



INTERNATIONAL  
WHALING COMMISSION

The Red House  
135 Station Road  
Impington, Cambridge  
CB24 9NP, UK

t. +44 (0) 1223 233971  
f. +44 (0) 1223 232876  
e. [secretariat@iwc.int](mailto:secretariat@iwc.int)  
[www.iwc.int](http://www.iwc.int)

SB/JAC/32322  
27 June 2017

Circular Communication to Commissioners. Contracting Governments and  
Members of the Scientific Committee  
**IWC.ALL.297**

**Goodbye and thank you for all your friendship and support**

Dear Everyone

As you will have seen from previous Circulars, I am stepping down from my role as Executive Secretary to the IWC on 30 June 2017. Today is my last day in the office and so I wanted to make a few words to say goodbye and to thank everyone for all your support and friendship since I joined in 2010.

Working for the IWC has been the most wonderful experience, and one which has been all the more enjoyable because of the opportunity to meet so many different people from so many parts of the world. I have counted myself fortunate to travel to IWC meetings or workshops across all continents and while the issues affecting cetaceans vary from region to region, people's connection with the marine environment – and the desire to care for it – are universal. The IWC's strength is its diversity and it has been a privilege to work with so many passionate people.

I would particularly like to thank all the Commission Chairs, Committee and Sub-committee Chairs, Scientific Committee Convenors and everyone who has contributed to IWC events in recent times. These roles are voluntary and are vital for the IWC's success. It's been wonderful to see the IWC's reputation grow and to watch the level of engagement with other inter-governmental organisations continue to flourish. The IWC is an increasingly well respected organisation, and it all stems from the commitment, often voluntary, from many different people.

And finally, to say a big thank you to everyone at the Secretariat in Cambridge. It is a very friendly and welcoming place, and the team there provide incredible energy and support – I would have been entirely lost without them.

I hope it will be possible to work with many of you in the future. I wish all of you, and the IWC itself, the very best for the future.

Simon Brockington  
Executive Secretary

*c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC*

---

Chair: Dr Joji Morishita (Japan)  
Vice-Chair: Mr Andrej Bibic (Slovenia)  
Executive Secretary: Dr Simon Brockington