



CCAMLR

COMM CIRC 12/56
SC CIRC 12/30

Monday, 7 May 2012

Fishing capacity and effort in CCAMLR's exploratory fisheries - comments by the Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea has requested that the attached information be circulated to all Members.

Telephone: +61 3 6210 1111

Fax: +61 3 6224 8744

Email: ccamlr@ccamlr.org

Web: ccamlr.org

PO Box 213, North Hobart, Tasmania 7002 Australia

181 Macquarie Street, Hobart, Tasmania 7000 Australia

Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries



#188, Gwanmunro, Gwacheon-si, Gyeonggi-do, Korea, 427-719

International Fisheries Organization Division,

Tel)+82-2-500-2451,2475, Fax)+82-503-9104

Homepage) www.mifaff.go.kr

May 04, 2012

Ms. Aleksandra Kordecka
Head of the EU Delegation to CCAMLR
European Commission
Brussels
BELGIUM

Dear Aleksandra,

I write on this occasion to respond to the EU's request for Members' comments on its proposal on limiting fishing capacity and effort in exploratory fisheries (CCAMLR XXX-38).

I first would like to appreciate the EU's continuous efforts to contribute to achieving the objectives of CCAMLR.

Having said that, I would like to raise some questions on the practicability of the EU's proposal. The EU proposed two options for capacity and effort control—limiting vessel effort by putting a cap on the number of vessels, fishing days or hook numbers per member and limiting vessel quotas. As we are aware, setting such limits by members through negotiation is a long and arduous work, which requires Members' agreement on appropriate reference points and criteria for catch and effort history. Given the subjectivity of such criteria, it is often very difficult and takes a long time to reach consensus on those issues.

Also, the Antarctic Treaty and CCAMLR Convention stipulate the freedom of scientific investigation, so exploratory fishing operations in the Antarctic Ocean should in principle be open to any state which is committed to exercise their rights in a responsible manner.

Though it is imposing logistical and administrative burdens on the Secretariat, the current TAC system is working properly and scientific advice indicates the toothfish stocks in the Convention Area are relatively stable. Also, we need to take into account the fact that CCAMLR's exploratory fishing is different in many aspects from other RFMOs' commercial fishing practices. Considering the above, Korea is of the view that the current management system should be retained.

On the scientific front, I concur with the EU's emphasis on the importance of science in the work of the Commission and I hope that discussions will take place to find ways to encourage all members to participate and contribute to strengthening the scientific basis of the Commission.

Again, I truly appreciate the efforts extended by the EU and Korea will actively participate in discussions that contribute to meeting the objectives of the Convention.

Best Regards,

H. Kwon

Hyun-Wook Kwon

Deputy Director of International Fisheries Organization

Distant Water Fisheries Cooperation Bureau

Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Republic of Korea

Tel : 82 2 500 2414/ Fax : 82 2 503 9174

Email : 6103kwon@naver.com

Cc : Mr. Andrew Wright

Executive Secretary of CCAMLR