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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.980

<u>Correspondence from the Registrar to the International Court of Justice</u>

The IWC has received the attached letter from the International Court of Justice which draws attention to a case filed by Australia instituting proceedings against Japan regarding Whaling in the Antarctic.

The letter explains that if the construction of an international convention appears to be in question in a case before the Court, then the Court's Statute and Rules require it to notify the international organisation concerned.

Accordingly, the Registrar's letter fulfils the Court's requirement to notify the IWC that Australia has referred to various parts of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (1946) and the Schedule attached to the Convention in its Application and Memorial.

Commissioners may be interested to note that the Registrar's letter includes a bilingual version of the Application filed by Australia. The Application is attached to this Communication, and is also available through the Court's website.

Simon Brockington
Secretary to the Commission

c.c. Intergovernmental Organisation observers to the IWC