

**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission****CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 15 June 2010 (morning)

**DRAFT AGENDA**

and annotations

**1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

- 1.1 Appointment of Chair
- 1.2 Appointment of rapporteur(s)
- 1.3 Review of documents

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****3. INVESTIGATION OF INEDIBLE 'STINKY' GRAY WHALES**

During the meeting of the Conservation Committee at IWC/57 in Ulsan in 2005, it was agreed to establish a research programme to address the issue of inedible 'stinky' gray whales caught by the Chukotkan aboriginal subsistence hunters. This item will provide an opportunity for the Committee to review and discuss progress with this work.

- 3.1 Report on progress
- 3.2 Committee discussions and recommendations

**4. SHIP STRIKES**

During the meeting of the Conservation Committee at IWC/57 in Ulsan in 2005, it was agreed to initiate work to make progress on the issue of whales being killed or seriously injured by ship strikes, recognising that this is also a matter addressed by the Scientific Committee. The Ship Strikes Working Group (SSWG) was established to develop more detailed proposals and to co-ordinate any work initiated. It has since submitted progress reports to the 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 meetings of the Conservation Committee. A fifth progress report will be available to the Committee for review and comment.

This agenda item will provide the opportunity for the Committee to receive input on the work of the Scientific Committee on this issue, to review progress of the SSWG's work and any other material that may be submitted by Contracting Governments regarding collisions of ships with cetaceans. Of particular interest this year will be the report on progress with the joint IWC/ACCOBAMS workshop on ship strike mitigation that will be held in Monaco from 21-24 September 2010.

- 4.1 Report from the Scientific Committee
- 4.2 Report from the Ship Strikes Working Group
- 4.3 Committee discussions and recommendations

**5. SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE POPULATION OF CHILE-PERU**

At its meeting in 2008, the Conservation Committee received a report from a workshop on the status of this right whale and a report from the Scientific Committee itself. The Conservation Committee: (1) stated the importance of continuing work on the status of right whales and recommended that this issue remain a high priority in the future work of the Scientific Committee; and (2) agreed the item be retained on the Conservation Committee's agenda.

## 6. WHALEWATCHING

At IWC/59 in 2007, it was noted that while the Scientific Committee's Whalewatching Subcommittee deals exclusively with scientific aspects of whalewatching, the Conservation Committee could usefully address aspects related to management, including the implementation of the Scientific Committee's recommendations in this area, socio-economic aspects and international co-operation.

Last year an intersessional correspondence group was established to look at all aspects of whalewatching and make recommendations for any potential future workshop. The group identified three key areas of activity/themes of interest to the IWC and its members, i.e. research and assessment, management and capacity building and development. The group suggested that these areas of activity could be described as objectives that the Commission could seek to promote as part of an integrated body of work over time. The focus of the objectives would be to: (1) develop tools to assess and understand the opportunities for whalewatching while also evaluating any risks; (2) support and promote effective management of sustainable whalewatching activities, based on science; and (3) realise the social and economic potential of whalewatching for the global community.

The group made a number of recommendations that were endorsed by the Conservation Committee. These included *inter alia*: that a Standing Working Group on Whalewatching be established to prepare, in consultation with the Scientific Committee, a five-year strategic plan for consideration at IWC/62; that support be given to an intersessional workshop to be held in late 2010 to initiate the strategic plan; and that a small Steering Committee be established to oversee workshop preparations.

This item will therefore provide an opportunity for the Conservation Committee to review the work and recommendations of the Scientific Committee and the Standing Working Group on Whalewatching.

- 6.1 Report from the Scientific Committee
- 6.2 Report from the Standing Working Group on Whalewatching
- 6.3 Committee discussions and recommendations

## 7. WHALE SANCTUARIES

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Conservation Committee to review information related to whale sanctuaries/marine protected areas, including the review of any new sanctuary proposals.

- 7.1 Report from the Scientific Committee
- 7.2 Committee discussions and recommendations

## 8. CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLANS

This item will provide an opportunity to continue discussions initiated at IWC/60 in 2008 and to take account of the work and any recommendations of the Scientific Committee who are also addressing the issue of conservation management plans.

At last year's meeting, the Conservation Committee endorsed the formation of a small, specialist group to construct a list of candidate management plans. The group was to include Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa, UK, USA as well as representatives from the Scientific Committee. A report from this group will be available.

- 8.1 Report from the Scientific Committee
- 8.2 Report from the small specialist group
- 8.2 Committee discussions and recommendations

## 9. NATIONAL REPORTS ON CETACEAN CONSERVATION

For several years, some Contracting Governments have been submitting voluntary national reports on cetacean conservation to the Conservation Committee. Such reports were again welcomed by the Conservation Committee last year who encouraged more countries to submit reports to the 2010 meeting.

- 9.1 Introduction of national reports
- 9.2 Committee discussion and recommendations

## 10. OTHER MATTERS

## 11. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

### **ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS**

#### *Rule of Procedure C.2*

Observers accredited in accordance with Rule [of Procedure] C.1.(a) and (b) are admitted to all meetings of the Commission and the Technical Committee, and to any meetings of subsidiary groups of the Commission and the Technical Committee, except the Commissioners-only meetings and the meetings of the Finance and Administration Committee.