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Extension of the Voting Period

Ballot will now close on 29 June 2020

Circular Communication to Commissioners and Contracting Governments IWC.CCG.1406

Postal Ballot to adopt a one-year Bridge Budget for 2021

The postal ballot to adopt a one-year bridge budget closes this evening (24 June 2020). We have received 38 votes. This is 6 votes short of the number needed to adopt the budget. Therefore, we have to offer an extension to the voting period. This extension can be no more than 5 days, so the new deadline is 29 June 2020.

If you have not done so, please cast your vote now. Use the attached ballot paper and e-mail the completed ballot paper to postalballot@iwc.int.

If we do not adopt a budget, the Commission will not be able to continue its work programme in 2021 and therefore key aspects of IWC work will have to stop at the end of 2020.

Voting rights change on 30 June and only governments that have paid contributions for 2020 will be eligible to vote. At this point, we will have no quorum on 30 June and it will be impossible to adopt a budget for 2021.

In order to ensure everyone understands the seriousness of the situation, I must repeat that if we do not adopt a budget for 2021 before 30 June, the Commission will not be able to continue its work programme in 2021.

Andrej Bibic Chair, IWC

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Attachment: Ballot paper and instructions