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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.822

Intersessional Meeting of the Commission to address Greenland aboriginal subsistence quotas

As you are aware, at IWC/61 in Madeira, the Commission agreed to leave open the decision on Greenland's request for a take of humpback whales until an intersessional meeting, by which time the report from a small scientific group established to investigate the issue of conversion factors would be available to facilitate discussions. The intersessional meeting had been tentatively scheduled for 10-11 December 2009, i.e. immediately following the planned meeting of the Small Working Group on the Future of IWC (SWG).

Following the postponement of the SWG meeting to March next year (see Circular Communication IWC.CCG.820 of 16 October 2009), the Chair of the Commission, Cristian Maquieira, has consulted with Denmark and Greenland regarding the timing of the intersessional meeting. With their agreement, the intersessional meeting of the Commission, at which a decision will be taken on Greenland's request, is also being postponed. Plans are being put in place to hold both meetings during the week beginning 1 March 2010 (probably in Florida, USA) and further details will follow in due course.

Dr. Nicky Grandy
Secretary to the Commission