

Chile's Final Statement

1. The delegation of Chile is of the opinion that the pelagic interim measures approved in Reñaca in 2007 were not fully complied with. My delegation is particularly concerned by some recent increases in registered gross tonnage which do not appear to comply with the letter of those measures and are bound to exert additional pressure on pelagic resources in the Convention Area. Like another delegation and bearing in mind that these measures are voluntary and non binding, Chile also reserves its position with regard to its future capacity.
2. We have joined the consensus and adopted the text of the Convention on the conservation and management of high seas fishery resources in the South Pacific Ocean, in the understanding that it will contribute to the conservation of the fishery resources of the area and the protection of the marine ecosystem, which are now seriously threatened by overexploitation. Such is the case, in particular, of the straddling jack mackerel of the "*Trachurus*" genus, which is the main Chilean fishery and is today in a critical situation according to the scientific information available.
3. In our view the interim pelagic measures to be adopted are insufficient and do not ensure the conservation of jack mackerel in the South East Pacific. We agree to approve them in favour of the lesser wrong, as the alternative is to have no interim measures whatsoever to protect the pelagic resources of the area, particularly jack mackerel, which will continue to be vulnerable until proper conservation and management measures are adopted. We shall seek more appropriate measures after the stock assessment is conducted.
4. Following the advice of the Science Working Group, we have proposed, with considerable support, the incorporation of effective catch limits by State, as the only way to preserve the resource and prevent its overexploitation. They are needed and still pending.
5. Due to the insufficiency of these measures, we are bound to double our efforts to protect the jack mackerel fishery and continue to apply measures within our range of competence that aim at ensuring effective conservation until effective measures are in force. In this regard, Chile will continue applying its national legislation regarding access to port, in accordance with International Law.

Auckland, 14th November 2009.