CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.336

<u>Japanese Special Permits – North Pacific</u>

The Government of Japan has issued Special Permits authorising the implementation of the research for scientific purposes in the North Pacific, and reports this information to the International Whaling Commission in accordance with Article VIII(1) of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling. Copies of the Special Permits are attached.

The Special Permits enclosed have been issued for sighting surveys, biopsy sampling, acoustic surveys and prey-species surveys. The Permits also authorise the research take of 100 minke, 50 Bryde's, 50 Sei and 10 Sperm whales that were referred to in Section 6 of the Special Permits dated 27 June 2002 (see Circular Communication IWC.CCG.258 of 12 July 2002).

Dr. Nicky Grandy Secretary to the Commission