



МИНИСТЕРСТВО ПРИРОДНЫХ РЕСУРСОВ И ЭКОЛОГИИ  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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№

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To: Dr. Rebecca Lent  
Expectative Secretary  
International Whaling Commission

**Ref: IWC. CCG/1295 – Invitation to Discussions on the way forward of the IWC**

Dear Dr. Lent

The Russian Federation notes that because of the fundamental contradictions in the views of the member countries of the Commission on the IWC mission on the issue of managing whale stocks, it has been difficult to make decisions on this issue for several decades. Political motives on whale conservation block scientific basis for sustainable use of whales.

We have repeatedly drawn attention to this and actively participated in the discussions on overcoming the conflict, organized within the «The Ireland Initiative» (Ireland), the Berlin Initiative (Germany), «The St. Kitts and Nevis Declaration» (Saint Kitts and Nevis), «Future of IWC» (USA).

The Russian Federation supports initiative "Way Forward of IWC" and we hope to have constructive discussions during the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IWC.

Sincerely,  
IWC Commissioner of the Russian Federation,  
Deputy Director of the Department  
of International Cooperation

  
Irina Fominykh