

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

SCAR

11.1 The report of the CCAMLR Observer to XXIV SCAR (Dr Croxall) was based principally on matters discussed at the SCAR Working Group on Biology. The report:

- (i) drew to the attention of CCAMLR forthcoming SCAR meetings of potential interest, viz.:
 - (a) the Seventh Symposium on Antarctic Biology on 'Antarctic Ecosystems: Models for Wider Understanding' (1 to 5 September 1998, New Zealand);
 - (b) 'Environmental Research in the Antarctic' (December 1996, Japan); and
 - (c) 'Marine Biological Research in the Magellanic Region Related to the Antarctic' (April 1997, Chile);
- (ii) noted the commencement of the new SCAR marine research program, EASIZ, (Ecology of the Antarctic Sea-Ice Zone) with the RV *Polarstern* cruise in the Weddell Sea last year and the production of the program newsletter via the SCAR Global Change Project Office in Hobart, Australia;
- (iii) noted that SCAR has decided not to continue to coordinate current, and plan for future, collaborative marine research through the SCAR/SCOR Group of Specialists on Southern Ocean Ecology (GOSSOE);
- (iv) raised relevant matters arising from GOSEAC (Group of Specialists on Environmental Affairs and Conservation) initiatives, including:
 - (a) the Italian project to collect, certify and archive krill material and ocean water as a baseline for future analyses (e.g. of metals, organochlorines, etc.);
 - (b) the forthcoming production of a SCAR/COMNAP working paper as a follow-up to workshops monitoring environmental impacts from scientific and other operations in Antarctica (see SC-CAMLR-XV/BG/8); and
 - (c) the SCAR agreement to consult organisations, including CCAMLR, on the preparation of the state of the environment report for Antarctica as required by

the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) (when established) and with potential relevance to the UNEP Global Environment review as required following the Agenda 21 meeting in Rio de Janeiro. The draft SCAR proposals indicate that substantial input would be required from CCAMLR and from scientists associated with its work.

- (v) informed CCAMLR of the formation and terms of reference of a subcommittee on the Evolutionary Biology of Antarctic Organisms. This subcommittee will consider a request from CCAMLR relating to genetic studies to determine the provenance of seabirds killed in longline fisheries;
- (vi) noted that SCAR-BBS had prepared a detailed report on status and trends of Antarctic and sub-Antarctic seabirds (see paragraphs 3.70 to 3.73), but regretted that the SCAR-GSS had been unable to make a timely response to CCAMLR on the important topic of status and trends of Antarctic and sub-Antarctic seals;
- (vii) requested support from CCAMLR for the next review of the status and trends of Antarctic and sub-Antarctic seabirds. A workshop to prepare for this review would be held in 1998 or 1999;
- (viii) noted plans to arrange a workshop to consider a coordinated collaborative research program on predator-prey-environment interactions associated with the Antarctic Polar Frontal Zone;
- (ix) drew Members attention to new developments in quantitative studies of the distribution and abundance of seabirds at sea;
- (x) drew the attention of Members, particularly those undertaking or planning CEMP studies, to the care needed to be taken with flipper banding studies of penguins; and
- (xi) noted the formal request to CCAMLR for reporting (via e-mail) to SCAR information on planned research cruises relating to harvested commercial species.

11.2 At the XXIV SCAR Delegates' meeting a formal resolution concerning incidental mortality of Antarctic seabirds was adopted. The text is as follows:

Noting the serious and ongoing threats to seabirds of the Southern Ocean, especially albatrosses, many of which are now classified as threatened under IUCN criteria, due to kills on longlines set for tuna and Patagonian toothfish, and to support the efforts being made by CCAMLR to reduce the incidental mortality of seabirds by regulating fishing procedures, the Working Group on Biology recommends that:

SCAR National Committees be requested to support relevant research on southern seabird populations at risk from longlining fisheries, in waters within and outside the SCAR area of interest.’

11.3 In a supplementary report the CCAMLR liaison officer with GOSEAC (Dr E. Fanta, Brazil) noted:

- (i) that GOSEAC has developed a checklist of activities in near-shore and shallow waters to be used in environmental impact evaluation; this might be of interest to CCAMLR given that these areas are breeding and/or feeding grounds of fish, birds and mammals;
- (ii) the interest expressed by SCAR in collaboration with CCAMLR concerning issues relating to marine debris and avoidance of incidental mortality;
- (iii) that the draft SCAR management plan handbook for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) had been revised by GOSEAC and the items requested by CCAMLR when considering the Admiralty Bay Antarctic Specially Managed Area (ASMA) (SC-CAMLR-XIII, paragraph 61) were included. (This includes the location of CEMP sites and breeding sites of seabirds and seals, entry and departure points and foraging grounds of seals and birds and the need for good quality and detailed maps). GOSEAC is aware that if prohibitions or restrictions of activities are necessary in a specific marine area to be protected, a conservation measure under CCAMLR has to be approved;
- (iv) GOSEAC’s interest in developing closer contact with the WG-EMM Subgroup on Monitoring Methods;
- (v) that CCAMLR was requested by GOSEAC to contribute to the assembly of all available information on emissions and fuels in Antarctica by providing information on:

- (a) the fuel used by fishing vessels;
- (b) the type of engines that use this fuel; and
- (c) the number of vessels likely to be operating in the Convention Area next year.

11.4 The CCAMLR Observer to CS-EASIZ, Dr Fukuchi, reported that:

- (i) the second meeting of the CS-EASIZ Steering Committee was held at British Antarctic Survey (BAS), 1 and 2 August 1996, Cambridge, UK;
- (ii) the EASIZ field program commenced in the 1995/96 austral summer, with measurements at several shore stations, and the EASIZ cruise to the Weddell Sea on the RV *Polarstern*;
- (iii) the first EASIZ workshop on 'In-situ Imaging Methods in the Antarctic Ecology' was held at the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, 12 to 15 August 1996, Bremerhaven, Germany.

11.5 Dr Miller, referring to paragraph 11.1(iii) above, emphasised that disbanding the SCAR/SCOR GOSSOE will reduce SCAR's capability to undertake integrated marine research. This will almost certainly affect the Scientific Committee's relationship with the SCAR marine research community and may substantially reduce the collaborative research opportunities for many scientists currently able to contribute to the research underpinning much work within WG-EMM.

11.6 The Scientific Committee noted the above situation with concern and encouraged SCAR to ensure that it maintains an effective mechanism for developing and coordinating new collaborative research programs in marine sciences.

11.7 In respect of paragraph 11.1(iv)(c) above, the Scientific Committee agreed that the compilation of a report on the status of the Antarctic environment is likely to be a major task. It requested the Commission to consult with the Scientific Committee before any CCAMLR involvement in the compilation of such a report is agreed.

SCOR

11.8 SC-CAMLR-XV/BG/30 reported on the 32nd Executive Meeting of SCOR held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 14 to 16 November 1995.

11.9 The UK introduced the report (SC-CAMLR-XV/BG/18) of the CCAMLR Observer (Dr Priddle) to the 23rd General Meeting of SCOR. With respect to items of special relevance to CCAMLR, it was noted that:

- (i) the work of WG-105 (the Impact of World Fisheries Harvests on the Stability and Diversity of Marine Ecosystems) could have relevance to WG-FSA;
- (ii) implementation of SO-GLOBEC programs has been delayed, but the steering committee (now chaired by Dr E. Hofmann (USA)) has been reorganised; field work is expected to start in 1999;
- (iii) the Global Ocean Observation System (GOOS) is developing a Living Marine Resources Module (LMR) and held a planning meeting in March 1996;
- (iv) an ICES meeting entitled 'Role of Physical and Biological Processes in the Recruitment Dynamics of Marine Populations' will be held in Baltimore, USA, in September 1997; and
- (v) only an abstract of the CCAMLR report had been available in the SCOR meeting papers; it was suggested that CCAMLR should submit more detailed information, especially on its ecosystem monitoring and modelling activities.

11.10 The Scientific Committee acknowledged this report with thanks. It requested the Secretariat to contact SCOR to acquire further information on paragraphs 11.9(i) to (iv) above and to ensure that SCOR receives appropriate information on activities of CCAMLR relevant to SCOR initiatives for all meetings of SCOR, its relevant working groups and related bodies. Surprise was expressed that despite the GOOS LMR planning meeting noting that the CEMP is a commendable model for planning and implementing the LMR module (CCAMLR-XV/BG/21; see also paragraph 11.17), SCOR had apparently not contacted CCAMLR before or after this meeting.

IWC

11.11 The observer from SC-IWC, Mr Ichii, noted the establishment of a new subcommittee under the SC-IWC on the influence of environmental factors on cetaceans. The subcommittee is expected to seek close cooperation with SC-CAMLR and WG-EMM.

11.12 Mr Ichii pointed out that in IWC, cetacean studies have mostly been conducted independently of prey availability and environmental parameters. In CCAMLR, on the other hand, cetaceans are excluded from the ecosystem assessment. Therefore collaboration between CCAMLR and IWC can be expected to be beneficial.

11.13 The report of the IWC Workshop on Climate Change and Cetaceans (SC-CAMLR-XV/BG/13) recommended the establishment of a joint CCAMLR/IWC working group to consider collaborative work in the Southern Ocean.

11.14 The Scientific Committee felt that establishing a working group was premature. It would prefer first to involve an expert from IWC in the work of WG-EMM and then to discuss potential collaboration. Accordingly, it was proposed to invite IWC to send an appropriate representative to the next meeting of WG-EMM (paragraphs 11.27 to 11.30).

11.15 The report of the CCAMLR Observer to IWC (SC-CAMLR-XV/BG/16) noted that in respect of queries about the minimum effort required to carry out statistically reliable whale observations on 'platforms of opportunity', SC-IWC was unable to provide general advice due to differences in the design of surveys and the species targeted. Therefore, if CCAMLR Members wish to include systematic whale sightings in their surveys, they should seek advice directly from the IWC secretariat.

CCSBT

11.16 Dr Hermes was the CCAMLR Observer present at the CCSBT-ERS Working Group. Information from this working group on tuna-seabird interactions was made available for use by WG-FSA (Annex 5, paragraphs 7.66 and 7.67).

IOC

11.17 Dr Kock (CCAMLR Observer) reported on the First Meeting of the Southern Ocean Forum of the IOC held in Bremerhaven, Germany, from 9 to 11 September 1996. In his presentation on CCAMLR activities at the meeting, he emphasised the importance of incorporating environmental features (sea-ice etc.) into CCAMLR ecosystem assessments. Routine monitoring of sea-ice conditions and SST has provided CCAMLR with very useful information on environmental variability on scales of integrated study regions (ISRs) and statistical subareas. However, he also pointed at the mismatch of scales which is often apparent between CCAMLR-related biological programs, mostly

addressing events operating on micro- and meso-scales, and oceanographic programs, often related to physical processes operating on large or ocean basin scales.

11.18 He noted that in Recommendation IOCSOC-VI.5 of the Sixth Session of the IOC Regional Committee for the Southern Ocean, CEMP is especially commended as a model for planning and implementation of the developing LMR module of GOOS (see paragraph 11.9(iii)). He concluded that in order to address problems of particular relevance to CCAMLR, such as krill flux, it appears to be more beneficial for the Scientific Committee at present to design its own specific joint oceanographic/biological programs with the assistance of oceanographers, instead of trying to accommodate some of these questions into large programs primarily designed to study oceanographic processes on various scales.

11.19 The Scientific Committee shared the concerns raised by Dr Kock. It noted that CCAMLR-XV/BG/21 suggests that IOC, in reconstituting its Regional Committee for the Southern Ocean (IOCSOC), appeared to be trying to create an umbrella organisation seeking to coordinate an enormous range and diversity of activities in the Southern Ocean, many of which already have well-developed coordination and interaction. A number of Recommendations of IOCSOC (e.g. Southern Ocean Ecosystems and their Living Resources, Pollution and Monitoring in the Southern Ocean, International Cooperation in the Southern Ocean) relate to fundamental aspects of CCAMLR's work. However it appears that few invitations were issued by IOC to scientists responsible for coordinating CCAMLR's work in these fields. Furthermore, the International Advisory Group to the Chairman of IOCSOC (Dr M. Tilzer, Germany) contains no-one with connections to CCAMLR. The Scientific Committee drew its concerns on these matters to the attention of the Commission.

ICCAT

11.20 Mr L. López Abellán (Spain) introduced document SC-CAMLR-XV/BG/19 which reports on the ICCAT symposium held in the Azores, Portugal, in June 1996. He pointed out as interesting future work of the organisation the clarification of 'the precautionary approach' and its application in tuna fisheries as well as a future symposium on tuna fisheries worldwide.

Reports from CCAMLR Observers to Other Meetings

11.21 Dr de la Mare reported on behalf of Dr Kerry from the Third International Penguin Symposium which was held in Cape Town, South Africa, 2 to 6 September 1996. It was convened by Dr J. Cooper. Approximately 50 oral and 40 poster papers were presented on a wide variety of

topics. Papers will be published in a special issue of *Journal of Marine Ornithology*. Of interest to CCAMLR were a number of papers on the foraging ecology of king, emperor, and Adélie penguins. Other papers, covering a variety of penguin species, included breeding biology, diseases, treatment of oiled penguins, population biology, conservation and the maintenance of captive birds.

11.22 SC-CAMLR-XV/BG/6 reported on the workshop 'Harvesting krill: ecological impact, assessment, products and markets' held in Vancouver, Canada, from 14 to 16 November 1995.

11.23 The Scientific Committee noted that the workshop had provided a highly appropriate forum for publicising CCAMLR's work, and as a result the CCAMLR approach is likely to be used as a model for other developing euphausiid fisheries.

11.24 The workshop produced a report in the Fisheries Centre Report Series of the University of British Columbia (UBC). A multi-author book (edited by Prof. A. Pitcher of UBC, and Dr Everson, WG-EMM's Convener) is planned for publication in 1998. A number of scientists involved with CCAMLR will contribute to this book, which again reflects well on CCAMLR's experience and approach to management.

11.25 Finally, of potential interest to CCAMLR is that the workshop indicated that North American aquaculture feed markets have the potential to absorb tens or hundreds of thousands of tonnes of krill. Should local fisheries be unable to meet these needs, krill harvesting in CCAMLR waters could become more important.

Future Cooperation

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

- Seventeenth Session of the CWP on Fishery Statistics, March 1997, Hobart, Australia – the Secretariat;
- ICES Annual Science Conference, September 1997, Baltimore, Maryland, USA – Ms I. Lutchman (UK);
- IWC Scientific Committee, September–October 1997, Bournemouth, UK – Mr Ichii;
- ICES Symposium – Seabirds in the Marine Environment, November 1996, Glasgow, UK – Dr Croxall;

- Symposium on the Antarctic and Global Change, July 1997, Hobart, Australia – Australia;
- International Symposium on Environmental Research in the Antarctic, December 1996, Tokyo, Japan – Dr Fukuchi;
- 9th meeting of SCAR-GOSEAC, July 1997, Bremerhaven, Germany – Dr Fanta; and
- SCAR Workshop on Evolutionary Biology of Antarctic Organisms, September 1997, Curitiba, Brazil – Dr Fanta.

Observers at Scientific Committee Working Group Meetings

11.27 In 1995, the Scientific Committee decided that it will consider the invitation of observers from international organisations to the next meeting of the Scientific Committee and to its working groups during the 1996/97 intersessional period.

11.28 CCAMLR has received an application from IUCN (intergovernmental and non-governmental) and IWC (governmental) to send observers to meetings of WG-EMM. Article XXIII, paragraph 3 of the CCAMLR Convention directs the Scientific Committee to seek to develop cooperative working relationships with intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations which can contribute to its work. Rule 19(e) of the Scientific Committee's Rules of Procedure provides that the Committee may invite observers to attend meetings of its subsidiary bodies, unless a Member of the Committee objects.

11.29 The Scientific Committee recognised that both IWC and IUCN have strong interests related to ecosystem monitoring and management. The Scientific Committee also recognised that observers from these organisations could contribute to the work of WG-EMM.

11.30 The Scientific Committee agreed that IWC and IUCN should be invited to send observers with expertise in the substance of WG-EMM's work to the next meeting of WG-EMM. The Scientific Committee requested that the Chairman consult with these organisations to determine the names of their nominees and to convey this information to the Members in advance of the meeting in accordance with Rule 19(e).