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25 March 2010

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS, CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
AND MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
IWC.ALL.147

Appointment of a new Secretary to the Commission

Further to the recruitment process initiated in September last year and Circular Communications IWC.CCG.851 (4 March 2010) and IWC.SC.147 (24 September 2009), the Commission has appointed Dr Simon Brockington to replace me as Secretary to the Commission following my departure at the end of July. Dr Brockington will join the Secretariat (as Secretary-designate) during the Annual Meeting in Agadir.

A short biography for Dr Brockington is attached. A notice has also been posted on our website at: <http://www.iwcoffice.org/other/latest.htm>.

Dr. Nicky Grandy
Secretary to the Commission

Simon Brockington

Simon is a 38-year-old British citizen currently living in Cambridge, United Kingdom. He has a PhD in polar marine biology (2001), a postgraduate diploma in Applied Marine Science (1996) and a BSc in Aquatic Biology (1992). He has published a range of scientific papers in marine ecology and fisheries and was recently awarded the polar medal by Her Majesty the Queen in recognition of his research done in the Antarctic.

Simon is currently employed as Head of Conservation for the Marine Conservation Society (MCS). MCS is a national non-governmental organisation concerned with the sustainable use of UK seas, focusing especially on biodiversity, fisheries and marine pollution. As part of his role he leads a team of 17 conservation scientists who work with government, industry and the public to provide increased protection for the marine environment. Simon's own interests are in marine protected areas and their contribution to biodiversity recovery.

Prior to joining MCS Simon worked for Natural England (2003-2007), which is the UK Government's statutory nature conservation advisor. As Programme Manager for Natural England's marine protected areas programme Simon played a key role in developing proposals for protected areas at sea under the European Union's Habitats Directive. Subsequently Simon transferred to senior specialist in Natural England's policy team, where he became familiar with other key marine environmental issues including fisheries management.

In his earlier career Simon was Head of Environmental Sciences for an offshore survey and worked for the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) as a marine biologist. During his time with BAS he spent a total of five years working in Antarctica.

