

40th Annual Meeting, 1988
(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 39)

IWC Resolution 1988-1
Resolution on Norwegian Proposal for Special Permits

WHEREAS the International Whaling Commission adopted in 1986 a Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research (*IWC/38128*) and in 1987 a Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes (*Rep. in Whal. Commn 38: 27*);

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the Report of the Scientific Committee (*IWC/40/4*) concerning the research programmes to be conducted under special permits, and recognises that the continuation of sighting surveys of the Norwegian Research Programme would continue to make an important contribution to knowledge of the distribution and abundance of whales in the Northeast Atlantic, and further encourages the implementation of the projects dealing with natural marking studies and the development of passive acoustic methods;

WHEREAS the Commission takes cognizance of Article VIII of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, under which the granting by any Contracting Government to its nationals of a special permit authorising the killing, taking or treatment of whales for purposes of scientific research remains the responsibility of each Contracting Government, exercising its sovereign rights in respect of maritime areas under its jurisdiction and freedom of the high seas;

Now, THEREFORE, the Commission

CONSIDERS; taking into account the comments of the Scientific Committee; that the proposed kill of minke whales in the North Atlantic under the research programme described in *SC/40/Mi7* does not satisfy each of the criteria specified in both the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and the 1987 Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes in that the proposed research is not structured so as to contribute information essential for rational management of the stock and that the proposed kill will not materially facilitate the Comprehensive Assessment, and further that it has not been established that the proposed research addresses critically important research needs;

REQUESTS the Secretary to inform the Government of Norway accordingly.

40th Annual Meeting, 1988
(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 39)

IWC Resolution 1988-2
Resolution on the Icelandic Proposal for Scientific Catches

WHEREAS the International Whaling Commission adopted in 1986 a Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research (IWC/38/28) and in 1987 a Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes (*Rep. in Whal. Commn* 38: 27);

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the Report of the Scientific Committee (IWC/40/4) concerning the research programmes to be conducted under special permits, and it is recognised that the sighting survey of the Icelandic Research Programme has made an important contribution to knowledge of the distribution and abundance of whales in the North Atlantic;

WHEREAS the Commission takes cognizance of Article VIII of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, under which the granting by any Contracting Government to its nationals of a special permit authorising the killing, taking or treatment of whales for purposes of scientific research remains the responsibility of each Contracting Government, exercising its sovereign rights in respect of maritime areas under its jurisdiction and freedom of the high seas;

WHEREAS at the 1987 meeting the Commission adopted the view that the proposed take of fin, sei and minke whales under special permit did not fully satisfy the criteria set forth in the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and recommended that the Government of Iceland revoke and refrain from issuing special permits to its nationals until the uncertainties identified in the Scientific Committee Report (IWC/39/4) had been resolved to the satisfaction of the Scientific Committee;

WHEREAS the Government of Iceland has announced its intention not to issue special permits to take minke whales as described in SC/37/O 20 and as modified in SC/38/ProgRep Iceland;

Now, THEREFORE, the Commission

CONSIDERS; taking into account the comments of the Scientific Committee in 1987, and 1988; that the proposed take of fin and sei whales under special permit as described in SC/37/O 20 and as modified in SC/38/ProgRep Iceland does not satisfy each of the criteria specified in both the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and the 1987 Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes;

REQUESTS the Secretary to inform the Government of Iceland accordingly;

INVITES the Government of Iceland to report in writing to the Commission in time for consideration by the Commission at its 41st Annual Meeting.

40th Annual Meeting, 1988
(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 39)

IWC Resolution 1988-3
Resolution on the Issuance of Special Permits for the Purposes of Scientific Research

WHEREAS it is desirable to operate within the annual calendar of the International Whaling Commission and of its Scientific Committee and that in normal circumstances the procedure for consideration of special permits for the purposes of scientific research is for them to be considered by the Scientific Committee and with its report by the Commission and that intersessional meetings should normally be avoided and called only in exceptional circumstances;

WHEREAS there is no clear procedure for the consideration of reports of the Scientific Committee on the results of intersessional meetings called to consider special permits for the purposes of scientific research and FURTHERMORE it is not the general practice of the IWC to convene intersessional meetings of Commissioners;

WHEREAS it is a responsibility for all Commissioners to have due opportunity to consider and discuss with one another the outcome of the deliberations of the Scientific Committee on all matters, and in particular on any proposals for special permits for the purposes of scientific research;

Now THEREFORE the Commission

RECOMMENDS that following consideration of any special permit(s) for the purposes of scientific research at any intersessional meeting of the Scientific Committee, the Contracting Government(s) responsible for the proposed special permit(s) refrain from issuing any special permit until the expiry of sixty days from the date of circulation of the report of the meeting, to give the Chairman of the Commission sufficient time to consult with the Contracting Governments in order to reach a decision as to how the Commission proceeds.