

69th Meeting of the International Whaling Commission

ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING SUB-COMMITTEE

12:00-14:30Hrs Sunday 22 September 2024 at the Los Defines Hotel, Lima, Peru

PROVISIONAL AGENDA
and annotations

1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- 1.1 Appointment of Chair [Bruno Mainini, Switzerland, is proposed]
- 1.2 Appointment of Rapporteurs [The Secretariat will rapporteur]
- 1.3 Review of Documents
- 1.4 Observer Participation [Relevant Rules of Procedure are given at the end of this agenda]

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. SUMMARY OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE PROGRESS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Scientific Committee has been developing an ASW management procedure approach. This item allows the Scientific Committee to update the Commission on its work to assess the use of its agreed Strike Limit Algorithms in providing management advice to the Commission. At its recent SC69B meeting the Scientific Committee reviewed the available information for all ASW hunts to ensure that the levels of proposed ASW catches are safely within the Commission's objectives.

4. ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

The Commission has set objectives for the management of aboriginal subsistence whaling to: (a) ensure that the risks of extinction to individual stocks are not seriously increased by subsistence whaling (highest priority); (b) enable aboriginal people to harvest whales in perpetuity at levels appropriate to their cultural and nutritional requirements, subject to the other objectives; and (c) maintain the status of stocks at or above the level giving the highest net recruitment and to ensure that stocks below that level are moved towards it, so far as the environment permits.

4.1 ASW catch limit extensions

Size and duration of catch limits for Aboriginal Whaling are set out at paragraph 13 of the Schedule to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling. The current catch/strike limits were set at IWC67 and are applicable until 2025. This year the Commission needs to set catch/strike limits for 2026-2031 (Document ASW/69/4.1/01).

With the adoption of Schedule amendment to paragraph 13(a)(6) at IWC67 in 2018, the IWC made an affirmative decision to automatically extend the existing ASW strike/catch limits every six years if certain conditions have been met and the appropriate Strike Limit Algorithms (SLAs) have been developed. The conditions are as follows:

- (a) the Scientific Committee advises in 2024, and every six years thereafter, that such limits will not harm that stock;*

- (b) the Commission does not receive a request from an ASW country relying on the stock ('relevant ASW country'), for a change in the relevant catch limits based on need; and*
- (c) the Commission determines that the relevant ASW country has complied with the approved timeline and that the information provided represents a "status quo" continuation of the hunt.*

The Commission will need to make a determination that the relevant ASW countries have complied with the approved timeline and that the information provided represents a "status quo" continuation of the hunt. If all the conditions of paragraph 13(a)(6) have been met, the Commission can extend the strike/catch limits in paragraph 13(b).

5. ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION OF AD-HOC ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Report of the Indigenous Rights Instruments Survey

Recommendations of the ASW WG meeting held in Barrow, Alaska, April 2018 (Document IWC/67/ASW/REP/01) called for a survey of international indigenous and human rights instruments, in order to inform the Commission's role in addressing indigenous rights. The Terms of Reference and Tender process for this review were agreed at IWC68 and this item will allow for the consideration of the Report resulting from this process.

5.2 Discussion and recommendations

6. PROGRESS ON ASW RECOMMENDATIONS

At IWC67 in September 2018, the Commission: endorsed the aims and principles of the IWC Database of Recommendations; instructed the Secretariat to populate the database and facilitate its use. Since then, the Secretariat has populated the database with all the recommendations from IWC67 and IWC68 from all Committees. The SC and CC have been using outputs from the database to review implementation of its recommendations and track progress.

6.1 Consideration of recommendations to close

This item allows for a discussion on use of recommendations by the ASW. An extract of all ASW recommendations in the database (2018-2022) are available with their progress highlighted to help facilitate discussion. Alongside this is a document with a list of recommendations proposed for closure.

7. OTHER MATTERS

8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The Chair will propose to adopt the report by correspondence.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference of the Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Sub-committee are to consider relevant information and documentation from the Scientific Committee, and to consider nutritional, subsistence and cultural needs relating to aboriginal subsistence whaling and the use of whales taken for such purposes, and to provide advice on the dependence of aboriginal communities on specific whale stocks to the Commission for its consideration and determination of appropriate management measures (*Rep. Int. Whal. Commn* 48: 31).

ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

Rule of Procedure C.2

2. Observers accredited in accordance with Rule [of procedure] C.1.(a) and (b) are admitted to all meetings of the Commission and the Technical Committee, and to any meetings of Committees and all subsidiary groups of the Commission and the Technical Committee, except the Commissioners-only meetings, meetings of the Bureau and closed meetings of the Finance and Administration Committee.

SPEAKING RIGHTS FOR OBSERVERS

Rule of Procedure C.3

3. Observers accredited in accordance with rule C.1.(a) and (b) will have speaking rights during Plenary sessions and sessions of Commission subsidiary groups and Committees to which they are admitted to under C.2, in accordance with the Rules of Debate of the Commission. Observers might also submit documents for information to the delegations and observers participating in such sessions, provided these are submitted through the Secretariat at least 48 hours before the session in which they are intended to be made available, and are duly authored or endorsed by the accredited organisation making the submission, which is to be held responsible for its contents.

Rules of Debate Paragraph A

A. Right to Speak

1. The Chair shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak, with the exception of accredited Observers, which should be allowed to speak only after all Commissioners desiring to speak do so. As a general rule, Observers will only be allowed to speak once at each Agenda item under discussion, and at the discretion of the Chair.