

APPENDIX III
INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SECOND MEETING

1. Date and Place. The Twenty-second Meeting of the Commission was held at Riverwalk House, Millbank, London, S.W.1 from 22 to 26 June 1970. The proceedings were conducted by the Chairman, Mr I Fujita (Japan).
2. Representation. Commissioners and Delegates of Contracting Governments represented Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Panama, South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Observers attended from Chile, Italy, 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, the Fauna Preservation Society, the International Society for the Protection of Animals, the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners and the World Wildlife Fund.
3. Address of Welcome. The opening session was addressed by Mr R G R Wall, CB, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. In welcoming Commissioners, Delegates and Observers to London Mr Wall referred to the fact that eighteen or twenty years ago the Antarctic catch limit was standing at a figure of 15,000 or 16,000 blue whale units whereas the figure for last season was 2,700 units. He said that this would not perhaps itself indicate a record of successful achievement. But this was not the whole story. Throughout the years the Commission had been tenaciously fighting the battles for the conservation of the whale stocks. It had increased scientific knowledge of the stocks, the essential base of successful conservation, and by intensifying its regulations had established the principle of the maximum sustainable yield on which depended the maintenance of stocks at their reduced level and still more their recovery towards higher levels. He wished the Commission well in its continuing endeavours for the conservation of the whale stocks.
4. Mr H Th Knudtzon. The death was reported of Mr Knudtzon, the Commissioner for Norway for the last three years and a member of the Norwegian Delegations to the Commission's meetings for many years. The Chairman paid tribute to the contribution made by Mr Knudtzon to the work of the Commission and the meeting stood in silent tribute to his memory.
5. Adoption of Agenda. The agenda was adopted on the proposal of the Commissioner for Canada seconded by the Commissioner for Norway.
6. Review of Previous Season's Catches. Statistics relating to the catch outside the Antarctic in 1969 and the catch in the Antarctic in 1969/70 prepared by the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics were distributed. The new Commissioner for Norway, Mr I Rindal presented a report on behalf of Mr Vangstein, the Director of the Bureau, who was unable to be present. He said that in 1969 three Soviet Union and three Japanese expeditions operated in the North Pacific. The catch was reduced compared with 1968. It comprised about 1,170 fin whales and about 4,700 sei whales corresponding to about 1,360 blue whale units. In addition, about 11,200 sperm whales were caught and the production amounted to about 495,000 barrels of oil, about 100,000 barrels more than the production in the Antarctic during the last two seasons. Operations in the Antarctic in 1969/70 were carried out by three Soviet Union and three Japanese expeditions and one Norwegian catcher/factory ship. The total catch was 3,002 fin whales and 5,857 sei whales, corresponding to 2,477 blue whale units, 223 units less than the limit set by the Commission. For the period 1962-70 the total catch has been about 8,000

blue whale units below the combined quota for three years. The number of sperm whales caught in the Antarctic was 3,090 and the number caught on the voyages to and from the Antarctic was 2,300.

7. Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee met under the Chairmanship of Dr D G Chapman (USA) from 15 to 22 June 1970 and its report was issued as meeting document IWC/22/4.

8. Scientific Investigation of the Whale Stocks. This had been a continuing item on the agenda for the Commission's meetings and related to the investigations of the FAO Stock Assessment Group. FAC announced its withdrawal from the special investigations into the whale stocks at the last meeting and no report was now before the Commission. It was decided that this subject should be withdrawn as a continuing item on the Commission's agenda.

9. Pelagic Catch Limit in the Antarctic. The Scientific Committee reported that it had considered three papers estimating the size of the fin whale stock in the Antarctic but despite the progress made at a special meeting on fin whale assessment held during the year in Honolulu, the Committee was unable to reach agreement on an estimate of the sustainable yield of fin whales in 1970/71. All members except Japan agreed that the recent level of fin whale catch (2,700 average over the last five seasons) appeared fairly close to the present sustainable yields. Japanese scientists believed the best estimate was 3,520 to 4,350. Two estimates of the present sustainable yield of sei whales studied by the Committee indicated it to be about 5,000 whales. The Commission accepted the Technical Committee's recommendation that the catch limit in the Antarctic should be 2,700 blue whale units on the understanding that the actual catches would not be substantially increased above recent levels. It decided to amend the Schedule to the Convention by deleting "1969/70" from paragraph 8(a) and substituting "1970/71". Three delegations while agreeing with the decision expressed misgivings whether the limit would hold the present stock level.

10. Length of Antarctic Season. The Commission accepted the Technical Committee's recommendation that there should be no change in the opening and closing dates of the Antarctic season.

11. The Sanctuary. The Commission accepted the Technical Committee's recommendation that the Sanctuary should remain open in 1970/71.

12. Baleen Catch Limits in the North Pacific. The Scientific Committee's review of the new assessments of fin and sei whales in the North Pacific Ocean had been considered by the North Pacific Group of Commissioners who had agreed that for 1971 catches of fin whales would be reduced by 10% and sei and Bryde's whales combined by 15%, giving limits of 1,308 and 4,710 respectively. Because of the practical difficulties in implementing these limits it was agreed that either of them might be exceeded by 10% provided an appropriate reduction was made in the other catch. The Technical Committee accepted the Group's proposal that the agreement should be implemented by amendment of the Schedule and the Commission approved the addition of the following sub-paragraphs to paragraph 8 as recommended by the Committee:

"(f) Subject to sub-paragraph (h), the number of fin whales taken in the North Pacific Ocean and dependent waters excluding the catch in the East China Sea shall not exceed 1,308 whales in 1971.

- (g) Subject to sub-paragraph (h), the number of sei and Bryde's whales combined taken in the North Pacific Ocean and dependent waters shall not exceed 4,710 whales, in 1971. The numbers taken in the succeeding few years shall be further adjusted on the basis of the latest scientific assessment so that within a few years the catch shall be less than the estimate of the sustainable yield.
- (h) The catch specified in either sub-paragraph (f) or (g) may be exceeded by not more than 10% provided that an appropriate reduction is made in the catch specified in the other sub-paragraph".

13. Sperm Whale Stocks. The Scientific Committee reported that it had agreed that further analyses of sperm whale stocks in the southern hemisphere were needed and had made no assessment of the sustainable yield in that area. In regard to the North Pacific, the Technical Committee reported that the North Pacific Commissioners had considered the limitation of the catch in that area in the light of the report of the Scientific Committee and had agreed that the 1970 catch should be reduced by 10% for 1971 giving a limit of 13,551 sperm whales for pelagic fleets and land stations. For procedural reasons it was not possible to implement this agreement in the Schedule this year but the Technical Committee expect to be in a position to propose an appropriate amendment to the Schedule to limit the sperm whale catch in the North Pacific at the next meeting.

14. Ban on Killing Blue and Humpback Whales in North Pacific Ocean. The Technical Committee accepted the Scientific Committee's recommendation that the ban on the killing of blue and humpback whales in the North Pacific Ocean should be continued and the Commission approved the following amendments to the Schedule proposed by the Technical Committee:

Paragraph 4(1)(b) delete "1966" and substitute "1971"
Paragraph 6(4) delete "1968" and substitute "1971"

15. Exception of North-East Pacific Area in Paragraph 9 of the Schedule. The Technical Committee recommended the continuation of the exclusion of the North-east Pacific area from the requirement that the meat of whales of the smaller dimensions prescribed in Paragraphs 9(a) and (b) of the Schedule must be used for local consumption as human or animal food and the Commission approved the following amendments to the Schedule:

Paragraph 9(a) Ninth line, delete "1968" and substitute "1971"
Paragraph 9(b) Eighth line, delete "1968" and substitute "1971"

16. Catchers Functioning as Factory Ships. Reports had been received of a combined catcher/factory ship operating off the coast of Africa and as such a vessel was not in all cases subject to the Commission's requirements and prohibitions. The following amendments to bring this class of vessel within the provisions of the Schedule were proposed by the Technical Committee and approved by the Commission:

Paragraph 4(2) Delete the first two lines and substitute "It is forbidden to use a factory ship or whale catcher attached thereto for the purpose of taking or treating baleen whales except minke whales in any of the following areas:"
Paragraph 5 Delete the first two lines and substitute "It is forbidden to use a factory ship or whale catcher attached thereto for the purpose of taking or treating baleen whales in the waters south of 40° South Latitude".

- Paragraph 6(5) Delete the sub-paragraph and substitute the following:
"It is forbidden to use a factory ship or whale catcher attached thereto for the purpose of taking or treating sperm whales in the waters between 40° South Latitude and 40° North Latitude".
- Paragraph 7(a) Delete first two lines and substitute "It is forbidden to use a factory ship or whale catcher attached thereto for the purpose of taking or treating baleen whales (excluding minke whales) in"
- Paragraph 7(b) Delete all words in second line before "sperm" and substitute "It is forbidden to use a factory ship or whale catcher attached thereto for the purpose of taking or treating"
- Paragraph 8(a) Delete "whale catchers attached to factory ships" in second line and substitute "factory ships or whale catchers attached thereto"
- Paragraph 8(c) Delete fourth line and substitute "all factory ships or whale catchers attached thereto under the jurisdiction of each Contracting"
- Paragraph 8(d) Delete last sentence and substitute "The taking or attempting to take baleen whales by factory ships or whale catchers attached thereto shall be illegal in any waters south of 40° South Latitude after midnight of the date so determined"
- Paragraph 9(b) Second, Third and Fourth lines, delete "for delivery to factory ships or land stations"
- Paragraph 13(a) First line, delete "delivery to" and substitute "treatment by"
- Paragraph 13(d) Delete up to and including "immediately" in the second line and substitute "The information specified in subparagraph (c) of this paragraph shall be entered immediately by a factory ship"

17. Exclusion of the North Pacific Ocean and its Dependent Waters North of the Equator from the Restrictions on the use of the Antarctic Factory Ships. The Technical Committee considered a proposal by the Japanese delegation to amend paragraph 11 of the Schedule to remove the exclusion of the North Pacific Ocean from the ban on using in other areas in the same season factory ships which had operated in the Antarctic. The purpose was to rationalise the whaling industry which at present had to maintain two kinds of factory ships, one for the Antarctic and the other for the North Pacific. The Japanese proposal was agreed to subject to the addition of a proviso that catch limits for the area were established. It was also agreed on the proposition of the Commissioner for Norway, that minke whales should be excluded from the terms of the paragraphs. The following amendments to paragraph 11 of the Schedule recommended by the Technical Committee were approved by the Commission:

Second line, after "baleen whales" add "apart from minke whales"

Third line, after "area" add "except the North Pacific Ocean and its dependent waters north of the Equator"

Fourth line, after "season" add "provided that catch limits in the North Pacific Ocean and dependent waters are established as provided in paragraph 8(f), (g) and (h)"

18. Bryde's Whale. At its 21st meeting the Commission agreed on the proposal of the Scientific Committee that sei and Bryde's whales should be recognised as distinct species and that appropriate amendments to the Schedule should be placed on the agenda for the 22nd meeting. The Technical Committee considered the proposed amendments and on the Committee's recommendation the Commission approved them as follows:

- Paragraph 8(b)(3) After "sei" add "or Bryde's"
- Paragraph 9(a) First line, add "Bryde's" after "sei",
Fourth and sixth lines, add "and Bryde's" after "sei"
- Paragraph 18(1)(i) Between sixth and seventh lines add "Bryde's whale"
(Balaenoptera edeni or brydei) means any whale known by
the name of "Bryde's whale".
- (ii) Delete "and shall be taken to include Bryde's whale
(B. brydei)" from last two lines at foot of page 7.

19. Infractions. The Technical Committee appointed a sub-committee to consider the details of the infractions of the Convention as reported by the whaling countries. The Sub-Committee reported a slight increase in the number of infractions expressed as a percentage of the total catch and that the percentage for sperm whales continued to be higher than that for baleen whales. The Sub-Committee did not consider a specific recommendation was warranted but pointed to the continuing need for each whaling nation to enforce measures designed to keep infractions to a minimum.

20. International Observer Scheme. The Technical Committee again proposed that the International Observer Scheme should be implemented and a number of Commissioners urged strongly that steps should be taken to bring into operation the Scheme already approved by the Commission. The view was expressed that the Scheme should cover all whaling areas and land stations as well as pelagic expeditions. The Chairman pointed out that there was no disagreement as to the necessity of implementing the Scheme and the countries concerned were urged to implement it as soon as possible by themselves putting forward concrete proposals.

21. The Commission's 21st Report. The draft report which had been circulated was approved subject to minor drafting amendments to which the Secretary drew attention and the addition of some of the statistical details that were awaited from the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics.

22. Collection of Catch, Effort and Length Distribution Data. The Director of the Bureau of the International Whaling Statistics included in his report (para 5) a note on the progress that had been made in the collection of this data on behalf of the Commission. The Scientific Committee reviewed the progress that had been made and recommended the payment of a further sum of £500 towards the Bureau's costs in this connection.

23. Finance. The report of the Finance and Administration Committee was considered by the Commission.

- (a) The Statement of Income and Expenditure for 1969/70
The statement showed that expenditure amounted to £6,630 compared with £5,813 in 1968/69. The increase arose mainly from pay awards during the year to the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, higher cost of printing etc. (notably the printing of the Annual Report), the increased cost of the Annual Meeting (the previous one was held in Tokyo) and the payment made in respect of the collection of the catch, effort and length distribution data. Income of £5,701 was lower by £146 on the previous year. It comprised £5,250 representing the contribution of £350 from each of the 15 Contracting Governments and £451 interest on the funds invested. Expenditure thus exceeded income over the year by £929. The Commission approved the statement on the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee.
- (b) The Estimate for 1970/71
The estimate showed an increase on most items of expenditure due to higher costs and staff pay awards. It included £500 contribution to the National

Institute of Oceanography towards the costs of its whale marking operations and a further contribution of £500 to the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics for the work on collecting and processing catch, effort and length distribution data as recommended by the Scientific Committee. The Commission approved the estimate as recommended by the Finance and Administration Committee.

(c) Amount of Contribution

The Finance and Administration Committee recommended no change in the amount of contribution from Contracting Governments. It took note, however, of the expected increase in expenditure and reduced income in 1970/71 which would have the effect of reducing the accumulated balance to £2,617, and recommended that, subject to the usual review at the next meeting, the rate of contribution should be increased by 10% for 1971/72. The Commission accepted the recommendations of the Committee.

24. Date and Place of Next Meeting. The United States Commissioner stated that he was authorised to invite the Commission to hold its meeting in 1971 in Washington DC. This had been considered by the Finance and Administration Committee. It felt that in view of the advantages to the Commission the invitation should be accepted although it had not been sent formally to the Commission before the meeting. The Committee accordingly recommended that the meeting should be held in Washington during the week commencing June 21, 1971. The Commission unanimously accepted the Committee's recommendation and expressed sincere thanks to the United States Government.

25. Statements by Observers from other Organisations. Statements were made by Mr L K Boerema of the Food and Agriculture Organisation, Mr R S Fitter of the Fauna Preservation Society, Mr C Platt of the International Society for the Protection of Animals, Dr C W Holloway of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Mr S McVay of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners and Dr R S Payne of the World Wildlife Fund.

26. Constitution of Committees. The membership of the Commission's Committees for the year was as follows:

Technical Committee: Australia, Canada, France, Japan, Norway, South Africa, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America. Dr J L McHugh (United States of America) was elected Chairman.

Scientific Committee: Australia, Canada, France, Japan, Norway, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America. Dr D G Chapman (United States of America) was elected Chairman.

Finance and Administration Committee: The Chairman of the Commission nominated representatives from Canada, France, Japan, Norway and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Dr W M Sprules (Canada) was elected Chairman.

I Fujita
Chairman