

**Circular Communication to Commissioners, Contracting Governments
and Members of the Scientific Committee**

IWC.ALL.409

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

Strandings Steering Committee

At its meeting in May 2021 (SC68C) the Scientific Committee (SC) discussed the results of a review of the Strandings Initiative (SI) structure and function. Under this review a new four-year workplan has been developed which outlines needs for staffing and governance.

The SC recommended a refresh of the Strandings Steering Committee in accordance with the new Terms of Reference.

We therefore ask for your nominations of persons to join the Steering Committee, including nominations for a Chair.

Nominations are open to all Contracting Government delegates, regional representatives and observers with an interest in this topic.

Please send nominations for Steering Committee members and Chair to secretariat@iwc.int by **Friday 19 November 2021**. In the meantime, please contact the Secretariat with any queries.

The Secretariat stand by to provide the support needed to ensure this commitment remains manageable for those who agree to take on these leadership positions as Chair or Steering Group members. As recommended, the Secretariat will be recruiting a half-time Strandings Coordinator in 2022.

We thank you in advance for your nominations which are critical to advancing this important work programme.



Dr Rebecca Lent
Executive Secretary