Resolution 25/XXV

Combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the Convention Area by the flag vessels of non-Contracting Parties

The Commission,

Concerned about the increasing number of vessels repeatedly fishing in the Convention Area in an illegal, unreported or unregulated (IUU) manner,

Recognising that such fishing is causing potentially irreversible damage to fish stocks and other marine species and preventing the Commission from achieving its objective of conservation of Antarctic marine living resources in the Convention Area,

Concerned that many of these vessels are flagged to non-Contracting Parties that have failed to respond to correspondence from the Commission and diplomatic and other representations by Commission Members, seeking that they cooperate with the Commission,

Acknowledging that many of the above non-Contracting Parties are Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS),

Desiring to promote recognition that CCAMLR conservation measures constitute relevant standards needed to achieve conservation and rational use of Antarctic marine living resources,

Noting that the International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing (IPOA-IUU) urges States to ensure that fishing vessels entitled to fly their flag do not engage in or support IUU fishing and requires that a Flag State be in a position to exercise its responsibility to control any vessel it registers and ensure such vessels do not engage in or support IUU fishing,

Determined to pursue diplomatic and other action, in accordance with international law, with non-Contracting Parties that fail to cooperate with CCAMLR, including by failing to direct their flag vessels to cease IUU fishing and failing to take legal and other action against their flag vessels that disobey such directions,

Recognising the value of cooperation and joint diplomatic approaches by CCAMLR Contracting Parties in undertaking such action and exerting influence,

urges all Contracting Parties to individually and collectively, including in other relevant international fora such as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and regional fisheries management organisations, to the extent possible in accordance with their applicable laws and regulations:

1. Pursue diplomatic and other action, in accordance with international law, with non-Contracting Party Flag States, seeking, as appropriate, that they:

   (i) recognise that CCAMLR conservation measures constitute relevant standards needed to achieve conservation and rational use of Antarctic marine living resources;
(ii) investigate the activities of vessels fishing under their flag in the Convention Area, in accordance with Article 94 of UNCLOS, and report findings of such investigations to the Commission;

(iii) accede to the Convention and cooperate with the Commission and, until such time as they do, direct their flag vessels not to fish in the Convention Area and take legal and other action against those vessels that disobey this directive;

(iv) grant permission for boarding and inspection by designated CCAMLR inspectors of their flag vessels suspected of, or found to be, fishing in an IUU manner in the Convention Area.

2. Seek the cooperation of non-Contracting Party Port States when IUU fishing vessels seek to use the ports of non-Contracting Parties, urging them to take the steps in accordance with Conservation Measure 10-07.