



International  
Whaling  
Commission

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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS  
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS  
IWC.CCG.1075

**Report of Chair's Visit to Greenland**

In July 2013 the Kingdom of Denmark sent a circular communication to the IWC regarding ASW and its relationship to the IWC (Circular Communication IWC.CCG.1064).

Subsequently, in September 2013 the Bureau advised the Chair that there was general consensus that IWC Contracting Governments wished Denmark to remain within the Convention. Consequently the Bureau advised the Chair to undertake sufficient discussion and outreach as necessary to assist the development of a solution.

Following from this advice, and as indicated in Circular Communication IWC.CCG.1072, the Chair and members of the Secretariat recently accepted an invitation to visit Greenland together with the Commissioner for Denmark to discuss Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling.

During the visit discussions were held amongst the Danish Commissioner, representatives from the authorities in Greenland and members of the hunting and fishing association. The discussions showed support for continued membership of the IWC on the basis of developing a satisfactory agreement on Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling.

During the discussions Denmark/Greenland stated their desire to engage with all members of the International Whaling Commission on this important issue.

Recognising that the resolution of Greenlandic ASW is an issue of great interest to all IWC Contracting Governments the Chair offered to facilitate on-going consultation and dialogue in the development of a satisfactory agreement.

The Chair will continue the process of facilitation. Where practical she will visit other members of the Commission, and in addition would be interested in receiving the views of all Contracting Parties in order to assist Commission members in developing a satisfactory solution.

Jeannine Compton-Antoine  
Chair, International Whaling Commission

c.c. Intergovernmental Organisation observers to the IWC

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Chair: Ms Jeannine Compton-Antoine (St. Lucia)

Vice-Chair: Mr Frédéric Chemay (Belgium)

Executive Secretary: Dr Simon Brockington