

Annex R

Statements on the Agenda

ANNEX R1

STATEMENT BY THE ICELANDIC, JAPANESE AND NORWEGIAN DELEGATIONS CONCERNING DNA REGISTER SYSTEMS

Members of the Scientific Committee and the Commission are aware that the Governments of Iceland, Japan and Norway have, on a voluntary basis, implemented national DNA register systems to provide for effective monitoring of whale meat products in the market and that information on these DNA register systems has been provided to the Commission.

This statement is to reassert the position of the Governments of Iceland, Japan and Norway that the monitoring of markets is outside the jurisdiction and competence of the IWC and that for this reason, inclusion of items related to DNA identification of market products on the agenda of the Scientific Committee and its Working Groups is inappropriate. For this reason, representatives of the Governments of Iceland, Japan and Norway and their appointed scientists will not participate in Scientific Committee discussions of this matter.

However, the Governments of Iceland, Japan and Norway will provide additional information on their DNA register systems as they deem appropriate including information on technical aspects of these systems. Further, we urge that the future work of the Scientific Committee on matters related to the use of DNA technologies and analyses take the position of our Governments into account. In this regard, documents dealing with the marketing of whale meat products should not be submitted to or discussed by the Scientific Committee.

ANNEX R2

STATEMENT BY THE JAPANESE DELEGATION CONCERNING WHALEWATCHING

It is the Government of Japan's position that whalewatching is outside the competence of the IWC. Further, the IWC has limited financial and human resources and should be focusing its efforts on important matters such as stock assessments.

ANNEX R3

STATEMENT BY THE JAPANESE DELEGATION CONCERNING SMALL CETACEANS

Resolution 1999-9 on Dall's porpoise is clearly outside the jurisdiction of the IWC, and therefore Japan continues not to provide data concerning small cetaceans at this year's Scientific Committee meeting. Furthermore, Japan will not participate in the meeting of the standing sub-committee on small cetaceans this year. It is unfortunate that the political attempt to expand the scope of the IWC's influence to include small cetaceans by Resolution 1999-9 has prevented the continued voluntary scientific co-operation of Japan in the field of small cetaceans.

However, Japan will make its data on small cetaceans available following this year's Scientific Committee meeting through appropriate means, such as the website of the Fisheries Agency of Japan.

Finally, although Japan may not make any comments on the draft report of the standing sub-committee on small cetaceans, this should in no way be taken to mean that Japan concurs with or supports the contents of the report.

