

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING

Session of Monday, 23rd June, 1969.

In the Chair: Mr. I. Fujita

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Lady and Gentlemen, will you please come to order. The Twenty-First Session of the International Whaling Commission is now open. Before entering into the deliberations of the Commission, it is my first pleasure to introduce Mr. Norman Buchan, who is the Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Scotland, who will welcome you on behalf of the British Government.

Mr. N. BUCHAN: Mr. Fujita, Lady and Gentlemen, it gives me very great pleasure to have the opportunity again of saying a few words to you before you begin your work this morning. I would like especially to welcome you here on behalf of Her Majesty's Government to London.

Two years ago I met you, not only at the Commission itself, but I had the great pleasure of discussing things with you at the reception during the week. I hope to be able to repeat this and have the same pleasure again tomorrow night.

Since I last spoke to you in 1967, you have met in Japan, in the home country of your Chairman, and from what I have heard, you had a very successful, and enjoyable meeting. London offers rather different attractions, but I hope nevertheless that your stay here will be equally successful. London is your headquarters in the sense that your Secretariat is based here, and it is perhaps appropriate therefore that you should be meeting here this year, for this is the Twenty-First Meeting of the Commission.

In the ordinary course of human affairs, a 'twenty-first birthday is usually regarded as a milestone which calls for celebrations, or at any rate congratulations. I am not sure, however, whether on this occasion all of you would regard this as entirely appropriate for the

Commission. There will be amongst you some delegates who will be looking back to 1946 to the signing of the Convention and remembering the first meeting of the Commission itself in 1949. Some of you may be reflecting on the high ideals and aspirations which inspired the Commission in those early days, and the hope that the Commission would blaze a trail for the rational exploitation of common resources under international control.

You may be contrasting this with some regret with the sort of events which led two countries to withdraw from pelagic whaling in the Antarctic, joined last winter, I was sorry to learn, by another great whaling nation. But although this flame that was started in 1946 has perhaps been only flickering and burning rather low, it still burns. On looking back, the Commission can, I think, legitimately congratulate itself on the fact that but for its work the whale stocks in some areas might well have been extinct altogether, and that through the deliberations of the Commission there has been a greater readiness among member countries to recognise the danger signals and to take action in time.

A twenty-first birthday is not only the moment for taking stock of the past, but also for laying plans for the future and I trust that with the renewed vigour of maturity, the Commission will tackle the continuing problems of conservation. I was especially glad to learn of the agreement that was reached last year to restrict the catching of fin and sei whales in the North Pacific. It does credit to the nations concerned that they were able to conclude this important agreement to conserve these stocks in what is virtually the only large pelagic whaling area outside the Antarctic. It is perhaps a happy augury for the next 21 years.

I am sure you will want to get on with the more serious business of the Commission, this is the first meeting since you, Mr. Chairman, became its chairman, and I will therefore conclude by hoping that the delegates will not only have a profitable and useful meeting of the Commission, but will get some time in which to relax and see something of our City of London. I am looking forward to the reception tomorrow night when you can have one period of relaxation and I shall have the pleasure of meeting and talking with some of you and learning at first hand something of your problems. I would like to wish you a pleasurable, profitable and useful week in London.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Thank you very much, Mr. Buchan. At this stage I have to ask any members of the Press who are present to leave, as the Commission has decided to conduct its deliberations in confidence. I would inform the members of the Press that in accordance with its past practice, at the close of the Meeting a Press Notice will be released.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (United States): Mr. Chairman, I have the sad duty to report to you that Dr. Remington Kellogg, former United States Commissioner, passed away about a month ago. As you know, Dr. Kellogg was the first Chairman of this Commission and served as a Commissioner until, I think, 1965, when I was appointed to replace him.

He was well known to all of you and made great contributions not only to the Commission itself but also to the work of the Scientific Committee. I am very sorry that I have to make this announcement.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) It was a great shock and very distressing to learn from Dr. McHugh that Dr. Kellogg is no longer with us to work in the Commission.

As you all know, Dr. Kellogg played a prominent role as the first Commissioner of the United States and the first Chairman of this Commission, and I remember that he made a tremendous contribution to the work of this Whaling Commission.

/With your permission ...

(The Chairman continued)

With your permission, in order to express our deep sympathy, our deep condolences for the sad passing of Dr. Kellogg I should like to ask the delegates to stand for one moment in his memory and the memory of his achievements and contributions which he made to the Commission.

(The Meeting stood)

Thank you very much. In accordance with past practice, as Chairman of the Commission I would like to extend a hearty welcome to the delegates, Deputy Commissioners and observers from governments and international organisations.

I have no confidence in myself in carrying out the duties of the Chairman of this Commission, but with your co-operation and your understanding I would like to make every effort so that we can complete our deliberations and I can discharge my duties as Chairman.

Before I proceed to the next item, I would like to ascertain the wish of the Commission on the following question: apart from the international organisations to which this Commission usually extends invitations to attend as observers, this year we have received a request from the organisation called The World Federation for the Protection of Animals to be permitted to attend this meeting as an observer. The Director of the organisation has requested permission for Dr. Simpson to be permitted to attend this meeting as an observer. The Rules of Procedure provide that any international organisation may be represented at meetings of the Commission by an observer or observers if the Commission so decides. In accordance with these rules, I would like to ascertain the wish of the Commission.

I have to inform you further that the Ocean Resources Conservation Association, which has been formed out of the World Wild Life Fund, has requested the Commission for permission, so that its representative, Mr. Bourne, be permitted to attend this meeting as an observer. I do not think there is any objection to permitting these two observers to attend this meeting as observers. I wonder if there is any objection to permitting these representatives to attend this meeting as observers.

As I see no objection in the Members of the Commission, I take it that the Commission permits the representatives to attend the meeting. I will ask the Secretary to inform them of the decision of the Commission. Thank you.

We now come to Item 2 of our provisional agenda, Arrangements for meeting and adoption of Agenda.

I would first ask the Secretary to make a roll call of the delegates.

(The roll call was taken, the names of the Commissioners and their experts being recorded in a Conference document.)

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

I should like to go now to the item, "Adoption of Agenda". The Agenda was circulated more than sixty days in advance of the Meeting in accordance with Rule XII of the Rules of Procedure, and the provisional agenda has been modified by the comments received from the various Governments in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. I should like to see the Agenda formally adopted. I wonder if someone will propose the adoption of the Agenda?

(The adoption of the agenda, being proposed by the Soviet and United States Delegations and seconded by the Norwegian Delegation, was agreed.)

I should now like to ask the Secretary, Mr. Stacey, if he wishes to make any announcement about arrangements for the Meeting.

(The Secretary then made announcements regarding Conference arrangements.)

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Stacey. If there is no Delegate who wishes to raise questions concerning this item, I should like to proceed to the next item on the Agenda.

Lady and Gentlemen, I should like to deal with item 3 on our Agenda. Rule XVIII of the Rules of Procedure provides that all Commissioners present or represented have the right to nominate members of the Scientific and Technical Committees. Therefore, I should like to ask the Secretary to poll the Commissioners to determine if they desire representation on the Scientific Committee and the Technical Committee.

/Poll taken

The SECRETARY: This is the poll for the Scientific Committee.

Argentina	No
Australia	No
Canada	Yes
Denmark	No
France	Yes
Iceland	No
Japan	Yes
Mexico	No
Netherlands	No
New Zealand	No
Norway	Yes
South Africa	No
USSR	Yes
USA	Yes
United Kingdom	Yes

We will now poll for the Technical Committee.

Argentina	No
Australia	Yes
Canada	Yes
Denmark	No
France	Yes
Iceland	No
Japan	Yes
Mexico	No
Netherlands	No
New Zealand	No
Norway	Yes
South Africa	Yes
USSR	Yes
USA	Yes
United Kingdom	Yes

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Stacey. The other Committee we have to appoint is the Finance and Administration Committee, and the Rules of Procedure say that it shall consist of five Commissioners appointed by the Chairman. In considering the selection of the members of the Finance and Administration Committee, I have followed the past practice and pattern for members of the Committee. In addition, I have considered the degree of interest and concern of the possible members with regard to their financial questions. In pursuance of this, I would like to nominate the following members: Mexico; Canada; Norway; U.S.S.R.; Japan. Is there any objection to the nominations I have made for members to serve on the Finance and Administration Committee?

If not, I take it that the three Committees, including the Finance and Administration Committee, have

been established and I know that the Scientific Committee has been meeting since last week, and I expect the other Committees are going to meet during this week. I would like to express my sincere desire that the members of these Committees will carry out their duties in a speedy manner so that we shall be able to complete our work this week.

I would now propose that we adjourn for coffee, and return promptly in order to complete referring the items of the Agenda to the appropriate committees this morning.

(The Meeting adjourned at 11.25 a.m.)

(The Meeting reconvened at 11.40 a.m.)

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Lady and Gentlemen, may we resume the meeting? We would like to go on to Item 4, Finance and Administration. Under this heading there are two sets of items, as you see on the Agenda:

(a) Review of the Commission's financial position (accounts for 1968/69) covering ordinary and extraordinary budget and estimate for 1969/70.

(b) Review of the level of contribution and stock assessment levy from Contracting Governments.

The necessary documents have been circulated as a document, number IWC/21/3.

It is the practice of this Commission to refer this matter to the Finance and Administration Committee, which we have just set up, and I would like to follow that practice to refer the matter to the Committee you have set up, and to take up this item again at an appropriate subsequent plenary session. I wonder if there is any objection to this procedure. (Agreed) Since there seems to be no objection I consider that it has been so decided.

I would like to go on to Item 5, Review of previous season's catches. It has been our practice to ask Mr. Vangstein of the International Bureau of Statistics, to report under this Item, but it seems that Mr. Vangstein is not present today. I wonder whether I could ask Mr. Rindal, the representative of Norway, to report on his behalf.

Mr. I. RINDAL (Norway): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

On behalf of Mr. Vangstein, I should like to read out his report to you, which is as follows.

"Since the last meeting of the Commission the Committee for International Whaling Statistics has issued its publications nos. 61 and 62. The former comprises the catch outside the Antarctic for 1967, together with the catch in the Antarctic 1966/67, thus giving the data for the world catch 1967. A preliminary issue of the publication was presented at the meeting in Tokyo. Publication No. 62 comprises the catch in the Antarctic in 1967/68. Information concerning this catch was also presented in Tokyo.

"At this meeting data concerning the catch outside the Antarctic in 1968 and the catch in the Antarctic in 1968/69 is submitted.

"No catch was undertaken from the Cape Province, South Africa and British Columbia during 1968. No reports concerning the catch from Chile in 1968 has been received. It is possible that no activity was undertaken, but this

has to be further investigated.

"The largest catch is made in the North Pacific. Six pelagic expeditions caught about 1,700 BWU and about 12,500 sperm whales. About 540,000 barrels of whale and sperm oil was produced. The production in the Antarctic during the last season was about 140,000 barrels less. Japan and the Soviet Union each had three pelagic expeditions against three and four respectively in 1967/68.

"According to reports received, no blue whale was caught in 1967 and only two hump-back whales were taken. A former whale catcher has been converted to a combined catching/factory ship and in 1968 started to hunt baleen whales off the coast of Africa. The ship is reported to be registered in Bermuda. It has been impossible to obtain data concerning this catch. Its activity is mainly based on the production of meat which is sold in England.

"Outside the Antarctic the Antarctic pelagic expeditions in 1968 caught about 1,100 sperm whales.

"Three Japanese and three Russian expeditions participated in the Antarctic season 1968/69. No activity was undertaken from the land stations at South Georgia.

"The global quota was established at 3,200 BWU. After the meeting of the Commission in Tokyo, Japan, USSR and Norway agreed to maintain the same national quota agreement for 1968/69 as the one in operation for the previous season.

"The distribution was as follows:

Japan	1,493	units
USSR	976	"
Norway	731	"

"However, no Norwegian expedition was sent to the Antarctic. The Japanese and Russian expeditions limited their catch to the quota allotted to them according to this quota agreement. The total catch in the Antarctic for the season 1968/69, therefore, amounted to 2,470 units or 730 units less than the global quota. International agreements on quotas have been in operation for seven seasons (1962/69). During this period the total catch has been 7,800 units less than the sum of the yearly established global quotas for the same years. The reason for this reduction is that Norwegian, British and Dutch expeditions have not caught the quota to which they were entitled in accordance with the quota agreements. It can be safely said that this reduction to a very large degree has contributed to the maintenance of the whale stock and thus to the present possibilities for continued operations.

"The activities of the expeditions were brought to a close before the official closing date, namely April 7th. The first Japanese expedition ended its catch on March 1st, 1969. The catch measured in BWU per whale catcher per day was 0.30. This is about the same result as in the previous four seasons. However, during this period larger and more powerful whale catchers have been used and this ought to have given a somewhat larger catch per whale catcher. On the other hand, more whale catchers have been used by each factory ship. This has the opposite effect as an increase of whale catchers per factory generally reduces the medium catch per catcher.

"There was a marked change in the relation sei/fin whale during the last season, as compared with the last previous seasons. The catch of sei whales fell with about 4,500 units to about 8,500 units. Simultaneously 850 more fin whales were caught than in the season 1967/68, or altogether about 3,000 fin whales. The relation sei/fin in 1965/66 was 7.6 : 1, in 1967/68 5 : 1 and in the last season 2 : 1. Whether this change is a result of marked reduction in the stock of sei whales or whether the stock of fin whales was numerous enough to enable the expeditions to concentrate on this more valuable species, must be left to the judgment of the scientists. The relation sei/fin, however, varied from expedition to expedition. In one expedition the relation was about 9 sei to 1 fin, in another of the same nationality it was 3/4 sei to 1 fin.

"One unit of sei whale is supposed to give more meat than one unit of fin whale. It has, therefore, been assumed that certain expeditions have concentrated on the catch of sei whales because of the higher meat production. The expedition with the largest catch of sei whales, however, had only an unsubstantially higher production of meat and other by-products as compared with the expedition with the lowest number of sei whales. The expedition with the many sei whales, however, showed a substantially lower production of oil. The production data for this as for the previous season does not indicate a larger production of by-products from sei whales than from fin whales.

"In area I about 75 units were caught. In area II about 50 units. In the latter area about 5,000 units were caught, only some seasons ago.

"The activities moved somewhat eastwards and northwards as compared with the previous season. In areas IV and V about 63 per cent of the total catch was taken, or about 1,550 units as against about 47 per cent in 1967/68. The catch as given in units amounted to about 50 per cent between 40° and 50° south. The catch of sei whales in the area last mentioned was 72 per cent of the total catch. It was only at the beginning of the 1960s that the expeditions started to concentrate on these waters. In this connection it should be mentioned that when the

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International Whaling Statistics some years ago started to treat the data from the Antarctic statistics electronically, the catching area was split up into, among others, sectors A,B,C, which comprise the areas between, respectively, 50/60° south, 60/70°, etcetera. The catch north of 50° was evidently not foreseen, and this area later got the indication D. In the same manner, the unexpected large number of sei whales caught, resulted in changes in the plans. So far the stock of minke whales in the Antarctic has been of little importance for the expeditions, but it is expected that this might also change.

Last season 2,700 sperm whales....

"Last season 2700 sperm whales were caught in the Antarctic. Outside the Antarctic and on the journey to and from the areas the expeditions caught about 1200 sperm whales.

"During last season the expeditions forwarded weekly reports on their catch given in BWU. On request from the Scientific Committee they also forwarded monthly reports on the catch per catcher day given in 10° square. This information was processed and forwarded to the FAO Committee which thus already before the return of the expeditions had a fairly accurate picture of the development of the catch. A summary of the monthly reports was simultaneously forwarded to Japan and to the Soviet Union.

"The Bureau has received the detailed reports concerning the catch in the Antarctic as quickly as could be expected. However, the last day of activity in the Antarctic as regards sperm whales was 20 May, and the final reports concerning the catch of this species after 7 April were received by the Bureau on 12 June. Some results concerning the catch after the closing of the baleen whale season have, therefore, not been included in the tables showing catch per area, medium size, etcetera.

"On behalf of Mr. Vangstein, I should like to thank the Antarctic expeditions for their promptness in forwarding this statistical material.

"The statistics for the catch outside the Antarctic are still processed manually. The reports on this catch are often received very late. Reports on substantial parts of the catch were thus only received by the middle of May. Thus the Bureau had to process the statistics concerning catch in areas outside the Antarctic at the same time as the statistics from the last Antarctic season. The activity in areas outside the Antarctic generally closes in the autumn. It would, therefore, facilitate the work of the Bureau substantially if reports on the catch outside the Antarctic could be forwarded as early as possible, so that the statistics regarding these areas could be finalized before the data regarding activities in the Antarctic are processed. Mr. Vangstein, therefore, asks the Commissioners from the countries that are engaged in whaling outside the Antarctic to use their best efforts to have the data concerning this catch forwarded to the Bureau as soon as possible."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rindal.

Is there any Delegate who wishes to raise a question concerning this report at this stage? If there is no one who wishes to ask questions on this report at this stage I should like to propose that we go on to the next item.

Item 6 is the Report of the Scientific Committee. As you all know, the Scientific Committee met during the last week and is still continuing its deliberations. The Report of the Scientific Committee has not yet been circulated for the consideration of the Plenary Meeting. However, I should like to ask Dr. Chapman, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee, if he has any interim report, progress report, or comment to make at this stage.

Dr. D.G. CHAPMAN (Chairman, Scientific Committee): Mr. Chairman, the Scientific Committee has been meeting this morning to attempt to complete its deliberations and to have a report prepared for the Commission. We regret, however, that we have not yet completed our discussions. While most of our report is complete and essentially agreed upon, there are one or two items of some considerable importance that remain under discussion, and I think that probably it would be better for me not to attempt to summarize any of the other parts of the report at this time. I hope that the Scientific Committee can continue to meet this afternoon and, as soon as possible, we will have a report for the Commission.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Dr. Chapman.

I wonder whether there is any Delegate who wishes to raise a question or to make a comment at this stage on this item. If there is no Delegate who wishes to speak at this stage on this item, I should like to ask the Scientific Committee to continue its deliberations and complete its report.

We will go on now to item 7, "Special scientific investigation of the whale stocks". There are two sub-items under this heading, (a) "Reports and action arising therefrom" and (b) "Arrangements for continuation of stock assessment work". With regard to item (a), the scientific stock assessment work started in 1961 and expanded in 1965 with the setting up of a joint FAO/IWC Working Party which has continued its work until today. Therefore, I should like to ask the Scientific Committee to take up this matter in their deliberations and to report back to the Plenary.

As to sub-item (b), "Arrangements for continuation of stock assessment work", it has in the past been the practice of this Commission that this item be considered by the Scientific Committee in the first place and then, in the light of their recommendations, by the Technical Committee. This item includes the question of the setting up of a central agency and other important questions. In accordance with the practice which the Commission has adopted, it seems that it is appropriate for us to refer this matter to the Scientific Committee for its consideration. However, before asking this, I wonder if there is any Delegate who wishes to

make a comment on this item at this stage.

There seems to be no delegate who wishes to comment on this item at this stage. I take it that the Commission agrees to refer this matter to the Scientific Committee and await the report at a subsequent session of this meeting.

The next item we have on our Agenda is No.8, "Sperm whale stocks." This item is also being considered by the Scientific Committee and we have to wait until the Scientific Committee has completed its report. I wonder whether any Delegate, or Dr. Chapman, wishes to make a comment at this stage on this item. There seems to be no Delegate who wishes to comment on this item at this stage. I take it that it is the wish of the Commission to wait for the report of the Scientific Committee on this item.

Now, Lady and Gentlemen, we come to item 9, "North Pacific whale stocks". I have heard that a meeting of the Commissioners concerned with the North Pacific whaling operations was held in Tokyo last year. At this stage I wonder whether Dr. McHugh, the United States Commissioner, who was the Chairman of this meeting, could inform us of the progress of this meeting, or whether he could make any observation at this stage if he considers it appropriate.

/Dr. J.L. McHUGH

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (United States): Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to report that the four countries reached agreement, as you know, in Tokyo last year on a quota for fin whales and sei whales in the North Pacific. After the last annual meeting we were all able to put this quota into effect and so notified each other.

Canada has announced that she is not whaling in the North Pacific in 1969, but regulations are in effect in the other three countries. I might say also that the Commissioners of the four North Pacific whaling countries met yesterday afternoon for about two hours; we had a very useful meeting and I think this will lead to further agreements. We hope to continue meeting at appropriate times during the coming week, and we will be prepared to report to you at a later time.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Thank you very much, Dr. McHugh. Does any delegate wish to raise any questions or make any observations on this item now?

If not, I will go on to Item 10., the International Observer Scheme. This item is familiar to us since it has been on the Agenda of the Commission for many years. Are there any observations on it? If not, it seems appropriate to refer the item to the Technical Committee, unless there are any objections to that. It has been so decided. (Agreed)

May we now go on to Item 11., Consideration of the blue whale unit. This item was included at the request of the United States Commissioner, and therefore I would like to ask Dr. McHugh whether he would be kind enough to put forward his views, if he considers it appropriate to do so at this stage.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (United States): The United States asked to have this item placed on the Agenda because we thought that some delegation - perhaps our own or another - might wish to make a statement on the subject at an appropriate time. I do not think I want to make a statement now, but perhaps we could come back to it at a later plenary session.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. McHugh. It seems that this item is in accordance with our practice and is a matter to be referred to the Scientific Committee and then to the Technical Committee for consideration. Is there any objection to following this procedure? If not, I take it the Commission has decided to deal with it as I suggested. (Agreed)

The next item is Item 12, Exclusion of the North Pacific Ocean and its dependent waters north of the Equator from the application of paragraph 11 of the Schedule. Does any delegate wish to make any observations or comments at this stage on this item? If not, it seems that it is

appropriate for the Commission to refer this matter to the consideration of the Technical Committee and later to take it up again. Are there any objections? If not, it has been so decided. (Agreed)

The next item is Item 13., Economic studies of whaling regulations. If nobody wishes to make any comments on this item now, I would propose that we refer it to the consideration of the Technical Committee and ask that Committee to report back the results of their considerations. If there are no objections to that, I take it that the Commission approves of that course.

We now go on to Item 14., Infractions. It is a practice of this Commission to refer this matter to the Technical Committee which forms a sub-committee for the purpose of considering this item. I would propose that this year again we follow the practice and refer the matter to the consideration of the Technical Committee. If there are no objections, it is so decided.

Now we come to Item 15., Technical Committee Report. I do not think we can deal with this matter today because the Technical Committee has just been set up.

Item 16., is the Finance and Administration Committee Report, and the same applies to this item, so we must await the report of the Committee.

Next we will deal with Item 17., the Twentieth Annual Report. A draft has not yet been circulated, but it will have been circulated to the delegates by this afternoon. I would therefore ask that you examine the draft of the report and I propose that we discuss the matter at a subsequent session of the Plenary Meeting.

Coming to Item 18., Amendments to the Schedule, these items are usually referred to the Technical Committee first. I would therefore propose that we wait until the Technical Committee has reported on it.

/ I must add that

(The Chairman continued)

I must add that, prior to the examination by the Technical Committee, several items are to be examined and considered in the Scientific Committee. Is there any objection to the procedure as I have suggested this?

May I now refer to Item 19 on the Agenda, Date and place of the next meeting. Under Rule XVII of the Rules of Procedure, the Commission may meet outside London only once in three years. As the 1968 meeting was held in Tokyo, I presume that the next meeting should be in London. However, this item is usually referred for consideration of the Finance and Administration Committee, therefore I would like to propose, in accordance with past practice, that we refer this matter to the consideration of the Finance and Administration Committee.

On the other three remaining items, that is Item 20 through to Item 22, it has been the practice for the Commission to deal with these at a later stage of the plenary session, so I would like to follow such procedure and take these matters up at a later subsequent session of the plenary meeting.

I would like to start the plenary session again, if possible, on Thursday morning, or, at the latest, Thursday afternoon, and complete our deliberations by Friday. Therefore, I would like to express my sincere desire that the Scientific and Technical Committee and the Finance and Administration Committee, which we set up this morning, will carry out their work in a speedy manner and complete their work as soon as possible. In particular I would like to ask the members of the Technical Committee to meet, if possible, this afternoon and elect their own Chairman, and enter into deliberations. If I might suggest it, the Technical Committee might start at 3 o'clock this afternoon in this room.

With regard to the Finance and Administration Committee, I would like to ask the five members of this Committee to consult each other and determine the time of their meeting, trying to avoid overlapping with other meetings.

As to the future programme of the Scientific Committee, may I ask Dr. Chapman to inform us of the programme.

Dr. D.G. CHAPMAN (Chairman, Scientific Committee):
I would like to ask the members of the Scientific Committee if we could meet this afternoon in our meeting room at 2.30 p.m.

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The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

May I fix the time of the next plenary meeting tentatively at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning? We may have to adjust the time in accordance with the progress of the Technical Committee. Unless you hear otherwise will you please assume that we shall meet at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning..

As Chairman of the Commission I would say we have completed the work for today.

Is there any delegate who wishes to speak at this stage? There seems to be nobody who wishes to speak, so I adjourn the meeting until 10 o'clock on Thursday morning.

(The meeting adjourned at 12.40 p.m.)

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING

Session of Thursday, 26th June, 1969

In the Chair: Mr. I. Fujita

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Lady and Gentlemen, will you please come to order.

The second Plenary is now open. Before we enter into the consideration of the items, I should like to seek your permission to propose that we finish the Plenary meeting by a quarter to six, because I have an appointment at a hospital for treatment for my finger.

As to the order of our deliberations, I should like to suggest that we should follow the order as it appears on our Agenda. We have disposed of Items 1, 2 and 3. The item we have to consider first this afternoon is item 4, Finance and Administration. This item has been referred to the consideration of the Finance and Administration Committee, and I should like to draw your attention to the fact that Items 16 and 19 on the Agenda are also matters which have been referred to the Finance and Administration Committee. So I would like to suggest that we deal with these three items together.

I will therefore ask Dr. Sprules, who is the Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee, to introduce the Report of the Finance and Administration Committee as a whole.

Dr. W.M. SPRULES (Chairman, Finance and Administration Committee): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Your Committee as appointed at the first Plenary session conducted its meetings during the week, and we have now completed a Report which is IWC document 21/12 which has just been distributed around the table. I think that perhaps Delegates will wish to refer to this printed Report as it summarizes the main points to be brought to your attention.

During our meeting we considered all of the items that you had referred to us at the first Plenary session, and I should like to deal first with Item No.2 in our Report, which is the statement of income and expenditure for the year ended 31st May, 1969.

We found, Mr. Chairman, that we had ended the year at the end of May with a balance, and I would draw your attention to

the first paragraph on the top of page 2 where we have referred to the outstanding debt of the Government of Panama. You will recall the history of our correspondence with this Government during the year. The Secretariat wrote to Panama, and subsequently Panama indicated her intention to withdraw from the Commission. Some time after that Panama asked for a statement of the amount of money outstanding in her debt. After receiving this information she advised the Depository Government that she wished to withdraw her notice of withdrawal. So we are now in the position that Panama is still a member of the Commission, she owes the Commission rather a substantial debt and, on the advice of the auditors of our reports, we are now showing this amount of money as a doubtful debt. We feel that there is no use at this time in carrying this money forward to make our Balance Sheet look indeed better than it probably is.

Mr. Chairman, we reviewed all the items in the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st May, 1969. We have no changes or amendments to propose to document IWC/21/3A that was submitted as a pre-Meeting document, and we wish to recommend acceptance of this summary to the Commission.

Following this, Mr. Chairman, we dealt with the Estimated Income and Expenditure for the current year, the year which will end next 31st May, 1970. We found that there were one or two special matters that had to be considered with regard to the budget for this year.

The first item was that we have completely used the Extraordinary Budget. All of the funds that have existed previously in the Extraordinary Budget were used up last year, and indeed it was necessary to transfer some £85 from the Ordinary Budget in order to pay the commitments made under the Extraordinary Budget. You will recall that this action was approved at last year's meeting in Tokyo. We decided, Mr. Chairman, that the specific work for which the Extraordinary Budget had been developed was, to all intents and purposes, completed at this time, and we felt that it would be better not to introduce a reassessment in order to re-establish the Extraordinary Budget. We feel that there is sufficient money available in the Ordinary Budget to carry out all the responsibilities that the Secretariat will have financially during this year.

/Thus we have

Dr. W.M. Sprules (continued)

Thus we have indeed discarded the Extraordinary Budget heading, and you will note that as an attachment to the document under consideration, IWC/21/3B which is attached to our Report is now only showing a single budget rather than an Ordinary and an Extraordinary Budget.

We have proposed in this statement of income and expenditure that once again £500 be made available to the National Institute of Oceanography to assist them in carrying out whale marking programmes. We have moved this £500 expenditure up into the Ordinary Budget.

You will recall that in earlier years this item occurred in the Ordinary Budget, but once the Extraordinary Budget had been established, we transferred that expenditure to the Extraordinary Budget. This year, with the removal of the Extraordinary Budget from our considerations, we are showing the £500 contribution to N.I.O. as an expenditure under the Ordinary Budget.

Another item to which I would draw your attention is Item 12 in the Report of the Scientific Committee. This is Item 12 in the summary of recommendations at the end of the Scientific Report, and there the Scientific Committee recommended that the Commission make available money to permit the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics to assume some additional responsibilities to summarise and analyse the data from sperm whale catches throughout the world, and for other whale catches, some of which will be the Antarctic catches.

We gave this matter serious consideration, Mr. Chairman, and reached the decision that we should recommend to you that an additional £500 show as an expenditure for this particular purpose.

When all of these expenditures were added up, we found that we would expect to have a balance at 31st May, 1970 of £1597. I think I should point out to the members that although we have been able to make the contribution of £500 to the International Bureau of Whaling Statistics and to the National Institute of Oceanography this year, it does reduce the estimated balance for the end of the year by £1000, bringing it from roughly £2500 down to £1500. The Finance Committee next year will have not so much freedom if they reach the same agreement as we did, since the income is stable and if we continue to grant monies of this nature, the estimated balance will reduce rather rapidly.

However, I think the Committee Members hope that there

will be new appointments next year, and we would not have to worry about that particular item.

So we recommend to you the acceptance of the Budget for the year ending 31 May, 1970, as outlined in document IWC/21/3B, attached to our Report.

Item 4, on page 3 of our Report refers to a review of the present level of contribution from contracting Governments, and we feel that the contribution as it now stands will permit us to carry on at least through the current season. Therefore, we make no proposal for a change in the national contribution which amounts to £350 per year.

Lastly, we gave consideration to Agenda Item 19, from your main Agenda, which was the place and date of the next meeting of this Commission. As you know, we are required to meet in London again next year, which will be our second meeting at the locality of the Secretariat, and we propose that we meet at about the same time as this meeting was held. We specifically recommend that the annual meeting in 1970 be held in London and begin on 22 June. This would be the opening plenary session on Monday, 22 June, and of course these meetings would be preceded by the meeting of the Scientific Committee.

During our deliberations, the delegate from Norway was able to report to us that it would be possible for the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics to continue its very valuable operation for this Commission, and indeed we all expressed our sincere appreciation to the Norwegian delegates who attended our meeting. I am sure that you will wish to note the last page of our Report and perhaps the Commission as a whole would wish to support our expression of appreciation to the Norwegian Government for making this valuable service available at least for a little while longer.

You will note that it is proposed that Norway will continue this work until some other solution can be found, but the Norwegian delegate indicated to us that they would give us ample warning if it became necessary for them to make some other arrangements at a later date.

Mr. Chairman, I think that summarises the information contained in the Report of the Finance and Administration Committee, IWC/21/12.

(The CHAIRMAN continued)

As Dr. Sprules explained so clearly the Report of the Finance and Administration Committee, I do not think it necessary for me to explain the contents again. I would like to propose, therefore, that we deal with Agenda item 4 first and then Agenda Item 19, and then adopt the Committee Report as a whole, which is under Item 16. In this order I would like to ascertain the wishes of the Commission as to the action which this Commission is to take on these items.

May I refer to sub-item (a) of Item 4. There are two questions on which we have to take action. The first is the review of the Commission's financial position (accounts for 1968/69 covering ordinary and extraordinary budget). The second question is the estimate for 1969/70. I would like to deal with these two items separately.

As to the first sub-item, if I may describe it so, I wonder whether Dr. Sprules will move the acceptance of the statement of income and expenditure for 1968/69, that is document IWC/21/3a.

Dr. W.M. SPRULES (Canada): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I so move.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

Is there anyone who wishes to second the motion?

Mr. T. WADA (Japan) (Interpretation): We second the motion.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): The motion has been seconded, is there anyone who opposes the acceptance?

Mr. W.C. DUGGAN (Australia): Mr. Chairman, I take the floor at this moment not because I object to the motion, but really to raise a query which I think is perhaps as appropriately raised now as later. This relates to the presentation of the accounts and the matter of Panama.

The listing of a country as a bad or doubtful debt worries me a little, and I just wonder, whether, as an international organisation of governments, it is altogether appropriate for us to say that a debt owing by a country to such an international organisation is a bad debt. I think really, from the point of view of presentation, that the debt owing by a country in arrears of contribution should stay on the books as a debt.

I note in the Report that the auditors advised considering this debt as a bad or doubtful debt, but auditors are not always the best judge in this regard. I recall myself - I speak with some experience - when I was Secretary of an International Commodity Council, and I can remember, 10 or 12 years ago, the auditors, who were Price Waterhouse - I do not know if they are the auditors for this organisation -

recommended that the debt owed by a particular country to the Council should be considered a bad debt and wiped out. Our Council took a firm view on this that this was inappropriate for governments to say this about any other country and, in fact, eventually the debt was paid.

So I just raise this point because I wonder whether our finance people in our capitals would be altogether happy to see a particular debt referred to as a bad debt. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Duggan.

As Chairman of the Commission I am in entire agreement with the observation made by the representative from Australia, and since Panama has notified the Depository Government that it withdraws its notification of withdrawal, I consider it is appropriate for us to request Panama to pay the debt which she owes to the Commission.

With regard to this point, may I draw the attention of the Commissioners to the paragraph which appears in the Report of the Finance and Administration Committee on page 2. I will read the relevant paragraph:

"It was agreed that the arrears should continue to be shown as a bad or doubtful debt for the time being, but after a reasonable period of time Panama should be asked to remit the amount outstanding."

(The Chairman continued)

The CHAIRMAN (continued): Therefore, I am considering whether, as Chairman of the Commission, I should ask the Secretary of the Commission to send a letter requesting the Government of Panama to pay the amount that she owes to the Commission after a reasonable period of time, as recommended in the Report of the Finance and Administration Committee. I wonder whether this suggestion is satisfactory to the Delegate of Australia? (The Australian Commissioner indicated assent) Thank you very much.

I consider, therefore, that the Commission has accepted the statement of Income and Expenditure for 1968/1969 without any objection. We have, therefore, disposed of the first part of Item 4(a).

I should like now to deal with the latter part of Agenda Item 4(a), the Estimate for 1969/1970. I wonder whether Dr. Sprules would be kind enough to move the acceptance of the Estimate for 1969/1970 as it appears in the document IWC/21/3B.

Dr. W.M. SPRULES (Chairman, Finance and Administration Committee): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will so move, but I should like to draw the attention of the Secretariat to the fact that the document attached to our Report should read IWC/21/3B (revised).

I so move.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. Sprules. Your remark has been taken note of by the Secretary. Will someone second the motion? Japan seconds, thank you very much. The motion has been seconded. Is there any objection to the adoption of the Estimate as recommended in the Committee's Report? As there seems to be no objection in the Commission, I consider that the Commission has accepted the Estimate for the coming financial year of the Commission as presented by the Finance and Administration Committee.

We come now to Item 4(b). I wonder whether I could ask Dr. Sprules again to take the trouble to move the adoption of the recommendation from the Finance and Administration Committee as it appears in the Report.

Dr. W.M. SPRULES (Chairman, Finance and Administration Committee): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I should be pleased to move that there be no change in the contributions from national governments for the current year, the fiscal year 1969/1970.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much. Will someone second this motion? That is seconded by Dr. McHugh of the United States. Is there any objection? As there seems to be no objection, the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee on Agenda Item 4(b) is accepted. I therefore consider that we have disposed of Item 4.

We will go on now to Item 19, "Date and place of next meeting". The recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee is that the next meeting of this Commission should commence on 22 June, 1970, in London. Will someone move the adoption of this recommendation. That is moved by Dr. Sprules and seconded by Japan. Thank you very much. The motion has been moved and seconded, is there any objection? As there seems to be no objection, the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee is adopted.

Can we now come back to Item 16, the Finance and Administration Committee Report, which we have to adopt. Will someone move the adoption of this Report as a whole? That is moved by Dr. Sprules and seconded by the Soviet Union. Is there any objection? The Finance and Administration Committee's Report is adopted as revised by Dr. Sprules' remark concerning the paper attached to the Report. We have, therefore, disposed of Items 4, 16 and 19 of the Agenda.

Before we go on to another item, I should like to take this opportunity of referring to the part of this Committee's Report which appears on page 4, and of asking the Commission to express its appreciation of the understanding shown and the action taken by the Norwegian Government in agreeing to continue the service of the International Bureau of Whaling Statistics.

I take it that no one would oppose my suggestion that this Commission expresses its appreciation to the Norwegian Government? (Agreed)

I should like to take this opportunity also to express our deep appreciation to the Finance and Administration Committee for its work, and our sincere gratitude to the Chairman of that Committee, Dr. Sprules, who has conducted its work with such ability. I should also like to express our sincere gratitude to the members of that Committee who participated in its work, and completed that work with such efficiency and smoothness.

/I would like ...

I would like to draw the attention of the members of the Commission to Item 5, review of previous season's catches. I understand that we have disposed of this item already, is there any delegate who objects to my understanding? If not, I will consider that the Commission has disposed of this item.

Before we go on to Item 6 on our Agenda, I propose that we should break for tea.

(A Short Break)

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation): Lady and Gentlemen, we will continue our consideration of the Agenda, Item 6, Report of the Scientific Committee, which has been circulated as document IWC/21/4. I will ask Dr. Chapman, Chairman of the Scientific Committee to report briefly on the discussions of the Scientific Committee.

Dr. D.G. CHAPMAN (Chairman, Scientific Committee): Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief, since the Scientific Committee's Report has already been discussed in some detail in the Technical Committee. They are taking action on, or are making recommendations based on our Report, and these will be reported to you when the Report of the Technical Committee is available.

Also, one of the other recommendations we made has been taken into account by the Finance and Administration Committee which was just adopted by the Commission with regard to the starting of the data processing and the central agency through the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics, and we are very happy to see that that action has been taken.

In regard to the Scientific Report as a whole, we looked at very many stocks throughout the world and were in agreement on the present yields and stock sizes in many cases. In particular, we looked at the several species, in the North Pacific, including the fin, sei and sperm whales, and the ones that are presently prohibited, the blue and the humpbacks. We also considered species in the North Atlantic area and reviewed both the fin whales which are being hunted in that area and the two prohibited species, and made recommendations concerning the continued closure in that particular area. We spent a great deal of time on the review and assessments for the species of primary interest in the Antarctic. We had good agreement on the sei whale, as I think is well known, and we had a great deal of discussion and some differences of opinion on the present sustainable yield for 1969/70 for fin whales in the Antarctic. I do not

think it is necessary for me to review the different positions at this time, they were discussed extensively by the Technical Committee.

We did express our views that we still feel that separate quotas by species is desirable from many points of view, and this was also taken into consideration by the Technical Committee.

As a result of our lack of information concerning sperm whales particularly in the Southern oceans, and also as a result of the difficulties we had with fin whales in the Antarctic because of different assumptions and different methods, it was recommended by our Committee that there be meetings to study both of these: to study sperm whale biology, methods of assessment, and if possible to make sperm whale assessments, early in 1970. It would be advantageous if these meetings were at the same place and time, and we are taking steps, on this. Those will be meetings which will not require any expenditure by the Commission, and we are taking steps to go ahead with them. That is all I have to say at this time, but I would be glad to answer any questions, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) We have just received a brief summary of the Report of the Scientific Committee from Dr. Chapman. Does any delegate wish to make comments or raise any questions on the Report?

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Mr. Chairman, perhaps it might be appropriate to have a motion before the house, I would be pleased to move the adoption of this Report by the Commission.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) The Commissioner of the United States has moved the adoption of the Scientific Committee's Report. In this connection, however, I would inform the Commission that my interpretation of the way to deal with this Report, as Dr. Chapman has said, is that it has become the basis of the considerations of the Technical, and the Finance and Administration Committees. Therefore, in accordance with the past practice of the Commission, I would suggest that the Commission accept the Report of the Scientific Committee as the basis for the discussion and consideration of the Commission. Do any members disagree with the way I have suggested we deal with this matter?

Dr. J.L. McHUGH: Mr. Chairman, I am not going to object, I think you are absolutely right and I was in error. I thank you for correcting me.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) In that case I would confirm that the Commission interprets the motion of Dr. McHugh to mean that it accepts the Report of the

Scientific Committee as the basis of discussion. Are there any objections?

Mr. M.N. SUKHORUCHENKO (U.S.S.R.) (Interpretation):
Mr. Chairman, I would like to second Dr. McHugh's motion to accept the Report of the Scientific Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Are there any objections to adopting the motion put forward by the Commissioner for the United States and seconded by the Commissioner for the U.S.S.R.? If not, the Commission has decided to accept the Report of the Scientific Committee as a basis for discussion.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation, as Chairman of the Commission, to Dr. Chapman and the other members of the Committee from various countries for their submission of the Report. In particular, I would recall that this year the Scientific Committee has been faced with questions which seemed to be very difficult to solve. However, under the leadership of Dr. Chapman they have made every effort to reach the agreed result of the scientists.

The most difficult problems were those questions relating to the fin whale stocks in the Antarctic, and the sei whale stocks in the North Pacific, as well as other stocks of whales in other areas. However, I am very impressed with the hard work and the efforts made by Dr. Chapman and the members of the Committee in reaching an agreed result in producing the Report of the Scientific Committee.

/Once again, on behalf

(The Chairman continued)

Once again, on behalf of the Commission, I should like to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Scientific Committee.

I consider that we have disposed of Item 6, Report of the Scientific Committee. I should like to remind you that each item dealt with in the Report of the Scientific Committee should be reflected in the Technical and other Committee's reports.

Mr. I. RINDAL (Norway): Mr. Chairman, I may be out of order, perhaps, as you said the items would be dealt with later, but there is one small item, number 36, in the Scientific Committee's Report, which I would just like to mention now to make the situation clear.

There is a little thing here on page 13 concerning the Norwegian Whaling Gazette. I see that the Commission is supposed to urge the Commissioner for Norway to take whatever steps are feasible to try to obtain the resumption of publication. I shall certainly take the matter up with Mr. Vangstein on my return, but I would think that the question of whether he will be able to continue the publication or not is dependent on two factors. The first is the financial aspect, where there seems to be certain possibilities, even without drawing on your generosity. The second factor has a direct appeal to the members of the Scientific Committee and their colleagues in this field. I understand that one of the main reasons for the suspension of the publication of this Gazette is actually the scarcity or lack of material suitable for publication in an issue of this type. I am convinced that it would be of the greatest importance to Mr. Vangstein, and would encourage him in the future work on this publication, if the scientists here assembled and their colleagues in the different fields could advise him of their ability and readiness to send in contributions for his paper, so that it might again fulfil the purpose for which it was started many decades ago. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Rindal, for your statement. The Commission has taken note of this statement which has been put on the record of this Commission. As to possible action to be taken by this Commission, I presume that the Technical Committee's Report will take care of this question, and when we deal with the Report of the Technical Committee I expect that this question will be discussed. I would like confirmation from Dr. McHugh, Chairman of the Technical Committee, as to whether my understanding is correct with regard to this matter.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): I am sorry, I was not paying attention and did not hear your question, I beg your pardon.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Dr. McHugh, Mr. Rindal drew our attention to page 12 of the Scientific Committee's Report concerning the Norwegian Whaling Gazette, and I interpret it that Mr. Rindal's observation has been taken note of by the Commission, his observation having been put on the official record of this meeting. My interpretation was that the Scientific and Technical Committees have considered this question, which appears in the Scientific Committee's Report, and the result will be reflected in the Report of the Technical Committee. I would like confirmation that this understanding is correct.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): That is correct. There is a paragraph in the Technical Committee's Report on this subject. I am sorry to delay the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

May I ask Mr. Rindal whether he is satisfied with the way we have handled this matter?

Mr. I. RINDAL (Norway): I can assure the Chairman that, as always, he has handled the matter in the most efficient manner. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Having disposed of Item 6, we now come to Item 7, Special scientific investigation of the whale stocks. I would like to ask Dr. McHugh whether he has any report to make, as Chairman of the Technical Committee, which has considered this question, on the basis of the Report from the Scientific Committee.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Before I comment on this particular item, I might say that a number of the Agenda items to follow will require comments from the Technical Committee. We have not quite completed our work yet, and as you know our Report is not complete, but I can tell you what we have done: we plan to meet either at the end of this session or, if there is not time for us to meet and approve our report then we will meet in the morning. I think we can have our work completed fairly quickly.

With regard to item 7 on your Agenda, this refers to the special investigations by the FAO Stock Assessment Group, and while there is a section in our Report on this subject, it might be more appropriate to ask Mr. Boerema to comment briefly on the situation with respect to the FAO Stock Assessment Group.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Following the suggestion of Dr. McHugh, may I ask Mr. Boerema of FAO to take the floor on this item.

Mr. L.K. BOEREMA (FAO): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

FAO has contributed to the annual meetings of this Commission a series of reports on the state of the Antarctic stocks. Now FAO has considered its commitments in the various fields and also the needs of the Commission, and this matter has been discussed in FAO's Committee of Fisheries, as I already reported to the Technical Committee. Our Committee on Fisheries considered that several national delegations contained scientists experienced in stock assessment and that for a number of years now the catch quotas in the Antarctic have been reduced to a more rational level and, therefore, it did not seem to be any longer necessary for FAO to continue its regular reporting on the state of the stocks. It seems timely now to withdraw from this work, if your Commission agrees.

With your Commission's agreement, we will continue to send observers and to participate in your meetings including, in particular, your scientific meetings, and we may also occasionally contribute studies on specific subjects, but we would like to withdraw from the regular stock assessment work.

This is the statement I would like to make. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation):

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Boerema.

Before we decide the possible action of the Commission concerning this matter, I have received a suggestion from the Secretary that, since the Report of the Technical Committee is not ready yet, we should defer consideration of items 7 to 15 until a later stage. I wonder whether Dr. McHugh would be kind enough to indicate his opinion concerning the procedure on these questions. My feeling is that the suggested procedure is the correct one. However, if we defer consideration of all the remaining items until tomorrow, I have some suspicion that we may not be able to complete our work by tomorrow afternoon, and it seems that there are some items on which we can take action without the formal Report of the Technical Committee. Therefore, in this connexion I should like to hear the views of Dr. McHugh.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that we have two countervailing problems here. One is that I was hoping that this meeting might end reasonably early this afternoon so that we could have at least a short meeting of the Technical Committee, and perhaps complete a good part of our work, if not all of it. If we wait until tomorrow morning for the Technical Committee to meet, then there may be some problems about having a final copy of the Technical Committee Report in your hands. So that, even though there are some items on which we could take action, since the Technical Committee has not approved any part of its Report, even the partial Report that I have in front of me, I think that perhaps it might be better on balance to delay action on items 7 to 15 until the final plenary session.

I can assure you that I can handle them fairly quickly. I do not think I need to give very long reports on any of these items, Mr. Chairman. The actions which we will recommend are quite clear-cut, and perhaps it will not take too long to go through them.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): May I interpret your suggestion as being that the Technical Committee will make the Report available by tomorrow morning so that the Plenary will be able to complete its work by tomorrow afternoon?

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee): Yes. I would hope, for example, that if the Technical Committee could meet at five o'clock tonight, we might be able to finish our work by six o'clock or half past six, and I would hope that perhaps the Commissioners or their representatives could stay reasonably well along this evening until we did complete our work. I understand that this makes a problem for you, Mr. Chairman, and perhaps this will be difficult unless you are willing to have some other member of your delegation represent you in the Technical Committee.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): In accordance with the suggestion made by Dr. McHugh, I should like to propose that we continue our meeting until five o'clock, and then ask Dr. McHugh to reconvene the meeting of the Technical Committee in order to finish its work. The Plenary will meet tomorrow morning and try to complete its work by tomorrow afternoon. Is that acceptable?

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee): Yes.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): We are holding Items 7 to 15 over until tomorrow's Plenary meeting.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee): Just to make sure that everybody understands the problem that the Technical Committee has, Mr. Chairman, we have a partial Report. We have three items on our Agenda which have not yet been acted upon, but I think we can act on them rather quickly. We can certainly complete them this afternoon, and we can also probably approve this section of our Report. However, the rest of our Report, which will deal with the three items we have to take up this afternoon, will have to be written and typed, so that we shall have to have one more meeting of the Technical Committee in the morning to approve the rest of our Report. This should not take very long, I would think not more than half an hour or an hour at the most. I would propose, therefore, that perhaps we might meet at 9.30 in the morning, and try to finish by 10.00 or 10.30. I am saying this so that everybody will understand that the Technical Committee cannot complete its work entirely tonight, and this will give you some guidance in setting the time for the final Plenary.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

I shall, therefore, accept Dr. McHugh's suggestion that the Technical Committee should be reconvened at five o'clock this afternoon, with a further meeting at half past nine tomorrow morning to finish its Report. I suggest that the Plenary meeting begin at half past ten. Is there any objection? (Agreed) Thank you.

I should like to draw your attention to Item 17 of our Agenda. This is the Twentieth Annual Report. A draft of this Report has been circulated as paper IWC/21/6. I should like to suggest that we should complete this item within the ten minutes that we have left.

I have been informed by Mr. Stacey that he wishes to correct a couple of errors which appear in the draft.

The SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, the first is in paragraph 1. When this was being prepared last week we were perhaps a bit too optimistic and gave the final date of the Scientific Committee's meeting as 20 June. However,

they went on, of course, into this week, and that should be amended to 25 June, that is in the fifth line of paragraph 1.

The other amendment, which I regret to say occurred in the course of copying and checking, is in the table at the bottom of the page under 1968/1969. The number of catcher boats for the Soviet Union in that year should be 46, and not 49. The total will then have to be amended to 85 and, in the sentence preceding this table the figure 88 should again be amended to 85.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): As this paper was circulated well in advance of this meeting among the delegates, I think the members have had time to give careful consideration to the contents of this draft. Does any delegate wish to raise a question or make a comment or observation on this draft report? The report has been corrected.

/Since no one

Since no one wishes to ask for the floor, I take it the Commission has adopted the Report. (Agreed)

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): I have a couple of minor comments, Mr. Chairman, on typographical errors, where commas are missing, and I am sure the Secretariat will pick those up. On page 4, in the second paragraph under Item 9, in the third line of the second paragraph, the word "who" after "Panama" should be "which", I think.

Then there is something very funny about page 5, the text Mr. Blow has is different from mine and I do not understand why. The listing near the top of the page reads: "Japan, Norway, U.S.S.R.", and in my version that is followed by three lines before you come to "11. Infractions". But the copy in Mr. Blow's hands has seven or eight lines in there, and I do not know which is the correct version because there is no indication on the front that one is a revision.

The SECRETARY: I am sorry if Dr. McHugh has got hold of an old copy, a first draft. The correct version should have three lines in the place he mentions.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Then I have the correct version, and Mr. Blow is leading me astray. Down near the bottom of that page, Mr. Chairman, in the listing under "United States", under (ii) the word "nor" should read "not". That is all.

Mr. R. MILLAN (Mexico): Mr. Chairman, I do not know if it would be convenient to add to this Report the list of the delegations who took part in this meeting, or perhaps it could be in an appendix.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) May I ask the delegate of Mexico for clarification? Does he wish us to attach a list of the Commissioners, Delegates and Observers who attended the meeting, or the list of the member countries of the Whaling Commission?

Mr. R. MILLAN (Mexico): The list of delegations who attended the meeting in Tokyo. I have been advised that it is already in the Report of the Committee and has been published.

The SECRETARY: If, as I understand it, the Mexican delegate wants a list of the member countries who attended last year's meeting in Tokyo, that will appear in an appendix to this Report in the printed version.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you satisfied?

Mr. R. MILLAN (Mexico): Yes, thank you.

Mr. T. WADA (Japan): Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a minor correction in the figures on page 2: the figure for the catch of Japan should be amended to 1821 instead of 1820.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) May I propose that we adopt this Report as corrected by several delegates, on the understanding that clerical errors will be corrected if the Secretary is informed of them in due course.

Mr. A. von der BECKE (Argentina): Mr. Chairman, regarding the resignation of the Chairman, at the end of this document, I see that the Committee takes note of Mr. Tame's resignation, but I think the comment on it is a bit cold. Mr. Tame is a very distinguished gentleman, we have all had the pleasure of meeting him in the Commission, and I think a few words of appreciation for the work he has done would be a nice gesture towards him.

Mr. R.A. LIGARDE (France): Mr. Chairman, I would like to support the proposal of the delegate of the Argentine.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Do I understand that the proposal is to add a few words to express the deep appreciation of the Whaling Commission for the contribution made by Mr. Tame? I have no objection to that proposal, therefore I would suggest if there is no objection we ask the Secretary to take note of the request. However, it seems that the Secretary has a different view on the matter, so I will ask him to take the floor.

The SECRETARY: If I may, as Secretary I would express the view that the remarks by the delegate of Argentina would be very acceptable as far as the Secretariat is concerned. However, this purports to be the report of a meeting, and I think to add words of appreciation of the retiring chairman which were not actually expressed at the meeting would perhaps be a little irregular. I do not know if the delegate of the Argentina could suggest how we could overcome the difficulty.

Mr. A. von der BECKE (Argentina): Mr. Chairman, I quite realise, as the Secretary explained, that we were not present at the meeting, but I thought it might be nice, if possible, to add something on this. However, I will not press the motion, because I know it is rather difficult.

Mr. A.J. AGLIN (United Kingdom): Mr. Chairman, before you leave that item, may I take this opportunity of thanking the Commissioner of Argentina and the Commissioner of France for the kind thoughts which inspired their intervention and suggestion. I quite agree with

the conclusion, but this will no doubt be recorded in the records of this meeting. If I may say so, the United Kingdom Delegation will be happy to convey the outcome to Mr. Tane.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): I understand that the Commission has taken note of the original proposal of the delegate of Argentina and the statement made by the delegate of the United Kingdom. I consider that this request has been taken care of without amending the draft of the Report. May I take it that the Commission has approved the Twentieth Annual Report of the International Whaling Commission, on the understanding that in the case where Commissioners find any clerical errors, such errors may be corrected if they are notified to the Secretary in due course? (Agreed)

/I would now like

(The Chairman continued)

I would now like to conclude the work of today's session, but I would like to apologise to Dr. McHugh for having failed to complete our work by 5 o'clock as we planned.

We meet at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow morning.

(The Meeting adjourned at 5.10 p.m.)

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSIONTWENTY-FIRST MEETINGSession of Friday, 27th June, 1969In the Chair: Mr. I. Fujita

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Gentlemen, will you please come to order, we are going to start the final plenary meeting.

I presume that the remaining items which we have not finished have been already solved by the efforts made by the members of the Commission, in particular by the Technical Committee, which was led by Dr. McHugh. Therefore I consider that the plenary is only required to take formal action on behalf of the Commission.

As Chairman of this meeting I would like to suggest, therefore, that we conduct the business of our work in a speedy manner, so that we shall complete our business before lunch, even if lunch may be slightly delayed, and I seek your understanding and your co-operation.

May I draw your attention to our Agenda. We have completed Items 1 to 6. With regard to Item 7, which we dealt with yesterday and which we have not yet completed, we heard the views on this question from Dr. McHugh and Mr. Boerema from FAO, and I wonder whether I could ask Dr. McHugh what sort of action the Commission is required to take under this item.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (USA): Mr. Chairman, I think no further action is required on this item. You heard from Mr. Boerema yesterday that FAO is not able to continue the stock assessment work at the level at which it has been active for the last few years, but they will continue to take an interest in the work of the Commission and will help, where possible. Also I understand they will be sending observers to the meetings of this Commission in future, so that I think we have completed our discussion of Item 7 and no action is necessary.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. McHugh. I understand that we have received a full explanation and report concerning this item from the Technical Committee's Chairman, Dr. McHugh, so I consider that the Commission has disposed of this

Item 7 by confirming the statement which has been made by Dr. McHugh. Are you all agreed? (Agreed) As there seems to be no objection to my suggestion, I consider that the Commission has disposed of Item 7.

I would like to take this opportunity, in concluding Item 7, to express, on behalf of the Commission, its deep appreciation and gratitude to the FAO, which is represented by Mr. Beorema, for their great contribution to the stock assessment work of this Commission. At the same time I would like to express our deep appreciation for their intention to continue their interest and co-operation in the work of the Whaling Commission and the work of the stock assessment of this Commission.

Lady and Gentlemen, may we now go on to Item 8, Sperm whale stocks.

This Item 8 on the Agenda is.....

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation)(contd.): This Item 8 on the Agenda is related to the Item 18(i). I should therefore like to propose that we should deal with these two matters at the same time.

With regard to this item, I should like to ask Dr. McHugh, the Chairman of the Technical Committee, to report the result of the discussions of the Technical Committee and the action which that Committee recommends.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee):

Mr. Chairman, the Technical Committee heard from the Chairman of the Scientific Committee on the subject of sperm whale stocks. The only substantial new scientific information they had received was an analysis of the sperm whale stocks in the North Pacific and, therefore, the only action recommended is to report to you the results of the meeting of the North Pacific Commissioners at which we agreed on a quota for sperm whales in the North Pacific in 1970 which would be 10 per cent below the catch in 1968 by pelagic expeditions. In other words, it would be 11,273 sperm whales. This will be the quota for 1970.

In view of the agreement between the North Pacific Commissioners, I think it is not necessary to recommend a change in the Schedule. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

I should like to suggest that we consider Items 8 and 18(i) as having been completed by the Commission, and that we confirm the report of Dr. McHugh of the Technical Committee.

The representative of Australia has the floor.

Mr. W.C. DUGGAN (Australia): Mr. Chairman, as you have decided that we should deal with Item 18(i) in conjunction with Item 8, I should like to take this opportunity of referring to Item 18(i). In this connexion I wish to draw attention to paragraph 6(5) of the Schedule. I know that all Commissioners will be familiar with this particular paragraph, and will also be aware that it came into force on 4 January, 1966, but is not binding on Japan, Norway or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, all of whom objected within the prescribed period.

I think that all Commissioners will be aware of the view of my Government on this paragraph 6(5), and my Government has asked me to say that it is their hope that these countries which have objected to this paragraph 6(5) will see their way clear to withdraw their objections. They have asked me, Mr. Chairman, to express this hope at this session of the Commission. Thank you, Sir.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Does any delegation wish to comment with regard to the observations made by the representative of Australia?

Mr. T. WADA (Japan)(Interpretation): Bearing the current stock condition of sperm whales in the region concerned in mind, Japan has been conducting pelagic whaling of sperm whales giving due consideration to the problems of the scale to which we have registered an objection.

With regard to the question of withdrawing our objection to the amendment to the Schedule in question, we will recommend that our Government give further examination to this matter, taking the position of other pelagic whaling countries into consideration.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Does any other delegation wish to make a comment on this matter?

Mr. M.N. SUKHORUCHENKO (USSR)(Interpretation):

Mr. Chairman, I can only express my regret that the Australian delegation find it possible to put forward this matter at the Plenary session, since that problem has not been discussed in either the Scientific or the Technical Committee.

With regard to the opinion of the Soviet delegation, we can see no additional evidence for changing our viewpoint on the matter, and no additional evidence has been presented by the Australian delegation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you. Does any other delegation wish to make observations concerning this matter.

With regard to the procedure for dealing with this matter raised by the representative of Australia, I do not see any alternative to putting the statements of the representatives of Australia, of Japan and of the Soviet Union on the official record of this Commission. Is this procedure satisfactory to the delegations which have stated their views on this matter?

/Is there any objection

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation) (continued)

Is there any objection to the procedure I suggested? If not, and if there are no further observations on these items, I consider that the Commission has completed its consideration of Item 8 and Item 18(i) of our agenda.

We now go on to Item 9, North Pacific Whale Stocks. I would like to ask Dr. McHugh whether he wishes to report on the result of the meeting of the Commissioners of the North Pacific whaling countries, and whether he would introduce the recommended action of the Commission, if there is any.

In conjunction with Item 9, I would suggest that we deal with Item 18(j) which arises out of that item.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Mr. Chairman, the Technical Committee heard from the Scientific Committee on the condition of the baleen whale stocks in the North Pacific. They had had an opportunity to analyse some new data, and while they were not able entirely to come to agreement on their estimates of the condition of the stocks, nevertheless they were able to come up with estimates of the sustainable yield of fin whales, and also the sustainable yield of sei whales.

The best estimate of the sustainable yield for fin whales was 1600, and the North Pacific Commissioners, in their meeting, agreed to set a quota for 1970 which is considerably below that level. It was agreed to set a quota for 1970 which would be 10 per cent below the quota agreed for 1969, in other words 1332 fin whales for the pelagic fleets, and no increase in the catch for land stations. So this will set a quota that should begin to rebuild the fin whale stocks in the North Pacific.

With respect to the sei whale stock, the Scientific Committee had estimated that the sustainable yield lay between 2300 and 2700 whales with an average of 2500. It was not possible to bring the quota down to this figure or below, because it was too big a jump. But fortunately there is still a fairly large surplus of sei whales available in the North Pacific on which to draw, and the North Pacific Commissioners agreed to handle the sei whale quota for 1970 as they did for fin whales. In other words, reduce the quota 10 per cent below the agreed quota for 1969. This sets the quota at 4924 sei whales for the pelagic operations in the North Pacific, and again no increase in the allowance for land stations.

So even though the quota agreed for 1970 is substantially higher than the best estimate of the sustainable yield, the stock will not be damaged as long as the quota is reduced in succeeding years by the necessary amounts.

The reason for the decision not to come all the way down in one year was simply that the economic effects would be too great, and we thought it would be quite permissible for the industry to adjust gradually to this estimate.

I think that is all I need to say, Mr. Chairman, except that in view of the agreement between the four North Pacific whaling nations, we believe that there is no need to amend the Schedule, and therefore no action is recommended on Item 18(j).

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much Dr. McHugh. As we have heard, agreement has been reached amongst the countries concerned, and there is no need to amend the Schedule as it appears under Agenda Item 18(j). I would suggest that the Commission has completed the consideration of Items 9 and 18(j) by confirming the Report of Dr. McHugh, without taking any action on the question of amending the Schedule.

Mr. J. GRAHAM (United Kingdom): Mr. Chairman, I certainly do not wish to delay the business at this stage, I would like to congratulate the countries concerned on having come to an agreement which I think is satisfactory, and which promises an improvement in the whale stocks of the North Pacific.

However, one point I would like to make which I hope will be considered next year is in regard to the amendment of the Schedule. I agree that from one point of view, if the countries concerned have settled the matter, it may not seem of great importance. On the other hand, I think for us as a Commission it is desirable that measures taken to protect the whale stocks should have some legislative and legal effect under the terms of the Commission's Convention and should not rest merely on an agreement between the countries. One cannot help contrasting the position here with that in the Antarctic where the Commission as a whole has taken a great deal of interest in the catch quota. Although there again, the same results could be secured by agreement between the countries concerned. So I would like to suggest to the countries that next year it is perhaps desirable from the point of view of the Commission as a whole that, to the extent possible, these agreements should be formalised in amendments to the Schedule, and be shown to be part of the conservation measures which the Commission has adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Graham. As you said, it is not possible for the Commission to take action with regard to the amendment to the Schedule on this matter. I would like to urge the countries concerned to make a further examination for the coming year of this. Dr. McHugh, have you anything to say?

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): I wanted to remark, Mr. Chairman, particularly for Mr. Graham's information, that the Committee did not ignore the question of taking action on the Schedule. However, there were some views expressed that the wording of the Agenda for this year might not be broad enough to allow us to take such action.

/I think we all recognise

(Dr. J.L. McHugh continued)

I think we all recognise the need to get this matter into the hands of the Commission as a whole and I can assure you that we will do our best next year to formalise our agreements. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Thank you, Dr. McHugh.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I suggest that the Committee consider that it has completed the consideration of Item 9 and Item 18 (j) by confirming the report of Dr. McHugh and without taking any action this year on the Item 18 (j). Is that agreed? Since there is no objection we have completed Items 9 and 18 (j).

We are now going to take up Item 10, the International Observer Scheme. I would like to ask Dr. McHugh, the Chairman of the Technical Committee, to inform us of the result of the discussions of the Technical Committee and of possible recommended action. As this question is related to Agenda Item 18 (a), I would like to suggest we deal with Item (a) together with Item 10.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): The Technical Committee noted with satisfaction that the Commissioners of the North Pacific countries had agreed to try and put the International Observer Scheme into effect in the North Pacific in 1970 and that they planned to hold further discussions to see how the Observer Scheme can be implemented. The Committee also felt that they should recommend to the countries concerned that they look to the question of implementing the Observer Scheme elsewhere in the world's oceans so that the whaling operations in all parts of the ocean will be under some kind of adequate observation. I do not think any action is necessary on this Item, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Thank you very much. This question has a rather peculiar character in the sense that, every year, this question has been discussed by the Commission and no country has ever expressed its objection and yet this Scheme has never been implemented. I would like to add to the report of the Chairman of the Technical Committee to express my desire that, since the agreement in principle was reached in the past, the countries concerned should be urged to implement the International Observer Scheme at the earliest opportunity. With that understanding, may I suggest that the Commission considers that it has completed its considerations of Item 10 and Item 18 (a) by confirming the report of Dr. McHugh on these Items, without amending the Schedule as appearing on 18 (a) of the Agenda. Agreed? As there seems to be no objection it has been so decided.

May I now draw your attention to Item 11, Consideration of blue whale unit and also to Item 18 (g) which is related to it with regard to the amendment to the schedule. May I ask Dr. McHugh to report on this Item.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Technical Committee heard from the Scientific Committee on this subject. Perhaps the best way to communicate their views to you is to read Paragraph 31 from the Report of the Scientific Committee.

"The Committee notes that the Commission plans to discuss the blue whale unit. Although in the past few years the relative balance between fin and sei catches in the Antarctic has been not unsatisfactory from a biological point of view, the danger remains with the blue whale unit method of setting the quota that exploitation could be directed towards one stock and deplete it. This of course happened in respect to the blue whales. It is still necessary, from the viewpoint of maintaining all stocks, to set separate quotas by species."

This matter was discussed briefly in the Technical Committee. We recognised, of course, that the situation in the Antarctic seems to be more or less taking care of itself because of the tendency to turn to sei whales rather than fin whales, but the Committee felt that the Commission should keep a watchful eye on the situation in case the interest may shift from one species to another. We do not recommend any action with respect to the schedule at this meeting because we recognise the great difficulty of developing a mechanism for regulating by individual species in the Antarctic.

/At some stage ...

(Dr. McHugh continued)

At some stage in the discussion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a brief statement on this subject in my capacity as Chairman of the United States Delegation. May I do that now?

I think you all understand the point of view of the United States in this respect, we have always recognised that the blue whale unit regulation is not an ideal method, and this is what led to the decline, species after species, of whale stocks in the Antarctic. We are happy that in the North Pacific we have been able to develop methods of regulation by species, and we believe that this is the only way in which whale resources can be adequately conserved and protected.

We think, therefore, that the Commission should continue to give attention to this matter and, particularly in the Antarctic, should try to see how we can develop means of regulating by species, especially as the stocks of whales recover - the protected whales - from their very low level of abundance.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation) Thank you, Dr. McHugh.

Lady and Gentlemen, we have heard from Dr. McHugh the report of the Scientific Committee and of the discussion by the Technical Committee, also his views as representative of the United States. Could I suggest, therefore, that we have completed this item by confirming the statement by the Chairman of the Technical Committee, awaiting the possible reaction for future consideration. I would suggest that we consider that we have completed the business under Item 11 and Item 18 (g). Is that agreed? (Agreed) As there seems to be no objection, I take it we have completed our consideration of Item 11 and Item 18 (g).

We now go on to item 12, Exclusion of the North Pacific Ocean and its dependent waters north of the Equator from the application of paragraph 11 of the Schedule.

The corresponding Item appears in 18 (h), with regard to the amendment to the Schedule, so we will deal with these two items together. I would like to ask Dr McHugh, Chairman of the Technical Committee, to report on the results of the discussion in the Technical Committee.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): This matter was discussed at great length in the Technical Committee and also by the North Pacific Commission in their meeting. At a certain stage in our discussions the Japanese Delegation, who had asked that this item be put on the Agenda, withdrew their proposal. That is all I have to say about it, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. McHugh.

I wonder whether the Japanese Delegation wishes to make any observation.

Dr. H. OMURA (Japan) (Interpretation): The Japanese Delegation deeply regrets that our real intention with regard to this problem was not fully understood by the members concerned, and that the proposed amendment was not realised.

I would like to take this opportunity to make it clear once again that Japan has no intention of increasing the number of its factory ships, either to the North Pacific or to the Antarctic. We expect that at the next annual meeting of the Commission paragraph 11 of the Schedule will be amended, as we proposed this year.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. Omura.

Lady and Gentlemen, as you have heard, the proposal under Item 12 has been withdrawn by the Japanese Delegation and consequently the proposal which appears as 18 (h) has been withdrawn. Therefore I consider that the Commission consider that it has disposed of this Item 12 and Item 18 (h) by hearing the report of the Chairman of the Technical Committee and the subsequent observation of the Japanese Delegation. Is that agreed? (Agreed) As there seems to be no objection, we consider we have disposed of Item 12 and Item 18 (h).

We now go on to item 13, Economic studies of whaling regulations. May I ask Dr. McHugh to take the floor to report on this item.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): The Technical Committee heard from the FAO observer on this subject, who reported that they had received no further information and, therefore, there was no progress to report on the economic studies. He also said that if the Commission wished FAO to continue, then he thought it would be

appropriate that a new request be sent from the Commission to FAO stating the precise objectives of the study, if the Commission still thought it necessary. It was the view of the Technical Committee, however, that such a request was not justified at present and that the item should be deleted from future agendas.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

In conclusion, judging from the report of Dr. McHugh, as to the discussion of the Technical Committee, I understand that the Technical Committee recommends that this item should be deleted from the Agenda for the coming year. I wonder whether the Commission agrees with this recommendation from the Technical Committee. Is that agreed? (Agreed) As there seems to be no objection, I consider that the Commission agrees with the recommendation from the Technical Committee, thereby disposing of this Item 12 on the Agenda.

We now proceed to Item 14, Infractions. May I ask Mr. McHugh again to report the discussions and considerations of the Technical Committee on this matter.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): The Technical Committee has in the past set up an Infractions Sub-Committee. The Committee this year was chaired by Dr. DeJager of South Africa. They reviewed the reports of infractions from the various whaling countries and found that the average number of infractions was about 1.7 per cent of the total catch. There was quite a difference in the figures for baleen whales and for sperm whales, with the infraction on sperm whales running as high as 6 per cent and for baleen whales less than 1 per cent. The Committee noted these infractions and suggested that countries continue to try to hold the percentage of infractions down. I think this is about all I need to say about this particular matter.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. McHugh.

If there is no delegation wishing to speak on this question, I take it that the Commission considers that it has disposed of this Item 14 by confirming the report of Dr. McHugh. (Agreed)

The next item which appears on the Agenda is Item 15, Technical Committee Report. However, in my view this should be dealt with after we have considered the remaining matters under Item 18 with regard to amendments to the Schedule. I should therefore like to go on to Item 18, and come back at a later stage to Item 15. May I draw your attention, therefore, to Item 18 on the Agenda?

By the way, we have disposed of Items 16 and 17, and I should therefore like to draw your attention to Item 18 and ask you to confirm the sub-items which we have not yet considered. These are sub-items (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) under Item 18, and they are related to the amendments to the Schedule. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, we require three-quarters of the total votes cast to be in favour of the amendment, and the roll will be taken on the basis of precise language.

I should like first to deal with Item (b), and I will ask Dr. McHugh to tell us the recommendation of the Technical Committee.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee):
Did you say Item (b)?

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Yes, of Item 18, relating to paragraph 4(1)(a) -- extension of prohibition on killing of blue whales in the North Atlantic Ocean after 24th February 1970.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee):
The Technical Committee noted that the present ban on killing blue whales in the North Atlantic terminates on 24th February 1970. There was very little new data on blue whales in the North Atlantic, and certainly no indication that the stock had increased substantially in abundance. The Committee urged the whaling companies to provide sighting data, and suggested that additional studies should be made by interested countries if possible.

In view of the lack of new information, the Committee recommends that paragraph 4(1)(a) of the Schedule be amended as follows: delete all the words after "Ocean" and substitute the following language, "for three years ending on 24th February 1973". Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. McHugh. I should like to ask the Secretary, Mr. Stacey, to call the roll on the basis of the precise language to be amended in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

The SECRETARY: The proposal is to amend paragraph 4(1)(a) by deleting all words after "North Atlantic Ocean" and substituting for them, "for three years ending on 24th February 1973". I will now take a poll of the member nations.

Argentina	Yes
Australia	Yes
Canada	Yes
Denmark	Absent
France	Absent
Iceland	Absent
Japan	Yes
Mexico	Absent
Netherlands	Absent
New Zealand	Absent
Norway	Yes
Panama	Absent
South Africa	Yes
USSR	Yes
USA	Yes
UK	Yes

The voting in favour of this proposal is unanimous among the member delegations present.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): The Commission has unanimously adopted the proposal of the Technical Committee on this matter. Thank you very much.

The next sub-item we should like to deal with is sub-item (c) with regard to paragraph 5 - position of the sanctuary. I will ask Dr. McHugh to report the recommendation of the Technical Committee.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee):

Mr. Chairman, the Technical Committee endorsed the recommendation of the Scientific Committee that the sanctuary in the Antarctic be kept open in the 1969/1970 season. If the Commission agrees with this recommendation there is no need to amend the Schedule.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much. As you have heard from Dr. McHugh, the recommendation of the Technical Committee, on the recommendation of the Scientific Committee, is to keep the position of the Sanctuary as it is. No amendment to the Schedule therefore is required and, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of this Commission, there is no need to take a roll call. I would suggest, therefore, that we consider that we have disposed of sub-item (c) without making any amendment to the Schedule under paragraph 5. (Agreed)

I should like to draw your attention now to Item 18(d) relating to paragraph 6(1) - extension or modification of prohibition on the killing of humpback whales in the North Atlantic Ocean after 8th November 1969.

I should like to ask Dr. McHugh to report on this matter.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee):

Mr. Chairman, the situation with respect to humpback whales in the North Atlantic is similar to the situation for blue whales. Although Canada has been conducting some research and has some evidence that the stocks are increasing, the Committee decided to endorse the recommendation of the Scientific Committee that this ban also be extended for a period of three years. It now ends on 8th November, 1969, and we propose the following change in the language of the appropriate paragraph in the Schedule, that is simply to delete "1969" and substitute "1972". Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN:(Interpretation): Thank you, Dr. McHugh. I should like to ask the Secretary, Mr. Stacey, to give us the precise language and to call the roll.

The SECRETARY: The proposal is to amend paragraph 6(1) of the Schedule by deleting "1969" at the end of the first sentence and substituting "1972". I will now take a poll of the member countries present.

Argentina	Yes
Australia	Yes
Canada	Yes
France	Absent
Japan	Yes
Norway	Yes
South Africa	Yes
USSR	Yes
USA	Yes
UK	Yes

It is a unanimous vote in favour of the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stacey. With regard to item 18(d), the Commission has adopted the proposal of the Technical Committee unanimously.

/We now deal with

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation) (continued):

We now deal with sub-item (e), relating to paragraphs 7(a) and 8(d), determination of opening and closing dates of Antarctic pelagic baleen season. May I ask Dr. McHugh to report on this?

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Mr. Chairman, the Scientific Committee recommended that there be no change in the opening and closing dates of the Antarctic pelagic baleen season, and the Technical Committee endorse this recommendation.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): You have heard, from the report of Dr. McHugh, the recommendation of the Technical Committee is that there is no need to change the Schedule. Therefore, if there is no objection I would like to suggest that the Commission should decide to accept the proposal of the Technical Committee to the effect that no change is required. As there is no objection, it has been so decided. (Agreed)

The last item with which we have to deal under the heading of Item 18 is (f), relating to paragraph 8(a), pelagic catch limit in the Antarctic for 1969/70 by species or by blue whale units. I would like to ask Dr. McHugh to report on the result of the discussions of the Technical Committee.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Mr. Chairman, as the Commission will note in the Report of the Technical Committee, there was some disagreement in the Scientific Committee about the condition of the fin whale stocks in the Antarctic, although they agreed on the estimates for the sei whale stocks.

Most of the Committee felt that the estimate made last year was too high, and that the best estimate of the sustainable yield of fin whales now would lower the blue whale unit estimate for these two species in the Antarctic to a level of about 2500 blue whale units. Since there was some disagreement among the scientists, and since the Technical Committee recognised that to come down in one step to the lower estimate would be difficult for the whaling industry, we decided that an intermediate step should be taken. We agreed to recommend to the Commission that the Schedule be amended to reduce the quota from 3200 blue whale units to 2700 blue whale units for the 1969/70 season in the Antarctic.

I should give you the precise language of our recommendation for the amendment: we recommend that the Schedule be amended as follows:

"In paragraph 8(a) delete '3200' and substitute '2700'; delete '1968/69' and substitute '1969/70'."

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): I will ask Mr. Stacey to give the exact language and to call a roll

The SECRETARY: The proposal is to amend paragraph 8(a) of the Schedule by deleting, in the last line of the paragraph, "3200" and substituting "2700", and deleting "1968/69" and substituting "1969/70". Will member nations please vote?

Argentina	Yes
Australia	Yes
Canada	Yes
France	Yes
Japan	Yes
Norway	Yes
South Africa	Yes
U.S.S.R.	Yes
U.S.A.	Yes
U.K.	Yes

The vote in favour of the proposal is unanimous.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you. With regard to the amendment to the Schedule falling under this item, the Commission has decided, as proposed by the Technical Committee, that the pelagic catch limit in the Antarctic for the coming season should be fixed at a level of 2700 blue whale units.

I think we have completed the consideration of Item 18. However, before going on to the other items, I would like to apologise, as Chairman of this meeting; if I had followed the strict interpretation of the Rules of Procedure, I should have asked the delegates to move the motion and then to second it. However, as I wanted to proceed as fast as possible with the work, I forgot to follow that procedure; as the result of the vote taken for the item was that the Commission decided on this action unanimously, I would seek your understanding and ask you to accept my apologies.

We have therefore completed our consideration of Items 18 and 19, and I propose that we should proceed to Item 20. However, before doing that, we have to come back to Item 15, the formal adoption of the Technical Committee Report.

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (Chairman, Technical Committee): Mr. Chairman, before I make the motion, I would like to call the attention of the Commission to four other items in the Report of the Technical Committee. They appear on pages 7 and 8, paragraphs 21, 22, 23, and 24. Paragraph 21 refers to the question that was discussed at last year's meeting on the matter of separating the Bryde's whale from the sei whale in the records of catches. The Scientific Committee has recommended that this should be done and the Technical Committee agrees, and suggests that this question be added to the Agenda for next year's meeting.

I also note that there was some language dropped out of the Report in this last version, and I think originally we had the words "sei and Bryde's whale" in the first sentence. I would suggest unless there is some reason for dropping that out, the Secretariat should add the words "sei and" at the end of the second line in paragraph 21.

Paragraph 22 refers to the unfortunate cessation of publication of the Norwegian Whaling Gazette. The Scientific Committee pointed this out to the Technical Committee and indicated its concern that it had been necessary to stop publication. The Technical Committee asked the Commissioner for Norway if he would be so kind as to talk with Mr. Vangstein of the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics to see whether this decision could be rescinded, and the Norwegian Commissioner said he would do so.

The next item is the recommendation of the Scientific Committee that meetings be held early next year to review the assessment methods for fin whales. This seems to be quite important, in view of the unfortunate difference of opinion within the Scientific Committee on the assessment of the fin whale resource.

Secondly, the Committee felt that it was quite important also to have a meeting on the biology of sperm whales, to try and develop better means of estimating the stocks and better estimates of stock size of sperm whales in the world oceans. The Technical Committee believes that these meetings are important and that they should be held if possible.

The last item simply relates to scientific permits which the United States has been giving in the past two years or so, to our one whaling company, to take scientific samples of grey whales to allow our biologists to obtain better information on the condition of the stocks. We have had considerable objections in the United States to these permits, and we thought that some recognition of the scientific merits of this study by the Commission would be helpful to us in responding to complaints.

I would call your attention to these items, and I would like to move the adoption of the Report of the Technical Committee.

/The CHAIRMAN.....

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) Before we adopt the Technical Committee's Report I would like to draw attention to Paragraph 22 in the Technical Committee's Report, which Dr. McHugh has just mentioned. It relates to the question of the continuation of the Norwegian Whaling Gazette. I understand Mr. Rindal, the Norwegian representative, made an observation with regard to this question yesterday, but I would like to ask Mr. Rindal whether he has any further observations to make. We might then be able to confirm whether we would bring the request of this Commission to the attention of Mr. Vangstein of the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics in Norway, because it seems that some delegates were not present at yesterday's meeting.

Mr. I. RINDAL (Norway): Mr. Chairman, I have no additional information to give. Of course I shall bring this matter up with Mr. Vangstein and urge him as much as possible to try and recommence publication of the Gazette, but I would like to reiterate what I said yesterday about the necessity, or the desirability, of the scientists and other experts to help Mr. Vangstein in sending material to be published in the Gazette for the benefit of every one of us.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) I understand that Dr. McHugh moved the adoption of this Technical Committee Report. I also understand that the Commission is requested to endorse the recommendations which appear in the Report under Item 14, Paragraph 21 through to 24. I wonder whether this interpretation is correct?

Dr. J.L. McHUGH (U.S.A.): I think in endorsing the report of the Committee the Commission will be taking sufficient action on those Items, Mr. Chairman. I do not think separate action is necessary.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, I see. Dr. McHugh has proposed the adoption of the Report of the Technical Committee. May I ask a delegation to second the motion?

Mr. M.N. SUKHORUCHENKO (U.S.S.R.): The Soviet delegation is seconding the motion to adopt the Technical Committee Report. We propose also to express our deep gratitude to the Chairman of the Technical Committee for the very successful and effective method of completing the work of the Committee in question.

The CHAIRMAN: (Interpretation) The adoption of the Report of the Technical Committee has been moved by Dr. McHugh and seconded by the delegations of Norway and the Soviet Union, together with the expressions of gratitude

for the contribution of Dr. McHugh. Is there any objection to the adoption of the Report of the Technical Committee? As there is no objection I consider that the Commission has unanimously adopted the Report of the Technical Committee.

I would like to take this opportunity, as Chairman of the Commission, of expressing my deep respect and appreciation to Dr. McHugh, the Chairman of the Technical Committee, and the other members of that Committee who participated in the deliberations of the Technical Committee. Frankly speaking, I admit we had a number of difficult problems to solve in the Scientific and Technical Committees which required a great effort to be solved. I am very pleased to see that, in spite of these tremendous difficulties, with the Chairmanship of Dr. McHugh and the outstanding ability of the members of the Technical Committee those problems were solved in a friendly and smooth manner. Without the co-operation and help of Dr. McHugh and other members of the Committee I myself would have been forced into the situation where I would have had to solve these difficult questions. In that sense also I would like to express my deep gratitude and high respect to Dr. McHugh and other members of the Technical Committee. Thank you very much.

May I now go on to Item 20, Reports from observers and appointment of observers for 1969/70. May I ask Mr. Stacey to report on Item 20.

The SECRETARY: We have received three invitations to send observers to other organisations during the year. There was an invitation to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea and, in consultation with the Chairman, Mr. Brown, the United Kingdom member of the Scientific Committee, attended and a report has been circulated to the delegates.

The second one was for the Meeting of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific which was held last December. We had very short notice of this and no member notified us that he would be available to attend. I informed the Secretary to the Commission to that effect and asked him to send me copies of the papers which I will make available to members of the Commission should they be of interest.

The third one was to a meeting of the Inter-Governmental Oceanographic Commission, which is an organisation that comes within UNESCO and set up an ad hoc working group on a long-term and expanded programme of oceanographic studies.

(The SECRETARY continued)

This was held in Paris last week, and here again the notice was very short and we were unable to find anybody from the Commission who would be there. So we asked a scientific member of the United Kingdom's Ministry of Agriculture staff, who was attending, if he would let us have a report on any matter that arose which would be of interest to the Commission. When I get that report I will circulate it to the members.

We now have in hand two invitations for forthcoming meetings, one is to the sixth meeting of the Inter-Governmental Oceanographic Commission which is to be held in Paris in September. The other is to the meeting of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, which is to be held in Dublin on 29th September to 8th October. In previous years the Commission has been prepared to leave the selection of somebody to observe on behalf of the Commission to the Chairman, and it may be that that is what they will wish to do again on this occasion.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): I wonder whether there is any Commissioner who wishes to make a comment or observation on what Mr. Stacey has reported.

Mr. J. GRAHAM (United Kingdom): At two recent meetings of other Commissions which I have attended this problem of observers has come up, and in both cases the Commissions have doubted whether it really greatly assisted their work to send observers to some of these many international meetings which are taking place. At most of them the individual members of the Commission represent the governments concerned, and they would be directly represented if they were interested, and there was often no general commission position, as distinct from the position of its member governments.

I do not feel strongly about this, but I think if the Commission is considering the matter it should, particularly since it proves so difficult to find observers in some cases, see whether, in fact, it is essential that we should have observers at these other meetings.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Graham. With regard to the question of sending our observers to the meetings of these international organisations, my view is that since we accept observers from countries interested in our work and from other international organisations which are also interested in the work of our organisation, we receive invitations

to send observers to other international organisations. In accordance with past practice, we send observers, if there happens to be some member of this Commission who wants to attend that meeting, without causing expense to the Commission. Therefore my view is to follow that past practice and send observers if it does not create any financial expenditure on the part of the Commission.

As Mr. Stacey has stated, I wonder if there is any objection if this matter of selecting the members could be left to the discretion of the Chairman in consultation with the Secretary. Is there any objection? (Agreed) It has been so decided. I shall select the observers to attend the meetings of organisations which have invited us to send observers from our organisation, in consultation with Mr. Stacey, so that it will not cause any financial expenditure on the part of the Commission.

We have now completed Item 20 on the Agenda.

We now come to Item 21, Arrangements for Press Release. With regard to this item, I would like to ask the Commission, in accordance with the practice which the Commission has followed in recent years, to entrust the Chairman and the Secretary to deal with this matter. Is that agreed? (Agreed) There seems to be no objection, so I consider the Commission has so decided.

The next and last item we have to deal with is Item 22. Any other business. Under this item it has been the practice of this Commission to ask the observers to this meeting whether they have any observations or comments to make. So if there is no objection, I would like to ask the observers if they wish to make any observations here.

I wonder whether I could ask Mr. Thomas, the observer from Chile, whether he has any observation to make.

Mr. F. THOMAS (Chile): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to say something which is not directly concerned with the items of the Agenda, in other words I want to suggest something special. I wish to suggest that the International Whaling Commission should have a plaque or plate, probably made in plastic or some other material, for the purpose that in the future all the members who assist in this very interesting meeting should have a souvenir. Naturally they could pay for this emblem, but they would have a very nice souvenir by which to remember the

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splendid work of the Commission. That is all I wanted to say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

May I ask Dr. Capodilupo, observer from the Government of Italy, whether he has any observation to make?

Dr. E. CAPODILUPO (Italy): No observations, I just want to thank you very much for letting me participate in your work. Thank you again.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much.

May I ask Mr. De Magalhaes Feu, the observer from Portugal, whether he has any observation to make? He is not present.

Next may I ask the Representative of FAO, Mr. Boerema, whether he has any observations to make?

Mr. L.K. BOEREMA (F.A.O.): Thank you. I would like to say a few words on behalf of FAO. I have listened to your discussions with great interest, and I think it was again apparent, at this meeting, how your Commission is determined to take the scientific advice into account in its decisions.

I am glad to be able to report to FAO that the Commission has taken substantial action with respect to catches of whale stocks, both in the Antarctic and in the North Pacific, even in the case of the Antarctic, where the scientific views could not be unanimous.

We regret that FAO has had to decide to decrease its active participation in the scientific work of the Commission, and we are grateful for your understanding of this matter.

I thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for the kind words you spoke some time ago on the work which FAO has carried out in the past years, and I will certainly report this to FAO.

I can assure you.....

Mr. BOEREMA (continued): I can assure you that FAO will continue to keep an active interest in the work of your Commission, and I thank your Commission for the opportunity to take part in your work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Boerema.

Next I should like to ask Mr. Aglen, the observer from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, if he would like to speak.

Mr. A.J. AGLLEN (ICES): Mr. Chairman, I should like to say very briefly on behalf of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea how much we appreciate being invited to send observers to this Commission. Despite what my colleague on my left has just said, I think the Commission feel that if they can, as you put it, without cost be represented at meetings of bodies which have a common interest with them, it is useful, because the observer can then bring back to the Council a report of what happens in a more lively form than often is the case if merely a written report is made.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, the Council has long been interested in whaling, but for a number of years after this Commission was set up its Whaling Committee, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mackintosh, was kept in a state of suspended animation. More recently, however, when the Council's organization and structure was reorganized and the Marine Mammals Committee was set up to deal not only with whales but with seals, it began to meet regularly. I see here today several people who were, in fact, at the last meeting of the Marine Mammals Committee. I think it affords a useful forum for the consideration and discussion of research programmes on whales, mainly in the North Atlantic area to which the Council gives particular attention, and that this discussion is of some help to the work of this Commission.

I am sure, Sir, that the Council will be gratified to learn of the action which this Commission has taken at this meeting to further the conservation of whale stocks, and I would like now just to end by again, Sir, thanking the Commission for the invitation to the Council to be represented here.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aglen.

I should like now to ask Mr. Fitter, of the Fauna Preservation Society, whether he has any observations to make.

Mr. R.S.R. FITTER (Fauna Preservation Society):
Mr. Chairman, I should like to thank the Commission for once more permitting an observer from the Fauna Preservation Society to be present at their meeting and to make a statement.

The example of the gray whale shows that whale stocks can be rebuilt, and we appear to be about to move into a period when some of the major depleted stocks of baleen whales will be similarly rehabilitated. The Society welcomes the decisions of the Commission to continue realistic quotas for both the Antarctic and the North Pacific and to continue the Antarctic sanctuary.

We would also support the views of the United States delegation on the need, sooner rather than later, to adopt separate quotas for sei and fin whales in the Antarctic, as is already done in the North Pacific.

Likewise, we do hope that next year it will be possible to distinguish between bryde's and sei whales.

Further, we particularly welcome the continuation of total protection for the blue whale and the humpback, and sincerely hope that by the end of the current period of total protection for these two species stocks will have built up sufficiently to permit limited exploitation, at least in some areas. This would justify the policy of conservation pursued by the Commission with the full support of the voluntary conservation bodies.

We also welcome the news that an attempt is to be made to activate the observer scheme in 1970.

Finally, I should like on behalf of the Fauna Preservation Society to congratulate the Commission on a most successful meeting.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Fitter.

Next may I ask Dr. Holloway, the representative of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, whether he has any observations to make?

Dr. C.W. HOLLOWAY (IUCN): I am representing the IUCN, and I also have permission to speak on behalf of the World Wildlife Fund. I think it is as well to remind ourselves that the ultimate objectives both of the IWC and of the major conservation organizations are virtually the same, namely the effective conservation of whales. If the conservation societies have at times criticized the IWC in the past, it has not been in respect of the aims, but rather in respect of the speed with which it has been possible to act on the recommendations which we all know to be necessary. I hasten to add that I appreciate that our position is a much happier one than yours, in that we are as it were like spectators on the edge of a football field shouting instructions and advice to the team on the field. Your position is more difficult. You are the team, and it is necessary for you to score the goals. I am happy to say that the scoring of your team, Mr. Chairman, in

recent years has been so consistent that there is no doubt as to whether I, as a spectator, should applaud or should criticize.

In respect of this particular meeting, the members of my organization will be particularly pleased to learn that you propose to continue the protection of the humpback and the blue whale in the Northern hemisphere. In the North Pacific they will be delighted to learn that quotas have been established not only for the fin and for the sei whale, but also for the sperm whales, and they will be overjoyed to hear that negotiations are to commence on the implementation of an international observer scheme in the North Pacific. Some disappointment may be expressed over the retention of the blue whale unit in the Antarctic, but I personally was present at the Technical Committee meeting, and I am satisfied that your Commission is keeping this subject under active review, and that if the present system shows signs of threatening an individual species your Commission will bring this matter up again and will take remedial action.

To summarize, therefore, Mr. Chairman, I should like to confirm that our ultimate objectives are the same. I would like to applaud the action which your Commission has taken to conserve the whale stocks. I would like to confirm our confidence in your Commission to continue to strengthen the conservation action it has already taken and, finally, I should like to confirm that the organizations which I represent support the action which you have taken and are ready to offer any assistance in the future to further our mutual objectives.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Dr. Holloway.

The next speaker on my list is Mr. Scott, of the International Society for the Protection of Animals. May I ask whether Mr. Scott has any observations to make?

Mr. SCOTT (International Society for the Protection of Animals): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I will be brief. The International Society for the Protection of Animals supports without reservation the views expressed by our conservationist colleagues. We also trust that those engaged in whaling will continue to pay due care and attention to the humane slaughter of these animals.

In conclusion, may I thank you for this invitation to speak at your meeting?

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Scott. I think I have completed the list of speakers. Does any observer or delegate wish to make an observation under this item? Mr. Cotton?

Mr. P. COTTON (New Zealand): I am most grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me this opportunity to make a statement in connexion with New Zealand's withdrawal from the Whaling Commission which will take effect, I understand, from the end of this month.

As other members know, New Zealand has had a lengthy association with the International Whaling Commission, and I myself have been privileged to attend the meetings of the Commission previously in 1966 and 1967. In making known New Zealand's decision to withdraw towards the end of last year, the New Zealand Minister of Marine, the Honourable W.J. Scott, announced that the decision was a natural conclusion following the termination in 1964 of the whaling activities based on the Torrey Channel whaling station. During the period that New Zealand has been a member of the Commission she has continually striven for conservation and the rational use of the whale species in the Southern Pacific and Antarctic oceans. New Zealand has co-operated in research to the fullest extent, and her scientists have produced a number of papers which have contributed to the fund of knowledge of whale species.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, may I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak to the Commissioners and observers. I should like to congratulate you, Sir, on your Chairmanship of this, the 21st meeting of the Whaling Commission, and to express both personally and on behalf of the New Zealand Government the best wishes for the continuing success of the Commission.

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Cotton.

We have now dealt with all the items that appear on the Agenda and, if no delegation wishes to make an observation, I should like to close the meeting.

/Mr. GRAHAM:.....

Mr. J. GRHAM (United Kingdom): Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make a brief statement. The South African authorities recently informed the United Kingdom Government of the activities of a Bahaman vessel off the coast of Africa, which I think is probably the vessel which was mentioned at our first session, when the Report of the International Bureau of Whaling Statistics was presented.

I need hardly say that the United Kingdom Government would take an extremely serious view of illegal whaling by a vessel under its jurisdiction. But I am sorry to say that in the limited time available, and as there have been recent constitutional changes in that part of the world, I am not at this moment in a position to state categorically whether the vessel in question is subject to United Kingdom legislation.

If it is, and it can be proved that it was taking or treating sperm or baleen whales, this would constitute an infringement of British law which requires any British vessel used for taking or treating such whales to hold a licence. It is certain that no such licence has been given to this vessel by the United Kingdom Government.

We are urgently inquiring into the position, in consultation with the South African and Bahamas authorities, and will do our utmost to ensure that legal proceedings will be taken if this should prove possible.

I would just like to add one further word on this question. The investigations we have been making, in looking into the legal position, have drawn our attention to what seems to be a gap in the Convention at the moment. The Schedule to the Convention contains a number of provisions which apply to a whale catcher attached to a factory ship. But they do not provide for the case in which the catcher is itself a processing vessel or a factory ship. This appears to be a serious defect, since if British domestic legislation had exactly followed the wording of the Convention, this ship that we have heard about would not have been subject to any of the provisions relating to catchers attached to factory ships, but only those which apply to factory ships.

This is a matter which we hope the Commission will consider at its next meeting, to see whether some revision of the provisions of the Schedule is necessary, if we have to contemplate the possibility of there being vessels which both catch and treat whales.

Dr. J.E. McHUGH (U.S.A.): Mr. Chairman, I do not want to see you adjourn the meeting without somebody calling attention to your performance as Chairman. I would just like to say that I think this meeting has gone smoothly because of your skillful handling of it,

and I for one want to say that I have enjoyed working with you once again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Applause)

The CHAIRMAN (Interpretation): Thank you very much, Dr. McHugh. If there is no other delegation wishing to speak, before concluding the meeting there is something I would like to say.

I am not certain whether I deserve the kind words which have been used by Dr. McHugh; frankly, I expected this year's Commission meeting to be faced with a lot of very difficult problems, and until yesterday I must confess I was not certain whether we could complete our work by this afternoon.

However, contrary to my prediction, I am very pleased that we have been able to complete our business one hour before the time predicted. This is not due to my contribution, as described by Dr. McHugh, but to the efforts, I believe, of the Chairmen of the Committees, Dr. McHugh of the Technical Committee, Dr. Chapman of the Scientific Committee, and Dr. Sprules of the Finance and Administration Committee. Without the efforts of these Chairmen of the Committees, and the co-operation of the members of the Commission, I do not think we would have been able to complete our work this morning.

As you know, my ability to understand the English language is very poor, and in addition I am not used to acting as Chairman of a meeting of such a character. I have no confidence in my ability to discharge the task of Chairman of the meeting. However, with your help and co-operation, I have been able to fulfil the task.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Stacey, the Secretary, and Mr. Goldthorpe, who have given me valuable advice on the way to conduct the work of the meeting, and to the Secretariat staff who have helped me.

I would also, on behalf of the Commission, thank the British Government for extending its hospitality to the members of the Commission in both an official and an unofficial way, particularly at the reception given by the British Government. I would also express my deep appreciation to the Soviet Delegation for kindly arranging the reception by the Soviet Ambassador for the members of the Commission.

Unless there is any delegation who wishes to ask for the floor, I will declare the Twenty-First Meeting of the International Whaling Commission closed, and I hope to meet you all on 22 June next year.

(The Meeting closed at 1.00 p.m.)

International Whaling Commission

Twentyfirst Meeting - London 1969 - Verbatim Report (I.W.C./21/11)

Corrigenda

Page 2, line 10	Delete "sort" and replace with "course"
Page 4, lines 35 and 36	Delete "(" and ")"
Page 6, line 6	Denmark "not present"
line 8	Iceland "not present"
line 11	Netherlands . "not present"
line 22	Denmark "not present"
line 24	Iceland "not present"
line 27	Netherlands . "not present"
Page 9, line 8	Delete "three and four" replace with "four and three"
Page 23, line 1	"The Chairman (Interpretation):"
line 9	"France Yes"
Page 37, line 1	Delete "Mr. T. Wada" and replace with "Mr. K. Kakudoh"
Page 43, line 4	Delete "Mr. T. Wada" and replace with "Mr. K. Fujimura"
line 7	Delete "problems" and replace with "provisions"
line 7	Delete "scale" and replace with "Schedule"
Page 50, line 3	Delete "Commission" and replace with "Commissioners"
line 12	Delete "Dr. H. Omura" and replace with "Mr. K. Fujimura"
line 25	Delete "Dr. Omura" and replace with "Mr. Fujimura"
Page 54, line 24	"France Yes"
Page 65, lines 32, 34, 35, 45	Delete "Mr. Scott" in each case and replace with "Mr. Platt"