



Circular Communication to Commissioners and Contracting Governments
IWC.CCG.1174

Report of the 2015 Meeting of the IWC Bureau

Rule of Procedure M.9 requires the IWC's Bureau to meet in those years in which the Commission itself does not meet.

Accordingly the Bureau met in Bern, Switzerland at the invitation of the Chair from 21-22 September 2015. The report of the meeting is attached to this Communication.

The meeting was attended by all Bureau members and discussed a range of topics consistent with its role as described through Rule M.9. It was successful in developing advice for the Chair and Secretary in several areas, including on methods to report Commission progress, on issues relevant to the intersessional work of Sub-committees and working groups, on financial affairs and on planning for the next Commission meeting (IWC66 in 2016).

In particular, Commissioners may wish to note the Bureau's advice in relation to two developments which have arisen since IWC65 in 2014. These are: (1) for a theme based approach to the agenda for IWC 66 (see Annex E to the report); and (2) the Bureau's suggestions regarding the process for a possible purchase of the Commission's headquarters premises. Circular Communication IWC.CCG.1171 of 16 October 2015 provides further details in respect of the purchase opportunity.

Simon Brockington
Executive Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC