



Circular Communication to Commissioners. Contracting Governments,
Members of the Scientific Committee and Invited Participants
IWC.ALL.230

Government of Japan: Response to Expert Panel Report on NEWREP-A

Circular Communication IWC.ALL.220 of 19 November 2014 drew attention to the Government of Japan's New Scientific Whale Research Program in the Antarctic Ocean (NEWREP-A) and commenced a review process by the IWC Scientific Committee.

The first part of the review was undertaken by an Expert Panel which convened in Tokyo from 7-10 February 2015 and their report was passed to the Scientific Committee on 13 April 2015.

Also on 13 April 2015 the Government of Japan provided two additional documents to the Scientific Committee, these being (1) a Preliminary response to the Expert Panel report (Scientific Committee document SC/66a/SP1) and (2) an Addendum to the proposed research plan for NEWREP-A (SC/66a/SP2).

In the attached letter the Government of Japan requests these two additional documents given in response to the Expert Panel report be circulated to IWC Contracting Governments.

Accordingly the Expert Panel report, the Preliminary Response, the Addendum to the proposed research plan and the letter from the Government of Japan are attached to this Communication.

The Government of Japan welcomes comments on its response documents. These can be provided direct to Japan or to the Secretariat by response to secretariat@iwc.int

Simon Brockington
Executive Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC