

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.938

Annotated provisional agenda for IWC/63, other documents and distribution procedure

1 Procedure for distributing documents

a) Non-confidential documents

All non-confidential documents for the meetings of the Commission and its Sub-groups will be distributed to Commissioners, Contracting Governments and observers via the IWC's public website (<http://www.iwcoffice.org/documents/commission/IWC63docs/iwc63docs.htm>)

b) Confidential documents

Confidential documents such as those submitted to the Finance & Administration Committee are not listed on the Commission's website. Instead they will continue to be distributed by e-mail or hard copy as previously.

2 Documents now available

The Annotated Provisional Agenda for IWC/63, along with the revised draft agendas for Commission Sub-groups and a number of other documents are now available for download from the Commission's website. French and Spanish translations of the Annotated Provisional Agenda will follow in due course.

The following confidential documents are attached to this circular communication:

- IWC/63/F&A 1 Revised Draft Agenda
- IWC/63/F&A 3 Secretariat Review of Commission Rules and Procedures
- IWC/63/F&A 4 Proposals and Draft Resolutions for improving the effectiveness of operations within the International Whaling Commission (United Kingdom)

Please note that Contracting Governments are encouraged to submit documents for the meetings of the Commission and its sub-groups to the Secretariat by 30 May. All documents received will be posted to the website unless marked as confidential.

3 Proposed Schedule amendments, recommendations under Article VI, Resolutions and amendments to Commission Rules

Recent changes to the Commission's Rules of Procedure require that the full draft text of all proposed Schedule amendments, recommendations under Article VI, Resolutions and amendments to Commission rules are circulated to Commissioners at least 60 days in advance of the meeting at which the matter is to be discussed.

The following documents are being circulated in accordance with this requirement:

Proposed Schedule amendments:

- Proposal for a South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary. Submitted by the Government of Brazil on behalf of the Governments of Brazil and Argentina. The full draft text is provided in the annotations to Agenda Item 9.2 of the Annotated Provisional Agenda (IWC/63/2) available for download from the Commission website.
- Socio-economic implications and small type whaling. In commenting on the draft Agenda the Government of Japan indicated it reserves the right to propose an amendment to paragraph 10 of the Schedule to provide a catch quota of minke whales for its small type coastal whaling. Should Japan decide to make this proposal, the full draft text is provided under the annotations to Agenda Item 10 of the Annotated Provisional Agenda (IWC/63/2) available for download from the Commission website.

Proposed Resolutions

- Resolution to Maintain Progress on the Future of the IWC. Submitted by the Governments of Chile, New Zealand and the USA. Document IWC/63/7 available for download from the IWC website.
- Resolution on Improving the Effectiveness of Operations Within the International Whaling Commission. Full draft text contained in document IWC/63/F&A 4 (attached to this circular).

Proposed Changes to Commission Rules of Procedure

- Change to the way the Secretariat receives dues from Contracting Governments so that payments in cash will no longer be accepted. Document IWC/63/F&A 3 (attached to this circular).
- Proposals linked to the effectiveness of IWC operations. Full draft text of rule changes provided in document IWC/63/F&A 4 (attached to this circular).

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