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Circular Communication to Commissioners, Contracting Governments and
Members of the Scientific Committee
IWC.ALL.307

United Nations: IWC Submission on Anthropogenic Underwater Noise

The Secretariat has received the attached invitation for the IWC to contribute to the report (Part 1) of the UN Secretary General on Oceans and the Law of the Sea. This will provide information on Anthropogenic Underwater Noise, the focus topic of the forthcoming United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea.

The IWC has been discussing the impacts of noise on cetaceans since 2004, particularly through its Scientific Committee, and has convened several expert workshops on this issue.

I attach draft text for submission to the UN Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS). This summarises the work and recommendations of the IWC on Anthropogenic Underwater Noise to date. In addition to including relevant information in the report of the UN Secretary General, DOALOS will publish all submissions on the UN website. Please send any comments on the attached text by **Monday 20 November 2017**. Silence will be taken as approval of the draft text.

Kate Wilson
Interim Executive Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

*Chair: Dr Joji Morishita (Japan)
Vice-Chair: Mr Andrej Bibic (Slovenia)
Interim Executive Secretary: Ms Kate Wilson*