



CCAMLR

COMM CIRC 10/18
SC CIRC 10/09

Friday, 12 February 2010

2010 Meetings of WG-SAM and WG-EMM

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**TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION
AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

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2010 Meetings of WG-SAM and WG-EMM

As Members are aware, WG-SAM and WG-EMM are scheduled to meet for three weeks in mid-2010. At CCAMLR-XXVIII, no Member had extended an invitation to host these meetings in accordance with the well-established 25-year precedent of rotating such meetings between the Members. In the absence of an offer by a Member to host the 2010 meetings of WG-EMM and WG-SAM, the Commission recognised that the important capacity-building component derived from these meetings being hosted by Members could be lost (CCAMLR-XXVIII, paragraph 4.54).

South Africa has recently indicated a willingness to host the abovementioned meetings. However, with its hosting of the Soccer World Cup and the short lead-in time available for organisation, South Africa has also indicated that it would require financial support to ensure that the meetings are able to go ahead in Cape Town in late July–early August 2010. The Secretariat has consulted with Norway, as the most recent WG-EMM and WG-SAM host, and estimates that the financial support necessary to hold these meetings in South Africa would be in the order of A\$45 000.

Members should note that the primary purpose of the recently established ‘General Science Capacity Special Fund’ is to secure wider participation, not least from young scientists, in the work of the Scientific Committee, to promote burden sharing and build capacity within the Scientific Committee, assisting with the collection, study and exchange of information relating to the marine living resources to which the Convention applies (CCAMLR-XXVIII, paragraph 16.9). The Commission agreed that there is some urgency in providing for wider scientific capacity development during the 2009/10 intersessional period (CCAMLR-XXVIII, paragraph 16.11).

Having further consulted with South Africa and Norway, in accordance with CCAMLR-XXVIII, paragraph 16.11, the Secretariat is requesting Members to inform the Secretariat by 1 March 2010 if they are unable to support an allocation of up to A\$45 000 being provided from the ‘General Science Capacity Special Fund’ so that South Africa can host the 2010 WG-SAM and WG-EMM meetings during a three-week period in July–August 2010.

Dr D.G.M. Miller
Executive Secretary