



International Whaling Commission

Chairman
Mr Michael Canny (Ireland)

Vice-Chairman
Prof. Bo Fernholm (Sweden)

Secretary
Dr Ray Gambell OBE
RG/JAC/27007

The Red House
135 Station Road
Histon, Cambridge
CB4 4NP U.K.

Tel: +44 (0) 1223 233971
Fax: +44 (0) 1223 232876
E-Mail: iwcoffice@compuserve.com
6 January 1998

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.9

Chairman's Intersessional Consultation

Further to the Circular Communication dated 22 December 1997 (ref: IWC.CCG.7; RG/JAC/27004), Mr Daven Joseph, the Commissioner for Antigua and Barbuda, has blocked up to 100 rooms at the Royal Antigua Hotel where the consultation proceedings will be convened from 3-5 February 1998. However, participants will be required to make their individual reservation for these rooms through the Hotel's Marketing office in Florida. The contact person is:

Mr. John Cather
Antigua Resorts
6401 Congress Avenue
Suite 100
Boka Rattan
Florida 33487
USA

Tel: +1 561 994 5640
Fax: +1 561 994 6344
e-mail: jcather@antigua.resort.com

When Commissioners make their reservations they should mention to Mr. Cather that they are delegates to the IWC meeting in order to benefit from the special rate for participants of US\$125.00 + 18.5% tax per night.

The Chairman plans to use the five points of the "Irish Compromise Proposal" as the basis for the Agenda as follows:

Opening by the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda

(1) **Adoption of the RMS into the IWC Schedule**, structured in the manner already agreed in the Commission's Resolutions on the RMS. This will have the effect of bringing all coastal commercial whaling back under IWC management through the RMS.

(2) **Restriction of quotas to coastal areas only**, where they are justified under the RMS, and indefinite extension of the zero-catch provisions of paragraph 10(e) with regard to pelagic whaling (where 'pelagic' here means any commercial whaling other than coastal whaling, regardless of the technology used). The effect of this measure will be to create a Global Oceans Sanctuary for whales.

- (3) **Limiting whaling to catches for local consumption**, to avoid the pressure on whaling inherent in a general resumption of international trade in whale products by
- (4) **Phase out lethal scientific whaling over a period.** Initiation of a process for an agreement to phase out existing scientific whaling programs and not to extend or expand scientific whaling in the future, except with the agreement of the Scientific Committee and the Commission.
- (5) **Development of IWC regulations for whale watching** to minimise the impacts of disturbance on whale populations.

Any Other Business

Morning sessions will commence at 9.30am, and it is expected that informal consultations and discussions will take place in the afternoons.

The meeting will be closed to observers, but the Chairman will meet any NGO representatives at the end of each day's work.



Dr. R. Gambell
Secretary to the Commission