



INTERNATIONAL
WHALING COMMISSION

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**Circular Communication to Commissioners, Contracting Governments and
Members of the Scientific Committee
IWC.ALL.344**

Joanna Toole

We are so saddened to learn that a member of our IWC community was among those who tragically lost their lives in the Ethiopian airline crash yesterday. Joanna Toole was on her way to the UNEP conference in Nairobi as part of her duties after recently joining the FAO in Rome.

Many of you will remember Joanna as an active member of the IWC's NGO delegation and more recently, as a vital contributor to the Bycatch Mitigation Initiative through her work on developing FAO best practices to address marine mammal bycatch. We were looking forward to her participation in the pre-SC Bycatch Workshop this May. Joanna made a constructive and tangible contribution to the IWC and she will be greatly missed by all of us who knew her.

We understand that numerous UN staff and UNEP participants were among the passengers on this flight. On behalf of the entire IWC community, we send our deepest sympathy to the families and colleagues of all those involved in this tragedy.

Rebecca Lent
IWC Executive Secretary

c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

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