

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS  
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS  
IWC.CCG.135

**Postal vote to decide on location of the intersessional meeting of the  
Revised Management Scheme (RMS) Working Group**

The Chairman of the Commission, Mr Bo Fernholm, has asked the following information and request to be circulated as quickly as possible to the members of the Commission.

“At the Annual Meeting in Adelaide earlier this year, you will recall that a resolution on the Revised Management Scheme (Resolution 2000-3 – see attached) was adopted by consensus<sup>1</sup>. This resolution recognised that it is important for the future of the Commission that the process to complete the RMS proceed expeditiously, and *inter alia* agreed to re-convene the RMS Working Group before the end of February 2001.

The purpose of the meeting of the Working Group would be to:

- (1) make further progress on the draft text of Chapter V of the Schedule developed by the Working Group in Adelaide, and
- (2) develop a text for the incorporation of the structure and elements of the RMS, including the Revised Management Procedure, into the Schedule. This latter text would be based on a draft to be prepared by the Secretariat and circulated for comment before the 30 November 2000.

In Adelaide, Japan offered to host the intersessional meeting and a formal letter to confirm this offer was sent by the Japanese Commissioner, Mr Morimoto, to the Secretary on 13 October 2000. A second offer to host the meeting was received by the Secretariat from Monaco on 21 September by email, followed by a more formal letter from Prof. Frederic Briand, Alternate Commissioner, on 18 October 2000. The letters from Mr Morimoto and Prof. Briand are attached.

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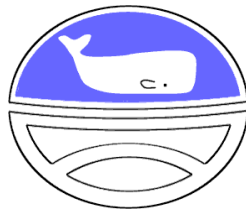
<sup>1</sup> But note that some countries had strong reservations with respect to the last two paragraphs of the resolution.

As Chairman, and following discussions with the Advisory Committee and the Secretary, I propose that a decision on the venue for the intersessional meeting of the RMS Working Group be put to a postal vote. The votes will be treated in strict confidence by the Secretary and recorded by the Secretary in co-operation with myself. After recording the voting forms will be destroyed. Votes cast will be reported to Contracting Governments as the number of countries voting for Japan, for Monaco or abstaining. The venue will be decided by a simple majority of the total number of Contracting Governments whose right to vote has not been suspended (Rule of Procedure E.4). At present there are 36 Contracting Governments eligible to vote, so for a venue to be selected it needs to attract at least 19 votes.

*Bo Fernholm*  
Chairman”

A form for recording your vote is attached to this Circular Communication. The form should be completed and signed by the appointed Commissioner and returned by fax, email (with a hard-copy confirmation to follow) or by letter to the Secretariat **by Friday 3 November 2000.**

Dr. Nicky Grandy  
Secretary to the Commission



## INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

### Venue for the intersessional meeting of the RMS Working Group

#### VOTING FORM

Please mark your vote by putting an X in the appropriate box.

**POSTAL VOTE** on the venue for the RMS Working Group meeting.

**JAPAN:**

**MONACO:**

**ABSTAIN:**

Government of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signed) Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE IWC OFFICE BY FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2000**