

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

**IWC Resolution 1988-3**  
**Resolution on the Issuance of Special Permits for the Purposes of Scientific Research**

WHEREAS it is desirable to operate within the annual calendar of the International Whaling Commission and of its Scientific Committee and that in normal circumstances the procedure for consideration of special permits for the purposes of scientific research is for them to be considered by the Scientific Committee and with its report by the Commission and that intersessional meetings should normally be avoided and called only in exceptional circumstances;

WHEREAS there is no clear procedure for the consideration of reports of the Scientific Committee on the results of intersessional meetings called to consider special permits for the purposes of scientific research and FURTHERMORE it is not the general practice of the IWC to convene intersessional meetings of Commissioners;

WHEREAS it is a responsibility for all Commissioners to have due opportunity to consider and discuss with one another the outcome of the deliberations of the Scientific Committee on all matters, and in particular on any proposals for special permits for the purposes of scientific research;

Now THEREFORE the Commission

RECOMMENDS that following consideration of any special permit(s) for the purposes of scientific research at any intersessional meeting of the Scientific Committee, the Contracting Government(s) responsible for the proposed special permit(s) refrain from issuing any special permit until the expiry of sixty days from the date of circulation of the report of the meeting, to give the Chairman of the Commission sufficient time to consult with the Contracting Governments in order to reach a decision as to how the Commission proceeds.