

NJG/JAC/31009

19 November 2009

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.825

Dates for meetings of the Support Group, Small Working Group and Commission

Support Group

Further to Circular Communication IWC.CCG.820 of 16 October which reported on progress made at the October meeting of the Support Group in Santiago, Chile, I would like to inform you that the Support Group will meet again in Seattle, USA from 4-6 December 2009.

Small Working Group (SWG) and intersessional meeting of the Commission

Further to Circular Communications IWC.CCG.820 and 822 (of 26 October), please note that the SWG and intersessional Commission meeting will be held in the first week of March 2010 at the TradeWinds Island Grand Resort, 5500 Gulf Boulevard, St. Pete Beach, Florida USA.

The SWG will meet from Tuesday 2 to Thursday 4 March, finishing around midday on 4 March. The SWG will review the report from the Support Group and decide on further work as appropriate so that its report can be submitted to the Commission at least five weeks prior to IWC/62 as required by the consensus resolution adopted at IWC/61 in Madeira (Document IWC/61/10rev).

The intersessional meeting of the Commission will start in the afternoon of 4 March and finish on Friday 5 March. At this meeting a decision will be taken on Greenland's request for a take of humpback whales that was held open from IWC/61. The report from the small scientific group established to investigate the issue of conversion factors to facilitate discussions at the intersessional meeting will be circulated shortly.

Further information on the venue and other arrangements for the Florida meetings will follow.

Dr. Nicky Grandy
Secretary to the Commission