



International
Whaling
Commission

The Red House
135 Station Road
Impington, Cambridge
CB24 9NP, UK

tel: +44 (0) 1223 233971 | fax: +44 (0) 1223 232876
email: secretariat@iwc.int | web: iwc.int

SB/JAC/31747
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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.1074

Letter from the Buenos Aires Group of Contracting Governments

The Secretariat has been asked to circulate the attached letter from Brazil on behalf of the Buenos Aires Group of Contracting Governments.

Simon Brockington
Executive Secretary

c.c. Intergovernmental Organisation observers to the IWC



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF BRAZIL
TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN LONDON

Rebraslon-034/2013

The Permanent Representation of Brazil to the International Organisations in London presents its compliments to the International Whaling Commission (IWC) Secretariat and on behalf of the Buenos Aires Group (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) has the honor to refer to the note SB/JAC/31736 "Visit of Chair and Secretary to Greenland" that was distributed as Circular IWC.CCG.1072.

In this regard, the Buenos Aires Group would like to express its concern about the Secretariat officials' travel to Greenland to attend the "Seminar on Greenlandic whaling and the International Whaling Commission - IWC" without the prior consent of the Commission. The Group also regrets the fact that an invitation to this event issued by the government of Greenland to members of the Danish Parliament incorporates the logo of the International Whaling Commission, suggesting that the seminar is endorsed by the IWC.

The Buenos Aires Group notes that the Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Subcommittee is the IWC body with a mandate to deal with ASW matters and was not consulted by the IWC Chair or Secretariat about this initiative. The Group also recalls that the seminar is not hosted by a Government Party to the Convention and that no IWC Contracting Governments seem to have been invited.

Finally, the Buenos Aires Group considers that any conclusions or results achieved by the seminar's participants or at any other meeting in Greenland with the involvement of the IWC Secretariat should not be interpreted as being endorsed or legitimized by the Commission.

The Buenos Aires Group kindly requests the IWC Secretariat to circulate this communication to all IWC Commissioners.

The Permanent Representation of Brazil to the International Organisations in London avails itself of this opportunity to renew its compliments to the International Whaling Commission (IWC) Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.



London, 6 November 2013