

CONSERVATION MEASURE 161/XVII^{1,2}
General Measures for New and Exploratory Longline Fisheries
for *Dissostichus* spp. in the Convention Area for the 1998/99 Season

The Commission,

Noting the need for the distribution of fishing effort and appropriate catch levels in fine-scale rectangles³ in these new fisheries,

hereby adopts the following Conservation Measure:

1. Fishing should take place over as large a geographical and bathymetric range as possible to obtain the information necessary to determine fishery potential and to avoid over-concentration of catch and effort. To this end, fishing in any fine-scale rectangle shall cease when the reported catch reaches 100 tonnes and that rectangle shall be closed to fishing for the remainder of the season. Fishing in any fine-scale rectangle shall be restricted to one vessel at any one time.
2. In order to give effect to paragraph 1 above:
 - (i) the precise geographic position of the mid-point between the start and end of the longline shall be determined using appropriate means;
 - (ii) catch and effort information for each species by fine-scale rectangle shall be reported to the Executive Secretary every five days using the Five-Day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 51/XII; and
 - (iii) the Secretariat shall notify Contracting Parties participating in these fisheries when the total longline catch for *Dissostichus eleginoides* and *Dissostichus mawsoni* combined in any fine-scale rectangle exceeds 100 tonnes.
3. The by-catch of any species in the new and exploratory fisheries other than *Dissostichus* spp. in the Statistical Subareas and Divisions concerned shall be limited to 50 tonnes.
4. The total number and weight of *Dissostichus eleginoides* and *Dissostichus mawsoni* discarded, including those with the 'jellymeat' condition, shall be reported.
- 5². Each vessel participating in the new and exploratory fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp. during the 1998/99 season shall have at least one scientific observer appointed in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation, on board throughout all fishing activities within the fishing season.

6. The data collection plan (Annex 161/A) shall be implemented. Data collected pursuant to the plan for the period up to 31 August 1999 shall be reported to CCAMLR by 30 September 1999 so that the data will be available to the 1999 meeting of the Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment. Such data taken after 31 August shall be reported to CCAMLR not later than three months after the closure of the fishery.

¹ Except for waters adjacent to the Kerguelen and Crozet Islands

² Except for waters adjacent to the Prince Edward Islands

³ A fine-scale rectangle is defined as an area of 0.5° latitude by 1° longitude with respect to the northwest corner of the Statistical Subarea or Division. The identification of each rectangle is by the latitude of its northernmost boundary and the longitude of the boundary closest to 0°.

ANNEX 161/A

DATA COLLECTION PLAN FOR NEW AND EXPLORATORY LONGLINE FISHERIES

1. All vessels will comply with conditions set by CCAMLR. These include five-day catch and effort reporting system (Conservation Measure 51/XII) and monthly fine-scale effort and biological data reporting system (Conservation Measures 121/XVI and 122/XVI) will be followed.
2. All data required by the CCAMLR *Scientific Observers Manual* for finfish fisheries will be collected. These include:
 - (i) haul-by-haul catch and catch per effort by species;
 - (ii) haul-by-haul length frequency of common species;
 - (iii) sex and gonad state of common species;
 - (iv) diet and stomach fullness;
 - (v) scales and/or otoliths for age determination;
 - (vi) by-catch of fish and other organisms; and
 - (vii) observation on occurrence and incidental mortality of seabirds and mammals in relation to fishing operations.
3. Data specific to longline fisheries will be collected. These include:
 - (i) number of fish lost at surface;
 - (ii) number of hooks set;
 - (iii) bait type;
 - (iv) baiting success (%);
 - (v) hook type;
 - (vi) setting, soak, and hauling times;
 - (vii) sea depth at each end of line on hauling; and
 - (viii) bottom type.