## Israel's Response to the Communication from the Government of Japan on Small Type Coastal Whaling

We would like to thank the Government of Japan for its letter dated January 21<sup>st</sup> 2015 and its attached questionnaire.

Israel supports IWC'S commercial whaling moratorium and is of the opinion that at current such moratorium should not be lifted. Hence, we cannot support Japan's proposal of a schedule amendment regarding small-type coastal whaling. In addition, we too, are concerned with possible implications of such a proposal on the depleted "J-Stock".

We appreciate Japan's engagement on this issue with other member states, support continued dialog on this issue and look forward to considering the adoption of such method of engagement in other issues under the IWC's auspices.