

## SQUID RESOURCES

4.1 No catches of squid were reported from the CCAMLR Convention Area in the 1993/94 season. The only catches of squid taken in recent years were reported from the 1989 season by the UK (8 tonnes).

4.2 Paper SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/15 reported that the UK had received two enquiries about squid fishing in the Antarctic. The first, from Taiwan, concerned a proposal to fish for *Martialia hyadesi* in the waters off South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, and apparently resulted from experience of poor fishing conditions in the *Illex argentinus* fishery on the Patagonian shelf in the 1994 season. Prof. J. Beddington (UK) reported that since the preparation of SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/15, a further enquiry had been received from a Taiwanese company. However, the Secretariat has not yet been approached on the matter.

4.3 The second enquiry was from a Spanish seafood company for information on *M. hyadesi*. The reason for this company's interest was the recent considerable variation in the catch rate of *I. argentinus* and the effects of this on the market.

4.4 Prof. Beddington informed the Scientific Committee that from the information available to the UK, he did not anticipate that a fishery for squid in the Convention Area would develop in the 1994/95 season. The Scientific Committee agreed that these developments and expressions of interest in fishing for squid in the Convention Area should continue to be closely monitored.

## RESEARCH

4.5 Paper SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/15 reported that a UK research cruise around South Georgia in January/February 1994 had been partly devoted to cephalopod research. The results of this work will be reported to CCAMLR in the future. Paper SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/15 also reported that in its 1995 South Georgia groundfish survey, the UK will evaluate the potential of a new longline system, developed by Japanese scientists for squid fishing, as a research sampling technique for *M. hyadesi*. These longlines are currently used in the Pacific *Ommastrephes bartramii* fishery.

4.6 Paper SC-CAMLR-XIII/BG/15 also included an abstract of a paper by Dr P. Rodhouse *et al.* on the growth, age structure and environmental history of *M. hyadesi* and noted that papers presented at the 1993 Symposium on Southern Ocean Cephalopods have now been published in *Antarctic Science*, 6 (2) (1994).

4.7 Prof. G. Duhamel (France) informed the Scientific Committee that squid caught during recent experimental surveys at the Kerguelen (Division 58.5.1) and Crozet Islands (Subarea 58.6) had been retained for identification, and that specimens had been sent to Dr Rodhouse for this purpose. Future surveys at Kerguelen will also include the identification of samples of squid caught in this area. The Scientific Committee encouraged this initiative.