

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS  
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS  
IWC.CCG.175

**Proposal to create a South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary**  
**(Document IWC/53/7, Agenda item 7.5)**

Item 7.5 of the Provisional Annotated Agenda circulated on 24 May 2001 (IWC.CCG.171) included reference to Brazil's intention to propose an amendment to the Schedule to establish a South Atlantic Sanctuary.

Please now find attached Document IWC/53/7 submitted by Brazil to support its proposal. This document is also being circulated to the Scientific Committee, under a separate circular communication, for review and discussion during its meeting.

Document IWC/53/7 provides background and objectives of the sanctuary, and also includes proposed text for the Schedule amendment by inserting a new sub-paragraph in paragraph 7 of Chapter III as follows:

*"In accordance with Article V(1)(c) of the Convention, commercial whaling, whether by pelagic operations or from land stations, is prohibited in a region designated as the South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary. This Sanctuary comprises the waters of the South Atlantic Ocean enclosed by the following line: starting from the Equator, then generally south following the eastern coastline of South America to the coast of Tierra del Fuego and, starting from a point situated at Lat 55°07,3'S Long 066°25,0'W; thence to the point Lat 55°11,0'S Long 066°04,7'W; thence to the point Lat 55°22,9'S Long 065°43,6'W; thence due South to Parallel 56°22,8'S; thence to the point Lat 56°22,8'S Long 067°16,0'W; thence due South, along the Cape Horn Meridian, to 60°S, where it reaches the boundary of the Southern Ocean Sanctuary; thence due east following the boundaries of this Sanctuary to the point where it reaches the boundary of the Indian Ocean Sanctuary at 40°S; thence due north following the boundary of this Sanctuary until it reaches the coast of South Africa; thence it follows the coastline of Africa to the west and north until it reaches the Equator; thence due west to the coast of Brazil, closing the perimeter at the starting point. This prohibition shall be reviewed twenty years after its initial adoption and at succeeding ten-year intervals, and could be revised at such times by the Commission. Nothing in this sub-paragraph shall prejudice the sovereign rights of coastal states according to, inter alia, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea."*

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Secretary to the Commission