



CCSBT-EC/0410/19

16. Report from the ERS Working Group

Purpose

To discuss and adopt the report of the ERS Working Group meeting held in Wellington, New Zealand on 2-5 February 2004. The ERS report is included in the meeting's papers as CCSBT-EC/0410/Rep 12.

Discussion

The report of the 5th ERS working Group meeting is submitted to the Extended Commission for consideration and adoption. The report was considered by the Scientific Committee at SC9 in September 2004. The Scientific Committee agreed not to make any comment on the ERS report.

In adopting the report, The Commission would be committing to:-

- holding a 6th meeting of the Working Group in late 2005.
- the proposed draft agenda set out in Attachment 6 of the report
- holding meetings on a two year cycle

The report also suggests that the Extended Commission give consideration to holding ERS Working Group meetings in conjunction with other meetings.

In adopting these recommendations the Extended Commission would need to take into account:-

- Holding the ERS Working Group meeting in association with the SAG/Scientific Committee would increase the duration of the meetings to three consecutive weeks. Member scientists have already indicated that the two week duration of the SAG/Scientific Committee meetings is difficult to manage.
- Preparations for the annual meeting of the Extended Commission, which is usually convened about a month after the SAG/Scientific Committee meeting, could be compromised.
- There are no other meetings regular convened under the auspices of the Extended Commission to which the ERS Working Group meeting could be added.

- The calendar for members' officials for meetings late in the year after the CCSBT annual meeting in October can be very congested. Other regional fisheries bodies' scientific meetings and annual meetings are also held at this time.

For consideration.

Prepared by the Secretariat

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