REPORT FROM THE CCSBT OBSERVER (NEW ZEALAND) TO THE 38TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES

(21 October to 1 November 2019, Hobart, Australia)

CCSBT Observer (New Zealand)

- 1 The Thirty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR-38) was held in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, from 21 October to 1 November 2019. It was chaired by Mr Fernando Curcio Ruigómez (Spain).
- 2 The following Members of the Commission were represented: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, People's Republic of China (China), European Union (EU), France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Namibia, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation (Russia), South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK), United States of America (US), and Uruguay. The Commission welcomed the Kingdom of the Netherlands as a new member.
- 3 Other Contracting Parties, Bulgaria, Canada, Cook Islands, Finland, Greece, Mauritius, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Panama, Peru and Vanuatu were invited to attend the meeting as Observers. Canada and Finland attended. Ecuador, Luxembourg and Singapore attended the meeting as cooperating non-Contracting Parties (NCPs).
- 4 The Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP), the Association of Responsible Krill harvesting companies (ARK), the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC), the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, the Coalition of Legal Toothfish Operators (COLTO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO), INTERPOL, Oceanites Inc., the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR), and the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) attended the meeting as Observers.
- 5 The Commission considered proposals for three new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), but consensus could not be reached. Proponents noted that they would continue to work with members intersessionally and at the next meeting in an effort to reach consensus (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraphs 6.45, 6.50, 6.54).

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- 6 The Commission considered a proposal to update CCAMLR's existing resolution 30/XXCIII on climate change, however, it was unable to reach consensus (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 8.14).
- Pending further information that would be submitted in 2020, conditional agreement was reached to designate the Pine Island glacier as a stage 2 Special Area for Scientific Study (SASS) in accordance with Conservation Measure 24-04 (2017) (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 6.13).
- 8 The Commission agreed changes to conservation measure 10-09 improving the transparency of transhipment. As well as providing the Secretariat with advance notice of a proposed transhipment, Contracting Parties are now required to make a declaration following a transhipment to provide confirmation of the catch and goods that were transhipped (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 3.14).
- The Commission agreed changes to conservation measure 26-01 that prohibit the discharge of plastics in the Convention Area and extend the prohibition on dumping or discharging oil, fuel products or oily mixtures to the whole Convention Area (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 9.10).
- 10 The Commission approved a Norwegian one-year trial of net monitoring cables with mitigation to reduce seabird mortality from warp and cable strikes (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 3.20).
- 11 The Commission noted Russia's commitment to undertake a further investigation into suspected pre-season fishing in November 2017 (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 3.41).
- 12 The Commission could not reach consensus on an Australian-led toothfish research proposal in subarea 58.4.1 (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 5.44).
- 13 The Commission made some progress towards introducing a comprehensive krill management regime (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraphs 5.17–5.19).
- 14 The Commission established a General Science Capacity Fund, with an initial \$200,000 to be made available in 2020 for Working Group Conveners, special activities and the Scientific Scholarship Scheme. A panel was also established for oversight (CCAMLR-XXXVIII Paragraph 10.13).

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15 The Commission planned to hold the thirty-ninth annual meeting at the CCAMLR Headquarters in Hobart, Australia, from 19 to 30 October 2020.