

## **Appendix B**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans**

The Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans (the CMP Working Group) is responsible for the provision of advice on the nomination, development and implementation of CMPs endorsed by the International Whaling Commission (IWC).

The CMP Working Group will be comprised primarily of members of the Conservation Committee, but will also include members from the Scientific Committee and members from other IWC bodies as appropriate. The Chair will be elected from Group members and may hold the position for a period of up to four years.

The CMP Working Group will report annually to the IWC through the Conservation Committee.

Conservation Management Plans are intended to be a practical and flexible management tool for the IWC to manage human and cetacean interactions for those populations, threats or habitats of greatest conservation concern and where there is a reasonable expectation that the plan will deliver real conservation gains. The CMP Working Group will support development of comprehensive plans tailored to address the species, habitat or threats of the most pressing need and with the greatest likelihood of success.

Duties of the CMP Working Group may include, but are not limited to:

- Recommending priority cetacean populations, threats or habitats suitable for the preparation of a CMP.
- Providing up-to-date guidelines and templates to support the nomination, development, implementation and monitoring of CMPs.
- Establishing appropriate criteria to assess the merits of proposed CMPs.
- Providing appropriate guidance to proponents of CMPs to support best practice nomination, development and implementation.
- Facilitating provision of data and expert advice from relevant IWC Committees and sub-committees, as appropriate.
- Reporting to the Conservation Committee on the status of existing CMPs.
- Advising the Commission, through the Conservation Committee, on funds or other resources requested to support the nomination, development, or implementation of a CMP.
- Undertaking other activities as directed by the Commission or Conservation Committee.