

**40th Annual Meeting, 1988**  
**(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 39)**

**IWC Resolution 1988-1**  
**Resolution on Norwegian Proposal for Special Permits**

WHEREAS the International Whaling Commission adopted in 1986 a Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research (*IWC/38128*) and in 1987 a Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes (*Rep. in Whal. Commn 38: 27*);

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the Report of the Scientific Committee (*IWC/40/4*) concerning the research programmes to be conducted under special permits, and recognises that the continuation of sighting surveys of the Norwegian Research Programme would continue to make an important contribution to knowledge of the distribution and abundance of whales in the Northeast Atlantic, and further encourages the implementation of the projects dealing with natural marking studies and the development of passive acoustic methods;

WHEREAS the Commission takes cognizance of Article VIII of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, under which the granting by any Contracting Government to its nationals of a special permit authorising the killing, taking or treatment of whales for purposes of scientific research remains the responsibility of each Contracting Government, exercising its sovereign rights in respect of maritime areas under its jurisdiction and freedom of the high seas;

Now, THEREFORE, the Commission

CONSIDERS; taking into account the comments of the Scientific Committee; that the proposed kill of minke whales in the North Atlantic under the research programme described in *SC/40/Mi7* does not satisfy each of the criteria specified in both the 1986 Resolution on Special Permits for Scientific Research and the 1987 Resolution on Scientific Research Programmes in that the proposed research is not structured so as to contribute information essential for rational management of the stock and that the proposed kill will not materially facilitate the Comprehensive Assessment, and further that it has not been established that the proposed research addresses critically important research needs;

REQUESTS the Secretary to inform the Government of Norway accordingly.