

**A note regarding information encouraged in the IWC-Resolution 1999-1, for the Greenland catch of 2005**

(Submitted by the Greenland Home Rule Government)

The following text contains comments to the IWC-Resolution 1999-1 regarding the operative paragraphs 2 – 5:

Ad 2: *Number of whales killed by each method:*

- In West Greenland, the total minke whale quota was 176, including a carry-over quota. 132 minke whales were allocated to vessels with harpoon cannons and 44 (to the collective hunt. In East Greenland, the quota of 14 minke whales was allocated to the collective hunt, including a carry-over quota.
- In West Greenland, the municipal collective hunt quota on minke whales varied from 2 to 5 animals. The municipal quota to vessels with harpoon cannons was a free quota. Out of 73 vessels equipped with harpoon canon, 42 were active in 2005. The 2005 quota and catch of minke whales and the number of vessels with harpoon cannons can be seen in Appendix 1.
- In West Greenland, 132 minke whales were killed by harpoon whereas 44 minke whales were killed in the collective hunt. In East Greenland 4 minke whales were killed in the collective hunt.
- The fin whale quota of 19 animals was set free for vessels mounted with harpoon cannons. In the 2005 season, 13 fin whales were killed.

*Number and proportion of total whales killed instantaneously; time-to-death for each animal not killed instantly:*

- Time to death for minke whales caught by the fleet with harpoon canon (N = 122 reports): 34 whales (28%) were killed within 1 minute. 80 whales (66%) died within 5 minutes. The average time to death was 6 minutes. The largest time to death reported was 30 minutes.
- Time to death for minke whales caught by the collective hunt (N = 44 reports): 1 minke whale was killed in less than one minute, while 5 (11%) died in less than 5 minutes. The average time to death was 21 minutes. The largest time to death was 90 minutes.
- Combined average time to death for minke whales in Greenland (N = 166 reports): 10 minutes.
- Fin whales (N = 10 reports of times to death): The minimum time to death reported for fin whales was 3 minutes. 5 (50%) died within 5 minutes. The average time to death was 26 minutes. The largest time to death was 120 minutes.

*Number of whales targeted and missed; number of whales struck and lost:*

- Three minke whales were lost after being wounded in the collective hunt. One fin whale was found dead after being hit with a harpoon.

*Calibre of rifle used and number of bullets used:*

- In the collective hunt of minke whales, 30.06 cal. (7.62 mm) rifle and cal. .375 or cal. 458 or larger are used. It is not an obligation to report the number of bullets used. Greenland does not have the resources to collect information from approx. 425 skiffs.

*Methods used to determine unconsciousness/time to death:*

- Hunters collect the information about time to death as part of a self-reporting system. Hunters are instructed to determine the time to death as the time from the first shot to the time when the whale is assumed to be dead.

Ad 3. *Development of more accurate indicators for determining the time to death other than cessation of movement:*

- Greenland lacks the assistance from veterinarians who, in a professional manner, are capable of collecting data on the time to death, and of developing more accurate indicators for determining the time to death.

Ad 4: *“Recognises the difficulty, in some aboriginal subsistence hunts, of obtaining time to death information....”*

- See the comments in point 3.

Ad 5: *“Encourages all contracting governments to provide appropriate technical assistance to reduce cruelty in aboriginal subsistence whaling.”*

- Greenland imports the penthrite harpoon grenades from Norway. Dr. Egil Ole Øen, from the Norwegian School of Veterinary Science has provided technical assistance regarding the use of the penthrite grenade.
- Greenland also seeks advice on how to improve hunting gear and methods through the via the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) which arranged a workshop on hunting methods in February 1999, and a workshop on marine mammals: weapons, ammunition and ballistics, in November 2001. A new workshop on the issue of struck and lost will be arranged in September 2006.

Appendix 1

**2005 Quota allocation to individual municipalities**

Municipality	Harpoon cannon quota	Collective hunt (Rifle) quota	Total quota	Number of boats with harpoon cannon <sup>1</sup>	Settlements without harpoon cannons	Harpoon cannon strikes	Collective strikes	Total strikes
Nanortalik		5		1	6	8	5	<b>13</b>
Qaqortoq		3		5	4	20	3	<b>22</b>
Narsaq		2		3	2	7	2	<b>9</b>
Paamiut		2		4	1	9	2	<b>11</b>
Nuuk		3		5	1	18	3	<b>21</b>
Maniitsoq		3		6	1	26	3	<b>29</b>
Sisimiut		2		6	2	30		<b>31</b>
Kangaatsiaq		3		2	4	2	3	<b>5</b>
Aasiaat		3		3	2	5	3	<b>8</b>
Qasigiannuit		2		2	1	2	2	<b>4</b>
Ilulissat		3		4	4	4	3	<b>7</b>
Qeqertarsuaq		3		1	1	2	3	<b>5</b>
Uummannaq		5		0	6	0	5	<b>45</b>
Upernavik		5		0	6	0	5	<b>5</b>
<b>West Greenland Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>176</b>
Tasiilaq	0	12	12	0	-	0	4	<b>4</b>
Ittoqqortoormiit	0	2	2	0	-	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>East Greenland Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

<sup>1</sup> Only boats active in 2005.