

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Meetings of Other International Organisations

9.1 The Scientific Committee was represented at the following meetings held during the intersessional period:

1990 Meeting of the International Whaling Commission Scientific Committee (IWC), 10 to 23 June 1990; Dr W. de la Mare (Australia)

XXI Meeting of SCAR, São Paulo, Brazil, 9 to 27 July 1990; Dr J. Croxall (UK)

78th Statutory Meeting of ICES, 4 to 20 October 1990; Mr O. Østvedt (Norway).

9.2 Dr de la Mare presented his report of the IWC Scientific Committee meeting in SC-CAMLR-IX/BG/17. Of particular interest to the Scientific Committee was the IWC work on the development and simulation testing of new management procedures, and the fact that the IWC now recognises two morphological forms of minke whale, *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*; the larger form which has been commercially exploited in the Southern Ocean and the dwarf form which occurs mostly to the North of 60°S. The current estimate of stock size from sighting surveys south of 60°S was 760 000 individuals, the catch of these whales now totalling 114 096.

9.3 Dr Croxall presented his report of the XXI SCAR meeting in SC-CAMLR-IX/BG/18. The topics covered at this meeting were wide-ranging. Of particular interest to CCAMLR were proposals for marine SSSIs near Low and Brabant Islands to protect areas of rich benthic communities. A proposal for an SSSI at Ardley Island, near King George Island, was approved; a proposal for the newly created designation of 'multiple-use planning area', made for southwest Anvers Island (including Palmer Station), was referred for revision.

9.4 The SCAR meeting responded to several questions from CCAMLR which are discussed in full in paragraphs 6.1 to 6.4 and Annex 6. The next meeting of SCAR will be in 1992, and in the interim SCAR will convene a conference on Antarctic science at Bremen, Germany, from 23 to 28 September 1991. The objectives of this conference will be to foster public awareness of the importance of Antarctic science, particularly in relation to global problems, and to foster the interaction of Antarctic scientists working in different disciplines.

9.5 It was noted that this would be an important forum for publicising the work of CCAMLR, and it was agreed that the Secretariat should present a poster at the conference describing the work of the Scientific Committee and Commission.

9.6 The 78th Statutory Meeting of ICES was held in Copenhagen from 4 to 12 October 1990 and was attended by nearly 400 scientists from ICES' member states and guests and observers from other international organisations. Of particular interest to CCAMLR was the invited lecture at the opening session by Prof. K. Ronald (Canada) on 'Marine Mammals and Man: Commerce, Competition and Conflicts'. More than 400 scientific papers were presented in the Standing Committees on theme sessions. The theme sessions covered a wide range of topics such as remote sensing, acoustic methods and gear selection. Abstracts of all the papers are published in a special volume. It should be noted, however, that copies of all contributed papers can be purchased from ICES on microfiche.

9.7 The work of ICES' two Advisory Committees (ACFM and ACMP) on Fishery Management and on Marine Pollution was presented at special sessions. The work of ACFM depends on reports from several fish stock assessment working groups handling 60 to 70 fish stocks in the North Atlantic. Increasing awareness of pollution and its effects on living resources has resulted in several requests for regional environmental assessments.

9.8 The following were nominated as observers for meetings taking place in 1991:

79th Statutory Meeting of ICES: Mr O. Østvedt

1991 Meeting of the IWC Scientific Committee: Dr W. de la Mare

UNEP Coordinating Committee on Marine Mammal Action Plan: Dr W. de la Mare

SCAR Antarctic Science Conference, Bremen, Germany, 23 to 28 September 1991:
Secretariat.

Application for Observer Status by Asoc and Greenpeace

9.9 On 11 July 1990, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee wrote to Members suggesting that ASOC (the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition, a non-governmental organisation) appeared to satisfy the requirements of Article XXIII, paragraph 3 and that the organisation be invited as an observer to the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific Committee. This

decision was deferred until the time of the Meeting. A copy of the correspondence on this matter was provided to the Meeting in SC-CAMLR-IX/9.

9.10 In discussion of this matter, the Japanese Delegation indicated that they could not accept the attendance of ASOC at the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific Committee.

9.11 A number of delegations expressed their regret at Japan being unable to accept ASOC's application to attend the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific Committee as an observer.

9.12 A small group convened by Mr D. Miller (South Africa) was asked to examine the problem of ASOC's attendance at the meetings of the Scientific Committee.

9.13 The group reported that they had identified a number of difficulties and suggested that any letter of invitation to ASOC should include the new conditions that:

- the observer nominated should possess a suitable scientific qualification;
- the invitation would only apply to the meeting stipulated in the letter;
- until such time as the Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee were amended, ASOC's participation would be in accordance with the conditions set down in Rules 32 to 34 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure; and
- that the absolute confidentiality of data and results discussed in the meeting of the Scientific Committee be observed where these were not subsequently published in the report of the meeting of the Scientific Committee.

9.14 All delegations except Japan accepted these recommendations as a basis for inviting ASOC to attend the Tenth Meeting.

9.15 The Japanese Delegation expressed the views that:

- (i) the Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee are not adequate concerning the attendance of observers;
- (ii) ASOC's attendance at the Scientific Committee would undermine the confidentiality of data; and

(iii) as ASOC is a 'movement', the Scientific Committee would not benefit from the presence of an ASOC observer at the Committee.

9.16 Greenpeace had also applied for observer status at the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific Committee; a copy of the correspondence was presented in CCAMLR-IX/12 Rev. 1. Some Members thought that the application from Greenpeace should not be considered by the Scientific Committee since this organisation was a member of ASOC and had therefore already been party to an application for observer status. Others expressed the view that each application for observer status should be considered on its individual merit.

9.17 This application was not granted by the Scientific Committee and was not deliberated further.