NJG/JAC/30796

30 September 2008

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.728

Objection to Schedule Amendment - Czech Republic

The Government of the Czech Republic has presented an objection in accordance with Article V paragraph 3(a) of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling regarding the amendments to the Schedule notified in Circular Communication IWC.CCG.711 of 10 July 2008 (i.e. substitution as appropriate of the dates 2009/2009 pelagic season, 2009 coastal season or 2009 in paragraphs 11 and 12 and Tables 1, 2 and 3 of the Schedule).

A copy of the notification and explanation received from the Czech Republic is enclosed.

Article V, paragraph 3(a) states:

"Each of such amendments shall become effective with respect to the Contracting Governments, except that (*a*) if any Government presents to the Commission objection to any amendment prior to the expiration of this ninety-day period, the amendment shall not become effective with respect to any of the Governments for an additional ninety days; (*b*) thereupon, any other Contracting Government may present objection to the amendment at any time prior to the expiration of the additional ninety-day period, or before the expiration of thirty days from the date of receipt of the last objection received during such additional ninety-day period, whichever date shall be the later; and (*c*) thereafter, the amendment shall become effective with respect to all Contracting Governments which have not presented objection but shall not become effective with respect to any Government immediately upon receipt of each objection is withdrawn. The Commission shall notify each Contracting Government immediately upon receipt of each objection and withdrawal and each Contracting Government shall acknowledge receipt of all notifications of amendments, objections, and withdrawals."

Circular Communication IWC.CCG.711 giving notification of the Schedule amendments adopted at the 60^{th} Annual Meeting established 8 October 2008 as the expiration of the ninety day period. The additional 90-day period during which any other Contracting Government may present objection to this amendment expires on <u>6</u> January 2009.

Contracting Governments are reminded that the Convention requires each Contracting Government to acknowledge this notification of the objection.

Dr. Nicky Grandy Secretary to the Commission