



CCAMLR

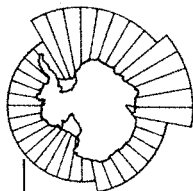
COMM CIRC 03/74
SC CIRC 03/17

Friday, 12 September 2003

Meeting of the Joint Assessment Group

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TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

COMM CIRC 03/74
SC CIRC 03/17

12 September 2003

Meeting of the Joint Assessment Group

Members are reminded of the decision taken at CCAMLR-XXI to establish a Joint Assessment Group (JAG) to consider improvement of the estimation of total removals of toothfish and to develop a methodology for the assessment used to determine compliance with CCAMLR conservation measures (CCAMLR-XXI, paragraphs 8.10 to 8.14).

Members' attention is drawn to the attached letter and Provisional Agenda from the Convener of the group, Mr E. Spencer Garrett (USA), proposing that, in accordance with CCAMLR-XXI, paragraph 8.13, the first meeting of JAG be held at the CCAMLR Headquarters in Hobart on 23 and 24 October 2003.

The Convener has recommended that membership of JAG include the Chairs of the Scientific Committee and SCIC, Conveners of WG-FSA and ad hoc WG-IMAF, as well as participants from SCIC and the Scientific Committee nominated by Members.

Members are therefore requested to notify the Secretariat of nominated participants by 10 October 2003.

Dr D.G.M. Miller
Executive Secretary

Attch.

Dear Colleagues,

At CCAMLR-XXI, the Commission identified as a specific task for the 2002/03 intersessional period, that a Joint Assessment Group (JAG) be convened and its membership be comprised of members of SCIC, the Scientific Committee and WG-FSA (CCAMLR-XXI, paragraphs 8.10 to 8.14).

JAG was requested to consider, in particular, the following specific issues:

- (i) improvement of the estimation of total removals of *Dissostichus* spp. from different locations, including estimates of IUU catches;
- (ii) development of a methodology for the compliance assessment of factual data collected by scientific observers on the implementation of Conservation Measure 25-02 (2002).

It is my understanding that recommendations to be developed by JAG on the two issues mentioned above must be able to withstand both a scientific review as well as legal challenges. I have begun developing 'terms of reference' for the establishment of JAG. Since there was little response from Members expressing interest in JAG intersessionally, it is essential that we hold a pre-CCAMLR meeting of JAG if we are to make significant progress on these issues during the upcoming CCAMLR meeting.

Therefore, I recommend that the first meeting of JAG be held in Hobart on 23 and 24 October 2003. A Provisional Agenda is attached.

Mr E. Spencer Garrett
JAG Convener

JOINT ASSESSMENT GROUP

Provisional Agenda (23–24 October 2003, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia)

23 October 2003

0900 h	Meeting objectives
1000	Status of the Joint Assessment Group
1200	Lunch
1330	Terms of reference
1500	Workplan

24 October 2003

0900 h	Workplan (continued)
1030	Preparing advice to SCIC
1200	Lunch
1330	Review and adoption of advice to SCIC