

The Red House 135 Station Road Impington, Cambridge CB24 9NP, UK

> RJL/JAC/33241 2 June 2023

***** CORRECTION *****

Please note that the 30-day deadline for comments after the posting of the SC69A Scientific Committee Report is **29 June 2023** as corrected below.

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

IWC.ALL.451

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

Report of the Scientific Committee 2023

I am pleased to announce the publication of the report of the IWC Scientific Committee meeting (SC69A) held in-person from 24 April to 6 May 2023 is now online. The report and its annexes are available <u>here</u>.

After three year of virtual meetings the Committee was again able to meet in-person in Bled, Slovenia. The meeting was attended by over 235 cetacean scientists from 31 Countries including 63 invited participants who joined virtually.

On behalf of the Scientific Committee Chair, Alex Zerbini, and Vice-Chair, Lindsay Porter, I would like to thank the leadership of the Scientific Committee, and everyone involved in the meeting for their cooperative spirit and commitment to ensuring that the meeting was both productive and inclusive.

In line with the new Rules of Procedure adopted at IWC68, the report is to be adopted by the Commission using a silence procedure 30 days after publication. In this regard, if you have any concerns as to the contents of the report, please contact <u>secretariat@iwc.int</u> before **29 June 2023**.

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Dr Iain Staniland Head of Science, Conservation and Management

Chair: Amadou Télivel Diallo (Republic of Guinea) *Vice-Chair*: Nick Gales (Australia) *Executive Secretary*: Rebecca Lent