

SQUID RESOURCES

Commercial Fishery

4.1 No commercial catches have been reported from the CCAMLR Convention Area since a catch of 2 tonnes was reported by the German Democratic Republic from Subarea 48.1 in 1979. However, as noted in the Committee's 1987 Report, the squid fisheries in the adjacent areas of the South Atlantic outside the CCAMLR Convention Area have become very important. There appears to be some interest in expanding these fisheries, possibly into the CCAMLR Convention Area.

4.2 The UK reported that a squid jigger had been sighted some 20 miles north of Bird Island, South Georgia, apparently fishing. No report has been received from this vessel, which may have been from a non-Member country.

Research

4.3 The USSR Delegation reported that in the course of research studies in the South Polar Front area, between 47°–53°S and 40°–25°W, directed primarily at meso-pelagic fish (the myctophid, *Electrona carlsbergi*) observations were made on squid. In addition to small incidental catches in trawls, some trials were made with lights and squid jigs. A few squid were attracted to the lights, and caught by jigs. The principal species caught in the trawl was *Martialia hyadesi*, a large species up to 30 cm in length.

4.4 The UK reported that research on squid was being carried out around South Georgia, and a paper had been presented to the 1988 SCAR Symposium.

4.5 The Committee emphasised the importance of further research on squid, particularly integrated studies linking squid to their food supplies and predators. Studies in the South Polar Front area were likely to be particularly fruitful.