CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.362

Membership of the Contributions Task Force

You will recall that at IWC/55 in Berlin, the Commission agreed the following with respect to membership of the Contributions Task Force:

1. that the remaining members of the Task Force be asked to re-affirm their interest in continuing to serve

Remaining members	Members that have withdrawn (see IWC/55/Rep 2)
Antigua and Barbuda	Monaco
Argentina	Australia
Japan	South Africa
Norway	
Spain	
USA	

2. that Contracting Governments interested in joining the Task Force nominate themselves onto the Task Force to join the remaining members.

The Commission also agreed to the Chair's proposal that the Advisory Committee should review the nominations received to ensure 'balance' in the Task Force.

Although it may be possible for the Task Force to do some work via email correspondence, a meeting will be necessary before next year's Annual Meeting. The need for a meeting was agreed in Berlin. Contracting Governments should therefore consider this when deciding whether or not they wish to join the Task Force. Providing that the Task Force does not become too large, the meeting will take place at the Secretariat's offices in Cambridge.

Initially it was envisioned that the Task Force should meet in September 2003. However, at IWC/55, the Secretariat suggested that it might be more productive to delay the meeting to allow the Secretariat sufficient time to carry out the further development work required. The Secretariat believes that it will be able to complete its work by the end of this year, and therefore proposes that the Task Force meet sometime during the months of January, February or March 2004 depending on availability of members. The meeting will need to be at least 3 days.

I would therefore be grateful if:

- the remaining Task Force members could inform the Secretariat as to whether they wish to continue on the Task Force;
- Contracting Governments wishing to join the Task Force could inform the Secretariat accordingly.

Please also complete and return the form attached indicating the name of your representative and their availability as appropriate.

Responses should reach the Secretariat by 1 October 2003.

Dr. Nicky Grandy Secretary to the Commission

International Whaling Commission

Contributions Task Force

Government:				
Representative:	Name:			
	Address:			
	Tel:			
	Fax:			
	Email:			
Availability for a meeting	at the Secretariat in 2004			
	Please indicate any dates that you are <u>NOT</u> available			
JANUARY				
Week of 5 th to 9 th				
Week of 12 th to 16 th				
Week of 19th to 23th				
Week of 26th to 30th				
FEBRUARY				
Week of 2 nd to 6 th				
Week of 9th to 13th				
Week of 16th to 20th				
Week of 23 rd to 27 th				
MARCH				
Week of 1st to 5th				
Week of 8th to 12th				
Week of 15th to 19th				
Week of 22 nd to 26 th				

Comments?