



International Whaling Commission

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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.790

Unpaid Financial Contributions : Suspension of the Right to Vote

Financial Regulation F.2. provides that:

If a Contracting Government's annual payments, including any interest due, have not been received by the Commission by the earliest of these dates:

- 3 months following the due date; or
- the day before the first day of the next Annual or Special Meeting of the Commission if such a meeting is held within 3 months following the due date; or,
- in the case of a vote by postal or other means, the date upon which votes must be received if this falls within 3 months following the due date,

the right to vote of the Contracting Government concerned shall be suspended as provided under Rule E.2 of the Rules of Procedure.

The 'due date' was 28 February and the following Contracting Governments have not paid their contributions and/or the interest due within three months of that date. Therefore the rights to vote of these governments are suspended with effect from 1 June 2009:

Argentina, Cameroon, Chile, Congo (rep of), Costa Rica, Palau, Peru, St Vincent and The Grenadines, Tanzania, Togo and Uruguay.

Costa Rica agreed a repayment schedule with the IWC to clear long standing debts and to resume active participation in the work of the IWC. The balance of the third of three instalments remains outstanding. Costa Rica's right to vote has been suspended with effect from 1 June 2009 pending the full receipt by the IWC of the agreed instalment.

Uruguay re-adhered to the Convention in September 2007 and has stated its intention to clear financial obligations remaining from its previous membership as allowed by Financial Regulations. Repayments have been received in line with the agreed schedule. Suspension of voting rights in this case with effect from 1 June 2009 is due to non-receipt of Financial Contributions and interest within three months of the "due date".

Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia (the), Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mali and Senegal, have had their right to vote suspended on an earlier occasion and the suspension remains in force.

Dr Nicky Grandy
Secretary to the Commission