

## Conservation measure 11/07 laying down conditions for the resumption of fishing activities in areas subject to closure through conservation measure 06/06

The Commission

Taking into account the recommendation from the Scientific Committee contained in their 2007 Report, Section 8 (e) on measures to be taken for areas subject to closure by Conservation Measure 06-06 before fishing is resumed;

Noting the need to ensure a precautionary approach in re-opening any areas currently subject to closure;

Adopts the following conditions;

1. In the absence of advice from the Scientific Committee on the representative areas that may be fished on each seamount, as defined in Annex 1 of Conservation Measures 06/06, these areas shall remain closed.
2. No fishing shall resume in a closed area until the following processes have been respected;
  - a) Vulnerable marine ecosystems (including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals) have been identified and mapped in the area and an assessment has been made on the impact of any resumption of fishing on such vulnerable marine ecosystems. This information shall be submitted to the Scientific Committee for its evaluation and recommendation to the Commission.
  - b) Subject to the decision of the Commission, Contracting Parties may submit Research Fishing Plans for evaluation by the Scientific Committee on its impact both on the sustainability of the fisheries resources and on their possible impact on vulnerable marine habitats. The Scientific Committee shall submit its recommendation to the Commission for decision on any re-opening of the area to fishing.