

ANTARCTIC TREATY

Final Report of the Thirteenth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting

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KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EXTERNAL TRADE

AND CO-OPERATION IN DEVELOPMENT

FINAL REPORT OF THE

THIRTEENTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

BRUSSELS, 7 - 18 OCTOBER 1985

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FINAL REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH ANTARCTIC TREATY
CONSULTATIVE MEETING

1. In accordance with Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, Representatives of the Consultative Parties (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, China, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay) met in Brussels from 7 to 18 October 1985, for the purpose of exchanging information, consulting together, and considering and recommending to their Governments measures in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty. On the invitation of the Consultative Parties the Meeting was also attended by Delegations from Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty which are not Consultative Parties (Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Romania, Spain and Sweden).

2. The Meeting was formally opened by Mr Leo Tindemans, Minister of External Relations of Belgium.

3. Mr Paul Hubin, Representative of Belgium, was elected Chairman of the Meeting. Mr Jan Bousse of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was appointed Secretary General and Mr Andreas Vanermen of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was appointed Assistant Secretary General. The opening session was held in public. Opening statements were delivered by Heads of Delegation (these, including that made by Mr Leo Tindemans, are attached at Annex A).

4. The following agenda was adopted :
 1. Opening of the Meeting
 2. Election of Officers
 3. Opening Addresses
 4. Adoption of the Agenda
 5. Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System
 6. Public Availability of the Documents of Consultative Meetings
 7. Exchange of Information in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty
 8. Improvement of Telecommunications in Antarctica and Collection and Distribution of Meteorological Data
 9. Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment
 10. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and Specially Protected Areas (SPAs)
 11. Effects of Tourism and non-Governmental Expeditions in the Antarctic Treaty Area
 12. Matters relating to the Appointment of Observers at Consultative Meetings
 13. Uses of Antarctic Ice

14. Antarctic Resources : The Question of Mineral Exploration and Exploitation (Procedural Item only)
15. Historic Monuments
16. Inspections under Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty
17. Date and Place of next Consultative Meeting
18. Any other Business
19. Adoption of Final Report
20. Closing of the Meeting

5. The Meeting considered in Plenary Session all the items on the Agenda and appointed two working groups. A working group under the chairmanship of Mr Rolf Trolle Andersen of Norway dealt with the following agenda items :

5. Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System
6. Public Availability of the Documents of Consultative Meetings
7. Exchange of Information in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty
12. Matters relating to the Appointment of Observers at Consultative Meetings
16. Inspections under Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty

A working group under the chairmanship of Mr L.F. de Macedo-Soares of Brazil dealt with the following agenda items :

9. Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment
10. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and Specially Protected Areas (SPAs)
11. Effects of Tourism and non-Governmental Expeditions in the Antarctic Treaty Area

6. The Meeting adopted the following Recommendations which are set forth in Part II of this report :

- XIII-1 : Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System :
Information
- XIII-2 : Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System :
Overview
- XIII-3 : Exchange of Information in accordance with the
Antarctic Treaty : Annual Exchanges
- XIII-4 : Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment :
Code of Conduct for Antarctic Expeditions and
Station Activities : Waste Disposal
- XIII-5 : Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment :
Additional Protective Arrangements
- XIII-6 : Facilitation of Scientific Research :
Siting of Stations

- XIII-7 : Facilitation of Scientific Research :
Sites of Special Scientific Interest :
Interim Guidelines. Extension of Designation

- XIII-8 : Facilitation of Scientific Research :
Sites of Special Scientific Interest :
Interim Guidelines : Additional Sites

- XIII-9 : Facilitation of Scientific Research :
Sites of Special Scientific Interest :
Interim Guidelines :
SSSI N° 1 : Cape Royds, Ross Island :
Amendment to Management Plan

- XIII-10: Specially Protected Areas :
North Coronation Island, South Orkney Islands

- XIII-11: Specially Protected Areas :
Lagotellerie Island, Marguerite Bay

- XIII-12: Specially Protected Areas : "New College Valley",
Caughly Beach, Cape Bird, Ross Island

- XIII-13: Specially Protected Area N° 7 : Cape Hallett,
Victoria Land : Extension of Boundaries

- XIII-14: Specially Protected Areas : Interim Guidelines

- XIII-15: Matters relating to the Appointment of Observers
at Consultative Meetings

- XIII-16: Historic Sites and Monuments

OPERATION OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM

(Agenda Item 5)

7. This agenda item was discussed in plenary and further work was carried out in the working group chaired by Mr Rolf Trolle Andersen of Norway. It was noted that the discussion might be assisted by looking successively at a number of individual questions that arise under the general heading of "Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System".

8. The Delegation of Australia, speaking on behalf of the Government of Australia in its capacity as host Government to the XIIth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting reported that, in accordance with operative paragraphs 1 and 2 (a) of Recommendation XII-6, it had :

(a) provided certified copies of the Final Report of the XIIth Meeting, together with copies of the documents of the Meeting, to the Consultative Parties and other Contracting Parties which had been invited to attend the Meeting;

(b) sent a certified copy of the Final Report of the Meeting to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

9. The Meeting noted that Australia had consulted Dr John Heap (United Kingdom), as the originator of the "Handbook of Measures in Furtherance of the Principles and Objectives of the Antarctic Treaty", about practical means of implementing Recommendation XII-6 (3). The Meeting warmly welcomed the initiative taken by Dr Heap in producing a fourth (Proof) Edition of the Handbook in English and noted with appreciation the financial support provided by the British Government. Delegations took the opportunity to make suggestions as to how the usefulness of the Handbook might be improved as well as to provide comments prior to its publication.

10. Interest was expressed by some delegations in preparing versions of the Handbook in other Treaty languages. It was agreed that availability of the Handbook in Treaty languages would greatly assist in disseminating information about the Antarctic Treaty System more widely. It was also pointed out that it would be desirable that versions of the Handbook in the four Treaty languages should not differ from one another in substance.

11. It was widely accepted that it would be proper for those publishing versions of the Handbook to make a reasonable charge per copy to help defray the costs of publication. It was also noted that the Handbook would provide useful assistance to national contact points in disseminating information about the Antarctic Treaty System (Recommendation XIII-1 Para. 3 (b)).

12. The possibility of proceeding further with the elaboration of a "White Book" on the history and achievements of the Antarctic Treaty System (see Para. 35 of the Report of the XIIth Meeting) was further discussed. While delegations were favourably disposed to pursue the idea further, not all were yet prepared to commit themselves to it, inter alia, for lack of clarity as to the contents of the White Book as well as to how it would be put together. In discussion the following points were made :

- (a) the theme of the book might be "The Antarctic Treaty - 30 years of peaceful co-operation", in which case an appropriate publication date for which to aim might be June 1991; some delegations noted that such a target date need not be sacrosanct;
- (b) a number of valuable elements were identified and delegations made useful suggestions on relevant aspects of

the achievements of the Antarctic Treaty System which might be enhanced by the publication of the "White Book". In addition to the historical, political and legal background, the significance of Antarctic science might also be adequately recognized in such a work;

(c) delegations differed in their particular emphasis as to whether the "White Book" should attempt to be a definitive source book on what had happened over the last 30 years or whether it would be preferable to attempt to get its message across as much visually as by the written word. It was recognized, that there were possibilities between these two extremes, including combining them. There was general agreement that the "White Book" should not duplicate the Handbook.

(d) delegations recognized that for such a volume to have a wide international dissemination would require that it be available in the Treaty languages and that its publication might have to be in the hands of a commercial publisher, working perhaps on a co-operative basis with other publishers. It was agreed that, whatever the contents of the book and means of publication, the project would need to be self-financing.

13. Delegations agreed to consider the matter further at the XIVth Meeting at which, if a publication date in 1991 were to be decided, decisions would need to be taken on implementation of this project.

14. Paragraph 5 of Recommendation XII-6 invited the Depositary Government "to examine the question of information about the Antarctic Treaty System, including publicly available documents arising from Consultative Meetings, with a view to identifying and cataloguing publicly available information about the system and identifying the sources from which such information can be obtained".

15. The United States, as Depositary Government, reported to the Meeting on its examination of this issue, and tabled suggestions relating to the steps that could be taken to ensure and facilitate the availability of adequate and accurate information about the Antarctic Treaty System. The Meeting welcomed the United States presentation which provided the basis for a detailed discussion of the issue. Consensus was reached on Recommendation XIII-1 which includes a number of provisions designed to meet the objective of securing the availability of up-to-date information about the Antarctic Treaty System. Recommendation XIII-1 calls for continuation of the efforts to see that the final reports of the Consultative Meetings, along with the Antarctic Treaty Handbook (see paragraphs 9 to 11 above), provide a clear picture of the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System. (Recommendation XIII-2, discussed in paragraph 20 below also bears upon this point). Recommendation XIII-1 provides that information about the Antarctic Treaty System, including the final reports of the Consultative Meetings and the Handbook, be made available on request, to the greatest extent practicable and feasible, and in accordance with national laws and regulations.

16. National Committees of the members of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) are encouraged to take similar steps with respect to annual reports on activities which those Committees submit to SCAR.

17. The recommendation furthermore makes provision for up-to-date information on sources of Antarctic scientific data as well as bibliographies which summarize the availability of material on Antarctica generally. Provision is made for designation of national contact points to carry out these functions and to ensure the dissemination of their names and addresses, including through the final reports of Consultative Meetings and the Handbook.

18. In the consideration of the recommendation, there was general agreement that these functions relating to the availability of information were of major importance. There were several perspectives on the best manner to carry them out. A number of delegations believed that these steps could be best and most efficiently carried out in a centralized fashion. Others noted that this approach raised broader questions relating to future institutionalization of the Consultative Meetings, such as the establishment of a secretariat and cost sharing. All agreed that there will need to be continued evolution in responding to the issue in the future. For this reason, they agreed to keep this matter under continual review. It was stressed that there is no inconsistency between the provisions of this recommendation and development of additional means of ensuring availability of necessary information about the Antarctic Treaty System, including more centralized means.

19. Contracting Parties which are not Consultative Parties were urged to follow the measures contained in Recommendation XIII-1. It was noted that Recommendation VIII-8 bears upon this point.

20. The Meeting agreed that, with the increase in the components comprising the Antarctic Treaty System, it would be appropriate for Consultative Meetings to be made formally aware of developments throughout the System, duly taking into account the relationships between its various components. With this object in mind, the Meeting reached consensus on Recommendation XIII-2, which provides for reports to be made to future Consultative Meetings covering developments in the respective areas of competence of the various components of the System.

21. These reports will contribute to there being a clear overview of the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System at each Consultative Meeting. Recommendation XIII-2 invites the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources to appoint its Chairman or other person to represent

the Commission as an observer for the specific purpose of presenting such a report. Likewise SCAR is invited through National Committees to appoint its President or other person to represent the Committee as an observer to report on SCAR activities. Such reports were also invited in respect of Special Consultative Meetings and any other meeting held pursuant to a Recommendation of a Consultative Meeting. The Depository Government of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals was called upon to report on matters within its competence under the Convention.

22. Other developments could also be brought to the attention of the Consultative Meeting in a similar manner and the Meeting took note with satisfaction, in this context, of the high degree of coordination attained by the representatives of the Consultative and non-Consultative Parties at the UN.

23. As a final subject under this item of the agenda, the Meeting considered a group of issues relating to certain organizational aspects of Consultative Meetings, namely the possibility of sharing the costs of meetings, the possible need for some permanent infrastructure for Consultative Meetings, and the possible desirability of holding Consultative Meetings more frequently than, as at present, every two years.

24. Possible cost-sharing. The Meeting considered a discussion paper proposing the sharing of costs of Consultative Meetings. The Meeting acknowledged that the financial and staffing costs of hosting meetings was increasing and that for a variety of reasons the burden was not falling evenly on all Consultative Parties. Delegations noted that the possibility of arriving at some arrangement for cost-sharing raised complex questions; these included : Who should contribute to cost-sharing ? In what proportions should they contribute ? To what meetings should cost-sharing arrangements apply ? To what elements of the costs of those meetings should the arrangements apply ?

25. Permanent infrastructure. The way in which the work of Consultative Meetings had developed in recent years led many delegations to the conclusion that there was a growing need for some kind of permanent infrastructure to be established, and that there may well soon be no alternative to doing so. Such infrastructure, which in the view of some delegations might take the form of a small secretariat, was envisaged as having functions which should include the documentary preparation and follow-up of Consultative Meetings as well as certain functions relating to the preparation and dissemination of up-to-date records and information about the Antarctic Treaty and the Consultative Meeting process. Some delegations noted that a secretariat might in time come to have more extensive functions. Emphasis was, however, laid by some on the need for any permanent infrastructure to be proportional to real needs, which in the immediate future called only for something modest in scope and cost.

26. More frequent Consultative Meetings. Several delegations considered that the workload of Consultative Meetings made it appropriate for meetings to be held annually, and that this would contribute to maintaining continuity of the work done at Consultative Meetings. There could be advantages in dropping the customary Preparatory Meetings, and instead having a Consultative Meeting every year : the total number of meetings would not increase, which would avoid there being any large increase in costs. Without improvements in working methods, other delegations saw certain disadvantages in a move to annual meetings, particularly if the absence of Preparatory Meetings led to Consultative Meetings being less well prepared. More frequent meetings might also lead to difficulties over finding willing host countries (although it was noted that a solution to the problems of infrastructure and of cost-sharing might lessen those difficulties).

27. The Meeting recognized that these three elements were to a considerable extent inter-related, and that further consideration needed to be given to them, both separately and collectively. It was agreed to take these matters up again at the XIVth Consultative Meeting.

28. The Meeting agreed that " Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System" should be included in the agenda of the XIVth Consultative Meeting.

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF THE DOCUMENTS OF CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS (Agenda Item 6)

29. In accordance with paragraph 4 (c) of Recommendation XII-6, the Meeting discussed the possibility of making publicly available Conference Documents and Information Documents of Consultative Meetings. Because of the large number of such documents submitted at the twelve preceding Consultative Meetings, the Meeting considered it appropriate to limit its consideration to the Conference and Information Documents of the first three Consultative Meetings held respectively in Canberra (1961), Buenos Aires (1962) and Brussels (1964). The Meeting decided that, given the passage of time since those meetings were held and in view of the contents of the documents in question, there was in principle no need for them to continue to be treated as confidential. As not all delegations were in a position to take a final decision on this matter, the Meeting agreed that any Consultative Party that wished a Conference or Information Document submitted to the first, second or third Consultative Meetings, to remain confidential should so notify the Belgian Government, in its capacity as host Government for the Meeting, by 31 December 1985. The Belgian Government would inform all other Parties of any such notification received by it; subject to any such notification, the Conference and Information Documents of those three Consultative Meetings need no longer be treated as confidential after 31 December 1985.

30. A number of delegations expressed their confidence that Consultative Parties would not without reason seek to keep documents presented by other Parties confidential. Finally, it was understood that documents containing correspondence with other entities, like the WMO, would not be released before that entity's agreement had been obtained.

31. The Meeting also agreed that it would be appropriate to carry forward the consideration of this matter at the XIVth Consultative Meeting, with particular reference to the Conference and Information Documents of the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh Consultative Meetings, held respectively in Santiago de Chile (1966), Paris (1968), Tokyo (1970) and Wellington (1972). To facilitate preparation for this, the Meeting requested each of those Consultative Parties to compile a list of the Conference and Information Documents of the meeting for which it was the host, and to circulate that list to all Consultative Parties as soon as possible and in any case not later than 31 October 1986.

32. The Meeting also believed that it would facilitate consideration of these questions at future meetings if, henceforth, the Secretariat established for each meeting prepared, after the close of the meeting, a list of the documents of the meeting. That list should be circulated by the host country to all Contracting Parties participating in or attending the meeting as soon as possible after the meeting, and in any case no later than three months following the close of the meeting. Host governments were requested to retain a complete set of documents in their archives.

33. The issue was also raised of the availability of the documentation of previous Consultative Meetings for Contracting Parties which had not been present at such meetings. In response to a specific question from a non-Consultative Party Delegation, the United States Delegation indicated that, as Depositary Government for the Antarctic Treaty, it would be pleased to assist in facilitating access by all Contracting Parties to such documentation (noting that this question is distinct from that of the public availability of such documentation).

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
ANTARCTIC TREATY (Agenda Item 7)

34. The Meeting took note of a number of responses to the points on which advice had been sought from offices responsible for Antarctic activities. The thrust of these responses is set out below.

- (i) The date by which organisations would ideally wish to receive exchanged information : Responses varied between 20 September and 30 November but the majority wanted the information as near the beginning of the Antarctic operating season as possible. In this connection it was noted that since the International Geophysical Year there had been a marked trend toward beginning the Antarctic operating season earlier and it was felt by some that there was therefore a reasonable case for moving forward the date for exchanges of information from 30 November which had been decided at the First Consultative Meeting. Other preferred to leave the deadline as it is but urge Governments to do all that they could to observe the present dates, since it was widely appreciated that there were some difficulties in meeting that deadline.
- (ii) Whether they could assemble information one month before the date they would wish to receive it from others : The responses indicated that the need to allow time for transmission through diplomatic channels had been taken into account in arriving at the date by which national Antarctic operating agencies would wish to receive the exchanged information. Some responses did however, draw attention to the fact that if the date for the exchange was to be much earlier than the beginning of the Antarctic operating season, then the information would be unable to take account of last minute changes.

- (iii) Could information on extensions, reductions and other modifications in accordance with paragraph 2 of Recommendation VIII-6 be exchanged at the same time as information about future plans : None of the responses indicated that there was benefit to be derived from exchanging this information in the middle of the Antarctic winter. Most saw advantage in there being one occasion on which national operating agencies were asked to provide information on both implementation of the previous season's plans and the plans for the following season.
- (iv) Whether some of the information called for in the Annex to Recommendation VIII-6 might better be exchanged after, rather than before, the activity in question : None of the responses indicated a need to alter the Annex to Recommendation VIII-6 in this respect.
- (v) Whether, as one means of more effectively implementing Article III-1(c) of the Treaty, brief reports on the implementation of scientific investigations might be included in the exchanged information : Responses varied on this point. None said that such brief reports would be impossible to prepare but there was considerable doubt as to whether it would, in fact, achieve its objective. Attention was drawn to two other ways of achieving the same objective. Those national Antarctic operating agencies which prepare annual reports of their scientific activities either indicated their willingness to circulate these to Contracting Parties or noted that they already did so. Another means of increasing awareness of the implementation of scientific investigations would be by means of exchanging reprints. It was suggested that national Antarctic operating agencies should look into the feasibility of increasing scientific awareness by such means.

35. In respect of information concerning tourist activities in Antarctica renewed note was taken of paragraph 3 of Recommendation VIII-9.

36. There was a consensus that the response to sub paragraph (iii) above required a short Recommendation (XIII-3) amending operative paragraph 4 of the Recommendation VIII-6 and paragraph 2 of the Annex to that Recommendation and that, at the same time, an item should be added to the Annex referring to reports of Tourist activities.

IMPROVEMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN ANTARCTICA AND
COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF METEOROLOGICAL DATA
(Agenda Item 8)

37. The Meeting recalled that two Recommendations (XII-1 and 2) had been adopted at the previous Consultative Meeting that were relevant to this agenda item. The first was primarily addressed to questions of the Antarctic meteorological observational network, the transmission of data between Antarctic stations and from them to the WMO Global Telecommunications System for the use of the international meteorological community. The last of these matters involved the performance not only of Antarctic stations but also of the Global Telecommunications System.

38. Delegations reported progress toward the implementation of the observational system but it was considered that there had been insufficient development to warrant reconsideration of Annexes 2 and 3 (network diagrams) to Recommendation XII-1. The Meeting noted with appreciation the intention of the WMO Executive Committee to enable a meeting of the Working Group on Antarctic Meteorology to be held prior to the next Consultative Meeting and looked forward to receiving the outcome of this meeting relating to the matters set out in paragraphs 3-6 of Recommendation XII-1.

39. The second of these Recommendations (XII-2) was primarily concerned with the techniques of Antarctic telecommunications. It addressed, inter alia, questions of the use of existing telecommunications systems and the use of satellite communications systems and invited SCAR to consider various technical issues. It was noted with appreciation that at Bremerhaven there had been a meeting of the SCAR Logistics Working Group's Workshop on Antarctic Telecommunications (25-26 September 1984). The report of this meeting had been made available to delegations through SCAR channels and the view was expressed that it would provide a useful factual background to the forthcoming WMO EC Working Group on Antarctic Meteorology from the point of view of the Antarctic telecommunications practitioners. In addition the report drew attention to the growing importance of civil aviation in the Antarctic.

40. Delegations warmly welcomed the information from the Delegation of Australia that Australia had produced a revised version of SCARCOM (the SCAR "Antarctic Telecommunication Manual") and was willing to continue to prepare periodical revisions. Delegations noted its importance as an aide to effective telecommunications in the Antarctic.

41. Some delegations reported on the steps their national Antarctic operating agencies had taken towards further utilization of satellite communications both as a standard procedure and in connection with the role it could play in Antarctic emergencies. It was, however, also noted by other delegations that further improvement of conventional telecommunications would also serve these purposes.

MAN'S IMPACT ON THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT

(Agenda Item 9)

42. This agenda item was discussed in Plenary and was further discussed in the Working Group set up under the Chairmanship of Mr L.F. de Macedo-Soares of Brazil.

43. The debate in Plenary Session concentrated largely on four questions : environmental impact assessment of planned scientific activities and related support activities; need for revision of the code of conduct for Antarctic expeditions and station activities annexed to Recommendation VIII-11; possible additional measures for protection and conservation of Antarctic ecosystems and concentration of activities in certain areas of Antarctica. The discussion on the two first questions could be considered a follow-up of Recommendations XII-3 and XII-4.

44. Some delegations recalled the central role of the Consultative Meetings in proposing measures on this most important subject. Moreover, Consultative Meetings are the appropriate forum to address concerns for the enhancement of freedom of scientific research, on the one side, and the fundamental need for the preservation of the environment in the Antarctic Treaty area, on the other side. The problem is also connected to the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System since all its components must work harmoniously to achieve these goals.

45. The Delegation of Japan referred to the results of Japanese scientific research showing that the amount of carbon dioxide in the Antarctic atmosphere has been steadily increasing and that analyses of marine living resources indicate absorption of noxious substances. Several delegations stressed that such problems and the measures to solve them should not be confined to the Antarctic Treaty Area for they extend beyond it in associated or dependent ecosystems.

46. It was stated that any human activity necessarily has an environmental impact. Consequently, such impact cannot be a reason for preventing Antarctic activities and the freedom of scientific investigation must be preserved. It is important then to improve the methods for foreseeing the environmental impact of any activity and to devise means for reducing and controlling disturbances on the environment.

47. National organizations are best placed to evaluate the environmental consequences of the activities they conduct. In this connection, environmental impact assessment procedures do not presuppose any mechanism for coordination. The importance of strictly following the recommendations adopted by the Consultative Parties was also pointed out.

48. The Delegations of France, New Zealand, United Kingdom and the United States of America gave examples of environmental impact assessments prepared for scientific and logistic projects planned by their Governments.

49. The Meeting noted the work done by SCAR on this matter contained in the report "Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment : a Procedure for Evaluating Impacts from Scientific and Logistic Activities", by W.S. Benninghoff and W.N. Bonner.

50. The Delegation of Australia introduced a paper proposing the establishment of a new category of protected area, for the protection of areas not appropriate for designation as SPAs and SSSIs. The special values or characteristics of such areas should be protected without excluding activities which would not be likely adversely to affect those values or characteristics, in consultation with other organizations in the Antarctic Treaty System. Several delegations, while expressing sympathy for the proposal, considered that it should receive further study. Some delegations expressed the view that such measures were not necessary. It was mentioned that SCAR could be entrusted with the study of the matter from the scientific, technical and

logistical points of view. In that case, SCAR should be given specific terms of reference. Several delegations were of the opinion that the establishment of a new category of protected areas could bring political problems.

51. The Delegation of Australia also submitted a draft recommendation related to the Code of Conduct for Antarctic Expeditions and Station Activities annexed to Recommendation VIII-11. The draft recommendation invites SCAR to review the waste disposal aspects of the Code of Conduct. Several delegations brought contributions to the proposed recommendation among others with respect to effects on neighbouring and associated ecosystems, and the cost of new measures to be taken in comparison with the present cost of waste disposal procedures.

52. The Delegation of Australia subsequently revised the text of the draft recommendation. Recommendation XIII-4 was adopted.

53. The Delegation of Australia also submitted a draft recommendation on the subject of additional protective measures, with the aim of seeking advice of SCAR on the system of protected areas including a possible additional category of area under a different form of protection.

54. The Delegation of the USA submitted another draft recommendation with the aim of seeking the advice of SCAR on the steps, if any, that might usefully be taken to improve the accessibility and comparability of scientific data on Antarctica as well as on the potential desirability of establishing one or more additional categories of protected area.

55. The two drafts were merged in one draft recommendation that met general support. Recommendation XIII-5 was adopted.

56. A proposal was tabled by the United Kingdom delegation (Annex B) for procedural guidelines for environmental impact assessment derived from SCAR's response and paragraphs 17-19 of the Final Report of the previous Consultative Meeting.

57. The Meeting reaffirmed the conclusions of the XIIth Consultative Meeting on this matter. Some delegations indicated they were in a position to accept the proposal. A number of delegations raised questions of both a scientific and operational nature which could not adequately be explored in the time available. Delegations agreed to give further consideration to this question.

58. The intention was expressed by a number of delegations to use these procedural guidelines in relation to planning their scientific and logistic activities in Antarctica for purposes of gaining experience.

59. In discussion of item 9 concern was expressed by some delegations about the concentration of activities in areas of Antarctica more easily accessible from the sea. It was noted that such a trend could result in cumulative environmental impacts, logistic difficulties and diminished scientific opportunities. Some delegations suggested that SCAR could examine this question and provide assistance in the event that a Contracting Party seeks advice regarding the siting of a new station. Freedom of scientific research, as provided in Article II of the Treaty was stressed in this respect.

60. The Meeting adopted Recommendation XIII-6 which provides for consultations, where appropriate, between national Antarctic operating agencies maintaining stations in the same vicinity. Several delegations maintained that the issue required further examination, particularly with regard to the establishment of new stations and that it should therefore be kept under review.

SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSIs) AND
SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS (SPAs)
(Agenda Item 10)

61. This item was also considered by the working group which dealt with Agenda Item 9.

62. The Meeting had before it a draft recommendation submitted by the Delegation of the United Kingdom on the extension of the dates of expiry of the management plans for the eight SSSIs designated in Recommendation VIII-4. The draft recommendation endorsed a suggestion made by SCAR at its XVIIIth Meeting held in Bremerhaven, Federal Republic of Germany, in 1984 (SCAR Circular n° 491). There was general agreement on the proposal. Recommendation XIII-7 was adopted which took account of the proposed amendment to the Management Plan for SSSI n° 1 (see paragraph 64 below).

63. SCAR, at its XVIIIth Meeting, had equally suggested the designation of 13 new SSSIs (SCAR Circular n° 503). A draft recommendation submitted by the Delegation of the United Kingdom formalized the establishment of these SSSIs. The management plans for these SSSIs, proposed by SCAR (SCAR Circular n° 503), received drafting amendments in the working group. There was general support in the Meeting for the designation of the new SSSIs, numbered 9 - 21. Recommendation XIII-8 was adopted.

64. The Meeting considered a further suggestion made by SCAR at its XVIIIth Meeting concerning an amendment to the management plan for SSSI n° 1 - Cape Royds, Ross Island - annexed to Recommendation VIII-4 (SCAR Circular n° 503). A draft recommendation approving the amended management plan was tabled by the Delegation of the United Kingdom, and received general support. Recommendation XIII-9 was adopted.

65. SCAR, at its XVIIIth Meeting, had expressed its concern that three SSSIs incorporating marine areas had not yet been recognized. These suggested SSSIs would be :

Chile Bay (Discovery Bay), Greenwich Island;
Port Foster, Deception Island; and
South Bay, Doumer Island, Palmer Archipelago
(SCAR Circular n° 499).

66. The Meeting considered the matter in the light, among other aspects, of the agreement reached at the XIIth Consultative Meeting that further consideration of such SSSIs should be deferred until such time as SCAR had approved SSSIs partly or wholly in the marine environment. Several delegations stressed the importance of the designation of the three proposed SSSIs for the continuation under the best conditions of scientific research in those areas. It was pointed out that South Bay, Doumer Island would be a SSSI only partially covering marine areas. The three new SSSIs were not designated.

67. The Delegation of the United Kingdom submitted draft recommendations for insertion in Annex B, Specially Protected Areas of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora, of three SPAs : North Coronation Island, South Orkney Islands; Lagotellerie Island, Marguerite Bay, and "New College Valley", Caughley Beach, Cape Bird, Ross Island, that would be numbered 18, 19 and 20 respectively. The same delegation also submitted a draft recommendation amending the description of Specially Protected Area n° 7, Cape Hallett, Victoria Land. Finally, the Delegation of the United Kingdom submitted a draft recommendation to the effect that the above mentioned proposed recommendations would be considered as guidelines until such time as they may become effective. Recommendations XIII-10, XIII-11, XIII-12, XIII-13 and XIII-14 were adopted.

EFFECTS OF TOURISM AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL EXPEDITIONS
IN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA

(Agenda Item 11)

68. The Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany presented an information paper summarizing the obligations of member states in cases of tourism and non-Governmental expeditions to Antarctica, which it had originally prepared for the use of its own authorities. It was noted that the earlier recommendations on tourism and non-Governmental expeditions had been developed over a number of years and responded to developments as they had occurred. Since there was insufficient time to give this matter adequate attention it was referred to the next Consultative Meeting. The United Kingdom Delegation suggested that it might then be appropriate to attempt to codify the existing recommendations.

69. The United States Delegation presented an information paper setting out public US policy towards non-Governmental expeditions.

70. Some delegations recalled that tourism was one of the legitimate uses of Antarctica and that the relevant regulations should tend to harmonize this use with other peaceful activities in Antarctica, in particular the scientific activities and that they should also tend to assure the compatibility of touristic activities with the need to protect the environment of Antarctica.

MATTERS RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF OBSERVERS AT
CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS (Agenda Item 12)

71. The Meeting recognized the value of the contribution which non-Consultative Parties had made to the deliberations of Consultative Meetings. It was noted that the decision to invite

non-Consultative Parties had hitherto been taken with specific reference only to the next following meeting, and it was suggested that the matter should now be put on a more permanent basis. The Meeting accordingly decided to invite the non-Consultative Parties to the XIVth Consultative Meeting, as well as to its Preparatory Meeting, and adopted Recommendation XIII-15 in respect of all future regular Consultative Meetings, and their Preparatory Meetings.

72. It was noted that Recommendation XIII-2 provides for regular reports to Consultative Meetings from the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research and invites those components of the Antarctic Treaty System to designate observers for the specific purpose of presenting such reports.

73. Under this item there was further discussion of the extent to which the attendance of other appropriate international organizations at regular Consultative Meetings might assist the Consultative Parties. This matter had been discussed at the XIIth Consultative Meeting, and the Meeting confirmed its agreement to continue to deal with it on the basis set out in paragraph 42 of the report of that meeting. Some delegations stressed that attendance by appropriate international organizations with a solid background of Antarctic interest and expertise would not only be consistent with the common aim of all Contracting Parties in developing and strengthening the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System but could also serve to improve the quality of the work being done in various specialized fields. Nevertheless, some delegations drew attention to the disadvantages which might flow from premature invitations to international organizations if these were made without a careful study. It was pointed out that the decision of inviting any particular organization should be made on a case-by-case basis in the light of the possible assistance which that organization might be able to offer to a Consultative Meeting in its consideration of

particular agenda items. One delegation drew the attention of the Meeting to forms of cooperation with international organizations other than the invitation to observers, mentioning the possibility of establishing reciprocal working relationships.

74. It was agreed that the matter would need to be considered again at the Preparatory Meeting for the XIVth Consultative Meeting, in accordance with paragraph 42 of the report of the XIIth Consultative Meeting. In that context it was noted that in light of Recommendation XIII-2 and any other decision that may be taken in the future to invite an international organization to appoint a representative to attend a Consultative Meeting as an observer, it would be necessary for the Rules of Procedure to be amended so as to provide for such attendance.

75. Proposals for amending the Rules of Procedure to allow for the participation of international organizations in Consultative Meetings as observers were presented, but it was recognized that there was insufficient time at this Meeting to consider these in any detail. The Meeting agreed that this subject would need to be addressed at the Preparatory Meeting for the XIVth Consultative Meeting, and invited the host Government of that meeting to circulate, at least six months before the Preparatory Meeting, proposals for amending the Rules of Procedure, so that the necessary amendments could be prepared for subsequent adoption.

USES OF ANTARCTIC ICE (Agenda Item 13)

76. The Meeting welcomed with interest the various studies being conducted on matters relating to the use of Antarctic ice, noting both its complexity and potential future importance. It noted further the programme on collection of iceberg statistics that had been established through the SCAR Working Group on Glaciology, and considered it useful that SCAR undertake to identify relevant scientific or technical information on the use

of Antarctic ice, including its environmental effects in the Antarctic, with a view to possible future interdisciplinary study of this matter.

77. The Meeting also noted that while this item raised no immediate issue, it should be kept under review with a view toward more detailed examination in all its aspects at some appropriate future time.

ANTARCTIC RESOURCES : THE QUESTION OF MINERAL EXPLORATION
AND EXPLOITATION (Agenda Item 14)

78. This was a procedural question only. The Meeting took note of the four sessions of the 4th Special Consultative Meeting held since the last Consultative Meeting, respectively in Washington D.C. (January 1984), Tokyo (May 1984), Rio de Janeiro (February-March 1985) and Paris (September-October 1985).

79. A report on the negotiations concerning the setting up of a regime to govern possible exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in the Antarctic was submitted on behalf of Mr Chris Beeby (New Zealand), Chairman of these sessions of the Special Consultative Meeting, by Mr Robert Richard (France) in his capacity as head of the delegation of the Government which hosted the last session of the Special Consultative Meeting. This report set out the progress made during the 7th session of the Special Consultative Meeting, held in Paris from 23 September to 4 October, by the two working parties dealing respectively with legal questions and exploration and exploitation as well as a number of key questions. The 8th session will be held from 14 to 25 April 1986 in Hobart (Tasmania) at the invitation of the Australian Government. The idea in principle of a second meeting at the end of 1986 was also approved.

80. The Meeting welcomed the progress being made in the negotiations thus far, noted the importance of continuing to do so and looked forward to their completion.

HISTORIC MONUMENTS (Agenda Item 15)

81. The Meeting, having taken note of proposals from the Belgian, French, Polish and Chinese Delegations, adopted Recommendation XIII-16, according to which eight new monuments have been added to the Annex to Recommendation VII-9.

INSPECTIONS UNDER ARTICLE VII OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY
(Agenda Item 16)

82. Attention was drawn to the importance of the rights of inspection provided in Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty. At a time when there is growth both in the level and types of activity in Antarctica, these inspection provisions take an added significance. It was stressed that exercise of the rights of inspection is important to maintaining the confidence of Parties to the Antarctic Treaty and others asserting an interest in Antarctica, that the principles and purposes of the Treaty, as well as its provisions and related recommendations are being fully realized.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT CONSULTATIVE MEETING
(Agenda Item 17)

83. The Meeting received with special satisfaction the invitation of the Delegation of Brazil to host the XIVth Consultative Meeting in Brasilia, Brazil, in 1987. The precise date of the meeting will be determined after consultations to be held by the Government of Brazil.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 18)

84. The Depositary Government reported to the Meeting on the status of recommendations adopted at Consultative Meetings. In this regard, the Depositary Government requested that Contracting Parties advise it as to the accuracy of its records with respect to such Parties. A copy of a document provided by the Depositary Government reflecting the status of recommendations is annexed to this report (Annex C).

85. The Meeting noted the fact that no recommendations since the IXth Consultative Meeting have become effective. In this regard it encouraged Consultative Parties which had not yet approved these recommendations to consider such approval so that they may become effective.

86. The Meeting also made note of Recommendation VIII-8 and encouraged non-Consultative Parties to approve recommendations that have become effective.

87. The Meeting agreed to send the traditional telegram of greetings to all Antarctic stations. The text of the message is at Annex D.

II

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT THE

THIRTEENTH ANTARCTIC TREATY

CONSULTATIVE MEETING

XIII-1

OPERATION OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM : INFORMATION

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendation XII-6;

Recognizing the importance of accurate and adequate information regarding the Antarctic Treaty System,

Noting therefore the desirability of ensuring and facilitating the availability of information about the Antarctic Treaty System;

Recommend to their Governments that :

1. Efforts be continued to ensure that Final Reports of Consultative Meetings provide full and accurate records of these meetings, including :

(a) the general trends of discussion of the specific agenda items considered as well as specific steps or actions taken as a result of decisions or recommendations adopted at previous consultative meetings; and

(b) appropriate additional documentation of the meeting;

2. The Antarctic Treaty Handbook be regularly maintained as a current compilation of the recommendations and other actions agreed by Consultative Meetings;

3. To the greatest extent practicable and feasible and in accordance with national laws and regulations, the following be made available on request :

XIII-1

- (a) Final Reports of Consultative Meetings,
- (b) The Antarctic Treaty Handbook,
- (c) Annual exchanges of information they provide under the Antarctic Treaty;

4. Their national committees be encouraged to make available, on request and in accordance with national laws and regulations, annual activities reports which these committees submit to the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR);

5. On request and in accordance with national laws and regulations, up-to-date information be made available, to the greatest extent practicable and feasible, on :

- (a) the location of depositories of data, samples and collections resulting from scientific research in Antarctica; and

- (b) the nature and location of bibliographies or other information sources concerning reports and published works related to Antarctic matters, including those related to scientific research activities in Antarctica;

6. A national contact point, or contact points, be designated and charged with the functions referred to in paragraph 3 above and maintaining the information referred to in paragraph 5 above;

7. The names and addresses of the institutions or entities designated as national contact points, pursuant to paragraph 6 above, be published as an annex to the Final Report of each Consultative Meeting and the Antarctic Treaty Handbook and be otherwise publicly disseminated.

OPERATION OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM : OVERVIEW

The Representatives,

Recognizing the virtue of there being a regular overview of the Antarctic Treaty System, including the relationships among its components;

Believing that regular reports about the activities of these components at the Consultative Meetings would serve this objective;

Recommend to their Governments that :

1. An item "Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System : Reports" be included on the Agenda of each subsequent Consultative Meeting;
2. Under that item reports concerning developments in their respective areas of competence since the previous Consultative Meeting be received from the components of the System and that, to this end :
 - (a) they request the Chairman of any special Consultative Meeting, and any other meeting held pursuant to a recommendation of a Consultative Meeting, or a person designated by him, to present such a report;
 - (b) they invite the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources to appoint its Chairman or other person to represent the Commission as an observer for the specific purpose of presenting such a report;

XIII-2

- (c) through their National Committees, they invite the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) to appoint its President or other person to represent the Committee as an observer for the specific purpose of reporting on :
- (i) the general proceedings of SCAR;
 - (ii) matters within the competence of SCAR under the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals;
 - (iii) such publications and reports as may have been published or prepared in accordance with Recommendations IV-19 and VI-9 respectively;
- (d) pending possible establishment of a Commission as provided for under the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals, they invite the Depositary Government of that Convention to report on the matters within the Depositary's competence under the Convention.
3. In preparing for each Consultative Meeting they consider, in relation to developments since the previous Consultative Meeting, whether, for the purpose of such overview, reports on any such developments in, or bearing upon, the Antarctic Treaty System would be helpful and, through the host Government for that Consultative Meeting, act accordingly.

XIII-3

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ANTARCTIC TREATY :
ANNUAL EXCHANGES

The Representatives,

Recalling Articles III and VII of the Antarctic Treaty and Recommendations VIII-6 and VIII-9;

Considering that while it is important that Consultative Parties should continue to report extensions, reductions or other modifications of activities previously reported, no practical purpose is served by requiring this information to be provided in the Antarctic winter;

Recalling the need to maintain an awareness of the activities of tourists in the Antarctic Treaty Area;

Recommend to their Governments that :

1. Operative paragraph 4 of Recommendation VIII-6 be amended as follows :

replace the date "30 June" with the date "30 November";

2. The Annex to Recommendation VIII-6 be amended as follows :

Paragraph 2 : replace the date "30 June" with the date "30 November";

Paragraph 3 : add "XVI. The reports referred to in paragraph 3 of Recommendation VIII-9."

XIII-4

MAN'S IMPACT ON THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT : CODE OF CONDUCT FOR
ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS AND STATION ACTIVITIES : WASTE DISPOSAL

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendations VI-4, VIII-11 and XII-4;

Recognizing that Antarctica derives much of its scientific importance from its uncontaminated condition and the consequent need to reduce to the minimum level practicable the spread of all potential contaminants introduced into the Antarctic Treaty Area by man;

Noting that changes have occurred in the perception of what constitutes pollution and in analytical techniques since Recommendation VIII-11 was approved;

Noting with appreciation the preliminary review by the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) of the waste disposal aspects of the Annex to Recommendation VIII-11;

Recommend to their respective Governments that through their National Antarctic Committees they invite SCAR, using all resources available to it, to undertake a comprehensive review of the waste disposal aspects of the Annex to Recommendations VIII-11 and, giving due consideration to the need to avoid detrimental effects on neighbouring or associated ecosystems outside the Antarctic Treaty Area and to considerations of cost-effectiveness, to offer :

XIII-4

1. scientific advice regarding waste disposal procedures and standards that it is desirable to achieve at coastal and inland stations and field camps;
2. advice regarding the logistic feasibility of such procedures bearing in mind Antarctic operational circumstances, including variation in the numbers of personnel between stations, operational and logistic difficulties, and local circumstances; and
3. such other advice as seems to SCAR to be relevant to waste disposal procedures.

XIII-5

MAN'S IMPACT ON THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT : ADDITIONAL PROTECTIVE
ARRANGEMENTS

The Representatives,

Recalling the measures adopted under the Antarctic Treaty for the protection of the environment, the protection of historic sites and monuments, the conservation of fauna and flora, and in particular the setting aside of Specially Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest;

Desiring to ensure that activities in Antarctica should not harm the unique Antarctic environment, disrupt scientific investigation or other legitimate uses or be otherwise contrary to the principles and purposes of the Antarctic Treaty;

Bearing in mind that the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) at the XVIIIth Meeting in Bremerhaven considered the question of the establishment of a new type of conservation area in the Antarctic;

Recommend to their Governments that through their National Committees they invite the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) to offer scientific advice :

1. on the system of protected areas in the Antarctic, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Specially Protected Areas and the question of a possible additional category of area under a different form of protection; and
2. on steps that possibly could be taken to improve the comparability and accessibility of scientific data on Antarctica.

XIII-6

FACILITATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH : SITING OF STATIONS

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendations I-1, VI-4, VII-1, VII-8, VIII-11 and XII-3;

Reaffirming that freedom of scientific investigation as set out in Article II of the Antarctic Treaty is one of the fundamental principles of the Treaty; and

Noting that nothing in this recommendation may be construed as prejudicing that provision of the Treaty;

Recognizing that, while there are scientific, environmental and logistic advantages to be gained from stations being in proximity to one another, there can also be disadvantages which can be avoided by appropriate consultation;

Recommend to their Governments that where stations have been established in the same vicinity the concerned national Antarctic operating agencies should consult together, by whatever means found appropriate, so as to safeguard existing scientific activities, avoid operational logistic difficulties and avoid undue adverse environmental effects arising from cumulative impacts.

XIII-7

FACILITATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH : SITES OF SPECIAL
SCIENTIFIC INTEREST : INTERIM GUIDELINES :
EXTENSION OF DESIGNATION

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendations VIII-3, VIII-4, X-6 and XII-5;

Noting that :

- (i) In accordance with paragraph 2 of Recommendation VIII-3 the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), at its Eighteenth Meeting at Bremerhaven in September 1984, had reviewed the eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest designated in Recommendation VIII-4.
- (ii) Experience of the practical effect of the management plans for these sites has shown them to be an effective means of reducing the risks of harmful interference in areas of special scientific interest.
- (iii) Except for Site n° 1 no change to these management plans had been proposed by SCAR.

Recommend to their Governments that :

1. The date of expiry of designation of Site Numbers 2 - 8 be extended from 31 December 1985 to the date shown below :

XIII-7

Site n° 2 : Arrival Heights, Hut Point Peninsula, Ross Island :
to 31 December 1987

Site n° 3 : Barwick Valley, Victoria Land : to 31 December 1995.

Site n° 4 : Cape Crozier, Ross Island : to 31 December 1991.

Site n° 5 : Fildes Peninsula, King George Island, South Shetland
Islands : to 31 December 1991.

Site n° 6 : Byers Peninsula, Livingston Island, South Shetland
Islands : to 31 December 1991.

Site n° 7 : Haswell Island : to 31 December 1991.

Site n° 8 : Western shore of Admiralty Bay, King George Island,
South Shetland Islands : to 31 December 1995.

2. They use their best endeavours to ensure, in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of Recommendation VII-3, that the management plans of these sites are observed.

XIII-8

FACILITATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH : SITES OF SPECIAL
SCIENTIFIC INTEREST : INTERIM GUIDELINES :
ADDITIONAL SITES

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendations VII-3, VIII-3, VIII-4 and X-5;

Noting that management plans have been prepared and approved by the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) for certain Sites of Special Scientific Interest additional to those already designated;

Considering that it would be advantageous to gather experience of the practical effect of the management plans prepared for these sites;

Recommend to their Governments that they voluntarily take account of the management plans, annexed to this recommendation, for the following sites :

- Site n° 9 : Rothera Point, Adelaide Island
- Site n° 10 : Caughley Beach, Cape Bird, Ross Island
- Site n° 11 : Tramway Ridge, Mount Erebus, Ross Island
- Site n° 12 : Canada Glacier, Lake Fryxell, Taylor Valley,
Victoria Land
- Site n° 13 : Potter Peninsula, King George Island,
South Shetland Islands
- Site n° 14 : Harmony Point, Nelson Island, South Shetland
Islands
- Site n° 15 : Cierva Point and nearby islands, Danco Coast,
Antarctic Peninsula

XIII-8

- Site n° 16 : Bailey Peninsula, Budd Coast, Wilkes Land
- Site n° 17 : Clark Peninsula, Budd Coast, Wilkes Land
- Site n° 18 : White Island, McMurdo Sound
- Site n° 19 : Linnaeus Terrace, Asgaard Range, Victoria Land
- Site n° 20 : Biscoe Point, Anvers Island, Palmer Archipelago
- Site n° 21 : Shores of Port Foster, Deception Island, South Shetland Islands.

ANNEXES

Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 9
Rothera Point, Adelaide Island

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

Rothera Point (lat. 67°34'S, long. 68°08'W) is situated in Ryder Bay, at the south-east corner of Square Peninsula on the east side of Adelaide Island, south-west Antarctic Peninsula. The proposed Site is the north-eastern one-third of the point and is representative of the area as a whole. The British station Rothera lies about 350 m west of the western boundary of the Site. The boundaries of the Site are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

This Site serves to monitor the impact of man on an Antarctic fellfield ecosystem. The vegetation is not rich or well developed, and the soils are shallow and confined to small pockets; there is no significant avifauna. Some monitoring studies have been in progress since before the establishment of the research station in 1975.

(iii) Outline of research

Investigations incorporating the monitoring of terrestrial and freshwater macro- and micro-biota, soils and heavy metal deposition within the Site (control area) and near the Site (impact area) will continue with a view to assessing the impact of the neighbouring research station.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

None designated.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Vehicles and helicopters are excluded. Pedestrians should enter the Site only in connection with monitoring activities. Pedestrian access is allowed to the beaches seaward of the Site.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

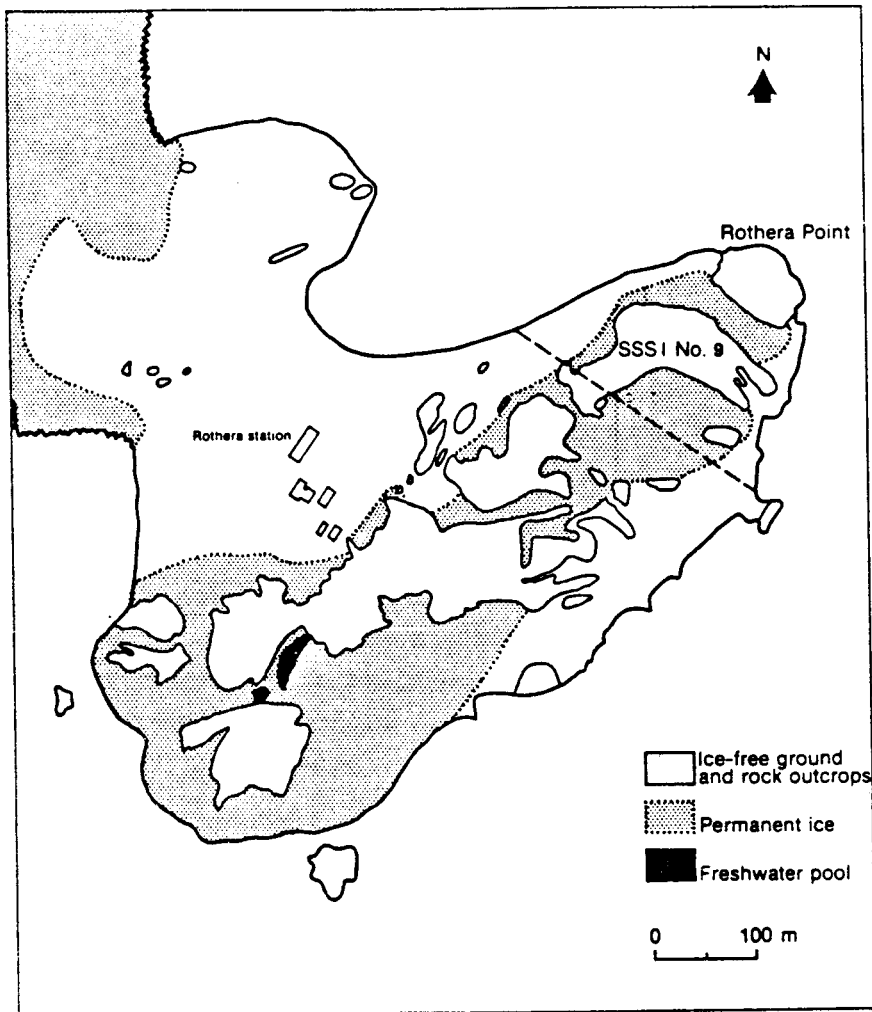
Investigation that would not affect the effectiveness of the Site for the purpose for which it has been designated.

(viii) Scientific sampling

This should be restricted to the minimum required in connection with the monitoring programme.

(ix) Other restraints

Sledge dogs associated with the research programmes at Rothera Station must not be permitted to enter the Site. Human wastes must not be deposited in the Site.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 10
Caughley Beach, Cape Bird, Ross Island

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

Caughley Beach and its hinterland lie between the areas known as the Cape Bird Northern and Middle Penguin Rookeries, about 1 km north of Cape Bird, northern Ross Island (lat. 77°10'S, long. 166°40'E). The proposed Site encompasses the area between the top of the coastal cliffs of Caughley Beach and the Mt Bird Ice Cap, and between a line 200 m south of the New Zealand Antarctic Research Programme's summer station and a line 500 m north of Cape Bird Middle Adelle Penguin Rookery. The Site surrounds Specially Protected Area No. 20 on three sides and its boundaries are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

The Cape Bird area is the site of the most extensive stands of moss, algae, and lichens in southern Victoria Land. The terrestrial ecosystem within the Site is the subject of long-term research. Designation of the Site will protect biological experiments and monitoring sites, and provide a buffer zone around the Specially Protected Area's conservation zone.

(iii) Outline of research

Investigations incorporate monitoring of plant colonisation sites, bacteriology, mycology and phycology of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, physiology of terrestrial and freshwater fauna, and nitrogen cycling. The research is designed to provide a better understanding of the biogeochemical processes in Antarctic ecosystems.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1991.

(v) Access points

There are no restrictions on access points other than that section of the Caughley Beach cliff top which is a designated boundary shared with the Specially Protected Area.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Vehicles and helicopters are excluded. Pedestrians should keep to ridge lines and well drained ground.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

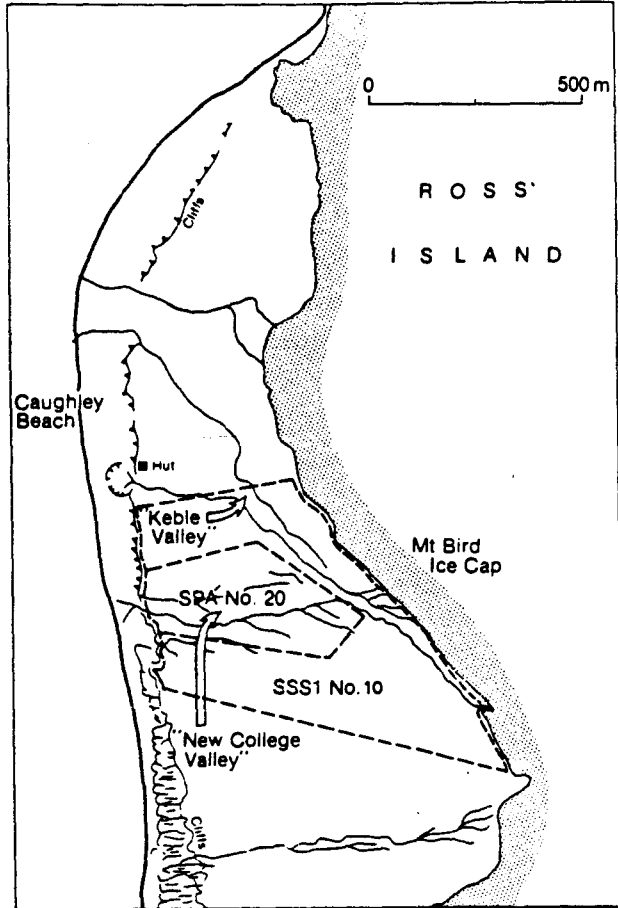
Research studies and access to the USN Astrofix with the provision that exotic biota are not introduced and ecosystems are not damaged or disrupted.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Sampling should be restricted to the minimum required and should not be undertaken to the detriment of the functioning of existing ecosystems, or of the purposes for which the Site has been designated.

(ix) Other restraints

None specified.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 11

Tramway Ridge, Mt Erebus, Ross Island

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

Mt Erebus (3795 m) Ross Island, South Victoria Land is one of two active volcanoes on continental Antarctica. Tramway Ridge is situated between altitudes 3350 and 3400 m 1 km north-west of the Mt Erebus crater (lat. 77°32'S, long. 167°8'E). The Site comprises an extensive area of gently sloping warm ground located 1 km north west of the main crater of Mt Erebus at the lower end of Tramway Ridge. The boundary of the Site is a square with sides of 100 m and encompasses the entire warm ground area of lower Tramway Ridge. The 1 ha site is divided into two areas of permitted use. The northern area 'A' is designated as a reference site with all access prohibited except for pressing research reasons. The southern area 'B' is designated as a research site to accommodate on-going research programmes and sample collection. The boundaries of the Site are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

Mt Erebus provides one of only two known high altitude areas of fumarolic activity and associated vegetation in the Antarctic. The warm ground of the Site and its associated vegetation are of interest to botanists, phycologists and microbiologists. The Site serves as a study area for descriptive purposes and provides a reference site for future studies. In order to preserve the research status of the Site and protect it against trampling damage and alien introductions which may find conditions here favourable for survival, the area has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

(iii) Outline of research

Botanical, phycological and microbiological studies of the Site and its associated vegetation, with particular reference to the presence of warm ground in an extremely rigorous environment.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1991.

(v) Access points

There are no restrictions on access points

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Vehicles and helicopters are excluded. Pedestrians should ensure great care is taken to avoid, wherever possible, walking on any visible vegetation and areas of heated ground.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

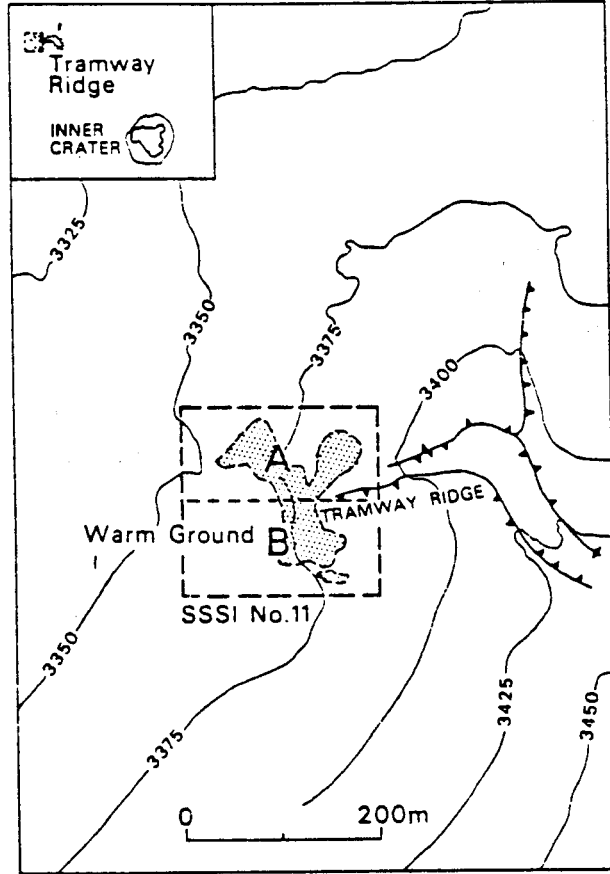
Scientific investigations which will not cause disturbance to the environment and its biota or to the biological programmes.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Samples are not to be taken from area 'A'. Sampling from area 'B' should be restrained and not be undertaken to the detriment of the sustainability of the biological communities or the interests of future investigations.

(ix) Other restraints

Sterile protective overclothing should be worn and footwear should be sterilized before entering the Site to minimise the risk of introducing alien biota to the geothermal areas. Human wastes must not be deposited within the Site.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 12
Canada Glacier, Lake Fryxell, Taylor Valley, Victoria Land

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

The Site lies between Canada Glacier and Lake Fryxell in lower Taylor Valley, south Victoria Land (lat. 77°37'S, long. 163°05'E). The Site encompasses an area of 1 km² located between the tongue of Canada Glacier and the shoreline of Lake Fryxell. Surface features include old moraine deposits and ancient lake levels. During summer months small meltwater streams drain from the glacier to the lake creating an extensive area of flushes. The central flush area is about 100 m west of the New Zealand Antarctic Research Programme field hut. The boundaries of the Site are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

The Site contains some of the richest plant growth (algae and mosses) in the southern Victoria Land Dry Valleys. With the concentration of research activity within this area there is a need to regulate human impact with regard to trampling, water quality and sampling.

(iii) Outline of research

The Site is the centre of scientific research for freshwater and terrestrial biological research and a reference site for other dry valley biological ecosystems.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1991.

(v) Access points

Access should be from the north-east side of the Site.

(vi) Pedestrian and Vehicular routes

Vehicles are excluded, although access to the Site by helicopter is allowed but landings should be restricted to the helicopter landing pad 50 m north-east of the New Zealand Antarctic Research Programme hut.

Pedestrian movement within the Site should be restricted to designated paths and shortest routes consistent with scientific activity.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

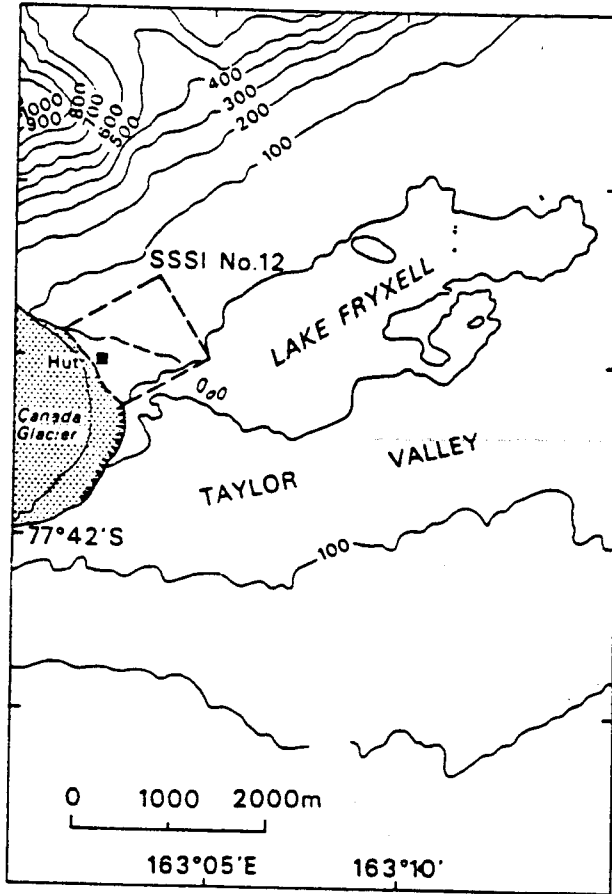
None specified.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Sampling should be restricted to the minimum required and should not be undertaken to the detriment of the environment and its biota. It should be accomplished without causing introduction to new biota, including microorganisms.

(ix) Other restraints

- (a) Collection of ice for water supply should be taken from the edge of the glacier immediately south of the area of rich algal growth.
- (b) All human wastes must be containerised and returned to Scott or McMurdo Stations.
- (c) Tent sites are to be restricted to within a 50 m radius of the hut.
- (d) Entry into the area of rich moss growth west of the hut is prohibited except for compelling scientific purposes.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 13
Potter Peninsula, King George Island, South Shetland Islands

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

The Site is located on the east side of Maxwell Bay, south-west King George Island between "Mirounga Point" and the east side of Stranger Point (lat. 62°15'S, long. 58°37'W). The Site occupies the coastal zone of variable width up to 500 m from the shore-line (low water mark) and rising to about 70 m altitude at Stranger Point. It is mainly an area of raised beaches, mostly pebble-covered, backed by basalt cliffs, terminal or lateral moraines and small glaciers. The coastline is very irregular and alternates with small bays and rocky headlands. The boundaries of the Site are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

This area has a diverse avian and mammal fauna and locally rich vegetation, and is located close to an Argentine research station (Jubany) frequently visited by tourist cruises. Long term research programmes could be endangered by accidental interference, especially during breeding periods.

(iii) Outline of research

The Site contains a fairly large breeding population of elephant seals (Mirounga leonina). Various research projects are being carried out, including population censuses, tagging, studies of population structure, birth and mortality rates, growth rates and analysis of blood samples for the study of protein polymorphism. The status of fur seals (Arctocephalus gazella) and other seals is also being monitored. Studies of breeding seabirds are also being made on Adelie penguins (Pygoscelis adeliae), gentoo penguins (P. papua), giant petrels (Macronectes giganteus), Dominican gulls (Larus dominicanus), sheathbills (Chionis alba), brown skuas (Catharacta lonnbergii) and Antarctic terns (Sterna vittata). This work includes nest censuses, fledgling development, predation and analysis of egg albumin to determine protein polymorphism.

All the investigations have the objective of assessing the population dynamics of the different species, and the biotic and abiotic factors that regulate them.

(iv) Data of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access Points

Access to the Site is restricted to the northern end in the vicinity of "Mirounga Point".

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Pedestrians and vehicles must use established routes particularly during the breeding season. No vehicles or helicopters should be used near any of the breeding sites.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigation which would not cause harmful interference

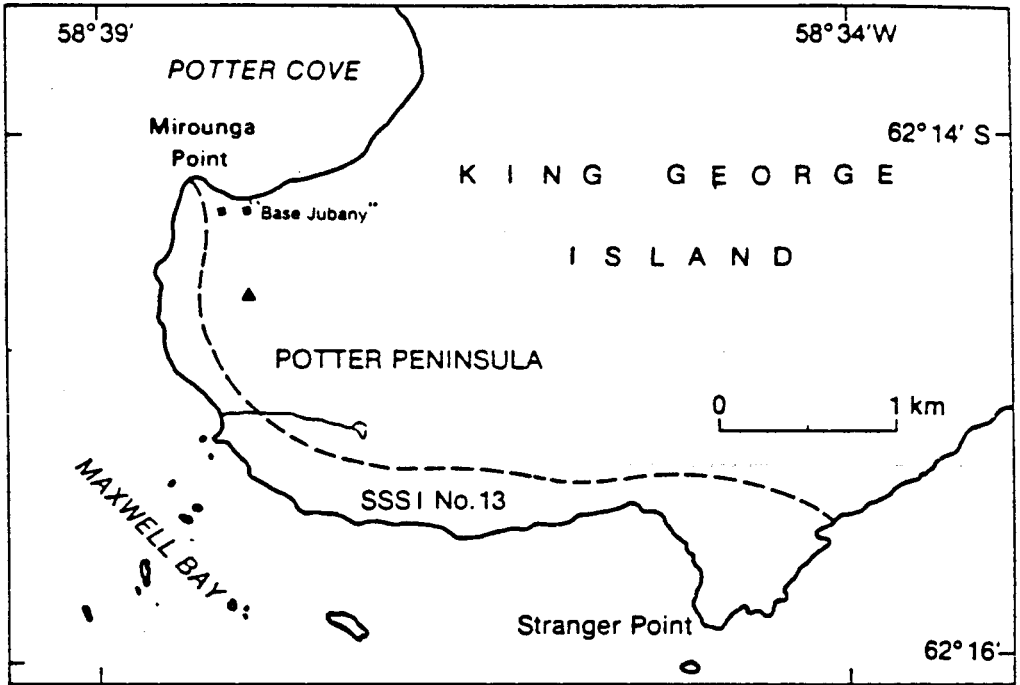
None specified.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Scientific sampling, both by killing or capturing, must be the minimum required for the research programme described above, and must conform with the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of the Antarctic Flora and Fauna.

(ix) Other restraints

None specified.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 14

Harmony Point, West Coast of Nelson Island, South Shetland Islands

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

The Site is on the north-west coast of Nelson Island, between King George Island to the north-east and Robert Island to the south-west (lat. 62°18'S, long. 59°14'W). The Site includes Harmony Point and The Toe, the adjacent ice-free land and inter-tidal zone within the rectangle shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

This area is of special scientific interest, being situated in an area rich in avian species. Vegetation cover is extensive, often dense and comprises a relatively rich flora including both species of vascular plants. Its rocky coasts are inhabited by large numbers of marine invertebrates. Long-term research programmes could be disrupted by accidental interference, the destruction of the vegetation and substratum, and the perturbation of nesting areas.

(iii) Outline of research

Argentine and Chilean research in the area includes the following ornithological activities: nest censuses, juvenile mortality studies, growth studies, banding, and studies on predators, ie. leopard seal (Hydrurga leptonyx), giant petrel (Macronectes giganteus) and skuas (Catharacta spp.). The relationships between the flora and nesting areas of the various bird species are being studied. In the tide pools ecological studies are continuing. The results are compared with those from other research sites in order to understand the relationships among different littoral systems.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

Access to the Harmony Point area is restricted to access from the sea, across the pebble beach situated to the south-west of Inca Point, 400 m south-south-west of the refuge. Special access points are not specified for The Toe.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Pedestrians must use established routes, particularly during the bird breeding season. Helicopters must not overfly any of the bird breeding areas below the height stated in the Agreed Measures, and should land only in the vicinity of the refuge or landing beach, and should not land anywhere on The Toe. There is no vehicular access.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

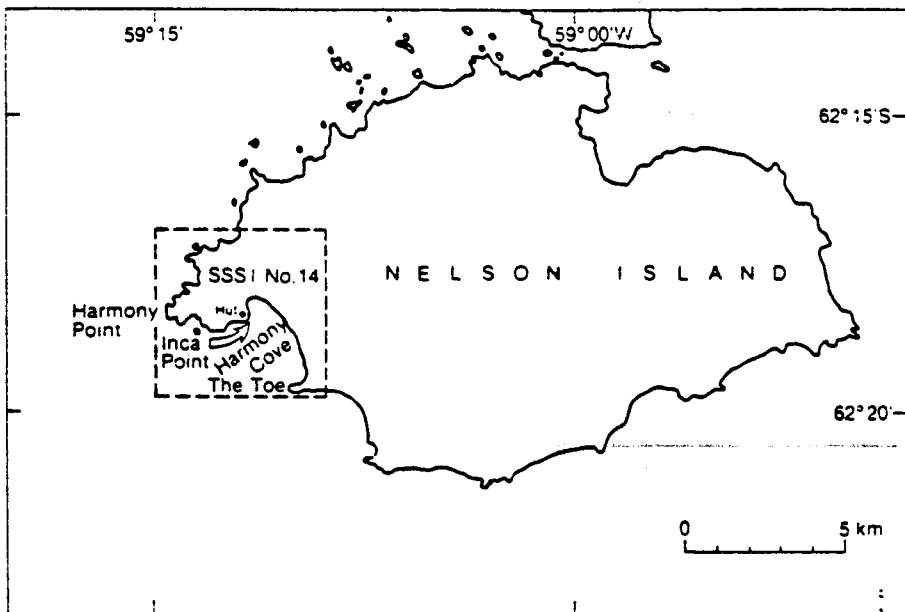
None specified.

(viii) Scientific sampling

All sampling, including killing or capturing of fauna, must be the minimum required for the approved scientific programmes and must conform to the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of the Antarctic Flora and Fauna.

(ix) Other restraints

No refuse should be deposited within the Site, or at sea beyond the Site in a manner which may allow it to be washed ashore within the Site. The refuge should be maintained in a habitable state and all refuse and unwanted materials associated with it should be removed from the Site.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 15
Cierva Point and Offshore Islands, Danco Coast, Antarctic Peninsula

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

Cierva Point (lat. 64°10'S, long. 60°57'W) is at the north-west of the peninsula on the south side of Cierva Cove at the north end of Hughes Bay. (It should not be confused with Spring Point on the south side of Brialmont Cove in Hughes Bay.) The Site comprises the Cierva Point peninsula encompassing the land west of an imaginary line from the south east of the north side of the Point through the summit of Mōjon Hill to the south-east of the south side of the Point. Also included are Sterneck Island and Midas Island and Moss Islands, which lie mainly between Midas Island and Cierva Point. Although the intertidal zone of each of these areas is included in the Site, the sub-tidal marine environment is not included. Base Primavera and all its associated installation and areas of disturbance are excluded from the Site.

(ii) Reason for designation

The area has a special scientific value in that it sustains important avian populations, extensive vegetation and a diverse flora including the two Antarctic flowering plants and several liverworts, and invertebrate fauna; its littoral possesses abundant tidal pools inhabited by large numbers of marine invertebrates. Long-term research programmes could be endangered by accidental interference, destruction of the vegetation and soil, pollution of rock pools, and perturbation of breeding birds.

(iii) Outline of research

Eight species of bird are being studied. The studies include: nesting censuses, growth of fledglings, banding, mortality of young by predation and study of predators, especially leopard seals (Hydrurga leptonyx) and giant petrels (Macronectes giganteus).

The relationship between the vegetation and bird colonies is being studied. Studies of Antarctic hair grass (Deschampsia antarctica) and Antarctic pearlwort (Colobanthus quitensis) are being undertaken. The ecology of the relatively diverse fauna of the intertidal pools is being studied in detail.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

Access to Cierva Point should be at one point only, a landing area to the west of the research station. No access points are specified for any of the islands.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Pedestrians must keep to established routes, particularly in densely vegetated areas and in bird breeding areas.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

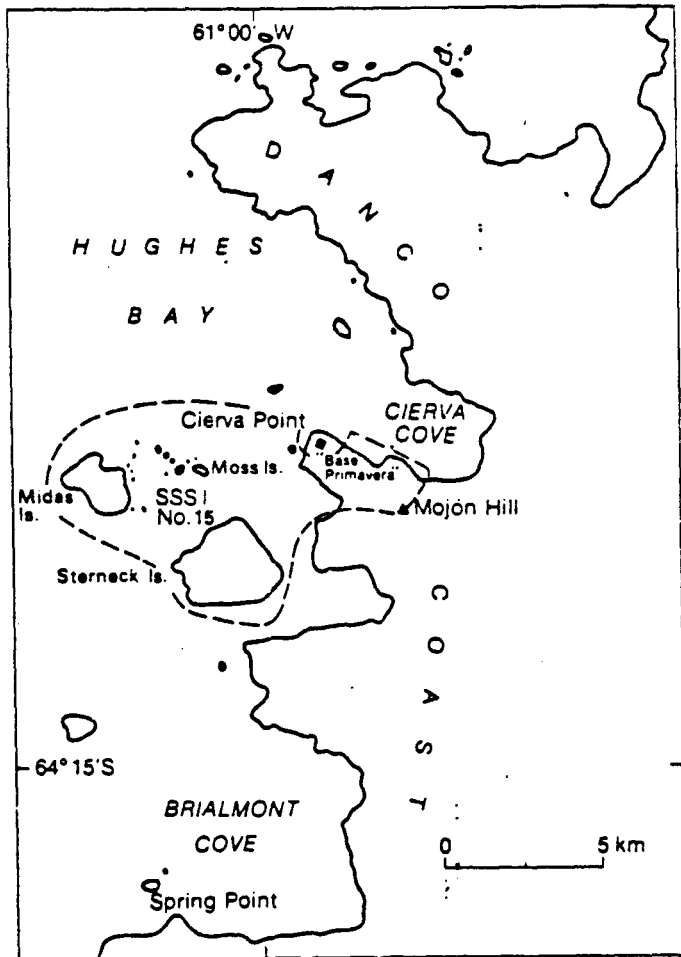
Any research which will not have a detrimental impact on the environment.

(viii) Scientific sampling

All sampling must be the minimum required for approved scientific projects, and must conform to the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of the Antarctic Flora and Fauna. No sampling of any kind (eg. for souvenirs) is permitted for any other reason, especially by tourists.

(ix) Other restraints

No waste of any description should be disposed of within the Site, or at sea in a manner which will allow it to be washed ashore within any part of the Site.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 16
North-East Bailey Peninsula, Budd Coast, Wilkes Land

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

Bailey Peninsula is situated between Newcomb and O'Brien Bays at the west end of Vincennes Bay, opposite the Windmill Islands, on Budd Coast at lat. 66°17'S, long. 110°32'E. The Site consists of an irregular area of rock exposed during summer, surrounding the Casey Station transmitter building. The boundary, which is demarcated, is shown on the map attached to the Management Plan for Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 17.

(ii) Reason for designation

The Site is not unique in the Windmill Islands region context but is representative of a diverse assemblage of vegetation; it contains contrasting habitats and water bodies; has extremely rich (by continental Antarctic standards) lichen and moss communities and an important stand of liverwort. Proximity to Casey Station minimises logistic problems with respect to field research and, at the same time, maximises the potential for disturbance of study areas. It is primarily for this latter reason that this Site, where research is concentrated, requires protection.

(iii) Outline of research

The Site contains three extensive and contrasting moss fields which are the subject of taxonomic, ecological and physiological studies which commenced during the summer of 1982-83. Additional studies include population ecology of invertebrates associated with the vegetation, and soil/water chemistry. Permanent lichen growth monitoring sites have also been established as have sites monitoring annual growth increments in mosses.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

None specified, although access to the transmitter building near the south-east end of the Site should be via the ice/snow of the oversnow access route to Law Dome, several kilometres to the south.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Access to the area should be restricted as far as possible to that necessary to conduct scientific work and operate the transmitter building. Vehicles should be restricted to existing access routes. These are clearly demarcated. No helicopter landing is permitted within the Site. Particular care should be taken to avoid damage to bryophytes and lichens, disrupting of soils and periglacial features, and to avoid causing changes to water quality or drainage.

Selected study reference areas (eg. three contrasting moss communities) have been delimited by marked stakes without causing disturbance to the environment. Access to these areas should be restricted to scientists participating in the study programme.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

Scientific research other than the programmes for which the Site has been designated should be kept to a minimum.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Sampling should be kept to the minimum and should not affect the existing research programmes.

(ix) Other restraints

No storage or disposal of any products relating to human occupancy of the Station should occur in the Site.

Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 17
Clark Peninsula, Budd Coast, Wilkes Land

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

Clark Peninsula is situated on the north side of Newcomb Bay at the west end of Vincennes Bay, opposite Windmill Islands, on Budd Coast, at lat. 66°15'S, long. 110°36'E. The Site comprises all land on Clark Peninsula within the southern boundary line connecting the east site of Stevenson Cove to trigonometrical station NM/5/6, trig. station G3 and a point to the east-south-east on Loken Moraines. The western boundary is the easternmost limit of Loken Moraines as far north as a point due east of Blakeney Point, and thence to the coast. The boundary of the Site is indicated by prominent markers, and is shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

Within the Site moss and lichen communities are being used as control sites to monitor environmental impact at Casey Station. These remote study areas provide baseline data with which to compare changes associated with the research station.

(iii) Outline of research

Lakes in a valley running south-west from Stevenson Cove towards the former Wilkes Station contain copepods which are not known elsewhere in the Windmill Islands area and are the subject of ongoing studies. The Adelie penguin colony at Whitney Point has been the site of intensive studies. This well studied site will provide a baseline for comparison with changes in other colonies in the region. Monitoring studies commenced during the summer of 1982-83.

Physiological studies of mosses are underway. Ecological studies of bryophyte and lichen vegetation and associated invertebrate fauna, algae and fungi and studies of moss growth and development in relation to taxonomic interpretation will be undertaken.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

None specified.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Access to Wilkes Station is via a well-defined route on the southern side of the Site. Pedestrian and vehicular traffic should keep to this route, and in particular should not stray northward of it. Vehicular traffic within the Site should be restricted to oversnow access to Wilkes Station. Helicopters should not land within the Site. It is unlikely that pedestrian traffic will cause undue disturbance to the Site. However, travel should, where possible, be via snow, avoiding ice-free areas.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

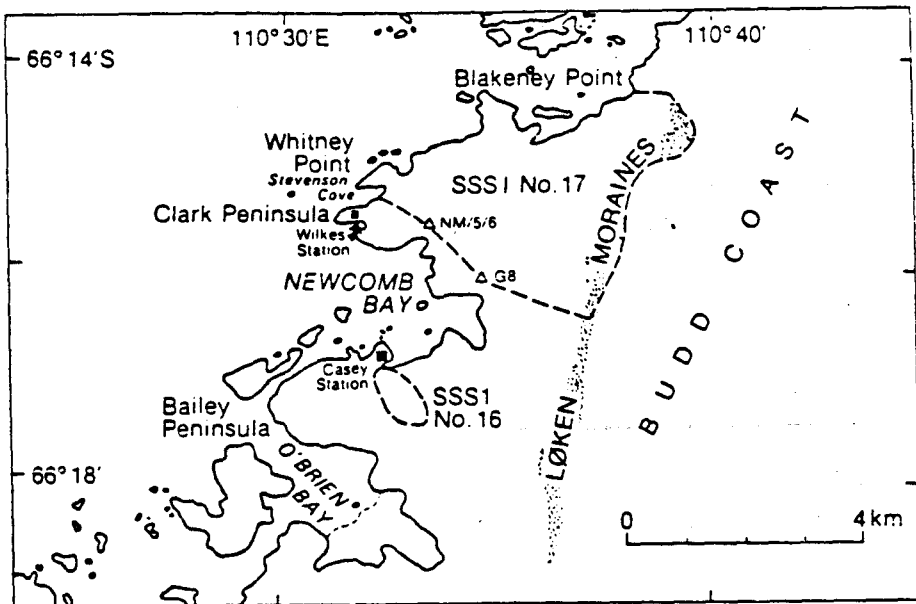
Scientific research other than the programmes for which the Site has been designated should be kept to a minimum.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Sampling should be the minimum required for the approved research programmes.

(ix) Other restraints

Field refuge huts, if deemed necessary for facilitation of scientific studies, should be placed with care so as to avoid any potential contamination of the environment, or interference with plant or animal life. Maintenance of the existing state of the Site is important for fulfilment of the stated research objectives.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 18
North-West White Island, McMurdo Sound

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

White Island (lat. 78°10'S, long. 167°25'E) rises out of the Ross Ice Shelf, about 30 km south-south-east of Hut Point, Ross Island. The Site includes the north-west coastline of White Island from Cape Spencer-Smith in the north to a point protruding into the Strait between White and Black Islands in the south-west. It extends from high water mark to 5 km offshore, across the Ross Ice Shelf. The boundary of the Site is shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

This Site supports a small breeding population of Weddell seals (Leptonychotes weddellii) which is physically isolated from the rest of mainland Antarctica by shelf ice. It is one of very few areas where Weddell seals feed under shelf ice. It is also one of the most southerly Weddell seal populations and has been studied year round.

(iii) Outline of research

This unique Weddell seal population is the focus of continuing research in the area. Several hypotheses have been proposed to explain how this population originated and has remained isolated, 25 km from the nearest open water.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1991.

(v) Access points

None designated

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Vehicles should approach no closer than 500 m to the seal population and helicopters and low-flying aircraft should avoid the area, approaching no lower than 250 m altitude.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

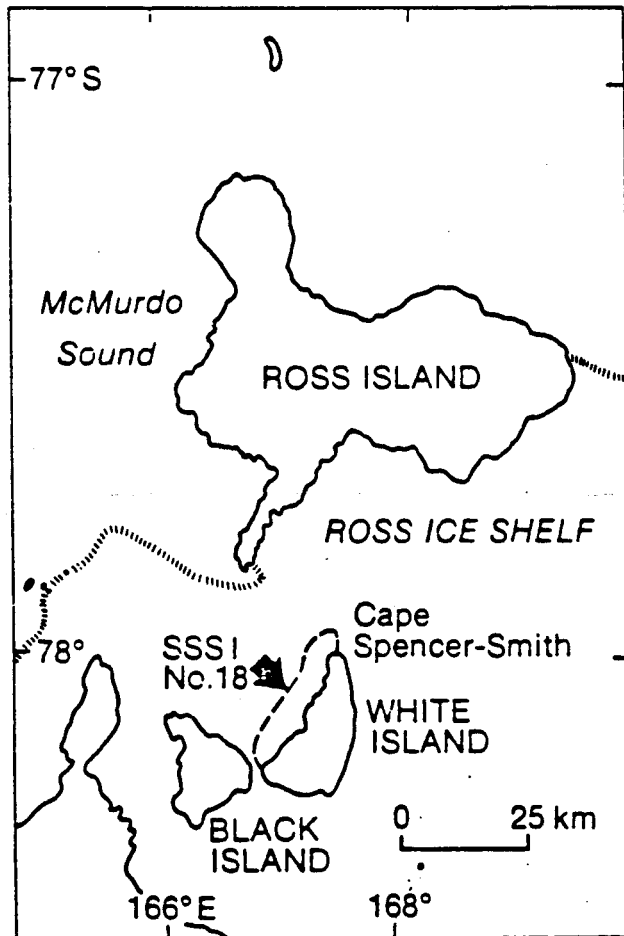
None specified.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Taking samples of Weddell seals by killing or capture should be done only for compelling scientific purpose and in accordance with the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora.

(ix) Other restraints

No underwater explosives may be used for any purpose.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 19
Linnaeus Terrace, Asgaard Range, Victoria Land

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

The Site (lat. 77°36'S, long. 161°07'E) lies at the west end of the Asgaard Range to the north of Oliver Peak. It is between Don Juan Pond in South Fork Valley, south-west of Wright Valley, and Inland Forts, a small mountain range south-west of the Asgaard Range. The Site includes the flat terrace north and east of Oliver Peak, between about 1500 m and 1650 m altitude. Its boundaries are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

Linnaeus Terrace is one of the richest localities for the unique cryptoendolithic communities which colonize the Beacon Sandstone. Exposed rock surfaces exhibit a range of biological and physical weathering forms.

(iii) Outline of research

Numerous scientific investigations have been and will continue to be conducted at the Site. The lichen flora has been extensively surveyed. The Site is typical for the monotypic green algal genus Hemichloris (H. antarctica). Microbiological studies of the cryptoendolithic ecosystem and year-round meteorological and micrometeorological measurements have been undertaken.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access Points

No access points are specified for pedestrians but access by helicopter should be at the designated and marked landing site only.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Vehicles should not enter the Site. Pedestrian traffic should be kept to a minimum.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

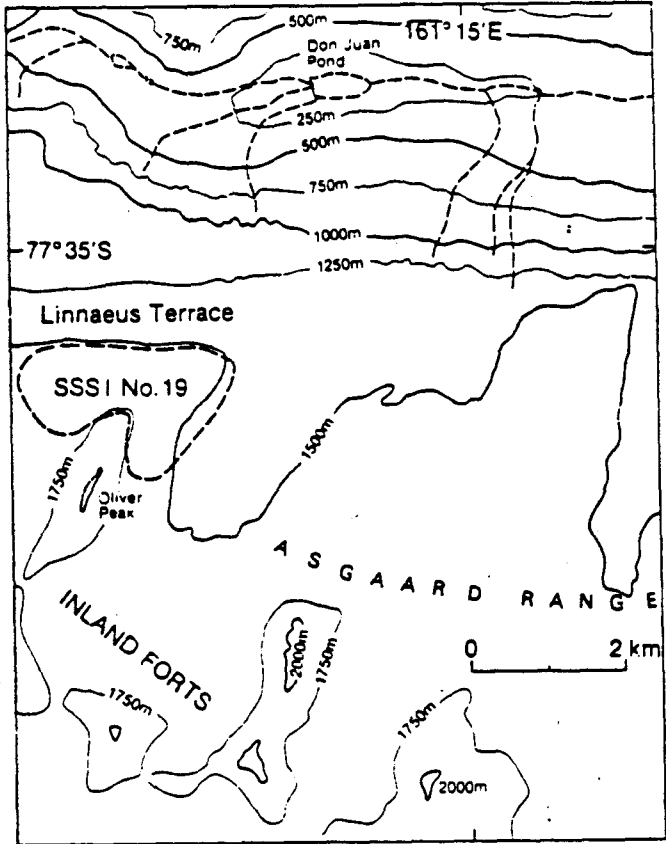
All other scientific activities should be kept to an absolute minimum.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Scientific sampling and field activities should be restrained and cause minimal disturbance to the environment. Rocks should not be moved from their natural position. Great care should be exercised to avoid accidental breakage of fragile rock formations, and disturbing periglacial features.

(ix) Other restraints

Camping should be limited to the designated camping area in the immediate vicinity of the landing pad. Urinations should be limited to a marked spot about 20 m east of the landing pad. Other human waste and all refuse should be removed from the Site.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No. 20
Biscoe Point, Anvers Island, Palmer Archipelago

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

Biscoe Point (lat. 64°49'S, long. 63°49'W) is situated on the south-east side of Biscoe Bay on the south side of Anvers Island in the Palmer Archipelago off the mid-west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula. The Site includes the rocky promontory ending in Biscoe Point, the smaller headland immediately to the north and the small islet off the south-west of Biscoe Point. A narrow area of land between the two promontories is included, as is the inshore marine environment within the Site boundaries, which are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

This Site contains a large (approximately 5000 m²) but discontinuous stand of the two native vascular plants, Antarctic hair grass (Deschampsia antarctica) and, less commonly, Antarctic pearlwort (Colobanthus quitensis). A relatively well developed loam occurs beneath closed swards of the grass and contains a rich biota, including the apterous midge Belgica antarctica. Long-term research programmes could be jeopardised by interference from nearby Palmer Station and from tourist ships.

(iii) Outline of research

Several plant community studies are in progress. Most of the available surfaces support the two Antarctic vascular plants which form several communities, particularly on the north facing slope. Some communities are dominated by the vascular plants, particularly the grass; in others the co-dominants or subordinate taxa are mosses or lichens. The discontinuous vascular plant stand occurs on more or less flat, mesic terrain with fine mineral soil. It contains large (up to 20 m²) patches of dead vascular plants which appear to be produced by environmental fluctuations, such as desiccation, flooding and frost during some summers.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

None specified.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Vehicles should not enter the Site and helicopter landing should be made outside the Site. Boat landings are permitted at any point. Tourists and other casual visitors should not enter the Site.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

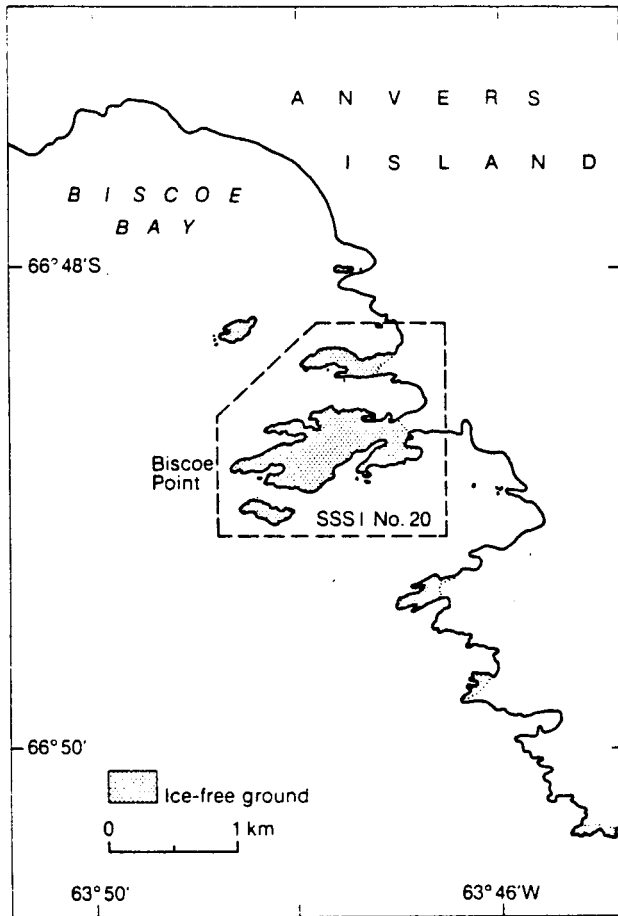
Besides the botanical studies outlined above, the Site offers excellent opportunities for research on invertebrate fauna and pedology. The littoral and sub-littoral, particularly of the cove between the two promontories, could be used for comparative studies with the more perturbed marine environment associated with Palmer Station in Arthur Harbour.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Sampling the biota and soils should be the minimum required for the research programme, and should not cause undue disturbance to the environment particularly the closed stands of vascular plants.

(ix) Other restraints

Any long-term experiments left in situ should be checked regularly for maintenance, and all artefacts removed when they are no longer required. No refuse should be deposited within the Site, or at sea beyond the Site in a manner which may allow it to be washed ashore within the Site.



Site of Special Scientific Interest No.21

Shores of Port Foster, Deception Island, South Shetland Islands

Management Plan

(i) Description of Site

The Site includes 5 areas on the coast of Port Foster, Deception Island (lat. 62°55'S, long. 60°37'W).

Area A. From the west side of Entrance Point to the west side of Collins Point on the south side of Neptune's Bellows, and extending 500 m inland from the shore.

Area B. Mid Fumarole Bay, south-west of Wensleydale Point extending for 500 m along the shore, to the line of precipitous lava cliffs about 100 m inland.

Area C. The "island" created during the 1967 eruption in Telefon Bay, and including the low land, containing a lake, which presently joins the new "island" to the main island.

Area D. A strip 100 m wide extending from the high-water mark of the heated shoreline of Pendulum Cove inland to a series of gullies about 750 m inland. The area lies about 300 m south of the former Chilean station Pedro Aguirre Cerda.

Area E. Kroner Lake including the land within 50 m of its shore. The boundaries of these areas of the Site are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

Deception Island is exceptional because of its volcanic activity, having had major eruptions in 1967, 1969 and 1970. Parts of the island were completely destroyed, new areas were created, others covered by varying depths of ash. Few areas of the interior were unaffected. The island offers unique opportunities to study colonization processes in an Antarctic environment (the South Sandwich Islands and Bouvetøya are at a more advanced stage of colonization while Mt Erebus and Mt Melbourne are at considerable

altitude and the biota are restricted to micro-organisms). Each of the areas has been selected for different reasons:

Area A contains stands of closed vegetation buried by shallow ash but which have regenerated as isolated colonies. The beach area was occupied in summer 1981 by about 200 fur seals.

Area B was unaffected by the three eruptions and contains the most diverse flora on the island, including a few endemic and rare mosses and lichens.

Area C provides an entirely new substrate of known age, the colonization of which has been studied since its creation.

Area D includes two areas of heated ground - on the beach close to the shore and inland in a gully - where unique bryophyte communities have developed containing several species not known elsewhere in the Antarctic.

Area E is a small shallow crater lake with geothermal activity, the water and shore being warm to hot and the benthos colonized by various thermophilic algae.

(iii) Outline of research

Several studies of the terrestrial and freshwater biota have been carried out before and after the eruptions, and changes in the biota and recolonization of new surfaces are being studied. These will continue but will also be extended to other areas of the island, while the succession of organisms associated with heated ground and the biota of the various types of lakes will be investigated in greater detail.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

No access points are stated.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Entry to the Areas should be limited to research scientists. Tourists should be excluded. No vehicles, including helicopters, should be used within any Area of the Site. Pedestrians should exercise great care when walking over the terrain which is loose and soft, where the substrate and vegetation are extremely vulnerable to damage by trampling.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

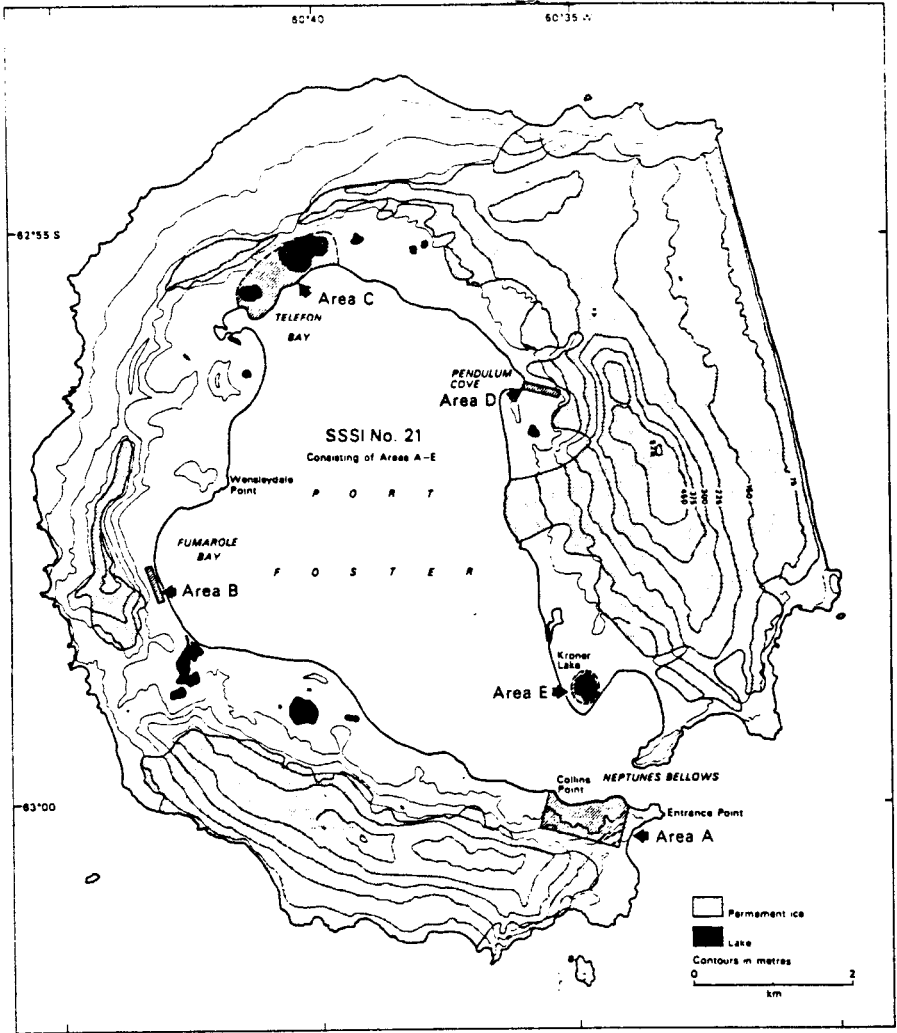
Other research which would not interfere with that outlined above may be carried out.

(viii) Scientific sampling

The collection of specimens should be the minimum required for the research being undertaken.

(ix) Other restraints

In order to minimize microbial and cryptogamic contamination of the substrat, the soles of footwear should be cleaned and disinfected (for example, by rinsing with alcohol) before entering the Areas.



XIII-9

FACILITATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH : SITES OF SPECIAL
SCIENTIFIC INTEREST : INTERIM GUIDELINES : SSSI N° 1 :
CAPE ROYDS, ROSS-ISLAND : AMENDMENT TO MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendation VIII-4 and the Management Plan for Site of Special Scientific Interest N° 1 : Cape Royds, Ross Island annexed thereto;

Noting that at its Eighteenth Meeting the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) held at Bremerhaven in September 1984 reviewed the management plans of the eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest designated in Recommendations VIII-4 and X-5 and that it proposed an amended management plan for SSSI N° 1 : Cape Royds, Ross Island;

Recommend to their Governments that :

1. The management plan for Site of Special Scientific Interest N° 1 : Cape Royds, Ross Island annexed to Recommendation VIII-4 be terminated;

2. They voluntarily take account of the management plan, annexed to this Recommendation, for site N° 1 : Cape Royds, Ross Island.

ANNEX

ANNEX

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST NO 1

CAPE ROYDS, ROSS ISLAND

MANAGEMENT PLAN

(i) Description of Site

Cape Royds is situated at the western extremity of Ross Island, McMurdo Sound (lat. 77°33'S, long, 166°08'E), about 37 km north-north-west of McMurdo Station. The Site consists of all that area of Cape Royds west of a line drawn from the south coast of the Cape through Flagstaff Hill to the south-eastern tip of Pony Lake, and the west shoreline of this lake; and south of a line drawn from the western extremity of Pony Lake 280° True to the coast; including the littoral and sublittoral zones from Derrick Point on the east side of Arrival Bay about 4 km northwards to Rocky Point to the north of Horseshoe Bay, extending 500m. offshore from highwater mark. The boundaries of the Site are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for designation

The structure and dynamics of the Cape Royds ecosystem, and the relationship with the penguin rookery are the subjects of scientific research. The research area and the main seaward access by Adelie penguins to the rookery should be protected by the creation of a reserve. The coastline of Cape Royds is an important feeding ground for Adelie penguins. The coast between Flagstaff Point and Green Lake is the main access route for birds travelling to and from the rookery. Proposed future research on the Cape Royds coastline incorporates further research on the dynamics of the Cape Royds inshore marine ecosystem. The Cape Royds penguin rookery and historic site provide an attraction for sightseers from the nearby station complexes at Scott Base and McMurdo. Regular visits are made to the area by tourists from vessels which sail into McMurdo Sound. The Site will help control any possible impact from these activities in the future.

(iii) Outline of research

The coastal area of Cape Royds is the site of continuing New Zealand research studies on Nototheniid fish population structure and dynamics. These studies, which began in 1981, involve the capture, measurement, tagging and release of Trematomus bernacchii. The Adelie penguin rookery population at Cape Royds has been continuously monitored since 1965, and these studies will also continue.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

31 December 1995.

(v) Access points

The Site should not be entered during the period of penguin occupation (approximately mid-October to mid-March) except by the marked tracks. Only scientists engaged in the scientific studies should approach the penguin colonies at this period. Photographs of the colonies, except for scientific purposes, should be taken from the boundaries of the Site. Access points to the seaward portions of the Site are unrestricted. Boat access from tourist ships or casual visitors should be via the northernmost cove in Backdoor Bay.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

No vessels, vehicles or helicopters of any description should enter the Site except in event of emergency. Pedestrians should keep to the marked tracks and not move through areas populated by penguins, except as necessary in the course of scientific investigations.

(vii) Other kinds of scientific investigations which would not cause harmful interference

None specified.

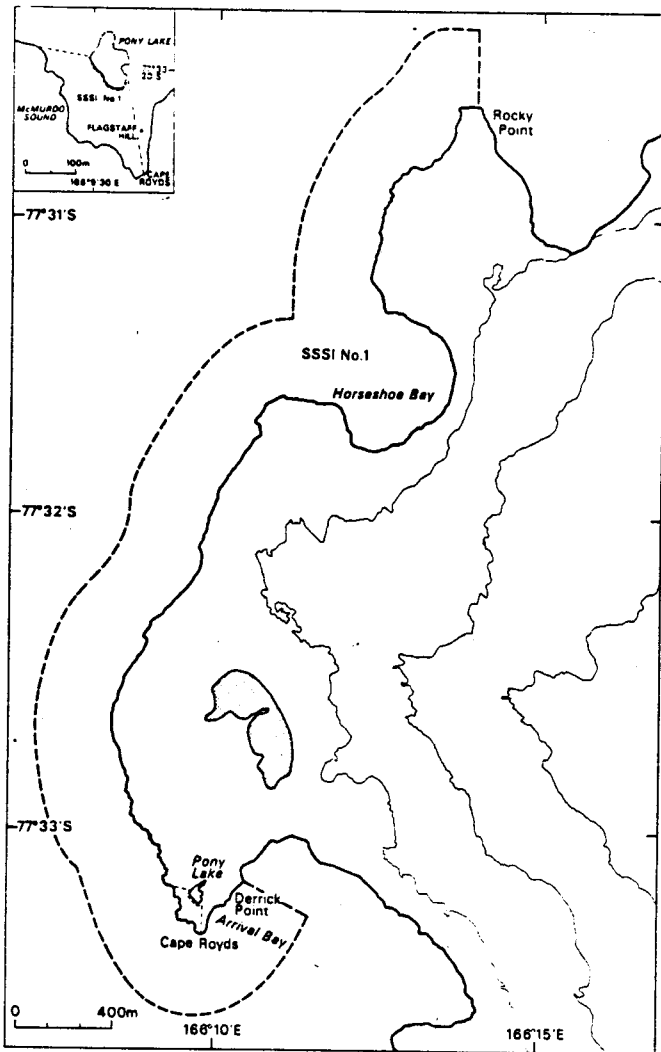
(viii) Scientific sampling

This should be restricted to the minimum required in connection with the research programme.

(ix) Other restraints

Any activity which would detract from the scientific research for which the area has been designated should be avoided. In particular, the following activities should be avoided:

1. Landscaping and removing surface material;
2. Construction of huts and buildings; and
3. Depositing of any pieces of equipment or material that would in any way hinder re-occupation of nests by penguins.



XIII-10

SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS : NORTH CORONATION ISLAND,
SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS

The Representatives,

Considering that the area bounded by Foul Point and Conception Point on the north coast of Coronation Island, South Orkney Islands, extending southwards to Wave Peak and comprising Ommaney Bay and the bay between Prong Point and Conception Point embraces areas of coastal ice-free terrain (Conception, Prong and Foul Points) with large seabird colonies and lichen-dominated cliffs, and permanent ice rising to the Brisbane Heights plateau which provides an excellent representative area of a pristine ice environment near the northern limit of the maritime Antarctic and the Antarctic Treaty area, and that the interrelated terrestrial, permanent ice and marine components of this area comprise an integrated example of the coastal, permanent ice and sublittoral ecosystems typical of the maritime Antarctic environment;

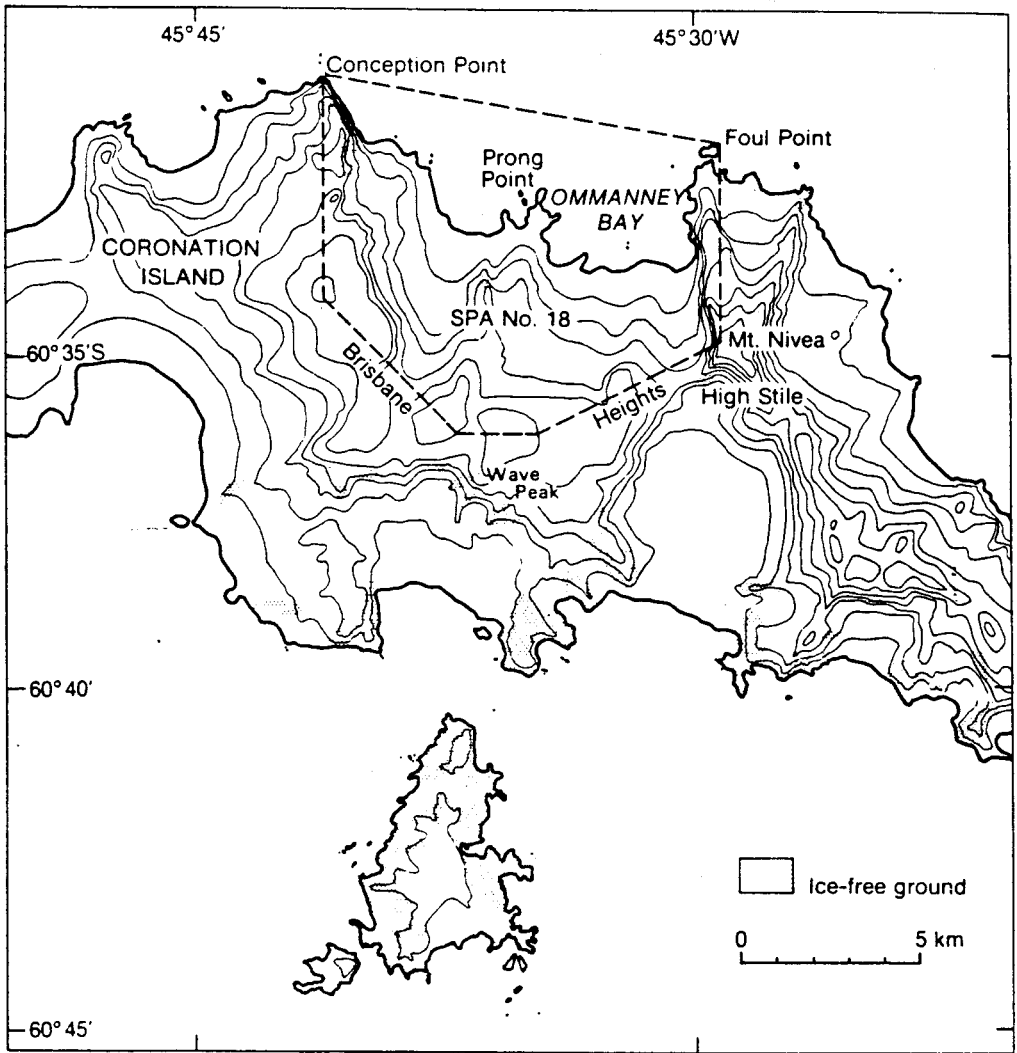
Recommend to their Governments that the following area of outstanding scientific interest be inserted in Annex B, Specially Protected Areas, of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora :

Specially Protected Area N° 18

North Coronation Island, South Orkney Islands. Between Lat. 60°31'S., Long. 45°41'W. and Lat. 60°37'S., Long. 45°36'W. and Lat. 60.32'S., Long. 45°29'W.

XIII-10

DESCRIPTION : The area lies on the central north side of Coronation Island, South Orkney Islands. It is bounded to the east by Foul Point (lat. 60°32'S, long. 45°29'W) and to the west by Conception Point (60°31'S, 45°41'W); the entire area of these points is included in the area. The eastern boundary follows a precipitous ridge 6 km southwards to a position at 2500 ft (750m) altitude immediately to the west of Mt Nivea summit (60°35'S, 45°29'W), thence west-south-westwards for 5,5 km to a position at 3000 ft (900 m) altitude to the north-east of Wave Peak summit (60°37'S, 45°36'W), and from there 2 km westwards across the Brisbane Heights plateau then 5 km north-west to an unnamed summit at 3532 ft (1060 m) and north for 6 km to Conception Point. The summits of Mt Nivea and Wave Peak and the col known as High Stile are outside the area. Ommaney Bay and the unnamed bay to the west are included within the area south of the boundary between Conception and Prong Points (11.5 km). The area is shown on the attached map.



SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS : LAGOTELLERIE ISLAND, MARGUERITE BAY

The Representatives,

Considering that Lagotellerie Island contains a relatively diverse flora typical of the southern Antarctic Peninsula region; that of particular interest is the abundance of the only two Antarctic flowering plants (Deschampsia antarctica and Colobanthus quitensis) which form closed stands up to 10 m²; that these are amongst the largest stands known south of the South Shetland Islands, being only 90 km north of their southern limit; that here both species flower profusely and the seeds have a greater viability than those produced in the South Orkney and South Shetland Islands; that numerous mosses and lichens also form well developed communities on the island; that a few of the mosses are fertile, a rare phenomenon in most Antarctic localities; that the invertebrate fauna is rich and that the island is one of the southernmost sites for the apterous midge Belgica antarctica; that the shallow loamy soil developed beneath these swards and its associated invertebrate fauna and microbiota are probably unique at this latitude; that there is a colony of about 1000 Adelie penguins (Pygoscelis antarctica) and one of the farthest south colonies of a few dozen blue eyed cormorants (Phalacrocorax atriceps) at the south-east corner of the island and that numerous pairs of brown and south polar skuas (Catharacta lonnbergii and C. maccormicki) breed on the island;

Recommend to their Governments that the following area of outstanding scientific interest be inserted in Annex B, Specially Protected Areas, of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora :

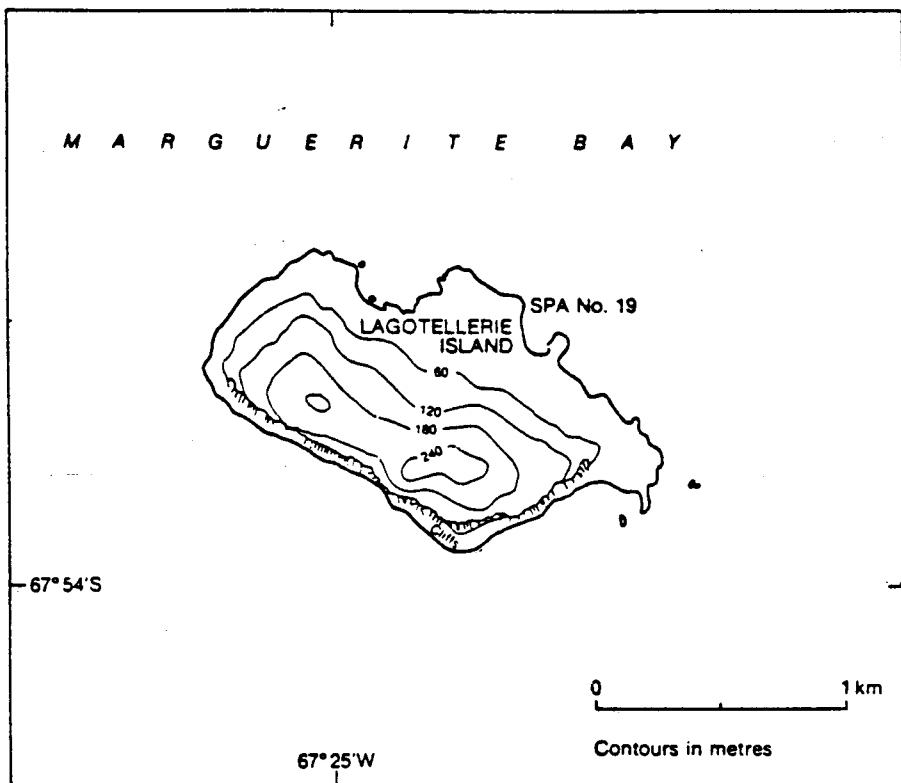
XIII-11

Specially Protected Area n° 19

Lagotellerie Island, Marguerite Bay

Lat. 67°53'S., Long 67°24'W.

DESCRIPTION : The area consists of Lagotellerie Island which lies about 3 km west of the southern part of Horseshoe Island, Marguerite Bay, south-west Antarctic Peninsula. The area is shown on the attached map.



XIII-12

SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS : "NEW COLLEGE VALLEY", CAUGHLEY BEACH,
CAPE BIRD, ROSS ISLAND

The Representatives,

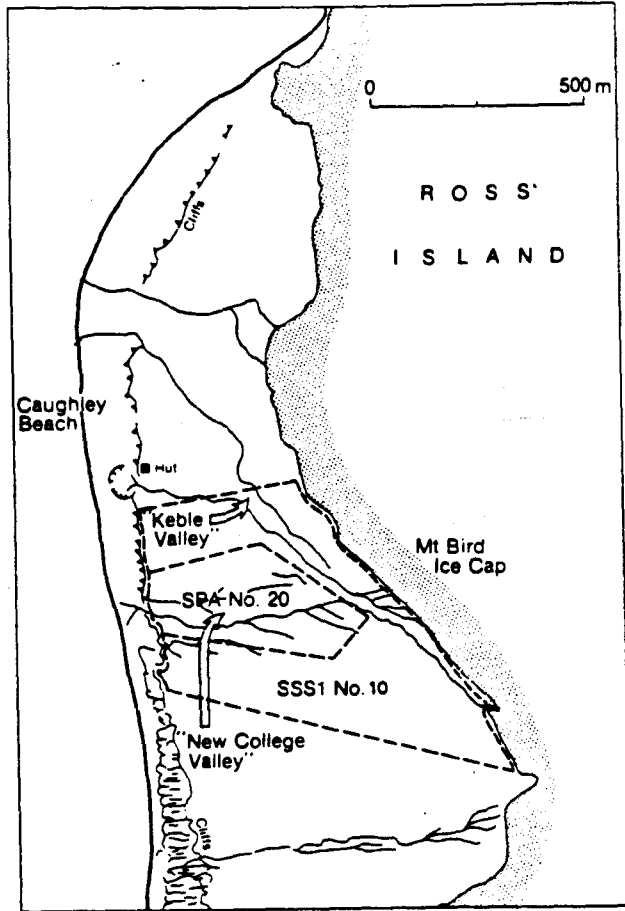
Considering that the area contains some of the most luxuriant stands of vegetation (algae, mosses and lichens) and associated microflora in the Ross Sea sector of Antarctica; that because of the susceptibility of the cryptogamic vegetation to damage from trampling, the designation of the area provides protection for its biota, so that the area may serve as a conservation reserve representative of the adjacent Site of Special Scientific Interest n° 10;

Recommend to their Governments that the following area of outstanding scientific interest be inserted in Annex B, Specially Protected Areas, of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Flora and Fauna :

Specially Protected Area n° 20

"New College Valley", Caughley Beach, Cape Bird, Ross Island
Lat. 77°14'S., Long. 166°23'E.

DESCRIPTION : The area consists of the ice free terrain lying between the cliff top above Caughley Beach and about 100 m east of the Mt Bird Ice Cap, and between a line south of the main stream bed of "Keble Valley" and the south ridge of "New College Valley". It is surrounded on three sides by Site of Special Scientific Interest n° 10. The area is shown on the attached map.



XIII-13

SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREA N° 7 : CAPE HALLETT, VICTORIA LAND :
EXTENSION OF BOUNDARIES

The Representatives,

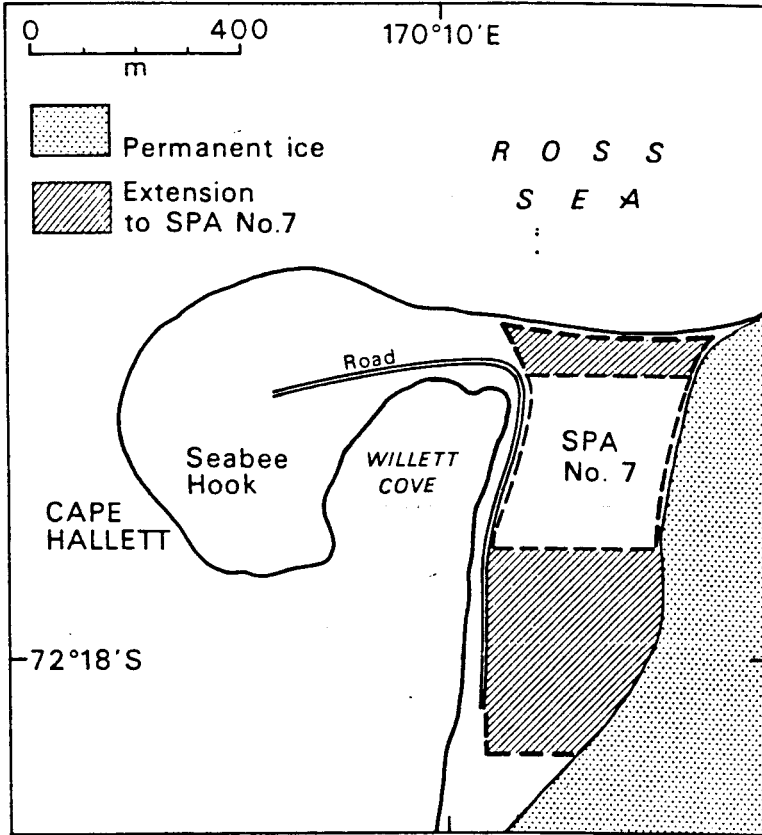
Recalling Recommendation IV-7 in accordance with which an area between the eastern side of the road, which runs along the eastern side of Willett Cove, and the western margin of the permanent ice sheet, to the south of a line from the road to the margin of the permanent ice sheet at the latitude of the head of Willett Cove, and to the north of a line from the road to the margin of the permanent ice sheet drawn 350 metres to the south of that latitude and parallel to it, was designated for insertion in Annex B, Specially Protected Areas, of the Agreed Measures for the Protection of Antarctic Fauna and Flora on the grounds that Cape Hallett includes a small patch of particularly rich and diverse vegetation which supports a variety of terrestrial fauna and that the ecosystem, which includes a rich avifauna, is of outstanding scientific interest;

Considering that in recent years rich areas of vegetation have developed immediately outside the existing boundaries of the area; that to the south is a particularly dense and extensive stand of moss below a large permanent snow patch on the talus slope below the north end of the ice-fall; that the main moss stand is 35 m across but plants are widely scattered on ridges and gulleys throughout the area; that to the north, rock outcrops and stable scree support extensive stands of dense lichen growth (especially Xanthoria) and mosses, that algae (Prasiola) are also present, and that these are some of the richest stands of vegetation in Victoria Land;

XIII-13

Recommend to their Governments that the Description of Specially Protected Area n° 7, Cape Hallett, Victoria Land, inserted in Annex B, Specially Protected Areas, of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora be amended as follows :

DESCRIPTION : The area comprising a roughly rectangular block lies south of the northern coast of Cape Hallett between the road, which runs along the eastern side of Willett Cove and the western margin of the permanent ice sheet and to the north of an E-W line from a projection of the line of the road southward to a point 200 m south of latitude 72°18'S to the margin of the permanent ice sheet. The original area and the revised boundaries are shown on the attached map.



XIII-14

SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS : INTERIM GUIDELINES

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that, until such time as Recommendations XIII-10 to XIII-13 may become effective in accordance with Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, they should as far as feasible consider these Recommendations as guidelines.

MATTERS RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF OBSERVERS AT
CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS

The Representatives,

Taking note of Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty;

Noting also that all Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty have rights and obligations under the Treaty and are, as Parties, bound to carry out its provisions and uphold its purposes and principles, and to maintain and strengthen that Treaty;

Recalling that the non-Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty were invited to attend the twelfth and thirteenth Consultative Meetings, as well as the Preparatory Meeting for the thirteenth Consultative Meeting;

Noting that accordingly the Rules of Procedure have been appropriately amended;

Recognizing the valuable contribution made to the deliberations of the twelfth and thirteenth Consultative Meetings by the representatives of the non-Consultative Parties;

Recommend to their Governments that the Government of the host country of each future regular Consultative Meeting invite non-Consultative Parties to appoint representatives to attend the Meeting, and any associated Preparatory Meeting, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure.

XIII-16

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendations I-IX, V-4, VI-14, VII-9 and XII-7;

Recommend to their Governments that the following historic monuments be added to the "List of Historic Monuments Identified and Described by the Proposing Government or Governments" annexed to Recommendation VII-9 and that thereafter they be accorded the respect and protection required by the Recommendations recalled above :

45. Plaque on Brabant Island, on Metchnikoff Point, lat. 64°02'S, long. 62°34'W. mounted at a height of 70 m on the crest of the moraine separating this point from the glacier and bearing the following inscription : "This monument was built by François de Gerlache and other members of the joint services expedition 1983-85 to commemorate the first landing on Brabant Island by the Belgian Antarctic expedition 1897-99 :

Adrien de Gerlache (Belgium) leader

Roald Amundsen (Norway)

Henryk Arctowski (Poland)

Frederick Cook (U.S.A.)

and Emile Danco (Belgium)

camped nearby from 30 January to 6 February 1898".

46. All the buildings and installations of Port Martin base - Terre Adélie (lat. 66°49'S), long. 141°24'E) constructed in 1950 by the 3rd French expedition in Terre Adélie and partly destroyed by fire during the night of 23 to 24 January 1952.

XIII-16

47. Wooden building called "Base Marret" on the Ile des Pétreles off Terre Adélie (lat. 66°40'S, long. 140°01'E) where seven men under the command of Mario MARRET overwintered in 1952 following the fire at Port Martin base.

48. Cross erected on the North-East headland of the Ile des Pétreles - Terre Adélie (lat. 66°40'S, long. 140°01'E) in memory of André PRUDHOMME, head meteorologist in the 3rd International Geophysical Year expedition who disappeared during a storm on 7 January 1959.

49. The concrete pillar erected by the First Polish Antarctic Expedition at Dobrolowski station on the Bunger Hill to measure acceleration due to gravity $g = 982,439.4 \text{ mgal} \pm 0.4 \text{ mgal}$ in relation to Warsaw, according to the Potsdam system, in January 1959 (lat. 66°16.3'S, long. 100°45'E, h = 35.4m).

50. A brass plaque bearing the national emblem of Poland, the Polish eagle, the dates 1975 and 1976, and the following text in Polish, English and Russian : "In memory of the landing of members of the first Polish Antarctic marine research expedition on the vessels "Profesor Siedlecki" and "Tazar" in February 1976". This plaque, south-west of of the Chilean and Soviet stations, is mounted on a cliff facing Maxwell Bay, Fildes Peninsula, King George Island.

51. The grave of Wladzimierz Puchalski, surmounted by an iron cross, on a hill to the south of Arctowski station on King George Island. W. Puchalski, was an artist, a producer of documentary nature films, who died on 19 January 1979 whilst working at the station.

XIII-16

52. Monolith erected to commemorate the establishment on 20 February 1985 by the People's Republic of China of the "Great Wall Station" (lat. 62°13'S, long. 58°58'W) on Fildes Peninsula, King George Island, in the South Shetland Islands. Engraved on the monolith is the following inscription in Chinese : "Great Wall Station, First Chinese Antarctic Research Expedition, 20 February 1985".

III - ANNEXES

ANNEX A

OPENING ADDRESSES

OPENING ADDRESS : MR LEO TINDEMANS,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF BELGIUM

Mr Chairman,
Heads of Delegations,
Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The task given to me this afternoon is both pleasant and easy. It is always an honour to host a large and distinguished gathering and it gives me great pleasure to welcome you on the occasion of the XIIIth Consultative Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow countrymen and women, in particular the members of the press, for attending this meeting. Their presence reflects the interest they have in questions concerning the Antarctic. Belgium can look back on a long involvement with the Antarctic and is firmly resolved to preserve these links in the future.

The approval by the present Government of a scientific research programme in the Antarctic, which I will look at in more detail later, bears testimony to this intention.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It was the crew of the ship "Belgica", under the command of Adrien de Gerlache de Gomery, who achieved an historic first when they overwintered in the Antarctic. I mention this fact to underline the profound and lasting interest of Belgium in these vast South Polar regions.

In 1897 the three-master "Belgica" set sail for the Antarctic via South America. It was there that the ship spent the first winter (1898) and transported the first genuinely scientific expedition to this area. We cannot fail to be impressed by the daring and courage of the crew of this small vessel - just thirty metres long and with a driving power of 35 hp - who deliberately allowed the ice to close in on them, without a radio, for 380 days. It was only in March 1899 that they were to emerge again after a twenty-day long struggle by the crew to cut a channel through 700 metres of ice and reach open water.

By being the first to stay in the Antarctic region during the winter, the "Belgica" and its crew acquired an extraordinary reputation, both in moral terms for having accomplished this feat under extremely harsh conditions, and in scientific terms because this extended stay enabled them to collect an untold quantity of material and observations of all kinds. Also worth mentioning is the valuable experience acquired in this exceptional environment. Before the explorers on the "Belgica" no one had ever braved the unknown quantity of the formidable Antarctic winter. It should also be remembered that this winter expedition, which for the first time in the history of mankind fathomed the mystery surrounding Antarctica's longest season, acted as a really powerful stimulus to subsequent Antarctic ventures.

As a country which has really pioneered scientific research in the Antarctic, it is not surprising that Belgium became a founding member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), created in 1956 to formulate recommendations for the programme to be implemented as part of the International Geophysical Year in 1958. International scientific co-operation

during that year led to the drawing up of the Antarctic Treaty, of which Belgium is one of the twelve original signatories, on 1 December 1959 in Washington.

Pursuant to the eighth recommendation made by the Third Meeting of the Consultative Parties to the Treaty of 1959, a Belgian law on the protection of fauna and flora in the Antarctic was promulgated on 12 January 1978.

On 9 February 1978 Belgium ratified the Convention for the Conservation of Seals in the Antarctic, signed in London on 1 June 1972.

In 1979 and 1980 Belgium participated, alongside the other Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, in elaborating the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. This Convention, signed in Canberra in 1980, was ratified by Belgium on 22 February 1984.

There is certainly no need to remind you of the merits and benefits of the Antarctic Treaty and the Antarctic Treaty System. However, permit me to emphasize that the Treaty has instituted very active co-operation amongst the countries concerned. It has succeeded in replacing a potentially explosive situation of territorial claims and unilateral and divergent policies with an objective framework which is valid "erga omnes" and a flexible system based on freedom of access and scientific research. With particular regard to claims to territorial sovereignty the Treaty contains provisions aimed at averting all confrontation within the system to which it gave rise. Participation in the Treaty does not imply that those countries which have asserted claims have renounced their rights, and leaves the other states free not to recognize these claims. It is a well-known fact that

sovereignty is a delicate issue and that the principal aim of the Treaty is to institute a viable system of co-operation.

The Antarctic Treaty System is also a dynamic, ever-changing mechanism, constantly adapting to the realities of international life. The accession of new countries to the Treaty and to the status of Consultative Party is a fundamental precondition for this continual process of renewal and the strengthening of the principles on which the Treaty is founded.

This very morning, at a special Consultative Meeting convened for the purpose, the applications by the Governments of Uruguay and the People's Republic of China were examined and approved, enabling these two countries henceforward to take their place amongst the Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty.

The adoption of the recommendations and conventions in force has not halted the search for new measures to protect the Antarctic environment, a concern which occupies a key place in the exchange of views between Parties to the Treaty.

It is in this connection that I would like to recall the efforts of the Consultative Parties to draw up a regime on the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in Antarctica.

Aware of the extraordinary vulnerability of the Antarctic environment and the dangers presented by any reckless or unregulated activities concerning its potential wealth of resources, in 1972 the Consultative Parties, including Belgium, recommended that this question be studied in depth.

In 1977, these same Parties agreed to refrain from all exploration or exploitation of these resources until such a time as a regime has been brought into force. The basic principles of this regime formed the subject of recommendations made by the Consultative Meetings held in 1977 and 1979.

In 1981, after nine years of study, and considering that the need to establish a regime had become urgent, the Consultative Parties conferred this task on a special Consultative Meeting. On this occasion, they reaffirmed and clearly defined the principles which would govern the regime, determining that it should have a place within the legal framework of the Antarctic Treaty, should guarantee protection of the environment, should be accessible to all states and, finally, should ensure that the activities conducted there are in the interest of all mankind.

Since that time the special Consultative Meeting has held seven sessions, the last of which ended just a few days ago in Paris. As from this year the non-Consultative Parties also participate, in the capacity of observers, at the sessions of this special Consultative Meeting.

If the day comes when exploration and exploitation of the mineral resources of the Antarctic is permitted, I will make a strong plea in favour of observing the most stringent constraints, given the complexity of the environment, with a view to its preservation and preventing an adverse impact on the ecosystem.

As well as constituting a guarantee that territorial conflicts can be avoided, the Antarctic Treaty System also ensures that this part of the world is removed from the sphere of military activities and nuclear explosions. It is indeed the first declared objective of the Treaty to guarantee that the

Antarctic is used for exclusively peaceful purposes and may not become the theatre or object of international disputes. All military activities, nuclear explosions and the storage of nuclear waste are prohibited in these regions.

The well-oiled system of inspections, which is accepted by all those concerned and gives observers the right to inspect all regions in the Antarctic, is a valuable means of ensuring that no military activities or nuclear explosions will take place there in the future. This is one of the reasons why the present Treaty is irreplaceable and could not easily be improved.

Earlier I noted the important role played by Belgium during the initial phases of exploration in the Antarctic. At the end of 1957 our country revived this tradition when, sixty years after his father, Baron Gaston de Gerlache de Gomery, the son of the explorer of 1898, who is a member of the Belgian delegation at this Meeting, organized a new expedition on the occasion of the International Geophysical Year. Subsequently, regular Belgian expeditions were organized until 1970, generally in co-operation with another country. After 1970, for financial reasons, Belgian participation was confined to sending national research scientists on expeditions organized by other countries.

The position of Belgium within the Antarctic Treaty System is such that we felt it opportune to resume our participation in scientific activities in this region. As a consequence the Government to which I belong has just approved a scientific research programme in the Antarctic. The programme is due to come into operation during the last three months of 1985 and is planned to have a duration of three years and three months, encompassing four Antarctic summers. Some of the research will be incorporated in the programmes organized by other countries, taking up vacant places on board their ships or at their bases.

It is not in fact planned to reopen the King Baudouin Base because of the exorbitant costs this would involve.

The proposed programme has been drawn up to take account of, on the one hand, the considerable progress made since the time of the first expeditions, on both the scientific and logistic fronts, and on the other hand, the fact that Belgian participation must accord with the priorities of national and European science policy and be on a scale which is compatible with Belgium's budgetary resources.

This action will enable our country to take part in the scientific activities currently under way at international level to study the Antarctic, in keeping with the spirit of the Treaty. It will be carried out by specialist research teams who will have the opportunity to put into general application and test methods and concepts originally developed and applied in advanced studies already in process in Belgium and financed by the State.

The main research effort will be focused on two major areas which call for priority development in view of the scale of their practical implications and taking into account the current state of knowledge. These two areas are the ecology of plankton, a key link in the entire marine food chain, and glaciology in relation to its climatological implications. It is precisely in these areas that Belgium possesses scientific potential of great value.

Belgium remains a staunch supporter of the Antarctic Treaty. It has no claims to sovereignty over parts of this territory. Nevertheless, Belgium cannot and will not consider the Antarctic as belonging to everyone or no one.

While the growing international interest in the Antarctic raises fresh problems, it should be pointed out that the Treaty System is an open one. Indeed, any Member State of the United Nations may accede to the Treaty. It is therefore in a position to adapt to a new situation if countries with little or no experience of the Antarctic wish to participate in scientific co-operation. Consequently, Belgium would like to see participation as wide ranging as possible, extending beyond the traditional East-West and North-South frontiers.

Moreover, the structure of the Treaty has shown that it can adapt to changing circumstances. As of the XIIth Consultative Meeting in 1983, the non-Consultative Parties have been invited to attend the ordinary Consultative Meetings.

Mr Chairman,
Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentleman,

An important task lies before you and I do not want to take up any more of your time. It is my most fervent wish that the XIIIth Consultative Meeting may enjoy the success of previous meetings and continue to put into practice the innovatory principles of the Antarctic Treaty. Through your endeavours and work you will, I am sure, achieve results of benefit to the future of the Treaty - a Treaty which has served the international community so well by contributing to scientific co-operation and research and ensuring that peace is observed in the Antarctic.

I hereby declare the XIIIth Consultative Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty open.

OPENING ADDRESS : SOUTH AFRICA, MR J.D. VIALI

Mr Chairman,

May I begin, Sir, by congratulating you on your election to the Chair. We have no doubt that under your able guidance - which we experienced during our Preparatory Meeting earlier this year - we shall make good and constructive progress in our deliberations. Our congratulations go also to Mr Bousse on his assumption of office as Secretary General of the Meeting and to the Assistant Secretary General and we may say we are very glad to see Professor van der Essen among us again.

I should also like, through you Sir, to convey to the Government of Belgium our thanks and our appreciation both for the welcome we have received here from the distinguished Minister of External Relations and from yourself and for the excellent facilities which have been put at our disposal for this our XIIIth Consultative Meeting.

It is our pleasure to congratulate and warmly welcome to the ranks of the Consultative Parties, the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay. We are convinced that their more active participation in activities in Antarctica can and will contribute much to the strengthening of the Antarctic Treaty and the Antarctic Treaty System and we wish them every success in their future endeavours.

It is also a pleasure to extend once again a hearty welcome to the delegates of all the other Parties who have acceded to the Treaty and who are present at this Meeting. Their participation, too, can only serve to benefit our deliberations and we look forward to hearing from them.

Mr Chairman, it is unnecessary for me to dwell upon the great importance of the Antarctic Treaty for the future of Antarctica and indeed the world or upon the many achievements which have been accomplished under it. They are known to everybody here.

We should therefore be vigilant against any attempt, from whatever source, to undermine the Treaty in any manner. We believe that to this end we must make it our task to strengthen the Treaty System yet further and to take active steps to make our achievements more widely known. In so doing, I believe that we may demonstrate to all that there is truly no viable substitute or alternative for this system - with its tried and tested machinery for international co-operation, and its emphasis on such vital subjects as the maintenance of peace, and demilitarization, scientific research which benefits the whole world, the conservation of resources and last but not least, the protection of the unique but vulnerable Antarctic environment and its ecosystem.

We have before us a long and important agenda - and we are mindful, Mr Chairman, of your exhortations at the Preparatory Meeting to confine our opening statements to the minimum, and in any event not to exceed a maximum of 5 minutes in presenting them - so that we may proceed as expeditiously as possible to consideration of the agenda items awaiting us.

In compliance with your request, Sir, we shall therefore say no more than that we look forward to participating with other delegations in fruitful and constructive discussions in the days ahead.

Thank you, Sir.

OPENING ADDRESS : FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,

DR KURT MESSER

Mr Chairman,

I too, Mr Chairman, should like to offer you and Mr Bousse my Delegation's congratulations on your election and to thank the Belgian Government for having invited us to this Meeting and for having offered us its hospitality. With its international atmosphere, the city of Brussels proved itself to be a most appropriate place for the Preparatory Conference, and so it is with great pleasure that we find ourselves here again.

We are glad to see not only the Consultative Parties but also delegations from the other Member Countries attending this Consultative Meeting, which follows on from 25 fruitful years since the signing of the Antarctic Treaty. The fact that representatives of the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay are also participating in this work with Consultative Status underlines the importance of this XIIIth Meeting and represents further reinforcement of the Antarctic Treaty System to which all the member countries are committed in the interest of the whole of mankind.

My Delegation considers the focal points of this Conference, which is taking place at an important stage, to be the subsequent development and strengthening of the Antarctic Treaty System and the continuation of the tradition - which has been successfully maintained - of effectively protecting the Antarctic environment. We are sure, Mr Chairman, that under your direction and in the traditionally good spirit of co-operation based on common responsibility in the Antarctic, this meeting will be a great success.

OPENING ADDRESS : ARGENTINA, MR ORLANDO R. REBAGLIATI

Mr Chairman,

First of all, allow me to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this meeting. We are sure that with your professional ability and experience we shall be skilfully led and that by working together efficiently and harmoniously at this XIIIth Consultative Meeting we shall achieve the results for which we are hoping.

I should also like to say how pleased we are to be here in Brussels. We should like to express our sincerest gratitude, through you, to the Government of Belgium for having made us feel so welcome here.

This XIIIth Consultative Meeting since the Antarctic Treaty came into effect has the distinction of having brought together the greatest number of participating states. In fact, six new states have been incorporated into the Treaty since the XIIth Consultative Meeting. On behalf of the Argentine Delegation, I should like to extend a very warm welcome to the two new Consultative Parties, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay and the People's Republic of China. We are convinced that their incorporation is bound to make an effective contribution to our efforts to promote the objectives and principles of the Treaty. Our Antarctic scientists and researchers hope to develop greater co-operation with their scientists within the framework of SCAR as soon as possible.

I should also like to wish a cordial welcome to the Delegations of the non-Consultative Parties, and among them the four new Contracting Parties : Cuba, Finland, Hungary and Sweden.

Their contributions to the deliberations are bound to complete our work and enrich our debates.

In view of the growing world interest aroused by matters concerning the Antarctic, my country hopes that the results of the Consultative Meeting will provide yet further proof of the effectiveness of the Antarctic Treaty System in protecting its environment and associated or dependent ecosystems and in developing ways of explaining to the rest of the international community the real significance of the Treaty, all that has already been achieved, and our search for an equitable arrangement for all those nations willing to contribute to better knowledge of the Antarctic.

Since our last meeting, we have made steady progress with regard to the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources. This Convention, membership of which is open to any country interested in conducting research or fishing in Antarctic waters, is clear evidence of the continuous and successful efforts made within the Treaty System to protect the marine environment. The first two conservation measures were adopted in 1984 and this beginning, however modest it may be, demonstrates the will to attain the objectives of the Convention. At the recent Meeting in Hobart, Australia, a third conservation measure was adopted and other recommendations were approved in accordance with the aims and objectives of the Convention.

As regards the international regime for mining activities in the Antarctic, which the Consultative Parties are endeavouring to have adopted, I do not think it necessary to dwell on this point since we have just completed another round of the IVth Special Consultative Meeting in Paris, France, which illustrates the way in which the negotiations are progressing.

We must merely stress the need for renewed efforts taking due account of the rights and interests at stake to reach as soon as possible an agreement which is likely to be generally accepted by the Parties to the Antarctic Treaty and by the rest of the international community as a whole.

The participants in the meeting will be aware of the interest and concern with which my country is following the development of the Antarctic question at the United Nations General Assembly. On many occasions at various forums we have expressed Argentina's support for the strengthening of the Antarctic Treaty and the system constructed on this basis. We consider that this system sets an example to the international community of mutual understanding and co-operation among countries with different legal and political viewpoints and different economic and development levels. We have also pointed out that any attempt to renegotiate the Antarctic Treaty or to introduce structural modifications in the context of the Treaty System is bound to give rise to uncertainty and instability in a region of the world which is a model of international co-operation, in a region far away from international discord and very close to the South American part of the Argentine territory.

Naturally, we recognize that the system, like any human creation, can be improved upon; the contribution and activities of our country are aimed in such a direction. We understand that this is also the attitude of the other states participating in this meeting. We also believe that the co-operation of states which may be interested in the peaceful and harmonious use of the Antarctic is essential, and we therefore suggest to them that they participate in the Treaty and become part of its system, thus contributing, along with those which are already members, to the development of the system. There is enormous scope for this development and dynamism, and positive participation is the only

acceptable way of turning this potential into greater attainments.

Argentina, like the other Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, is aware of its responsibilities to the rest of the community of nations, as shown by its scientific stations and its activities in the San Martin Peninsula and in the areas of the Antarctica which it claims, as well as in the corresponding international fora. Consequently, we reiterate our commitment and our undertaking to do our best to ensure that this XIIIth Consultative Meeting serves to strengthen the Antarctic Treaty System, thus clearly demonstrating the benefits that co-operation can bring to the international community as a whole.

OPENING ADDRESS : AUSTRALIA, MR R.H. WYNDHAM

Mr Chairman,

I should like first, on behalf of my Delegation, to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the XIIIth Consultative Meeting. This meeting has a heavy agenda which will place great demands on all of us, but particularly yourself. You can rely on the full co-operation of my Delegation, as can the Secretary General and his staff.

Secondly, I should like to refer to the report of the Sixth Special Consultative Meeting and the entry into the ranks of Consultative Parties of China and Uruguay. My Delegation welcomes most heartily these new Consultative Parties. They have freely assumed the many obligations which that status implies, but I am sure that they will now appreciate the co-operation which they will receive from their Antarctic colleagues in their scientific research. The Australian Antarctic scientific community has already established close links with their colleagues in China and has had the pleasure of hosting eleven wintering Chinese scientists at our stations. I do not doubt that this co-operation will continue to our mutual benefit.

Next year will mark the 25th anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty. We are, in fact, only six years away from the time when the operation of the Antarctic Treaty may be subject to review. Since the First Consultative Meeting in Canberra in 1961, the Antarctic Treaty System has passed through different stages. No stage has been as full of interest and change as the last four or five years. My Delegation sees this Consultative Meeting as an opportunity to reflect on those changes and to look forward towards 1991. We would do well to

begin thinking about the kind of system we want to see in place by then. It is not Australia's wish that 1991 mark any kind of radical turning point in the development of the Antarctic Treaty System. Rather, we see a need for continuous review and development, in accordance with carefully considered consultation amongst ourselves, so that, in 1991, or in any other year, we may look at what we have done and conclude that we have done well.

It is clear, from debates in recent years in the United Nations and elsewhere, that this is not the opinion of everybody. Australia does not accept the criticism a few have recently voiced. On the contrary, we believe that the Antarctic Treaty serves important interests, both national and international, and that the criticisms we have heard are misplaced.

This does not mean, however, that there is not and could not be room for further improvement. We wish to see improvement through evolution within the Treaty System, however, and not outside it. In that spirit, Australia will be making some proposals at this Consultative Meeting aimed at progressive development of the Antarctic Treaty System. The most important of these concerns the establishment of a new category of reserve in Antarctica - which might be called "Managed Areas" - to ensure that areas containing valuable features are properly managed in a manner that is not possible under existing protection arrangements. My Delegation foreshadowed a proposal along these lines at the Preparatory Meeting in April. We will also make proposals, as foreshadowed in April, regarding the revision of the Code of Conduct for waste disposal and regarding the cost of Consultative Meetings.

In conclusion, Mr Chairman, may I say how happy my Delegation is to be able to work on this and other matters in the magnificent surroundings which the Belgian Government has provided for us. We are convinced that this meeting will do justice to the important tasks which face us.

OPENING ADDRESS : BRAZIL,
H.E. AMBASSADOR DAVID SILVEIRA DA MOTA JR.

Mr Chairman,

I wish to join the previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this meeting. We are looking forward to working under your guidance, which will certainly lead us to the most fruitful deliberations. May I also express the thankfulness of my Delegation for the hospitality with which we have been received in Brussels and for the excellent facilities provided for our work.

I extend a warm welcome to the Delegations of Uruguay and of the People's Republic of China, which are, for the first time, participating fully in a Consultative Meeting. Their admission will enrich our discussions and will be of great value to the strengthening of the Antarctic Treaty System. It is no less important that, on this occasion, all parties to the Antarctic Treaty come together once more, to pursue objectives that are common to all of us.

Mr Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,

This is a time of rapid and important international developments regarding Antarctica. In response to these, the transformation of the Antarctic Treaty System is, I believe, inevitable. A thorough understanding of our past experience is of fundamental importance in order that we may be prepared to face the challenges that lie ahead.

A new element in the international scene is pressing for changes in the Antarctic Treaty System. I refer to the increasing interest in Antarctica. This interest has two aspects. One of them is the criticism of the Antarctic Treaty that is being heard in the United Nations and other fora. Although based on erroneous assumptions, we must admit that this criticism has been caused, to a large extent, by the attitude of the Consultative Parties themselves who, until recently, had not realized fully the importance of explaining to others the nature and scope of the Antarctic Treaty System. The Antarctic Treaty and its related instruments give expression to principles universally recognized to be in the interest of mankind. Thus, there seems to be no fundamental reason for secrecy in our deliberations. Moreover, the freedom of scientific investigation, the exchange of information and the mechanisms of inspection enshrined in the Treaty can hardly be reconciled with diplomatic secrecy. As a matter of fact, the lack of public information on the Treaty during the first twenty years of its existence was due mainly to the absence of interest of the international community at large. Now that such an interest has become manifest, we must respond effectively. The recent contributions to the study prepared by the United Nations Secretary General and the adoption of Recommendation XII-6, in Canberra, show that a start has been made. However, more remains to be done, and my Delegation is willing to take an active part in the discussion of this issue at this meeting.

The other aspect of the international interest in Antarctica is the increasing number of countries that have become parties to the Treaty System. Among these, it is significant to note the growing number of developing countries. Wide participation in the Antarctic Treaty System gives rise to new problems. The original consultative mechanisms were most efficient when only twelve countries took part in the deliberations about Antarctica.

Thirty-two delegations are assembled in this hall today, and this number may increase in the near future. Practices established twenty-four years ago may not be the most effective now. Another point is the intensification of activities in Antarctica. The increasing number of scientific stations and expeditions and the appearance of potentially competitive uses of the Antarctic such as tourism and exploitation of natural resources, may demand, in the near future, more reliable supervision and global regulation. These questions deserve careful reflection.

Mr Chairman,

One of the reasons for the durability of the Antarctic Treaty System has been its capacity to anticipate events. However, the increasing complexity of Antarctic affairs poses difficult questions to which we must still turn our attention. Brazil sees the Antarctic Treaty System as a dynamic structure which has to keep pace with a rapidly evolving international reality. Within the system a continuous effort must be made to accommodate the interests and views of all countries that are active in Antarctica and abide by the Treaty and the recommendations adopted under it. Brazil will bring to this process new elements that derive from its identity as a developing country with a substantial interest in Antarctica.

Brazil's commitment to the Antarctic Treaty stems from the recognition that this is the adequate body for Antarctic negotiations. We would like to see all international efforts regarding Antarctica converging to this forum, bringing new life to it and leading it to innovative solutions. The Antarctic Treaty System will have to be ready to cope with this new

situation. Brazil stands ready to contribute its best efforts to ensure the successful outcome of this task.

Thank you, Sir.

OPENING ADDRESS : CHILE, H.E. AMBASSADOR FERNANDO ZEGERS

Mr Chairman,

It is extremely pleasing for the Chilean Delegation to be able to count on your experience and expertise in conducting our debates and on the assistance of your more immediate colleagues, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General. We offer our fullest co-operation to you and to them.

Please allow me, in thanking the Belgian Government for its hospitality, to introduce a personal note. It was here in this city of Brussels that I first went to school and spent a happy periode of my life; it was here that my brother was born and also that my son, a pupil of Professor van der Essen, married the Belgian woman whom he loved. But beyond these sentimental ties, the friendship between Chile and Belgium is nourished by an intellectual current of affection which goes back to the first Belgian educational missions to Chile and also derives from the admiration which Chileans have for the Belgian political tradition.

And we are following in the wake of this tradition now. When we look at the important subject of documentation that is on the agenda, we recall the first Antarctic bibliography compiled by the Belgian historian Jean Denuce. As Minister Tindemans so rightly said, Adrien de Gerlache, whose work has been continued in such a worthy manner by his distinguished family, was the true pioneer at the time of the Antarctic discoveries, and the Chilean Delegation backs the initiative to commemorate the exploits of the "Belgica", the ship to which the population of Punta Arenas waved an emotional farewell from its wharf on 14 December 1897. Later on, Brussels hosted important preparatory meetings of the

International Geophysical Year and, more recently, of the Third Consultative Meeting, whose mark in the annals of conservation was confirmed through the adoption of the Agreed Measures. The permanent contribution of Alfred van der Essen to the joint work of perfecting the Antarctic Treaty System and his unselfishness and generosity of spirit were the subject of glowing tributes on that occasion.

The Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System and Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment are the two subjects on which our attention will mainly be focused.

Looking back on this past so rich in achievements and anticipating the forthcoming centenary of the efforts initiated by the explorers, the Polar Years, the geographical congresses and scientific co-operation as conceived and practised during International Geophysical Year, culminating in the third decade of the existence of the Antarctic Treaty, we must ensure that Brussels marks the beginning of a process of in-depth deliberation on the future of the Washington Treaty System.

This process must start with a return to the original sources and be expressed primarily through the co-ordination, harmonization and cohesion of the system, on the initiative of the Consultative Parties but also with ever-increasing participation by all the Parties to the Treaty. We welcome the accession of China and Uruguay to the status of Consultative Parties and the admission of new members, which we see as a tendency towards greater universality and participation and towards growing incorporation of the historic dimension of the developing world.

The process of consolidating the Treaty System must also result in greater integration with the United Nations System and other similar international organizations : a movement stemming from inside and radiating outwards, a movement not conditioned by external pressures, the importance of which we must not disregard but must face without shirking our responsibilities or relinquishing our prerogatives. Of the numerous and diverse mechanisms which we have proposed to perfect the Treaty System in both its internal operation and its external connections, we must mention in particular the catalysing role played by the two-yearly reports presented by representatives of the various bodies within the system.

Our approach to the subject of Man's Impact is a global one. It is in line with the philosophy of the Agreed Measures which regarded the whole of the Area of the Treaty as a Special Conservation area and the Southern Ocean as an integral part of the Antarctic environment, towards which irrevocable responsibility is affirmed (Recommendations III-8, V-3 and IX-5). This same philosophy also embraces the protection of all places requiring special attention and all terrestrial and marine ecosystems, including of course the Marine Sites of Special Scientific Interest. But with the concentration of bases and activities and the resultant accumulative impact, additional protective measures are required, as suggested by the Australian Delegation, together with a conservation strategy for the whole of Antarctica. SCAR could provide valuable assistance to prevent this accumulative impact in the future and to guide the establishment of new bases, without prejudice to freedom of scientific research, towards greater geographical diversity leading to better coverage of the whole fertile field of Antarctic science.

OPENING ADDRESS : CHINA, MR XU GUANG JIAN

Mr Chairman,

First of all, I would like to extend my warm congratulations to you on your election as the Chairman of the current Consultative Meeting. My Delegation, believes that the meeting, under your guidance, will carry out its work effectively. Through you, Mr Chairman, I should like to thank the distinguished Minister of External Relations Mr Tindemans for his words of welcome and I also wish to express my appreciation to the Belgian Government for the excellent preparatory work made for the meeting.

Mr Chairman, please allow me to thank you and other distinguished delegates for the kind words and congratulations offered to us. I would also like to thank all those countries which supported China's application for Consultative Party status of the Antarctic Treaty. My Delegation is delighted that Uruguay has acquired the status of Consultative Party at the same time with China and it gives me great pleasure to extend our congratulations to the Delegation of Uruguay present here.

Mr Chairman, since 1980, China has sent scientists on many occasions to participate in the Antarctic research activities. In June 1983 China acceded to the Antarctic Treaty. Towards the end of 1984, China dispatched its first scientific expedition to carry out research on Antarctica and the Southern Ocean and established a permanent scientific station named "Great Wall" on King George Island. The Chinese study report "Chinese Antarctic Activities" has given a detailed account of our first expedition.

In November this year China will send its second expedition to Antarctica, covering a dozen and more scientific subjects including geological minerals, geography, geophysics, oceanography, etc.

The purpose of China's activities in Antarctica is to understand and gain knowledge of Antarctica and contribute to the peaceful use of Antarctica by mankind. China's participation in the Consultative Meetings means that China is under greater obligations to the peaceful use of Antarctica for the benefit of the whole mankind. Therefore China wishes to further strengthen the co-operation with all contracting parties to the Antarctic Treaty and strictly abide by the provisions of the Treaty as well as the effective recommendations adopted at previous Consultative Meetings.

The Chinese Government holds that the purposes and principle of the Antarctic Treaty are good. The experiences of the past 25 years since the Treaty came into force have proved that the Treaty has played a positive role in maintaining peace in the Antarctic region, freezing territorial claims on Antarctica and preventing Antarctica from becoming a scene of international discord and that the Treaty has been effective in ensuring freedom of scientific research, promoting international co-operation in Antarctica and protecting the environment and maintaining the ecologic balance of the Continent. Nevertheless, the Antarctic Treaty System needs to be perfected with fresh ideas so as to meet the development requirements of the international community. The agenda of the present Consultative Meeting shows that this point of view has been widely accepted. We note with satisfaction that in the agenda there are items aimed at perfecting the Treaty System, or at facilitating Antarctic research or protecting Antarctic environment. The Chinese Delegation is ready to exchange views with other delegates on these issues.

Mr Chairman, I believe that through the co-operation of all delegates in the Meeting, the XIIIth Consultative Meeting will be a success.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
MR R. TUCKER SCULLY

I wish to join with the other Delegations in congratulating you, Mr Chairman, on your election to preside over our proceedings. Congratulations, also, to the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General. It is a pleasure to see familiar faces in the chair. I also request that you convey on behalf of the US Delegation our appreciation to the distinguished Foreign Minister, Mr Tindemans, for his warm welcome. The Government of Belgium, as in April, has extended to us fine hospitality and facilities.

On behalf of my delegation, I would add that it is a great pleasure to see China and Uruguay as Consultative Parties. We look forward to working with them, as with all of the Delegations here in Brussels.

Much has been said here in regard to the Antarctic Treaty System and its evolution. As we look back over the quarter century since the Antarctic Treaty was concluded, we can see that, at its inception, the Treaty was an exciting experiment in international co-operation in conflict resolution and conflict avoidance. Now, after 25 years, we can say that it has been an unqualified success. The Antarctic is a zone of peace in a troubled world, and an area of exciting scientific endeavour. This is the direct result of the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System. We have also seen the spirit of the Treaty extended to new areas and new activities as they become feasible. This evolution of the Treaty System, however, has not been an automatic phenomenon. The system's creative responses to new activities and new interests in Antarctica have required constant attention.

The past two years have witnessed a great deal of activity on the Antarctic front, particularly with regard to Antarctic resources. Others have discussed developments with regard to the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources and have referred to the important progress in the mineral resources negotiations. Here in Brussels we have gathered to deal with the "care and feeding" of the system as a whole. We are not directly addressing resource issues here. But as was recently expressed at a scientific seminar on Antarctica, the most important of Antarctic resources is knowledge. This resource is now and will be for the foreseeable future the most important export from Antarctica. A basic element in the work of the consultative mechanism is the facilitation of this export of knowledge from Antarctica. I am thus particularly pleased to hear of the decision of the Belgian Government to renew its Antarctic scientific program.

Finally, I would wish to say that we have a full agenda, in which there seem to be at least two general categories of issues. One would be those matters which relate to the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System. In a sense, we are engaged in a continuous review of the system six years prior to 1991. The availability of information, for example, is an important part of this subject area. A second category would be the number of items concerning environmental questions. We look forward to concrete results in this area, including the designation of areas of special interest and specially protected areas, and dealing with man's impact on the Antarctic environment.

Mr Chairman, we look forward to two weeks of hard labour in Brussels, under your leadership. We anticipate two weeks of productive labour.

OPENING ADDRESS : FRANCE, MR ROBERT RICHARD

Mr Chairman,

Please allow me to congratulate you, on behalf of the French Delegation and myself, on your election as Chairman of this Conference. I am sure that under your competent direction the work of this Conference will be conducted harmoniously and efficiently, as was the case at the Preparatory Conference last April.

I must say how pleased my colleagues and I are to be here in Brussels, not only because of the attractions of your beautiful capital but also because of the close links which France has always had with Belgium. I should like to thank the Belgian Government most sincerely for the warm welcome that has been extended to us, and particularly your Minister Mr Tindemans whose words we much appreciated.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay on their accession to the status of Consultative Parties, and I should like to welcome them on behalf of my government. The efforts of these two new members can only contribute to the reinforcement of the system established by the Washington Treaty.

My Delegation would also like to greet once again the Delegations of the non-Consultative Parties which, for two years now, have agreed to take part in our work as observers and whose collaboration has proved invaluable in many respects.

These new accessions and this high level of participation are further proof of the interest of the international community in a system which has been demonstrating its effectiveness since 1959. I shall merely recall here the fact that the Washington Treaty, in deciding on the demilitarization and denuclearization of the Antarctic and in finding a compromise between states with and without possessions in the region, has kept this continent safe from the tensions and rivalries which divide our planet. The provisions guaranteeing freedom of research in Antarctica have been the source of unprecedented co-operation between scientists all over the world.

The participation of a growing number of states in the Antarctic Treaty System is the clearest possible proof of its open nature : far from being an exclusive club reserved for the industrialized countries, the Antarctic Treaty System is more open than ever and heedful of the aspirations of the developing countries.

The recent accession of India and Brazil and the accession of Uruguay and China this year are a sufficient answer in themselves to criticisms which experience has proved to be superficial and mistaken. But if the Antarctic Treaty System is criticized, is it not largely because it is not understood ? Too confident perhaps in the merits of a system the qualities of which they appreciate, have not the Consultative Parties failed to make the effort to disseminate information which the enlargement of the international community has made necessary ? One of the objectives of our meeting must therefore be to promote this dissemination of information, as the response of the Consultative Parties to the criticisms levelled at the system.

This opening up of the system must not be exclusively institutional. First of all, the distinction must continue to be made between the Consultative Parties, on which their efforts and their knowledge of the system place particular responsibilities, and the non-Consultative Parties. Whilst the Antarctic System may have to adapt to the new conditions of international society, one must bear in mind that the current operation of the system sets an example to the world and that any innovation or modification will be of an irreversible nature. Consequently, any new developments must be given very careful thought.

The protection of the environment will be another important aspect of our meeting. So far, this point has been the main, if not the exclusive preoccupation of the Consultative Parties. Prudent and realistic measures have been taken, such as the creation of protected zones and the introduction of impact studies to which, I recall, my country was the first to commit itself. These measures must be more clearly specified and completed so as to prevent the damage which could be caused by new activities. I am thinking of the exploitation of mineral resources, which has been the subject of numerous special meetings, and also of the proliferation of non-governmental expeditions of a touristic or partly scientific nature which, if more binding measures are not introduced, could endanger the fragile ecosystem which we all want to preserve. Here too, a balance must be found between the protection of the environment and the legitimate utilization of the Antarctic. This balance depends not only on the elaboration of new provisions, in which we must be careful to avoid superfluity, but also on closer observance of the spirit and the letter of the existing texts.

Apart from their efforts in the different forums on the Antarctic, the French authorities intend to maintain and develop their scientific activities in the Antarctic itself, in strict observance of the Washington Treaty. These activities can only gain from improvements in the services to the scientific station of Dumon d'Urville, which are to be carried through. This work meets the wishes expressed on many occasions by the international scientific community, which will benefit as a whole from the lengthening of the research period and the development and rationalization of the scientific programmes.

Mr Chairman,

My Delegation will participate in the work of this XIIIth Consultative Conference on the Antarctic in the spirit of realism and compromise which is the hallmark of this institution.

Let us not try to hide the fact : we are faced with some worrying subjects. These essentially concern the need to adapt our system to meet the changes occurring within the international community. They also concern the delicate judgments which must be made in the protection of the environment and the development of other legitimate activities. Although we are aware of the difficulties involved, we nevertheless approach the meeting with confidence. The special spirit and the cohesion that we enjoy will allow us to confront these problems with assurance. Your sagacious and pragmatic guidance, Mr Chairman, will be a major contribution. In this, you can count on the unhesitating support of the French Delegation.

OPENING ADDRESS : UNITED KINGDOM, DR JOHN HEAP

Mr Chairman,

May I too, congratulate you on your election to preside over our Delegations at this Meeting. May I also, through you, and on behalf of my Delegation, thank the distinguished Foreign Minister of Belgium for his words of welcome and thank the Government of Belgium for the excellent facilities that have been made available to us. The auguries are good for our work. I should also wish to extend a warm welcome to our new Consultative colleagues, the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

For historical reasons it is good to be again in Brussels for the thirteenth of our regular Consultative Meetings, ten meetings after the seminally important meeting held here twenty one years ago. At that meeting the then Consultative Parties took the step of adopting the Agreed Measures for the conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora. It gives me personally, and my Delegation, enormous pleasure to see Baron de Gerlache de Gomery and Professor Alfred van der Essen across the table from us. Both of them, I know, well remember that meeting which took the step, after a great deal of hard work, of adapting those Measures.

Mr Chairman, a great deal flowed from the willingness of Consultative Parties to negotiate the Agreed Measures. Their adoption started the Consultative Parties down the road of seeking further conservation measures. Next came the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals which itself paved the way for the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

Their adoption of the Agreed Measures was also the first expression of the capacity of the Antarctic Treaty System to look forward to identify impending problems and deal with them while they are still tractable and capable of solution. Perhaps of overriding long term significance for the Treaty System was that the negotiation of the Agreed Measures was the first time when the then Consultative Parties had really to face the implications of Article IV of the Antarctic Treaty.

Article IV of the Antarctic Treaty, Mr Chairman, did not solve the differences between Consultative Parties over the question of the exercise of sovereignty in the Antarctic. What it did do, however, was to provide a framework within which the otherwise potentially explosive issue of sovereignty could be managed - a framework in which, in brief Mr Chairman, it was possible for governments to avoid pushing their views to a logical conclusion - to act, in a word, with forbearance.

Foresight and forbearance, Mr Chairman, are hallmarks of the Antarctic Treaty System to which my Government attaches the greatest significance. The Agreed Measures adopted here twenty one years ago were the first of many agreements to stamp those hallmarks indelibly on the Treaty System.

At this meeting, Mr Chairman, we have items on our agenda which will require of us all the same characteristics of foresight, adaptability, imagination and forbearance that marked the negotiation of the Agreed Measures.

Mr Chairman, the Treaty is more than 25 years old. My children tell me that in their view the prospect of becoming 25 years old is one to be looked on with horror. To be 25 years old, they say, is to be next door to senility. As you can imagine, Mr Chairman, I look upon their views with benign neglect. But one of the characteristics of senility is self-satisfaction. There are, indeed, aspects of the Treaty which may quite properly give rise to satisfaction. But, Mr Chairman, while the Antarctic Treaty itself and many of the achievements of the system that has developed under it were ahead of their time, the world around us changes and in some areas has overtaken the steps we have taken. It is important that while maintaining a proper sense of what we have achieved, we should not rest on our laurels.

Thank you, Sir.

OPENING ADDRESS : INDIA, DR S.Z. QASIM

Mr Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me first of all, on behalf on my Delegation, share my sentiments, with the other Delegations who spoke before me, in congratulating you Mr Chairman, on your unanimous election as Chairman of the XIIIth Meeting of the Consultative Committee and also on the election of the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General of this meeting. I would also like to extend the admiration and gratitude of my Delegation to the Government of Belgium for hosting this Consultative Meeting and also the Preparatory Meeting held earlier in this beautiful city of Brussels and for making all the preparations and excellent arrangements. It is a matter of great pleasure for my Delegation to come to your country with which India has always enjoyed a traditional bond of friendship. I would also take this opportunity to extend my warm greetings to the representatives of the various countries present here. I must also thank the Belgian Minister of External Relations for his very kind expression of greetings and welcome.

It is a matter of great pleasure and honour for my Delegation to extend a very warm welcome to the great country of the People's Republic of China and the very important developping country, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay for achieving the Consultative Status and for joining this Meeting. I am confident that the membership of these two countries will contribute a great deal in strengthening and promoting the objectives of the Antarctic Treaty. I would also like to welcome all the non-Consultative members present here.

Mr Chairman, the interest in Antarctica of many countries of the world is growing rapidly. This is clear from the fact that during the last four years, ten countries have acceded to the Treaty as compared to ten accessions in the earlier 20 years. Today, the Treaty mechanism represents 32 states in the world and with the admission of China and India, a very significant portion of the world population stands represented in the Treaty. However, we hope that as time passes, there will be a still wider participation of many more states so as to make the Antarctic Treaty more open and effective.

The Antarctic Treaty came into existence about 25 years ago. During this period, it has demonstrated to the world an effective mechanism for ensuring peaceful use of Antarctica, giving freedom for scientific research and developing excellent co-operation among the Treaty Parties. We are indeed proud of our accomplishments under the framework of the Antarctic Treaty.

In addition to these, the Treaty has established a new regime for the Antarctic Marine Living Resources and another regime on the minerals of Antarctica is under very active negotiation.

We are, at present, faced with a problem of discussion on the Antarctic Treaty System in the United Nations General Assembly. My country, together with all the states present here will continue to maintain our position and support on strengthening the Antarctic Treaty System. We believe Mr Chairman, that only the Consultative Parties have the knowledge, expertise, competence and experience to talk about Antarctica in all types of forums. We have indeed demonstrated our solidarity on this issue and I am sure we will be able to succeed in our efforts of furthering negotiations on this problem.

In conclusion, my Delegation would like to indicate once again that we will continue to work together in achieving the objectives and goals of the Antarctic Treaty and I wish to assure you our fullest co-operation.

I thank you very much.

OPENING ADDRESS : JAPAN, MR KATSUNARI SUZUKI

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of my Delegation, may I join the previous speakers in welcoming you as our Chairman. I would like to say the same to the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General. I am confident that under your able guidance this session will prove to be most fruitful. For our part, we are looking forward indeed to working with you for the success of the XIIIth Consultative Meeting. Our sincere appreciation also goes to the Foreign Minister of Belgium, H.E. Mr Tindemans, for the warm welcome which he kindly extended to us. Taking this opportunity, I should also like to express my Delegation's deep appreciation to the Government of Belgium for the meticulous preparations it has made in hosting the preparatory meeting and this Consultative Meeting. I am sure that meetings in this beautiful country will long remain in our memory. Turning to the substance, Mr Chairman, my Delegation is happy to note that this Consultative Meeting is entrusted with an important task to formulate, consider and recommend to the respective governments, measures to enhance implementation of the principles and objectives of the Treaty. May I observe that the importance of this Consultative Meeting has been further increased in the light of the growing interest being manifested by the international community in Antarctica and the Antarctic Treaty.

This morning, the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay were approved as new members of this Consultative Meeting. I am indeed honoured to welcome warmly the Delegations of both countries to the meeting.

We know that the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay have been already conducting active research work in Antarctica and therefore are fully eligible in our view for the membership of this meeting. I am sure that the addition of these two countries will contribute greatly not only to the more extensive deliberations in this meeting but also to further reinforcing and developing of the present Antarctic System.

Mr Chairman, it may be recalled that over the past few years, various agreements have been set forth on the present Antarctic System at several international fora, including the United Nations. This year, the question of the Antarctic has witnessed a new development, reflecting the growing interest of the international community. The Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity has adopted a resolution on this issue. And the Conference of Foreign Ministers of non-Aligned Countries has also addressed itself to this question.

However, I would like to stress the solemn fact that the legal regime of the Antarctic under the Antarctic Treaty has been functioning with great success for the last quarter of a century and that this system has proved itself to be an effective and important tool in ensuring the peace and the freedom of scientific research in the Antarctic and thus contributed to the interest of all mankind.

Mr Chairman, my Delegation firmly believes that on the occasion of the XIIIth Meeting of the Consultative Parties we should re-evaluate the essential roles that the present Antarctic System has played and renew our determination to further strengthen it. In closing, Mr Chairman, I wish to assure

you once again that my Delegation is fully prepared to make every effort to intensify our endeavour in this field and thus to make this meeting a truly successful one.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : NORWAY, MR NILS BOLSET

Mr Chairman,

Let me first join all previous speakers in congratulating you on your election and also the Secretary General on his election.

Secondly, I should through you, Mr Chairman, on behalf of my Delegation, also like to thank the Government of Belgium for having arranged this meeting in Brussels, and not least for having honoured us with the presence at the opening session of the Minister of External Relations, Mr Tindemans.

May I also at the outset of this meeting join other speakers in extending a hearty welcome to the People's Republic of China and to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay as Consultative Parties and as such attending a meeting of this kind for the first time. We look forward to fruitful co-operation within the framework of the Antarctic Treaty System with them, as indeed with all parties to the Treaty.

Also, my Delegation would like to welcome the observers from all other states which have acceded to the Antarctic Treaty and are present here. My Delegation is firmly convinced that their presence will be beneficial to the upcoming deliberations. In the view of the Norwegian Government, the Antarctic Treaty System should be as open as possible, and we therefore also hope to see the number of observers increased by the time the next Consultative Meeting is convened.

The Consultative Meetings of the past were devoted to finding practical ways of meeting with the Treaty's requirements. Differences of opinion were negotiated in a spirit of compromise and co-operation. The Treaty partners were even in difficult times able to work together in harmony and in peace. In view not least of the increasing global interest in Antarctica, the Norwegian Delegation hopes that the proceedings of our present meeting will once again be able to demonstrate the efficiency of the Antarctic Treaty System in developing adequate administrative procedures and in protecting the very vulnerable Antarctic environment. More than ever it is necessary to convince the world community that the Antarctic Treaty's achievements in the past have been very substantial and that the Treaty is the only suitable instrument to further these goals also in the future.

Within the framework of the Antarctic Treaty, research has continued unabated in Antarctica. Norwegian scientists have since the last Consultative Meeting continued important research activities there. Last austral summer we had a large scientific expedition, in the area. I am happy to have the leader of that expedition, Dr Orheim, included in our Delegation to this meeting.

However, it does not suffice to be proud of what has already been accomplished within the Antarctic Treaty System. It is necessary to increase our efforts in making the system operate even better and more efficiently and to adjust it to new developments and challenges. To this end we must stand together and work together.

At the XIIIth Consultative Meeting, as at the preceeding ones, the proposed agenda contains important and complex issues. Our Delegation is prepared to meet them and to deal with them in the spirit of co-operation and goodwill.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : NEW ZEALAND, MR B. THOMSON

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of my Delegation I congratulate you on your election to preside over this, the XIIIth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. It is fitting too that this meeting be held in this beautiful and historic city of Brussels which just over 21 years ago hosted the IIIth Consultative Meeting where, it will be remembered, was the occasion when the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora were finalized.

Mr Chairman,

Since that earlier meeting in Brussels many other important matters have been considered at Consultative Meetings resulting in many well thought out recommendations to governments. Thus, the Antarctic Treaty has kept pace with changing circumstances and needs and has I believe amply demonstrated the benefits of holding regular Consultative Meetings to deal with matters efficiently and effectively.

Changes are occurring in the Antarctic and some of those changes are reflected here at this meeting in our welcoming Delegations from recently acceded states and observers from others. My Delegation is most pleased to see this expansion to the Antarctic Treaty and we take this opportunity of welcoming and congratulating the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay as Consultative Parties. We have already worked with these countries in the Antarctic and now we look forward to co-operating closely with them to further the objectives of the Antarctic Treaty.

We in New Zealand are well aware of the increasing international interest in Antarctica and we will continue to provide assistance and advice to other countries wherever possible. We are also aware of the criticisms of the Antarctic Treaty System and the need therefore for the Antarctic Treaty partners to tell the rest of the world more about themselves and the excellent work they are doing.

Increasing activities such as we are currently witnessing in the Antarctic by both government and private expeditions do highlight the need for careful preplanning of these new ventures with special attention to likely impacts both on the environment and on existing research programmes and their support services.

Mr Chairman,

There is considerable work awaiting our attention at this important meeting. My Delegation looks forward to working with you and all our colleagues gathered here in ensuring this meeting in Brussels is successful in all its deliberations and positive in the recommendations that come from it.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : POLAND, MR JOZEF KOBIALKA

Mr Chairman,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

My Delegation wishes to join the previous speakers in congratulating you, Mr Chairman, on your unanimous election. Under your able and experienced guidance - I am convinced - the XIIIth Consultative Meeting in Brussels will succeed in adding a new chapter to the considerable achievements in the field of promoting international co-operation concerning the Antarctic. Our congratulations go to the Secretary General and his deputy. The excellent technical and other facilities and hospitality extended to us by the host country constitute a good auguring in this respect.

I would like to extend our most cordial welcome to the Delegations of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Uruguay, congratulating them on becoming Consultative Parties. We are convinced that they will make significant contributions to our endeavours; in particular, we are sure that they will bring fresh thoughts and ideas to our considerations of the questions which confront this group of countries. We are confident that Chinese and Uruguayan membership in the consultative group will only serve to strengthen the Antarctic Treaty System.

As we all know, the Antarctic continent is a unique one on which the peaceful co-operation among the states of different social systems is going without any obstacles for the benefit of all mankind.

Any changes or modifications could lead to destabilization of the existing peaceful co-operation and could evoke unpredictable consequences.

Poland successfully carries out scientific research in our polar stations namely "Arctowski" and "Dubrowski". We maintain a broad scientific exchange of views among many countries participating as well to the Antarctic research.

Mr Chairman, as it was rightly stated by the Foreign Minister, the Treaty has established Antarctica as a region of peaceful international co-operation. It excludes Antarctica from the arms race by prohibiting any measure of a military nature, such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military manoeuvres, or the testing of any type of weapons including of course nuclear weapons.

Antarctic Treaty Parties, working through the Treaty System, contribute to promoting scientific research protecting and preserving the natural environment of that continent and the results have been of benefit to the international community.

We are convinced that the Antarctic Treaty System has proved to be a remarkably successful, practical and dynamic arrangement.

Every effort should be made to preserve and maintain the system rather than to revise or replace it. However, we are aware that in the future, there will be some possibilities for further evolution but within the framework of the present system.

The Antarctic Treaty is not restricted to the other countries. The present list of the Parties to the Treaty is still growing. Recently, Sweden, Finland, Cuba and Hungary have become Parties to the Antarctic Treaty. They are welcomed by our delegation.

Moreover, the recent examples of Poland, Brasil, India, FRG, China and Uruguay, which obtained the consultative status between 1977-1985, are the best evidence that the Treaty's provisions, making it an open Treaty, find their practical manifestation in the reality of international relations.

We also attach great importance to the present negotiation concerning future exploration and exploitation of the Antarctic mineral resources.

Taking into account the above mentioned arguments, we cannot support any initiative for the setting up of a special or ad hoc Committee on Antarctica within the framework of the United Nations. Firstly, because the role and the task of such a Committee remain unknown. Secondly, as we support an existing Antarctic Treaty System, we are convinced that a creation of a new body will be useless, and could undermine the existing Antarctic System.

Therefore we once again express support for maintaining the existing Antarctic System unchanged. We invite all states which are not yet a party to the Antarctic Treaty to join us for the benefits of mutual co-operation in the future.

OPENING ADDRESS : U.S.S.R., PROF. E.I. TOLSTIKOV

Mr Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Twenty-five years have already passed since the signing of the Antarctic Treaty by twelve states. Over this period, the Treaty has proved to be an effective means of controlling activities in the Antarctic region. Proof of its real value can be seen in the fact that the number of participating states has now reached thirty-two, a number which will probably grow in the future.

Over these years, the Antarctic, which used to be the least studied region of the globe (almost a "blank space" on the map of the world), has become a widely studied region, and it is not lack of information on this region which will hinder the development of our knowledge of our planet as a whole.

These positive results have been achieved through the combined efforts of numerous Antarctic Treaty Member Countries. Needless to say, if each of these countries had acted on its own, such success would have been impossible. The Soviet Union has been an active member of the Treaty since the very beginning and has contributed substantially to its implementation. In our country, we have published over three hundred geographical maps of the continent. We have also produced the world's first atlas on the Antarctic, in two volumes.

Every year, we publish hundreds of articles and numerous works on many different aspects of nature in the Antarctic. The work carried out by the Soviet Antarctic expedition covers all scientific fields relating to the earth. The Soviet station "Vostok" is situated in the harshest region of the Antarctic, where the lowest temperature on earth has been recorded : - 89.2°C. Since it is near to the magnetic pole, the results of the geophysical experiments conducted there are of the highest importance.

The Soviet Union also plays an active part in a number of international projects, such as the international Antarctic glaciological project, the geophysical site, the oceanological polar experiment "JUG", etc.

Having participated from the beginning in all the Consultative Meetings, I should like to recall that the problems which were given priority at the first meetings concerned scientific experiments.

I propose that in its recommendations the Consultative Meeting devote more attention to strengthening scientific activity. I have personally taken part on many occasions in Antarctic expeditions and have directed experiments there. Through my own experience, I know how difficult and expensive this activity is. For this reason, it is particularly important for all the countries to pool their efforts.

To illustrate the good relations of co-operation and mutual assistance among all the countries in the Antarctic, I should like to mention an incident in which I was personally involved. In 1959, when I was leading the IIIrd Soviet Antarctic expedition, our aviators came to the help of Belgian explorers in distress. The Belgian Government was highly appreciative of

the courage displayed by the Soviet rescuers and decorated them with Belgian medals, which in personal terms meant my being honoured with the Order of Leopold II. And in their turn, Soviet researchers have also received assistance from foreign colleagues.

The scientific results obtained in the Antarctic are extremely valuable. Nevertheless, in the troubled times in which we live, the Antarctic Treaty is even more precious to us because of its great capacity as an instrument of peace. Everyone knows that one of the basic provisions of the Treaty is the article prohibiting all military activity. And at present, the Antarctic is the only demilitarized zone in the world.

Our country is very keen, as it has already proved on many occasions, to see the principles of the Antarctic Treaty extended to other regions of the globe and to space. The Antarctic Treaty, which has been in existence for a long time, has spectacularly demonstrated that states with different social systems can co-operate peacefully. We must continue to work together to strengthen and develop the Treaty. We are in favour of enlarging the Treaty and of new states becoming members.

On behalf of the Soviet Delegation, I wish all the participants in the XIIIth Consultative Meeting every success in their work.

OPENING ADDRESS : URUGUAY, MR RICARDO J.GALARZA

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of my Delegation, I should like to join the previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this XIIIth Consultative Meeting and also express the gratitude of everyone in the Uruguayan Delegation both for the warm welcome extended to us by the Belgian Government and for the organizational facilities which it has made available for this important meeting.

On this particularly gratifying occasion for the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, we should like to extend our fraternal greetings to the Consultative and non-Consultative Parties and to express to the former our sincerest thanks for their having regarded the Antarctic efforts made by Uruguay as sufficient reason for it to be given Consultative Status and for having viewed these efforts in direct proportion to the size of the nation, its position as a developing country, its predominantly agricultural economy and also its historical and geographical links with the Antarctic continent from a privileged geopolitical position.

In so far as the non-Consultative Parties are concerned, we should like to express our appreciation for their resolute and solidary support for Uruguay's aspirations, which have now been satisfied. We should also like to address our warmest congratulations to the People's Republic of China, which has also consolidated its substantial Antarctic activities and, by chance, has become our neighbour on King George Island, which is also shared by other Consultative Parties and has thus become a place with a relatively high concentration of human beings and

of materials and equipment, a situation which Uruguay will put to good use by extending research in this area of such great scientific interest.

At international level, Uruguay has always supported full observance and promotion of the essential principles of peaceful coexistence, co-ordination and co-operation among nations as a way of furthering the full development of the human race.

In this and other ways, the Antarctic Treaty, since it came into effect on the basis of such principle, has shown that it is the appropriate framework and the most suitable instrument for the preservation of the Antarctic continent and for control over the activities carried out there.

Mr Chairman, in so far as Uruguay's activities in the Antarctic are concerned, in the short and medium term, we shall endeavour to reaffirm our country's presence in the region, strengthening its current operational structures and pursuing, on the respective continental mass, a qualitative and quantitative extension which should be fully operational in the medium term, either through its own efforts or in conjunction with other countries, or through a combination of the two.

It will also try to increase the acquisition of skills of all kinds, particularly scientific and logistical skills, so as to support the country's efforts in Antarctica through the appropriate development of human resources.

Uruguay will also strive to further the qualitative development and intensification of the scientific projects in course through the use of the technology available or obtainable, with the aim of achieving more intensive and meaningful national

presence in the region, endeavouring to involve itself in all areas covered by the Antarctic Treaty.

From all points of view, the Antarctic continent is a land of the XXIst century and the Antarctic Treaty has served as a source of essential developments in the light of a future that is not completely known but is nevertheless foreseeable.

In a parable written by the Uruguayan philosopher José Enrique Rodo, we are shown, in a vast and desolate field of granite, an unyielding spectre symbolizing the power of the will forcing three weak children, representing the powers and faculties of the human being, to sow this impenetrable land by shrugging aside frailty and discouragement to find the all-powerful energy to subjugate the world and break through the shadows of the unknown.

This is how men and states have met the Antarctic challenge and this is what our country and our people intend to do, in our desire to co-operate to the best of our ability and in the most generous and effective manner.

OPENING ADDRESS : BELGIUM, MR ALFRED VAN DER ESSEN

Mr Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Belgian Delegation, I should like to join in the welcome which our Chairman has just extended to you. It is a great honour for us to be your hosts here in Brussels for the second time. We see this as proof of your friendship and confidence, and would ask you in turn to regard it as a pledge of our loyalty to the spirit and the letter of the Treaty of Washington and the considerable undertaking to which it has given rise.

My Delegation will take part in the work of this XIIIth Meeting in a spirit of appreciation of the achievements of the past, whilst training its eye on the future, where major challenges await us. Our system has proved capable in the past of solving the most diverse problems with which it has been faced, thanks to its flexibility and its wisdom. I do not see why this should not be the case in the future.

I am convinced that the spirit of friendly understanding within which our work has always been carried out will continue to produce the best results. This quality of co-operation, combined with our constant concern for the protection of the Antarctic, makes me feel certain that yet again we shall live up to what is expected of us, namely realistic and feasible solutions.

It is to this keynote of the realistic and the feasible that I should like the work that we are to undertake to be tuned, and I am sure that we shall succeed.

The Belgian Delegation is extremely pleased that the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay have been granted Consultative Status, and would like to thank the various Delegations for the flattering remarks that they have made concerning Belgium.

OPENING ADDRESS : GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC,
MR DIETMAR HEYNE

Mr Chairman,

The Delegation of the German Democratic Republic would first of all like to express its gratitude for the invitation to attend this meeting as an observer.

We should also like to say how much we appreciate the great efforts made by the Kingdom of Belgium, as the organizers of this conference, to provide all the participating states with such outstanding working conditions.

We are convinced that this excellent atmosphere will help ensure the success of the debates. Our Delegation would like to join in the congratulations expressed to you, Mr Chairman, on your election as Chairman of this XIIIth Consultative Meeting.

Mr Chairman,

The German Democratic Republic is at one with the other states which appreciate the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System, developed on the basis of the Antarctic Treaty of 1959, and which are energetically committed to maintaining and enlarging this system.

As in the past, we attach great importance to the fact that the Antarctic Treaty declares the whole of the sixth continent to be a completely demilitarized zone. This instrument of international law stipulates that all exploration and utilization of the vast region of the Antarctic must be undertaken solely for peaceful purposes.

Thanks to the principle of freedom of exploration in the Antarctic, it has been possible to establish a level of co-operation between states with different social systems that sets an example for other spheres of international relations.

It is in this context that the German Democratic Republic lays particular stress on Article IV of the Antarctic Treaty. This article not only freezes the territorial claims of certain states and precludes new claims but also establishes the legal basis for application of the principle of the joint and several responsibility of the Consultative Parties. Nor must we forget that unanimous action by the Consultative Parties was one of the essential conditions for the elaboration of the Antarctic Treaty System.

Mr Chairman,

Apart from the results obtained in the scientific exploration of the Antarctic, an activity which considerably deepens and expands the knowledge of all mankind on this region of the world and reveals its importance to our planet as a whole, this contractual system also has the advantage of effectively contributing to the protection of Antarctic fauna and flora. All this is of prime importance, not only for the states in the immediate vicinity of the Antarctic but also for all the other countries of the world without exception. Science offers us many examples showing that even modest changes in the Antarctic environment have appreciable repercussions on the earth's climate. From this point of view, the German Democratic Republic is concerned about certain tourist phenomena within the Antarctic Treaty Area and about certain negligence in the protection of the Antarctic environment. It would therefore be useful to re-examine

the effectiveness of the stipulations relating to the protection of the environment, which are observed by the German Democratic Republic.

Since the XIIth Consultative Meeting, a good many things have been done concerning the Antarctic. On the one hand, at the request of certain states whose declared objective is the revision of the Antarctic Treaty, the "Antarctic question" has become a subject for discussion by the General Assembly of the United Nations, and, on the other hand, during this same period, many states have expressed their interest in participating in the exploration of the Antarctic on the basis of the current legal system. This tendency clearly proves the usefulness of the ideas contained in the terms of the Antarctic Treaty, and the German Democratic Republic is one of those states doing everything in their power to develop the political, legal and economic advantages of this system. In this connection, the practical application of the German Democratic Republic's scientific interest in the sixth continent demonstrates the vitality of the current legal system, which allows all states to participate in the peaceful exploration of the Antarctic regardless of their level of development or their economic capacities.

In close co-operation with the Soviet expeditions and thanks to the logistical support of the USSR, researchers from the German Democratic Republic have been able to pursue their own scientific programmes for over 25 years, particularly in the fields of meteorology, geophysics, studies of the polar atmosphere, isotopes research and geology, in which they have achieved results of widely recognized value.

A completely new development with regard to the preparation of expeditions and their work in the field is the scientific base of the German Democratic Republic, which was built in 1979 not far from the Soviet station Novolazarevskaja. Since then, this base has been carrying out independent scientific activities. Naturally, the scientific results of this work have been and will continue to be placed at the disposal of all interested states through the Academy of Sciences of the German Democratic Republic.

Mr Chairman,

Thanks to the joint efforts of all the Parties to the Antarctic Treaty at the 39th General Assembly of the United Nations and during the Preparatory Meeting in April this year aimed at maintaining, protecting and developing the Antarctic Treaty, a number of attempts by certain states to have the Treaty revised have been successfully countered. However, we consider - and the discussions at the 39th UN General Assembly prove it - that attempts of this kind must not be taken lightly.

In this respect, the Delegation of the German Democratic Republic would like to emphasize that it is essential to sustain these efforts in order to safeguard the advantages of the Antarctic Treaty in the future too, and our Delegation supports measures such as the participation of non-Consultative Parties in the regular Consultative Meetings and in negotiations on the regime covering the mineral resources of the Antarctic, and measures taken to circulate information on decisions and activities on the part of the Consultative States.

These are all steps in the right direction and we consider it important to make every effort in the future to reduce the reservations expressed on the Antarctic Treaty and to promote co-operation on an equal footing among all states involved in the exploration and utilization of the Antarctic for peaceful purposes only.

This is particularly true of the elaboration of a regime covering the utilization of mineral resources, which is of interest to the majority of states that are not members of the Treaty.

The negotiations on this subject, which it is more urgent than ever to bring to a conclusion, should provide legal possibilities of closely linking the minerals regime to the Antarctic Treaty itself.

Within the limits of its possibilities, the German Democratic Republic is ready and willing to make its constructive contribution to the success of these debates.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : BULGARIA, MR STOYAN RIZOV

Mr Chairman,

I should like to congratulate you, on behalf of the Bulgarian Delegation, on your election as Chairman of the XIIIth Consultative Meeting of the Member Countries of the Antarctic Treaty. We hope that under your guidance the work of the meeting will be conducted in an effective and fruitful manner.

In their opening addresses, all the Delegations so far have stressed the importance of the Antarctic question and the world's interest in solutions to the problems involved. We should like to express the hope that the interest and responsibility shown by the Delegations in the discussions on problems concerning the Antarctic will yield positive results.

For its part, the Bulgarian Delegation would like to assure you, Mr Chairman, that it will do everything possible to make certain that this is the case.

The Bulgarian Delegation wishes the participants in this XIIIth Consultative Meeting a constructive and productive conference.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : CUBA, MRS OLGA VALDEZ

Mr Chairman,

I am going to be very brief since I am aware of the heavy working agenda in front of us and I know that every minute counts.

First of all, allow me to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this Meeting which I am certain you will conduct most competently. I know we can be sure that under your direction our work will produce profitable results.

On behalf of my Delegation, I should also like to express through you to the Belgian Government our appreciation of the magnificent welcome extended to us and for the excellent conditions created for our work at this meeting, something which we do not find surprising coming from a country with the tradition of hospitality which Belgium enjoys.

My Delegation also regards this as a suitable opportunity to express its satisfaction at the fact that the People's Republic of China and our Latin American neighbour - Uruguay - have acquired the status of Consultative Parties. In our opinion, this is not only to the advantage of the said countries, which can thus participate in the new decisions which are to be taken, but also beneficial for our work concerning the Treaty. It is always good to have an injection of new blood, which will no doubt provide a new impetus and fresh ideas for the tasks which we are to undertake.

Mr Chairman,

My country is still relatively inexperienced in so far as work in the Antarctic is concerned; we are one of the most recent signatories to the Treaty and it was only a few years ago that we began moving in this direction. Nevertheless, we have already conducted some research, we have carried out exploration work in the area and we are preparing for much more active involvement to the extent of our possibilities and with the resources available to a small, poor developing country like ours.

In the view of my Delegation, and on the basis of the small amount of experience acquired over the last few years, the Treaty which we have signed has operated well and has attained one of its fundamental objectives for which it was drawn up.

We also believe that co-operation amongst ourselves is very important. As you will appreciate, quite a few developing countries are now members of the Treaty, although very few were in the beginning. It is essential to involve other developing countries in the work in the Antarctic and what is required to this effect is not modifications to the letter of the Treaty but a greater spirit of understanding and co-operation on the part of those which have more resources and have made more progress in their work in the area, to help the poorer countries play a greater part within the Treaty.

The least we can hope for is that this spirit of co-operation among us will be fully developed for more effective work and a more profitable future for all.

OPENING ADDRESS : DENMARK, MR BENT KILLERICH

Mr Chairman,

My Delegation would first of all like to thank the Belgian Government for its warm welcome to the participants of the XIIIth Consultative Meeting, and to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the meeting.

We also wish to congratulate the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay on their new status as Consultative Parties.

The fact that Denmark acceded to the Antarctic Treaty as early as in 1965 is evidence of the importance which Denmark attaches to developments in Antarctica.

Danish expectations have not been disappointed. Since its inception a quarter of a century ago the Antarctic Treaty has proved its value to the benefit and interest of mankind as a whole. It has provided a legal regime on Antarctica which has removed the potential for disputes relating to the exercise of sovereignty and guaranteed peace and stability in the region. In the view of the Danish Government it is of particular importance that the Treaty prohibits any military use of the region and guarantees its status as a nuclear weapons free area. Furthermore, the Treaty has created the basis for an extensive international co-operation to protect the extremely vulnerable environment of Antarctica and has provided an exemplary framework for free scientific research.

Denmark has a long-standing tradition of polar scientific research. Danish scientists have, of course, concentrated on research activities in our own Arctic regions, i.e. Greenland, but have on various occasions participated in Antarctic research expeditions of other countries, where their Arctic experience has proved most valuable.

Denmark has been involved in other related activities as well. For more than 30 years Danish vessels have carried scientific expeditions from other countries to the Antarctic continent. Danish experience in polar conditions has also proved valuable in the field of construction works in the Antarctic.

On March 25, 1985, the Nordic Council of Ministers adopted a recommendation calling for intensified Nordic co-operation concerning polar research both in the Arctic and in the Antarctic. It is in the spirit of this recommendation that the question of Danish participation in future scientific research activities together with other Nordic countries will be considered.

In this connection it should be mentioned that an official report, submitted last week to the Danish minister for Greenland, recommends the creation of a Polar Institute in Copenhagen covering matters relating to Arctic and Antarctic scientific research.

Recognizing the legitimate interest of the world community in the Antarctic the Danish Government has declared its support for efforts aiming at introducing greater openness in the international co-operation concerning Antarctica provided that neither the basic principles of the Treaty nor the positive results of the present international co-operation are jeopardized.

We welcomed the admission of non-Consultative Parties as observers to regular and special Consultative Meetings as one of the best and most efficient means towards greater openness in the Antarctic Treaty System.

On the other hand, as stated on several occasions, we view with grave concern any proposal, concerning the establishment of a UN Committee which could lead to undermining of the Antarctic Treaty. The Danish Government firmly believes that the international co-operation concerning Antarctica should be pursued within the framework of the Treaty.

The Treaty is in conformity with the principles and purposes of the UN Charter and is open for accession by all members of the United Nations.

However, accession to the Treaty becomes meaningful only if the acceding states are entitled to participate in the Antarctic co-operation in a manner which corresponds to the obligations they - as Contracting Parties - have undertaken according to the Treaty.

In the view of my Delegation the observer arrangements have worked well so far. It is to be hoped that the observer status may be further developed and improved so that NCPs may participate fully and effectively in the entire range of international co-operation and management concerning the Antarctic. Further progress in this direction will in our view serve to improve the accountability of the Antarctic Treaty System and to increase the support for the Treaty which is necessary in order to preserve it as the international framework for Antarctic cooperation.

As yet another step towards greater openness the Danish Delegation is of the opinion that current efforts aiming at providing fuller and more readily available information about the Treaty System should be reinforced. My Delegation is pleased to note that proposals to this effect will be discussed under item 5 of our agenda. Improvements in this respect may also serve to counter general criticism about the secrecy surrounding co-operation within the Antarctic Treaty System.

A further measure towards enhancing the credibility of the Antarctic Treaty System would be to invite interested and relevant organizations to attend Consultative Meetings as observers.

Mr Chairman, the Antarctic Treaty System is not a static body. It is - and should remain - a dynamic structure which can be adapted to changing realities without prejudice to the principles of the Treaty. One of the major long-term challenges is the minerals issue. This together with increased scientific, tourist and related activities in the Antarctic highlight the need for improving the regime concerning the protection of the Antarctic environment.

The Treaty has provided a framework for preserving and protecting the sensitive Antarctic ecosystems which is a matter of high priority for Denmark. Everybody agrees that Antarctica should be spared the damages of political conflicts. It is equally essential to avoid any irreparable harm to its environment. My Delegation would therefore support proposals aiming at creating a more efficient environment protection regime for Antarctica.

Mr Chairman, my Delegation is looking forward to co-operating with you during the present session. We are a newcomer to these meetings but as a staunch supporter of the Antarctic Treaty we hope to be able to contribute constructively to the work with a view to promote the objectives we all share as Contracting Parties.

Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS : SPAIN, MR CARLOS RODRIGUEZ CASAU

Mr Chairman,

First of all, allow me to express, on behalf of the Spanish Delegation, our sincerest congratulations on your election. We are sure that under your chairmanship this XIIIth Consultative Meeting will be a resounding success.

The Spanish Government is convinced that the objectives of the Antarctic Treaty cannot be improved upon and that the recommendations of the successive Consultative Meetings have been well-founded; that was why Spain filed its instrument of accession on the 31st of March 1982 and also introduced the instrument of accession to the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in March 1984. In the same year 1984, within the framework of the United Nations, Spain expressed its desire to become a Consultative Member of the Antarctic Treaty in the future, a desire which I can confirm is still fully valid today.

Spanish interest in research in the Antarctic has already been demonstrated on various occasions, at bilateral level (especially with Chile, Argentina and Poland) and at multilateral level (with international bodies), taking part in several research activities.

Our friend Fernando, the Chilean Ambassador to Spain, has witnessed this sustained Spanish interest in the Antarctic since he contributed last year to the IInd Marine Studies Week and, last summer, to the Ist Spanish Symposium on Antarctic Studies held in Palma de Mallorca under the sponsorship of the Higher Council of Scientific Research and with the collaboration of

various Ministries and other bodies. Participating in this symposium were representatives of practically all the National Ministries, Bodies and Entities concerned with the Antarctic, together with representatives from foreign organizations. As an extension of the work of this symposium, the Chairman of the Spanish Geodesic and Geophysical Commission presented a draft Antarctic Programme, which was submitted to the Government and now constitutes the basis for the future Spanish Antarctic Programme.

This Spanish concern with the Antarctic will be seen again in a few days at the IIIrd Marine Studies Week which is to be held in Cartagena and will be attended by delegates from various countries represented here in Brussels.

A positive indication of the concern which exists in Spain on the subject of the Antarctic is the desire to draw up a Spanish Antarctic Programme. The broad lines of the said programme can be summed up as follows :

1. A preliminary or short-term stage to be carried out in the southern summer 1985-86, with :
 - . staff training
 - . preliminary logistical study.

2. A stage of studies on the marine environment and logistics to be organized in 1986-87, with a view to conducting an oceanographic operation and setting up a base. To this effect, there is a possibility of an oceanographic vessel being constructed, the feasibility study on which has already been completed.

3. Finally, in the southern summer 1987-88, it is planned to set up a Spanish summer base in the Antarctic continent.

Spain, which has been a pioneer in the discovery and exploration of continents - and it should not be forgotten that within 7 years it will be the 5th centenary of the discovery of America by Castilian ships - has only recently, however, moved into the field of Antarctic research and that is why it would like all the Delegations present to collaborate in helping to train its researchers and to reinforce the Spanish Antarctic Programme.

Thank you, my friends. Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : FINLAND, H.E. AMBASSADOR HOLGER ROTKIRCH

On behalf of the Government of Finland, I wish to express our gratitude for being invited as an acceding party to the Antarctic Treaty to attend this meeting of the Consultative States. I wish to extend the congratulations of my Delegation to you, Mr Chairman on your election to conduct this meeting, which we hope will prove succesful. I would also like to express our thanks to the Government of Belgium for the facilities it has provided for this meeting. May I also take this opportunity to thank all those Delegations that have welcomed Finland's accession to the Antarctic Treaty.

This accession took place in May 1984. This is thus the first opportunity for my country to attend a meeting of the Consultative Parties. I would therefore like in a few words to explain my Government's basic position and reasons for acceding to the Treaty. Further, I would like to make some general comments on the Treaty's status today.

Finland's decision to accede to the Treaty was based on the belief that in this way we can best contribute to the strengthening of the present successful Treaty System. In any future efforts in Antarctica the Treaty must be upheld and respected. Only in this way the international community can ensure that future activities in Antarctica will be conducted in the interest of maintaining peace and security, co-operation in scientific research and protection and conservation of the fragile environment of the continent and its surrounding sea areas.

The Treaty provides for the effective demilitarization of Antarctica. It is indeed in the interest of all mankind, as stated in the Preamble of the Treaty that "Antarctica shall continue forever to be used for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord". Finland considers this to be the cornerstone of the Treaty System and all future endeavours on the continent.

In addition to making the Antarctic Treaty area the largest demilitarized area in the world with an effective inspection system the Treaty guarantees freedom of scientific research all over the continent for the Contracting Parties. A corollary of this right is the provision that scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available.

One of the basic prerequisites in making the Treaty work is that it provides a moratorium on territorial claims in Antarctica while the Treaty is in force. This provision constitutes a fundamental element in the present Treaty System.

Lastly, the Treaty provides for the preservation and the conservation of the living resources in Antarctica. This provision has been further strengthened by later agreements and conventions, in particular the Convention on the Conservation of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), which entered into force in 1982.

It is widely known that a change in the climate conditions of Antarctica could dramatically and fundamentally influence environmental conditions throughout the world. This extreme

vulnerability of the Antarctic environment both on land and in the sea must be taken into account when any exploitation of existing natural resources, exploratory or other activity in the area is carried out.

Mr Chairman,

Finland is situated in the subarctic zone and has a wide experience of coping with severe, cold climate conditions. Consequently, Finland has both the interest and the capacity to contribute to the research activities in the Antarctic. Technology developed in Finland for operations in the Arctic regions, including ice-breakers and other special vessels already used by various scientific expeditions, is equally applicable in the Antarctic region and have also been used by several Consultative Parties.

Having acceded to the Treaty we have surveyed the interest of our scientific community as well as our industry with a view to possibly undertaking active research in the Antarctic. The response has been very positive and it seems that the scientific interest covers a wide spectrum including disciplines such as geomorphology, geology, ionospheric and magnetospheric studies, glaciogeology, permafrost, sedimentology, marine biology, sea ice, meteorology, medicine, biology, offshore activity as well as transport and research vessels. It may be that in a few years time this interest will materialize in a scientific expedition to be sent to the Antarctic in co-operation with one or several other countries.

Mr Chairman,

I would now like to comment on the status of the Treaty in a wider international framework. The research undertaken by 12 states in the Antarctic during the International Geophysical Year 1957-58 culminated in the convening of the Washington Conference in 1959 which adopted the Antarctic Treaty. Since then the situation has changed considerably both with regard to the composition of the international community of states and to the interest in the Antarctic continent and its resources. It is thus understandable that a Treaty system encompassing this vast area generates an interest reaching far beyond the rather limited number of countries which are actively conducting research in the Antarctic.

It was therefore a welcome decision when the Consultative Parties at the XIIth Consultative Meeting in Canberra in 1983 invited the non-Consultative Parties to attend the meeting as observers. The NCP's have been invited this year to attend the meeting of the working group on an Antarctic mineral resources regime as observers. My country has participated in the meetings of the working group both in Rio de Janeiro and in Paris last week and we have been very satisfied with the possibility for observers to participate actively in those deliberations.

Mr Chairman,

Our discussion at this meeting and the positions we take in different fora within the Antarctic Treaty System have a bearing beyond the scope of the 32 Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty. We all know that the question of Antarctica is inscribed on the agenda of the 40th United Nations General Assembly, now for the third consecutive year. In our view the discussion within the United Nations as well as the Secretary General's

excellent report on the matter has clearly contributed to a wider and deeper understanding of the Antarctic Treaty System. Previously, little was actually known about the system by states outside the Group of Consultative Parties. The comprehensive study made by the United Nations Secretary General in 1984 provides a well documented description of all the different physical, legal, political, economic and scientific aspects involved.

The prospect of potential commercial exploitation of the vast Antarctic mineral resources has aroused widespread concern. Through our participation in the working group on an Antarctic mineral resources regime we have now a better understanding of the intricate questions involved. My Delegation believes that if this regime ever is to become viable and accepted by the community of states at large, it must be organized in a way which does not exclude the NCP's from the central institutions and organs of the regime. The question of protection and conservation of the Antarctic environment is of paramount importance in this respect. It would therefore also be important to secure that interests representing environmental and scientific knowledge in the world community be taken into account in any decision making.

It is important not to upset the present Antarctic Treaty System which has worked so successfully since its inception. New challenges have been met before and we are convinced that constructive solutions will be found in due time also with regard to the mineral resources regime. We must continue to keep the Antarctic continent outside international strife and discord.

OPENING ADDRESS : HUNGARY, MR VILMOS BÓGNAR

Mr Chairman,

Please allow me to pass on my Government's thanks for the cordial invitation to attend this meeting as an observer. Our Delegation would like to join in the warm congratulations already expressed on your election as Chairman and that of the other officials at this meeting. We also congratulate the new Consultative Members of the Treaty.

We should like to thank the Belgian Government and the Belgian Delegation most sincerely for all the work that they have done in preparing this series of conferences. We gained first-hand experience of the quality of their work and their know-how in this field at the meeting last April.

In these excellent conditions and with the desire on the part of all the Delegations to work towards a fruitful result, everything is prepared - we are convinced - to enable this XIIIth Consultative Meeting successfully to accomplish its mission. As several Delegations have already stated, this mission is to serve the interests of the international community and to contribute towards co-operation and scientific research whilst ensuring peace in this extremely interesting region of the world.

Our Delegation hopes that the nine days which remain will be crowned with success and will produce substantial results.

OPENING ADDRESS : ITALY, MR GIORGIO FRANCHETTI PARDO

Mr Chairman,

Please allow me first of all to congratulate yourself, Mr Chairman, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General on your selection to preside over this XIIIth Consultative Meeting and to guide it to success, which is bound to advance research in the Antarctic, given the important and varied themes included on our draft agenda. The Delegations which preceded me have already emphasized your great merits and abilities, which you yourself demonstrated on the occasion of our preparatory meeting. It is therefore with the greatest pleasure that I and my Delegation should like to associate ourselves with their extremely discerning judgment.

I should also like to thank the Belgian Government for the excellent working conditions which they have prepared for us in the superb and historic Palais d'Egmont.

Now please allow me to say that it is particularly satisfying for me to be able to speak to you here since I can confirm to you that on the 10th of June 1985 the Italian Parliament passed Law n° 284, published in the Official Journal n° 145 of the 21st of June 1985.

The purpose of this law is to set in motion a programme of scientific research over the periode 1985-1991 which is aimed at ensuring Italy's full participation in the Antarctic Treaty.

For the period concerned, a budget of 230.000 million lire, i.e. about 130 million dollars, has been fixed, concrete proof of the importance that the Italian Parliament and Government attach to scientific research programmes in the Antarctic.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Ministry for Scientific and Technological Research will both be involved in working towards the objectives envisaged in the above mentioned law.

For its part, the C.N.R., for the research programmes, and the ENEA, as the body appointed by the Government to organize and finance the various initiatives, have taken rapid action on the tasks entrusted to them with a view to the application of the law passed by the Italian Parliament.

The C.N.R. has drawn up a precise research programme in the fields of geology, biology, physics and the atmosphere. These programmes will begin a few months from now, i.e. on the arrival in the Antarctic of the scientific expedition organized by the ENEA, which has chartered a vessel that will leave at the end of this month for New Zealand, from where it will go to Terra Nova Bay and the Ross Sea.

The expedition in question will also enjoy the co-operation of the New Zealand Government, particularly in so far as the logistical aspects are concerned. And may I take the opportunity here of expressing our warmest thanks to the New Zealand Government for this invaluable co-operation which we hope will be extremely fruitful for the scientific research programmes in the Antarctic.

In the meantime, all the problems relating to the second and larger Italian scientific expedition to the Antarctic have already been examined. It is planned to take place between the end of 1986 and the beginning of 1987 and it will make use (also in so far as the installation of an Italian base is concerned) of the experience acquired and the information obtained during the first expedition, which is now imminent.

The purpose of all this, Mr Chairman, is to emphasize if only briefly the great amount of care which the Italian Government is taking in preparing to present, at the opportune moment, its request for inclusion among those countries entitled to consultation under the terms of Article IX of the Treaty.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : NETHERLANDS, MR SEBE WILLIAM MENNO DERKS

Mr Chairman,

First I would like to congratulate you with your election as Chairman of this Meeting.

Furthermore I would like to thank your distinguished Minister of External Relations for his inspiring and warm words of welcome and your Government for the invitation to attend this meeting in this magnificent ambiance, the Palais d'Egmont and for the hospitality presented to us in Brussels.

I would like to congratulate the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay with their new status as Consultative Party.

Mr Chairman,

The Netherlands Government is still of the opinion that by concluding the Antarctic Treaty, the Contracting Parties have succeeded in maintaining in that area a permanent absence of military activity for 25 years, freezing in some cases overlapping territorial claims, promoting scientific research and protecting internationally the continent's unique ecosystems.

The effective isolation of Antarctica from the international tensions that exist elsewhere is perhaps the Treaty's most solid achievement. The adoption of the system of mutual inspections can also be regarded as an important achievement and one worthy of emulation. It can, therefore, be said that the objective formulated as follows in the Treaty's preamble - "Recognizing that it is in the interest of all mankind that Antarctica shall

continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord" - has so far been realized.

These achievements need to be preserved. The Netherlands also believe that the present Treaty is the most suitable instrument for achieving this objective because of this proven efficiency.

I do realize that we are in a difficult position to start participation in a continuous process which has been developed since the establishment of the Treaty System. That means that we have to learn a lot in order to become as familiar with the problems as the old hands. On the other hand we hope that by allowing new company, it may mean new ideas. Let me state from the outset that we welcome the invitation to participate in the negotiations of the XIIIth Consultative Meeting.

We, in the Netherlands, feel ourselves committed to Antarctica, connected by the importance the environment of Antarctica has for Antarctica itself and for our lowlands in the North.

A proof to the present interest of the Netherlands in Antarctica may be seen in the decision of the Netherlands Government to finance a national programme for Antarctic research in the coming years.

Mr Chairman,

It is not my intention to make a long speech nor enter into details at this stage. I may conclude by saying that by

participating we intend to collaborate as constructively as possible in order to achieve new steps for the preservation of the benefits of the Treaty System.

I am sure, Mr Chairman, that the XIIIth Consultative Meeting will be a success !

Thank you Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : PERU, H.E. AMBASSADOR JULIO EGO-AGUIRRE A.

Mr Chairman,

It is my pleasure to add my own congratulations to those already expressed by the previous delegates on your election as Chairman and on that of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General.

I should also like to express my Delegation's thanks to the Government of Belgium, in the person of Minister Tindemans, for the excellent organization of this conference which has brought us here to this beautiful city of Brussels, an outstanding expression of convergence and union of the peoples of the world. And I am also especially pleased to extend a warm welcome and sincere congratulations to the two new Consultative Parties, the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

Mr Chairman,

I should like to express our appreciation for the invitation to my country, as a Contracting Party to the Antarctic Treaty, to attend this meeting as an observer, as it first did at the XIIth Consultative Meeting in Canberra, on which occasion it declared its satisfaction with the recommendation adopted in April 1983, in that same city, relating to the participation of the Contracting Parties in the Consultative Meetings of the Washington Treaty.

The importance of the legal instrument adopted in Washington in 1959 and the will clearly demonstrated by the Contracting Parties have allowed considerable progress to be made, not only in preventing the Antarctic continent from becoming a focus of

international political tension but also in preserving to date the delicate balance of its environment, protecting it from nuclear tests and militarization.

The National Committee on Antarctic Affairs was set up in Lima on 8 August 1984, and Peru shortly intends to organize a scientific exploratory expedition to the Antarctic. These two facts reflect Peru's interest in all aspects concerning the said continent and its desire to gain the status of Consultative Party in the near future.

Mr Chairman,

Peru's geographical situation, which determines its close and immediate ecological relationship with the Antarctic continent, is one of the main reasons for its constant concern with the preservation of the region's ecosystem.

Moreover, as a traditional mining country, Peru is particularly concerned that the future regime for the exploration and exploitation of non-living Antarctic resources should take into account the interests of mineral producing developing countries and should contain the necessary safeguards to preserve the regional ecology.

The climate of scientific co-operation which has existed so far must be maintained and even improved. Peru hopes that it will be even further intensified and would repeat its special thanks to the Governments of Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand and the United States for the contribution that they have made and for allowing Peruvians to take part in Antarctic expeditions.

Mr Chairman,

All the items on the agenda of this Meeting are of significance and importance. In so far as the "Exchange of Information in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty" is concerned, my Delegation hopes that the necessary steps will be taken to ensure the most fluent and timely communication and transfer of information.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : ROMANIA, MR VALERIU FLOREAN

Mr Chairman,

I should like to join the other speakers and also congratulate you most sincerely on your election as Chairman of the XIIIth Consultative Meeting. Your election gives us a guarantee that this meeting will produce worthwhile results.

A the same time, I should also like to thank the Belgian Government for the excellent conditions with which it has provided us for our work at this meeting.

Romania participates as a non-Consultative Party in the Consultative Meetings of the Antarctic Treaty, thus demonstrating its interest in the Treaty, which has established a zone free of weapons of all kinds and of military activities, whilst at the same time giving tangible form to the principle of international co-operation to the benefit of the whole of mankind.

We consider that the Antarctic Treaty has great symbolic value in a world confronted with an ever-increasing arms race and numerous situations of tension or even open conflict.

The framework created by the Treaty and the items included on the agenda for our meeting, which are of concern to every country of the world, are favourable factors for the promotion of international co-operation in the Treaty Area and for the advancement of scientific research to the benefit of all nations and to the benefit of international understanding.

If - as we are convinced - the results of our meeting consolidate the direction in which we are moving, we shall be able to say that it has made a worthwhile contribution to the cause of peace and of peaceful international co-operation.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : SWEDEN,
H.E. AMBASSADOR BO JOHNSON - THEUTENBERG

Mr Chairman,

First, Mr Chairman, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Belgium for its invitation to Sweden to participate in the XIIIth Consultative Meeting. It is now 85 years since the Belgica expedition was dispatched to Antarctica under A. de Gerlache. Thus, Belgium is one of the pioneer nations on the Antarctic continent.

It is indeed a special occasion for a Swedish representative to appear, for the first time, before a regular meeting of the Consultative Parties of the Antarctic Treaty. Even if Sweden is a newcomer to the Treaty my country belongs to that circle of nations that have been active in polar affairs, including Antarctica, for long.

National Swedish activities on the Antarctic continent itself ceased, for different reasons, more or less simultaneously with the coming into being of the Treaty of 1959. The first Swedish expedition to Antarctica was undertaken already 1901-1903 under the leadership of Otto Nordenskjöld and our last greater scientific effort was the participation in the important Norwegian-British-Swedish expedition to Antarctica 1949-1952. Even after that date individual Swedish scientists have contributed to the knowledge of the Antarctic area including the surrounding seas and their ecology.

My Government decided to support the general aims of the Antarctic Treaty System by acceding to the Treaty on 24 April 1984 and, likewise, to the 1980 Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. This step was motivated by our wish to support the basic principles of the Antarctic Treaty. The principles contained in the Treaty System are remarkable in international co-operation and should, therefore, be safeguarded. It is a well known fact that the Treaty warded off possible conflicts as to territorial claims on the continent. The Treaty System could be viewed as a kind of guarantee that such issues are not brought up again as long as the Treaty is in force. It has in this regard an important role to play, and nobody could really see what could substitute the delicate balance being upheld by the Treaty System. My Government has maintained this position on several occasions lately, i.a. in the U.N. debate on Antarctica.

The Treaty stands for international co-operation and free scientific activities. Antarctica is, furthermore, the only continent on earth where all military activities and installations are forbidden. It is a nuclear free zone. These provisions are of great significance for the peace and stability in the region, as well as in a global context.

It is obvious to us all, Mr Chairman, that questions pertaining to exploration and exploitation of resources have become a leading theme in the general political and legal debate of this decade. Together with these factors also environmental aspects come into focus.

Apart from our interest to support fundamental principles of international law, my Government takes a special interest in the protection of the environment, especially the fragile environments of the polar regions. On several occasions, my Government has

emphazised the importance of the environmental aspects of the Antarctic Treaty System. As a member of the Treaty Sweden will consistently promote the provisions of international environmental law, based i.a. on the principles laid down in the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment of 1972 as one of the key factors for the future management of Antarctica and the preservation of Antarctic nature.

Even though my country has been a party to the Antarctic Treaty only for little more than one year, we have been actively participating in one of the most important spheres of Antarctic negotiations, namely the meeting on the mineral resources regime. We are pleased that the Consultative Parties have invited the non-Consultative Parties to follow all deliberations as observers, a course of action that surely is important to strengthen the confidence of the outside world for the Treaty System and its different activities. Openness is a prerequisite for the credibility of the Treaty System within the international community. We have given our views in principle in regard to these fundamental and complex issues regarding such sensitive questions as exploration and exploitation of the Antarctic continent.

Sweden has stressed the importance of the environmental protection in these connections. We have emphasized the necessity that the Treaty System itself, as well as the machinery that will take care of the mineral resources exploration and exploitation, have a direct link to environmental expertise. It seems quite clear to my Delegation, and we may comment on that later during our deliberations, that organizations like SCAR and others with a strong competence in Antarctic affairs, e.g. IUCN, should have a natural role to play in the whole Antarctic Treaty System. In our view, they should naturally be observers during the regular Consultative Meetings, as they should also have a

clear link to the institutions of the future mineral resources regime.

Mr Chairman, Antarctica has lately come to arouse much attention. Many states that hitherto have paid no or little attention to Antarctica have come to take an interest in the issue. This could be explained by the fact that the continent has considerable scientific, environmental, climatic and geophysical significance far beyond the limits of the Antarctic region. The rise in interest is, thus, understandable and even legitimate. It is important for us, the Treaty states, to realize this, and to establish a kind of modus vivendi with states outside the framework of the Antarctic Treaty System. This is certainly very important for my Government, which recently has chosen to support the Treaty - and that in an atmosphere of international debate around the Antarctic Treaty and its implications.

There are thus, Mr Chairman, delicate balances to be upheld in the Treaty System. We talk about an external accommodation - how the outside world would look upon the Treaty - and an internal accommodation - that is to say the relationship within the Treaty itself among its different categories of member states. My country has certainly an understanding for all these sensitive political and legal balances that must be upheld if peace and the stability of the Antarctic and the South Atlantic region is to be preserved. There is, however, also another essential aspect on the part of my country as regards Antarctica, namely the scientific aspect. Antarctica is open for national scientific activities as well as for international scientific co-operation. I have just referred to Sweden's old polar traditions giving us a clear scientific link to Antarctica. We have over the years had a comparative approach in our polar science - to compare the conditions of the Arctic regions, which are our natural

surroundings, with Antarctica. Already Adolf Erik Nordensköld, the Swede who conquered the Arctic North East Passage, developed plans for a Swedish expedition to Antarctica in the 1880s.

It is now time for Sweden to reactivate its Antarctic scientific efforts. Apart from the very fact that the Antarctic issue is an important one from political as well as legal points of view, with clear implications as to the relationship between the developed and the developing world, it is the wish of the scientific community of Sweden, with its longstanding ability in polar research, as well as of the Swedish Government, to increase the Antarctic part of the Swedish polar research activities.

Mr Chairman, my Government has instructed me to convey to the XIIIth Consultative Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty that Sweden will, within a few years time, again take up scientific activities on Antarctica. My Government has recently taken a decision with regard to such an effort. I may here remind you about the Swedish scientific Ymer-80-expedition to the Arctic in 1980. It is our intention to establish and carry out such scientific activities that would comply with the wording of Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Treaty, which means that Sweden has an ambition to become a Consultative Party of the Treaty before the end of this decade.

Sweden looks forward to co-operating with other nations in this field. In this connection, I would testify to the importance of traditional Nordic co-operation, which hitherto mainly has been focused on the Arctic region. Sweden will, as on earlier occasions in Antarctica, work together with Norway, a Consultative Member of the Treaty, also with Denmark and Finland, today non-Consultative Parties of the Treaty.

The role of Sweden in the Antarctic Treaty System will, hopefully, aim at that very important balance that exists, on the one hand, between our wish to support and uphold the fundamental Antarctic Treaty System and, on the other to arrive at a modus vivendi in confidence with parties outside the Treaty System, be it other states with interests for Antarctica or organizations working for the protection of the global and polar environment.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS : CZECHOSLOVAKIA, MR LUBOMIR FOCKO

Mr Chairman,

Please allow me, on behalf of the Delegation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, to extend our greetings to the XIIIth Consultative Meeting of the Member States of the Antarctic Treaty.

We should first of all like to thank the Belgian Government for inviting us to attend this meeting and for their exemplary organization of this Conference.

The Delegation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, which is participating in this meeting as an observer, would like to stress the very positive significance of the Antarctic Treaty, which makes a substantial contribution towards reducing the arms race and thus reinforcing international peace.

Our country attaches great importance to the scientific programmes in Antarctica and would like to make its own contribution to this work, especially in the fields of astronomy and meteorology, in which our researchers have already accumulated some positive experience, and in the geological field. Czechoslovakia is determined to continue these efforts within the limits of its means.

Before concluding, I should like, on behalf of the Czechoslovak Delegation, to welcome the new members which have become Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, namely Uruguay and China, and to wish them every success in their work.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

ANNEX B

PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(Submitted by the United Kingdom Delegation)

GUIDELINES

- (i) Criteria to be used in determining whether the proposed activities would have a significant effect on the environment should be defined;
- (ii) The proposed activity should be defined and described, such description to include information on the needs to be met by the proposed activity and features of the activity that might cause impacts on the environment.
- (iii) A first evaluation, which might be termed an Environmental Assessment, should be performed to determine whether the activity might reasonably be expected to have a significant impact;
- (iv) If this preliminary Environmental Assessment indicates that the proposed activity is likely to have no more than a minor or transitory effect on the environment, the activity may proceed, with the proviso that appropriate monitoring of the actual impact should take place;
- (v) If the Environmental Assessment indicates that the proposed activity is likely to have significant impacts on the environment, an Environmental Impact Statement should be prepared;
- (vi) An Environmental Impact Statement should include :
 - (a) a description of the proposed activity as well as feasible alternatives including the consequences of not proceeding;

- (b) a description of the initial environmental reference state with which predicted changes are to be compared and a prediction of future environmental states in the absence of the proposed activity;
 - (c) estimation of the nature, extent, duration and intensity of the likely environmental changes resulting from the proposed activity;
 - (d) consideration of indirect or second order effects;
 - (e) consideration of the cumulative impacts of the proposed activity in the light of existing activities;
 - (f) evaluation of the significance of the predicted changes in relation to the advantages of the proposed activity;
 - (g) identification of any unavoidable impacts and measures that could be taken to minimize or mitigate such impacts;
- (vii) Such an Environmental Impact Statement should be made available to other contracting parties and to SCAR prior to a final decision to implement the proposed activity;
- (viii) On the basis of the Environmental Impact Statement and in the light of the comments on it, a decision would then be made by the appropriate national authority whether or not the activity should proceed in its original or modified form, and this decision and the reasons for it would be notified to those interested;

- (ix) Should the activity, or a modified activity, be implemented, key indicators of the environmental effects of such activities should be monitored and where possible environmental impacts should, as in all Antarctic activities, be mitigated.

When considering whether to implement these guidelines in respect of planned research and logistic activities account should be taken of the following illustrative list, of the sort of activity which might reasonably be taken as indicating that it would be appropriate to undertake an Environmental Assessment:

Logistic/Support Activities

1. Establishment of bases, stations, airstrips, etc., or the major extension of existing facilities.
2. Major increases in personnel or personnel movements, aircraft flights, etc.
3. Major changes in amount or type of power generation, or fuel consumption.
4. Any operation affecting areas valued mainly for their sterile or pristine nature, e.g., dry valleys, remote ice cap areas.
5. Any operation involving the closing of a station which has been active for several years.

Scientific Activities

1. Interference with or modification of endangered or unique systems, communities or populations.
2. Operations which might adversely affect SPAs or SSSIs.
3. Importation of alien biota with the potential to multiply or disperse.
4. Any operation affecting areas valued mainly for their sterile or pristine nature, e.g. dry valleys, remote ice cap areas.
5. Application of biologically active substances which have the potential to spread so as to cause perceptible effects outside their area of application.
6. Operations which might perceptibly impede the recovery of any endangered, threatened or depleted populations.
7. Experiments deliberately designed to create adverse changes in populations or communities (perturbation experiments) which extend over areas of more than 100m², or possibly even less, particularly if unique systems are involved.
8. Operations which will adversely affect populations for which long time-series data have been (or are being) collected to establish the status of the population.
9. Introduction of radionuclides into the environment where their subsequent recovery and removal cannot reasonably be assured.

10. Drilling operations involving the use of drilling fluids other than water and/or possible escape or vertical movement of subterranean fluids.
11. Marine seismic surveys involving the use of explosive charges.

STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval, as notified to the Government of the United States of America
of Measures relating to the Furtherance of the Principles
and Objectives of the Antarctic Treaty

	16 Recommendations Adopted at First Meeting	10 Recommendations Adopted at Second Meeting	11 Recommendations Adopted at Third Meeting	28 Recommendations Adopted at Fourth Meeting	9 Recommendations Adopted at Fifth Meeting	15 Recommendations Adopted at Sixth Meeting
Argentina	All	All	All	All	All	All
Australia	All	All	All	All	All	All
Belgium	All	All	All	All	All	All
Brazil						
Chile	All	All	All	All	All	All
Germany, Fed.	All	All	All except 8	All except 1-19	All except 5 & 6	All except 8, 9, 10
France	All	All	All	All	All	All
India						
Japan	All	All	All	All	All	All
New Zealand	All	All	All	All	All	All
Norway	All	All	All	All	All	All
Poland	All	All	All	All	All	All
South Africa	All	All	All	All	All	All
U.S.S.R.	All	All	All	All	All	All
U.K.	All	All	All	All except 12	All	All except 8 & 10*
U.S.A.	All	All	All	All	All	All

*8 and 10 accepted as Interim guidelines

Approval, as notified to the Government of the United States of America
 OF Measures relating to the Furtherance of the Principles
 and Objectives of the Antarctic Treaty

9 Recommendations Adopted at Seventh Meeting	14 Recommendations Adopted at Eighth Meeting	6 Recommendations Adopted at Ninth Meeting	9 Recommendations Adopted at Tenth Meeting	3 Recommendations Adopted at Eleventh Meeting	8 Recommendations Adopted at Twelfth Meeting
Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved
Argentina	All	All	All	All	All
Australia	All	All	All	All	All
Belgium	All	All	All	All	All
Brazil					
Chile	All	All	All	All	All
Germany, Fed.	All except 5	All except 1, 2, 5	All	All	All
France	All	All	All except X-1 and X-9	All except XI-1	All
India					
Japan	All	All	All	All	All
New Zealand	All	All	All	All	All
Norway	All	All	All	All	All
Poland	All	All	All	All	All
South Africa	All	All	All	All	All
U.S.-S.R.	All	All	All	All	All
U.K.	All except 5*	All	All	All	All
U.S.A.	All	All	All	All	All

*accepted as interim guidelines
 Department of State,
 Washington,

OCT 31 1969

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ANNEX D

TEXT OF MESSAGE TO ANTARCTIC STATIONS

MESSAGE FROM THE THIRTEENTH CONSULTATIVE
MEETING TO STATIONS IN ANTARCTICA

Representatives of the eighteen Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties have just completed two weeks of discussion at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting, held in Brussels and hosted by the Belgian Government.

Two new Consultative Parties, China and Uruguay, were accepted at the Sixth Special Consultative Meeting held in Brussels before the opening of the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

Throughout their deliberations, the representatives of the Consultative Parties were mindful that the successful operation of the Antarctic Treaty depended in large part on the continuation of the tradition of peaceful international scientific co-operation established during the International Geophysical Year. The addition of two new Consultative Parties should serve to strengthen scientific co-operation in Antarctica.

As the Antarctica winter draws to a close, all delegations participating in the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting extend warmest congratulations to you who, under the most arduous circumstances, have contributed to advancing our objectives in Antarctica, and they extend best wishes for a successful summer to all those preparing to go south.

ANNEX E

LIST OF DELEGATES

LISTE DES DELEGUES

PARTIES CONSULTATIVES

AFRIQUE DU SUD

Adv. J.D. VIALI, Head of Delegation
Chief Legal Advisor
Department of Foreign Affairs

Mr G.G. NIEUWOUDT
Chief Director (Administration)
Department of Transport

Mr P.A. LE ROUX
Control Meteorological Technician
Department of Environmental Affairs

Mr J.G. NEL
Assistant Director
Department of Transport

Mr D.J. VAN SCHALKWYK
Assistant Director (Antarctic Division)
Department of Environmental Affairs

Dr P.R. CONDY
Scientific Coordinator
South African National Antarctic Research Programme
(SANARP)
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

Mr E.B. DE MONTILLE
Consul
South African Consulate-General, Tokyo
(Department of Foreign Affairs)

Mr P.L.U. VILJOEN
Counsellor
South African Embassy, Brussels
(Department of Foreign Affairs)

REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE D'ALLEMAGNE

Mr Norman DENCKER, Head of Delegation
Ambassador
Federal Foreign Office

Dr Kurt MESSER
First Counsellor
Federal Foreign Office

Mr Dietrich NELLE
Second Secretary
Federal Ministry for Research and Technology

Mr Nikolaus Graf LAMBSDORFF
Attaché
Federal Foreign Office

Mr Joachim KOCH
Counsellor
Federal Ministry of Economics

Special adviser :
Prof. Dr Gotthilf HEMPEL
Director
Alfred-Wegener-Institute for Polar Research, Bremerhaven

ARGENTINE

M. Orlando R. REBAGLIATI, Chef de la Délégation
Ministre Plénipotentiaire
Directeur Général de l'Antarctique
Ministère des Relations Extérieures

M. Juan V. SOLA, Conseiller
Directeur national de l'Antarctique

M. Luis A. LUINI
Conseiller d'Ambassade
Ambassade de la République Argentine en Belgique

M. Juan F. GOMENSORO
Premier Secrétaire d'Ambassade
Direction Générale de l'Antarctique
Ministère des Relations Extérieures

Mlle. Cecilia BARRIOS BARON
Secrétaire d'Ambassade
Direction Générale de l'Antarctique
Ministère des Relations Extérieures

M. Carlos A. RINALDI, Conseiller
Directeur de l'Institut Antarctique d'Argentine

AUSTRALIE

Mr R.H. WYNDHAM, Head of Delegation
Assistant Secretary, Antarctic, Refugees,
Immigration and Asylum Branch
Department of Foreign Affairs

Mr J.E. BLEASEL
Director, Antarctic Division
Department of Science

Ms J.C. JOHNSON
Director, Marine Environment Policy Section
Department of the Arts, Heritage and Environment

Mr B.F. DORAN
Antarctic Section
Department of Foreign Affairs

Ms L.M. HAY
Antarctic Policy Section
Antarctic Division
Department of Science

Mr Paul HOHNEN
First Secretary
Australian Embassy, Brussels

Ms L. GOLDSWORTHY
Antarctica Project, Fund for Animals
(represents Australian non-governmental organizations
in the environmental and conservation fields)

BELGIQUE

M. A. VAN DER ESSEN, Chef de la Délégation
Professeur émérite à l'Université de Louvain

M. E. DE WILDE, Chef adjoint de la Délégation
Conseiller, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères

M. M. VAN GROENENDAEL
Conseiller, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères

M. P. VANHAECKE
Directeur opérationnel aux Services de Programmation
de la Politique Scientifique

M. S. CASCHETTO
Chargé de Mission aux Services de Programmation de la
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