions For Biological Data

9.6 It was noted that there had been insufficient time at the Fish Stock Assessment Meeting to review the forms and instructions for fine-scale biological data. It was agreed that the Secretariat should incorporate the revisions suggested in Annex 5, paragraph 82 where applicable, and that the forms should be reviewed after the 1987/88 fishing season and revised at that time.

Data Collection and Submission for the CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program

9.7 After some discussion, it was agreed that it is not feasible to institute a regular system for reporting detailed data from the Ecosystem Monitoring Program until questions about types of data and the level of detail required are resolved. At present, the procedures for reporting data recommended in the Report of the Working Group for the CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program (Annex 4, paragraph 67) are considered sufficient.

Data Submission – General

9.8 The Data Manager advised the Commission that late submission of data reports was the most significant problem associated with the acquisition of data and its use by working groups. It was noted that the deadline for submission of data refers to the date at which the information should reach the Secretariat and not to the date at which the information should be mailed.

9.9 Members were reminded that 30 September is the deadline for submitting STALANT 08A data, STALANT 08B data, fine-scale catch and fishing effort data for finfish and fine-scale catch and fishing effort data for krill. Fine-scale biological data for finfish should reach the Secretariat no later than six weeks prior to the meeting of the Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment.

9.10 Members are requested to note the Scientific Committee's decision to establish two new statistical divisions in Subarea 58.5 – Kerguelen Division (58.5.1), and Heard-McDonald Division (58.5.2) (refer to paragraphs 5.86 – 5.78 and Figure 2). All data submitted to the Commission from this subarea should be reported by division.

Advice to the Commission

9.11 The Scientific Committee stressed the need for all data submitted to the Commission to be presented in the proper format and in the appropriate scale, and to reach the Secretariat before the specified deadline.