



# Antarctic Treaty

IXth CONSULTATIVE MEETING

PREPARATORY MEETING

ANT/EPM2/7

LONDON 26-29 JULY 1977

ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES  
(Informal Paper Submitted by the U.S. Delegation)

DRAFT ELEMENTS OF A CONSERVATION ARRANGEMENT

## Species Covered

1. The conservation arrangement would apply to all Antarctic marine living resources, except for species already subject to international efforts at regulation (whales and seals).

## Purposes

2. The purpose of the conservation arrangement would be to ensure that harvesting of Antarctic marine living resources takes place in accordance with sound conservation principles and practices, specifically:

- a. to prevent overexploitation of any Antarctic marine living resources;
- b. to ensure that harvesting of specific target species does not adversely affect the health of dependent or related species (including whales and seals);
- c. to ensure that harvesting of target species

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is conducted in accordance with maintenance of the integrity of the Antarctic marine ecosystem as a whole.

• Functions

3. In order to accomplish its purposes, the conservation arrangement would have to provide for:
  - a. Acquisition of basic scientific data on the nature, interrelationships and dynamics of the Antarctic marine ecosystem;
  - b. Acquisition of quantitative data on the standing stocks of Antarctic marine living resources and detailed data on the levels of any harvesting of such stocks;
  - c. Assessment of the status of the stocks of Antarctic marine living resources;
  - d. Identification of stocks to which conservation measures should be applied;
  - e. Development and implementation of specific conservation measures to achieve the purposes of the arrangement.

Mechanism

4. The functions of the conservation arrangement would be of a regular and continuing nature. Their performance would require an organization which would  
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provide for periodic meetings of the parties to the conservation arrangement to consider and develop conservation measures. The organization would need to include standing bodies:

- a. to collect, collate and distribute necessary basic scientific data (in cooperation with SCAR);
- b. to collect, collate and distribute quantitative data on standing stocks and catch data (in cooperation with FAO)
- c. to assess and review the status of stocks of Antarctic marine living resources (in cooperation with SCAR and FAO);
- d. to prepare for the periodic meetings of the parties to the conservation arrangement;
- e. to monitor the effectiveness of conservation measures;
- f. to coordinate the activities of the conservation arrangement with the activities of the International Whaling Commission and with activities pursuant to the Convention for the conservation of Antarctic seals (once in force).