

# PROPOSAL TO HOLD AN IWC WORKSHOP

## PART 1: Scientific Justification

### 1. PROPOSED TITLE OF WORKSHOP

Joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop on the development and application of multi-species models to the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

### 2. RELEVANT SUB-GROUP OR SUB-GROUPS

IWC SC/EM, SC-CAMLR and SC-CAMLR WG-EMM

### 3. OBJECTIVE/TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE WORKSHOP

To foster collaboration between IWC SC EM and SC-CAMLR WG-EMM in the development and application of multi-species models to the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

### 4. SCIENTIFIC RATIONALE FOR THE WORKSHOP, EXPLAINING *INTER ALIA* WHY IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE WORK OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND HOW IT RESPONDS TO IDENTIFIED RECOMMENDATIONS

IWC and CCAMLR have a common interest in considering the conservation and management of Antarctic marine living resources in an ecosystem context. In the case of CCAMLR, this is specified under Article II of the CAMLR Convention<sup>1</sup>. Section 3 (b) requires the “maintenance of the ecological relationships between harvested, dependent and related populations of Antarctic marine living resources...”. The maintenance of ecological relationships requires an understanding of the nature and dynamics of such relationships, which in turn requires the development of multi-species/ecosystem models. This is a key focus of the work programs of the working groups of both organisations that focus on ecosystem modelling: SC-CAMLR WG-EMM and IWC SC/EM, where the latter was established in the realization that the IWC SC also needed to give attention to this area. Both these groups need to progress this area of research towards the development of tactical models capable of providing advice which is sufficiently reliable for application to Antarctic marine living resources. This will in turn allow the objectives of the two Commissions to be better realised.

In 2008, a joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop was held to review input data available for Antarctic marine ecosystem models, and especially the important components of these data which are estimates of the abundances, and trends in the abundances, of the main species in the region (IWC & CCAMLR 2010). Unfortunately, however, subsequent progress in the development of multi-species/ecosystem models has not

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ccamlr.org/en/organisation/camlr-convention-text>

advanced to the extent that might have been hoped. It is therefore proposed that, 8 years on in 2016, the time would be appropriate time to hold a workshop on the development and application of multi-species models to the Antarctic marine ecosystem. This would be to re-invigorate this process, which is so necessary for the realisation of both Commissions' objectives.

#### **5. ANY PREREQUISITE DATA REQUIREMENTS AND ANALYSES (IF BUDGET REQUESTS THESE SHOULD BE ON A SEPARATE RESEARCH PROPOSAL FORM)**

A pre-requisite for the success of such a workshop will be adequate pre-planning to ensure that by the time the event starts, updates of the data considered in 2008, where such have become available, are collated and summarized in suitable form. The same applies for recent multi-species/ecosystem modelling efforts in the region. A joint steering group, including representatives from both IWC SC/EM and SC-CAMLR WG-EMM will be appointed to ensure that this occurs. This group will also be responsible for developing a rather detailed agenda that reflects sufficient commonality of approach achieved before the workshop, and for organizing for some targeted and specific proposals to be tabled regarding the way forward, so that the workshop proceeds in a very focused manner.

#### **6. LIKELY SCIENTIFIC OUTCOME**

The outcome from the workshop will be a set of specific and detailed proposals on the way forward in regard to both data collection and analysis, so as to move towards the development of tactical multi-species/ecosystem models of pertinence to the provision of scientific advice which addresses the objectives of both Commissions.

### **PART 2: Logistical aspects**

#### **7. SUGGESTED STEERING GROUP (INCLUDING POSSIBLE CONVENOR)**

An intersessional correspondence group (Butterworth, Currey (Convenor), de la Mare, Kitakado, Koch, Palacios, Watters) would be established. Their primary responsibility will be to work together with each organisation's representative on the other's SC, so as to facilitate the appointment of the joint steering group envisaged in 5 above, and to make advances on addressing the pre-requisites listed under 5. Their proposals will be reviewed for approval at IWC SC/66A.

#### **8. TIMETABLE AND FORMAT OF WORKSHOP, E.G. 2-DAY WORKSHOP BY INVITATION ONLY**

It is proposed that a joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop be convened in advance of IWC SC/66B in 2016. The workshop would be 2 days in duration and would involve participants from both IWC SC EM and SC-CAMLR WG-EMM.

#### **9. EXPECTED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING SUGGESTED INVITED PARTICIPANTS (GIVE NAMES AND AREAS OF EXPERTISE)**

The number of participants in the workshop, including those from SC-CAMLR, should not exceed 20 to avoid unwieldy discussions. Nomination of invited participants will be made by the correspondence group specified in 7 above.

## 10. (PROVISIONAL DATE) AND PROPOSED VENUE

The workshop would be held in 2016 immediately prior to IWC SC/66B at the same venue.

## 11. PROPOSED BUDGET (INCLUDING BREAKDOWN)

We request £5,200.00 in total, spread into:

- £1,200.00 for 2015 to cover any potential costs associated with the planning in the first year, and
- £4,000.00 for 2016 to cover the marginal cost of 4 IWC SC IPs to attend the workshop.

This reflects the cost of accommodation and daily allowance. As we are proposing that the workshop be convened in advance of IWC SC/66B, travel costs for regular members of the SC will already be covered under the existing IP budget. Note that this cost excludes the cost of participants from SC-CAMLR, which would be expected to be borne by CCAMLR or the respective Member Nations concerned.