

1989-Appendix 1

Resolution on the Icelandic Proposal for Scientific Catches

WHEREAS at the 1987 Commission meeting, the Commission adopted the view that the proposed take of fin, sei and minke whales under Special Permit did not fully satisfy the criteria set forth in the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and recommended that the Government of Iceland revoke and refrain from issuing Special Permits to its nationals until the uncertainties identified by the Scientific Committee report (IWC/39/4) had been resolved to the satisfaction of the Scientific Committee;

WHEREAS at the 1988 meeting the Commission considered that the proposed take of fin and sei whales under special permit did not satisfy each of the criteria specified in both the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and in the 1987 Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes, and invited the Government of Iceland to report in writing to the Commission in time for consideration by the Commission at its 41st Annual Meeting;

WHEREAS the Government of Iceland in 1988 reduced its take of fin whales from 80 to 68 and its take of sei whales from 20 to 10, and modified its programme to improve the component involving the sampling of krill, and to implement the five specific recommendations of the Scientific Committee related to non-lethal aspects as contained in IWC/40/4;

WHEREAS the Government of Iceland has submitted its report (IWC/41/24) as invited by the Commission, and this has been considered;

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the Report of the Scientific Committee (IWC/41/4) concerning the research programmes to be conducted under Special Permits;

WHEREAS, as noted by the Scientific Committee, the Icelandic sightings programme, which is independent of the programme which requires Special Permits, has made an important contribution to the Comprehensive Assessment in terms of knowledge of the distribution and abundance of fin, sei and minke whales in the North Atlantic, and will continue to do so through the 1989 North Atlantic sightings survey;

WHEREAS the Commission recognises that Iceland has undertaken its research programme in a detailed manner;

WHEREAS the Government of Iceland has conveyed its intention not to issue special permits to take minke whales as described in SC/37/0 23 and as modified in SC/38/ProgRep Iceland, and has determined that, in light of the progress of the research conducted to date, the further taking of sei whales in 1989 is not necessary;

WHEREAS the Government of Iceland has also announced in IWC/4 1/OS Iceland that its research programme has progressed to a stage where Iceland will not take whales for scientific purposes in 1990 nor does it have plans to do so in the years following, and that the Government of Iceland intends to continue only non-lethal aspects of its programme, involving activities which the Scientific Committee and the Commission had encouraged in the past;

Now THEREFORE the Commission:

INVITES the Government of Iceland to reconsider the proposed take of fin whales in 1989 under Special Permit, in the light of the criteria specified in the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and the 1987 Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes and the comments of the Scientific Committee.

1989-Appendix 2

Resolution on Norwegian Proposal for Special Permits

WHEREAS the International Whaling Commission adopted in 1988 a Resolution on Norwegian Proposal for Special Permits (*Rep. in Whal. Commn* 39: 30);

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the Report of the Scientific Committee (IWC/41/4) concerning the research programmes to be conducted under Special Permits;

WHEREAS the Commission appreciates the effort by Norway in research on whales and investigation of their habitat which do not involve the taking of whales; and also the contribution to the Comprehensive Assessment through sightings surveys which have provided and will continue to provide important information on the distribution and abundance of minke and other whales in the North Atlantic;

WHEREAS the Commission takes cognizance of Article VIII of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, under which the granting by any Contracting Government to its nationals of a Special Permit authorising the killing, taking, or treatment of whales for purposes of scientific research remains the responsibility of each Contracting Government, exercising its sovereign rights in respect of maritime areas under its jurisdiction and freedom of the high seas;

Now, THEREFORE the Commission

RECOGNISING that the scientific view is not unanimous; but

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the comments of the Scientific Committee (IWC/41/4);

CONSIDERS; that the proposed take of minke whales in the North Atlantic under the research programme described in SC/41/NHMi12 does not satisfy all the criteria specified in both the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and the 1987 Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes, particularly in that the proposed research is not adequately structured so as to contribute to or materially facilitate the Comprehensive Assessment; neither has it been established that the proposed research addresses critically important research needs;

and accordingly INVITES the Government of Norway to reconsider the proposed take of minke whales in 1989 under Special Permit.

1989-Appendix 3
Resolution on the Proposed take by Japan of Whales in
the Southern Hemisphere under Special Permit

WHEREAS the Commission in 1987 adopted a resolution recommending that the Government of Japan refrain from issuing special permits for the taking of whales under the programme until such time as the serious uncertainties identified in the Report of the Scientific Committee (IWC/39/4 and Report of the Special Meeting Cambridge 1987) were resolved;

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the reports of the Scientific Committee (IWC/39/4, Report of Special Meeting Cambridge 1987, IWC/40/4 and IWC/41/4) concerning the research described in SC/39/O 4, including the improvements specified in SC/41/SHMI13, to be conducted under Special Permits;

WHEREAS the Commission recognises the important contribution of the Government of Japan to the development of non-lethal whale population assessment methods especially through sightings surveys conducted under the IWC/IDCR programme of Southern Hemisphere Minke Whale Assessment Cruises during the last decade;

WHEREAS the Commission takes cognizance of Article VIII of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, under which the granting by any Contracting Government to its nationals of a Special Permit authorising the killing, taking, or treatment of whales for purposes of scientific research remains the responsibility of each Contracting Government, exercising its sovereign rights in respect of maritime areas under its jurisdiction and freedom of the high seas;

Now, THEREFORE the Commission

ACCEPTING that the Scientific Committee was not unanimous in its view of the research programme described in SC/39/O 4, including the improvements described in SC/41/SHMI13 (IWC/41/4);

CONSIDERS that the programme does not fully satisfy the criteria specified in both the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and the 1987 Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes, more particularly in that the proposed research is not structured to provide or demonstrate that any existing methodology can solve the problems or satisfy the objectives which have been set, and therefore the proposed research does not contribute information essential for rational management of the stock, neither will the proposed take of minke whales in the Southern Hemisphere in 1989/90 under Special Permit materially facilitate the Comprehensive Assessment, nor has it been established that the proposed research addresses critically important research needs;

INVITES the Government of Japan to reconsider its research programme in light of the criticisms based on the above-mentioned criteria.