

- (e) Schedule Paragraph 8(a) —Blue whale unit catch limit in the Antarctic.
  - (f) Provision for restriction of the catch of sperm whales (arising out of item 9).
  - (g) Provision for restriction of the catch of whales in the North Pacific. Provision for restriction of the catching season in the North Pacific. (arising out of item 10).
  - (h) Provision for restriction of the catch of whales from land stations. (arising out of item 11).
18. Reports from Other Organisations.
  19. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the ensuing three years.
  20. Date and place of next meeting (Rule XVII of the Rules of Procedure refers to meetings outside London).
  21. Arrangements for Press Release.
  22. Any other business.

### APPENDIX III

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING

1. Date and Place The Eighteenth Meeting of the International Whaling Commission was held at Church House, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1. from 27th June to 1st July, 1966. The proceedings were conducted by the Chairman, Mr. M. N. Sukhoruchenko (U.S.S.R.)

2. Representation Commissioners and Delegates of Contracting Governments represented Argentina, Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Observers also attended from Chile, Portugal, Peru, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, World Wildlife Fund, the Fauna Preservation Society and the International Society for the Protection of Animals.

3. Address of Welcome At the opening session an address was given by the Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mr. J. H. Hoy. Mr. Hoy said that in the course of three years the Commission had substantially reduced the Antarctic pelagic catch limit and had accepted the need for further reductions in the next two seasons which would ensure that the 1967/68 catch would be below the scientifically assessed maximum sustainable yields of the fin and sei stocks. Thus after many years the Commission was now in sight of the objective of the 1946 Convention. There were still many problems but the actions taken in the last few years encouraged him to believe that members of the Commission would not lack the resolution to deal with them.

4. Adoption of Agenda The Agenda's adoption was moved by the Commissioner for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and seconded by the Commissioner for the United States of America; it was accepted without dissent.

5. Review of Previous Season's Catch

Mr. Vangstein, of the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics, thanked the representatives of the pelagic whaling countries for their quick returns to the Bureau. He then gave a short review of whaling activity during the past year to complement the statistics which had been circulated.

6. Scientific Committee

The proceedings of the Scientific Committee which met under the chairmanship of Dr. D. G. Chapman (U.S.A.) are set out in Appendix IV.

7. Stock Assessments

The joint Working Party on Antarctic Whale Stock Assessment, made up of scientists from the Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organisation, met in Seattle in January 1966 and two members followed up by studying the 1965/66 season data in May 1966 and reporting on the status of the stocks at the end of this season. Both reports were studied by the Scientific Committee which recommended to the Commission that the best estimate of the present sustainable yields for the whole Antarctic was as follows:

Fin Whales: 4,500

Sei Whales 4,500-7,500

In terms of Blue Whale Units this means a total of 3,000 to 3,500.

8. The Committee recommended that the Commission should consider setting quotas sufficiently below the level of the sustainable yield so that fin whale stocks could begin to rebuild, rather than simply be maintained at the present low level. The Commission was asked to consider giving complete protection to fin whales to allow this valuable stock to rebuild. The Committee recommended that protection of blue whales should be extended to the whole of the Southern Hemisphere.

9. So far as stock assessment work in the following year was concerned, the Commission accepted the recommendation of both Scientific and Technical Committees that stock assessment work should be continued in the following year; very precise work must be carried out in view of the importance to be placed on the estimates that would be made of the sustainable yields.

10. Economic Studies of Whaling Regulations

The Commission agreed unanimously that the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations should be invited to consider the economic effects of whaling regulations and to submit a working document or proposal to the Commission. The motion was proposed by the Commissioner for the United States of America and seconded by the Commissioner for Australia. The F.A.O. observer at the meeting accepted the invitation.

11. The International Observer Scheme

The Scheme drawn up in 1962 expired at the end of the 1965/66 season and the Technical Committee proposed that the Chairman of the Commission should set up a working group to draw up the details of a new observer scheme to cover all whaling operations, both pelagic and land stations. The Commission unanimously accepted this proposal. In addition the Commissioner for Australia proposed that the Commission should recommend to the pelagic whaling countries that they should meet and implement as soon as possible the previous Scheme. This was seconded by the Commissioners for Norway and Japan and the motion was carried with ten votes in favour, one against and one abstention.

12. Sperm Whale Stocks The recommendations of the Scientific Committee were endorsed by the Commission as follows:

- (a) The F.A.O. assessment group should be asked to make an assessment of sperm whale stocks, particularly in respect of those on pelagic grounds, and national groups should begin or continue analyses.
- (b) There was a need for additional marking of sperm whales.
- (c) Studies to ensure standardisation of age readings for sperm whales should be initiated or continued.
- (d) The taking of entire schools of sperm whales under special permits for scientific studies should be encouraged.
- (e) Biological data for sperm whales should be submitted as soon as possible to the F.A.O. Assessment Group; such data should be submitted annually and should be available for exchange between national groups on request.

13. North Pacific Whale Stocks A working group consisting of representatives of Canada, Japan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America met in Honolulu in February 1966 and in London in June 1966. Its findings were considered by the North Pacific Commissioners and recommendations made to the Commission as follows:

- (a) The existing 5 year ban on the taking of the blue whale in the North Pacific should be continued.
- (b) The ban on the taking of the humpback whale in the North Pacific should be continued in 1967.
- (c) The North Pacific whaling countries should endeavour to reach agreement on a method of reducing fin whale catches with a view to bringing them below the sustainable yield by 1969.
- (d) Current regulations on the catching of sei and sperm whales were adequate and no further measures should be taken at present but scientific assessments should continue so that appropriate regulatory measures could be taken as required.

The proposals were supported by the Technical Committee and unanimously accepted by the Commission.

14. Land Stations The Commission expressed concern at the numbers of whales being caught from land stations situated in non-member countries and decided to get in touch with those countries about the adoption of measures to secure the better protection of the stocks, particularly of blue and humpback whales.

15. Only two member countries, viz. South Africa and the United Kingdom, still carried on whaling operations from land stations in the Southern Hemisphere and the Commission agreed unanimously to recommend to those countries that they should continue to impose on catches from their land stations the voluntary limitations which they imposed in the previous year. This proposal was made by the Commissioner for Australia and seconded by the Commissioners for South Africa and the United Kingdom.

16. In addition the Commission agreed with one abstention that there should be a ban on the catching of blue whales between the Equator and 40° South Latitude. This motion was proposed by the Commissioner for Australia and seconded by the Commissioner for South Africa.

17. Blue Whale Unit Limit At the Seventeenth Meeting of the Commission a resolution was adopted reducing the quota for the Antarctic season to 4,500 blue whale units for 1965/66. It was also agreed that further reductions would be made for 1966/67 and 1967/68 that would ensure that the total catch for 1967/68 would be less than the combined sustainable yields of the fin and sei whale stocks as determined on the basis of scientific evidence. During the Eighteenth Meeting the quota for 1966/67 was discussed in the light of this resolution and the latest stock assessments. It was finally proposed by the Technical Committee and unanimously agreed by the Commission that in the 1966/67 season the Antarctic pelagic catch should not exceed 3,500 blue whale units and that the total catch for 1967/68 should be less than the combined sustainable yields of the fin and sei whale stocks as determined on the basis of more precise scientific evidence.

18. Sanctuary and Length of Antarctic Season On a proposal of the Technical Committee which was seconded by the Commissioner for Japan, the Commission decided unanimously to keep open the Sanctuary in the season 1966/67. The Technical Committee also proposed that the opening date for the baleen whale season should remain as before; this was seconded by the Commissioners for Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and was carried unanimously by the Commission. The closing date was also unaltered following the Technical Committee's recommendation, seconded by the Commissioner for Japan, and a unanimous vote by the Commission.

19. National Quotas It was reported to the Commission that the Commissioners for Japan, Norway, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom had met in London to discuss proposals for the allocation of national quotas, which were outside the Commission's powers. No agreement was reached, however, and the discussions were to be resumed in Tokyo.

20. Infractions The Infractions Sub-Committee reported to the Technical Committee on the infractions of the provisions of the Convention. In general the Sub-Committee considered that the evidence pointed to the need for the introduction as soon as possible of an international observer scheme to cover all whaling operations and for a strengthening of the domestic measures taken by member countries to enforce the Commission's regulations. The Sub-Committee was pleased to note from the Scientific Committee report that the last season's catch data pointed to a stricter observance of the regulations regarding sperm whales. The Technical Committee concurred with these views and the Commission accepted its report.

21. Finance The Finance Committee's report was before the Commission. Taking the Ordinary Budget first, expenditure in 1965/66 was £5,855 0s. 4d. compared with £6,237 16s. 6d. in 1964/65. The difference was accounted for by a saving in meeting costs and stationery and postage (which were incurred in 1964/65 by the Special Meeting held in May 1965) offset partly by a small increase in secretariat costs and a grant of £850 to the Extraordinary Budget. Income in the Ordinary Budget was £5,950 made up of 17 Contracting Governments' contributions of £350. This resulted in a balance of £94 19s. 8d. at the end of May 1966.

22. In the Extraordinary Budget expenditure in 1965/66 was £998 11s. 10d. against £2,327 9s. 1d. in the previous year. There was a very big saving in

the expenses of the stock assessment scientists, over £1,000, which increases in computer costs did little to offset. In addition there was no contribution towards the cost of the Special Meeting as in 1964/65. The balance brought forward from 1964/65 was £1,032 2s. 6d. and this together with the £850 contribution from the Ordinary Budget resulted in a balance at the end of the year of £883 18s. 8d.

23. The Commission accepted the Committee's report. For the following year it was estimated that annual meeting costs would rise significantly but other items in the Ordinary Budget would remain much as before. The Commission agreed to continue the whale marking contribution to the National Institute of Oceanography and to transfer this item to the Extraordinary Budget. The cost of stock assessment work was expected to be higher because of the proposal to extend this work to sperm whales and because the unexpected savings in travel expenses in 1965/66 are unlikely to be repeated. It was clear that either a large increase in contributions from member countries was required or some other method of paying for the scientific work must be found. The Finance Committee had suggested that the Commission should consider increasing contributions according to the level of a country's whaling interests, in order to cover the stock assessment work. The Commission eventually decided to levy one shilling per whale, based on 1965 and 1965/66 catches, on blue, fin, sei, and humpback whales caught in the southern hemisphere and on sperm whales caught throughout the world. This meant that at 31st May the Commission should have an estimated balance of £1,984 in the Ordinary Budget and £134 in the Extraordinary Budget.

24. Election of Chairman By unanimous decisions Mr. W. C. Tame (United Kingdom) was elected Chairman and Mr. I. Fujita (Japan) was elected Vice-Chairman, both for three years. Mr. Tame was proposed by the Commissioner for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and seconded by the Commissioner for Norway. Mr. Fujita was proposed by the Commissioner for Norway and seconded by the Commissioner for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

25. Representation at Meetings of Other Organisations The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea had invited the Commission to send an observer to the Fifty-fourth Statutory Meeting of the Council in Copenhagen from 3rd to 12th October, 1966. The Commission considered this and requested the Chairman to arrange if possible for a member of the Scientific Committee who would be in Copenhagen to represent the Commission.

26. Constitution of Committees The membership of the Commission's Committees was as follows. *Technical Committee:* Argentina, Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, United Kingdom. Mr. C. G. Setter (Australia) was elected Chairman. *Scientific Committee:* Australia, Canada, France, Japan, Norway, South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, United Kingdom. Dr. D. G. Chapman (United States of America) was elected Chairman. *Finance and Administration Committee* The Chairman of the Commission nominated Mr. E. Taillart (France), Dr. B. V. D. De Jager (South Africa), Mr. C. G. Setter (Australia), Mr. H. Th. Knudtzon (Norway) and Mr. I. Fujita (Japan). Dr. De Jager was elected Chairman.

27. Resignation of Secretary The Commission expressed its regret that Mr. R. S. Wimpenny had been compelled to resign from his post of Secretary on grounds of ill-health. On the suggestion of the Commissioner for the United States, supported by the Commissioner for Japan, the Commission unanimously decided to prepare and send to Mr. Wimpenny a suitable testimonial as a memento of his service to the Commission.

The Commission accepted the United Kingdom offer to provide secretarial assistance until a new secretary could be appointed at the next Commission meeting.

The Commission expressed its thanks to Dr. N. A. Mackintosh who had undertaken the duties of Acting Secretary at very short notice for the period of the meeting.

28. Date and Place of Next Meeting At the meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee it had been recommended that the Nineteenth Meeting of the Commission should begin on Monday 26th June 1967 in London. The Commission approved this recommendation.

29. Press Release The Commission agreed that the Chairman and Acting Secretary should issue the Press Release.

W. C. TAME  
*Chairman*

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING

### APPENDIX A

#### SPECIAL MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE NORTH PACIFIC WHALING NATIONS WASHINGTON, D.C. FEBRUARY 6-10, 1967

At the 18th Meeting of the International Whaling Commission, held in London from 27th June to 1st July, 1966, the special group of North Pacific Whaling Commissioners made recommendations concerning the catch of blue, humpback, sei, and sperm whales which were accepted by the Commission. It was agreed that scientific assessment of the fin whale stocks in the North Pacific should continue with a view to bringing the catch below the sustainable yield by 1969. The Commission authorized the chairman of the group (Dr. J. L. McHugh, U.S.A.) to "undertake an exchange of correspondence with a view to the possibility of a future meeting prior to the 1967 whaling season."

By correspondence it was arranged to meet in Washington, D.C., beginning on 6th February, 1967. The following representatives were in attendance:

*United States*  
J. L. McHugh  
R. Kellogg  
S. Blow

*Japan*  
G. Yamanaka  
T. Ohba  
M. Takahashi

*Canada*  
W. M. Sprules  
K. R. Allen  
G. F. M. Smith  
K. Fraser  
R. McLaren

*Rapporteur*  
D. W. Windley

*U.S.S.R.*  
M. N. Sukhoruchenko  
V. G. Lafitskiy  
G. V. Zhygalov  
V. M. Nicolaev

The group met in plenary sessions and in numerous bilateral discussions from 6th February until 10th February. It was agreed that some formula should be found which would provide an equitable method of reducing the total catch of fin whales below the sustainable yield (presently estimated at 1,800 fin whales) by the 1969 whaling season. Various methods of reaching this goal were discussed but it was not possible to find a formula acceptable to all delegations. The delegates agreed to continue discussions as opportunities arise, in the hope that a method of resolving the difficulties may be found by the time of the 19th meeting of the Commission.

Individual delegation statements are attached.

#### Statement by the United States Delegation

The United States Delegation recognizes the need to bring the catch of fin whales in the North Pacific into line with the scientific findings. We agree with the objective to reduce the fin whale catch below the estimated sustainable yield by the 1969 season. Our catch of fin whales in 1966 was consistent with the "gentlemen's agreement" reached at the 1965 Annual Meeting to attempt to reduce the catch 10 per cent below the 1965 level. We anticipate that we can respond to this "gentlemen's agreement" again in 1967, by holding our fin whale catch 20 per cent or more below the 1965 level.

It is our view that land stations should receive special consideration in arriving at a total quota. Catcher boats from land stations can take only those whales which enter a limited area close to the factory. They cannot follow the whales as pelagic fleets can do. Overfishing of whale resources in the North Pacific has come about through the great expansion of pelagic whaling since 1961.

The United States has no pelagic whaling fleet. Our small land-based operation has been forced through no fault of its own to cease killing blue and humpback whales. As a consequence, whaling in the United States is approaching marginal conditions, as illustrated by the fact that one company suspended operations in 1966. We are close to the point at which further restrictions probably will bring all United States whaling to an end. The United States Delegation is willing to take any reasonable action necessary to prevent an increase in whaling effort and thus to assist in rational management of the resource. It is our view, however, that the pelagic whaling industry, which has been largely responsible for over-exploiting the stocks of blue and humpback whales, and which currently is taking over 90 percent of the total North Pacific fin whale catch, should recognize and undertake the major responsibility for conservation of the resource.

#### Statement by the Japanese Delegation

1. The Japanese delegation is greatly disappointed that the meeting has failed to produce an agreement for the conservation measures for fin whale stocks in the North Pacific.

2. The Japanese delegation holds the view that pelagic operations affect the resources more adversely than land based operations. Since the condition of fin whale stocks has become serious as a result of enormous increase in catches by pelagic operation in recent years, it is the view of the Japanese delegation that, in considering the implementation of conservation measures, due regard should be paid to the difference in the effect on resources of these two types of whaling operations.

3. The Japanese delegation wishes to draw attention to the fact that Japan fulfilled the contents of the "gentlemen's agreement of 1966," and to the statement made, during the meeting, by the representative of Japan that Japan,

recognizing further an urgent need for conservation measures for fin whale stocks in the North Pacific, would take voluntary restrictive measures in 1967 so that her pelagic catches of fin whales in the North Pacific will not exceed 80 per cent of her catches of 1965 and that her catches of fin whales from land stations will not exceed 120 which is considerably below the current estimated sustainable yields in the area concerned excluding catches from East China Sea stock.

The Japanese delegation further wishes to confirm the additional statement by its representative that these voluntary measures would be taken even if no agreement were to be reached during the meeting.

Statement by the Delegation of the Soviet Union

The Soviet Side states the following:

- (a) In accordance with the scientists' recommendation the total level of fin whale catch in the North Pacific should be reduced in such a way that it is below 1,800 whales by 1969.
- (b) Since there are no local stocks of fin whales which are exploited only by land stations and are not caught by pelagic expeditions, all countries participating in the negotiations should take part in measures for the conservation of the fin whale stocks.
- (c) The Soviet Side has an extremely negative attitude to the fact that some countries have increased sharply the fin whale catches from land stations in 1966 and have refused to commit themselves to decrease or stabilize the catch in 1967. The Soviet Side is of the opinion that such practice presents a threat to the possibility of implementing joint measures for the rational utilization of whale stocks and that it should be changed.
- (d) The Soviet Side has decreased its 1966 fin whale catch by 10 per cent on a unilateral basis. At the present meeting the Soviet delegation put forward a proposal to decrease the catch of fin whales both for land stations and pelagic expeditions by 20 per cent in comparison with the level of the catch in 1965. As a compromise, the Soviet Side agreed that the catch of fin whales by Canada and the U.S.A. should not exceed in 1967 the level of 1965.
- (e) Since at the present meeting some countries have not put forward any proposals related to limiting or at least stabilizing their catch of fin whales, but, quite the opposite, have shown their desire to increase that catch, the Soviet Side considers the present meeting to be a step backward in comparison with the analogous negotiations in London in 1966

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING

### APPENDIX B

#### REPORT ON THE EFFECTS ON WHALE STOCKS OF PELAGIC OPERATIONS IN THE ANTARCTIC DURING THE 1966/67 SEASON AND ON THE PRESENT STATUS OF THOSE STOCKS

*Prepared by*

Fish Stock Evaluation Branch, Fishery Resources and Exploitation  
Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (F.A.O.)

### SUMMARY

Nine expeditions operated in the Antarctic, for a total of 11,775 catcher days, 1,371 days (10 per cent) less than the previous season.