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Circular Communication to Commissioners, Contracting Governments and  
Members of the Scientific Committee  
IWC.ALL.444  
*c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC*

**Expert Panel on Ship Strikes  
Call for Nominations**

At IWC68 in 2022 the Commission endorsed the Conservation Committee's recommendation to establish an Expert Panel on Ship Strikes, which will report to the Working Group on Ship Strikes and the Scientific Committee.

The purpose of this Circular is to invite Contracting Governments, members of the Scientific Committee and Conservation Committee and Observers to submit nominations for members of the Expert Panel. It is intended that the Expert Panel will draw on a wide range of expertise in cetacean science, maritime industries, ship strikes mitigation and policy development. Proposed Terms of Reference and modus operandi for the Expert Panel are attached, along with further details of the selection process. The time commitment is for a two-year appointment to the Expert Panel, to attend online quarterly meetings and respond to email requests for expert input as needed.

Nominations should be sent to [secretariat@iwc.int](mailto:secretariat@iwc.int) by **24 March 2023** accompanied by a short supporting statement (max. 500 words) and a CV setting out the prospective member's expertise, abilities and willingness to serve on the Expert Panel. For any informal queries potential respondents can contact [secretariat@iwc.int](mailto:secretariat@iwc.int).

Dr Rebecca Lent  
Executive Secretary