



SANTIAGO DE CHILE

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DRAFT RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM
AND THE UNITED STATES
AGENDA ITEM N°10

November 12, 1966

INTERIM GUIDE LINES FOR THE REGULATION OF ANTARCTIC
PELAGIC SEALING

Recognizing that the seal stocks of the sea in the Treaty Area are a fishery resource of potential value;

Recognizing that this resource should not be needlessly depleted by over-exploitation, and hence that any harvesting should be regulated at or below the level of the maximum sustainable yield;

Recognizing that in order to improve scientific knowledge and so place exploitation on a more rational basis, every effort should be made both to encourage biological research on these seal populations and to gain information from the statistics of sealing operations;

Desiring within the framework of the Antarctic Treaty to promote and achieve the objectives of protection, scientific study and rational use of Antarctic seals;

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that in implementing Recommendation III - XI each Government should voluntarily take account of the following Interim Guide Lines for the Regulation of Antarctic Pelagic Sealing:

1. The total number of seals of each species taken in the Treaty Area should not exceed the maximum sustainable yield of that species in the Treaty Area;

2. The maximum sustainable yield of each species in the Treaty Area should be regarded as the number of each species specified in Annex A;

3. If the number of seals taken in any locality in any year is such as to disturb the natural ecological system in that locality, no seals should be taken therein until the balance of that system has been restored and in any case until one year has elapsed;

4. When it appears to any Consultative Party that the harvest of any species of seal in the Treaty Area is approaching the maximum sustainable yield therein, or in any locality is disturbing the ecological system therein, that party may propose through diplomatic channels that a Consultative Meeting be convened under Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty. If all Consultative Parties so agree, such a Meeting shall be convened as soon as possible to consider the situation and the steps it may be necessary to take;

5. Governments should take appropriate action in accordance with these Interim Guide Lines, permits being one possibility;

6. A seal may not be killed or taken when it is in the water;

7. The Ross Seal, (Ommatophoca rossi), should not be killed or taken except for scientific purposes;

8. For the purposes of these Interim Guide Lines, the Treaty Area should be divided into the zones set out in Annex B. In the period from 1 July to 30 June following the establishment of zones, and thereafter in alternate years, the killing and taking of seals should be permitted only in the zones listed in Part I of Annex B. In other years killing and taking of seals should be permitted only in the zones listed in Part II of Annex B;

9. Each Government should provide the other Contracting Governments before 31 October of each year with the following information relating to the preceding period of 1 July to 30 June;

(a) the number of each species killed each day;

(b) the number of adult males, of adult females, of pregnant females, and of pups killed; and

(c) the location of the vessel and date when those seals were taken;

10. At the same time each Government should provide to the Contracting Governments information on steps it has taken on the implementation of these Interim Guide Lines.

ANNEX A

MAXIMUM SUSTAINABLE YIELD

ANNEX B

SEALING ZONES