

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS  
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS  
IWC.ALL.102

**Rules of Procedure for the Scientific Committee**

We have just become aware of a minor numbering error in Rule A.6 (concerning Invited Participants) of the Rules of Procedure for the Scientific Committee that crept into the text in the 2000 Annual Report of the International Whaling Commission.

The Scientific Committee's Rules of Procedure included in the 2000 and subsequent Annual Reports wrongly introduced a new sub-paragraph 'h' to Rule A.6 as follows:

**A. Membership and Observers**

.....

(g) The letter of invitation to Invited Participants will include the following ideas:

(h) Under the Committee's Rules of Procedure, Invited Participants may present and discuss papers, and participate in meetings (including those of subgroups). They are entitled to receive all Committee documents and papers. They may participate fully in discussions pertaining to their area of expertise. However, discussions of Scientific Committee procedures and policies are in principle limited to Committee members nominated by member governments. Such issues will be identified by the Chair of the Committee during discussions. Invited Participants are also urged to use their discretion as regards their involvement in the formulation of potentially controversial recommendations to the Commission; the Chair may at his/her discretion rule them out of order.

(i) After an Invited Participant has his/her participation confirmed through the procedures set up above, a Contracting Government may grant this person national delegate status, thereby entitling him/her to full participation in Committee proceedings, without prejudice to funding arrangements previously agreed upon to support the attendance of the scientist in question.

Sub-paragraph 6.(h) shown above should simply have been included as part of sub-paragraph 6(g).

This has now been corrected as follows:

**A. Membership and Observers**

.....

(g) The letter of invitation to Invited Participants will include the following ideas:

Under the Committee's Rules of Procedure, Invited Participants may present and discuss papers, and participate in meetings (including those of subgroups). They are entitled to receive all Committee documents and papers. They may participate fully in discussions pertaining to their area of expertise. However, discussions of Scientific Committee procedures and policies are in principle limited to Committee members nominated by member governments. Such issues will be identified by the Chair of the Committee during discussions. Invited Participants are also urged to use their discretion as regards their involvement in the formulation of potentially controversial recommendations to the Commission; the Chair may at his/her discretion rule them out of order.

(h) After an Invited Participant has his/her participation confirmed through the procedures set up above, a Contracting Government may grant this person national delegate status, thereby entitling him/her to full participation in Committee proceedings, without prejudice to funding arrangements previously agreed upon to support the attendance of the scientist in question.

A corrected version of the Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations is attached. They will be published in due course in the Annual Report, along with the Chair's Report of the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all members of the Secretariat to extend our best wishes to you all for 2007.

Dr. Nicky Grandy  
Secretary to the Commission