

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

IWC Resolution 1994-14
Resolution on Whalewatching

The International Whaling Commission

RECALLING its Resolution adopted by consensus at the 45th Annual Meeting inviting Contracting Governments to report on the extent and value of whalewatching activities; requesting the Secretariat to prepare a report; and establishing a Working Group to make recommendations to its 46th Annual Meeting;

GRATEFUL for the returns made by contracting parties and the work of the Secretariat in compiling a report from them;

DESIRING to encourage the further development of whalewatching as a sustainable use of cetacean resources;

ACKNOWLEDGING, however, that the regulation of whalewatching activities is a matter for the responsible coastal state, rather than for the Commission;

RECOGNISING, nevertheless, that the Commission can provide advice to member and non-member governments on the regulation of whalewatching and on the collection of useful data from whalewatching operations;

NOTING the useful and productive discussions which took place at the Working Group prior to the 46th Annual Meeting, and the recommendations made by that Group to the Commission;

Now therefore

- (1) REQUESTS all contracting parties who have not yet submitted the information requested by the Commission on whalewatching operations in their territories to report this information to the Commission;
- (2) REQUESTS the Scientific Committee to provide the advice sought by the Working Group
- (3) REQUESTS Contracting Governments to submit additional relevant information to the Scientific Committee to assist in their deliberations, and where necessary to send appropriate experts to the Committee in this regard;
- (4) REQUESTS the Working Group to take account of the Scientific Committee's advice to prepare a framework for future guidelines, which could be considered by coastal states developing regulatory frameworks for whalewatching, and to make an interim report to the 47th Annual Meeting with a view to finalising recommendations for such guidelines for adoption at a subsequent meeting.
- (5) ALSO REQUESTS the Working Group to keep under review developments relating to all aspects of whalewatching, under the Commission's responsibilities.