

69th Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission

WORKING GROUP ON OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (WG-OE)

Wednesday, 28 August 2024, Virtual, 14:00-15:30 and 16:00-17:30 (if needed) (BST)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA
and annotations

1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- 1.1. Appointment of Chairs *[Jack Collier, UK, and Lisa Phelps, USA, is proposed]*
- 1.2. Appointment of rapporteurs
- 1.3. Review of documents
- 1.4. Observer participation

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. DISCUSSION ON WG-OE PAPER

The WG-OE focuses on procedural and cost saving matters and is tasked to discuss these with the WG-OE members, collecting best-practice options and to provide recommendations to the F&A Committee and subsequently the IWC Plenary.

The IWC68 Commission charged the WG-OE with the following items for consideration at IWC69:

- 3.1. Quorum
- 3.2. Exceptional Circumstances
- 3.3. Align Suspension of Voting Rights with Biennial Meeting Schedule
- 3.4. Payment Plans
- 3.5. Other Items

4. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE F&A COMMITTEE (AND PLENARY)

The WG-OE is tasked with developing recommendations to take forward to the F&A Committee and subsequently the IWC Plenary.

5. ADOPTION OF REPORT

The Chairs will propose to adopt the report by correspondence.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

At IWC64, in 2012, the Commission endorsed a recommendation from the F&A Committee to establish a Working Group on Operational Effectiveness, made up of Contracting Governments representing a range of views and interests, to form a select panel. Established to review and strengthen the Commission's institutional and governance arrangements, and to lead on independent reviews of best practice used in other multilateral treaty bodies.

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.