

**42nd Annual Meeting, 1990**  
**(*Rep. int. Whal. Commn 41*)**

**IWC Resolution 1990-2**  
**Resolution on Special Permit Catches by Japan in the Southern Hemisphere**

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the Report of the Scientific Committee IWC/42/4 concerning the results of the Japanese catches of minke whales in the Southern Hemisphere described in SC/42/SHMi28, the proposed catch in 1990/91 described in SC/42/SHMi9, and the responses in SC/42/SHMi9 of the Government of Japan to earlier criticisms of the research program arising in the Scientific Committee's reports (IWC/39/4; Report of Special Meeting Cambridge 1987, IWC/40/4 and IWC/41/4);

WHEREAS the Commission recognises the important contribution of the Government of Japan to the development of non-lethal whale population assessment methods especially through sightings surveys conducted under the IWC/IDCR programme of Southern Hemisphere Minke Whale Assessment Cruises; and that the Government of Japan, through its various modifications to the original research programme, including those outlined in SC/42/SHMi9, has attempted to address the concerns expressed by the Scientific Committee in its reports;

NOTING that the Scientific Committee was not unanimous, it indicated in its report it could not identify changes in the programme which negate criticisms arising from the previous reports of the Scientific Committee;

WHEREAS the Commission takes cognisance 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 take of minke whales in the Southern Hemisphere described in SC/42/SHMi9 does not fully satisfy 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 to the rational management of these stocks, though the research addresses some of the general research needs;

INVITES the Government of Japan to reconsider the proposed research under special permit in 1990/91 in the light of the above.