



International
Whaling
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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS, CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
AND MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
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Information on Preparatory Workshop for Assessing the Impacts of Marine Debris

At IWC/64 in 2012 the Commission noted the potential and actual threats to cetaceans from marine debris. It therefore endorsed a joint recommendation from the Scientific and Conservation Committees to hold a workshop to address this issue.

To support the joint process a preparatory scientific workshop will be held at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, MA, USA from 13-17 May 2013. The overall aim of the workshop will be to determine how marine debris is affecting cetacean populations, and how best to monitor and mitigate for these effects.

The joint Conservation Committee & Scientific Committee workshop will then be held before the next Commission meeting in 2014. This joint workshop will receive the recommendations from the preparatory workshop and will focus on the development of IWC management recommendations.

Further information on the preparatory workshop, including registration and accommodation details, is now available through the IWC meetings portal at:

<http://events.iwc.int/index.php/workshops>

Simon Brockington
Executive Secretary

c.c. Intergovernmental Organisation observers to the IWC