

44th Annual Meeting, 1992
(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 43)

IWC Resolution1992-3
Resolution on the Revised Management System

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

WHEREAS Schedule paragraph 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, having considered the advice of the Scientific Committee at its 43rd Annual Meeting:

- (i) accepted the Scientific Committee's recommendation for the core single-stock management procedure for baleen whales;
- (ii) proposed, *inter alia*, that the 'high tuning' of 0.72, and the protection level of 0.54, be adopted;
- (iii) requested the Scientific Committee to continue the development of multi-stock management procedures;

WHEREAS the Scientific Committee has now provided to the Commission a Draft Specification for the calculation of catch limits in a Revised Management Scheme for baleen whales (IWC/44/4 Annex H);

GRATEFUL for the hard and dedicated work of the Scientific Committee in the development of the multi-stock Catch Limit Algorithm and its specification;

NOTING that the Scientific Committee has made considerable progress on the specification of minimum standards for data and related issues;

NOW THEREFORE the Commission:

1. ACCEPTS that the Draft Specification for the Calculation of Catch limits in a Revised Management Scheme for baleen whales given in IWC/44/4 Annex H together with its attached annotations completes the main scientific component of the development of a Revised Management Scheme for commercial baleen whaling;
2. REQUESTS the Scientific Committee to provide full documentation of the Catch Limit Algorithm and the control program;
3. REAFFIRMS its agreement that 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 Scheme. Commercial catch limits for all other populations in all areas and seasons shall be zero.

4. NOTES that the additional steps required to complete the Revised Management Scheme include agreement upon:

- minimum data standards;
- guidelines for conducting surveys and analysing the results;
- a fully effective inspection and observation scheme;
- arrangements to ensure that the total catches over time are within the limits set under the Revised Management Scheme;
- incorporation of the Draft Specification and the other elements of the Revised Management Scheme into the Schedule;

CONSIDERS that until there is agreement on all aspects of the Revised Management Scheme elaborated above, the Catch Limit Algorithm should not be implemented.