

BUDGET FOR 1996 AND FORECAST BUDGET FOR 1997

14.1 The Scientific Committee noted a request from SCAF that it should attach priorities to the various items of its budget, and should bear in mind SCAF's desire for zero real growth. The Scientific Committee considered its budget in the light of this request.

14.2 However, given the increasing volume of work required of the Scientific Committee to provide the best scientific advice to the Commission, the Scientific Committee felt it was unrealistic to expect, within a goal of zero real growth in the CCAMLR budget as a whole, that the budget of the Scientific Committee should necessarily remain stable.

14.3 The Scientific Committee reminded the Commission that, in fact, the Scientific Committee budget was currently only 7.5% of the total CCAMLR budget, and that this percentage has been stable or even slightly declining since 1989 (Annex 6, Figure 1).

14.4 Furthermore, the Scientific Committee noted that in 1996 the meetings of WG-EMM and WG-FSA comprise 83% of the total budget; it was unable to prioritise between these two meetings without explicit advice from the Commission.

14.5 The budget and explanatory notes are attached as Annex 6. For 1996 provision is made for meetings of WG-EMM and WG-FSA, the Subgroup on Monitoring Methods and the Subgroup on Statistics. Provision is also made, under the projection for 1997, for a contribution from CCAMLR to the Euphausid Biology Symposium (paragraph 4.24) and the publication of the 'Guide to Understanding CCAMLR's Approach to Management'.

14.6 In respect of the Secretariat Travel item, the Scientific Committee explored the possibility of cost saving by holding the meeting of WG-EMM in Hobart. It reiterated its advice of earlier years, however, that there are immeasurable benefits to CCAMLR in raising both its scientific and political profile within the host country. The work of the Scientific Committee has been considerably enhanced by participation of scientists at these meetings who would otherwise be unable to attend. There was also considerable benefit to Members hosting the meeting, in that they did not have to pay for travel of their scientists, and in general, Members often did not have to pay as much as they would should the meetings take place in Hobart. Finally, if costs were to be reduced at such meetings the Scientific Committee requested that the Commission consider whether there was a need for the Executive Secretary to attend working group meetings, given that the Secretariat's function at these meetings is to provide technical support.

14.7 A number of additional items were recommended by the Scientific Committee for inclusion in the Commission's budget. These were, in priority order, the employment of an Observer Data Analyst, the purchase of a fast workstation, the publication of scientific observer logbooks, the publication of a revised edition of the *Statistical Bulletin* and the installation of a WWW site at the Secretariat. Detailed explanation and costing for these items is given in Annex 6.

14.8 The Scientific Committee noted its difficulty in establishing priorities, e.g. between its working groups and between the first three items listed in paragraph 14.7. It considered that both working groups and all three items were essentially of equal importance to its work. Should any element not be fully funded, the work of the Scientific Committee would be directly impacted and the quality of its advice would suffer. The Scientific Committee, however, welcomed attempts by the Commission to prioritise items within the budget of CCAMLR as a whole.

14.9 It was pointed out that the path which the Scientific Committee has been following, especially in regard to the development of management under uncertainty, the ecosystem approach, and the use of scientific observers, had been determined by initiatives of the Commission. It is these new approaches which require additional resources.

14.10 The Scientific Committee also drew the attention of the Commission to the great benefit it derives from the large amount of work currently being performed by individual scientists on behalf of CCAMLR, which would be very costly if obtained through consultancy.