



CCAMLR

COMM CIRC 10/129
SC CIRC 10/74

Wednesday, 15 December 2010

Sinking of Insung No. 1

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TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

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Sinking of *Insung No. 1*

New Zealand has requested that the attached letter regarding the tragic sinking of the *Insung No. 1* in Subarea 88.2 be circulated to all Members of the Commission.

Andrew Wright
Executive Secretary

Attch.

14 December 2010

Andrew Wright
Executive Secretary
Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
PO Box 213
North Hobart
Tasmania 7001
Australia


Dear Andrew

I refer to the Secretariat's email dated 13 December sent by David Ramm to CCAMLR Participating Members in the toothfish fisheries in Subareas 88.1 and 88.2 concerning the sinking of the *Insung No.1* in Subarea 88.2. I should like to provide further details regarding the incident which occurred in New Zealand's search and rescue coordination area.

The *Insung No.1*, a fishing vessel flagged to the Republic of Korea, sank at about 6.30am Monday 13 December (New Zealand standard time) in the Ross Sea about 1000 nautical miles (1850km) north of McMurdo base. Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand launched coordination of a rescue operation after learning of the incident at midday NZT. On the basis of information received that the crew were not wearing life jackets or immersion suits and that expected survival time is ten minutes, a Royal New Zealand Air Force plane was not deployed.

Of the 42 members on board the vessel, 20 have been recovered alive, four bodies have been recovered and one person died after the rescue. The other 17 members are missing. The crew included nationals from the Republic of Korea, China, Indonesia, Viet Nam and the Philippines. A Russian observer was also on board the vessel.

The *Insung No.1* is a 58 metre long-liner and was licensed to fish in the Ross Sea this season. It is not known at this stage what caused the vessel to sink or why no distress communication was received prior to it sinking. The 20 survivors and 5 deceased are on board the fishing vessel *No. 707 Hongjin*. Information from the fishing company which operates *Insung No.1* indicates that the survivors will be returned to Bluff, New Zealand.

We will provide further relevant information as appropriate. I should be grateful if you would circulate this information to the CCAMLR Members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Schwalger'.

Carolyn Schwalger
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade