

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

14.1 The Scientific Committee recalled that it had requested that a flow chart be prepared describing CCAMLR's relations with other organisations. This chart is in the final stages of preparation and will be distributed to Members in the intersessional period.

FUTURE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH

14.2 During the present meeting representatives of five countries (Brazil, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, USA) reviewed their marine research activities in the Antarctic Peninsula area during the 1994/95 season (Annex 7, Table 1a).

14.3 Data collection procedures were discussed in order to ensure standardised methods for hydroacoustic surveys, krill and zooplankton net sampling, phytoplankton standing stock estimates and oceanographic measurements. Data formats were agreed in order to facilitate processing and analysis of biological data that will be collected during the surveys. Guidelines on sampling procedures and data storage will be prepared by Dr V. Siegel (EEC) and distributed to participants. Potential queries were drawn up for the workshop and a preliminary list will be attached to the guidelines.

14.4 Scientists involved in the planned research activities were invited by Germany to attend a Data Analysis Workshop in Hamburg from 17 to 20 July 1995 immediately prior to the meeting of WG-EMM in Italy.

SCAR

14.5 The report of the CCAMLR Observers to SCAR (Drs Croxall and Everson) was presented in CCAMLR-XIII/BG/18.

14.6 Following discussions held at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on Environmental Affairs and Conservation (GOSEAC) (Santiago, Chile, May 1994), the Scientific Committee noted the following items of interest to CCAMLR:

- GOSEAC presented a working paper on environmental monitoring to XVIII ATCM in Kyoto. The Secretariat was requested to obtain a copy of this paper from GOSEAC for consideration by WG-EMM; and

- GOSEAC noted the intention of IUCN to hold a workshop on human impact in the Antarctic, and that IUCN has established an Antarctic Advisory Committee with the stated priorities of addressing questions of protected areas, the liability regime and CCAMLR. The Scientific Committee requested that the Secretariat establish links with this Committee through its chairman, Prof. B. Davis (Hobart).

14.7 CCAMLR was represented at the Sixth SCAR Biology Symposium (30 May to 3 June 1994, Venice, Italy) by the Science Officer. His report (SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/7) noted that there was considerable interest in CCAMLR at the symposium, but that the level of knowledge about CCAMLR was still relatively low within the SCAR scientific community. The Scientific Committee commended the Science Officer for the quality of the poster prepared by the Secretariat for this meeting. The proceedings of the symposium are currently being edited and will be published by Cambridge University Press. The next Biology Symposium will be held in New Zealand in 1998.

14.8 Paper CCAMLR-XIII/BG/18 reported on the meeting of the Group of Specialists on Southern Ocean Ecology (GOSOE), Padua, Italy, May 1994. A major activity being undertaken by this group is the development of the Coastal Zone part of the SCAR Program on the Ecology of the Antarctic Sea-Ice Zone (CS-EASIZ), and a workshop during the meeting established final plans for the program. CS-EASIZ is established for a period of 10 years (1994 to 2004), and it has been suggested that a first methodology workshop be held in 1995 and a mid-term review symposium in 1998/99. A steering committee was set up to coordinate the work of CS-EASIZ. The Scientific Committee agreed that it should maintain close liaison with the CS-EASIZ program and nominated Dr M. Fukuchi (Japan), who also serves on the steering committee to provide liaison with CCAMLR.

14.9 The programs coordinated by GOSOE are the main marine ecological inputs to the SCAR-IGBP Program, and the SCAR group of specialists responsible for Antarctic input to IGBP is GLOCHANT. It was noted that the Secretariat for GLOCHANT is being established in Hobart, which should act to facilitate further liaison between CCAMLR and SCAR.

14.10 The Bird Biology Sub-Committee met in Padua, Italy, in May 1994, and formally recommended that SCAR develop a register of all Members' activities relating to the use of implantable electronic tags for the identification of individual birds. The Scientific Committee recalled its previous discussions of this item (SC-CAMLR-XII, paragraph 8.9) and encouraged Members to contribute to this register once SCAR circulates appropriate details.

14.11 The SCAR Working Group on Biology met in Rome, Italy, in August and September 1994. The group was particularly interested in the initiatives being pursued by CCAMLR to coordinate

scientific research (paragraphs 14.2 to 14.4). The Scientific Committee recommended that the Commission agree to a forthcoming request from SCAR that information on planned research cruises, being compiled annually by CCAMLR, be placed on an electronic bulletin board being developed by SCAR.

14.12 The SCAR *Ad Hoc* Group on Evolutionary Genetics of Antarctic Marine Organisms is proposing to meet in Brazil in 1995. Amongst the topics which will be considered is stock separation, which is of interest to CCAMLR. Dr Fanta was nominated to liaise between CCAMLR and this group.

14.13 The Data Manager acted as CCAMLR Observer to the SCAR/COMNAP *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Antarctic Data Management (29 August to 2 September 1994, Rome, Italy) (SC-CAMLR-XII/BG/10). The Scientific Committee encouraged the development of this liaison between the *ad hoc* group and the Secretariat, and nominated the Data Manager as CCAMLR Observer to the next meeting of this group.

14.14 SCAR has approved the development of an Antarctic Master Directory (AMD) and has called for expressions of interest to host it. A decision on the host is expected in March 1995, and the AMD is expected to be operational after that. The Scientific Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to lodge a directory entry with the AMD, describing some of CCAMLR's data holdings and data access rules.

14.15 The Scientific Committee reaffirmed its belief that close liaison between SCAR and CCAMLR was of great benefit to both organisations. Its nomination of observers and liaison officers to SCAR and various of its committees underlined this commitment.

IWC

14.16 The report of the observer to the 1994 meeting of the Scientific Committee of the IWC (SC-IWC) (May, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico), Dr de la Mare, was distributed as SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/6. The main topic for the meeting was the refinement of the Revised Management Scheme for Baleen Whales and the assessment of whale stocks subject to aboriginal subsistence whaling.

14.17 The Observer from IWC (Dr Reilly) noted that the SC-IWC was now at a turning point in its history. A common theme running through much of its new or planned initiatives involves the study and monitoring of cetacean populations in relation to their environment. A number of initiatives are of specific interest to CCAMLR (paragraphs 14.19 to 14.25).

14.18 An intersessional meeting of a steering group on research related to the conservation of large baleen whales in the Antarctic was held in Japan, with the following objectives:

- to refine the estimates of abundance in feeding areas;
- to determine the distribution of breeding areas; and
- to evaluate the potential for competition for krill between blue whales, other baleen whales and other high level predators.

14.19 The IWC Observer informed the Scientific Committee that the steering group had noted the need to include a krill specialist in the group, which is likely to meet in January 1995. The Scientific Committee agreed that the Committee work coordination group, planning to meet during the 1994 meeting of the Commission, should consider the appropriate mechanism for inclusion of a krill expert nominated by the Scientific Committee into this steering group.

14.20 In 1992 the IWC decided that its Scientific Committee should keep under review the impact of environmental change on whale stocks. CCAMLR has already responded to a call for exchange of information on this topic (SC-CAMLR-XII, paragraph 12.7). The IWC will pursue this initiative with a workshop in 1995 on the effects of climate change and ozone depletion on whales, as mediated through changes in habitat structure and prey availability. At the invitation of the observer from the IWC, it was agreed that Dr V. Marín (Chile) would represent CCAMLR at this workshop and would join its steering committee.

14.21 The observer from the SC-IWC reported that whilst the IWC was indirectly interested in the question of baleen whale feeding (previously the subject of correspondence between the IWC and CCAMLR), currently the terms of interest of the SC-IWC were being re-drawn and it would be established next year whether there was any further interest in this subject.

14.22 Dr Reilly noted that the IWC was interested in possible mechanisms for closer exchange of information between the SC-IWC and CCAMLR. A closer exchange had been established with the participation of Dr de la Mare and the Chairman of the Scientific Committee in SC-IWC meetings, the Chairman of the SC-IWC in this meeting, and the nomination of two scientists involved with CCAMLR to participate in forthcoming IWC workshops.

14.23 The Scientific Committee agreed that a suitable further activity would be the exchange of data between the two organisations. It therefore requested the Data Manager to contact the IWC to establish what IWC data were available which might be of use to the Scientific Committee. Dr de la Mare noted that at least two data sets held by the IWC would be of interest to CCAMLR: catch

records for southern hemisphere whales and sightings data. It was emphasised that acquisition of data at the highest possible resolution would be most useful.

14.24 Dr Reilly suggested that it might be worthwhile to consider the possibility of adding a well-designed whales sightings survey component to the studies in the CCAMLR ISRs. The Scientific Committee agreed that this suggestion should be investigated further at the next meeting of WG-EMM.

14.25 The Scientific Committee noted that the IWC's comprehensive assessment of southern hemisphere baleen whales was continuing but had been temporarily disrupted by the recent reporting of historical catch data by Russian scientists. The current best estimate for the abundance of 'true' (i.e., not pygmy) blue whales in the Antarctic from sightings surveys is 460 (95% confidence interval 210-1000).

FAO

14.26 There were two interactions between the Secretariat and FAO in the 1994 intersessional period. Firstly, the Science Officer represented CCAMLR at the FAO *Ad Hoc* Consultation on the Role of Regional Fisheries Agencies in Relation to High Seas Statistics (La Jolla, USA, 13 to 16 December 1993). CCAMLR's participation in this consultation was appreciated by FAO as it is the only Regional Fishery Organisation with responsibilities in all three major oceans. The consultation established requirements for data collection and data reporting for fisheries in high seas areas as advice to the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

14.27 Secondly, the Data Manager visited the FAO Fisheries Information Data and Statistics Service in Rome, Italy in September 1994. Cooperation between FIDI and CCAMLR continues to be of great benefit to both organisations. This visit resulted in the acquisition of STATLANT reports from Latvia (see paragraph 5.3). Prof. Beddington suggested that in addition to requesting Latvia to provide more information about these catches, the Data Manager should write to Lithuanian authorities concerning activity in the Convention Area, since Lithuania has also been active in the southwest Atlantic recently.

CWP

14.28 Paper SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/10 reported that the Secretariat was represented at an *ad hoc* meeting of the CWP in Madrid this year. The Scientific Committee recommended that the Secretariat representation at CWP meetings should continue.

IOC

14.29 The observer from IOC (Dr P. Quilty, Australia) reported that the IOC maintained an interest in the work of CCAMLR, and that he would be making a full report to IOC of the proceedings of the Scientific Committee.

ICAIR

14.30 In May 1994 the Secretariat received a letter from the Director of ICAIR (International Centre for Antarctic Information and Research, Christchurch, New Zealand) with a suggestion that CCAMLR lodge copies of some of its published material on ICAIR's newly developed World Wide Web (WWW) server 'Gateway to Antarctica' (SC-CAMLR-XII-BG/10). The Scientific Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to publicise the work of CCAMLR in this way. Accordingly, the Data Manager was requested to lodge CCAMLR newsletters and other promotional material (e.g., the text of the Convention and certain of the Basic Documents) with the 'Gateway to Antarctica'.

WWW

14.31 The Data Manager raised the possibility that CCAMLR should consider setting up its own WWW server. Such a system would allow the Secretariat to maintain its own server, lodging whatever documents and data it saw fit, and maintaining direct control over them. This would be technically feasible but costly with the Secretariat's present internet system. The Scientific Committee requested that the Secretariat conduct a feasibility study on establishing a CCAMLR WWW server.

NOMINATION OF OBSERVERS

14.32 The following observers were nominated to represent CCAMLR at intersessional meetings:

- SC-IWC - Dr de la Mare;
- ICES - Ms I. Lutchman (UK);
- NAFO/ICES workshop on marine mammals-fisheries interactions - Dr T. Øritsland (Norway);

- FAO Secretariat;
- APIS - Dr Boyd;
- EASIZ - Dr Fukuchi
- SCAR/COMNAP - Data Manager
- ICES Acoustic Workshop (Aberdeen, Scotland) - Dr Everson; and
- CWP - Secretariat.