

SB/JAC/31295

12 April 2011

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.931

Call for information on whale killing methods and associated welfare issues

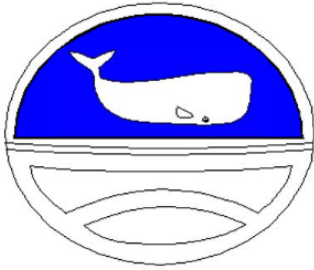
This circular invites Contracting Governments to submit information on whale killing and welfare statistics by **Monday 6 June**. Information received will be circulated in advance of the meeting of the Working Group on Whale Killing Methods and Associated Welfare Issues which will take place on Tuesday 5 July 2011.

The Secretariat has developed a Summary Reporting Form which Contracting Governments may wish to use to guide their responses (Annex 1). Completion of this form is not compulsory nor is it intended to replace the submission of detailed reports where appropriate. The form is based upon relevant Commission Resolutions (1997-1, 1999-1, 2001-2 and 2004-3) and the revised action plan on whale killing methods developed at an IWC workshop in 2003.

Contracting Governments may also wish to use the form to provide information on times to death and methods used to euthanize stranded or trapped whales.

Dr. Simon Brockington
Secretary to the Commission

Annex 1: Summary Reporting Form



International Whaling Commission

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Summary of Activities Related to the Action Plan on Whale Killing Methods (based on Resolution 1999-1)

Please note that completion of this form is not compulsory but it will greatly aid the discussions at the forthcoming Working Group Meeting. The Secretariat would be grateful if you can complete this form as fully as possible, preferably electronically and return it to Secretariat@iwcoffice.org by 6 June 2011.

Contracting Government	
Season	
Area	
Fishery type (e.g. commercial, aboriginal subsistence, scientific permit)	

Table 1. Summary of primary and secondary whale killing methods used (Note that the appropriate Method No. should be used throughout the form):

Method No.	Brief description of method (e.g. penthrite grenade, 'cold' grenade, rifle of stated calibre, etc). Put the most commonly used method first. Insert more rows if necessary.	Used as: (state whether primary killing method, secondary, or both)
1		
2		
3		

Summary of criteria used to indicate unconsciousness and death:

[Include brief description here]

Table 2: Summary of information providers:

Percentage of data provided by:	
▪ inspectors	
▪ scientists	
▪ hunters	
▪ other (please specify)	

Table 3: Summary of hunt:

Item	Species 1 <i>[insert name]</i>		Species 2 <i>[insert name]</i>		Species 3 <i>[insert name]</i>	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Whale killing methods						
▪ Total no. killed (all methods summed)						
▪ Total killed using Method 1 only						
▪ Total killed using Method 2 only						
▪ Total killed using Method 3 only						
▪ Total needing secondary harpoon or other secondary killing method						
▪ If bullets used						
○ minimum number						
○ maximum number						
○ median number						
Time to unconsciousness/death (TTD)*						
▪ Total for which information recorded						
▪ Total estimated TTD to be instant						
▪ Maximum estimated TTD						
▪ Mean time to TTD						
▪ Median Time to TTD						
Other information						
▪ Total targeted and missed						
▪ Total struck and lost						

***NB Resolution 1999-1 asks for TTD information for each whale not killed instantly. This can be provided via Table 4 below.**

Other: Any other relevant information e.g. with information on technical assistance given to other fisheries or with respect to new studies to (a) improve methods and TTD, (b) develop new criteria for TTD:

Table 4: Reporting of data on individual whales killed

Whale:	Species	Killing method(s) used	Time to Death¹	Samples taken
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
Etc.				

¹ Resolution 1999-1 encouraged reporting of time to death for each animal not killed instantly