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GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 2483 OF 2004

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR EXPERIMENTAL LONGLINE FISHING PERMITS FOR THE CATCHING OF PATAGONIAN TOOTHFISH (*DISSOSTICHUS SPP*)

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism announces that it is the intention of the Honourable Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism to issue **2 experimental longline fishing permits for the catching of Patagonian Toothfish (*Dissostichus spp*) in the Statistical Subarea 88.1 within the area managed by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)** outside South Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone from 1 December 2004 to 31 August 2005 in respect of Subarea 88.1, subject to approval by the CCAMLR.

In assessing applications the Minister will have regard to the following:

- (i) Transformation profile (management and equity) of the applicant. Full details of the applicant and its directors / members must be provided;
- (ii) The catching or joint venture agreement pertinent to this application (certified copy required);
- (iii) Details of all fishing rights and permits held by the applicant in South Africa;
- (iv) Details of the fishing vessel to be utilised. It is a requirement that a South African registered vessel is utilised. Full information of the vessels record of past involvement in longline fishing and a history of the vessel's flag designation for the past 3 years must be submitted;
- (v) The applicants previous participation in the toothfish fishery, if any, including details of investment in this sector;
- (vi) Whether or not the applicant, or any of its shareholders or joint venture partners, has been in breach of the CCAMLR Conservation Measures or have been prosecuted for illegal fishing, and if so, the full nature of the breaches must be disclosed as well as all remedial steps taken;
- (vii) The experience and technical ability of the applicant to carry out the fishing operations in an efficient and safe manner under extreme weather conditions remote from port;
- (viii) Information as to where and how the fish products will be distributed and marketed;
- (ix) The extent of sea-borne and shore-based facilities to support fishing operations; and
- (x) The extent of participation by South Africans in the fishing operations.

INFORMATION SUBMITTED THAT IS NOT TRUE OR CORRECT, OR IS MISLEADING IN A MATERIAL RESPECT MAY RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING REFUSED, OR IF ACCEPTED, ANY PERMIT ISSUED MAY BE REVOKED, SUSPENDED OR CANCELLED IN TERMS OF THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 28 OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT NO 18 OF 1998.

No permit will be issued unless the applicant can satisfy the following requirements:

Vessel

- (i) That a South African flagged vessel is utilised;
- (ii) A valid Local General Safety Certificate, issued by the South African Maritime Safety Authority clearly stating that the vessel is permitted to fish south of 60 degrees south latitude is required before a permit will be issued;
- (iii) Any vessel intending to operate in Subarea 88.1 must have been registered with the Secretariat of CCAMLR 3 months prior to commencing fishing operations;
- (iv) The vessel must be fitted with a properly functioning satellite vessel monitoring systems approved by the Deputy Director-General: Marine and Coastal Management;

Conservation Measures

- (v) The applicant must be able to comply with all relevant CCAMLR Conservation Measures in force as well as the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998) and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- (vi) Subject to the provisions of the relevant CCAMLR Conservation Measures in force, the Deputy Director-General: Marine and Coastal Management will have sole discretion in allocating the allowable catch and fishing area allocated to the successful applicant(s);
- (vii) All vessels will be required to undertake longline-weighting trials according to the provisions of CCAMLR 235/XX (and relevant Conservation Measure as determined by the Commission for the 2004-2005 season) and to meet or exceed the requirements attached thereto, including the number of Time Depth Recorders (TDR's) required, prior to commencing fishing operations;
- (viii) Two scientific observers must be carried onboard each vessel. At least one of the observers must be appointed in accordance with the CCAMLR System of Scientific Observation.

Discharge

- (ix) Fish caught in the South African exclusive economic zone must be discharged at a port or harbour in South Africa.

Fishery data

- (x) The successful applicant must supply fishery data to the Department in the manner and format required by the Deputy Director-General: Marine and Coastal Management.

PERIOD

Permits will only be valid from 1 December 2004 to 31 August 2005 in respect of Subarea 88.1 (or season fishing dates as determined by the Commission)

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The closing date and time for applications is **16h00 on Friday 19 November 2004**. Applicants must ensure that their applications reach the offices of the Deputy Director-General: Marine and Coastal Management, 7th Floor, Foretrust Building, Martin Hammerschlag Way, Foreshore, Cape Town, 8001 / Private Bag X2, Roggebaai, 8012 (Attention: Mr. A. Share). No applications submitted by facsimile will be accepted.

All enquiries should be directed to Mr. P. Mullins at (021) 402 3200.
