



INTERNATIONAL
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Circular Communication to Commissioners. Contracting Governments and

Members of the Scientific Committee

IWC.ALL.298

Arrangements for the 2018 Scientific Committee Meeting

At IWC66 the Commission accepted an offer from the Government of Kenya to host the Scientific Committee Meeting. Circular IWC.ALL.296 proposed measures to meet a large financial shortfall in order to hold this meeting in 2018.

Responses to this Circular showed that, whilst there is widespread support for the meeting, and more generally for work to increase developing country involvement in IWC meetings, there is not enough time to conduct the necessary discussions and make arrangements for 2018. We have therefore agreed with the Government of Kenya that this meeting will be deferred until 2019.

In light of time and financial considerations, the Secretariat has recommended that the best option for a successful 2018 meeting is to return to Bled. The Sava Hotel Group has been able to offer availability and this proposal is supported by the IWC Commissioner for Slovenia.

The alpine resort of Bled is of course, familiar to many of us and the dates are 24 April – 6 May 2018. This early slot reflects the difficulty securing short-notice dates for a meeting of this duration and size.

A silence procedure is proposed to obtain approval for this venue. If any Contracting Government wishes to raise concerns with this approach they must contact the Secretariat as soon as possible and before Friday 4 August. Silence will be taken as approval to move ahead with arrangements for the 2018 meeting in Bled.

The Bureau would like to thank the Commissioners for Kenya and Slovenia for their flexibility.

Kate Wilson
Interim Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

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