

Annex B

Agenda

1. Introductory items
 - 1.1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks
 - 1.2 Appointment of rapporteurs
 - 1.3 Meeting procedures and time schedule
 - 1.4 Establishment of sub-committees and Working Groups
 - 1.5 Computing arrangements
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of available data, documents and reports
 - 3.1 Documents submitted
 - 3.2 National Progress Reports on research
 - 3.3 Data collection, storage and manipulation
4. Cooperation with other organisations
 - 4.1 African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO)
 - 4.2 Arctic Council
 - 4.3 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - 4.4 Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)
 - 4.5 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)
 - 4.5.1 Scientific Council
 - 4.5.2 Conference of Parties
 - 4.5.3 Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)
 - 4.5.4 Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
 - 4.6 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
 - 4.7 Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
 - 4.8 Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)
 - 4.9 International Committee on Marine Mammal Protected Areas (ICMMPA)
 - 4.10 International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
 - 4.11 International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
 - 4.12 International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
 - 4.13 North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
 - 4.14 North Pacific Marine Science Organisation (PICES)
 - 4.15 Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) of the Cartagena Convention for the Wider Caribbean
5. General assessment and modelling issues
 - 5.1 Evaluate the energetics-based model and the relationship between $MSYR_{1+}$ and $MSYR_{mat}$
 - 5.2 Implications of *ISTs* for consideration of species' and populations' status
 - 5.3 Progress on previous recommendations and on the Work plan
6. RMP *Implementation*-related matters
 - 6.1 Completion of the *Implementation Review* of western North Pacific Bryde's whales
 - 6.2 *Implementation Review* of western North Pacific common minke whales
 - 6.3 Work plan
7. AWMP *Implementation*-related matters
 - 7.1 *SLA* development for the common minke whales off East Greenland
 - 7.2 Progress with testing outstanding carryover and interim relief allocation provisions for some *SLAs* and consequent updates to the Aboriginal Whaling Scheme
 - 7.3 Preparation for 2020 *Implementation Review* for North Pacific gray whales
 - 7.4 Work plan
8. Stocks subject to aboriginal subsistence whaling
 - 8.1 New information and progress on recommendations
 - 8.1.1 Eastern Canada/West Greenland bow-head whales
 - 8.1.2 North Pacific gray whales
 - 8.1.3 Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas bow-head whale
 - 8.1.4 Common minke whale stocks off East Greenland
 - 8.1.5 Common minke whale stocks off West Greenland
 - 8.1.6 Fin whales off West Greenland
 - 8.1.7 Humpback whales off West Greenland
 - 8.1.8 Humpback whales off St. Vincent and The Grenadines
 - 8.2 Work plan
9. Whale stocks not subject to directed takes
 - 9.1 Comprehensive or In-depth Assessments
 - 9.1.1 Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific humpback whales
 - 9.1.2 Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific sei whales
 - 9.1.3 Work plan
 - 9.2 Potential new assessments: progress on recommendations and work plan
 - 9.2.1 Non-Antarctic Southern Hemisphere blue whales
 - 9.2.2 Antarctic blue whales (Areas III and IV)
 - 9.2.3 Southern Hemisphere fin whales
 - 9.2.4 Southern Hemisphere right whales not the subject of CMPs
 - 9.2.5 North Pacific blue whales
 - 9.2.6 North Atlantic sei whales
 - 9.2.7 North Atlantic right whales
 - 9.2.8 North Pacific right whales
 - 9.2.9 North Atlantic humpback whales
 - 9.2.10 Work plan
 - 9.3 New information and work plan for other northern stocks
 - 9.3.1 Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whales
 - 9.3.2 Other species if new information is presented
 - 9.3.3 Work plan

- 9.4 New information and work plan for other Southern Hemisphere stocks
 - 9.4.1 Southern Hemisphere humpback whales
 - 9.4.2 Other species if new information is presented
 - 9.4.3 Work plan
- 10. Stocks that are or have been suggested to be the subject of Conservation Management Plans
 - 10.1 Stocks with existing CMPs: new information and progress with past recommendations
 - 10.1.1 SE Pacific southern right whales
 - 10.1.2 SW Atlantic southern right whales
 - 10.1.3 North Pacific gray whales
 - 10.2 Progress with identified priorities
 - 10.2.1 Humpback whales in the northern Indian Ocean including the Arabian Sea
 - 10.2.2 Mediterranean fin whales
 - 10.3 Work plan including plans to address franciscana and South American river dolphins in 2020
- 11. Stock definition and DNA testing
 - 11.1 Advice on stock structure to other sub-groups as required
 - 11.2 New genetic (and other) techniques for species, stock and individual identification
 - 11.3 IWC DNA data quality and genetic analyses guidelines
 - 11.3.1 Update DNA quality guidelines (including Next Generation Sequencing data and precautions when using *GenBank*)
 - 11.3.2 Consideration of need to update analytical guidelines
 - 11.4 Reference databases and standards for diagnostic DNA registries
 - 11.5 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 11.6 Work plan (including plans to focus on use of simulation tools such as TOSSM in 2020)
- 12. Cetacean abundance estimates, stock status
 - 12.1 Summary of abundance estimates and update of IWC consolidated table
 - 12.2 Methodological issues
 - 12.2.1 Model-based abundance estimates (and amendments to RMP Guidelines)
 - 12.2.2 Review new survey techniques/equipment
 - 12.3 Consideration of the status of stocks including results of pre-meeting
 - 12.4 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 12.5 Work plan
- 13. Bycatch and entanglements
 - 13.1 Progress with the IWC Bycatch Mitigation Initiative
 - 13.1.1 Priorities and report from workshop
 - 13.1.2 Progress on collaboration on bycatch-related issues with other organisations including FAO and IOTC
 - 13.2 Review new methods and estimates of entanglement rates, risks and mortality (large whales)
 - 13.2.1 Review proposal for global entanglement database
- 13.3 Mitigation measures for preventing large whale entanglement
- 13.4 Review new methods and estimates of bycatch rates, risks and mortality (small cetaceans)
 - 13.4.1 Consideration of 'rapid risk assessment' tools
 - 13.4.2 Consideration of remote electronic monitoring and vessel tracking
- 13.5 Scientific aspects of mitigation measures for small cetaceans
- 13.6 Review of information in National Progress reports on bycatch and entanglement
- 13.7 Progress on previous recommendations
- 13.8 Work plan
- 14. Ship strikes
 - 14.1 Review new methods and estimates of ship strike rates, risk of ship strikes/mortality (incl. review progress on ship strike database)
 - 14.2 Mitigation of ship strikes in high risk areas
 - 14.2.1 Review progress towards assessing and mitigating ship strikes in previously identified high risk areas
 - 14.2.2 Consideration of methods to identify 'high risk' areas including report of IMMA workshop
 - 14.3 Co-operation with IMO Secretariat and relevant IMO committees
 - 14.4 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 14.5 Work plan
- 15. Environmental concerns
 - 15.1 Chemical pollution
 - 15.1.1 Final report of the Pollution 2020 project
 - 15.1.2 Afterlife of Pollution 2020 products (e.g. sPOC model and contaminants map)
 - 15.2 Diseases of concern
 - 15.3 Strandings and mortality events
 - 15.3.1 Update on the IWC Strandings Initiative
 - 15.3.2 New information on unusual mortality events
 - 15.4 Noise
 - 15.4.1 Update on co-operation with IMO
 - 15.4.2 New information (e.g. report from OceanCare)
 - 15.4.3 Planning for 2020 focus session
 - 15.5 Progress on workshop to consider marine debris
 - 15.6 Other matters (only if new information e.g. cumulative effects, SOCER)
 - 15.7 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 15.8 Work plan
- 16. Ecosystem modelling
 - 16.1 Cooperation with CCAMLR on multi-species modelling including progress with workshop(s)
 - 16.2 Progress on species distribution models (SDMs) and ensemble averaging, including preparation of guidelines
 - 16.3 Modelling of competition among whales including progress with IBEMs
 - 16.4 Standing topics
 - 16.4.1 Progress on considering effects of long-term environmental variability on whale populations

- 16.4.2 Review the information on krill distribution and abundance from NEWREP-A
- 16.4.3 Progress with workshop on ecosystem functioning including co-operation with CMS
- 16.5 Progress on previous recommendations
- 16.6 Work plan
- 17. Small cetaceans
 - 17.1 Review of small cetaceans in African waters
 - 17.2 Poorly documented hunts of small cetaceans for food, bait or cash and changing patterns of use
 - 17.3 Small cetacean task team
 - 17.4 Review direct takes and live captures of small cetaceans
 - 17.5 Status of the voluntary fund for small cetacean conservation research
 - 17.6 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 17.7 Work plan
- 18. Whale watching
 - 18.1 Assess the impacts of whale watching and swim-with-whale operations on cetaceans
 - 18.1.1 Progress on the 3rd workshop on Modelling and Assessment of Whale Watching Impacts (MAWI) Studies on assessing impacts
 - 18.1.2 Potential case-studies: status of whale watching in east Africa and wider Indian Ocean
 - 18.1.3 Co-operation with CMS on human-induced behavioural changes in cetaceans including developing 'in water interactions guidelines'
 - 18.2 Update on progress on activities related to the new Whale Watching Five-year strategic plan
 - 18.3 Platform of opportunity data
 - 18.4 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 18.5 Work plan
- 19. Special permits
 - 19.1 NEWREP-A
 - 19.1.1 New information
 - 19.1.2 Overview and conclusions
 - 19.2 NEWREP-NP
 - 19.2.1 New information
 - 19.2.2 Overview and conclusions
 - 19.3 JARPN II consolidated report
 - 19.3.1 Presentation by proponents
 - 19.3.2 Discussion and conclusions
- 20. Whale sanctuaries
 - 20.1 Updates from relevant sub-committees on new information relevant to the SOS management plan
- 21. Report from Workshop on Cetacean Tag Development and guidelines for tagging best practices
- 22. IWC list of recognised species
- 23. IWC databases and catalogues
 - 23.1 Guidelines for IWC catalogues and photo-ID databases
- 23.2 Progress with existing or proposed new catalogues
 - 23.2.1 Integration of eastern South and Central Pacific blue, humpback and fin whale photo-catalogues
 - 23.2.2 Antarctic Humpback Whale Catalogue (AHCW)
 - 23.2.3 Arabian Sea Whale Network's Flukebook
 - 23.2.4 Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue (SHBWC)
 - 23.2.5 Antarctic Blue Whale Catalogue (ABWC)
 - 23.2.6 Southern Hemisphere fin whale photo catalogues
- 23.3 Progress with existing IWC databases
- 23.4 Potential future IWC databases
 - 23.4.1 Global databases related to entanglement response and bycatches
- 24. IWC multinational research programmes and national research cruises that require IWC endorsement
 - 24.1 IWC-POWER
 - 24.2 Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP)
 - 24.3 National cruises that require IWC oversight
- 25. Scientific Committee budget for the current biennium
 - 25.1 Status of funded research, workshop proposals, data processing and computing needs
 - 25.1.1 Funded proposals for the current biennium 2019-20
 - 25.1.2 Funded proposals in previous years still ongoing
 - 25.1.3 Report on funds reallocations and contingencies for the Research Fund, Voluntary Fund for Small Cetaceans and SORP Voluntary Fund
 - 25.2 Proposed budget for 2020
- 26. Committee priorities and initial Agenda for 2020
- 27. Working methods of the Committee
 - 27.1 Updates on Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee and working methods
 - 27.2 Biennial reporting and related matters including development of the budget in light of the timing of the Commission's financial year and longer-term planning
 - 27.3 Succession plan for key Scientific Committee experts
 - 27.4 Update on data availability requests and consideration of potential updates/clarifications
 - 27.5 Committee involvement in the IWC recommendations database
 - 27.6 Matters related to 'Annex P'
 - 27.7 Matters related to the Governance Review
 - 27.8 Work plan
- 28. Publications
- 29. Election of Officers
- 30. Adoption of Report