

**43rd Annual Meeting, 1991**  
**(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 42)**

**IWC Resolution 1991-4**  
**Resolution on the Revised Management Procedure**

WHEREAS the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling recognises the interest of the nations of the world in safeguarding for future generations the great natural resources of the whale stocks;

WHEREAS Schedule paragraphs 10(a) to 10(c) proved to be deficient in several important respects, particularly with regard to the expected advice which the Scientific Committee was unable to provide in the face of uncertainty over the status of stocks, and which, therefore, often left the Commission without adequate advice on classifications and catch limits;

WHEREAS the Commission as a consequence of these deficiencies adopted paragraph 10(e) of the Schedule, and committed itself to the undertaking of a Comprehensive Assessment of the effects of its decision;

WHEREAS the Commission has determined at its forty-first Annual Meeting that the objectives for a revised management procedure to replace paragraphs 10(a) to 10(c) should be:

- (i) stability of catch limits which would be desirable for the orderly development of the whaling industry,
- (ii) acceptable risk that a stock not be depleted (at a certain level of probability) below some chosen level (e.g. a fraction of its carrying capacity), so that the risk of extinction is not seriously increased by exploitation;
- (iii) making possible the highest possible continuing yield from the stock.

WHEREAS the Scientific Committee as part of the Comprehensive Assessment has been developing a range of revised management procedures to overcome the deficiencies of the management procedure specified in Schedule paragraphs 10(a) to 10(c), and has now provided the Commission with its advice;

NOW THEREFORE the Commission having considered the advice of the Scientific Committee;

DECIDES to accord the highest priority to the management objective (ii) regarding an acceptable risk that a stock shall not be depleted below some chosen level;

ACCEPTS the Scientific Committee's recommendation for the C procedure as the core single stock management procedure for baleen whales upon which further development of the Revised Management Procedure shall proceed;

AGREES that its Revised Management Procedure shall at least incorporate the following elements;

1. Commercial whaling shall only be permitted for populations in areas and seasons for which catch limits are in force. These catch limits shall have been calculated by the Scientific Committee, and forwarded to and approved by the Commission in conformity with all the provisions of the Revised Management Procedure. Catch limits for all other populations in all areas and seasons shall be zero.
2. The "high tuning" level of 0.72 shall be adopted.

3. To permit depleted stocks (i.e. stocks below 54% of the unexploited level) to recover to more productive levels, catch limits under the Revised Management Procedure shall only be greater than zero in cases when the stock is determined to be above 54% of its unexploited level.

AGREES to review the third element described immediately above at the next annual meeting of the Commission in the light of advice to be sought from the Scientific Committee on the probability of whaling being inadvertently allowed under the proposed Revised Management Procedure when stock levels are significantly below the protection level of 54%;

OBSERVES that the existing C procedure on base case simulation trials with the "high tuning" ensures that:

1. Catch limits set for stocks with population levels as low as 60% of the unexploited level will be such that the stocks will continue to remain above 54% of the unexploited level with a 95% certainty.
2. Catch limits will vary by no more than 20% per year, except in cases where reductions greater than that amount are necessary.

REQUESTS the Scientific Committee to consider and provide further advice on the minimum standards for data, including coverage and methodology for sighting surveys, analytical techniques and acceptable levels of precision.

RESOLVES to continue with due diligence the development of the programme of work set out by the Scientific Committee in IWC/43/4. In particular, the Commission calls upon the Scientific Committee to address the development of multi-stock management procedures.