

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
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Adherence of Iceland to the Convention

The Secretariat has been informed by the Embassy of the United States of America in London that on 10 October 2002, Iceland deposited an instrument of adherence to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, done at Washington December 2, 1946, and the Protocol to the Convention, done at Washington November 19, 1956.

The instrument of adherence states, in translation, that Iceland *“adheres to the aforesaid Convention and Protocol with a reservation with respect to paragraph 10(e) of the Schedule attached to the Convention.”*

The instrument further states the following: *“Notwithstanding this, the Government of Iceland will not authorise whaling for commercial purposes by Icelandic vessels before 2006 and, thereafter, will not authorise such whaling while progress is being made in negotiations within the International Whaling Commission on the Revised Management Scheme. This does not apply, however, in case of the so-called moratorium on whaling for commercial purposes, contained in paragraph 10(e) of the Schedule, not being lifted within reasonable time after the completion of the Revised Management Scheme.*

Under no circumstances will whaling for commercial purposes be authorised in Iceland without a sound scientific basis and an effective management and enforcement scheme.”

The instrument of adherence also states that the reservation is an integral part of the instrument.

MARTIN HARVEY
Executive Officer