

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Reports of Observers from International Organisations

SCAR

11.1 The Scientific Committee noted with pleasure the presence of an observer from SCAR at this meeting, and believed that it would facilitate collaboration between SCAR and CCAMLR.

11.2 The SCAR Observer, Dr Fanta, explained that SCAR will not meet this year and that the next meeting will be in Tokyo, Japan, in July 2000. A number of SCAR subsidiary groups have, however, met and are reported on in paragraphs 11.33 to 11.35.

ASOC

11.3 The ASOC Observer made the following statement:

‘It appears to ASOC that this committee is making increasingly fewer of its decisions based on the precautionary approach. Instead it appears to be relying on political accommodation among its Members. It is also disturbing that this committee knows less this year about the status of fish species under its jurisdiction and is divided on how to fill these serious data gaps.

Member governments proposing new and exploratory fisheries are disregarding IMALF’s recommended conservation measures in favour of greater commercial gain.

ASOC calls on this committee to advise the Commission to take the following steps to regain control of these fisheries:

- enact a moratorium on the current legal fishery and all new and exploratory fisheries for *D. eleginoides* using as a scientific rationale that the spawning season of *D. eleginoides* happens to coincide with the best time to avoid seabird mortality;
- develop agreed-upon penalties to enhance compliance with these conservation measures (including all by-catch measures);
- call on Member governments to support new research surveys;
- embrace the environmental impact assessment provisions of the Antarctic Environmental Protocol to the Antarctic Treaty; and
- embrace the Appendix II listing proposal for *D. eleginoides* at CITES as the most effective mechanism to apply a rigorous catch documentation scheme on non-CCAMLR parties fishing for the species. If the scheme is not rigorous, an absolute prohibition on trade is the only option.

ASOC urges this committee to be faithful to its obligations under Article II and to base all conservation and management advice to the Commission on the precautionary approach.’

IUCN

11.4 IUCN considered the most serious conservation issue currently facing the Southern Ocean is IUU fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. and its attendant unsustainable bird mortality. To address this problem, the closed season for longline fisheries should be extended to 30 April, after most seabird breeding in the Convention Area is completed. IUCN supported efforts by CCAMLR to introduce a catch documentation scheme for *Dissostichus* spp. IUCN wished to recommend to CCAMLR Members that undertake longline fishing in the Southern Ocean that they adopt FAO IPOA–Seabirds. Further, IUCN recommended that CCAMLR investigates the role that Marine Protected Areas can play in conserving the resources of the Southern Ocean.

IWC

11.5 The IWC Observer, Dr K.-H. Kock (Germany), reported that the last few years have seen a development in the IWC towards more openness and collaboration. This is clearly demonstrated with respect to cooperation during the CCAMLR-2000 Survey, where the IWC will place whale observers on the vessels.

FAO, SCOR, IOC, FFA, ICCAT, IOFC,
SPC, CCSBT, I-ATTC and UNEP

11.6 No observers from FAO, SCOR, IOC, FFA, ICCAT, IOFC, SPC, CCSBT, I-ATTC and UNEP were present at the meeting.

Reports of SC-CAMLR Representatives at Meetings of other International Organisations

CEP

11.7 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, the Scientific Committee Chairman, to the Second Meeting of CEP, Lima, Peru, from 24 to 28 May 1999 (CCAMLR-XVIII/BG/23). He drew attention to a lack of knowledge of the work of CCAMLR within CEP and had proposed a reciprocal arrangement whereby a representative of CEP would attend SC-CAMLR meetings as an observer.

11.8 CEP had considered the report by its State of the Antarctic Environment Report (SAER) intersessional contact group. The Scientific Committee asked its working groups, WG-EMM and WG-FSA, to consider what relevant information they may be able to provide for SAER so that this information may be forwarded to CEP.

11.9 The SCAR Observer, Dr Fanta, drew attention to the report (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/27, p. 6) indicating that GOSEAC has identified key variables for which data should be assembled for SAER.

1998 ICES Symposium

11.10 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, the Scientific Committee Chairman, to the 1998 ICES Symposium (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/2) which indicated that ICES is addressing similar problems to CCAMLR.

11.11 An interesting conclusion of the symposium was the idea of establishing a library of case studies of fisheries where management had failed as a tool to learning from past mistakes. Within the Convention Area, that could include the *N. rossii* fishery, although extensive fishing had taken place over a decade before the CCAMLR Convention came into force.

11.12 It was noted that the papers from the symposium were of general interest to CCAMLR and should be included in the CCAMLR library when available. Since the symposium proceedings were being published by his home institute, the Scientific Committee Chairman undertook to provide a copy to the Secretariat.

IWC

11.13 A report on the 51st Meeting of the IWC, held in Grenada, West Indies, from 3 to 15 May 1999, was presented to the Scientific Committee by the IWC Observer, Dr Kock. Collaboration between the IWC and CCAMLR is now well established. Two workshops were held in Aberdeen and Cambridge, UK, in March 1999 in preparation for the CCAMLR-2000 Survey in January and February 2000, and the presence of whale observers on board all CCAMLR vessels. In addition, the IWC is sending a vessel to conduct whale observations in close collaboration with CCAMLR vessels.

11.14 Further close collaboration is planned following the meeting of WG-EMM in Tenerife, Spain, in July 1999, and in the months prior to the commencement of the krill survey. All the scientists to act as whale observers on CCAMLR vessels during the krill survey had been nominated by September 1999. Further collaboration of the two organisations is envisaged for 2001 when a workshop is planned to take place with attendance of scientists from both organisations. This workshop would analyse whale observations in relation to oceanographic, krill and other data in order to better understand meso- and small-scale movements of whales in relation to oceanic features, shelf contours and prey abundance.

COFI

11.15 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, Mr Cooper, to the 23rd Session of FAO COFI (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/4).

11.16 COFI had unanimously adopted its IPOA–Seabirds. The report can be found on the FAO website. The Scientific Committee recommended that the plan be adopted by Member nations and that national reports be produced.

CWP

11.17 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, Dr Ramm, to the Eighteenth Session of CWP (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/9).

11.18 The Data Manager noted that the meeting had been very useful in bringing colleagues together and he noted, in particular, interaction with the IWC Data Manager.

11.19 FAO is reported to be producing new data-entry lists for sharks and also formatted identification sheets for its website for 20 important shark species.

11.20 Dr Miller indicated that this interaction among organisations holding fisheries data is

likely to be the beginning of a process of increased collaboration.

International Conference on Integrated Fisheries Monitoring

11.21 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee, to the International Conference on Integrated Fisheries Monitoring (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/15).

11.22 The conference had noted that the increasing deployment of on-board observers (whether for scientific or compliance purposes) has considerable potential to improve the quality of fisheries data and even change the behaviour of fishing vessels.

Second International Symposium on Krill

11.23 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, Dr Nicol, to the Second International Symposium on Krill (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/18).

11.24 The Second International Symposium on Krill, which was partially funded by CCAMLR, was held from 23 to 27 August 1999 at the University of California, Santa Cruz, USA (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/18). Some 77 talks and posters included studies on distribution, oceanography, biochemistry, physiology, demography, genetics, parasitology, modelling effects of UV-B, behaviour, swarming, development, feeding and acoustics. The major emphasis was on Antarctic krill and on other species of actual or proposed commercial potential (*Euphausiापacificа* and *Meganyctiphanesnorvegica*). A highlight of the symposium was the participation of a large number of young investigators whose presence was facilitated by the funding provided by CCAMLR and other sponsors. The proceedings of the meeting are to be published as rapidly as possible in the *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences*. The local host committee, in particular the convener Prof. M. Mangel (USA), are to be congratulated for providing a relaxed and friendly atmosphere which encouraged intense discussion and lively debate.

11.25 The Scientific Committee joined in thanking the local organisation, particularly Prof. Mangel, for arranging this fruitful meeting.

ICES Annual Science Conference

11.26 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, Dr B. Sjöstrand (Sweden), to the ICES Annual Science Conference.

11.27 The report was presented by Prof. Fernholm who noted that ICES is working, among other things, on developing sustainability criteria, the language of fisheries science and management, and ecosystem management – all subjects of considerable relevance to CCAMLR.

IOTC

11.28 The Scientific Committee noted the Observer's report (CCAMLR-XVIII/BG/32).

International Workshop on Interannual Variability in the Southern Ocean

11.29 The Scientific Committee looked forward to receiving a report from the international workshop 'Large-scale Variability in the Southern Ocean – Patterns, Mechanisms and Impacts' held at the British Antarctic Survey, UK, in August 1999.

FAO Fisheries Global Information System

11.30 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the Data Manager concerning correspondence about FAO Fisheries Global Information System (FIGIS).

11.31 FIGIS intends to collect, put together and publish global fisheries statistics and has asked CCAMLR if it can supply data for that purpose.

11.32 The Scientific Committee advised that it would be suitable to submit the information contained in the *Statistical Bulletin* to FAO for the FIGIS project. Such information is already in the public domain.

GOSEAC

11.33 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, Dr Fanta, to SCAR-GOSEAC (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/27). The main points of interest to CCAMLR were:

- (i) The revised terms of reference of the group include some areas that are of common interest to CCAMLR, such as: environmental education and training, protected areas, requirements on environmental management and conservation, environmental criteria relating to research activities and associated logistical support, environmental assessment and conservation.
- (ii) Agenda items of particular interest to CCAMLR were:
 - (a) criteria for the evaluation of the levels of harm caused to the environment by human activities should include the threshold concept and a scaling of impacts could be developed in the future. An exchange of information related to the program on marine debris and the establishment of regulatory conservation measures by CCAMLR, and the standardisation of monitoring methods by GOSEAC could be achieved;
 - (b) scientific definitions of dependent and associated ecosystems were elaborated taking into account CCAMLR's ecosystem approach;
 - (c) environmental damage caused by human activities and the levels of acceptable damage, as well as containment, mitigation, clean up and restoration were considered. These concepts relate to the entanglement and mortality of marine mammals and birds in artefacts released from fishing vessels into the environment; and
 - (d) the Treaty requested that SCAR, in consultation with CCAMLR and other organisations, should review the list of Specially Protected Species (SPS) listed in Appendix A to the Environmental Protocol. This requires the action of different subcommittees and groups of specialists, and the Working Group on Biology, and will be considered at the next SCAR meeting.

- (iii) The content and scientific justification of the draft management plan for SPA No. 4, Balleny Islands, Northern Ross Sea, Antarctica, proposed by New Zealand (CCAMLR-XVIII/24) was reviewed by GOSEAC. The following considerations were made:
 - (a) the scientific justification should be given for the protection of the marine area;
 - (b) the feeding grounds of birds and seals should be shown on the map;
 - (c) a more detailed map for each one of the islands is required for the establishment of the protected sites;
 - (d) the bathymetric contour lines should be included in the marine area to be protected;
 - (e) routes for ship traffic should be included;
 - (f) the marine area should be reduced to a smaller size;
 - (g) considering the varied aspects of the area, and activities within the area, it was suggested that it could be presented as a Multiple Use Area and contain some Protected Areas; and
 - (h) it was recommended that the plan should have an explanatory introduction directed to CCAMLR and that it should be presented in time for discussions by WG-EMM.
- (iv) A list of standard techniques for environmental monitoring, based on the results of the SCAR/IUCN Workshop on Antarctic Environmental Monitoring will be published at the beginning of 2000. This will be followed by studies on the production of biological environmental monitoring standard methods to be undertaken in conjunction with CCAMLR.
- (v) CCAMLR issues were reported to GOSEAC and great concern was expressed about the high amount of illegal and unreported catches of *D. eleginoides*, and the danger of a serious depletion of the fish population and of threatened birds that are accidentally caught in longline fisheries.
- (vi) The next meeting of GOSEAC will be in 2000. The venue and dates are not yet known.

SCAR Subcommittee on Evolutionary Biology of Antarctic Organisms

11.34 The Scientific Committee noted the report of the CCAMLR Observer, Dr Fanta, to the SCAR Subcommittee on Evolutionary Biology of Antarctic Organisms (SC-CAMLR-XVIII/BG/29). The main points of interest to CCAMLR were:

- (i) A Workshop on Evolutionary Biology of Antarctic Organisms was held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 12 to 15 May 1999.
- (ii) The meeting received 20 invited speakers on evolution, gene flow, biodiversity and adaptation, and the present status and trends in evolutionary biology of Antarctic organisms were discussed.

- (iii) At the subsequent meeting of the subcommittee, the criteria to be used in the development of an integrated multinational, multidisciplinary research program within SCAR were established.
- (iv) Close collaboration with CCAMLR is planned, when some areas of common interest will be developed. The integrative plan of research into gene flow and molecular genetics will provide useful information on the definition of stocks. It can also identify the origin of birds that are killed by longline fishing.
- (v) Biodiversity issues might be considered by CCAMLR in developing its ecosystem approach to management.
- (vi) The group will meet again from 24 to 27 March 2000 in Kent, UK, to finalise the proposal of the plan (EVOLANTA) to be presented to the SCAR Working Group on Biology meeting.

SCAR-BBS and SCAR-GSS

11.35 The Scientific Committee noted that activities of these groups had been discussed in paragraphs 4.33 to 4.36, 4.93 and 4.94.

Future Cooperation

11.36 The Scientific Committee noted that WG-EMM considered a number of international meetings which were of relevance to its work:

- (i) CMS, 10 to 16 November 1999, Cape Town, South Africa – Mr Cooper.
- (ii) Fisheries Western Australia in Cooperation with FAO – Use of Property Rights in Fisheries Management, 15 to 17 November 1999, Fremantle, Western Australia – no nomination.
- (iii) Second Session IOTC, 7 to 10 December 1999, Japan – no nomination.
- (iv) Scientific Committee on International Geosphere–Biosphere Program, 20 to 24 February 2000, Mexico – no nomination.
- (v) CITES, 10 to 20 April 2000, Gigiri, Kenya – an observer will be sought.
- (vi) 52nd Meeting of the IWC Scientific Committee, Adelaide, Australia, June 2000 – Dr Kock.
- (vii) Second International Conference on Albatrosses and Petrels, 8 to 12 May 2000, Hawaii, USA – Mr Cooper.
- (viii) CEP, to be held during the ATCM-XXIV, May 2000 – Chairman of the Scientific Committee.
- (ix) Convention on Biological Diversity, Fifth Meeting of the Parties, 15 to 26 May 2000, Nairobi, Kenya – no nomination.
- (x) Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (SCOR), 9 to 13 July 2000, Brest – Prof. M. Fukuchi (Japan).

- (xi) The Fisheries Society of the British Isles, Annual International Symposium – Biology of Polar Fish, 24 to 28 July 2000, Cambridge, UK – Dr Everson.
- (xii) ICES Symposium on 100 Years of Science under ICES, 1 to 3 August 2000, Helsinki, Finland – Dr Sjöstrand.
- (xiii) Fourth International Penguin Conference, 4 to 8 September 2000, La Serena, Chile – Prof. J. Valencia (Chile).
- (xiv) International Fisheries Forum, date to be determined, Auckland, New Zealand – Ms J. Molloy (New Zealand).
- (xv) ICES Annual Science Conference, 25 September to 4 October 2000, Bruges, Belgium – Mr W. Vanhee (Belgium).
- (xvi) XXVI SCAR, July 2000, Tokyo, Japan – an observer will be sought (Japan).
- (xvii) SCAR Working Group on Biology, 10 to 14 July 2000, Tokyo, Japan – Dr Fanta.
- (xviii) SCAR-GOSEAC, venue and date to be decided – Dr Fanta.
- (xix) SCAR Subcommittee on Evolutionary Biology of Antarctic Organisms, 24 to 27 March 2000, Kent, UK – Dr Fanta.
- (xx) SCAR-GSS, July 2000, Tokyo, Japan – Prof. Torres.