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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.910

New Commissioner for New Zealand

We have been informed today that Mr. Gerard van Bohemen has been appointed as New Zealand's Commissioner to the IWC and takes over from Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey Palmer who has resigned as Commissioner for New Zealand. A letter from Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey Palmer to Commissioners is attached.

Mr. van Bohemen's contact details are as follows:

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Dr. Simon Brockington
Secretary to the Commission

MESSAGE TO IWC COMMISSIONERS

After eight years I have decided the time has come to resign as New Zealand's Commissioner to the IWC. I have contributed all that I can and it is time for someone else to give the New Zealand view a fresh impetus.

I have devoted a lot of energy in the last few years to try and help resolve the problems of the IWC. These efforts have not borne fruit as yet. I remain of the view that the issues must be resolved but I see no immediate path for that to be achieved.

I have had great support from successive New Zealand governments over the years for which I am grateful. I am very happy to be handing over the reins to Gerard van Bohemen, my friend and colleague, who has well and truly been played into this role over the past few years.

I have made many friends among the Commissioners and delegates to the Whaling Commission over a long period and I shall miss you all. I bid you farewell, with all good wishes for the future. My thanks also go to the Secretariat, whose job has never been easy.

Haere ra.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Geoffrey Palmer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Geoffrey Palmer