Initiation of the review of the Management Plan for Antarctic Specially Protected Area No. 126 Byers Peninsula, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands

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**Information Paper submitted by the United Kingdom, Chile and Spain**

Summary

The United Kingdom, Chile and Spain have initiated a review of the Management Plan for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPA) No. 126 Byers Peninsula, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands. It is anticipated that the revised Management Plan will be submitted to CEP XXIV in 2022.

Background

ASPA No. 126 Byers Peninsula, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands, (latitude 62°34'35" S, longitude 61°13'07" W) was originally designated as Specially Protected Area (SPA) No. 10 through Recommendation IV-10 in 1966. Designation as an SPA was terminated through Recommendation VIII-2 and re-designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) was made through Recommendation VIII-4 (1975, SSSI No. 6). Following a proposal by Chile and the United Kingdom, the SSSI was subsequently extended through Recommendation XVI-5 (1991) to include boundaries similar to those of the original SPA through Recommendation XV-6 (1989, SSSI No. 31). The current version of the Management Plan was agreed through Measure 4 (2016). Spain became a co-managing Party, along with the United Kingdom and Chile, in 2016 (CEP XIX Final Report para. 120). The primary reason for the designation of Byers Peninsula, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands, as an Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) is to protect the terrestrial and lacustrine habitats within the Area.

***New developments***

The United Kingdom, Chile and Spain have initiated a review of the Management Plan for ASPA No. 126 Byers Peninsula, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands, in accordance with Annex V of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and the Revised Guide to the Preparation of Management Plans for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas appended to Resolution 2 (2011)*.* It is anticipated that the revised Management Plan will be submitted to CEP XXIV in 2022.