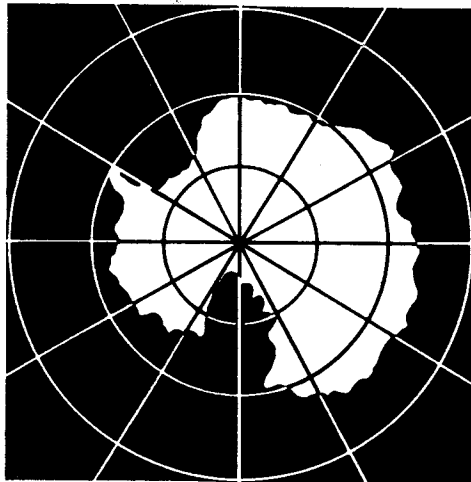


# **ANTARCTIC TREATY**



## **Report of the Twelfth Consultative Meeting**

**Canberra, 13–27 September 1983**

Department of Foreign Affairs

ANTARCTIC TREATY

Report of the  
Twelfth Consultative Meeting

Canberra

13 - 27 September 1983

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FINAL REPORT OF THE TWELFTH ANTARCTIC  
TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

1. In accordance with Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, Representatives of the Consultative Parties (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, the Republic of South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America) met in Canberra from 13 to 27 September, 1983, 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, China, Denmark, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Romania, Spain and Uruguay); Czechoslovakia was not represented.

2. The Meeting was formally opened by Mr Bill Hayden, Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the presence of Mr Barry Jones, Minister for Science and Technology.

3. Mr J.R. Rowland, Representative of Australia, was elected Chairman of the Meeting, and Mrs B.F. Spencer of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs, was appointed Secretary General.

The opening session was held in public. Opening statements were delivered by Heads of Delegation (these, including that made by Mr Hayden, 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. Improvement of Telecommunications in Antarctica and Collection and Distribution of Meteorological Data
6. Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment
7. Facilitation of Scientific Research: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
8. Effects of Tourism and non-Governmental expeditions in the Antarctic Treaty Area
9. Activities of Countries not Party to the Antarctic Treaty
10. The Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System
11. Public Availability of the Documents of the Consultative Meetings
12. Matters relating to the Appointment of Observers at Consultative Meetings
13. Exchange of Information in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty
14. Uses of Antarctic Ice
15. Antarctic Resources: The Question of Mineral Exploration and Exploitation (Procedural item only)
16. Date and Place of next Consultative Meeting
17. Any other Business
18. Adoption of Final Report
19. Closing of the Meeting

5. The Meeting considered in Plenary Session all the items on the Agenda and appointed three working groups. A working group on Improvement of Telecommunications in Antarctica and Collection and Distribution of Meteorological Data was chaired by Dr J.S. Boyd of Australia. A working group on Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment was chaired by Mr C.D. Beeby of New Zealand. A working group on the Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System and Public Availability of the Documents of Consultative Meetings was chaired by Mr R. Trolle Andersen of Norway.

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

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| XII-1: | Collection and Distribution of<br>Antarctic Meteorological Data  |
| XII-2  | Antarctic Telecommunications   |
| XII-3  | Man's Impact on the Antarctic<br>Environment   |
| XII-4  | Man's Impact on the Antarctic<br>Environment : Code of Conduct on<br>Waste Disposal                        |
| XII-5  | Extension of the Expiry Date of the<br>Designation of Sites 1-8 as Sites<br>of Special Scientific Interest |
| XII-6  | Operation of the Antarctic Treaty<br>System  |
| XII-7  | Historic Sites and Monuments   |

XII-8

SCAR Assistance to Consultative  
PartiesTelecommunications (Agenda Item 5)

7. This Agenda item was discussed in Plenary and further consultations were carried on in a Telecommunications Group chaired by Dr John Boyd (Australia). Copies of the SCAR Working Group on Logistics "Antarctic Telecommunications Guidance Manual" (SCARCOM) were circulated. Appreciation was expressed to SCAR and the Australian Antarctic Division for the considerable work that had gone into the preparation of SCARCOM. It was accepted that the continuing usefulness of SCARCOM depended on it being kept up to date. The offer of the Australian Antarctic Division to continue to maintain the manual pending consideration by SCAR of its long term maintenance was noted with appreciation. Since the necessary information for this purpose was in the hands of national Antarctic programs it was considered appropriate that SCAR consult with them as to how updating might best be achieved.

8. Two points were considered in connection with the adoption by some national Antarctic programs, since 1979, of satellite communications. First, it was suggested that national Antarctic programs which had not adopted satellite communications should be able to learn from the experience of those that had. Secondly, concern was expressed that the widespread adoption of satellite communications by national Antarctic programs might affect communications between stations. Attention was drawn to the increasing shipping and aircraft activity in the Antarctic, to the need for point to point communications to support such activity and to the need to ensure that an adequate capability existed for communication between stations to cope with emergency situations. In order to meet these concerns it was felt that a workshop could be the best mechanism, possibly convened by SCAR in the context of a



meeting of the SCAR Working Group on Logistics rather than as a Meeting of Experts under the auspices of the Antarctic Treaty. It was recognised that such a workshop could also provide an opportunity to consider the matter of how best to ensure the regular updating of SCARCOM.

9. The reactivation of the WMO Executive Committee Working Group on Antarctic Meteorology was warmly welcomed by all Consultative Parties. Appreciation was especially expressed for the manner in which the Meeting on Antarctic Data Telecommunication Arrangements had explored the difficulties involved in ensuring that the inherent peculiarities of Antarctic meteorological data could be adequately handled within the Global Telecommunications System. It was felt to be appropriate that further work in this field, along lines already identified in the Final Report of that meeting, should be encouraged through the Permanent Representatives of Consultative Parties with WMO.

10. It was recognised that further work needed to be done on the matter of requirements for raw and processed meteorological data. It was noted that while any national Antarctic program should be able to state what data it wanted to receive, the ability of stations from which data had been requested to provide it would inevitably be subject to constraints. It was therefore felt that a revised statement of requirements should reflect not only what data was wanted but also what could be provided.

#### Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment (Agenda Item 6)

11. Draft Recommendations had been tabled by Argentina and Chile about the connection between the Antarctic Treaty itself and instruments derived from it, by Australia proposing amendments to the Code of Conduct for Antarctic Expeditions and

Station Activities annexed to Recommendation VIII-11 and by the United Kingdom calling for the adoption nationally, on an experimental basis, of broadly defined procedures for the assessment of the environmental impact of such activities of national Antarctic expeditions which might have impacts which were significant. In addition, Australia tabled a discussion paper raising the question of whether there needed to be a greater degree of coherence between measures for the protection of the Antarctic environment adopted under the Antarctic Treaty and instruments derived from the Treaty.

12. An Environmental Group was convened under the chairmanship of Mr C.D. Beeby (New Zealand) which gave detailed examination to all these proposals.

13. It was felt that, in a broad sense, the Argentine and Chilean draft Recommendation and the Australian discussion paper addressed similar concerns and should be treated together. In debate, it was recognised that there was a need to consider whether further co-ordination was necessary of the various elements of environmental protection and conservation contained in the Antarctic Treaty system.

14. Regarding the Australian draft recommendation on the Code of Conduct it was agreed to refer to national Antarctic programs the questions of problems in implementing the Code of Conduct and of the desirability and feasibility of revising the Code of Conduct (see Recommendation XII-4).

15. Regarding the United Kingdom's draft recommendation, it was felt that the issues dealt with in the draft should be referred to SCAR for advice. While it was noted that some governments already subject their Antarctic programs to impact assessment procedures, other Representatives felt that there was a need to move cautiously in search of whatever element of comparability it might be found prudent to apply, on a national basis, to such procedures (see Recommendation XII-3).

16. It was noted that the material set out in paragraphs 17 to 19 below, consisting of a description of the practice of a number of countries in relation to environmental assessment procedures, might be of value to SCAR in considering the issues referred to it by Recommendation XII-3. It was further noted that the Consultative Parties and National Committees of SCAR might wish to forward to SCAR additional material relating to their own procedures.

#### Environmental Impact Assessments

17. Among the steps found in some national environmental impact assessment procedures are the following:

- (i) definition of criteria to be used in determining whether proposed activities have a significant impact on the environment;
- (ii) clear definition and description of the proposed activity;
- (iii) a first evaluation, performed by the organisation responsible for the activity, of whether the proposal might reasonably be expected to have a significant impact;
- (iv) if the result of such a preliminary evaluation is that the proposed activity is likely to have no more than a minor or transitory effect on the environment, the activity would proceed;
- (v) if the preliminary evaluation indicates that a proposed activity is likely to have significant impacts on the environment, an environmental assessment of the proposed activity would be made;

- (vi) such an assessment might be expected to include:
  - (a) description of the proposed activity as well as feasible alternatives including the consequences of not proceeding;
  - (b) description of the initial reference state with which predicted changes are to be compared and a prediction of future environmental states in the absence of action;
  - (c) estimation of the nature and magnitudes of the likely environmental changes resulting from the proposed activity;
  - (d) definition of the criteria to be used in measuring the significance of environmental changes, including the relative weighting to be assigned in comparing different kinds of changes;
  - (e) estimation of the significance of the predicted changes;
- (vii) a decision would then be made on the basis of the assessment as to whether or not the activity should proceed in its original or a modified form, and this decision and the reasons for it would be notified to those interested or affected; and
- (viii) implementation of the accepted action.

18. Monitoring of key indicators of the environmental effects of such activities is an important element and may call for modification of the activity.

19. Where appropriate, the assessment procedures described above might also be expected to include the following steps:

- (a) consideration of indirect or second order effects;
- (b) consideration of the cumulative impacts of the proposed activity in the light of existing activities;
- (c) description of any measures to be taken to maintain environmental quality; and
- (d) description of the manner in which restoration of the environment would be achieved.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (Agenda Item 7)

20. The Meeting considered a draft Recommendation by Chile, Argentina and the UK embodying a proposal for the designation of a Site of Special Scientific Interest at South Bay, Doumer Island in the Palmer Archipelago. The proposal and a management plan for the site has been considered and supported at the Seventeenth Meeting of SCAR. The site is partly terrestrial and partly marine.

21. It was agreed that any proposal for marine Sites of Special Scientific Interest should be carefully examined in the light of Article VI of the Antarctic Treaty and other factors.

22. The Meeting noted that the management plan, as amended, specified that the passage of vessels into, in and through the area would not be affected and that the restrictions placed on vessels (namely that bottom trawling, dumping of waste and anchoring should be avoided except in compelling circumstances) were of a limited kind.

23. The Meeting also noted, however, that at the Tenth Consultative Meeting consideration of other Sites of Special Scientific Interest in the marine environment (Chile Bay, Greenwich Island and marine areas adjacent to SSSI No. 8, Admiralty Bay, King George Island) had been deferred for future consideration. Noting that at previous meetings proposals for such sites which included marine areas had not been approved, it was agreed to defer the making of a decision at this meeting pending further study. It was therefore agreed that further consideration of such SSSI's should be deferred until such time as offices responsible for Antarctic programs had proposed to SCAR, and SCAR had approved, SSSI's partly or wholly in the marine environment. In this context particular attention was drawn to the criteria for the designation of any SSSI contained in operative paragraphs 1(a)(i) and (ii) of Recommendation VIII-3.

24. Until such time as this matter might be considered at a future Consultative Meeting or until June 1988, whichever came earlier, it was agreed that offices responsible for Antarctic programs operating in the vicinity of South Bay, Doumer Island should be asked to draw the attention of their ship masters to the scientific work proceeding in South Bay and to the draft management plan reproduced at Annex B to this Report.

25. It was noted that the designation of Site Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 would expire on 30 June 1985; that the designation of Site No. 8 would expire on 31 March 1985, before the probable date of the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting; and that the designation of Site No. 7 as a Site of Special Scientific Interest expired on 30 June 1983. The United States Delegate circulated for information a message recently received from the President of SCAR, Dr James Zumberge, stating that SCAR had not yet reviewed whether such designations should be allowed to lapse or should be extended, that such a review would be conducted by SCAR and the results presented at the next

Consultative Meeting, and that the Conservation Sub-Committee of the SCAR Working Group on Biology requested the Consultative Parties to extend the designation of these Sites of Special Scientific Interest until the next Consultative Meeting, when an informal decision could be made. Accordingly, Recommendation XII-5 extends the expiration date of the designation of Site Numbers 1-8 until 31 December 1985, which would be after the conclusion of the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

26. The Parties recognised that the designation of Site No. 7 had already expired and that Recommendation XII-5 might not be formally approved and become effective, pursuant to Article IX-4 of the Treaty, until after the expiration dates of Site Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8. Therefore, it was agreed that, in the interim, the Parties would voluntarily observe the management plans for these sites.

#### Tourism and non-Governmental Expeditions (Agenda Item 8)

27. The Meeting discussed the implications of the increase of tourism and non-governmental expeditions in Antarctica. It was agreed that the isolation of the region meant that assistance by national programs to such activities was expensive, disruptive to research programs and sometimes hazardous to life and equipment.

28. The Meeting agreed that emergency assistance was a humanitarian obligation, but that the risks and costs involving other assistance in Antarctica might best be reduced by Consultative Parties' urging upon private expeditions and tour operators the need for careful and thorough planning and for self-sufficiency in their operations. In accordance with Article X of the Antarctic Treaty, the Meeting emphasized the importance of ensuring that non-governmental expeditions to the Antarctic Treaty area observed the principles and purposes of the Antarctic Treaty and the relevant measures adopted under

it. To this end it was agreed that Consultative Parties should do their best to ensure that such expeditions were made aware of these provisions. It also agreed that Consultative Parties should keep each other fully informed about commercial or private expeditions being planned in their countries.

29. It was noted that non-governmental expeditions and tour operators should be covered by adequate insurance and by some form of guarantee that would demonstrate their responsibility for their activities. A view was also expressed that responsibility for compliance by non-governmental expeditions with the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty and Recommendations adopted at the Consultative Meetings should be placed upon those States whose physical or juridical persons organize such expeditions or participate in them. Since there was no agreement as to where responsibility for non-governmental expeditions should lie, the draft Recommendation which had been tabled was withdrawn.

30. It was agreed that the ideas expressed in the previous paragraphs might be followed up and that further consideration be given to them at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

Activities of Countries not Party to the Antarctic Treaty  
(Agenda Item 9)

31. There was a discussion of the inclusion, on the proposal of Malaysia and Antigua and Barbuda, of an item on Antarctica on the agenda for the 38th session of the United Nations General Assembly. Consultative Parties unanimously reaffirmed their commitment to the Antarctic Treaty and expressed their concern that any attempts to modify or replace the Treaty would be likely to introduce contention and instability into a region of hitherto unparalleled peace and international co-operation.



Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System, and Public Availability of the Documents of the Consultative Meetings  
(Agenda Items 10 and 11)

32. The delegation of Chile presented a systematic survey of practical suggestions which - in time - might be considered by the Consultative Parties in order to deal with the expanding scope of international co-operation and interest in Antarctica. There was general appreciation of the Chilean presentation, which it was agreed could be considered also at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

33. The inter-relationship between Agenda Item 10 and the following Items 11, 12 and 13 was noted by several delegations. However, for practical reasons, it was decided to convene a Working Group under the chairmanship of Mr R. Trolle Andersen of Norway for the consideration of Items 10 and 11 together.

34. Consensus was reached on Recommendation XII-6 which broadens the circulation of the Reports of regular Consultative Meetings, as well as securing a continuous updating of, and the inclusion of an explanatory introduction and prefaces in, the "Handbook of Measures in Furtherance of the Principles and Objectives of the Antarctic Treaty", renamed the "Handbook of the Antarctic Treaty". In regard to the transmission of a copy of the Final Report of the Meeting to the United Nations Secretary-General, it was agreed that the question of whether he be asked to circulate the report to member countries should be left to the Consultative Parties' Missions in New York. In addition, the Recommendation registers further progress with regard to the public availability of documents. It also invites the Depositary Government to examine the question of identifying and cataloguing publicly available information about the Antarctic Treaty System, and of the sources from which it may be obtained.

35. The possibility of further disseminating general knowledge of the Antarctic Treaty System through the future elaboration of an extensive report - a White Book - on the history and achievements of the Antarctic Treaty was discussed. It was agreed that the matter would require further study, and that it should be considered at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

36. It was agreed that there was a practical need for the host Government of a Consultative Meeting to continue to act as co-ordinator for matters of common interest to the Consultative Parties from the conclusion of one Consultative Meeting until the Preparatory Meeting for the next. The Contracting Parties expressed their appreciation to the Government of Australia for its offer to accept this task until the next Preparatory Meeting in 1985. It was agreed that the establishment of a more permanent infrastructure to undertake these tasks would be premature at the present time, but that the matter, together with the question of frequency of meetings, should be discussed further at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

37. It was agreed that "The Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System" should be included on the Agenda of the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

#### Observers (Agenda Item 12)

38. Not all States which are Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty are entitled to appoint representatives to participate in Consultative Meetings. Non-Consultative Parties, like all Contracting Parties, have rights and obligations under the Antarctic Treaty and are, as Parties, bound to carry out its provisions and uphold its purposes and principles, and to maintain and strengthen that Treaty. The Consultative Parties therefore invited non-Consultative Parties to this Consultative

Meeting and welcomed their attendance: it assisted the deliberations of the Consultative Parties, helped to keep non-Consultative Parties informed about activities under the Treaty, and furthered the common aim of all Contracting Parties to develop and strengthen the operation of the Antarctic Treaty system.

39. For these reasons, the representatives of the Consultative Parties endorsed the attendance of non-Consultative Parties at the next regular Consultative Meeting. They therefore decided to invite the non-Consultative Parties to the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting, as well as to its Preparatory Meeting. Draft Rules of Procedure incorporating the necessary amendments were prepared by the Meeting, and will be referred to Governments for their consideration on the clear understanding that this would not affect the right of Special Consultative Meetings, as Meetings held pursuant to Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, to adopt their own Rules of Procedure. Consultative Parties which have not indicated their views by 1 April 1984 will be taken to have accepted the text. If any government requests that the matter be discussed further, the Australian Government will either pursue the matter through diplomatic channels or will refer the draft Rules of Procedure to the preparatory meeting for the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

40. Since there was a close relationship between subjects to be discussed at special Consultative Meetings and attendance at those Meetings, the Meeting decided that the question of attendance at future Special Consultative Meetings could be decided only when such Meetings were being convened. As regards the Fourth Special Consultative Meeting, the Meeting took note of the wish of several of the non-Consultative Parties that they should be invited to attend future sessions. The Meeting was of the view that attendance at the Fourth Special Consultative Meeting, representation at which had been determined in 1981, was a matter to be decided by that Meeting.

41. A statement by Non-Consultative Parties is at Annex C.

42. There was a full discussion of the extent to which, in the light of paragraph 2 of Article III of the Antarctic Treaty, the attendance of appropriate international organisations at regular Consultative Meetings might assist the Consultative Parties. The Meeting concluded that, as part of the preparation for each regular Consultative Meeting, the Consultative Parties should consider whether the Consultative Parties would be assisted in their discussion of any item of the agenda of the regular Consultative Meeting if a Specialised Agency of the United Nations or other international organisation having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica were to attend the Meeting as an observer when that item was being discussed; and, if so, whether the relevant organisation should, with the agreement of all Consultative Parties, be invited by the host government to attend the Meeting on that basis.

Exchanges of Information Under the Antarctic Treaty  
(Agenda Item 13)

43. The meeting discussed a proposal that it might be opportune to review the timeliness of exchanges of information under Articles III and VII of the Antarctic Treaty, by seeking the views of those directly responsible for Antarctic programs, as the bodies which both provided the major part of the information and should also gain most from its timely exchange. It was suggested that the first step in such a review required that Consultative Parties' offices responsible for their Antarctic programs should be asked for advice as to:

- (i) the date by which they would ideally wish to receive exchanged information;

- (ii) whether each of them could assemble that part of the information for which they were responsible one month before the date identified under the preceding sub-paragraph to allow time for transmission of the information through diplomatic channels;
- (iii) whether the exchange of information called for under Recommendation II-VI (Annex to Recommendation VIII-6, para 2) should be combined with the exchanges called for under paragraph 1 of the Annex to Recommendation VIII-6;
- (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; and
- (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 information exchanged.

It was also suggested that national contact points might be designated to which enquiries about activities, scientific observations and results could be addressed.

44. The Meeting agreed that, after advice on these questions had been received from offices responsible for national Antarctic programs, the matter should be discussed at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting. In the meantime, the Meeting agreed that it would be useful to encourage the maximum of early informal information exchange between offices responsible for national Antarctic programs.

45. The Meeting also exchanged views on whether it might be desirable to give special attention to information exchanged, under Articles III and VII of the Antarctic Treaty, about activities on geophysical research in which the techniques used might be indistinguishable from those activities which would take place in the early stages of exploration for off-shore hydrocarbon resources. A number of Delegations noted that Article III of the Antarctic Treaty established obligations to exchange and make freely available scientific observations and results from Antarctica. In this regard, the United States Delegation made available its plan for data release of geophysical research to be undertaken in January/February 1984 by the Research Vessel "Lee", which would include the depositing of record sections and magnetic tapes of seismic and other data in the US National Data Centre, where copies would be freely available, subject to payment of reasonable reproduction costs. A map showing the proposed cruise track would also be available before the cruise began, as well as the actual cruise track after the cruise had taken place.

46. The Japanese Delegation informed the Meeting that all scientific data produced by Japan, including those from recent expeditions by the "Hakurei Maru", would be freely available on request to their Government.

#### Uses of Antarctic Ice (Agenda Item 14)

47. The Meeting took note of two technical information papers on the potential uses of ice, and agreed to discuss the issue again at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.

#### Antarctic Minerals (Agenda Item 15)

48. This was a procedural item only. A report on the progress of negotiations towards a regime to regulate Antarctic minerals exploration and exploitation was given by Dr E.F. Jung

of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chairman of the Second Session of the Fourth Special Consultative Meeting on Antarctic Mineral Resources. The Meeting noted that these negotiations were taking place in another forum, welcomed the progress in the negotiations that had taken place so far, and expressed the hope for an early completion of negotiations.

Date and Place of Next Consultative Meeting (Agenda Item 16)

49. The Meeting welcomed the Belgian Delegation's indication that Belgium was in principle willing to host the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting in 1985, subject to final confirmation as early as possible.

Any Other Business (Agenda Item 17)

50. The Meeting agreed that Consultative Parties, being not all members of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), should not respond collectively to Resolution 15/20 adopted in 1982 by the IUCN.

51. The Meeting adopted Recommendation XII-7, establishing the site of the temporary Indian station "Dakshin Gangotri" as a Historic Monument, to be annexed to Recommendation VII-9, as Monument No. 44.

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

53. On a number of occasions in the course of the Meeting attention was drawn to the financial implications for SCAR of the requests for advice being put to SCAR through National Committees for consideration. In this context Recommendation XII-8 was adopted.

54. Attention was also drawn to the needs of those Contracting Parties which were not Consultative Parties but which might wish to undertake scientific investigations in the Antarctic. It was noted that the main sources of advice were offices responsible for national Antarctic programs and SCAR. Representatives of Consultative Parties affirmed the willingness of their national Antarctic programs to respond to requests for advice. It was noted that the constitution of SCAR provided for national and observer status within SCAR, and that those Contracting Parties which had recently become Consultative Parties had gained much from attending SCAR meetings. States interested in learning more about SCAR should address their enquiries to the Executive Secretary, Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, CB2 IER, United Kingdom.

55. The United States delegation circulated for information to all Delegations a copy of the report of an inspection tour of Antarctic stations which was undertaken in the summer of 1982/83, in accordance with Article VII.3 of the Antarctic Treaty.



II

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT THE  
TWELFTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE  
MEETING

## XII-I

THE COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ANTARCTIC  
METEOROLOGICAL DATA

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendation VI-3 and X-3;

Noting Resolutions 4,5,6,7 and 8 of the WMO Executive Committee, Thirty Fourth Session June 1982 concerning meteorological observing networks, collection and transmission of meteorological data and meteorological data processing in Antarctica;

Recognising

- (1) the continuing importance of Antarctic meteorological data for support of operations within Antarctica and for weather forecasting and research, especially climate research in the rest of the world;
- (2) the need to maintain a basic network of meteorological stations providing surface and upper-air synoptic data to meet in so far as possible the requirements of Consultative Parties and of the WMO World Weather Watch;
- (3) the diminished value of meteorological data if it is not available to users within and outside the Antarctic in accordance with the WMO schedules for the receipt of raw and processed data;

- (4) the paucity of Antarctic meteorological surface and upper air data and the consequent importance of maintaining regularity of meteorological observations; and
- (5) that the increasing shipping and aircraft activities in Antarctica will give rise to increasing demands for meteorological support;

Reaffirming the importance of the WMO Global Telecommunications System (GTS) for purposes of transmitting Antarctic meteorological data between Antarctic stations in cases where direct transmission within Antarctica is inhibited by ionospheric conditions, and noting that the adoption by some Consultative Parties of satellite communications may facilitate the reception within Antarctica of meteorological data from the GTS;

Noting:

- (1) that monitoring carried out by WMO in 1982 and 1983 on the flow of Antarctic meteorological data into the GTS indicates that significant deficiencies remain;
- (2) the reactivation of the WMO Executive Committee Working Group on Antarctic Meteorology and the outcome of its Third Session in April 1982, including preliminary work on a review of the requirements for raw and processed data set out in Annexes 1 and 2 of Recommendation VI-3;
- (3) the efforts of the WMO Meeting of Experts on Antarctic Data Telecommunication Arrangements in June 1983, in reviewing and updating the meteorological telecommunications routing diagrams set forth in Annexes 1, 2 and 3 of Recommendation X-3; and

- (4) that the aforesaid WMO Meeting of Experts arrived at a number of conclusions and recommendations aimed at improving Antarctic telecommunications for meteorological purposes, and at improving the manner in which Antarctic meteorological data is transmitted within the GTS of the WMO World Weather Watch;

Recognising the need to keep under review:

- (1) the requirements for raw and processed Antarctic meteorological data; and
- (2) the arrangements for transmission of meteorological data within Antarctica and between Antarctica and the WMO World Weather Watch system;

Recommend to their Governments that they:

- (1) use their best endeavours, subject to any overriding scientific, administrative or budgetary considerations, to secure full implementation of the network of stations and observational programs set forth in Annex 1 of this Recommendation;
- (2) maintain and improve, subject to any overriding scientific, administrative or budgetary considerations, the system for collection and distribution of meteorological data to, from and within Antarctica having regard to the routing arrangements shown in Annexes 2 and 3, which are based on the conclusions of the WMO Meeting of Experts on Antarctic Data Telecommunication Arrangements in June 1983;

- (3) seek, through their Permanent Representatives with WMO, the completion of Annex IV to the Final Report of the aforesaid WMO Meeting of Experts, as a helpful contribution to planning the exchange of available meteorological data;
- (4) seek, through their Permanent Representatives with WMO, to ensure that consideration is given, as appropriate, to other conclusions and recommendations made by the aforesaid WMO Meeting of Experts;
- (5) invite WMO through their Permanent Representatives with that Organisation, to keep under review the arrangements for routing of meteorological data within Antarctica and between Antarctica and the GTS of the World Weather Watch, and to suggest actions which might be taken to improve the timely receipt of data at stations in Antarctica and at World Meteorological Centres Melbourne, Moscow and Washington and other centres in the World Weather Watch System, having particular regard to changing requirements for meteorological information and to opportunities offered by new technology; and
- (6) note that the statements of requirements for raw and processed Antarctic meteorological data provided by the WMO pursuant to Recommendation X-3 paragraph 9 require refinement, and invite WMO, through their Permanent Representatives with that Organization, to undertake such refinement.

STATIONS AND OBSERVATIONAL PROGRAMMES COMPRISING THE BASIC SYNOPTIC NETWORK  
IN THE ANTARCTIC

INDEX NUMBER	NAME OF THE STATION*	SURFACE**								RADIO WIND/ RADIO WENT				RADIO- SONDE	
1		2								3				4	
		00	03	06	09	12	15	18	21	00	06	12	18	00	12
85984	CENTRO MET. ANTARTICO PDTE. EDUARDO FREI***	X		X		X		X							
85986	B.A. ARTURO PRAT	X		X		X		X							
85988	B.A. BERNARDO O'HIGGINS	X		X		X		X							
88925	SIGNY ISLAND	X		X		X		X							
88952	FARADAY (ARGENTINE ISLAND)	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
88962	FOSSIL BLUFF	X		X		X		X							
89022	HALLEY	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89062	ROTHERA POINT	X		X		X		X							
88963	ESPERANZA B.E.	X		X		X		X							
88968	ISLAS ORCADAS D.N. (OBSERVATORIO METEOROLOGICO)	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
88970	TENIENTE B. MATIENZO B.A.	X		X		X		X							
88971	ALMIRANTE BROWN E.C.	X		X		X		X							

\* The names of stations are considered to be as geographical designators and are not indicative of functions.

\*\* Where possible when other requirements make it desirable, observations should also be made at some or all of the four intermediate standard times of observation, i.e. 0300, 0900, 1500 and 2100 GMT.

\*\*\* Stations carrying out data-processing and meteorological service functions.

\* Note this Annex is reproduced from the Annex to Resolution 5 of the W.M.O. Executive Committee Session of June 1982 (ECXXIV).

INDEX NUMBER	NAME OF THE STATION*	SURFACE**								RADIOWIND/ RADIOVENT				RADIO- SONDE	
		1		2								3			
		00	03	06	09	12	15	18	21	00	06	12	18	00	12
89034	GENERAL BELGRANO II B.E.	X		X		X		X							
89045	GENERAL BELGRANO III B.E.	X		X		X		X							
89055	VICECOMODORO MARAMBIO B.A. CENTRO METEORO- LOGICO ANTARTICO***	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89066	GENERAL SAN MARTIN B.E.	X		X		X		X							
89001	S.A.N.A.E. STATION	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89002	GEORG VON NEUMAYER	X		X		X		X							
89009	AMUNDSEN-SCOTT	X		X		X		X		X		.		X	.
89664	MCMURDO	X		X		X		X		X		.		X	.
89050	BELLINGSHAUSEN	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89132	RUSSKAYA	X		X		X		X							
89512	NOVOLAZAREVSKAJA	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89542	MOLODEZNAJA***	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89592	MIRNYJ	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89606	VOSTOK	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89657	LENINGRADSKAJA	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89532	SYOWA	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89571	DAVIS	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
89611	CASEY	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
94986	MAWSON***	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X
95502	DUMONT D'URVILLE	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X

\* The names of stations are considered to be as geographical designators and are not indicative of functions.

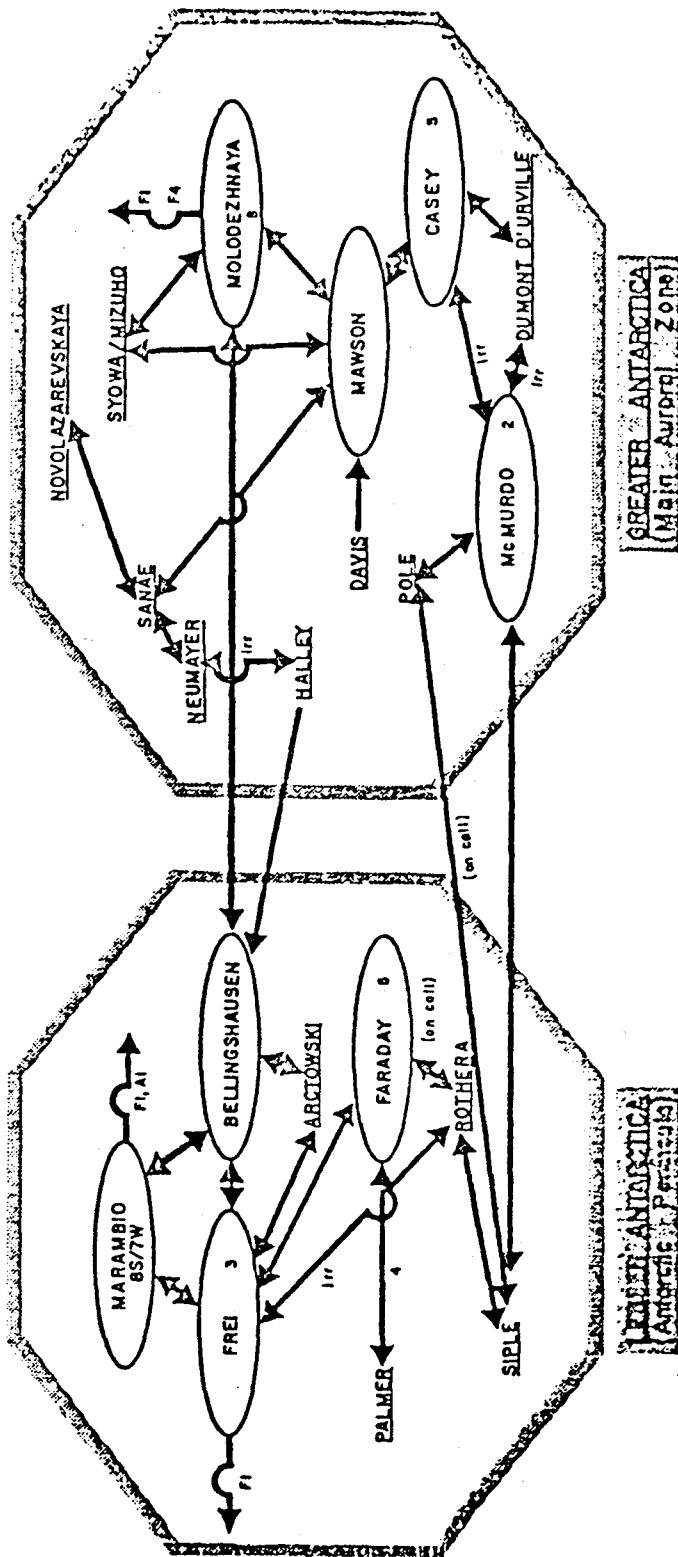
\*\* Where possible when other requirements make it desirable, observations should also be made at some or all of the four intermediate standard times of observation, i.e. 0300, 0900, 1500 and 2100 GMT.

# EXISTING LINKS FOR THE DAILY INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF METEOROLOGICAL DATA WITHIN THE ANTARCTIC (June 1983)

LATITUDE 60° SOUTH

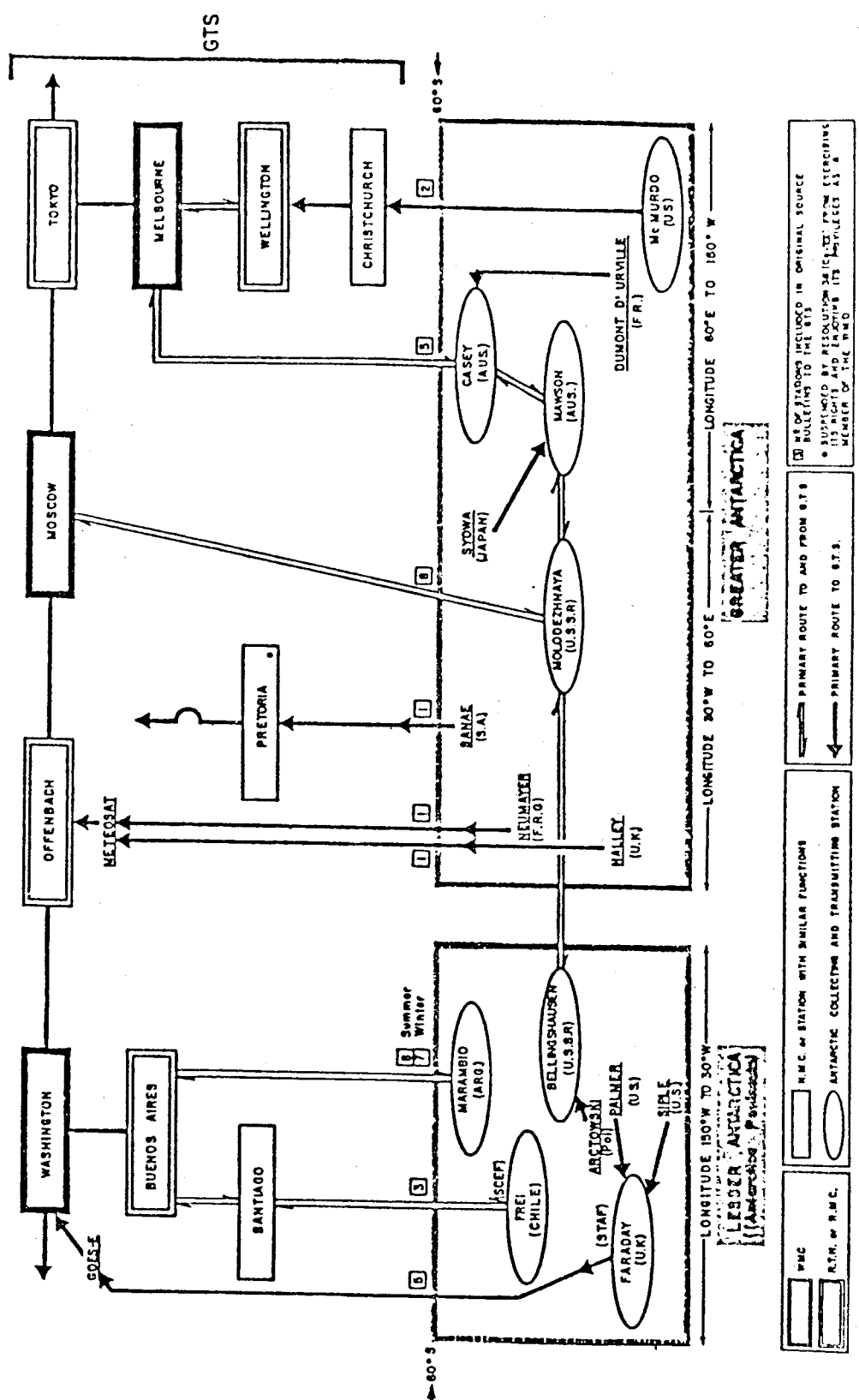
28.

ANNEX 2





# PRINCIPAL ROUTES BY WHICH ANTARCTIC METEOROLOGICAL DATA ENTERS THE GTS



## XII-2

ANTARCTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendations VI-1, VII-7 and X-3;

Recognising that Antarctic telecommunications are designed to carry operational, scientific and meteorological traffic and that improvement of the telecommunications system would serve to ensure timely and full exchange of information;

Recognising that recent developments in the use of satellites, of which some Consultative Parties have made use, have improved the reliability of communication links between Antarctic stations and the outside world, but that consequent diminished reliance on conventional telecommunication methods may have affected the capability of stations to communicate with each other;

Noting with appreciation, the response of the SCAR Working Group on Logistics to the request in Recommendation X-3, paragraph 6, to prepare an Antarctic Telecommunications Guidance Manual (SCARCOM);

Noting that the increasing shipping and aircraft activity in Antarctica will require improved telecommunications and meteorological support by Consultative Parties undertaking such increased activity;

Recommend to their Governments that:

- (1) they strive to ensure effective use of the Antarctic telecommunication systems already in existence, and to utilise as appropriate the developing satellite communication systems with a view to achieving improved communications between the Antarctic stations, as well as between those stations and points outside Antarctica;
- (2) they invite SCAR, through their National Antarctic Committees, to:
  - (i) consider, in consultation with agencies responsible for national Antarctic programs (hereinafter referred to as "national Antarctic programs"), how best SCARCOM can be periodically updated so that it may provide adequate guidance to telecommunications operators on telecommunication practices of national Antarctic programs and relevant internationally agreed procedures;
  - (ii) examine issues relating to increased use of satellite communications including:
    - (a) an exchange of information and experience arising out of the adoption of satellite communications for the benefit of those national Antarctic programs which have not adopted this means of telecommunication,
    - (b) the cost-effectiveness of satellite communications and the benefits to operational efficiency and scientific research that may be derived therefrom,

- (c) identification of any problems which may be encountered in communication between the stations of different national Antarctic programs in the event of more widespread adoption of satellite communications, and
- (d) exploration of means by which any such problems might be overcome while maintaining the cost-effectiveness and other benefits of satellite communications;

(iii) examine the adequacy of the Antarctic telecommunications system to meet demands arising from the expansion of shipping and aircraft activity in Antarctica, and to suggest improvements where these might be desirable. In this examination particular attention should be given to:

- (a) communications between Antarctic stations,
- (b) use of the existing facilities for communications between Antarctica and the outside world, and
- (c) communications between stations, ships and aircraft for the purpose of co-ordinating emergency and search and rescue operations.

## XII-3

MAN'S IMPACT ON THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT

The Representatives,

Recalling Article II of the Antarctic Treaty, Recommendations VI-4, VIII-11, VIII-13 and IX-5;

Noting that in these Recommendations, which have become effective in accordance with Article IX, Paragraph 4 of the Antarctic Treaty, certain principles were elaborated and adopted, namely that:

- (i) the ecosystem of the Antarctic Treaty Area is vulnerable to human interference;
- (ii) the Antarctic derives much of its scientific importance from its uncontaminated and relatively undisturbed condition;
- (iii) in considering measures for the wise use and protection of the Antarctic environment their Governments shall act in accordance with their responsibility for ensuring that such measures are consistent with the interests of all mankind; and
- (iv) no act or activity having an inherent tendency to modify the environment over wide areas within the Antarctic Treaty Area should be undertaken unless appropriate steps have been taken to foresee the probable modifications and

to exercise appropriate controls with respect to the harmful effects such uses of the Antarctic Treaty Area may have;

Recalling that in accordance with these principles there has been established for the Antarctic a substantial series of measures for the protection, conservation and wise use of Antarctic fauna and flora consisting of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora, the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources;

Noting that the States involved in Antarctic research activities are in the best position to assess potential environmental impacts of such activities and to develop assessment procedures which might, with benefit, be applied to determining whether the activities they plan to conduct are likely to have significant impacts;

Considering that a measure of comparability between such procedures might, in the future, become desirable;

Affirming that environmental assessment procedures should not prejudice one of the fundamental principles of the Antarctic Treaty providing for freedom of scientific investigation as set out in Article II of the Antarctic Treaty and that such procedures should not encroach upon nor prejudice provisions for the protection of the environment and the conservation of living resources contained in instruments that have been or may, in the future, be negotiated as parts of the Antarctic Treaty system;

Recommend to their Governments that:

1. in relation to any scientific activity they plan to conduct, including the planned provision of logistic facilities to support such activity, they urge their respective national organizations responsible for Antarctic activities to continue to scrutinize the plans for such research and logistic activities, in accordance with procedures they have developed or may develop, to determine whether the planned activities are likely to have significant impacts;
2. if a preliminary determination indicates that a planned research or logistic activity could have potentially significant impacts on the environment, their relevant agencies undertake a detailed environmental assessment, in accordance with procedures they have developed or may develop, with a view to determining the factors likely to cause such impacts and, if the seriousness of such impacts so indicates, to elaborating feasible research and logistic alternatives aimed at minimizing harmful effects on the environment. In the event that such an assessment is completed they notify other Consultative Parties;
3. through their National Committees, they invite the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) to offer:
  - (i) scientific advice regarding the definition of categories of research and logistic activity in Antarctica which might reasonably be expected to have a significant impact on the environment;
  - and

(ii) bearing in mind, inter alia, the discussion at this Meeting as reflected in paragraphs 17 to 19 of its Report, such advice as seems to SCAR to be relevant to the elaboration of assessment procedures which may be applied by the relevant agencies of the Consultative Parties, on an experimental basis, with regard to research and logistic activity; and

4. the question of Man's Impact on the Antarctic Environment should be considered further at the next Consultative Meeting.



## XII-4

MAN'S IMPACT ON THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENTCODE OF CONDUCT FOR ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS AND STATION ACTIVITIES

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendation VIII-11;

Noting a general increase in awareness amongst Consultative Parties of the potential environmental impacts of the disposal of waste in the Antarctic region;

Noting that the increasing level and degree of complexity of Antarctic operations is likely to introduce into the Antarctic a wider range of potentially environmentally damaging substances than previously;

Noting that improvements in logistics and technology increase the feasibility of on-site treatment of human and other waste, and of the removal of solid waste, residues and noxious substances from the Treaty area;

Recommend to their Governments that they seek the advice of their respective Antarctic operating agencies as to:

- (i) any problems which have been experienced in implementing the Code of Conduct for Antarctic Expeditions and Station Activities contained in the Annex to Recommendation VIII-11; and

- (ii) the desirability and feasibility of revising the Code of Conduct in the light of the points noted above, particularly the increased potential for on-site treatment and removal of waste from the Treaty area.

## XII-5

SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

The Representatives,

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

Noting that, pursuant to Recommendation X-6, the designation as Sites of Special Scientific Interest of the Sites numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will expire on 30 June 1985, and the designation of Site No. 8 will expire on 31 March 1985, before the probable date of the Thirteenth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, and that the designation of Site No. 7 expired on 30 June 1983;

Desirous that the designation of these sites as Sites of Special Scientific Interest not be allowed to expire before the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) has reviewed the Sites and presented the results of its review to the Consultative Parties;

Noting the intention of SCAR to review all Sites of Special Scientific Interest at the Eighteenth Meeting of SCAR in 1984 and to present the results of its comprehensive review to the Consultative Parties for consideration at the Thirteenth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in 1985;

Recommend to their Governments that:

1. the date of expiry of the following sites should be extended from 30 June 1985 to 31 December 1985:
  - Site No. 1 : Cape Royds, Ross Island,
  - Site No. 2 : Arrival Heights, Hut Point Peninsula, Ross Island,
  - Site No. 3 : Barwick Valley, Victoria Land,
  - Site No. 4 : Cape Crozier, Ross Island,
  - Site No. 5 : Fildes Peninsula, King George Island, South Shetland Islands,
  - Site No. 6 : Byers Peninsula, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands;
2. the date of expiry of Site No. 7 : Haswell Island, should be extended from 30 June 1983 to 31 December 1985.
3. the date of expiry of Site No. 8: Western Shore of Admiralty Bay, King George Island, should be extended from 31 March 1985 to 31 December 1985; and
4. they use their best endeavours to ensure, in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of Recommendation VIII-3, that the management plans of these sites are observed.

OPERATION OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM

The Representatives,

Noting that the Antarctic Treaty, based on principles of the United Nations Charter, in the interest of all mankind, establishes Antarctica as an area dedicated exclusively to peaceful purposes, to international harmony and to international scientific cooperation;

Noting further that the Antarctic Treaty, the numerous measures adopted in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty and other instruments and acts associated with it constitute a far-sighted and effective system of international co-operation, which promotes international peace and security, increase in scientific knowledge and understanding, and effective environmental protection;

Desiring to involve the Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty which are not Consultative Parties more closely with the Antarctic Treaty System;

Conscious of the value of increasing public knowledge of the achievements and operation of the Antarctic Treaty System;

Recalling Article III, paragraph 2 of the Antarctic Treaty which encourages co-operative working relations with those Specialised Agencies of the United Nations and international organisations having a scientific and technical interest in Antarctica;

Recommend to their Governments that:

1. in addition to sending Consultative Parties certified copies of the Report as well as documents of Consultative Meetings as called for in Recommendation I-XIV, paragraph 1, the Government of the host country of each Consultative Meeting shall also send certified copies of the Report as well as documents of that meeting to all other Contracting Parties which were invited to that Meeting;
2. in furtherance of Article III, paragraph 2, of the Treaty, the Government of the host country shall:
  - (a) on behalf of the Consultative Parties send a certified copy of the Final Report and Recommendations of regular Consultative Meetings to the Secretary General of the United Nations, and
  - (b) as and when the Representatives of the Consultative Parties consider it appropriate, draw the attention of any Specialised Agency of the United Nations or other international organisation having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica to any part of the Report of the Consultative Meeting, or any information document submitted to the Meeting and made available to the public, relevant to the scientific or technical interest which that agency or organisation has in Antarctica;
3. the "Handbook of Measures in Furtherance of the Principles and Objectives of the Antarctic Treaty" be renamed the "Handbook of the Antarctic Treaty" and:

- (a) be brought up to date by the host government as soon as possible after each Consultative Meeting,
- (b) contain an introduction outlining the background and history of the Antarctic Treaty as well as a preface to each section as appropriate giving a brief background to the measures set out in that section. The host government of the Twelfth Consultative Meeting will undertake the necessary consultations with a view to the early preparation of such introduction and prefaces, and
- (c) contain the Final Report (excluding attachments and annexes) from each Consultative Meeting;

- 4.
- (a) starting with the Thirteenth regular Consultative Meeting, Delegations should indicate, when submitting an Information Document, if they intend that document to be publicly available;
  - (b) after the closure of the Meeting and provided no Consultative Party has objected, any Consultative Party or non-Consultative Party which has been invited to that Meeting may make such document publicly available on such terms as it may prescribe;
  - (c) as regards Conference Documents or Information Documents of the First to the Twelfth Consultative Meeting, and Conference Documents of the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting, and subsequent Meetings, as well as Information Documents that have not been identified in accordance with paragraph (a) above as intended to be publicly available, Consultative Parties will consider in what

circumstances such Documents may be made publicly available, with a view to discussing the matter further at the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting;

5. invite the depository 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; and
6. "The Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System" be included on the Agenda of the Thirteenth Consultative Meeting.



## XII-7

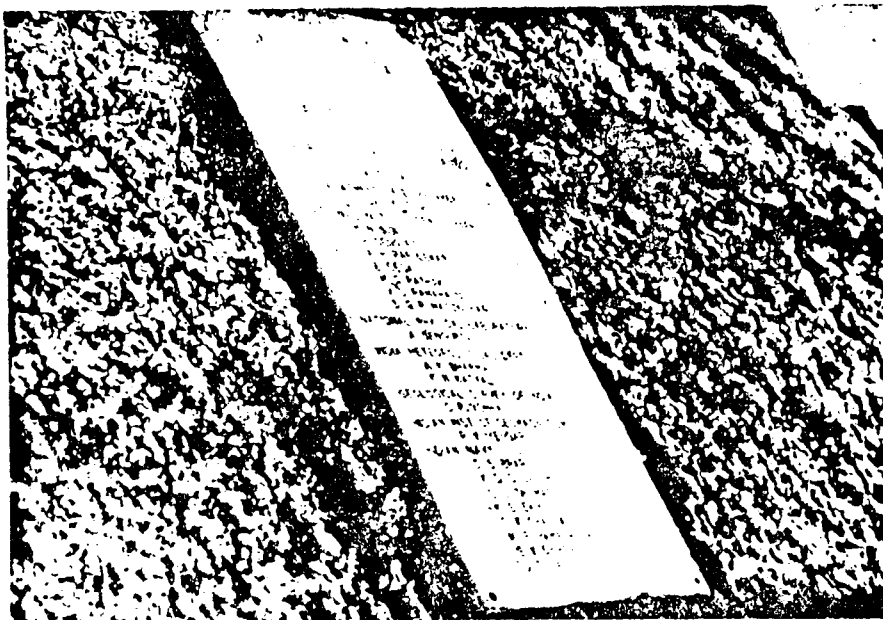
HISTORIC\_SITES\_AND\_MONUMENTS

The Representatives,

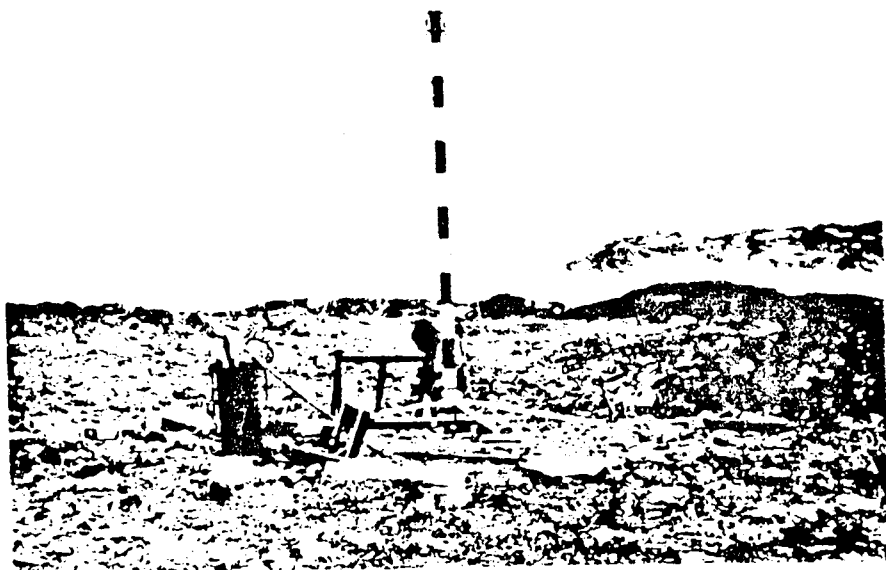
Recalling Recommendations I-IX, V-4, VI-14 and VII-9

Recommend to their Governments that the following historic monument 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 it be accorded the respect and protection required by the Recommendations recalled above:

44. Plaque erected at the temporary Indian station "Dakshin Gangotri", Princess Astrid Kyst, Dronning Maud Land, listing the names of the members of the First Indian Antarctic Expedition which landed nearby on 9 January 1982. (Lat. 70°45'S., Long. 11°38'E.)



Plaque installed at *Dakshin Gangotri* in the rock.



Automatic weather recording station at *Dakshin Gangotri* set up by the Indian Team on the foothills of the Antarctic mountain ranges.

SCAR ASSISTANCE TO CONSULTATIVE PARTIES

The Representatives,

Recognising that the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) of the International Council of Scientific Unions comprises a unique assemblage of knowledge and expertise in Antarctic scientific fields;

Noting with appreciation the advice provided to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties by SCAR in response to various requests;

Being aware that under its Constitution SCAR is charged with "furthering the co-ordination of scientific activity in Antarctica, with a view to framing a scientific program of circumpolar scope and significance";

Being aware also that the assistance requested of SCAR by the Consultative Parties imposes additional demands on scarce resources;

Recommend to their Governments:

That they consider in the light of its expertise and past assistance any requests that may be made by their national committees for additional funding to meet costs to SCAR of responding to requests for advice by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties.

II

ANNEXES

OPENING ADDRESS: MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
MR. BILL HAYDEN

On behalf of the Australian Government it is a great pleasure for me to welcome you to the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. This is an historic occasion because for the first time all the Parties to the Antarctic Treaty are meeting together in one room for a gathering which has the purpose, in the words of the Treaty, "of exchanging information, consulting together on matters of common interest pertaining to Antarctica and formulating and considering and recommending to their Governments measures in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty".

I would like to extend a special welcome to those Delegations which have not attended a Consultative meeting before, as well as to those which are here as Consultative Parties for the first time. Since the last Consultative Meeting in Buenos Aires in 1981, we have all been pleased and honoured that Spain, China and India have decided to become Parties to the Antarctic Treaty. It is, of course, highly gratifying too that Brazil and India have taken their place amongst us as Consultative Parties, having, again in the words of the Treaty "demonstrated their interest in Antarctica by conducting substantial scientific research activity there". The presence here of Delegations representing a wide range of countries with differing political and economic systems is a clear sign to the international community that the Antarctic Treaty system is alive and well and effectively carrying out its responsibilities in Antarctica.

I know that when Captain Scott finally reached the South Pole in 1912 he is reported to have said "Great God, this is an awful place". But we realise that this continent covering some fifteen percent of the earth's surface has a significance for us individually and for our planet as a whole which cannot be measured in terms of size. It was, of course, the realisation of the importance of Antarctica as a laboratory for scientific endeavour, with a unique environment and wildlife, that led those countries that were then most active in Antarctica to draw up the Antarctic Treaty and thus put on one side any differences they had, in the interests of promoting peace and co-operation. I am sure I speak for all Delegations when I say that the Antarctic Treaty is proving a uniquely successful co-operative international instrument.

Most important of all, it has guaranteed peace in the region. Its prohibitions on nuclear explosions and the dumping of nuclear waste and its forbidding of military measures in Antarctica, all verifiable through a mutual system of inspection, have made Antarctica arguably the world's most effective zone of peace. This, of course, is of value not just to the Parties to the Treaty, but to the whole world.

The Treaty has guaranteed freedom of scientific investigation and the results of scientific endeavour have been made freely available. The scientific work that has been done in Antarctica, often at prohibitive financial cost, has undoubtedly added greatly to the sum of knowledge we have of ourselves and our surroundings.

By an imaginative formula the Treaty has removed the potential for disputes relating to the exercise of sovereignty, a formula which does not prejudice the position of any Party to the Antarctic Treaty. Indeed, the Treaty has clearly fulfilled one of its major purposes of enabling countries that are active in the area to set aside the differences that they have outside Antarctica and to co-operate peacefully in Antarctic research.

The Antarctic Treaty has provided a framework for preserving and protecting the sensitive Antarctic environment, a matter of high priority for my Government. Strict application of the many measures adopted to ensure protection of the environment and the establishment, as part of the Antarctic Treaty system, of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which is open to any country interested in research or fishing in Antarctic waters, testify to the sustained and successful efforts that have been made within the system to protect the environment. The Convention embodies a totally new approach to the management of the Antarctic ecosystem. The Commission established under the Convention concluded its second meeting in Hobart last week. I understand the meeting made good progress in resolving the more important institutional and procedural matters and made a useful start on the substantive work of the Commission and the Scientific Committee.

Among the many measures introduced to protect the Antarctic environment and wildlife the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora are obviously of great significance. They provide overall protection for the native animal and bird populations of Antarctica. Individual animals or birds may only be taken within strict limits as indispensable food, or as scientific or museum specimens. The Agreed Measures further provide that certain areas of outstanding ecological interest within Antarctica may be set aside as Specially Protected Areas. There are 14 such Areas at present. Entry to and the collection of flora and fauna in those Areas is prohibited, unless a permit is issued on the grounds of a "compelling scientific purpose" and I understand that no such permit has been issued to date.

It is in the context of preserving the Antarctic environment that I should like to mention briefly the minerals negotiations that are being conducted at a Special Consultative

Meeting, although I fully appreciate that Antarctic minerals is not listed on the provisional agenda for substantive discussion at this Meeting. One of the principal reasons why Consultative Parties have commenced negotiations on a minerals regime is in order to ensure that no unregulated minerals activities take place, including even prospecting, which could be harmful to the Antarctic environment. That is why a moratorium on all minerals activities is being observed while the regime is being negotiated. In answer to the question which is sometimes asked: "Why negotiate a regime when minerals exploitation is unlikely to be technically possible or economically sensible for many years", it should be emphasised that it would be far more difficult to negotiate sound environmental provisions were the pressure for exploitation to increase. Much better to start now, and ensure that no exploration or exploitation can take place without adequate safeguards.

In mentioning these substantive and continuing achievements of the Antarctic Treaty system, I am not of course suggesting that it is perfect or that it should be static. We believe that if the Treaty is to remain a viable and effective instrument it must show itself capable, as it has in the past, of responding to meet new circumstances.

In our view it will be particularly important in the months and years ahead for the Treaty Parties not only to continue to act with the cohesion which has characterised their co-operation under the Treaty, but also to show flexibility to achieve the common goal of preserving the Antarctic Treaty.

Let me be more specific. My Government has made no secret of its concern about the current proposal to raise Antarctica in the General Assembly of the United Nations. I know that our concerns are widely shared here. We believe that any attempt to negotiate a new international agreement on



Antarctica or to re-negotiate parts of the Treaty would be likely to introduce uncertainty and instability into a region of hitherto unparalleled international co-operation.

In making these points to those who are proposing to raise the matter in the General Assembly, we have emphasised that the Treaty gives effect to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and is open to any member of the United Nations to join. We have also emphasised the fact that there is no genuine analogy, such as has been suggested, between outer space, or the deep seabed, on the one side, and Antarctica, which has been subject to man's activity for a hundred years, and is now the object of successful international co-operation and management under the Antarctic Treaty.

As I said at the start of my remarks, the present Meeting provides a timely opportunity to demonstrate that the Treaty system is operating effectively. The presence among us today for the first time of observers from the acceding states and of two new Consultative Parties shows the openness of the Treaty system and its capacity for development in a manner which will reflect the significance of Antarctica to the world community. I note that the provisional agenda provides scope for discussing a range of important questions concerning the administration of Antarctica as well as providing the opportunity to review the operation of the Antarctic Treaty system.

Some of the practical items that appear on the provisional agenda are matters that do not usually merit any headlines: but they are, in fact, an important reflection of practical international co-operation in Antarctica of the sort that is benefitting the world community at large and will continue to do so in the future. For instance, the meteorological observations taken in Antarctica are fed into the World Weather Watch system, and benefit not only routine weather forecasting but also our understanding of global climate

patterns. Another example is the research into the Antarctic environment about which we still know little, but which we know to affect ocean currents and fish breeding and migration habits in the southern hemisphere. These are all matters that require patient, hard work before the pivotal role of Antarctica in our global ecosystem can be fully appreciated.

The Australian Government is pleased to see the emphasis that is being placed on the question of the protection of the Antarctic environment and I hope it will be possible for this Meeting to produce forward-looking measures which will enhance the already effective protection that exists.

Similarly, we would like to see a detailed exchange of views on telecommunications, leading where appropriate to the adoption of concrete measures to improve telecommunications in Antarctica. As man's activities on this continent increase, particularly with the advent of airborne operations, good telecommunications facilities become absolutely essential. I hope Delegations will find useful the Handbook we have prepared for use by Antarctic telecommunications operators.

The increase of tourism in Antarctica is something we should also understand. Antarctica is not and should not be the preserve of government-sponsored scientists, but needs to be accessible to those wishing to discover the mental and technical challenge that this unique continent represents. At the same time, tourists and private expeditions must be made aware of the very real risks that they run in Antarctica: rescue is not always close at hand in this, the world's most isolated place. I hope that Delegations at this Meeting can go some way towards meeting the needs of private expeditioners for freedom and challenge, while also maintaining sound operational rules, for safety and environmental reasons, on the activities of private expeditioners.

I am pleased to see that a number of stimulating ideas have been advanced in papers to be considered under the items on the provisional agenda concerning the operation of the Antarctic Treaty system. If the Treaty is to be preserved, fresh ideas will always be needed for improving co-operation, for facilitating scientific research, and also for sharing more evenly the financial and other burdens of making the system function.

This meeting may well be seen as a landmark in the life of the Treaty. What you will be discussing is nothing less than the future well-being of the Antarctic Treaty, which has served the international community so well.. We look forward particularly to the participation of those Delegations which are attending a Consultative Meeting for the first time. I look forward to meeting you on a more informal basis later today. I wish you all well in your important work.

OPENING ADDRESS : ARGENTINA, H.E. AMBASSADOR CARLOS  
LUCAS BLANCO

Mr Chairman,

Let my first words be to congratulate you on your election, which I had great pleasure in proposing.

Then I should like to thank the Australian authorities, through you, for allowing us once more the opportunity of enjoying the hospitality of this country - a double opportunity, moreover, firstly to admire the splendours and to enjoy the hospitality of beautiful Tasmania - at least, for those of us who were there - and then for bringing us to the heart of this Australian capital, with its wide roadways and parks and the seat of your Government.

I should like to extend the warmest welcome and congratulations to our neighbouring Republic of Brazil and to the Republic of India which are, today, for the first time, joining us as Consultative Parties in our meetings.

Permit me also to welcome and wish success to the representatives of countries acceding to the Treaty who, today, are participating for the first time in one of our meetings, in the capacity of observer; one step further toward their integration in the mechanisms of the Antarctic Treaty and also an opportunity for them to have a more direct and extensive role within the system.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again we are gathered at a Consultative Meeting, forum of the Consultative Parties, in which is discussed every kind of issue relative to the interest and good management of

the Antarctic, within a system where the Consultative Parties have been discharging their responsibilities in relation to Antarctica over a time-span of more than twenty-two years of beneficial and fruitful action for all of Mankind.

The very agenda of our meeting can give a clear idea of the wide range of activities and concern shown in Antarctica by the Consultative Parties. These activities take place under the aegis of the Antarctic Treaty, the wise and tested provisions of which, together with the approved recommendations, agreed measures and special conventions concluded within its framework, lead towards the formation, in the most rational, efficient and complete manner possible, of the protected Antarctic System, the protection of its ecosystem and dependent ecosystems. Amongst these may be included the ecosystem of my country, in which the Argentine Republic is especially interested. They also lead towards the possible ordered exploitation of its resources, the most extensive scientific investigation, non-militarisation of the area, the safeguarding and extension of international Antarctic communications, a better knowledge of Antarctica, and finally, to complete a list which has highlighted a few of the many aspects, towards the maintenance of the political equilibrium and conservation of peace in Antarctica and the World.

In this respect, an essential part of the Treaty is represented by Article IV, which maintains the positions of those Consultative Parties who, like my country, exercise sovereignty in Antarctica, and those countries which do not recognise such claims.

But its most outstanding virtue, in my opinion, is the system advocated by the Antarctic Treaty, which is open to accession by all states of the United Nations, with the possibility of their acquiring consultative status, which has just been the case of the two countries who are present here for the first time in this capacity.

Ladies and Gentlemen, here in our midst we have developed and developing countries, capitalist and socialist countries of the North and South, countries asserting claims to and countries having no claim to sovereignty - a healthy combination, the result of which has been to strengthen unity within the System, on the basis of decision-making by consensus, which represents a model of democratic exchange at international level, and which, together with other characteristics, has made this Treaty a unique entity sui generis, the mechanism of which has been operating perfectly over very many years.

At the present time when new states are sharing consultative status with us and when the observers of acceding states find themselves attending and participating in our meetings for the first time, we are pleased that the Treaty System is being strengthened and supported and that this support and participation will guarantee a greater understanding on the part of the International Community of the achievements which have been accomplished under the Treaty and which, moreover, continue to be accomplished constantly in Antarctica - and in the case of my country since 1904, that is, almost 80 years - in favour of the conservation of peace, maintenance of the ecological balance, conservation of the environment, of Antarctic fauna and flora and, in general, all natural resources on this continent.

I know that all of us assembled here share the same objectives and principles; that is, those embodied in the Antarctic System, and based on the 1959 Treaty of which we are Contracting Parties. It has led to the realisation of scientific and political gains and perhaps, in the more distant future, will also lead to economic gains, the basis of which we have recently begun to establish.

I wish to urge, then, that all persons present do their utmost to fulfil these objectives and principles and, in this respect, I wish to mention our concern at the attempts being made by some to amend and even to rescind the Antarctic Treaty, and who are seeking a way to interest the United Nations in such a form of action, an action which we oppose, since we consider that the Antarctic Treaty and its System are the best means for promoting scientific research and the conservation of the continent's resources, as has been shown in the actions taken from 1961 to the present day.

We do not deny that the System could be improved, and to this end the Consultative Parties have introduced Item 10 on our Agenda on "The Operation of the Antarctic Treaty System" which will permit us to analyse the issue in depth and to propose the appropriate improvements.

Let us therefore, with our work and unity, strengthen the Treaty which represents the best instrument that we have had the wisdom to give ourselves, so that we may jointly advocate and ensure that the Antarctic continues to be the scientific laboratory which its pure environment has, hitherto, guaranteed, so that peace may reign there and its resources be rationally exploited without prejudice to anyone. Finally, I would like to express my best wishes for the success of our discussions and for the continuance and consolidation of our System in this new and historic stage which we are so auspiciously starting today.

OPENING ADDRESS : BELGIUM, H.E. AMBASSADOR A. DOMUS

Thank you, Mr Chairman,

Mr Chairman,

My delegation joins the delegation which preceded me in congratulating you on your unanimous election as chairman of this Meeting and I wish to assure you of the best intentions of the Belgian Delegation with regard to your chairmanship; I am convinced that your professional competence and experience aided by your innate amiability will enable you to direct us and guide us safely during our Meeting.

The presence at this opening session of Mr Bill Hayden, Minister for Foreign Affairs, is greatly appreciated by this delegation, which sees in it not only the personal interest taken by the Minister in the Antarctic Treaty but also the importance attached to it by the Government of Australia. I would like to avail myself of the happy circumstance of the Minister's presence to thank him for the hospitality of the Federal Government in preparing, organizing and hosting this Twelfth Consultative Meeting.

A special mark of the Twelfth Meeting is the attendance as Observers of a number of Acceding Parties and, more significantly still, the presence for the first time of the Republic of India and the Federative Republic of Brazil with their newly-acquired status of Consultative Parties. I wish to give them all a warm welcome in our midst.



I feel that the latest expansion of our numbers, as witnessed here at our meeting, together with the growing interest of the world in Antarctic issues, is ample reason to justify my brief reminder of the importance and efficacy of the Antarctic Treaty.

The Treaty represented an innovative instrument of diplomacy. As such it was the first instrument under which an entire continent was to be declared a non-military and denuclearised zone. It was also the first instrument to safeguard the environment of such a vast region of the world. It established the basis for unprecedented international scientific cooperation, and it found the means to promote cooperation among States despite the existence of serious controversy relating to the issue of sovereignty.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS: BRAZIL,  
H.E. AMBASSADOR MARCOS C. DE AZAMBUJA

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of my delegation, may I at the outset join the other speakers in congratulating you for your election as Chairman of this important meeting.

I would like to express the appreciation of my delegation for the warm reception with which we have been honoured by the Australian Government and for the generous words expressed by Mr Hayden, as well as for the excellent quality of the organization of this meeting.

Permit me also to take this opportunity to thank the distinguished representatives for their friendly words and greetings addressed to us on the occasion of my country's accession to the group of Consultative Members of the Antarctic Treaty. It is a great honour for me to represent my country for the first time at such a meeting.

Mr Chairman,

On the 16th of May, 1975, the Federative Republic of Brazil acceded to the Antarctic Treaty. This decision was inspired by the importance which my country has traditionally attached to Antarctica. During the years which have elapsed since then, my country, despite the problems which have affected its economy, has established an Antarctic Program, wholly dedicated to the development of long-term scientific projects in the Antarctic. Brazilian substantial research began in 1982/83, with the First Antarctic Expedition, and will continue in the forthcoming austral summer with the installation of an Antarctic summer station and full participation in the international BIOMASS/SIBEX programme.

Yesterday, the distinguished representatives acknowledged that the Federative Republic of Brazil has fulfilled the requirements established in Article IX, paragraph 2 of the Antarctic Treaty. This decision represents the beginning of a new phase. As a full participant of this meeting, my delegation stands prepared to collaborate to the best of its ability in the work which lies ahead of us in the following weeks and in future meetings. In exercising the responsibilities which it has taken as a Consultative Member, the Federative Republic of Brazil will strictly abide by the principles of peace, cooperation and freedom of scientific investigation contained in the Antarctic Treaty and established by the decisions and Recommendations which, in furtherance of those principles, have been adopted over a period of more than twenty years.

Mr Chairman,

Since the Washington Conference in 1959, Brazil has followed closely the evolution of the Antarctic system. The Treaty has proved to be an adequate instrument for the solution of the many complex problems involved in the activities for peaceful purposes in Antarctica. It must be said also that the Consultative Parties have established a solid record of cooperation in scientific research and in the protection of the Antarctic environment. In fact, my Government has noted with satisfaction that the protection of the unique and fragile environment of Antarctica has been one of the main concerns of the Consultative Parties.

In 1981, the Treaty completed 20 years since its entry into force. It is no longer young. At this stage, questions such as that of mineral resources and new facts such as the possibility of the discussion of Antarctica in the upcoming United Nations General Assembly, must continue to receive careful consideration by all of us. The Brazilian Government is glad to be able to take part in the work of the Consultative

meetings and of other meetings of the Treaty, to which it will endeavour to bring a constructive and positive contribution, according to the spirit and principles of the Antarctic Treaty.

Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS: CHILE, MR. FERNANDO ZEGERS

Mr Chairman,

It is fitting that this Twelfth Consultative Meeting, which is taking place at an historic hour for the Antarctic Treaty, be held in this, the beautiful city of Canberra, since it is here that the first ever Consultative meeting was held.

May I extend our greetings, first of all, to this great country of long-standing Antarctic traditions, and to you, Excellency.

May we also welcome the important developing countries, Brazil and India, who are, today, joining the Consultative Meetings. We should like to extend a warm welcome to the Treaty members who are attending a Consultative Meeting for the first time, and are pleased to see the Peoples' Republic of China attend as an acceding State.

The main subject of this session will be the study of the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System, that is, its adaptation to the internal developments which have occurred in the System over the last twenty years and to the evolution which has taken place in the world.

The Antarctic Treaty has been supplemented by Recommendations approved by these Consultative Meetings, by the presence and legal acts of its members in Antarctica, which have incorporated the sixth continent into the world stage and by other legal instruments, such as the Conventions for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals and the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

It represents a subsystem integrated into the overall international system, which confirms and gives expression to the principles and purposes of the United Nations' Charter. It is open to all members of this international organisation and participation in this system depends on the interest and activity shown by each State.

The Antarctic Treaty created the first peace zone, the first scientific laboratory and ecological reserve in the world.

The Antarctic Treaty System has managed Antarctica with singular efficiency to the benefit of mankind, incorporating it into the map of the world, discovering it and making it known, giving it communications with the rest of the planet and preserving its unique ecosystem. All this has earned it the tacit recognition of the International Community, expressed on several occasions.

However, this admirable System, without changing the Treaty or any of its afore-mentioned features, should be brought up to date.

In its internal functioning greater integration among its participants is called for as well as a more efficient coordination of the instruments of the System. A first manifestation of this tendency is the participation of the acceding countries in this meeting.

The growing interest in Antarctic issues calls for a greater dissemination of information on the achievements and activities of the Treaty System.

Likewise, this presupposes greater involvement of the parties of the Treaty with other States, organisations and entities interested in Antarctica.

This modernisation and extension of the Treaty and of its System are of great importance to its internal development and at the same time may be considered of fundamental importance if the System is to stand up to the international scrutiny that has been manifested in the tabling of this topic at the United Nations.

It is necessary to emphasise and, if possible, perfect the open character of the System. Likewise it is necessary that we emphasise the importance of its work and of its continuance for mankind.

We shall study here the adaptation of the Antarctic System. At the United Nations, in this same month of September, a resolution will be made about the inscription of an item relating to the Continent and, in an effort which shall, hopefully, be concluded next year, it is intended to supplement the Treaty System with the preparation of a regime to preserve its provisions, to protect the ecosystem and regulate the possible utilization of its mineral resources.

We stand before a decisive hour in the history of the Antarctic Treaty, an hour which is as important probably as its very negotiation, and which will call for nobleness of mind, imagination and vision for the future on the part of its protagonists.

Chile, an Antarctic country by extension of its territory, by title, by the sovereignty it exercises and by its presence and vocation as a founding member of the Treaty, reiterates today its dedication and fidelity to the great principles which have inspired this visionary international instrument, together with its faith that, with the help of God, we will know how to complete the magnificent work begun in 1959.

Thank you very much.

OPENING ADDRESS: FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DR E.F. JUNG

Mr Chairman,

I should like to join in offering the congratulations of my delegation to you on your election as chairman and wish you every success in presiding over this important Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. I should also like to thank the Australian Government for its invitation and to express our deep gratitude for the warm and hospitable welcome we have received in this country.

I am particularly pleased that numerous delegations have come here to represent states which are participating for the first time in an Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. The Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany warmly welcomes the new members into our circle and looks forward to fruitful co-operation in a spirit of mutual confidence. I am convinced that the enlargement of our circle will not only enhance and enliven the discussions but will also render a major contribution to strengthening the Antarctic Treaty System.

In this connection, it is of particular importance that we are able to welcome for the first time two new consultative members - the Republic of India, which has now acceded to the Treaty and the Federative Republic of Brazil, which had acceded in 1975. By assuming the special responsibility attached to consultative status, these two major states have taken on the important task of contributing their own potential and their political weight to the preservation and improvement of the Antarctic Treaty System. We are all aware of the considerable achievements of this system. It has made the Antarctic a zone of peace and co-operation, a continent free from international conflict and discord. And yet this successful, time-tested system is questioned. Attempts are made to alter the substance of the Antarctic Treaty and to replace it.



Such efforts - and here I refer of course to the initiative launched by some countries in the United Nations - will not meet with our approval. On the contrary, we believe that the Antarctic Treaty System must be continually developed and extended on the basis of the work already done.

In the same context I am pleased to be able to inform you that a few weeks ago the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, as one of the younger members of the Consultative Group, approved the recommendations of the ninth, tenth and eleventh Consultative Meetings as well as recommendations VII-4 and VII-9.

I should like to take this opportunity to reiterate my gratification at the good and businesslike atmosphere which prevailed at the previous Consultative Meetings. I am convinced that this tradition of open and friendly discussion which the participants have maintained from the very start will also be continued here in Canberra.

OPENING ADDRESS : FRANCE, MR. BERNARD DORIN

Mr Chairman,

I should like first of all on behalf of myself and the French delegation, to congratulate you on your election to the chair you now occupy. We have no doubt that with your skilled guidance, we will be able to work together in a harmonious and efficient manner.

Permit me also to say how delighted we are to be here in Canberra. It is in all sincerity that I extend our thanks to the Australian authorities who have made us all particularly welcome here.

Although this meeting is the twelfth since the Treaty of Washington first came into force in 1961, it constitutes a "first" in its own right. A glance around this room bears witness to this fact: never before have there been so many participants; our numbers have in fact doubled since our last meeting in Buenos Aires. I wish, on behalf of France, to extend a very warm welcome to all the new delegations.

I should, first of all, like to express the particular satisfaction of my delegation at Brazil and India acquiring the status of Consultative Parties. Antarctica is still largely unexplored: it represents a vast area for research but access to its shores is both difficult and costly. Contrary to the opinion held by many, the members of the Washington Treaty do not form a closed "Club". Given the immensity of the task, they are only too pleased to have other States make an active contribution and join forces with them.

It was thus in a spirit of openness that the applications of these two States were received. In view of the work they have carried out and plan to carry out in the future, it is just and proper that they take their place in our midst.

Secondly, my delegation wishes to thank all those who accepted the Chairman's invitation to attend our meetings as observers. These States, by signing the Treaty of Washington, have testified to their faith in the system which came about as a direct consequence of that remarkable year, the International Geophysical Year of 1957-1958. I hope that today they will be able to confirm that their faith was justified. They will see that the discretion with which the work of our earlier meetings was conducted was in no way inspired by a desire for secrecy; rather it was born of a desire to work as seriously and efficiently as possible. In this respect, we need only refer to the agenda before us in order to appreciate the spirit in which our discussions will be held.

The first explorers ever to penetrate the seas and ice of Antarctica were motivated more by a thirst for "knowledge" than by the spirit of adventure. Today, even if a certain sense of adventure remains, the overriding objective is that of widening the frontiers of knowledge. By virtue of long and patient experience the Consultative Parties have assessed Antarctica's influence on the Earth's life system. They have experienced the severity of its climatic conditions and consequently are well aware of the delicate ecological balance which, in certain places, serves to maintain animal and vegetable life.

France, like its partners of the Washington Treaty, is well aware of its responsibilities towards the international community which devolve from its presence in Adelie Land. At a time when certain countries find it useful to call into question the adequacy of this Treaty to deal with the problems arising from mankind's need to confront the destiny of Antarctica, France confirms its faith in a system which has shown its strength over the last two decades. France, moreover, intends to continue, within this framework, a task begun many years before; 150 years have almost passed since France, represented

by the Dumont d'Urville expedition, together with the United Kingdom and the United States, took part in the first reconnaissance expedition in this part of the globe.

There is no need to emphasise here the merits of the Washington Treaty. The very fact that, twenty years since it first came into effect, more and more delegations are participating in the meetings it instituted, is sufficient testimony to the success of the enterprise.

My delegation is convinced, Mr Chairman, that this Twelfth Meeting will serve to strengthen our cooperation to the benefit of all the international community.

OPENING ADDRESS: INDIA, DR. S. Z. QASIM

Mr Chairman, Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I must, on behalf of my delegation, respond to the gracious remarks of welcome accorded to us by many delegates who spoke earlier and as I take the floor for the first time in the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, I would begin by saying how happy and delighted I am to be in this beautiful country and in this charming city of Canberra. I would like to extend my warm greetings to all the representatives of the various countries who are present here and to you Mr Chairman in particular on your unanimous election to chair this session. Next, I would like to extend my gratefulness to all the Consultative Parties for electing to recognise my country as a Consultative Party, and thus giving me the honour to speak in this capacity. It is a very pleasant duty for me to thank the Consultative Parties for the distinction they have conferred on us. It is also a matter of pride for me to welcome within our sphere the great and friendly country Brazil as another new Consultative Party and I extend my warm greetings to the distinguished Delegation of Brazil present here.

I fully share the sentiments of earlier speakers by adding that the Twelfth Consultative Meeting is a very historic occasion for all of us, as we have the representatives here of almost all the 28 countries who are the Members of the Antarctic Treaty. On behalf of my country, I would like to extend my felicitations to them. In this respect Mr Chairman, this Session is not only the largest in the history of the Antarctic Treaty, but also a very unique one. Your country, Mr Chairman, has been one of the first few to start scientific activities in Antarctica. Thus you have been one of the pioneers in promoting the ideas of the Treaty. I would like to offer my appreciation to you for holding this very important Session in your capital.

The activities of my country in Antarctica began about three years ago and have continued very enthusiastically since then. In June 1981, the possibility of sending a scientific expedition to Antarctica, which combines the deep sea exploration of the Southern Ocean and the Antarctic Region was explored and discussed. After looking into the various implications of such a project, the Government of India decided that it would be useful, from the scientific point of view, to send such an expedition, as it would add to our knowledge of the factors which govern the hydrographical features of the Indian Ocean.

Unlike the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans which communicate with both the Arctic in the north and the Antarctic in the south, as these are in the general terminology "open oceans", the Indian Ocean has its northern boundaries closed by land mass. Thus it only communicates with the Antarctic Ocean in the south from which it derives most of its fertility and energy on which the economy of almost all the Indian Ocean countries is critically dependent.

Most of the Consultative Parties have been exploring the Antarctic landmass and the surrounding seas for several decades. Many Indian scientists participated in the Antarctic programmes as part of the teams of other countries. Indian science has now developed enough expertise and experience in various disciplines of science such as geology, geophysics, oceanography, meteorology, astrophysics, space science and communication science to take up a detailed scientific study on the landmass of Antarctica and on the oceanographic studies in the surrounding seas.

Keeping this in view, the two scientific expeditions were organized to the South Indian Ocean and Antarctica during 1981-82 and 1982-83.

As you must have seen from the documents submitted by us, in the first expedition, a team of scientists from seven different organizations of India participated. The expedition was undertaken on a Norwegian Ship "Polar Circle" chartered from G.C. Reiber & Co., Bergen. I would like to personally thank the Government of Norway for their hospitality and considerable help.

During the expedition which lasted 77 days, significant work was done in the fields of meteorology, atmospheric physics, radiowave propagation, glaciology, magnetic measurements both on land and in the sea, aerosol measurements, geology, geophysics oceanic studies, biomass measurements, chemistry and biology of shelf ice etc. A technical report giving 29 original research papers which has a Foreword by our Honourable Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi has already been submitted and circulated to the Consultative Parties for information. In the Foreword of the technical report the Honourable Prime Minister of India has remarked and I quote "This technical report presents and discusses the scientific findings of the first Indian Antarctic Expedition. It gives some idea of the quality of scientists and science in India. May it imbue our young people with wider vision and inspire them to greater tasks". Unquote.

The telecommunication facilities during the first expedition included both long and short range communication. We set up a base camp, a refuge hut and an automatic, seasonally-manned recording weather station which was named "Dakshin Gangotri". The station recorded the weather data of that region of Antarctica throughout the following winter. The system was computerized, solar powered with heavy duty batteries and functioned extremely well for many months. The entire information on the recorded data has been presented in our technical report.

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Keeping this in view, the two scientific expeditions were organized to the South Indian Ocean and Antarctica during 1981-82 and 1982-83.



The objectives of the second expedition were far more advanced and included detailed logistic support and the continuation of scientific work started during the first expedition. The team stayed for 57 days on the landmass and carried out a significant amount of work in geology including coring up to more than 10 metre depth in rocks, snow and ice studies and long coring in ice. Studies on meteorology and radiowave propagation, air-sea interaction, microbiology and biology, geophysics, paleomagnetism and magnetism, hydroacoustic and geomagnetism were conducted more extensively. The 28-member-team of the second expedition came from 12 different organisations of the country. The same Norwegian Ship "Polar Circle" was used for the expedition. In the second expedition the primary method of long range communication with India was via the MARISAT and INMARSAT satellites in the form of telephone and telex messages. The messages were transmitted via the earth stations at Yamaguchi, Japan and EIR, Norway. A much improved system of short range communication was used this time.

The Government of India plans to establish a permanently manned scientific station during the course of the coming Antarctic summer. A suitable ship has been chartered and it is expected that the Third Indian Expedition will reach Antarctica in December 1983. The manned station will be named "Dakshin Gangotri" and will be located at latitude 70°45'S, longitude 11°38'E. The scientific programme of the expedition will continue and extend studies already initiated. In fulfilment of paragraph 5 of the Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty, the Government of India will provide information about the third expedition in accordance with the Standard Format for the Annual Exchange of Information annexed to Recommendation VIII-6 of the Antarctic Treaty.

I would also like to add Mr Chairman, that the two expeditions which India has undertaken during the past two years have received overwhelming support from the Government and people of India. The success we have achieved is entirely

because of the interest which the Honourable Prime Minister of India has taken in our Antarctic programme. The two expeditions have ushered in a new era of polar research in India and have created a tremendous amount of enthusiasm among the younger scientific community of our country.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Antarctic research, the collective entity of all sciences, is a very recent activity for India. Some work has been done during the very short period of two years during which time most of the infrastructure, facilities and manpower requirements have been built up. However, what has been done is a small fraction of what remains to be achieved. With our accession to the Antarctic Treaty and the honour of being given the status of a Consultative Party by you all, we are carefully planning India's future Antarctic Programme to suit the overall plan laid down by the Consultative Parties. We hope that Antarctica will continue to hold promise of meeting man's needs for water, food, minerals, energy and climate for a long long time to come. I thought it would be an appropriate occasion, Mr Chairman, to repeat what our Foreign Minister has said while informing the two Houses of Parliament after India's accession to the Antarctic Treaty and I quote:

"By joining the Treaty, India would thus be able to exchange scientific information with other members of the Treaty and thereby enhance its analytical capabilities. India could hopefully be able to participate in the meetings of the Consultative Committee, and in doing so, will effectively project her own views as well as those of the non-aligned countries." Unquote.

I thank you Mr Chairman, Your Excellencies and the distinguished delegates of all countries present here.

OPENING ADDRESS: JAPAN, DR. TAKESI NAGATA

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Japanese Delegation, I should like to join the distinguished representatives who preceded me in congratulating you, Mr Chairman, on being unanimously elected as Chairman of our Meeting.

I should also like to express my Delegation's deep appreciation to the Government of Australia for the outstanding preparations it has made in hosting the preparatory meeting and also this Consultative Meeting. It is a great pleasure for my Delegation to come to this beautiful country with which my country has always enjoyed the traditional bond of friendship.

I feel honoured to make use of this opportunity to welcome warmly the Delegations of the Republic of India and the Federative Republic of Brazil to this Consultative Meeting. I am confident that the membership of these two countries will contribute a great deal in strengthening our efforts to promote the objectives and principles of the Antarctic Treaty. It is my wish that they participate actively also in the international scientific cooperation concerning Antarctica, in which the SCAR has been playing a major role. I would also like to extend a hearty welcome to the observers from the countries which are parties to the Antarctic Treaty, but not members of the Consultative Meeting. I hope that they will increase their interest in the Antarctic through attending this Meeting.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is approximately 22 years since the Antarctic Treaty came into force. During this span of time, the Treaty proved itself to be an effective and important tool in ensuring the freedom of scientific research in Antarctica, in securing the

peaceful use of the area, and in promoting international cooperation among the parties to the Treaty. I believe that we could be proud of the remarkable achievements we have together made on the basis of the Antarctic Treaty.

However, I should like to point out that we have at hand probably the two most serious issues which we face since the establishment of the Antarctic Treaty System. One is the question of mineral exploration and development. I believe that it is of great importance to our System how successfully we could cope with this issue. I believe that it is time we stop the futile and time-consuming exercise of simply asserting and reiterating our positions; but it is time for the Consultative Parties, who possess the knowledge, expertise and experience of Antarctica, to endeavour together to formulate a new regime on this issue by transcending the differing interests and positions of each party.

The other difficulty which we face is that the Antarctic Treaty System as a whole has been brought into question by some countries which are not parties to the Treaty. Together with the other countries represented here, my country intends to maintain and further strengthen the Antarctic Treaty System, which has contributed a great deal to the international community. It is my belief that in the course of our common efforts aimed thereat we should be also prepared to be flexible. In this regard, I appreciate it very much that appropriate steps have been taken recently and that we could invite the observers to this Consultative Meeting.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The problems which we are now confronted with are indeed difficult ones of a new character. I believe that in this very situation we should demonstrate our common position and overcome the difficult hurdles on the basis of the solidarity which the Consultative Parties fostered over the past two decades.

My Delegation intends to work together with all our friends here towards achieving the objectives of the Antarctic Treaty.

I am sure that we shall succeed in our endeavour through our cooperation, and I wish to assure you of the fullest cooperation of my Delegation in tackling this common task.

In closing, let me inform you briefly that a new Japanese Antarctic research vessel "Shirase" will be placed in service for the coming research expedition which sets out at the end of this year. I feel very honoured to be able to thus demonstrate the continued interest of my country in Antarctica.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS: NEW ZEALAND, MR. C.D. BEEBY

Let me begin by offering you, from the other side of the Tasman, the congratulations of my delegation on your election to guide the proceedings of this Consultative Meeting. We have every confidence in your well proven abilities in the art of chairmanship. I would also like to thank the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, for the warmth of his welcome and to express our gratitude to the Government of Australia for the excellent arrangements which have been made for this meeting.

Our regular Consultative Meetings are always important gatherings forming, as they do, a significant part of the whole range of international co-operation which has been built up in the period since the Antarctic Treaty was signed. The harmonisation, in the Treaty, of the varying interests of the countries actively involved in Antarctica has permitted and promoted the construction of an impressive system of co-operation, including co-operation in scientific research and environmental protection. This has taken place in conditions which the Antarctic Treaty has ensured are peaceful and stable. Successive New Zealand Governments have been satisfied that New Zealand's interests, as a country in the region, as a claimant state, and one vitally concerned with the protection of the Antarctic environment, have been fully met by the stable yet dynamic system that the Treaty supports. New Zealand remains firmly of that view.

In recent years, the Consultative Parties have come to grips with the resources issues that are left unresolved by the Antarctic Treaty. The conclusion of what I believe has been widely acclaimed as a valuable and innovative Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources has been followed, since we last met in Buenos Aires, by detailed

negotiations on a regime for Antarctic minerals. That development has seen an increase in the interests of the international community at large in our work. Interest has been accompanied by questioning, by criticism and by misunderstanding. Self-examination is always painful but, in the view of my delegation, we might do well to acknowledge that some of the responsibility for this state of affairs rests with the Consultative Parties. We have not done enough to explain to others the nature of the Antarctic Treaty system in general and the purpose of our examination of the minerals issue in particular. A start, of course, has been made to improve the flow of information about our work. More remains to be done; and my delegation will want to play a full part in the discussions of those items on our agenda which bear on this.

Having said that, I should make it clear that we believe that much of the criticism and questioning of the Antarctic Treaty system, especially of the negotiations on minerals, has been wholly misconceived.

The negotiations on minerals are not based on the knowledge, nor even the conjecture, that there are great riches to be harvested in Antarctica. There is, indeed, no certainty that minerals will ever be found in commercially exploitable quantities in that continent. Exploitation, if it ever takes place, is many years away. Against the possibility, however, that exploitation might one day be found to be both feasible and environmentally acceptable, the Consultative Parties have made a judgement that it is important to reach agreement in advance of that day on the conditions and standards that will ensure that such activities proceed in a regulated and disciplined manner. Our purpose is to fill the gap in the Treaty which, if left, could bring back the very rivalries the Treaty was designed to overcome. By doing so we will be strengthening the Treaty system. We will be doing so, moreover, in a manner which is in no sense exclusive. Like the Antarctic Treaty itself and

subsequent important instruments, including the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, any minerals regime we adopt will be open to other states. The Consultative Parties have made a commitment to that effect in Recommendation XI-1. The same Recommendation embodies two further important commitments. First, the protection of the unique Antarctic environment and of its dependent ecosystems will be a basic consideration. Secondly in dealing with the question of mineral resources in Antarctica, the Consultative Parties will not prejudice the interests of all mankind in Antarctica.

Mr Chairman, I would like to end by extending a very warm welcome to the delegations of India and Brazil which join us today as Consultative Parties. We look forward to co-operating closely with them to further the objectives of the Antarctic Treaty. We warmly welcome too, the delegations of the observer countries. Their presence here today represents I believe, a welcome and very significant development in the Antarctic Treaty system.



OPENING ADDRESS: NORWAY, MR TORE GJELSVIK

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of the Norwegian delegation, I would like to offer my congratulations on your election to the chair of the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. We are looking forward to working under your experienced guidance. The Norwegian delegation also asks you to convey its thanks to the Australian government for the arrangements and the warm welcome given us.

Since this is the last Treaty meeting I shall attend, I take the opportunity to tell you - and especially those of you whom I have met on many earlier occasions - how delighted I am to be meeting again with the delegates of the other consultative parties.

We are very happy to be here in Canberra, the capital of a nation which ever since Douglas Mawson's pioneering expeditions at the beginning of this century has been in the forefront of the scientific exploration of Antarctica.

It is a great pleasure to welcome two new States, India and Brazil, as Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty. Norwegian polar scientists are looking forward to co-operating with their scientists within the framework of SCAR as soon as possible. I also should like to thank Dr Qasim of the delegation of India for his very kind words of appreciation to my government.

Norway has always wanted an open discussion of Antarctic matters and I am therefore happy to see so many observers from contracting parties at this meeting. My delegation also warmly welcomes the delegation from the Peoples Republic of China, which recently acceded to the Treaty.

In view of the increasing world wide interest in Antarctic matters, exposed for example by the development within the UN, my country hopes that the proceedings of this meeting will prove the efficiency of the Antarctic Treaty system in protecting the Antarctic environment and in developing sound administrative procedures, and that they will demonstrate the solidarity of the member states in the furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty. It is important that we also are able to explain to the world community what the Treaty really stands for and what it already has accomplished, and that we are looking for a fair deal for all nations wanting to contribute seriously in the development of Antarctica.

The inaccurate information which so often is found in newspapers and other mass media, reveals that our contact with the general public has not been good enough. The items on our agenda that relate to this matter are in the opinion of my delegation of great importance and urgency.

As a party to the Treaty since the beginning, Norway has learned that it represents a useful and flexible international system serving well its noble and ambitious goals; notably, it has prevented international conflicts, maintained peace and security and provided a forum for close and efficient co-operation in Antarctic matters. It is therefore important that it is preserved and that an increased participation in Antarctic affairs takes place within its framework and established system of co-operation. However, we must increase our efforts in making it operate even better, and in adjusting it to new developments and challenges. In particular, it is important that no time is wasted in producing a fair and efficient mineral regime for Antarctica. We need a regime that meets the interests of claimant states as well as of non-claimants, and which permits the safe and orderly exploitation of any possible resources while safeguarding the environment. Such a system might be difficult to develop, but

we cannot demonstrate the usefulness of the Treaty system in a better way than by succeeding in this important task. And we are on the way - when I compare our present discussions with the first informal talks at the Sixth Consultative Meeting in Tokyo in 1970, I note a good progress, and feel that we can make it, provided that we continue to act in a real Antarctic spirit.

Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS: POLAND, DR JAN BOGUTYN

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

First of all, on behalf of the Polish delegation, I should like to congratulate you, Mr Chairman, on your election to this high and important office. The Polish delegation looks forward to most constructive and fruitful deliberations under your able guidance, which most delegates present here observed during the Preparatory Meeting held in Canberra this April.

May I also express our appreciation to the Government of Australia for excellent preparations made for the meeting and facilities put at our disposal.

I would like to extend our most cordial welcome to the delegations of Brazil and India, 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. We consider the presence and participation of Brazilian and Indian delegations, significant and influential representatives of the Non-aligned countries, as a fact of great importance. We are confident that Brazil's and India's membership of the consultative group will only serve to strengthen the Antarctic Treaty.

I would also like to express our great appreciation of scientific co-operation with Brazil and to assure the Brazilian delegation of our wishes to continue and increase it.

Our delegation is, naturally, fully aware of the far reaching importance of this meeting, to which the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden drew attention in his opening address, when he said "that the Antarctic Treaty is a uniquely

successful co-operative international instrument". In this context I would like to stress that probably we are all of the opinion that the Antarctic remains at present one of the very few fields of international co-operation between countries of different socio-political systems. I think that the operation of the Antarctic Treaty system can serve as an example of international co-operation and mutual understanding. We are deeply convinced that both the Treaty and the work done so far by the Consultative Meetings serve not only the best interests of the member states, but also those of mankind, as well as peaceful co-operation all over the world.

The widespread exchange of scientific research, contacts between scientific expeditions in Antarctica, help and mutual assistance, all these create a spirit of co-operation.

In the period that has passed since the Antarctic Treaty came into force, the Consultative Parties have solved many difficult problems. Only a close co-operation among all interested states can give solutions to complex international problems. The best proof of that truism is the functioning of our Antarctic system. Poland, despite her current economic problems, exacerbated by sanctions imposed upon us, continues to carry out substantial scientific activities in the Antarctic. It shows the importance we attach as one of the Consultative Parties to our presence in the region and to the need of the strengthening and developing of the Antarctic Treaty.

Mr Chairman, it is not my intention to make any detailed comments on the individual agenda items at this stage. I would like merely to stress that the Polish delegation stands prepared to work actively together with all concerned to find solutions to the many problems faced by this meeting.

OPENING ADDRESS: SOUTH AFRICA, MR. P.D. OELOFSEN

Thank you Mr Chairman,

On this historic occasion I would merely like to add my voice to those speakers before me who have extended their gratitude to the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, for his words of welcome to all of us present here today. I would also like to extend our thanks, through you, to the Australian Government for having invited us to Canberra for the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, for making available the facilities here in Canberra for this meeting and for having made all the excellent preparations and arrangements for the meeting.

As was said before me by a number of speakers it is indeed most significant and very pleasing to all of us that this historic meeting should take place in Canberra where the first Consultative Meeting took place some 22 years ago. It is not insignificant, as proof of the strength and dynamic character of the Antarctic Treaty and the Treaty System that has developed over the years that our numbers have grown from 12 participants at the first Consultative Meeting to 27 nations present here today.

Mr Chairman, please accept also the congratulations of my delegation on your election as Chairman of this Meeting. We have come to know your excellent qualities as a Chairman, not only during the Fifth Special Consultative Meeting and the Preparatory Meeting earlier this year but as far back as 1978 when you guided us in our deliberations during our discussions on the Antarctic Marine Living Resource question. We are convinced that under your able and wise guidance this meeting will be as great a success as the previous meetings held under your Chairmanship.

May I also associate myself and my delegation with those before me in extending a most warm welcome to the Representatives of the Republic of India and the Federative Republic of Brazil and to their governments in having joined the Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty. We are convinced that their contribution to the Treaty and to our work at Consultative Meetings will add in no small way to further strengthen the Treaty.

Finally, Mr Chairman, may I also extend a word of welcome to the observers from acceding states who for the first time have joined us at Consultative Meetings. We are equally convinced that their participation in our work would be to the benefit of the common objectives we all share under the Treaty.

Mr Chairman, the draft Agenda of this meeting contains a number of important items. My delegation is looking forward to participating fully with all other delegations in a positive and constructive manner in the discussions on all of these items. May I also assure you, Mr Chairman, of the cooperation of my delegation at all times in an effort to make this meeting a success.

Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS: UNITED KINGDOM, MR A. WATTS

Mr Chairman, I should like, first, to join all previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as our Chairman, and Mrs Spencer on her election as Secretary General of this Meeting.

Through you, Mr Chairman, I should also like to thank the Government of Australia for having arranged this Meeting in Canberra and for having welcomed us all so warmly - and in particular for having honoured us with the presence at this morning's opening session of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden.

At the beginning of this historic Meeting I should like to join all other Speakers in extending a warm welcome to India and Brazil as Consultative Parties, attending a Meeting of this kind for the first time. My country has been fortunate in having already cooperated with both India and Brazil in their preparations for and conduct of their Antarctic activities, and we look forward to continuing this cooperation within the framework of these Consultative Meetings.

I should also like to welcome the observers who are, also for the first time, attending a Consultative Meeting. My Delegation firmly believes that the presence here of observers from States which have acceded to the Antarctic Treaty will greatly benefit our deliberations, and we look forward to the contribution which the presence of observer delegations will make to the success of this Meeting.

As to the work before us at this Meeting, we have a full agenda, mostly involving technical matters which fairly represent the Antarctic business with which the Consultative Parties concern themselves. But although they may be



categorised as "technical", I do not wish to imply that they are not important. They are important. Of the ten substantive items on our agenda, the United Kingdom has already submitted papers on six of them. We hope in this way to have contributed to the tasks before us.

Mr Chairman, while we are of course aware of outside influences which at this time bear on the future of the Antarctic Treaty system, we believe that the best demonstration of the value and strength of that system will be found in the effective way in which we conduct our regular business at this Meeting. It is with that thought in particular in mind that we look forward to working constructively with all our colleagues in this room, to give this Meeting the successful conclusion which it is in all of our interests it should have - and which we are confident that, under your guidance, it will have.

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

Mr Chairman,

My delegation would like to join in extending to you our congratulations on your election to preside over the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. We also congratulate Ms Spencer on her election as our Secretary General. I know, Mr Chairman, that your wisdom and experience, as well as your patience and good humour will serve us well as we undertake the important work of this meeting.

Let me extend through you, Mr Chairman, the appreciation of the United States delegation to the distinguished Foreign Minister, Mr Bill Hayden, for his words of welcome. The Government of Australia, which has contributed so much to the Antarctic Treaty system, has once again provided the facilities and hospitality as well as the energy and foresight which are the essential ingredients for a successful meeting. We are indeed delighted to be back in this beautiful capital - back among good friends - old ones and new ones.

Mr Chairman, the two years which have elapsed since the last Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Buenos Aires have been very eventful ones. We have witnessed the extension and enrichment of international co-operation in Antarctica. This phenomenon has been demonstrated in the responsible and innovative response to the challenges posed by possible resource activities in Antarctica. Discussions of a regime for Antarctic mineral resources have been well launched. The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), and its Scientific Committee, have just completed their second annual meetings at the headquarters site in Hobart, Tasmania. The sessions in Hobart were from all perspectives highly

successful. They testify to the pragmatic and creative spirit in which the parties to the Antarctic Treaty have always addressed important issues.

The maturation of international co-operation in Antarctica has an immediate and concrete manifestation here at the opening of the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting: the presence of two new Consultative Parties - Brazil and India. Let me join with my colleagues in expressing the pleasure of my Government at the presence of these important nations at our meeting and in warmly welcoming their representatives to join our deliberations. Brazil and India have demonstrated their interest in Antarctica and we look forward to close and productive collaboration with them in Antarctic matters.

It is not only with Brazil and India that our number has increased. The presence of observer delegations from acceding parties to the Antarctic Treaty is another concrete example of international co-operation regarding Antarctica. Let me also, therefore, extend a warm welcome to these delegations. We anticipate fruitful contact and collaboration with them. Mr Chairman, my delegation has on a number of occasions pointed to what we believe to be one of the great strengths of the Antarctic Treaty system - its resiliency and capacity to evolve to meet new problems and new circumstances. As I look around this hall and see the nations here assembled - representing a political, economic and geographic cross-section of our planet - I believe it fair to say that we have testimony to this capacity.

This is not a time, however, to dwell upon the achievements - outstanding though they are - of the Antarctic Treaty system. New issues face us and there is growing interest in Antarctica. We welcome the challenges posed by these issues

and interest, though I would note that we will continue to oppose attempts to misrepresent the Antarctic Treaty system and to seek its modification or replacement.

We welcome the challenges facing us, Mr Chairman, because they offer the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to maintenance of Antarctica as a special place: not an exclusive place, not a closed place - but a special place.

Antarctica is a special place from the environmental perspective. The protection of the physical and biological environment of Antarctica has been and remains one of our highest priorities.

Antarctica is a special place from the scientific point of view. It is special in the open and effective co-operation which takes place there in scientific investigation of one of the last great frontiers of the planet.

Antarctica is a special place from the political perspective. It is a place in which a country like mine - which neither asserts nor recognises claims to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica - can without prejudice to that position work together in effective and practical fashion with other nations, including those not sharing that position. Even more, Antarctica is a special place in that it is an area of peace and international co-operation which is truly unique in the contemporary world. This special political place - established by the Antarctic Treaty - is reflective of the highest principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter.

Antarctica, as a special place, has generated a special spirit in dealing effectively and co-operatively with important issues. It is in this spirit that we approach the important items on our agenda and we look forward to getting down to the business at hand.

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

Mr Chairman,

I would like firstly to congratulate you, on behalf of the Soviet delegation, on your election as Chairman of the Twelfth Consultative Meeting.

I would like to express my satisfaction with the participation in this meeting of the delegations of India and Brazil, which yesterday became new Consultative Parties. The considerable contribution of these States to scientific activities in the Antarctic is well known. We look forward with interest to the opening of permanently functioning stations in the Antarctic by these nations, as this will enable them to further widen their activities in the Antarctic and will give these activities a permanent nature. We hope that new Consultative Parties will participate as productively in the search for solutions which are acceptable to all to the important and complex problems discussed at Consultative Meetings.

We also welcome observers from a number of Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, whose presence in this hall testifies to the growing world interest in the sixth continent and to the important place which the 1959 Treaty holds in contemporary international relations.

As is known, the circumstances surrounding the Treaty at present are by no means uncomplicated. There exist in the world particular forces which are making active attempts to review and replace the whole Antarctic Treaty System. The attitude of the Soviet Union to actions of this kind is well known not only to the delegates present here.

In attaching great significance to the 1959 Treaty as an important international document oriented towards the upholding of international peace and security, the Soviet Union feels that the international legal system generated by the Treaty in Antarctica has proved to be successful and effective in the extreme.

In accordance with the Treaty, a vast area of the earth is completely excluded from the field of military preparations of any type, including nuclear testing, and is confirmed as an area of peaceful research and scientific cooperation for all interested States.

The Treaty is open to accession by any State which shares its objectives and principles. The system it has created is constantly evolving and improving. The accession to it of new States is proof of this fact. The Soviet Union feels that in order for the Treaty System to be strengthened, creating a situation in which it will increasingly serve the interests of all humanity, what is necessary is not the review or undermining of the Treaty, which would be fraught with the creation of conflicts in the Antarctic, but, on the contrary, the accession to it of all new States which manifest an interest in the Antarctic. A prime example has been set in this regard by India and Brazil.

In this Consultative Meeting, as in previous ones, we are faced with numerous, and at times highly complex problems connected with the growth of cooperation in the study and development of the Antarctic. I would like to express the hope that this regular Meeting will deal with these matters successfully, as has been, to a significant degree, the exemplary tradition in our meetings. For its own part, the Soviet delegation is prepared to contribute fully to this process.

Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS: CHINA, MR. SIMA JUN

Mr President,

We are very glad to have the opportunity of participating in the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. This is the first time for the People's Republic of China to take part in the activities of the Antarctic Treaty System after its accession to the Treaty. I would like to extend, on behalf of the Chinese Delegation, our congratulations on the convening of the Meeting and also our thanks to the host - the Australian Government for all the facilities it has provided for the Meeting.

Mr President,

The Antarctic Treaty is an important and open treaty which has made legal arrangements concerning Antarctica. More than 20 years have passed since the conclusion of the Treaty. During this period of time, great changes have taken place. The increasing discoveries of the rich natural resources in Antarctica, and particularly its unique geographical location and environment, have brought more and more people to realize and pay attention to the inestimable value of scientific surveys in Antarctica. Now Antarctic surveys have increased unprecedentedly both in scope and in depth. Many problems that may crop up in the scientific surveys and other activities will involve the related provisions of the Treaty. In our view, the principles enshrined in the Treaty, such as peaceful uses of Antarctica, prohibition of any nuclear explosions in Antarctica and disposal there of radioactive waste material, prohibition of any measures of a military nature and promotion of international co-operation in scientific investigation in Antarctica remain important principles which should be observed by all Contracting States. The implementation of these principles is conducive to

promotion of scientific investigation and international co-operation in Antarctica, conservation of the Antarctic natural environment and preservation of peace in the Treaty area. The Chinese Government is ready, together with other Contracting States, to make positive contributions in continuing to give full play to the positive role of the Treaty, promoting international co-operation in scientific investigation in Antarctica, protecting the natural environment of the Treaty area and ensuring the use of Antarctica for peaceful purposes in the interest of all mankind.

China attaches great importance to scientific investigation in Antarctica. In recent years, Chinese scientists have participated in a number of Antarctic expeditions and scored initial achievements. In May 1981, the Chinese Government decided to establish the National Committee for Antarctic Research of the People's Republic of China which provides unified leadership for our Antarctic exploration efforts. Last May, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress adopted the decision to accede to the Antarctic Treaty. All this will give great impetus to China's scientific activities in Antarctica in the future. At present, the Chinese National Committee for Antarctic Research is mapping out a programme for scientific investigation in Antarctica and the surrounding waters, so as to further promote our work in this area.

Here I wish to mention in particular that in our scientific activities in Antarctica, we have all along received generous assistance and support from friendly countries.

In 1980, at the invitation of the Australian Government, China for the first time sent two scientists to join the Australian National Antarctic expedition team. Since then 19 Chinese scientists have taken part in a total of 24 Antarctic expeditions of Australia, New Zealand, Chile and Argentina.



They conducted research on eight subjects, namely, meteorology, glaciology, geology and geomorphology, geochemistry, physical oceanography, marine biology, marine geophysics and architecture. Now over 40 scientific treatises have been accomplished, which will be included in A Collection of Treatises from Antarctic Scientific Exploration to be published in the near future. We have also sent study groups to Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Chile, Argentina and United Kingdom. They were pleased with the results achieved in the exchange of experiences and of exploring ways to strengthen co-operation in scientific investigation in Antarctica.

I would like to take this opportunity to express, on behalf of the Chinese Government, our heartfelt thanks to the Governments, Authorities of Antarctic Affairs and scientists of the abovementioned countries.

I would like to add that China participated in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth SCAR meetings as an observer and is considering applying for membership of this Committee.

Mr President, Fellow Representatives,

Antarctic research is still at its initial stage in China and we lack experience. We want to learn from the friendly countries which have carried out scientific investigation in Antarctica, increase friendly exchanges and carry out co-operation in investigation. We are ready to make concerted efforts with other Contracting States to bring about a speedy development of scientific investigation in Antarctica to the benefit of all mankind.

Thank you, Mr President.

OPENING ADDRESS: DENMARK, MR. NIELS MIKKELSEN

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of the Danish Government I wish - through you - to thank you for the invitation to participate as an observer in this Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting.

My Government appreciates this opportunity to follow the work of the Consultative Meeting more closely.

Denmark has been a member of the Antarctic Treaty since 1965 and has a considerable interest in polar questions. I therefore hope that it will be possible for my country to participate also in future Consultative Meetings as well as in other Meetings of the Consultative Parties where important issues are taken up for deliberation.

OPENING ADDRESS: GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, MR. G. SPITZL

The Government of the German Democratic Republic welcomes the opportunity of participating as an observer at this meeting and wishes it success. The attitude of the German Democratic Republic to the Antarctic Treaty is determined by its membership to the Treaty, its active contribution to basic scientific research in the south polar region, lasting for decades, and its fundamental interest in the continuing preservation of peace, security and peaceful co-operation of states in Antarctica for the benefit of all mankind.

Scientists of the German Democratic Republic have been continuously participating in basic scientific research in the Sixth continent for more than 20 years. In accordance with the Antarctic Treaty the results of the scientific research have been made internationally accessible by the Academy of Science of the German Democratic Republic for the benefit of all interested states.

The German Democratic Republic is especially concerned that the south polar region, which is demilitarised and free of nuclear weapons by the Antarctic Treaty, remains a continent of peace and international co-operation, to which the freezing of territorial claims also contributes.

After more than two decades it is established that through the Treaty, (open for accession by all interested States, and covering the area south of 60° latitude), thanks in particular to the efforts of the Consultative Parties, peaceful research is carried out undisturbed by States with varying social systems.

In view of the alarming state of international relations it is obvious that any revision of the Antarctic Treaty would involve serious risks. The German Democratic Republic is firmly convinced that, not the revision of this Treaty, but the accession of other states interested in Antarctica, furthers the strengthening and developing of the co-operation of states enjoying equal rights in the exploration and utilisation of Antarctica for exclusively peaceful purposes.

Oskar Fischer  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
German Democratic Republic

OPENING ADDRESS: ITALY, DR. R. VENCHIARUTTI

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of the Italian Government, I wish to express our sincere thanks for being invited to the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in the capacity of Observer.

Italy places great importance and therefore takes much interest in the scientific research activities carried out in the Antarctic.

The Italian Government has always attached a great importance to the Treaty and recognises its specific role in promoting international co-operation in the scientific field, protecting the natural environment of the area and guaranteeing the use of Antarctic in the interest of all of mankind. I have the pleasure to inform you that a Government Bill has already been drafted and will be presented in the near future to the National Parliament for the necessary enactment.

Through the approval of the Bill, funds would be made available in order to allow the funding of an Italian expedition to carry out substantial scientific research activities in the Antarctic.

In regard to the scientific program which would be carried out, the following sectors of fundamental and important research have been specified: geological, geophysical, meteorological and biological.

In a second phase, more specialized sectors will be examined, such as: upper atmosphere physics, human biology, medicine and glaciology.

OPENING ADDRESS: NETHERLANDS, MR. A. BOS

As representative of the Netherlands Government I should first of all like to say how grateful I am for the fact that the Netherlands has been invited as an acceding party to the Antarctic Treaty to attend this meeting of the Consultative States.

The fact that the Netherlands acceded to the Antarctic Treaty in 1967 is ample evidence of the importance which the Netherlands attaches to developments in Antarctica.

I should like to mention in this connection the Dutch participation in the Belgian expedition in the observation program in the Antarctic area during 1963/64, 1964/65 and 1965/66.

This interest in the scientific research relating to the Antarctic continent has remained undermined over the years.

The question has recently be posed as to whether the Netherlands should not take a more active part than in the past in the activities in this area and has now become subject of deliberation.

The establishment of the Treaty was regarded at the time in the Netherlands as an important milestone in the field of international scientific cooperation.

The cooperation which has taken place as a result of the treaty has never disappointed us in the slightest.

The fruits of this scientific cooperation have in many respects enriched our knowledge of the properties of the earth and of the natural environment.

The Netherlands Government considers that the permanent demilitarisation of the area is as equally important as the promotion and freedom to carry out scientific research.

Even more important than this demilitarisation of the Antarctic is the fact that at the time twelve sovereign States were prepared not only to include this provision in a treaty but also to accept far reaching provisions concerning inspection to which each of the Treaty parties and its nationals are subject.

The Netherlands regards this as a modest step on the path towards effective international disarmament.

Needless to say, the freezing of territorial claims and the exclusion of the possibility of occupation or the establishment of new claims have made a considerable contribution to maintaining the peace in that part of the world.

I am well aware that I have been outlining my government's views and policies, whereas your agenda deals with the more technical aspects of the results of 22 years cooperation.

I nevertheless do not feel that I am out of order in discussing these matters as it is clear to the Netherlands that the achievements of the Treaty, the international cooperation, the demilitarisation, and the conservation of the eco-system, will have to be safeguarded. It is these elements in particular which are of importance to the international community.

We are aware that the world as a whole is looking with special interest at the Antarctic regime. This is borne out by the fact that Antarctica has been put on the agenda of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

I believe that the Consultative Parties were correct in arranging for the decision-making regarding Antarctica to take place in greater openness.

Against this background we appreciate the invitation issued to the acceding parties to be present here as observers. We would welcome it if the acceding parties were to continue to be involved in the deliberations of the Consultative Parties.

We are aware however that other countries besides those which are already parties to the treaty, would also like to be involved.

This is undoubtedly partly explained by the fact that the common heritage principle has been implemented in the Convention on the Law of the Sea, especially since the exploration and exploitation of the mineral resources of the Antarctic have become a topic of debate.

We are convinced that extreme care must be taken in entering upon this new phase of cooperation in Antarctica.

It will be necessary to ensure that existing benefits are preserved and at the same time to take account of the need for raw materials both now and in future generations.

All this underlines the need to avoid hasty decision-making. Confrontation must be avoided.

Joint efforts will have to be made to ascertain how the cooperation in Antarctica should be continued in a manner which continues to be acceptable to the international community as a whole.



OPENING ADDRESS; PERU, H.E. AMBASSADOR JOSE F. TORRES MUGA

Mr Chairman,  
Madam Secretary General,  
Delegates and Representatives,

I should first of all like to join in congratulating Ambassador Rowland on his election as Chairman of this Meeting and also Mrs Spencer, on her appointment as Secretary General. I should also like to express our gratitude to the host country, Australia, for its decisive co-operation and for the facilities it has made available, and would like to put emphasis on the participation of Brazil and of India as Consultative Parties, who will, no doubt, make an intelligent and valid contribution.

Mr Chairman,

It is with great pleasure that Peru accepted the recommendation proposed by the Consultative Parties in Canberra in April this year, relating to the participation of Contracting Parties to the Washington Treaty, and it is with great satisfaction that my Government attends, for the first time, this kind of Meeting.

Peru's interest in Antarctica, Mr Chairman, goes back well before its accession to the Treaty, on 10 April, 1981, a fact which is highlighted by the legal provisions referring to the area, which are included in our own Constitution. I could also mention the Antarctic expeditions which left the Vice Royalty of Peru during the period when Peru was under Spanish domination. With regard to geographic factors, it should be noted that the Pacific coast of Peru, a country of the Southern Hemisphere, faces the Antarctic continent. There are also other

aspects which are known to link Peru with the Antarctic, such as the influence that the latter exercises on its climate, biology and ecosystem. It is well known that the Peruvian or Humboldt Current originates in Antarctica.

On the other hand, Mr Chairman, Peru, without prejudicing its rights, is in favour of keeping in force an international regime for cooperation in Antarctica, in order to ensure the protection of its fragile environment and to ensure the conservation and fair and rational use of its renewable and non-renewable resources for the benefit of mankind. These criteria were also taken into consideration when Peru acceded to the Treaty, and, within this context, we welcome the Recommendations made in the Consultative Meetings, insofar as they serve to safeguard the environment, guarantee the conservation of the flora and fauna and non-living resources of Antarctica and facilitate international cooperation.

Mr Chairman:

In accordance with its conservationist policy, Peru also welcomes the Conventions which have been adopted, in the framework of the Treaty, relative to the rational exploitation of Antarctic seals and Antarctic marine living resources, and which came into force in 1978 and 1982 respectively. On the other hand, we are following with special interest the development of negotiations initiated by the Consultative Parties in Wellington in June, 1982, with a view to establishing a legal regime for the exploration and exploitation of Antarctic mineral resources. We feel that the regime to be established should take into account all possible measures for ensuring the protection of the environment, species living in Antarctica and adjoining areas, as well as the interests of mining countries like Peru.

I should also like to stress, Mr Chairman, Peru's full support of those provisions of the Treaty which prohibit all form of nuclear testing, or the storing or disposal of radioactive waste in Antarctica. In accordance with its pacifist and political objectives and its wish to conserve and safeguard the environment, Peru is also opposed to any military activity in the Antarctic.

Another point which Peru would like to make concerns the desirability of granting acceding countries the greatest possible access to information on Antarctica obtained by Consultative Parties on issues such as meteorology, oceanography, ecological conservation, geology, geophysics, biology, glaciology, seismology, atmospheric physics, BIOMASS and other scientific disciplines, and also telecommunications, cartography, transport, tourism and other subjects related to this Continent.

Mr Chairman, I have been called upon to convey to this meeting the appreciation of Peru for all the invitations it has received which have permitted scientists from my country to visit Antarctica and, in this respect, I should like to mention Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile and the United States. We consider it to be of the greatest importance that such invitations continue in favour of those countries which find themselves in the process of organising their respective Antarctic expeditions, and who, like Peru, are interested in carrying out research and establishing stations on the Continent.

Mr Chairman:

The meeting which begins today represents a landmark; the Antarctic forum has been enlarged by the presence of Representatives from the acceding Parties. In support of a more active participation of these Members, Peru should like to make

a few proposals, some of which may have already been made at earlier meetings. In this respect, it would be of great value if a comprehensive document on the evolution of the Antarctic System were to be published, which would record, inter alia, resolutions passed and mechanisms established within the framework of the Treaty, indicate the measures adopted to comply with these resolutions, and record the purpose and objectives that have been set forth in it.

This study could include information on the relationship that the Antarctic forum maintains with various international organisations and the support it receives from them and institutions such as the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Scientific Committee for Oceanographic Research (SCOR), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and other entities. The proposed work could, furthermore, contain information about the results of research conducted by the Consultative Parties in Antarctica and mention research currently in progress. After its publication, the work would be sent to the Secretary General of the United Nations and would be available to countries, international organisations and institutions interested in Antarctica, and whose contributions might also be included in this work.

We should also like to propose that an Information and Documentation Centre be established, and also that an International Seminar on Antarctica be held with representatives (officials, scientists, academics) from the Consultative and acceding countries, so that the latter could receive information from the former on the varied range of Antarctic problems, outside the formal framework of the Consultative Meeting. Proposals could also be made by the members, in accordance with a mutually agreed theme. Spoken and written statements would not necessarily reflect the official viewpoints of the participating countries.

Mr Chairman:

Despite economic and financial difficulties which are also affecting other countries, Peru will continue its efforts to develop its interest in Antarctica and to obtain consultative status in due course. Any assistance that we may receive to help us achieve this aim is, therefore, of the greatest importance.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS: ROMANIA, MR D. CHRISTACHE

On behalf of the Romanian Delegation I thank you very much for the invitation to Romania to participate in the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. On this occasion allow me to congratulate the Australian Government which organised the Meeting in this beautiful place, Canberra. Also, allow me to congratulate Mr Chairman for his election.

Mr Chairman, my country attributes great importance to the fact that the Antarctic Treaty makes Antarctica a zone of peace and collaboration for all countries, irrespective of their political system, in the field of scientific research, the protection of the environment and demilitarisation.

Romania has great interest in the report of scientific activities conducted in Antarctica by the Consultative Parties. It is Romania's belief that invitations to future Antarctic Treaty Meetings should be extended to all the countries which have an interest in international cooperation in this region.

Mr Chairman we wish every success to all participants to the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS: SPAIN,  
H.E. AMBASSADOR DON FRANCISCO UTRAY SARDA

Mr Chairman, Delegates, Observers,

As Head of Delegation of a Member Country attending these prestigious Antarctic Treaty Meetings for the first time as an observer, permit me, Mr Chairman, to extend to the Australian authorities our sincere thanks for the invitation they have made to us in their capacity of host country. We are equally grateful for the splendid welcome and attention we have received in this delightful capital of the Commonwealth of Australia.

I should also like to thank Mr Hayden and the Delegates of the Consultative Parties for the warm welcome they have extended to the Spanish Delegation and to congratulate you, Mr Chairman, on being elected to conduct these sessions, which, we hope, will prove very successful. I should like to congratulate, in particular, Brazil and India for having achieved Consultative status.

However, I do not wish to delay any longer the commencement of our discussions, which are what really matter, and so I shall limit myself to making the following points:

1. Spain's interest in the Antarctic System is being manifested by its presence, for the first time, as an observer, at the Twelfth Consultative Meeting.
2. Spain recognises the great importance of maintaining the principal aims of the Antarctic Treaty System, and in particular, the importance of maintaining it as a denuclearised zone, as a zone for peaceful purposes only, and of preserving its ecosystem.

3. Finally, my country, which carried out its first reconnaissance expedition in March of this year, is seriously considering planning and increasing scientific activities in Antarctica in the future, in accordance with its desire to obtain the status of Consultative Party.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.



OPENING ADDRESS; URUGUAY, MR. HUGO FERREIRA

Mr Chairman, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish firstly to extend the congratulations of our Delegation to you, Mr Chairman and to Madam Secretary General on your election. We wish them every success in the fulfilment of their duties.

For the Delegation of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, over which I preside in my capacity as President of the Uruguayan Antarctic Institute, this meeting represents a very significant historic event. Its significance resides in the fact that, at this meeting, the full members of the Antarctic Treaty have allowed in their midst those countries which have also shown sufficient faith in the Treaty to support it. In acceding to the Treaty they have taken on duties and obligations in pursuit of a common ideal.

Our geographic location has made us dependent on the Antarctic to such an extent that any disruption of its balanced system, its climate, currents, food or environment will directly influence our ecological system.

This has made us sensitive to those events which take place in this kind of meeting since they not only govern the Antarctic issues but also the conduct of the member countries of the Treaty. It has surely not escaped your attention that the Port of Montevideo to this day not only represents an obligatory stop-over on the Atlantic, and for many countries, represents a safe port to shelter expeditions; it also witnessed, years ago, the creation of the first rescue expedition mounted for the crew members of Sir Ernest Shackleton's team. On 8 June 1916, the ship B-1 of the Uruguayan fleet left for Elephant Island to rescue the heroic explorer. This venture was only dropped after

Shackleton himself opposed it, and a Memorandum of Action to this effect was issued a few miles off the island. The rescue was successfully completed in the end by the Chilean ship Yelcho under Pilot Pardo.

Finally, I wish to state that the Oriental Republic of Uruguay should like to congratulate the Federative Republic of Brazil and India on having acquired the status of full members. It repeats its firm support of the principles upheld by the Treaty and shows its appreciation of the far-sightedness of those countries which supported the participation of acceding countries in the capacity of observers in this Consultative Meeting. It further wishes to thank Australia for having extended its hospitality to all of us. I should like to publicly express our appreciation of those friendly countries which, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, have generously supported us during the last few years and who, by sending our scientists and specialists on several expeditions, have allowed them to participate in the first Antarctic activities.

Thank you very much.

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR A SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC  
INTEREST NO. 9 SOUTH BAY, DOUMER ISLAND  
PALMER ARCHIPELAGO  
MANAGEMENT PLAN

(i) Description of Site

The site consists of a small area of coastal and subtidal benthos down to 45m depth as follows: Latitude  $64^{\circ} 51' 42''$  S. to the North, between Longitudes  $63^{\circ} 34' 00''$  W and  $63^{\circ} 35' 20''$  W; and to the South by a diagonal line that starts at a point 100 meters north of the Refuge on the southern shore of South Bay to  $64^{\circ} 51' 58''$  S,  $63^{\circ} 34' 00''$  W. Boundaries are shown on the attached map.

(ii) Reason for Designation

This site is subject of a long-term research program on ecology and the purpose of designating it is, as far as possible, to reduce the risk of accidental interference which could jeopardize these scientific investigations.

(iii) Outline of Research

The study of the relationships among marine organisms started by scuba diving in this area in 1972. Since 1981 advanced type experiments to understand community structure and functioning are under way, and will continue in the future. These require the avoidance, as much as possible, of artificial interference.

(iv) Date of expiry of designation

June 1988

(v) Access points

There is no restriction on the passage of vessels into, in and through the Site.

(vi) Pedestrian and vehicular routes

Pedestrians and vehicles should, as far as is feasible, keep out of the Site.

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

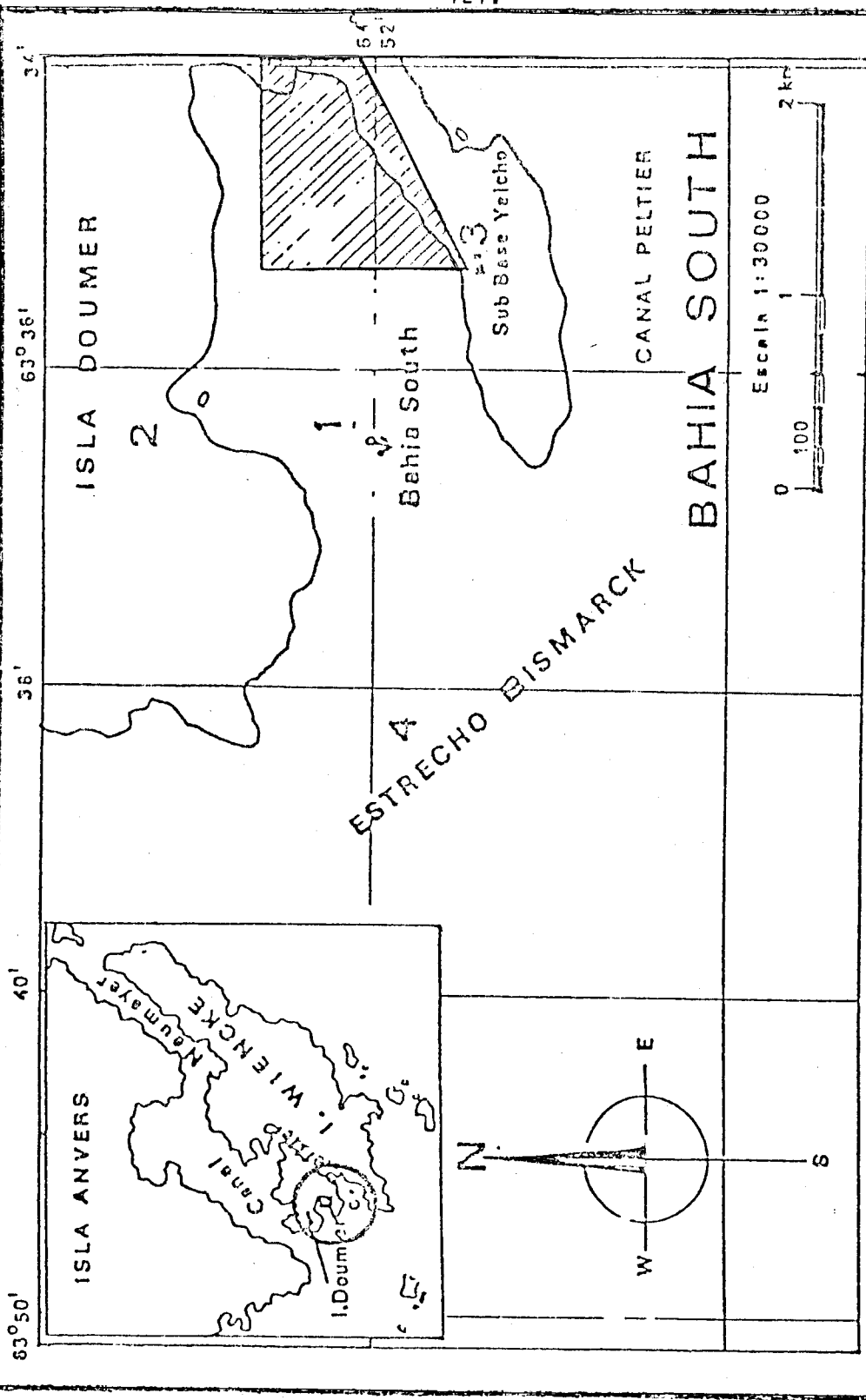
Any scientific research that requires collection of organisms should be avoided. Observations by scuba diving would not cause significant interference.

(viii) Scientific sampling

Collection of samples only for compelling scientific purposes.

(ix) Other restraints

The dumping of waste from ships and bottom trawling should be avoided. Anchoring should be avoided unless under compelling circumstances.



1. Bahia South.
2. Isla Doumer
- South Bay
- Doumer Island

STATEMENT OF NON-CONSULTATIVE PARTIES

The delegations of the non-Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty having been present at the Twelfth Consultative Meeting express appreciation to the Government of Australia and to the other Consultative Parties at having been invited to this Meeting.

Our presence reflects the interest of our Governments in the development of the Antarctic system and our willingness to contribute to the maintenance and the further development of the principles and objectives of the Antarctic Treaty.

We all recognise the achievements of the Treaty, for example with regard to co-operation in the field of scientific research, the protection of the environment, and demilitarisation. We have noted with satisfaction the recognition by the Consultative Parties of the difference in position between the non-Consultative Party and observers.

We have noted, furthermore, with satisfaction that the Consultative Parties are receptive to a more meaningful and substantive participation of non-Consultative Parties, which would undoubtedly contribute to strengthening the system. Likewise the delegations of the non-Consultative Parties fully endorse statements of Consultative Parties which have been made during the Twelfth Consultative Meeting regarding the importance of the availability of information to the non-Consultative Parties so as to facilitate their participation in the various Antarctic meetings.

We believe that the participation of non-Consultative Parties in the various activities of the Antarctic system is important for the strengthening of the system and for the contribution thereto by the non-Consultative States.

We request that this statement be attached to the Final Report of the Twelfth Consultative Meeting.

CANBERRA, SEPTEMBER 27, 1983.

## ANNEX D

MESSAGE FROM THE TWELFTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING  
TO STATIONS IN ANTARCTICA

Representatives of the sixteen Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties have just completed two weeks of discussion at the Twelfth Consultative Meeting, held in Canberra and hosted by the Government of Australia.

Two new Consultative Parties, Brazil and India, were accepted at a Special Consultative Meeting held in Canberra before the opening of the Twelfth 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 Antarctic winter draws to a close, all delegations participating in the Twelfth 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.



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