



MT/JAC/33119
02 September 2022

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

IWC.ALL.428

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

Call For Hosts: Opportunity to Host IWC69 Biennial Commission Meeting in 2024

This Circular notifies IWC member governments of the opportunity to host the IWC69 Commission meeting in 2024.

Slovenia's experience of hosting the 2016 Commission meeting led them to host again this year. With sincere thanks to Slovenia and in this very positive context, the Secretariat is now seeking expressions of interest for hosting the 2024 Commission meeting.

The role of the host government is to provide an appropriate venue and backdrop for the biennial meeting. The IWC Secretariat manages a set meeting budget for this event which aims to cover the majority of staff and venue costs, and most of the arrangements (including administration, logistics, IT and communications) are made by the IWC Secretariat.

More than 400 delegates from 75 countries visited Brazil for the last Commission meeting in 2018. In addition, over fifty journalists, photographers and camera crews attended the meeting which attracted media attention around the world. Similar numbers are anticipated for 2024 and potential venues will require sufficient hotel rooms and facilities to accommodate these numbers.

A [list of recent venues](#) is available on the IWC website and it shows a wide variety of countries have hosted previous IWC meetings, and that venues have ranged throughout Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe and North, Central and South America.

The duration of the Commission meeting in 2024 is likely to be similar to that in 2022, i.e. approximately nine days. This includes sub-committee and working group meetings and a plenary session of up to five days. There is some flexibility around dates although the meeting is typically scheduled to be held in September/October of 2024.

If you would like to know more about what hosting would involve or would like to explore this opportunity informally, please contact the [IWC Secretariat](#). All communication will be treated in confidence. The attached guidance document provides more detail on host and Secretariat responsibilities and provides a timeline for planning.

Any Contracting Government interested in hosting IWC69 is encouraged to contact the Secretariat in advance of the IWC68 Commission meeting next month.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Tandy', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Mark Tandy
Head of External Affairs