

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC)**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES**

Date: Sunday 26 May 2013

Venue: Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

Brisbane, Australia

Time: 4pm – 6pm

Chair – Dr Lorenzo Rojas-Bracho (Mexico)

Attendees:

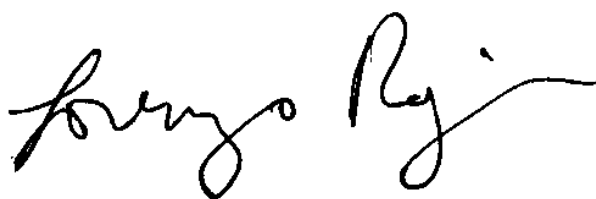
Conservation Committee	
Dr Lorenzo Rojas-Bracho	Chair – IWC Conservation Committee Mexico Commissioner
Dr Simon Brockington	IWC Executive Secretary
Mr Miguel Iniguez	Argentina Alternate Commissioner
Ms Chris Schweizer	Australia Alternate Commissioner
Mr Peter Komidar	Australia
Dr Mike Double	Australia Scientific Committee representative
Ms Michelle Evans	Australia
Mr James Gray	United Kingdom Alternate Commissioner
Mr Ryan Wulff	Acting United States Commissioner
Ms Melissa Andersen	United States Alternate Commissioner

1. Dr Rojas-Bracho opened the Conservation Committee meeting at 4pm and outlined the purpose of the meeting:

to review and update the draft 2012-14 Conservation Committee Work Plan.
2. Members discussed the actions and objectives of the Committee's sub-working groups in the draft Work Plan and provided updates on a working draft. Changes were agreed on the electronic version via projector screen. The revised draft Work Plan dated 26 May 2013 is at **Attachment A**.
3. Members agreed that the draft Work Plan would be circulated to Chairs of Conservation Committee Working Groups to update and reflect outcomes of any meetings held by those Groups.
4. Members agreed that the Work Plan would form the basis of reporting to the Commission's Bureau and biennial meetings.
5. Dr Rojas-Bracho thanked members for their contributions and closed the meeting at 5.40pm.

Minutes confirmed as true and correct.

Date: August 29, 2013



Dr Lorenzo Rojas-Bracho
Chair – IWC Conservation Committee
Mexico IWC Commissioner

Attachments:

- A Conservation Committee Work Plan – revised draft 30 July 2013
- B Proposals for a programme to deliver an IWC Workshop on Marine Debris
- C Letter from the Chair of IWC's Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans
- D Report of the International Whaling Commission Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans

International Whaling Commission (IWC)**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE – Summary of tasks identified for the intersessional period 2012-14**

Sources: IWC64 Conservation Committee report (IWC/64/Rep 5 Rev); IWC64 Chair's Report (January 2013); IWC Secretariat

Draft as at 30 July 2013

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
Stinky Whales					
Investigation of inedible 'stinky' gray whales in the Chukotkan aboriginal subsistence hunt Ryan Wulff (USA) to talk to Valentin Ilyachenko (Russian Federation)	Further work to determine the cause of the Condition. USA to assist the Russian Federation with experimental designs and analysis needed to make progress with this problem.	3.2 8.1.1	Russia (assisted by the USA)	Intersessionally	
Anthropogenic Sound					
Impacts of increased Marine Activities on Cetaceans in the Arctic (New Scientific Committee & Conservation Committee working group) Likely to be introduced at the next CC meeting	Consideration of oils spills will form an important component of a spring 2013 Commission workshop on Anthropogenic Impacts of Cetaceans in the Arctic. The importance of the issue of anthropogenic noise was reiterated. Emphasis was placed on further work to identify geographical and species-specific areas of concern, to better understand effects of noise on cetaceans and on collaboration with the International Maritime Organisation on reducing vessel noise.	18.9 IWC.ALL.188	Intersessional Group on Anthropogenic Sound USA	April-May 2013 Dates TBA	
Marine Debris					
Workshop – Marine Debris –Scientific Preparatory Workshop Completed	Marine Debris - Scientific Preparatory Workshop Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, USA, 13-17 May 2013 Purpose: To review scientific background and identify priority areas Deliverables: A Workshop report which includes an overview of the current knowledge on marine debris contamination in the oceans and the impact on cetaceans, along with a suite of recommendations identifying important scientific research needs and highlighting prioritised conservation concerns. Report will be reviewed by Scientific Committee at 2013	10 8.5 IWC.ALL.188 IWC Secretariat email 27 February 2013	Conservation Committee Scientific Committee	13-17 May 2013	£47,116 Split between 2 Workshops

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
	<p>Korea meeting.</p> <p>Attendees: International scientific experts and key Conservation Committee representatives.</p>				
<p>Planning for joint Conservation Committee - Scientific Committee Workshop</p>	<p>Purpose: To facilitate the development of IWC management recommendations based on the latest scientific understanding as expressed in the report of the preparatory workshop and the discussions within the Scientific Committee. This will ensure that the necessary partnership approaches with other intergovernmental forums have been made prior to the workshop.</p> <p>Steering Group: Chair and Vice Chair of Conservation Committee, Chair and Vice Chair of the Scientific Committee, representatives from Australia, Argentina, Belgium, USA, Secretariat and convenors of the preparatory meeting.</p> <p>Deliverables: Proposed Agenda for joint workshop; Identification of and invitations to other IGO partners; Identification of potential funding donors to support conservation management actions.</p> <p>Explore funding requirements for second workshop – if additional funding is required approach SC Chair in margins of SC65.</p>		<p>Conservation Committee</p> <p>Scientific Committee</p>		
<p>Workshop – Marine Debris – Joint Scientific and Conservation Committee Workshop</p>	<p>Marine Debris – Joint Scientific and Conservation Committee Workshop, Spring 2014 TBA</p> <p>Purpose: Development of practical scientific and management actions for recommendation to the Commission including methods of delivery.</p> <p>Deliverables: A Workshop report highlighting the current knowledge of the issue of marine debris and cetaceans and a set of priority management actions and recommendations for consideration by the Commission. Focus will be given to co-operative work with other international organisations as appropriate and possible sources of funding</p>	<p>10 8.5 IWC.ALL.188</p> <p>IWC Secretariat email 27 February 2013</p>	<p>Conservation Committee</p> <p>Scientific Committee</p>	<p>2nd Quarter CY 2014</p> <p>Explore options to hold adjacent to other IWC meetings</p>	<p>23,500 already agreed.</p> <p>£47,116</p> <p>50% to Preparatory Workshop (May 2013) 50% to Joint CC and SC workshop</p>

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
	Attendees: Members of Conservation Committee and Rapporteurs, Chair(s) and Convenors from the preparatory Workshop. Representatives of other IGOs as appropriate.				(Spring 2014).
Ship Strikes					
Appointment of IWC ship strike database coordinator Draft report ready for SC65	A dedicated IWC ship strike data co-ordinator appointed to further the IWC ship strike database through research budget. Database coordinator role to include raising awareness and outreach of database and establishing links with other industry and IGO conservation bodies to further IWC work on ship strikes. Coordinators to report to SC and CC.	4.1 8.2.1 8.2.2	Chair CC Ship Strikes Working Group David Matilla (IWC entanglement adviser)	2012-13 Ongoing	Research budget Netherlands USA
Letter to Sri Lankan Government re Ship Strikes To be reviewed by the Secretariat	Given new information on ship strikes from the Arabian Sea and Sri Lanka, the Secretariat will send a letter to the Sri Lankan Government, drawing their attention to the discussion of ship strikes and ways in which the Commission may assist. The southern coast of Sri Lanka was identified as an area of concern. It has one of the busiest shipping routes in the world and overlaps with an area of high whale sightings, including blue whales.	4.1 8.2	IWC Secretariat Scientific Committee	2013	
Workshop - maritime transport and marine biodiversity -26 October 2012 in Tenerife, Spain David Matilla to report to SC	Prevention of maritime transport accidents affecting marine biodiversity	4.3 8.2.2	Spain	Complete	Spain
Workshops - disentanglement response and ship strike reduction in the wider Caribbean One W/s complete. Next W/s to occur in last quarter CY 2014	IWC to hold three joint workshops on disentanglement and ship strikes in the wider Caribbean with UNEP and SPAW-RAC in 2012-13.	8.2.2 IWC.ALL.188 IWC/64/WKM&A WI 12	Ship Strikes Working Group USA	2013 date TBA	
Ship Strikes Strategic Plan	Development of a Ship Strikes Strategic Plan to include data gathering and mitigation and to ensure	4.3 8.2.2	Ship Strikes Working Group	Intersessionally	

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
CC Chair to check status with Monaco as part of discussions on ship strikes work more broadly	effectiveness of the IWC ship strikes database. Frédéric Chemay prepared with Fabian Ritter an email with a proposal for the work to be achieved by the SSWG				
Draft a framework for development of regional ship strikes databases that are compatible with the IWC database Seek advice from ship strike coordinators on how best to take this forward	Creation of a regional ship strikes database which replicates the design of the IWC database, facilitating the synchronisation of the two databases.	4.3	Ship Strikes Working Group	Intersessionally	
National ship strikes reports and voluntary conservation reports To be included in new voluntary reporting circular	Member countries to be encouraged produce National Ship Strike Reports compatible with the IWC database and voluntary conservation reports	4.3 8.2.3	All members Secretariat and CC Chair	Intersessionally	
Whalewatching					
Workshop – whale watching operator training workshop	Whale watching operator training workshop conducted with a view to promoting best practice for whale watching and to aid the interpretation and implementation of revised whale watching guidelines. Australia will host the Whale watching operator training workshop in Brisbane 25 May 2013 back to back with the meeting of the SWG-WW (24 May) and SWGCMP (26 May). USA will provide funding support. NOTE: Report of the workshop ready and under review by the workshop participants	6.1 10.2	Standing Working Group on Whalewatching	25 May 2013 Complete	Australia USA SWG-WW members
Two ex officio industry representatives to be added to the Conservation Committee's Standing Working Group on Whale watching	Inclusion of two industry representatives in the Working Group as ex officio participant to allow the Working Group to gain industry insight on how the IWC can best serve in an advisory and supportive role in regions interested in whale watching. One industry representative from the larger developed commercial industry and one to represent smaller scale or developing/emerging operations. Representatives would serve a two year term on the Working Group and then be replaced by industry representatives from other regions to allow for broader geographical representation and views. Nominees for the first two	6.2 10.2	Standing Working Group on Whalewatching	September 2012 <i>Complete</i>	IWC Secretariat

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
	representatives were recommended to come from Australia (Steve Mitchell) and Astrid Fritsch with potential funding support from the Commission.				
5-Year Strategic Plan for Whalewatching	<p>Work Plan: Undertake the whale watching work plan for the proposed intersessional period of 2012-2014</p> <p>Being worked on intersessionally</p>	6.1	Standing Working Group on Whalewatching	Intersessionally 24-25 May	
Online whale watching Handbook and whale watching conservation objectives	<p>The Secretariat will prepare the following two documents to:</p> <p>(i) outline the options and potential costs for technical support and the creation of an online Handbook; and</p> <p>(ii) the use of 'conservation objectives', to assist the Commission in developing formal conservation objectives for whale watching against which to monitor the success (or otherwise) of measures taken.</p> <p>NOTE: The Scientific Committee agrees to establish an intersessional working group, with Rojas-Bracho as convenor, to determine how the Committee can best assist and contribute to the Whalewatching Handbook</p>	6.2	IWC Secretariat	Intersessionally	
Conservation Management Plans					
Inventory of cetacean conservation measures on a regional basis	<p>The Conservation Committee will undertake an inventory of cetacean conservation measures currently in place or underway in jurisdictions, on a regional basis. Regarding the request to the Scientific Committee for an analysis of priority.</p> <p>The SWG-CMP agreed to develop a work plan for agreement by the Conservation Committee to progress the development of regional inventories, including the Arctic and Indian Oceans.</p>	8.2 10.2 (SWG-CMP report from May meeting)	Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans	Ongoing Intersessionally	

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
CMP guidelines, templates and funding principles	That these documents be placed on the IWC website for use by members wishing to undertake a CMP.	8.2	Secretariat	<i>Completed</i>	
Future CMPs – list of priority species	<p>The Scientific Committee will develop a list of priority candidates for future CMPs.</p> <p>The SWG- CMPs agreed to review the results of the Scientific Committee's analysis and develop a list for Conservation Committee endorsement at IWC65.</p> <p>The SWG-CMP also agreed to request the Scientific Committee to undertake further analysis on small cetaceans.</p>	8.2 9	Scientific Committee Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans	<i>Completed</i> Intersessionally/ IWC65	
CMPs and Pacific / SPREP	<p>Secretariat write to SPREP advising it of the work of the Standing Working Group on CMPs and inviting SPREP to participate as an observer to the Working Group</p> <p>Subject to the views of SPREP and the Pacific Island Contracting Parties - if the 'Inventory of cetacean conservation measures in the Pacific Islands Region' with a focus on Oceania humpback whales is considered a useful model it is proposed that the Chair of the Working Group contact SPREP with a view to exploring options to further refine the inventory.</p> <p>SPREP/Australia agreed to: refine the inventory and report to the next meeting of the SWG-CMP; request the Scientific Committee to review the Oceania Humpback Recovery Plan and assess whether there are gaps that can be addressed by the IWC; and submit reports on the implementation of the Humpback Recovery Plan.</p>	8.2 10 10.1 (SWG-CMP report from May meeting)	Secretariat Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans SPREP/Australia	<i>Completed</i> <i>Completed</i> Intersessionally	
Arabian Sea humpback whales – CMP development	<p>Support discussions between scientists and relevant range state governments to continue to further progress the Conservation Management Plan process.</p> <p>The SWG-CMP agreed to write to key range states to convey the outcomes of the SWG-CMP meeting.</p>	8.1 9.1 6 (SWG-CMP report from May meeting)	Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans	Ongoing Completed	

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
Southwest Atlantic Southern right whale – CMP implementation	Commence implementation of the nine high priority actions that were identified in the CMP.	9.2	Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans	Ongoing	£50,000
	Appoint a coordinator and set up a steering group to ensure that the CMP moves ahead in a timely fashion.	9.2		Completed	CMP Fund
Southeast Pacific Southern right whale – CMP implementation	Commence implementation of the CMP, focusing on the short term objectives.	9.2	Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans	Ongoing	
	Establish a coordinator and steering group to progress the implementation of the CMP.	9.2		Completed	
Actions arising from May 2013 meeting of the SWG-CMP (other than those outlined above)	Review guidelines on the use of the CMP fund.	2	Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans	Intersessionally	
	Develop a list of recommendations to be provided to the IWC communications officer for the development of media to promote CMPs.	8		Intersessionally	
	Draft a proposal for submission to the Scientific Committee on how CMPs can be addressed by the Scientific Committee, and how Scientific Committee information related to CMPs can be provided to proponents.	9		Intersessionally	
	Request the ICG to review the World Bank's Global Program on Oceans guidelines, and if appropriate, draft a proposal seeking funding for marine debris.	11		Intersessionally	
	Develop a 10-year framework for CMPs to guide the work of the SWG.	11		Intersessionally	
	Review the SWG-CMP terms of reference in light of the group's broader working agenda.	11		Intersessionally	
Other Matters					
Cooperation with other organisations	Australia requested that the Scientific Committee make reports to the Conservation Committee where the work of such organisations is of relevance to it. In addition it suggested that other organisations whose work is relevant to the Scientific Committee should be identified and a complementary initiative be instituted through the Conservation Committee. Australia	12 8.7	Australia	Intersessionally	

Item	Task	IWC Reference CC Report Chair's Report Circular	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
	volunteered to do some of this work intersessionally. Refined in light of today's meeting minutes.				

Next steps: CMP and WW Chair to add any items and send to Jim to review the table and make amendments as appropriate.

When finalised, the document will form the basis of a narrative to the Bureau on intersessional activities of the Conservation committee.

Proposals for a programme to deliver an IWC Workshop on Marine Debris



The 2012 meeting of the IWC's Scientific Committee recommended that a workshop be held on marine debris. This recommendation was received by the Conservation Committee and the Commission who reiterated their view that marine debris poses a significant danger to marine ecosystems and cetaceans in particular.

Accordingly a proposal was endorsed to hold a joint Conservation Committee and Scientific Committee workshop with the intention of developing integrated scientific and conservation management actions. Subsequent informal discussions *inter alia* between the Scientific Committee Convenor and the Chair of the Conservation Committee have revealed that the scope of the work is such that it would be difficult to achieve in a single workshop. The approach outlined below is thus to hold two workshops: the first a primarily scientific workshop to focus on the scientific background and information gaps; and the second a primarily conservation action workshop focussing on integrating the issues identified in the first workshop into concrete actions.

Vision

A consultative process will take place during 2013 and 2014 which draws together world leading scientists and key representatives of national and international governmental organisations. The outcome will be a series of applied, science based management actions to better understand and mitigate the impact of marine debris on cetaceans. These actions will be developed and delivered by the IWC working in partnership with other inter-governmental agencies wherever possible. These actions will include identification of funding sources to finance the delivery of the recommended actions.

Proposed Timetable

1 *Scientific Preparatory Workshop*

Purpose:	To review scientific background and identify priority areas
Convened by:	Scientific Committee working with Conservation Committee Chair and Vice Chair and supported by the Secretariat.
Attendees:	International scientific experts and key Conservation Committee representatives
Deliverables:	A Workshop report which includes an overview of the current knowledge on marine debris contamination in the oceans and the impact on cetaceans, along with a suite of recommendations identifying important scientific research needs and highlighting prioritised conservation concerns
Date and venue:	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. 13-17 May 2013.

2 *Review by IWC Scientific Committee*

Purpose	Review of the report of the scientific preparatory workshop
Attendees	The whole Scientific Committee with detailed review by the Human Impacts Working Group
Deliverables	International peer review of the priorities identified during the preparatory workshop.

Date and venue Republic of Korea. June 2013.

3 Planning for joint Conservation Committee - Scientific Committee Workshop

Purpose: To facilitate the development of IWC management recommendations based on the latest scientific understanding as expressed in the report of the preparatory workshop and the discussions within the Scientific Committee. This will ensure that the necessary partnership approaches with other intergovernmental forums have been made prior to the workshop.

Steering Group Chair and Vice Chair of Conservation Committee, Chair and Vice Chair of the Scientific Committee, representatives from Australia, Argentina, Belgium, USA, Secretariat and convenors of the preparatory meeting.

Deliverables

- 1) Proposed Agenda for joint workshop
- 2) Identification of and invitations to other IGO partners
- 3) Identification of potential funding donors to support conservation management actions

4 Joint Conservation Committee – Scientific Committee workshop

Purpose Development of practical scientific and management actions for recommendation to the Commission including methods of delivery.

Convened by Steering Group established during stage 3

Proposed Attendees: Members of Conservation Committee and Rapporteurs, Chair(s) and Convenors from the preparatory Workshop. Representatives of other IGOs as appropriate.

Deliverables: A Workshop report highlighting the current knowledge of the issue of marine debris and cetaceans and a set of priority management actions and recommendations for consideration by the Commission. Focus will be given to co-operative work with other international organisations as appropriate and possible sources of funding

Location To be confirmed

Timing Spring 2014

Financial

At the time of writing the financial resources available are:

Scientific Committee Research Fund	£20500
Oceancare Voluntary Contribution	£6216
WSPA Voluntary Contribution	£4000
NOAA Voluntary Contribution	£3200
Voluntary Contribution from United Kingdom	£10000
Marine Mammal Commission Voluntary Contribution	£3200
TOTAL	£47116

Proposed allocation of funding: 50% to Preparatory Workshop (May 2013) and 50% to Joint Conservation Committee – Scientific Committee workshop (Spring 2014).



Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Ref:

Dr Lorenzo Rojas-Bracho
 Chair of the IWC Conservation Committee
 PMB 8132, 511 E
 San Ysidro
 CA 92173
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dear Dr Rojas-Bracho

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chair of the International Whaling Commission's (IWC's) Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans (CMPs), to inform you as Chair of the Conservation Committee of the outcomes of the Working Group's recent meeting, which was held in Brisbane, Australia on 26 May 2013. I have enclosed a copy of the meeting report for your information and for reporting to the Bureau. A summary of the main outcomes is provided below.

CMPs provide a flexible and adaptive management tool to protect target populations from the full range of modern and emerging threats they face. They are non-binding documents which are intended to complement respective national legislation in participating range states, not replace it. Their objective is to achieve improved conservation status for threatened cetacean populations through prioritised, targeted and effective management of human activities.

The Working Group considered progress on those CMPs currently underway, including the Western Pacific Gray Whale CMP, the Southwest Atlantic Southern Right Whale CMP and the Southeast Pacific Southern Right Whale CMP. As recommended at the 2012 Commission meeting, coordinators and Steering Groups have been established for the Southwest Atlantic Southern Right Whale CMP and the Southeast Pacific Southern Right Whale CMP and implementation continues on these plans.

The Working Group also received a report on the Arabian Sea humpback population, which had previously been identified by the Scientific Committee as a likely candidate for a CMP. Good progress has been made towards assembling the necessary documentation should range states decide to submit a CMP nomination for this population. The IWC's Scientific Committee has also continued to undertake research on the population. I have written to the IWC Commissioners for India and Oman to inform them of the outcomes of the meeting and provide them with a copy of the meeting report.

At its 2012 meeting, the Commission agreed that the Scientific Committee should undertake an analysis of the priority candidates for future CMPs. A preliminary list of priority candidates was developed by the Scientific Committee at its recent meeting in June this year. The Working Group will consider this list and submit its recommendations to the Conservation Committee for consideration ahead of the Commission's 2014 meeting. The Working Group also agreed to consider how CMPs can be addressed by the Scientific Committee and how Scientific Committee information can be provided to proponents who submit a proposal to the Conservation Committee.

In terms of regional conservation measures, the Working Group welcomed representatives from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), who attended their first meeting as an observer to discuss cetacean conservation measures in the Pacific Islands region. SPREP's contribution to the meeting was immensely useful and they agreed to work with the Group to progress a number action items. These include updating the inventory of *Cetacean Conservation Measures in the Pacific Islands Region, with a focus on Oceania Humpback Whales*, which was submitted to the 2012 meeting of the Commission, and providing advice to the next meeting of the Working Group on the usefulness of the inventory.

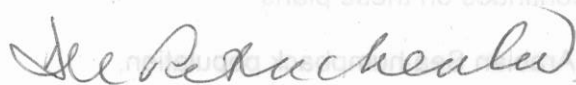
The Working Group further highlighted the importance of identifying related initiatives being undertaken by regional organisations and building on existing work. In this respect, the Working Group agreed that the Indian Ocean and Arctic are good candidates for the development of regional cetacean conservation inventories and that the Group would develop a work plan to progress this work for consideration by the Conservation Committee.

Finally, the meeting looked ahead strategically to the next phase of the Group's work, including the development of a 10-year framework. The framework will include, among other things, the timing of CMP progress updates, a list of priority species for which CMPs could be developed and a timeframe for their development, the timing of reviews of guidelines and templates and the timing of the provision of status reports to the Conservation Committee.

The Working Group agreed to meet again in the first half of 2014 to finalise the list of priority species and progress the development of the 10-year framework.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries on these or related issues.

Yours sincerely



Donna Petrachenko
Australia's IWC Commissioner
Chair of the Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans
/ August 2013

Report of the International Whaling Commission Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans

Sunday 26 May 2013

Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Australia

1. INTRODUCTIONS

1.1 Welcome/Opening Comments

The Working Group Chair, Petrachenko, welcomed participants to the meeting, in particular, representatives from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) who attended their first meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans (SWG-CMPs) as observers. The Chair also passed on an apology from the South African Commissioner, Mr Oosthuizen, who was unable to attend the meeting.

The list of participants is provided at Appendix I.

The Chair noted that Conservation Management Plans (CMPs) were introduced into the IWC in 2008 as an adaptive, flexible, tailored management tool that can be applied to improve conservation outcomes for the most at-risk cetacean populations by targeted management of human activities, when there is a reasonable expectation that they can deliver real conservation gains.

The Chair highlighted the recommendations that were agreed by the IWC at its 2012 meeting, one of which was the elevation of the then IWC Small Advisory Group on CMPs into the present Standing Working Group (SWG). The Chair noted that the Group's reformation is an endorsement of the work the Group has done to date and broader support for CMPs as an important conservation management tool to manage threatened whale populations and to achieve conservation objectives.

1.2 Minister's address

A video address was given by the Australian Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, the Hon Tony Burke MP and is available at: <https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B2TTcb03zOr4aHUtWlp6NTBjVDg/edit?usp=sharing>.

1.3 Adoption of Agenda

The Chair suggested that a new agenda item, 'Funding Arrangements for CMPs', be added to the agenda.

The proposed amendment to the agenda was agreed and the agenda subsequently adopted.

The adopted agenda is provided at Appendix 2.

A list of acronyms is provided at Appendix 3.

2. FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR CMP

The IWC Executive Secretary, Brockington, provided information on CMP related funding for the past three years. The fund was established in 2009 with a voluntary contribution from Australia of GBP244,505. There has been minimal expenditure from this account to date. As at 31 August 2012, a total of GBP5,386 has been spent on activities related to Conservation Management Plans. The closing balance of the account at 31 August 2012 (including interest earned) is GBP239,362¹.

The Secretary outlined the expected expenditure for the Commission's current financial year (ending August 2013). The Commission agreed at its 64th meeting in 2012 to provide up to GBP50,000 to the South West Atlantic Southern Right Whale CMP and GBP25,000 to the Western Gray Whale CMP. The projected closing balance of the account at August 2013 is approximately GBP161,000.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

The Chair noted that the CMP fund was established to assist with the development and implementation of CMPs. This includes funding for prospective CMP proponents to undertake research to assess where management gaps exist, and supporting SWG-CMP members to attend its meetings. It would be useful to review the guidelines on the use of the fund so that it better supports the work related to CMPs, which now looks at management planning more broadly.

- **The Chair requested that this item be added to the agenda for the next SWG-CMPs meeting:**
 - **Review the guidelines on the use of the CMP fund to better support the work of the SWG-CMP.**

3. CMP IMPLEMENTATION: WESTERN PACIFIC GRAY WHALE CMP PROGRESS REPORT

Russia, Ilyashenko, provided a presentation on the progress of implementing the Western Pacific Gray Whale CMP, which was approved by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and endorsed by the IWC in 2010. The overall goal of the CMP is to manage human activities that affect western gray whales and maximise the population's chances for recovery, based on the best available scientific knowledge. Implementation of the CMP is being directed by the Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel, working with key range state governments, civil society, industry, the IUCN and the IWC to provide scientific advice and recommendations to Sakhalin Energy on their operational plans and the mitigation measures.

¹ International Whaling Commission Annual Report 2012, p173.

The presentation included an overview of recent satellite tagging programs undertaken near Sakhalin Island by a team of international researchers, including the migration routes of three gray whales from the western population, *Flex*, *Agent* and *Varvara*, that were tagged during the study and which travelled within the migration routes of the eastern population. One of the tagged whales was found to visit all of the major Mexican eastern gray whale breeding grounds, which might indicate a possibility for genetic mixing between the two populations. Further satellite tagging and genetic research is required.

Investigations have also revealed the appearance of new adult whales and the re-emergence of adult individuals that had been absent for five to seven years – with some individuals from the Sakhalin region appearing in photo catalogues in the United States (US).

Together these results highlighted that the eastern and western populations may not be isolated and the possibility of genetic exchange was significant.

A draft of *Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Western Gray Whale Population* (MoU) has been developed with Canada, Mexico, Japan, China, Republic of Korea, Russia, the US and participating organisations including the Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel of IUCN, the Secretariat of the IWC, the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species, and oil and gas companies. The following actions will also be undertaken as part of the CMP:

- development of national conservation action plans;
- designation of a national coordinator from the competent authority and a scientific coordinator to serve as contact points;
- implementation of international coordination by a designated coordinator or the Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel of the IUCN; and
- discussion of national reports and future activities during IWC sessions or other relevant international meetings.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

At the request of the US, Russia provided additional information on satellite tagging data. The US reaffirmed its support for the MoU and the CMP as one of the range states of the population.

Mexico sought clarification on the genetic difference between the eastern and western populations. Russia advised that researchers have undertaken studies into the genetic differences between the two populations and it is likely that each population consists of tribes with each tribe displaying little genetic difference.

4. CMP IMPLEMENTATION: SOUTHWEST ATLANTIC SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE CMP PROGRESS REPORT

Argentina, Iñiguez, provided a presentation on the outcomes of the Southwest Atlantic Southern Right Whale CMP meeting that was held in Buenos Aires on 23-24 April 2013.

The overall objective of the CMP is to protect the southern right whale habitat and minimise anthropogenic threats to maximise the likelihood that southern right whales will recover to healthy levels and recolonise their historical range.

The objective of the workshop was to revise the CMP to keep it dynamic and current; appoint a coordinator for the CMP; finalise the Steering Committee; and consider the need for range state sub-coordinators. Argentina (Iñiguez) was appointed coordinator for 18 months, commencing 1 May 2013 (a part time position funded through the IWC Voluntary Fund for CMPs), and Argentina nominated a sub-coordinator.

A Steering Committee was established with the following membership: Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile and representatives from the IWC (head of Science, IWC Chair, SWG-CMP Chair, Scientific Committee Chair and Conservation Committee Chair). The plan was revised, with actions tightened and refined, timelines in general extended, and clear linkages established with other IWC-related processes and groups.

Deliverables since adoption of the plan have been in two main areas - capacity building to better manage strandings (Brazil and Argentina), and mitigation actions to address southern right whale-kelp gull interactions at Peninsula Valdez (Chubut, Argentina).

Research related to the CMP will be undertaken using the “*Dr Bernardo Houssay*”, an oceanographic motor vessel offered by the Argentinean Coast Guard. The research voyage, which is expected to last approximately 30 days, will explore two of the three feeding grounds of southern right whales. The vessel has capacity for eight scientists and two coast guard personnel. International experts are expected to be invited to join the voyage. Planning is underway for the departure of the first voyage.

While progress on CMP implementation has been limited, engagement by participants was good, and momentum is expected to increase with the appointment of a funded coordinator.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

The United Kingdom (UK) asked if the research undertaken on the *Dr Bernardo Houssay* will be included in the Southern Right Whale Sensitivity Atlas that is being developed under CMP action RES-02. Argentina confirmed that the Atlas will continue to be updated and will include all the threats to southern right whales.

At the request of Australia, Argentina provided background information on the kelp-gull attacks. Argentina also confirmed for Australia that one of the southern right whale feeding areas was in fact north of the breeding areas and the other was south of the breeding areas, based on historical whaling maps.

5. CMP IMPLEMENTATION: SOUTHEAST PACIFIC SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE PROGRESS REPORT

Hermosilla-Silva, from the Chilean Consulate in Brisbane, tabled a presentation on implementation of the Southeast Pacific Southern Right Whale CMP, which was endorsed at IWC64.

The southeast population of Pacific right whales is critically endangered and is estimated to include less than 50 mature individuals. The objective of the CMP is to guide and encourage range states and national stakeholders (including government, industry, coastal communities and civil society) and international partners to take steps towards the recovery of this population that will allow the species to withstand both environmental and anthropogenic impacts and ensure its long term survival.

A Steering Committee coordinator (Chile) and national working groups have been established to progress implement the CMP. A national working group coordination meeting was held in December 2012, with a further meeting expected in June 2013. A regional coordination meeting will also be held in September 2013.

Scientific research has been conducted under the CMP and has involved non-government organisations and the Chilean Navy. A recent publication in *Marine Mammal Science* revealed the first resighting of a known individual; the southernmost sighting of a cow-calf pair; and the first documented record of likely reproductive behaviour in the southern right whale population.

Conservation advances include the enforcement of whale watching regulations that only allow land-based whale watching of Southeast Pacific southern right whales in Chile (2012) and a process commenced by the Chilean Navy to develop and implement a contingency plan to afford maximum protection to southern right whales when a sighting is recorded.

Hermosilla-Silva advised that a full progress report would be presented to the IWC Scientific Committee meeting in Jeju, Republic of Korea, June 2013.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

- **The SWG-CMP Chair was requested to contact the new Commissioner for Peru to provide a summary of the SWG-CMP meeting.**

6. CMP PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: THE ARABIAN SEA HUMPBACK POPULATION

The Chair provided an update on the Arabian Sea humpback population provided to her by Dr Rob Baldwin, who was unable to attend the meeting.

The Arabian Sea humpback population had previously been identified by the Scientific Committee as a likely candidate for a CMP. To facilitate this process an Intersessional Working Group was formed at IWC63. Good progress has been made towards assembling the necessary documentation should range states decide to submit a CMP nomination.

WWF International, through its Pakistan and United Arab Emirates offices is launching a regional marine conservation initiative, which includes a special focus on the Arabian Sea humpbacks. The strategy is to raise awareness and appreciation of the issue by the governments of Oman and India (as the IWC members in the region).

Research on Arabian Sea humpbacks has continued in Oman since the IWC Scientific Committee meeting and an update on progress will be presented to the Scientific Committee in Korea in June 2013.

Earlier this year, a three day training workshop was held for Omani Government personnel on strandings. Throughout the year researchers in Oman under the auspices of the Environment Society of Oman (ESO) have progressed work related to whale watching concerns and have been in discussion with Port of Duqm (a major new port in identified humpback habitat) regarding whales in the area. This has resulted in the Port authorities publishing a special note to mariners on Admiralty charts about the conservation value of the area to whales and locating and aligning anchorage and approach channels according to ESO advice. ESO is continuing to work with Port of Duqm to promote further mitigation (e.g. vessel speed limits).

Meeting discussions and actions arising

The Chair encouraged participants to raise the Arabian Sea Humpback CMP during any future discussions that may occur with Oman, Pakistan and India, and offer support for its development.

- **The Chair was requested to write to Oman (and India) to convey the outcomes of the SWG-CMP meeting and request that an update on the progress of the CMP development be provided at the next meeting of the SWG-CMP.**

7. CMP PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: NORTH SEA PLAN FOR HARBOUR PORPOISES

The UK, Gray, provided a presentation on the Conservation Plan for Harbour Porpoises in the North Sea, which was adopted at the sixth meeting of the parties to the ASCOBANS.

The Conservation Plan aims to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status, specifically by agreeing a series of priority actions that would work to ensure that: population dynamics data suggest that harbour porpoises are maintaining themselves at a level enabling their long-term survival as a viable component of the marine ecosystem; the range of harbour porpoises is neither reduced, nor is it likely to be reduced in the foreseeable future; habitat is of favourable quality and will be available to maintain harbour porpoises on a long term basis; and distribution and abundance of harbour porpoises in the North Sea are returned to historic coverage and levels wherever biologically feasible.

The UK highlighted the current threats faced by the harbour porpoise and the efforts being undertaken to improve its conservation status.

The UK further highlighted the effectiveness of engaging a full-time coordinator. The coordinator is supported by a Steering Group and has been tasked with coordinating the implementation of the Plan (including investigating funding); gathering information on its implementation, the results, the objectives reached, and the difficulties encountered and providing progress reports; and appointing a group of experts to evaluate the effectiveness and update the Plan every three years.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

The US noted that the presentation highlighted bycatch and infectious diseases as the largest contributors to the mortality rate of harbour porpoises and asked if there had been any trends (increases or decreases) in the mortality rate, or if they had remained stable. The UK advised that bycatch had remained fairly constant while there had been a decline in the level of contaminants found in harbour porpoises due to a reduction in some pollutants.

The IWC Executive Secretary noted that the harbour porpoise population was approximately 300,000 when the Plan was adopted, and asked whether there was any resistance from stakeholders in implementing the plan. The UK advised that while there was little resistance in implementing most of the priority actions, there were some concerns about additional reporting requirements.

Mexico sought clarification on whether the mandatory use of pingers was the only bycatch mitigation measure being used and whether the North Sea harbour porpoises are the same as the population found around Norway. The UK advised that this is the primary mitigation measure set out in the plan, but gear modification has also been investigated. It was also noted observer programmes are in place for some vessels to help monitor trends and that electronic monitoring systems have also been considered for the collection of data. The fishing industry is generally happy to cooperate with bycatch mitigation measures as it is in their best interest for porpoises not to end up in their fishing nets. With regard to Norway, the UK continues to encourage Norway to join ASCOBANS and the Harbour Porpoise Plan.

8. CMP PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: WORKING WITH OTHER IGOs, NGOS AND OTHERS TO DEVELOP AND DELIVER CMPS

CMPS, by their very nature, are collaborative initiatives and there can be value in working through intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) to draw on their networks and expertise, and to ensure the plans are consistent with related international agreements and commitments.

The IWC Secretary outlined the various cross-cutting issues related to CMPS and highlighted that collaboration with IGOs, nongovernment organisations (NGOs) and others is central to the successful implementation of CMPS.

The IWC has a number of interested parties that can be grouped as follows: fisheries organisations (FAO, CCAMLR), multilateral environmental agreements (CMS, CBD, CITES, UNEP), regional seas agreements (SPREP, CEP), international conventions (MARPOL, Basel Convention), industry, NGOs and research organisations.

With regard to its interactions more broadly, Brockington observed that the IWC has an extensive scientific base and broad global membership, but needs to improve its interactions with interested parties and other conventions. To date, the IWC has played a relatively passive, listen and reporting role with interested parties. The IWC could take a more proactive approach to engaging with interested parties, including inviting IGOs to make presentations at Commission meetings. Building engagement with IGOs will engender enhanced perceptions of the IWC globally.

The IWC could also use its observer arrangements with other organisations to facilitate the sharing of data and information to address current gaps in knowledge. For instance, the IMO could be approached to provide data on cetacean ship strikes.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

Participants agreed that it would be useful for the Secretariat to advise of the IGOs on which the IWC has observer status and the details of each such arrangement. It would also be useful to identify relevant knowledge gaps. Requests for information can then be made to the appropriate organisations.

The meeting agreed that knowledge gaps should be clearly identified in each CMP along with the appropriate organisations that could provide relevant information.

Given that CMPs address a range of issues related to cetaceans, it is important to link thematic programs with CMPs and also with other IGOs.

Many other organisations still view the IWC as an organisation that regulates commercial whaling, rather than an organisation that is actively promoting and pursuing conservation objectives. To address this, the IWC's communication strategy should promote the conservation work being done by the IWC. It was also noted that under the UNCLOS, there is an obligation to cooperate with the IWC.

- **The SWG-CMP agreed to develop a list of recommendations to be provided to the IWC communications officer for the development of media to promote CMPs and the IWC's conservation work more broadly.**

9. CMP IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT: DEVELOPING A LIST OF PRIORITY SPECIES FOR CMPS

At IWC63, the report of the then Small Advisory Group on CMPs recommended that the Scientific Committee undertake an analysis of priority candidates for future CMPs. The report highlighted that such a list would be useful in informing discussions within the Commission, including on matters relating to CMP funding support. At IWC64, the Commission agreed to the recommendation.

The IWC Head of Science confirmed that the Commission's request for the Scientific Committee to compile a list of priority species/populations for future CMPs will be actioned at the forthcoming Scientific Committee meeting in Korea. The IWC Head of Science further highlighted that CMPs can be developed to address threats and critical habitats, as well as populations.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

Australia noted that CMPs are addressed by various sub-committees of the Scientific Committee. In addition, much of the work undertaken by those sub-committees is directly applicable to CMPs, but may not be easily conveyed to those countries that do not have a Scientific Committee representative.

- **The SWG-CMPs should consider how CMPs can be addressed by the Scientific Committee, and how Scientific Committee information related to CMPs can be provided to proponents who submit a proposal to the Conservation Committee.**
- **The SWG-CMPs agreed to then develop a list of priority cetacean populations to be recommended to the Conservation Committee for endorsement, based on the results of the Scientific Committee's analysis.**
- **The SWG-CMPs should explore the development of CMPs to address threats and critical habitats.**

10. STRATEGIC REVIEW: REGIONAL CETACEAN CONSERVATION MEASURE REVIEWS

10.1 2012 IWC Pacific Islands Region report – next steps

At IWC64, Australia submitted a report on "*Cetacean Conservation Measures in the Pacific Islands Region, with a focus on Oceania Humpback Whales*". The report provided a preliminary inventory of the cetacean conservation measures currently in place in the Pacific Islands region. It is at the regional level that the IWC would be best placed to assist countries, should they desire, to build upon these cetacean conservation efforts, through the development of a CMP.

Inventory - Meeting discussions and actions arising

SPREP thanked the SWG-CMPs for the report and agreed to circulate it to SPREP members for discussion at the next SPREP meeting in September 2013. SPREP also advised that a number of new measures have been implemented since the completion of the report and it will therefore need to be updated. SPREP also agreed to provide advice to the SWG- on the usefulness of the inventory, how frequently it should be updated and possible indicators that could be included in the inventory.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

Australia suggested that the next step of the inventory would be to include species-specific conservation measures in place across the region. In addition, the inventory could include information on NGOs/IGOs in the region that have an interest in cetacean conservation.

- **Australia agreed to provide the inventory to SPREP and work with SPREP during the intersessional period to update the inventory with new measures that have been agreed since its completion; species-specific conservation measures in place across the region; and a list of IGOs/NGOs in the region that have an interest in cetacean conservation.**
- **The revised inventory should be reported to the next meeting of the SWG-CMPs.**
- **SPREP is requested to provide advice to the next meeting of the SWG-CMPs on the usefulness of the inventory; how frequently it should be updated and possible indicators that could be included.**

- **It was agreed that Australia should work with SPREP and other IWC Pacific nations to request the IWC Scientific Committee to review the Oceania Humpback Recovery Plan from a CMP perspective and make an assessment of whether there are gaps in the Plan that can be addressed by the IWC.**
- **The meeting agreed that it would be useful for SPREP to submit progress reports on the implementation of the Recovery Plan to the SWG-CMP.**

SPREP raised the issue of Solomon Islands dolphin hunts and asked if this had been raised in the IWC. The IWC Head of Science advised that a study on the population had been funded through the IWC's small cetaceans fund.

- **The SWG-CMPs will provide the study to SPREP.**

10.2 Regional prioritisation – future actions

The preliminary inventory of cetacean conservation measures submitted to the IWC in 2012 has enabled the Commission and IWC member countries to identify cetacean conservation management gaps, and opportunities for addressing these, through a collaborative regional approach. The meeting considered other regional candidates where similar inventories could be compiled, using the Pacific inventory as a model.

Meeting discussions and actions arising

Participants discussed the importance of identifying initiatives being undertaken by regional organisations and building on existing work. In some regions there are a number of overlapping organisations in place, while in other regions no regional organisations exist. There is a need to identify priority populations, the organisations currently in place in the region and the actions those organisations are undertaking to manage the species.

- **The SWG-CMPs agreed that the Indian Ocean and the Arctic are good candidates for the development of a regional inventory and that the SWG-CMPs should develop a work plan to progress this matter for agreement by the Conservation Committee.**

11. STRATEGIC REVIEW: REVIEWING THE PROCESS AND GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING CMPS

CMPS are a key component of the IWC's work program bringing together, as it does, science and conservation management to deliver concrete practical actions.

CMPS can be initiated by range states or by the Commission. Participants discussed whether there is a need for a more systematic approach to initiating CMPS. CMPS initiated by range states generally deal with the most urgent conservation needs, while an IWC-based systematic approach will enable the Commission to better manage the longer term conservation of cetaceans.

Global Partnership for Oceans

Russia provided a brief outline of the work of the GPO, which aims to “increase the resources available to tackle widely documented problems contributing to the depletion of crucial ocean resources and degradation of the ocean environment”. The GPO has the following interrelated objectives: supporting sustainable seafood and aquaculture; conserving critical habitats and biodiversity; and reducing pollution to promote job and food security worldwide. The GPO will provide funds to support the implementation of action plans and policies related to its objectives. Further information on the GPO can be found at the GPO website (<http://www.globalpartnershipforoceans.org>) or in the following GPO fact sheet (<http://www.globalpartnershipforoceans.org/sites/default/files/images/GPO%20Q%26A%204.25.pdf>).

- **The SWG-CMPs agreed that the Chair would request the IWC Intersessional Group of Conservation Funding to review the GPOs guidelines for submitting funding proposals, and if appropriate, draft a proposal seeking funding for work related to marine debris.**
 - **Depending on the GPO’s document submission timeline, the draft proposal should be submitted to IWC65 for endorsement.**

Conservation Committee guidance on CMPs

Currently, any request from the SWG-CMPs to the Scientific Committee, must first be agreed by the Commission. As the Commission now meets biennially, it was agreed that the SWG-CMPs will need to develop a more flexible mechanism for obtaining guidance on its work intersessionally.

- **The SWG-CMPs recommended that this issue be raised at the September meeting of the Bureau - noting its applicability to all intersessional working groups.**

Other meeting discussions and actions arising

- **The SWG-CMPs agreed to develop a 10 year framework for CMPs to guide the work of the SWG-CMPs. The framework will include *inter alia* the timing of CMP progress updates; a list of priority species for which CMPs should be developed and the timeframe for their development; a list of IGOs/NGOs that have an interest in CMPs and the proposed engagement with each; the timing of reviews of guidelines and templates; and timing of the provision of CMP status reports to the Conservation Committee.**
 - **The terms of reference of SWG-CMPs should also be revised to reflect Group’s broader working agenda.**
- **The SWG-CMPs also agreed to meet face-to-face in the first half of 2014 to finalise the priority species list and 10 year framework.**

12. ACTIONS ARISING

12.1 Actions arising

A table summarising the actions of the meeting is provided at Appendix IV.

12.2 Intersessional report to the Conservation Committee and the IWC Bureau

- **A draft report of the meeting will be circulated to SWG-CMP members for comment. The final report will be submitted to the Conservation Committee.**

12.3 Next meeting

- **The next meeting of the SWG-CMPs will be held in the first half of 2014.**

A call was made to SWG-CMP members to host the next meeting. Mexico advised that it would explore potential venues and the possibility of hosting the meeting in conjunction with a number of other IWC conservation workshops.

- **CMP proponents are requested to report to the next meeting of the SWG-CMP on the progress, since IWC64, of development/implementation of each CMP.**
 - **Reports should include progress made against the overall objective and each action identified under the CMP, as well as the nature of any expenditure of monies received through the CMP fund.**
 - **Updates will be incorporated into the SWG-CMP's report to the Conservation Committee and Commission at IWC65.**

List of Participants

Attendees:

Donna Petrachenko, CHAIR - Australia
Miguel Iñiguez, Argentina
Chris Schweizer, Australia
Peter Komidar, Australia
Mike Double, Australia
Kathy Hermosilla-Silva, Chile
Gerardo Palacios, Costa Rica
Saras Sharma-Gounder, Fiji
Simon Brockington, IWC – Executive Secretary
Greg Donovan, IWC – Scientific Committee
Lorenzo Rojas-Bracho, Mexico
Valentin Ilyashenko, Russian Federation
Penina Solomona, SPREP
James Gray, United Kingdom
Ryan Wulff, United States
Melissa Andersen, United States

Rapportuers:

Michelle Evans, Australia
Rebecca Onken, Australia
Tristan Skinner, Australia

Apologies:

Herman Oosthuizen, South Africa
Catherine Siota-Manu SPREP

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC) STANDING WORKING GROUP ON CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLANS (SWG-CMPs)

AGENDA

Theme		Item	Who
Introductions	1	Welcome/Opening Comments Adoption of agenda	Chair
	2	CMP Funding Arrangements	IWC Secretariat
CMP Implementation	3	<i>Presentation: West Pacific Gray Whale CMP - progress report</i>	Russia
	4	<i>Presentation: Southwest Atlantic Southern Right Whale CMP - progress report</i>	Argentina
	5	<i>Presentation: Southeast Pacific Southern Right Whale CMP – progress report</i>	Chile
CMP Planning and Development	6	Arabian Sea humpback population	TBC
	7	<i>Presentation: North Sea Plan for Harbour Porpoises</i>	United Kingdom
	8	Working with non-member range states IGOs, NGOs and others to develop and deliver CMPs	Chair IWC Secretary
	9	Developing a list of priority species for CMPs	Chair
Strategic Review	10	Regional cetacean conservation measure reviews: (a) 2012 IWC Pacific Islands Region report – next steps (b) Regional prioritisation – future actions	Australia
	11	Reviewing the process and guidelines for developing and implementing CMPs	Chair
	12	Actions arising Intersessional report to the Conservation Committee and the IWC Bureau Next meeting	Chair

List of Acronyms

ASCOBANS:	Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas
Basel Convention:	Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal
CCAMLR:	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CBD:	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEP:	Caribbean Environment Programme
CITES:	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMS:	Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GPO:	The Global Partnership for Oceans
IGO:	Intergovernmental Organisation
IMO:	International Maritime Organization
IUCN:	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IWC:	International Whaling Commission
MARPOL:	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution
NGO:	Non-government Organisation
SPREP:	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SWG-CMP:	Standing Working Group on Conservation Management Plans
WWF:	World Wide Fund for Nature
UNEP:	United Nations Environment Programme

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC) STANDING WORKING GROUP ON CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLANS (SWG-CMPs)

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Action no.	Agenda item	Agenda item description	Action	Assignee	Timeframe for completion
1	2	Funding for CMPs	Add 'Funding Arrangements for CMPs' as an agenda item for the next SWG-CMPs meeting.	Chair/host of next SWG-CMPs meeting	First half of 2014
2	2	Funding for CMPs	Review the guidelines on the use of the CMP fund to better support the work of the SWG-CMP.	Chair to coordinate	First half of 2014
3	5	Southeast Pacific southern right whale CMP progress report	SWG-CMP Chair to contact the new Commissioner for Peru to provide a summary of the SWG-CMP meeting.	Chair	Immediately
4	6	Arabian Sea Humpback CMP	The Chair was requested to write to Oman (and India) to convey the outcomes of the SWG-CMPs and request that an update on the progress of the CMP development be provided at the next meeting of the SWG-CMP.	Chair	Immediately
5	8	Working with other IGOs, NGOs and others to develop and deliver CMPs	Develop a list of recommendations to be provided to the IWC communications officer for the development of media to promote CMPs and the IWC's conservation work more broadly.	Chair to lead	Draft – first half of 2014 Final - September 2014
6	9	Developing a list of priority species for CMPs	Consider how CMPs can be addressed by the Scientific Committee, and how Scientific Committee information related to CMPs can be provided to proponents and submit a proposal to the Committee.	Chair/ Australia	Draft – first half of 2014 Final - September 2014
7	9	Developing a list of priority species for CMPs	On the completion of the list of priority species, request the Scientific Committee to undertake further analysis on priority candidates of small cetacean species that would benefit from the implementation of a CMP.	Chair	IWC65
8	9	Developing a list of priority species for CMPs	Develop a list of priority cetacean populations to be recommended to the Conservation Committee for endorsement, based on the results of the Scientific Committee's analysis.	Chair to coordinate	IWC65

9	9	Developing a list of priority species for CMPs	Explore CMP issues related to habitat protection.	Chair/Head of Science to coordinate?	First half of 2014
10	10.1	2012 IWC Pacific Islands Region Report	Provide the inventory of cetacean conservation measures in the Pacific Region to SPREP. Update and refine the inventory and report to the next SWG-CMP meeting, including advice on the inventory's usefulness.	Australia SPREP/Australia	Immediately following SWG-CMPs meeting First half of 2014
11	10.1	2012 IWC Pacific Islands Region Report	Request the IWC Scientific Committee to review the Oceania Humpback Recovery Plan to assess whether there are gaps that can be addressed by the IWC.	SPREP/Australia	September 2014
12	10.1	2012 IWC Pacific Islands Region Report	Submit progress reports on the implementation of the Oceania Humpback Recovery Plan to the SWG-CMP.	SPREP	September 2014
13	10.1	2012 IWC Pacific Islands Region Report	Provide the small Solomon Islands dolphin research report to SPREP.	Chair	Immediately
14	10.2	Regional prioritisation	Develop a work plan for agreement by the Conservation Committee to progress the development of regional inventories, including the Arctic and Indian Ocean.	Chair to coordinate	Draft – first half of 2014 Final - September 2014
15	11	Reviewing the process and guidelines for developing and implementing CMPs	Request the IWC Intersessional Group of Conservation Funding to review the GPOs guidelines for submitting funding proposals, and if appropriate, draft a proposal seeking funding for work related to marine debris. Depending on the GPO's document submission timeline, the draft proposal should be submitted to IWC65 for endorsement.	Chair to make request to ICG on Conservation Funding	September 2014, depending on GPO timelines
16	11	Reviewing the process and guidelines for developing and implementing CMPs	Raise the issue of developing a mechanism for obtaining guidance on work intersessionally at the September meeting of the Bureau - noting its applicability to all intersessional working groups.	Chair and other Bureau members	Bureau meeting, September 2013
17	11	Reviewing the process and guidelines for developing and implementing CMPs	Develop a 10 year framework for CMPs to guide the work of the SWG-CMPs. Review the terms of reference of SWG-CMPs to reflect Group's broader working agenda.	Chair to coordinate	Draft – first half of 2014 Final - September 2014

18	11	Reviewing the process and guidelines for developing and implementing CMPs	Meet face-to-face in the first half of 2014 to finalise the priority species list and five-10 year framework.		First half of 2014
19	12	Actions arising	Circulate a draft report of the meeting to SWG-CMP members for comment. The final report will be submitted to the Conservation Committee.	Chair to coordinate	Following SWG-CMP meeting/IWC65
20	12	Actions arising	The next meeting of the SWG-CMPs will be held in the first half of 2014.		
21	12	Actions arising	Report to the next meeting of the SWG-CMP on the progress since IWC64 of development/implementation of each CMP.	CMP proponents	Next SWG-CMP meeting