CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.493

Icelandic Special Permits

The Secretariat has been informed that on 1 July 2005, the Government of Iceland issued three Special Permits authorising the permit holders to engage in whaling for the purposes of scientific research in the year 2005. The Government of Iceland is reporting this information to the International Whaling Commission in accordance with Article VIII(1) of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.

The Government of Iceland reports that: (1) the permits set out numerous restrictions and conditions, including that the total catch will not exceed 39 minke whales; and (2) the whaling operation represents a continuation of the implementation of the Icelandic research plan that has been discussed by the Scientific Committee.

The permits are issued in the Icelandic language and are presently not available in any other language. English translations are to be provided soon and will be circulated to all Commissioners and Contracting Governments on receipt by the Secretariat. Copies in Icelandic can be provided on request.

Dr. Nicky Grandy Secretary to the Commission