

NJG/JAC/30039

29 September 2004

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.434

Responses to Circular Communications IWC.CCG.426 and 427 regarding work on the RMS

For the last week or so the Secretariat has been experiencing problems with its email communications, and I am somewhat concerned that some responses to the above two Circular Communications may not have been received by the Secretariat.

Circular Communication IWC.CCG.426 of 20 August 2004 invited comments/positions on key issues in relation to the Chair's proposals for a way forward on the RMS. It included a questionnaire that you were invited to respond to and return by Friday 24 September. As of 29 September, we have received responses from Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, and the UK. Some Contracting Governments have kindly let me know that their responses would be delayed.

Circular Communication IWC.CCG.427 of 23 August, requested Contracting Governments to indicate their interest regarding involvement in (a) the Small Drafting Group and (b) the specialist technical groups that the Commission agreed to establish at IWC/56. Responses were due on Monday 27 September. As of 29 September, responses have been received from Austria, Belgium, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, the UK and the USA.

If your Government has sent a response by e-mail to either of the above Circulars, but is not listed in either paragraph above, I would be most grateful if you could please resend the response by e-mail and fax. I would also be grateful if Contracting Governments that have not yet responded could do so as soon as possible.

Dr. Nicky Grandy
Secretary to the Commission