



International
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Commission

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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.988

Request for offers to host future Scientific Committee and Commission meetings

At IWC/63 in 2011 the Commission endorsed an F&A Committee recommendation that, in principle, the meetings of the Scientific Committee and Commission should be separated by a period of 100 days or longer. The F&A Committee also noted that the best time for the Scientific Committee to meet is in late May / early June.

Following considerable work at recent meetings and expressions of support for the idea, the Commission may also decide at IWC/64, to be held in Panama City in July 2012, that it wishes to move to a biennial (two yearly) cycle of meetings. If the Commission does move to biennial meetings it would retain at least annual Scientific Committee meetings and perhaps meetings of other sub-groups.

Thus, as a minimum, a venue for the Scientific Committee's meeting is required in May/June 2013. In addition, a venue for the Commission may also be required in September or October of 2013. Venues for the Scientific Committee (May/June 2014) and the Commission (September/October 2014) will also be required.

No present offer exists from a Contracting Government to host either the Scientific Committee or a possible Commission meeting in 2013, or the meetings in 2014. Individual Contracting Governments are requested to consider if they would be prepared to offer to host any of these meetings, especially for 2013 as preparations need to begin.

The Secretariat can provide further details including information on venue requirements and likely budgetary costs to Contracting Governments interested in hosting any of these meetings.

Simon Brockington
Secretary to the Commission

c.c. Intergovernmental Organisation observers to the IWC

Secretary: Dr. Simon Brockington