Dear WG-SAM participant,

The 2019 meeting of the Working Group on Statistics, Assessments and Modelling (WG-SAM) is to be held in Concarneau (France) from Monday 17 to Friday 21 June 2019.

We have reviewed the recommendations from the Scientific Committee and developed an agenda based on the workplan and newly requested topics (SC-CAMLR-XXXVI/BG/40, SC-CAMLR-XXXVII) noting the Commission agreement on the review of research proposals by WG-SAM and WG-FSA (CCAMLR-XXXVII, paragraph 5.30).

These include topics such as further development and implementation of CASAL2, the progression of krill management methods, addressing outcomes of the independent stock assessment review and the transition from local biomass estimates to the stock assessments for areas currently under research plans.

These items, in addition to research plan review, could overwhelm the time available for the meeting. Therefore, the time allocated to discussions on these topics will be divided by topic to ensure progress on high-priority topics based on WG-SAM's terms of reference (SC-CAMLR-XXXVII, paragraph 13.6).

If you are planning to submit work outside the scope of the <u>agenda</u>, we encourage you, through your Scientific Committee Representative, to contact us to suggest an agenda item be included. Papers submitted to the meeting outside of the proposed agenda items will be included under 'Other business' and will receive lower priority. It is possible that there will not be enough time at the meeting to consider them.

Please submit comments on the <u>draft annotated agenda</u> to <u>ccamlr@ccamlr.org</u>, <u>Steve.Parker@niwa.co.nz</u> and <u>clara.peron@mnhn.fr</u> by 30 April 2019. A revised draft agenda and annotated agenda will be circulated at the start of the meeting following your comments and the final submission of papers.

I also encourage all participants to register online as soon as possible. Please be aware that the deadline for submission of papers for consideration by WG-SAM-19 is 0900h Hobart time (Australian Eastern Standard Time) on 3 June 2019.

We look forward to seeing you all in Concarneau.

Sincerely

Steve Parker and Clara Péron, Co-conveners, WG-SAM