

TRATADO ANTARCTICO
REUNION CONSULTIVA ESPECIAL



ANTARCTIC TREATY
SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING

ДОГОВОР ОБ АНТАРКТИКЕ
СПЕЦИАЛЬНОЕ КОНСУЛЬТАТИВНОЕ СОВЕЩАНИЕ

TRAITÉ SUR L'ANTARCTIQUE
REUNION CONSULTATIVE SPECIALE

BUENOS AIRES

WP/29

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Original: French

FRENCH STATEMENT REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF THE
KERGUELEN AND CROZET ARCHIPELAGOS

During the course of our debates in Buenos Aires we have not wanted to add to the difficulties that confronted us by going too extensively into our concern with the particular problem of our archipelagos, the Kerguelen and the Crozet.

However, we hope our stand in this matter, which was already the object of a statement in Canberra and which we again stated here, has been clearly understood by the other Consultative Parties, to which end we shall give a brief outline, as follows:

1. The French Government means to remain solely responsible for the conservation measures and management of the living resources in the economic area of the Kerguelen and Crozet archipelagos. That is the reason why it has requested that the text of the Convention shall contain provisions which will give it complete assurance on this count, either by adopting a sufficiently explicit general article relating to the sovereign rights of coastal States (draft amendment to Article 21 submitted by France in Buenos Aires), or by adopting an article dealing expressly with the case of the Kerguelen and Crozet archipelagos, which may have the advantage of avoiding additional drafting difficulties in the content of Articles 4 and 21 of the Chairman's text.

2. From this standpoint, scientific cooperation, would be extended to the waters of the Kerguelen and Crozet archipelagos included in the area of the Convention but the conservation measures adopted by the Commission would not apply.

It goes without saying that France would seek to harmonize the conservation measures it intends to take in its own waters with those that the Commission proposes to adopt in adjacent waters.

3. If, owing to reasons specifically concerned with the Antarctic, it should not appear possible to agree on the wording of a text of the Convention that meets the French government's requirements, we would then request an amendment to Article 1, paragraph 4, of the Chairman's draft, which would lead to a modification of the boundaries of the area of the Convention, in such a way as to leave the Kerguelen and Crozet archipelagos outside this area.

At the present stage of our deliberations, we think it premature to submit such an amendment. We merely wanted to recall the two terms of this alternative, in view of our stand on a matter of principle from which France does not consider it can depart.