

Proposals for Timing and Duration of IWC65 in 2014

Executive Secretary

Rule of Procedure B.2 states: 'Before the end of each Biennial Meeting, the Commission shall decide on: (1) the length of the next Biennial Commission Meeting and associated meetings and (2) which of the Commission's sub-groups need to meet'.

No decisions regarding the duration of IWC65, or which sub-groups need to meet were taken at IWC64 in 2012.

IWC Biennial Meetings comprise a series of Sub-committee and working group meetings followed by a four or five day plenary session. The scheduling and duration of the meetings reflect both the amount of business to be discussed as well as costs and availability of venues. By way of example, the timetable of IWC64 held in Panama in 2012 ran over 12 days as follows:

Timetable and Duration for IWC64 held in Panama in 2012

Day Number	Day	Morning	Afternoon
1 (Sub Committee)	M	WKM & AWI	INF BSC
2 (Sub Committee)	T	CC	
3 (Sub Committee)	W	ASW	OBS
4 (Sub Committee)	T	F&A	
5	F	Sub-committee Report preparation	
6	S	Sub-committee Report translation	
7	S	Private Commissioners' Meeting	
8 (Plenary)	M	Plenary (Five Days)	
9 (Plenary)	T		
10 (Plenary)	W		
11 (Plenary)	T		
12 (Plenary)	F		

Abbreviations:

WKM & AWI	Working group on Whale Killing Methods and Associated Welfare Issues
INF	Infractions Sub-committee
BSC	Budgetary Sub-committee
CC	Conservation Committee
ASW	Sub-committee on Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling
OBS	Working group on the role of Observers
F&A	Finance and Administration Committee

The absence of a host government for IWC65 will require the overall duration of the meeting to be shortened to reduce costs associated with the hire of the meeting venue. The proposal below achieves this by reducing the total duration of the meeting period from 12 days (as used at IWC64) to eight days:

Proposed timetable and duration for IWC65 in 2014

Day Number	Morning	Afternoon
1 (Sub Committee)	WKM & AWI	INF BSC
2 (Sub Committee)	CC	ASW
3 (Sub Committee)	F&A	
4		PCOMMS
5 (Plenary)	Plenary (Four Days)	
6 (Plenary)		
7 (Plenary)		
8 (Plenary)		

The Bureau is invited to review the above proposal and recommend a timetable and duration for IWC65.