



# International Whaling Commission

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## CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.14

### Draft Agenda for the 50th Annual Meeting, Oman

The Commission's Rule of Procedure H.2(d)(i), requires the Secretary to despatch a draft agenda to all Contracting Governments and Commissioners 100 days in advance of the 50th Annual Meeting to be held in Muscat, Oman, 16-20 May 1998.

The enclosed draft has been drawn up in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission on the basis of decisions and recommendations made at the 49th Annual Meeting and subsequent developments.

Any comments and additions with annotations to the agenda should be forwarded to the Secretary as early as possible, and no later than **9 March 1998** so that the fully annotated agenda with supporting documentation can be prepared and circulated the necessary 60 days in advance of the meeting, as required by Rule H.2(d)(ii).

A provisional financial statement for 1997/98, budget estimates and financial contributions for 1998/99 and forecast estimates and contributions for 1999/2000 will be distributed with the annotated provisional agenda, together with any other meeting documentation available.

Dr. R. Gambell  
Secretary to the Commission

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**DRAFT AGENDA**

50TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION  
16 - 20 MAY 1998, MUSCAT, OMAN

1. ADDRESS OF WELCOME
2. OPENING STATEMENTS  
(Papers IWC/50/OS --)
3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING
4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
5. SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS AND SMALL-TYPE WHALING  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 5)
6. WHALEWATCHING  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 6)
  - 6.1 Report of the Scientific Committee  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
  - 6.2 Action arising
7. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
(to be circulated as Paper IWC/50/5)
8. HUMANE KILLING  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 8 and Appendix 1)
  - 8.1 Report of the Humane Killing Working Group  
(Paper IWC/50/12)
  - 8.2 Information on improving the humaneness of aboriginal subsistence whaling
  - 8.3 Action arising  
(Any provisions adopted may require amendment of the Schedule)

9.        **INFRACTIONS, 1997 SEASON**  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 9 and appendix 2)
  - 9.1        **Report of Infractions Sub-committee**  
(Paper IWC/50/7)
    - 9.1.1      **Infractions reports from Contracting Governments**  
(Paper IWC/50/6)
    - 9.1.2      **Reports from Contracting Governments on availability, sources and shipments of whale meat and products, and relevant developments; and on stockpiles and sale of whale meat and products, domestic laws and enforcement actions on illegal possession and sale**
    - 9.1.3      **Other matters**
  - 9.2        **Action arising**
  
10.       **ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING**  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 10)
  - 10.1       **Report of Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Sub-committee**  
(Paper IWC/50/13)
  - 10.2       **Aboriginal subsistence whaling scheme**
    - 10.2.1     **Report of the Scientific Committee**  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
    - 10.2.2     **Action arising**  
(Changes to the management procedure or other regulations will require amendment of the Schedule including paragraphs 12, 13 and Table 1)
  - 10.3       **Review of aboriginal subsistence whaling catch limits**
    - 10.3.1     **Report of the Scientific Committee**  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
      - 10.3.1.1    **Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas stock of bowhead whales**
      - 10.3.1.2    **North Pacific Eastern stock of gray whales**
      - 10.3.1.3    **North Atlantic West Greenland stock of minke whales**
      - 10.3.1.4    **North Atlantic humpback whales**
    - 10.3.2     **Action arising**  
(Changes to the catch limits or other regulations will require amendment of the Schedule including paragraphs 12, 13 and Table 1)

11. **COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF WHALE STOCKS**  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 11 and Appendix 3)
  - 11.1 **Revised Management Procedure**
    - 11.1.1 **Report of the Scientific Committee**  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
    - 11.1.2 **Action arising**
  - 11.2 **Whale stocks**
    - 11.2.1 **Report of the Scientific Committee**  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
      - 11.2.1.1 **Southern Hemisphere baleen whales**
      - 11.2.1.2 **North Pacific minke whales**
      - 11.2.1.3 **North Atlantic minke whales**
      - 11.2.1.4 **Southern Hemisphere minke whales**
      - 11.2.1.5 **North Pacific Bryde's whales**
      - 11.2.1.6 **Other stocks**
    - 11.2.2 **Action arising**  
(Changes to the management procedure, classification and catch limits of stocks, areas or sub-areas will require amendment of the Schedule including paragraphs 9, 10, 11, 12 and Tables 1, 2 and 3)
  - 11.3 **Future work plans**
    - 11.3.1 **Report of the Scientific Committee**  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
    - 11.3.2 **Action arising**
12. **REVISED MANAGEMENT SCHEME**  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Annual Meeting, paragraph 12 and Appendix 4)
  - 12.1 **Report of the Working Group on the Revised Management Scheme**  
(Paper IWC/50/14)
    - 12.1.1 **Inspection and observation schemes**
    - 12.1.2 **Schedule amendments**
  - 12.2 **Other matters**
  - 12.3 **Action arising**  
(Incorporation of the Revised Management Procedure and the Revised Management Scheme, and changes to the data requirements, survey guidelines, inspection and observer schemes will require amendment of the Schedule, including Paragraph 10 and Chapters 5 and 6.)

13. SOUTHERN OCEAN SANCTUARY  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 13)
  - 13.1 Report of the Scientific Committee  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
  - 13.2 Other matters
  - 13.3 Action arising
  
14. SCIENTIFIC PERMITS  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 14 and Appendices 5 and 6)
  - 14.1 Report of the Scientific Committee  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
  - 14.2 Action arising
  
15. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
  - 15.1 Research proposals  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 15 and Appendix 7)
    - 15.1.1 Report of the Scientific Committee  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
    - 15.1.2 Action arising
  - 15.2 Research on the environment and whale stocks  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 15.2 and Appendix 7)
    - 15.2.1 Report of the Scientific Committee  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
    - 15.2.2 Action arising
  
16. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS
  - 16.1 Observers' Reports  
(Paper IWC/50/10)
  - 16.2 Other
  - 16.5 Action arising

17. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
(to be circulated as Paper IWC/50/4)  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 17 and Appendix 8)
  - 17.1 Small Cetaceans
  - 17.2 Small Cetacean topics for consideration by the Scientific Committee in 1999, 2000 and 2001
  - 17.3 Other
  
18. THE FUTURE OF THE IWC  
(Amendments to the Schedule may arise under this item)
  
19. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND BUDGET ESTIMATES  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 18)
  - 19.1 Review of provisional financial statement, 1997/98  
(Paper IWC/50/8A)
  - 19.2 Consideration of estimated basic budgets, 1998/99 and 1999/2000  
(Paper IWC/50/8B)
    - 19.2.1 Research proposals  
(Paper IWC/50/4)
    - 19.2.2 Assessment of contributions from Contracting Governments  
(Paper IWC/50/15)
  - 19.3 Action arising
  
20. IWC ADMINISTRATION  
(Chairman's Report of the 49<sup>th</sup> Meeting, paragraph 23 and Appendices 9 and 10)  
(Paper IWC/50/22)
  - 20.1 Review of administrative systems
  - 20.2 Advisory Committee
  - 20.3 Annual Meeting arrangements
  - 20.4 Communications
  - 20.5 Action arising

21. AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
(Paper IWC/50/16)
  - 21.1 Voting procedures
  - 21.2 Observers
  - 21.3 Advisory Committee
  - 21.4 Scientific Committee
  - 21.4 Action arising  
(Amendment and addition of various Rules of Procedure are proposed)
  
22. DATE AND PLACE OF ANNUAL MEETINGS  
(Rules of Procedure, Rule B.1.)  
(Chairman's Report of the 49th Meeting, paragraph 29)
  - 22.1 51st Annual Meeting, 1999
  - 22.2 52nd Annual Meeting, 2000
  
23. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
(to be circulated as Paper IWC/50/9)
  
24. ANNUAL REPORT 1997-98  
(Paper IWC/50/11 Draft)
  
25. ANY OTHER BUSINESS