

32nd Annual Meeting, 1980
(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 31)

IWC Resolution 1980-9
Resolution on an International Whale Research Centre

WHEREAS it is the purpose of the International Whaling Commission to provide for the effective conservation and management of whale stocks,

WHEREAS the Commission recognizes that research and continuous collection and analysis of biological data is necessary to accumulate knowledge of the ecology and population dynamics of whale stocks,

WHEREAS Iceland harvests in accordance with regulations of the Commission four major species of whales, i.e. fin, sei, sperm and minke whales,

WHEREAS the Scientific Committee of the Commission has repeatedly recommended that scientific research on the whale stocks harvested by Iceland and other whale stocks in the North Atlantic should be increased and organized through both individual and joint efforts by member nations of the Commission,

WHEREAS the Commission believes that scientific research programmes would greatly benefit from a suitably located international research centre,

WHEREAS Iceland can provide suitable conditions for such a research centre, and

WHEREAS the Government of Iceland has offered to make available suitable facilities,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the International Whaling Commission to accept the Government of Iceland's offer to establish an International Whale Research Centre in Iceland on the following basis:

I.

A) Room and board for up to six scientists at a time will be provided for in Iceland at or near the whaling station in Hvalfjordur during the period from 25 May to 25 September each year for 10 years beginning in 1981.

B) The scientists will be provided working facilities at the station and on board the catcher boats for the taking of samples, measuring and observing, etc., it being the duty of the employers of the station and the crews of the vessels to co-operate and render every assistance practicable.

C) The scientists will have access to all known material about Icelandic whaling, including log books of the catcher boats. A computer in Reykjavik will also be at their disposal, as well as other facilities at relevant government research institutes.

II.

The Government of Iceland will decide in accordance with Article VIII of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling 1946 the number of whales of each stock which may be killed each year for scientific research, taking into account any recommendations which the International Whaling Commission or its Scientific Committee may wish to make in this respect.

III.

The Government of Iceland will not be responsible for expenses incurred in the purchase or rental of equipment, in whale marking or in the processing of information, or for expenses of the scientists other than room and board as provided under I.A. above.