

46th Annual Meeting, 1994
(Rep. int. Whal. Commn 45)

IWC Resolution 1994-6
Resolution on the Unreliability of Past Whaling Data

AWARE that concerns have been raised for many years about under reporting of commercial whale catches;

NOTING the importance of having complete historical catch data available for the proper implementation of the RMP;

NOTING that earlier this year a Russian Federation official published a report which stated that past whaling statistics submitted by the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics were unreliable in many aspects; and

NOTING that the Russian Federation has made available to the Scientific Committee in 1994 previously unreported data on past Soviet whaling operations in the Southern Hemisphere;

NOW THEREFORE the Commission:

(1) CONGRATULATES AND COMMENDS the Government of the Russian Federation for its efforts to locate original catch records from past Soviet whaling activities and to provide these records to the IWC;

(2) URGES the Government of the Russian Federation to continue its efforts to secure and provide to the IWC any additional original catch and positional data from past Soviet catches as may be available and authorises the Secretariat to provide necessary assistance from voluntary funds for this project;

(3) INVITES any other IWC Contracting Governments to examine data on their past whaling operations for inaccuracies or falsification, and to provide any revised data to the Commission.