

**REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING
OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
(Hobart, Australia, 25 to 29 October 1999)

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 The Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources met under the Chairmanship of Dr D. Miller (South Africa) from 25 to 29 October 1999 at the Wrest Point Hotel, Hobart, Australia.

1.2 Representatives from the following Members attended the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, European Community, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

1.3 The Chairman welcomed to the meeting observers from Denmark in respect of the Faroe Islands, ASOC, SCAR, IUCN and IWC, and encouraged them to participate in the meeting as appropriate.

1.4 The List of Participants is given in Annex 1. The List of Documents considered during the meeting is given in Annex 2.

1.5 The following rapporteurs were appointed to prepare the report of the Scientific Committee:

- Dr R. Holt (USA), Fishery Status and Trends and Crab Resources;
- Dr P. Penhale (USA), Species Monitored in the CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program;
- Mr B. Baker (Australia) and Mr J. Cooper (IUCN), Assessment of Incidental Mortality;
- Mr B. Watkins (South Africa), Marine Mammal and Bird Populations;
- Dr S. Nicol (Australia), Krill Resources;
- Dr G. Parkes (UK) and Mr R. Williams (Australia), Fish Resources;
- Ms I. Lutchman (UK), Squid Resources;
- Dr A. Constable (Australia), Ecosystem Monitoring and Management, and New and Exploratory Fisheries;
- Dr I. Everson (UK), Management under Conditions of Uncertainty about Stock Size and Sustainable Yield, and New and Exploratory Fisheries;
- Prof. B. Fernholm (Sweden), Cooperation with Other Organisations; and
- Dr D. Ramm and Ms N. Slicer (Secretariat), all other matters.

Adoption of Agenda

1.6 The Provisional Agenda had been circulated prior to the meeting and was adopted without change (Annex 3).

Report of the Chairman

Intersessional Meetings

- 1.7 Three CCAMLR meetings were held during the 1998/99 intersessional period:
- (i) the planning meeting for the CCAMLR 2000 Krill Synoptic Survey of Area 48 (Cambridge, UK, 8 to 12 March 1999);
 - (ii) the meeting of WG-EMM (Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, 19 to 29 July 1999); and
 - (iii) the meeting of WG-FSA, including ad hoc WG-IMALF (Hobart, Australia, 11 to 21 October 1999).
- 1.8 On behalf of the Scientific Committee, the Chairman thanked the conveners for their significant contributions to the meetings. The report of WG-EMM is attached as Annex 4 and that of WG-FSA as Annex 5.

Intersessional Activities of CCAMLR Members

1.9 Fisheries conducted in the Convention Area during the 1998/99 season targeted *Champocephalus gunnari* (267 tonnes), *Dissostichus* spp. (13 119 tonnes), *Euphausia superba* (103 318 tonnes) and crabs (4 tonnes), and these included some new and exploratory fisheries (see section 2 and CCAMLR-XVIII/BG/9). Scientific observers conducted 41 trips aboard fishing vessels, and provided complete coverage of longlining and trawling for finfish and potting for crabs (see section 3 and SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/11). The Scientific Committee thanked all scientific observers for their great efforts during the past season, and for continuing to develop and improve the amount and quality of data collected.

1.10 In 1998/99, representatives of the Scientific Committee had attended various international meetings, including IOTC, CEP, IWC, GOSEAC, CWP-18, ICES and the Second International Krill Symposium which CCAMLR had co-sponsored (see section 11).

1.11 The Scientific Committee learnt, with great sadness, of the passing of Martin White of the British Antarctic Survey, UK. Martin was a distinguished Antarctic fish biologist, and had been an active and highly respected member of the CCAMLR community. He died on 3 July 1999, after a short battle with cancer.