

TRATADO ANTARTICO
XII REUNION CONSULTIVA

TRAITE SUR L'ANTARCTIQUE
XII REUNION CONSULTATIVE



CANBERRA
13-27 SEPTEMBER
1983

ANTARCTIC TREATY
XII CONSULTATIVE MEETING

ДОГОВОР ОБ АНТАРКТИКЕ
XII КОНСУЛЬТАТИВНОЕ СОВЕЩАНИЕ

ANT/XII/15
15 September 1983
Original: Spanish

ITEM 5 : IMPROVEMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS
IN ANTARCTICA AND
DISTRIBUTION OF METEOROLOGICAL DATA:
TELECOMMUNICATIONS GROUP

(Document submitted by Argentina, Brazil and Chile)

The Representatives,

Recalling Recommendation X-3;

Having received with great pleasure and attention Volumes I and II of the Manual of the S.C.A.R. Logistics Group, which constitutes a technical effort deserving to be tested to assess its content and to be constantly updated in order to satisfy the ends to which it has been prepared;

Recognising that the Antarctic region and the Antarctic continent itself represent a vast area of the Southern Hemisphere generating meteorological phenomena that exert considerable influence over the climate of the remaining continents;

Bearing in mind that the number of meteorological stations existing in Antarctica are small in relation to the size of the region and, in many cases, are concentrated in certain areas having easy access by sea;

Considering that, consequently, there exists no rationally distributed network of meteorological data-receiving stations throughout the length and breadth of the whole continent to cover the need for information on the evolution of meteorological phenomena and their influence on the weather forecasts of the region and other areas of the Southern Hemisphere;

Recognising that an optimal distribution of stations constitutes a solution which is scarcely feasible and would, furthermore, represent high installation costs;

Taking into account, moreover, that the efficiency of existing networks, both for data collection and for the transmission of meteorological information from each station to the other bases, to vessels operating in the Southern Ocean and to aircraft

flying in the region, could be improved in the future, as it has been in the past and to-date, by incorporating the most advanced technology to this effect;

Having been informed that many of the climatic phenomena recorded in some stations are related only to "micro-climates" or local phenomena and bear no relation to the global meteorological phenomena of the region;

Accepting that every possible and necessary effort should be made to ensure an efficient and timely exchange of meteorological data in a reliable manner;

RECOMMEND to their Governments that:

1. They introduce bilateral and multilateral improvements to the operating conditions of respective telecommunications networks, to ensure the timely transmission of meteorological data to existing bases and stations in Antarctica, as well as to vessels and aircraft operating in the region.
2. They congratulate S.C.A.R. for the major work carried out on the SCARCOM "Antarctic Telecommunications Guidance Manual, Volumes I and II".
3. They adhere to the most reliable telecommunications procedures, including the use of satellites, in order to avoid delays and inconveniences as well as omissions.
4. They consider, for the installation of new bases and meteorological stations, a more rational distribution throughout the length and breadth of Antarctica, in order to establish a network of stations of optimal performance to cover the greatest possible area of the continent.

5. They recognise the need to simultaneously transmit meteorological data from the Antarctic stations to the data-collecting networks of the W.M.O., and to detect existing faults which cause a proportion of this data to be lost in the current telecommunications networks.