



Circular Communication to Commissioners, Contracting Governments and  
Members of the Scientific Committee  
**IWC.ALL.246**

**Proposal Document for Establishment of a South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary**

When the Scientific Committee met from 22 May – 3 June 2015 its members agreed a process for review of the South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary (SAWS) proposal. The process is described at Table 2 and Appendices 4 and 5 of Annex O of the Scientific Committee's 2015 Report (attached).

The process was further discussed at a joint meeting of the Scientific and Conservation Committees held on 4 June 2015 and the minutes of that meeting are attached to this Circular.

The agreed process envisaged that the Scientific Committee's review group would receive a revised proposal for the South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary by 1 January 2016. This timescale was subsequently extended, by mutual agreement, to 1 March 2016.

Accordingly this Communication circulates the revised proposal for the South Atlantic Sanctuary in accordance with the review process. It has been provided by the Government of Brazil on behalf of the co-sponsoring Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Gabon, South Africa and Uruguay.

The document will be considered by the Commission at its next meeting, IWC66, from 20-28 October 2016. In the meantime, the Scientific Committee and Conservation Committee will proceed with their respective reviews.

Simon Brockington  
Executive Secretary

C.C. Accredited observers to the IWC

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*Vice-Chair:* Mr Joji Morishita (Japan)  
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