



Circular Communication to Commissioners, Contracting Governments, Accredited Observers and
Members of the Scientific Committee
IWC.ALL.234

**Intersessional Expert Workshop on Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling
Greenland, 14-18 September 2015**

At IWC65 in 2014 the Commission adopted Resolution 2014-1 on Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling. Operative paragraph (d) of this Resolution requested the ASW Sub-committee to address several issues as a matter of urgency in order to regulate future ASW through a more consistent and long term approach.

Also at IWC65, the Commission endorsed the report and recommendations of the Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Working Group (ASWWG). These recommendations included the establishment of an expert workshop in 2015 for addressing urgent issues related to ASW and to report to the IWC66.

I am pleased to report that the Government of Denmark together with the Government of Greenland have offered to host this workshop in Maniitsoq, Greenland from 14-18 September 2015.

Voluntary contributions in support of partial costs of the workshop have been generously donated by the Governments of Denmark and the USA. Additional contributions are requested, and any Contracting Government wishing to support the workshop should contact the Secretariat.

The ASWWG has assembled a steering committee for the workshop, and the steering committee has developed a provisional agenda which is attached to this Circular Communication.

The Steering Committee has also agreed that the travel, lodging and per diem of invited experts, as well as for hunters speaking at the workshop, will be covered following usual IWC standards.

Given restrictions on venue size in Maniitsoq and taking account of the size ("no more than 40 participants") stipulated in the workshop proposal adopted by the Commission at IWC65, any Contracting Government or accredited Observer Organisation wishing to attend the workshop is invited to contact the Secretariat at the latest by **Friday 31 July 2015** being 45 days prior to the workshop. The secretariat can be contacted at secretariat@iwc.int

Contracting Governments or accredited Observers wishing to submit views are invited to do so through the Secretariat. Documents and Information on the workshop will be made available through the IWC web portal: https://portal.iwc.int/event_meetings. Any difficulties with access or login should be reported to Brendan.miller@iwc.int

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Brockington', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Simon Brockington
Executive Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC