

Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)

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	CCAMLR	Area of Competence	Objectives	Organizational Structure	Scientific Regime
RFMO Structure	<p>Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources</p> <p>Headquarters: Hobart, Tasmania, Australia</p> <p>Convention: Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR Convention).</p> <p>Signed: May 20, 1980, Canberra, Australia.</p> <p>In force: April 7, 1982.</p> <p>www.ccamlr.org</p>	<p>The Southern Ocean surrounding Antarctica. South of 60°S latitude and between that latitude and the Antarctic Convergence. The Antarctic Convergence is a line joining the following points along latitude and longitude lines: 50°S, 0°; 50°S, 30°E; 45°S, 30°E; 45°S, 80°E; 55°S, 80°E; 55°bcS, 150°E; 60°S, 150°E; 60°S, 50°W; 50°S, 50°W; 50°S, 0°. CCAMLR area incorporates FAO Statistical Areas 48, 58 and 88.</p>	<p>To ensure the conservation, including rational use, of Antarctic living marine resources.</p>	<p>Commission (2 Standing Committees, one focuses on implementation and compliance [SCIC] and a second focuses on administration and finance [SCAF]), Scientific Committee (SC) and its Working Groups (WG); and Secretariat (Executive Secretary).</p>	<p>SC is comprised of scientific representatives and advisors from Member nations. SC provides commission summary of discussion including rationale for findings and recommendations. SC establishes permanent WGs and recommends research programs, conservation and other measures to Commission. WGs include Fish Stock Assessment (WG-FSA), Ecosystem Modeling and Management (WG-EMM), and Incidental Mortality Associated with Fishing (WG-IMAF). The CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program (CEMP) monitors key life-history parameters of selected dependent species.</p>
The Fishery EA and PA	<p>Antarctic Krill, Patagonian toothfish, Antarctic toothfish, sub-Antarctic lantern fish, mackerel icefish, sevenstar flying squid, Antarctic rock cod and crabs.</p> <p>Gear: Pots (crab), bottom trawls, bottom long lines, squid jigs.</p>	<p>Stock status assessed in some areas: Antarctic Krill - all fisheries subject to precautionary TACs.</p> <p>Depleted: Patagonian Toothfish may be significantly depleted in Subareas 58.6 and 58.7 -many stocks regulated by precautionary TACs; Mackerel icefish (Area 48) - highly variable recruitment, restricted fishery, TAC imposed around South Georgia (Subarea 48.3); Antarctic rock cod - depleted in Area 48 and 58, no directed fishery.</p> <p>Stock status unknown: Antarctic toothfish - full status unknown, regulated by precautionary TACs; Sub-Antarctic lantern fish - no fishery since 1991/1992; Sevenstar flying squid - precautionary TACs imposed.</p>	<p>Seabirds are significant bycatch issue. Seabird bycatch mitigation measures in place since 1992. Other bycatch species include Antarctic rock cods, ice fishes, skates and rays. Bycatch considered by WG-FSA. Instituted bycatch conservation measures including mesh size regulation, bottom trawl prohibition around South Georgia, and bycatch limits for several elasmobranch species; also established WG-IMAF (WG-IMALF in 1994).</p>	<p>Krill, as prey species, is currently managed under EA. Article II of Convention outlines EA principle setting benchmark for other fisheries organizations. Began CEMP in 1984. Management approach regulates human activities to avoid deleterious changes in Antarctic ecosystem, including bycatch reduction of seabirds and other non-target species.</p>	<p>As of 2005, the only RFMO to have fully incorporated PA into stock assessment and decision making. All regulated fisheries in areas under CCAMLR jurisdiction are subject to precautionary catch limits. In addition, both krill and Patagonian toothfish fisheries are subject to (pre-determined) decision rules. Though "PA" is not specified, Convention is first international fisheries instrument to outline the PA conservation principle. CCAMLR is pioneering efforts to manage marine ecosystem according to PA; and, new fisheries shall not develop faster than Commission is able to evaluate their potential consequences.</p>
Participation	<p>Members / Contracting Parties</p> <p>Members of the Commission: <i>Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, EC, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, USA</i> and <i>Uruguay</i> (24 Members).</p> <p>Bold: UNFA <i>Italics:</i> FAO Compliance Agreement</p>	<p>Cooperating Parties</p> <p>Parties to CCAMLR but not Members of the Commission: Bulgaria, <i>Canada, Finland, Greece, Mauritius, Netherlands, Peru, Vanuatu.</i></p> <p>Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) Parties: China, Singapore, Indonesia.</p>	<p>Membership</p> <p>Any State or REIO can become a CCAMLR Party subject to criteria listed in Articles XXIX and VI of CCAMLR Convention (including review by Commission and submission of written statement outlining reasons for application).</p>	<p>Participation Criteria</p> <p>There are two categories of membership: 1) Members of Commission who pay dues, are involved in scientific research and/or fishing subject to conservation measures; and have voting rights; and, 2) Accessing States, or REIOs that are interested in research or harvesting activities, pay no dues, and agree to be bound by Convention. In addition, States who are Non-Parties to CCAMLR, including port States, can participate in the implementation of CDS (open and transparent process).</p>	<p>Transparency</p> <p>Publicly accessible website which includes scientific data, Commission and SC proceedings, and Member activity reports. Availability of unpublished documents subject to Rules for Access to Data. Participation of observers from IGOs and NGOs is subject to Rules of Procedure of the Commission and SC (NGOs may attend as observers of Commission meetings and the main meeting of SC with unanimous approval by Members). Participating NGOs include ASOC and COLTO. Some meetings may be closed to observers, if requested by Member. Participating IGOs and RFMOs include the CEP, FAO, CITES, IWC, IOC, IUCN and CCSBT.</p>
Monitoring, Control and Surveillance	<p>Data Collecting and Reporting</p> <p>Data collection by CCAMLR includes: fishery catch and effort statistics; data collected by scientific observers on fish bycatch, incidental mortality of seabirds and marine mammals; biological information and biomass estimates obtained during fishery-independent scientific surveys; biological information on dependent species collected as part of CEMP; CDS landing and trade statistics.</p>	<p>Observer Program</p> <p>CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation has 100% coverage of all fisheries with exception of krill by independent, regional scientific observers. Data collected (using standard format) are submitted directly to the CCAMLR database and used by SC and its WGs.</p>	<p>Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)</p> <p>Each vessel licensed by CCAMLR Members to fish in Convention Area is required to have VMS, monitored by flag State. Secretariat receives from flag States VMS position reports for vessels engaged in all toothfish fisheries, info also used to corroborate toothfish landings in CDS. Krill fishery is not currently covered by VMS. In 2004 decision made to centralize VMS; Parties now submit VMS data to CCAMLR as it is collected via the flag State or on a voluntary basis directly from the vessel to the Secretariat. Exploratory fisheries, however, are subject to an exception regime whereby VMS reports are transmitted by the flag State after the vessel has left the area. VMS reporting standards correspond to the North Atlantic Format (NAF).</p>	<p>Enforcement</p> <p>Enforcement of CCAMLR measures is undertaken through system of observation and inspection adopted in 1998. This is nationally operated scheme with CCAMLR designated inspectors. Where Members designate inspectors, results of inspection are reported to CCAMLR. Vessels licensed to fish are included on List of regulated vessels (rebuttable presumption that those not on List are unregulated or IUU). CCAMLR annually estimates level of IUU fishing and has taken comprehensive measures to address IUU fishing including, VMS, observers and the CDS (binding on all Members in 2000). As of 2003, there is also mandatory port inspection of all toothfish vessels.</p>	<p>Catch and Trade Documentation</p> <p>CCAMLR adopted CDS for Patagonian toothfish in 2000. Scheme is designed to determine whether toothfish are caught in compliance with conservation measures by tracking landings and trade flows (corroborated by mandatory VMS). Regulated high seas fishing in conformance with CDS protocol includes all necessary documentation pertaining to landings, imports and transshipment of toothfish. Presumption exists that if documentation is not completed, fishing is IUU.</p>
Other Governance Efforts and Challenges	<p>Decision Making</p> <p>Decision making is consensus based; only Members of Commission may participate in decisions. Though voting procedure exists (each Member has 1 vote), there has not been vote in 23 years on any matter of substance (whether an issue is matter of substance is regarded as matter of substance). Members failing to pay contributions for 2 consecutive years lose right to participate in decision making during period of default. Resolutions are non-binding. Decisions on conservation measures are binding 180 days after Commission notification. While objection procedure exists under Convention, full procedure has never been activated, and only 1 technical objection to a measure has occurred.</p>	<p>Dispute Settlement Mechanism</p> <p>Under Article XXV and in the event of a dispute, CPs must consult among themselves with view to resolution by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement or other peaceful means. If dispute is not resolved, it must, with Parties' consent, be referred to International Court of Justice (ICJ), or to arbitration. If dispute goes to arbitration, the tribunal must be constituted as provided in Annex to CCAMLR Convention.</p>	<p>Cooperative Efforts</p> <p>Various levels of cooperation exist with CEP of the Antarctic Treaty, FAO, IUCN, IWC, SCAR, IOC, the Pacific Community (formerly the South Pacific Commission), the FFA, CCSBT, IOTC, ACAP, and ICES. CDS collaboration with ICCAT, and IATTC. Actively involved with NEAFC and NAFO in the development of the NAF for common VMS reporting standards. Secretariat chairs and participates in RFB meeting held biennially on margin of COFI.</p>	<p>Efforts to Strengthen RFMO</p> <p>Continues to lead in effort to operationalize PA and EA. EA management of krill fishery. Continues to develop PA reference points on which to base decision rules. Introduced comprehensive system of reporting, CDS and mandatory VMS for management of Patagonian toothfish. Established registry for vessels permitted to fish; fishing ceases and vessel must leave area if seabird bycatch limit is exceeded. Has Independent regional scientific Observer Program, and a regional inspection program.</p>	<p>Challenges</p> <p>Avoiding, reducing and eliminating overfishing and rebuilding depleted stocks. IUU fishing (particularly for Patagonian toothfish) by both CPs and Non-CPs. Varying degrees of compliance with seabird bycatch mitigation measures. Need to increase number of CDS Parties including port States. Adjacent Southern Indian Ocean area currently not covered by RFMO (proposed SIOFA may address this). Need to enhance compliance throughout CCAMLR area including within coastal States' EEZs. Geopolitical and jurisdictional sensitivities.</p>