

International Whaling Commission Acceptance of Funds Policy

Background

The International Whaling Commission (the Commission) welcomes the contribution of voluntary funds to support its work. The following guidelines should be observed by entities or individuals considering providing voluntary contributions to the Commission. These guidelines are established by the Commission and should be read in conjunction with the Commission's Financial Regulations. In case of any inconsistency between this Policy and the Financial Regulations, the Financial Regulations shall prevail.

Objective

The objectives of these guidelines are to:

- i. provide guidance to governments, organisations or individuals interested in contributing funds to the Commission; and
- ii. ensure that funds are only accepted from appropriate sources in order to advance programs and activities that are consistent with the objectives and provisions of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (the Convention).

Guidelines

These guidelines apply to all potential voluntary contributions to the Commission that are in addition to the annual contributions received from Contracting Governments as part of the Commission's regular budgetary process.

1. The Commission is able to accept funds from the following:
 - Contracting Governments to the Commission.
 - Governments that are not parties to the Commission.
 - Intergovernmental Organisations
 - Non-government Organisations
 - Other entities as appropriate
2. The Commission is unable to accept funds from sources identified in Financial Regulation C2(b) as follows:
 - Sources that are known, through evidence available to the Commission, to have been involved in illegal activities, or activities contrary to the provisions of the Convention¹.
 - Individual companies directly involved in legal commercial whaling under the Convention².
 - Organisations which have deliberately brought the Commission into public disrepute³.

¹ IWC Financial Regulation C.2(b.i)

² IWC Financial Regulation C.2(b.iI)

³ IWC Financial Regulation C.2(b.iII)

3. Voluntary contributions to the Commission should be for the following purposes:
 - To carry out programs or activities decided upon by the Commission.
 - Advance programs and activities which are consistent with the objectives and provisions of the Convention.
4. Voluntary contributions to the Commission may be further earmarked by the donor for specific projects or purposes that fall within the aims and objectives of any of the established Commission Funds. The Commission may not accept funds for which the earmarks would undermine the Commission's ability to carry out objectives established by the Commission.
5. The following process will be followed by the Commission when accepting voluntary contributions:
 - Donor proposes voluntary contribution, in writing, to the Commission's Executive Secretary.
 - Acceptance of contributions will be subject to the Commission's Financial Rules of Procedure (C.2) for accepting voluntary contributions.
 - The contribution will be administered by the Secretariat of the Commission in accordance with Commission procedures.
 - The Secretariat will notify all members of the Commission on receipt of such voluntary contributions providing information about the donor, donation amount and any earmarked purpose.
 - When the contribution is expended the Secretariat will inform the donors of their utilisation unless other arrangements were made with the donor.
6. The following provisions will apply to entities or individuals providing contributions to the Commission:
 - No access to the Commission's information or documentation will be granted to entities or individuals providing voluntary contributions over and above that available to the public, or that would be available to the donor in the normal course
 - Entities or individuals providing voluntary contributions will require the prior approval of the Executive Secretary to issue press briefings and other material on the voluntary contribution.