

**Proposal regarding delegation size and implications on financial contributions of
host governments of Annual Meetings**

Submitted by Brazil and Chile

Introduction

In the Finance and Administration meeting, Brazil noted that Annual Meetings have been or will be hosted in developing countries. It further noted that in preparation for and hosting of a meeting, governments find it helpful to have larger delegations. However, this has financial implications if a government that usually has a small delegation of 3 or less increases the size of its delegation. It therefore proposed that a host government be allowed to have up to 6 delegates for the cost of 1 share (currently a delegation of 3 attracts 1 share, a delegation of 4-7 attracts 2 shares) at the meeting before the one it hosts and at the one it hosts. It clarified that this would apply to all host countries not just to those of developing countries.

Brazil agreed to work with Chile and the Secretariat to develop a proposal that would be submitted to the plenary.

Current procedure

The annual financial contribution paid by Contracting Governments is calculated according to a formula (the Interim Measure) that takes account of: (1) membership; (2) whaling activities; (3) the size of delegations to the Commission's Annual Meeting; and (4) a country's capacity to pay.

Meeting attendance is based on the number of delegates attending the Annual Meeting immediately preceding the financial year for which contributions are to be calculated. Interpreters are not included in delegations for the purposes of calculating contributions. The following table illustrates how 'shares' are allocated with respect to delegation size at a plenary meeting of the Commission:

Size of delegation at Plenary Commission meeting	Number of shares assigned
1-3 delegates	1 share
4-7 delegates	2 shares
8-13 delegates	3 shares
14-22 delegates	4 shares
23+ delegates	5 shares

At the 54th Annual Meeting in 2002, the Commission agreed that, for the purposes of calculating financial contributions the size of the delegation of a host country (at the meeting it hosts) should be assessed using an average of its delegation size over the previous three years.

Proposed changes

Brazil and Chile propose that for the purposes of calculating financial contributions, a host government be allowed to have up to six delegates for the cost of 1 share at: (a) the meeting before the one it hosts; and (b) at the meeting that it hosts. This would apply to all host governments, regardless of the 'capacity to pay' group in which a host government is placed. The number of 'shares' for a host government would therefore be calculated as follows:

Size of delegation of host country (1) the year before it hosts an Annual Meeting and (2) the year it hosts an Annual Meeting	Number of shares assigned
1-6 delegates	1 share
7-10 delegates	2 shares
11-16 delegates	3 shares
17-25 delegates	4 shares
26+ delegates	5 shares

Brazil and Chile propose that this system replace that agreed at IWC/54.

Impact on the financial contributions of other Contracting Governments

The Secretariat has advised that the impact on the financial contributions of other Contracting Governments would be minimal.