

Voting Record IWC/62

(IWC/62/25 - revision of IWC/61/11rev) Proposed Schedule Amendment: Greenland catch limits)

The primary focus of discussions was a request by Denmark/Greenland for a catch of 10 humpback whales annually from West Greenland for 2010, 2011 and 2012. The request also included a reduction in its annual quota of common minke whales from 200 to 178 so as to conform to advice from the Scientific Committee issued at IWC/61 in 2009. Denmark/Greenland's proposal for a quota of humpback whales was based on its desire to return to a multispecies harvest as was the norm prior to 1987 when the humpback hunt was halted because of concerns over the status of the population. After negotiations Denmark/Greenland revised their proposal so that the number of fin whales to be harvested from West Greenland was reduced from 19 to 16 and with an additional voluntary reduction from 16 to 10. At the same time, the number of humpback whales to be harvested was reduced to 9 which meant that on aggregate there was no increase in the number of large whales to be taken. After extensive discussion the Commission adopted the revised proposal by consensus.