

## **Annex II.F**

### **Outline of the CDS and Barcoding / Labeling Scheme**

At the Small Drafting Group meeting in Borgholm, Sweden and New Zealand were asked to develop a proposal for an IWC-operated Catch Documentation Scheme to assist the Working Group's deliberations. This note is designed to provide an outline of how the CDS and Barcoding/labeling scheme would operate. There has not been time to develop a more detailed proposal.

The broad scheme contains two elements. These are the Catch Documentation Scheme and a Barcoding / labeling Scheme. The CDS seeks to ensure that all catch brought into or exported from a country, originates from a legitimate source. The barcode/label ensures that the whale product, once within a country, can be verified as legitimate by cross-checking that product with the CDS and DNA database.

The Catch Documentation Scheme.

1. All whaling vessels must be authorized.
2. Unique numbers will be issued by Contracting Governments to all whaling vessels under their jurisdiction.
3. Contracting Governments will issue non-transferable Catch Documents to their authorized whaling vessels for each whaling trip.
4. A Catch Document must be completed for the catch landed or transshipped on each occasion.
5. The Catch Document would be officially verified upon entry into, or exit from, a country.
6. Information included on the Catch Document would include,
  - a. The document number.
  - b. The national issuing authority.
  - c. The unique vessel number (and relevant vessel details eg name, IMO registration number)
  - d. The place where the whale was transshipped, landed, exported, or re-exported.
  - e. The IWC observer present.
  - f. Certification of transshipment, landing, export or re-export by competent authority (and, except in the case of export or re-export, IWC observer).
  - g. The species of the whale.
  - h. The date, time and location of where the whale was caught.
  - i. The unique number for each individual whale captured.

Barcoding/ labeling.

1. Each captured whale shall be given a unique number.
2. The unique number for each whale shall accompany the whale from the point of capture, through to its final point in the chain of distribution before consumption.
3. Other required catch related information about the whales caught, such as skin samples collected for DNA analysis, sex and other biological information, shall be labeled with the unique number for each whale, thus linking the CDS to IWC held data on the catch and other information.
4. Products authorized for market from other sources, such as whales obtained from bycatch or existing stockpiles, etc, shall also have to be given an individual authorization code according to the IWC system for CDS.