

CCAMLR SCHEME OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATION

9.1 At its last meeting, the Scientific Committee had provided advice to the Commission on the operation of a scheme of international scientific observation (SC-CAMLR-X, paragraphs 10.1 to 10.8). It had also agreed that such a scheme would improve the flow of information necessary for the Scientific Committee's work and a draft set of provisions had been submitted to the Commission for consideration. The Commission was unable to reach agreement on certain details of the proposed scheme (CCAMLR-X, paragraphs 7.5 and 7.9) and the matter had been held over to the current meeting.

9.2 In preparation for the eventual introduction of the scheme, the Scientific Committee noted with appreciation that the Secretariat in consultation with the various Working Groups and interested Members had made significant progress in the development of a draft scientific observer manual. This manual was tabled as SC-CAMLR-XI/BG/5.

9.3 The Scientific Committee agreed that on implementation of the scientific observer scheme, this manual should be tested in the field as soon as possible and reviewed or updated whenever necessary.

9.4 During the course of its meeting, the Scientific Committee appreciated that the Standing Committee on Observation and Inspection was in the process of elaborating the functions and tasks of international scientific observers. It was noted that a number of changes had been made by SCOI to the list of tasks for observers forwarded by the Scientific Committee to the Commission last year.

9.5 In considering the SCOI draft, the Scientific Committee took the "detail of trawls" to be provided by observers to be consistent with the information requirements set out in Format 1A of the Draft Scientific Observer manual.