7. Without prejudice to the primacy of the responsibility of the flag State, each member of the Commission, in accordance with its laws, shall:

   (a) to the greatest extent possible, take measures and cooperate to ensure compliance by its nationals, and fishing vessels owned, operated or controlled by its nationals, with the provisions of this Convention and any conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission; and

   (b) either on its own initiative or at the request of any other member of the Commission and when provided with the relevant information, promptly investigate any alleged violation by its nationals, or fishing vessels owned, operated or controlled by its nationals, of the provisions of this Convention or any conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.

8. All investigations and judicial proceedings shall be carried out expeditiously. Sanctions provided for in the relevant laws and regulations of the members of the Commission shall be adequate in severity to be effective in securing compliance and to discourage violations wherever they occur, and shall deprive offenders of the benefits accruing from their illegal activities.

9. A report on the progress of any investigation conducted pursuant to paragraphs 2, 3, 4 or 7, including details of any action taken or proposed to be taken in relation to the alleged violation, shall be provided to the member of the Commission making the request and to the Commission as soon as practicable and in any case within two months of the request. A report on the outcome of the investigation shall be provided to the member of the Commission making the request and to the Commission when the investigation is completed.

10. The provisions of this Article are without prejudice to:

   (a) the rights of any of the members of the Commission in accordance with their laws and regulations relating to fisheries; and

   (b) the rights of any of the Contracting Parties in relation to any provision relating to compliance and enforcement contained in any relevant bilateral or multilateral agreement not inconsistent with the provisions of this Convention, the 1982 Convention or the 1995 Agreement.

Article 18
Transparency

The Commission shall promote transparency in its decision-making processes and other activities. Representatives from intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned with matters relevant to the implementation of this Convention shall be afforded the opportunity to participate in the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies as observers or otherwise as members of the Commission deem appropriate and as provided for in the Rules of Procedure that the Commission shall adopt. The procedures shall not be unduly restrictive in this respect. The intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations shall be given timely access to pertinent information subject to the rules and procedures that the Commission may adopt. Any conservation, management and other measures or matters that are decided by the Commission or subsidiary bodies shall be made publicly available unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Article 19
Settlement of Disputes

The provisions relating to the settlement of disputes set out in Part VIII of the 1995 Agreement apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to any dispute between Contracting Parties, whether or not they are also Parties to the 1995 Agreement.

Article 20
Cooperation with Non-Contracting Parties

1. The members of the Commission shall exchange information on the activities of fishing vessels in the Convention Area entitled to fly the flags of non-Contracting Parties to this Convention.

2. The Commission shall draw the attention of any non-Contracting Party to this Convention to any activity undertaken by its nationals or fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag which, in the opinion of the Commission, affects the attainment of the objective of this Convention.

3. The Commission shall request the non-Contracting Party identified in paragraph 2 to cooperate fully with the Commission either by becoming a Contracting Party or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission. Subject to such terms and conditions as the Commission may establish, such a cooperating non-Contracting Party to this Convention may enjoy benefits from participation in the fisheries commensurate with, *inter alia*, its commitment to comply with and its record of compliance with conservation and management measures in respect of the relevant fisheries resources and any financial contribution it makes to the Commission.

4. Each member of the Commission shall take measures consistent with this Convention, the 1982 Convention, the 1995 Agreement and other relevant international law to deter the activities of fishing vessels entitled to fly the flags of non-Contracting Parties to this Convention that undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.

5. Each member of the Commission shall take appropriate measures, in accordance with its laws, aimed at preventing vessels entitled to fly its flag from transferring their registration to non-Contracting Parties to this Convention for the purpose of avoiding