



Statement by CHILE

Mr. Chair,

Chile concurs to the consensus approving the proposal made by the Chairman of the Jack Mackerel Working Group and the Chairman of the Commission, recognizing the spirit of cooperation that underpins the Convention. Chile states that its participation on the total allowable catch for 2015 has resulted in an important reduction of its previous allocated percentage of participation. This causes a particular harm to the fishing sector in Chile, in our capacity as a relevant coastal State.

Chile wants to express its concern for this current situation. My country is a coastal State with an unquestionable and unbreakable commitment to the future of this Organisation. We are a key player in the science that supports the management of the Jack Mackerel fishery and, as it is known by this Commission, we have committed important human and economic resources to undertake monitoring, control and surveillance activities in the Convention area. Chile does not speculate with the fishing quotas and it has carried out a significant effort resulting in that almost all the Jack Mackerel caught by our fleet is used for human consumption. Likewise, our country has come to this meeting with substantial proposals and the will of discussing and adopting conservation measures to strengthen the Organization in the long-term.

Having said the abovementioned and taking into consideration our concern regarding this year's result on the Jack Mackerel quota, we have to inform this Commission that next year, Chile will consider starting the discussions on allocation based on the total allowable catch for the Convention Area only, without the waters under our national jurisdiction, according to the right recognized in Article 20 number 4, letter (a) of the Convention. My delegation believes that throughout this meeting it has clearly stated its limits and we have undertaken a considerable effort that was not recognized.

In spite of this, Chile asserts once again our sincere and firm commitment of cooperation with this Organisation and with all the Members of the Commission as well as Cooperating Parties, for the long-term conservation of the marine resources of the South Pacific Ocean, as food reservoir of the world for present and future generations.

Thank you Mr. President.