

Arrangements for Next Meetings

The Secretariat

The Commission's Rule of Procedure B.2 states '*Before the end of each Annual Meeting, the Commission shall decide on: (1) the length of the Annual Commission Meeting and associated meetings the following year; and (2) which of the Commission's sub-groups need to meet*'.

1 Location

At present no Contracting Government has offered to host either the next Scientific Committee or Commission meeting. Any government interesting in hosting should contact the Secretariat who will be pleased to supply relevant information. However if no offers are received to host either of these meetings by the close of IWC/64 the Secretariat will proceed to make arrangements in a cost effective location.

2 Timing

In 2011 the Commission endorsed a recommendation from the Finance and Administration Committee that the meetings of the Scientific Committee and Commission should be separated by a period of 100 days or longer. The Finance and Administration Committee also recorded that the meetings of the Scientific Committee should continue to be held in the period mid-May to mid-June.

Commissioners are invited to agree that:

- The next Scientific Committee meeting will be held over two weeks in May – June 2013
- The next Commission meeting be held during September to October in either 2013 or 2014

3 Length of the next Commission meeting

In 2011 the Commission plenary meeting was held over four days, whereas in 2012 five days have been allocated. Commissioners are invited to agree the length of the plenary session for IWC/65.

In the absence of a host government, financial restrictions are likely to require the meeting period to be shortened.

4 Which of the Commission's sub-groups need to meet

In 2012 the full set of Commission's sub-groups were timetabled to meet, these being (1) Whale Killing Methods and Associated Welfare Issues; (2) Infractions; (3) Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling; (4) Conservation Committee; (5) Budgetary Sub-committee; (6) Finance and Administration Committee.

Commissioners are invited to agree if the same set of sub-groups should meet prior to IWC/65.

In the absence of a host government, financial restrictions are likely to require the period available for the sub-group meetings to be shortened.