

**61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission**

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 16 June 2009 (morning)

**REVISED DRAFT AGENDA**

and annotations

**1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

- 1.1 Appointment of Chair [*Hyun-Jin Park, Republic of Korea, is proposed*]
- 1.2 Appointment of rapporteur(s) [*Jemma Miller, Secretariat, is proposed*]
- 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 and 2008 meetings of the Conservation Committee. A fourth progress report will be available to the Committee for review and comment together with a proposal for a workshop on ship strike mitigation.

This agenda item will provide the opportunity for the Committee to review progress of the SSWG’s work and to review any other material that may be submitted by Contracting Governments regarding collisions of ships with cetaceans. Australia has indicated that it will submit a country report.

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

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

At last year’s meeting, the Conservation Committee received a report from a workshop on the status of this right whale population held immediately prior to the meeting of the Scientific Committee 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 Sub-committee deals exclusively with scientific aspects of whalewatching, the Conservation Committee could usefully address aspects related to management, including the implementation of the Sub-committee recommendations in this area, socio-economic aspects and international co-operation. This view was re-inforced by the Conservation Committee at its meeting last year and Brazil and South Africa agreed to develop a more detailed proposal as to how this could be done. In commenting on the Draft Agenda circulated on 6 March 2009, Australia reported that an intersessional group on whalewatching had been convened and that it will submit a report of its work to the Conservation Committee.

This item will therefore provide an opportunity for the Conservation Committee to review the report and recommendations from the Scientific Committee and other reports on whalewatching and to discuss how it might address aspects related to management of such activities.

- 6.1 Report from the Scientific Committee
- 6.2 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 last year's meeting and to take account of the work and any recommendations of the Scientific Committee.

In commenting on the Draft Agenda, Australia noted that it will submit a document for discussion under this item, i.e. 'A Strategic Approach to Conservation Management Plans'.

## 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 2009 meeting. Australia has indicated that it will submit a report.

- 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.