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Circular Communication to Members of the Scientific Committee
IWC.SC.192

Update on Scientific Committee Budget Review Process

Members of the Scientific Committee will recall that at the 2014 meeting there was agreement to establish an intersessional working group to continue working on improvements to the budget review process.

The Terms of Reference for the working group were described at Section 27.3 (page 91) of the 2014 Scientific Committee report distributed through Circular Communication IWC.ALL.215 of 10 June 2014.

The Convenor of the working group has asked me to draw attention to the development of two new documents, both of which are now available through the Scientific Committee section of the IWC website at:

<https://iwc.int/guidelines-for-funding-research>

The first document contains a series of guidelines for developing funding requests for Scientific Committee workshops or meetings, and the second is a pro-forma for submitting funding requests.

The working group's expectation is that the guidance contained in these two documents will be used to evaluate all proposals for expenditure under the IWC research budget, including both solicited and unsolicited projects.

The Commission operates a two year budget cycle, and accordingly the next full round of evaluations for new projects is expected to take place at the 2016 meeting of the Scientific Committee. Discussions at the Committee's 2015 meeting will focus on following up recommendations from workshops which have taken place over the preceding 12 months and on any smaller, urgent projects generated during Sub-committee discussions.

I would like to thank the Convenor and members of the working group for their time and effort in developing this material.

Simon Brockington
Executive Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

Chair: Mr Bruno Mainini (Switzerland)
Vice-Chair: Mr Joji Morishita (Japan)
Executive Secretary: Dr Simon Brockington

