

## 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Whaling Commission

### ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING SUB-COMMITTEE

09.00 Hrs      Thursday 6 September 2018 at the Costao do Santinho Resort, Florianopolis, Brazil

#### DRAFT AGENDA and annotations

#### 1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- 1.1 Appointment of Chair                    [Bruno Mainini, Switzerland, is proposed]
- 1.2 Appointment of Rapporteurs
- 1.3 Review of Documents
- 1.4 Observer Participation                [Relevant Rules of Procedure are given at the end of this agenda]

#### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### 3. REPORT OF THE AD-HOC ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING WORKING GROUP

*At IWC63 in 2011 the Commission endorsed a recommendation to form an Ad Hoc Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Working Group (ASWWG). The group's terms of reference were to identify and consider unresolved ASW issues. In 2015, an Expert Workshop was held in Maniitsoq Greenland and the report from this workshop was considered by the Commission at IWC66. The Commission agreed that progress with respect to the recommendations from the Maniitsoq workshop should be considered by the ASWWG. A meeting of the ASWWG was held in Barrow in April 2018, at which it completed its work.*

- 3.1 Report of the Ad Hoc Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Working Group
- 3.2 Discussion and recommendations

#### 4. ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

*In its most recent Resolution (2014-4) on this topic, the Commission emphasised the need to regulate ASW in the future through a more consistent and long-term approach. This Resolution inter alia requested the Scientific Committee to give high priority to all AWMP-related activities.*

*The Commission has set objectives for the management of aboriginal subsistence whaling to: (a) ensure that the risks of extinction to individual stocks are not seriously increased by subsistence whaling (highest priority); (b) enable aboriginal people to harvest whales in perpetuity at levels appropriate to their cultural and nutritional requirements, subject to the other objectives; and (c) maintain the status of stocks at or above the level giving the highest net recruitment and to ensure that stocks below that level are moved towards it, so far as the environment permits.*

*The Scientific Committee has been developing an ASW management procedure approach to ensure that the levels of proposed ASW catches are safely within the Commission's objectives.*

*This item allows the Scientific Committee to update the Commission on its work to develop the management procedure approach for subsistence whaling and in particular the development of the remaining Strike Limit Algorithms (SLAs). It is these algorithms that establish the sustainability of proposed hunts according to the Commission's objectives.*

##### 4.1 Progress with Strike Limit Algorithms for Greenland

*The development of Strike Limit Algorithms has been more complex for the Greenland hunt, partly because it is multi-species and partly because of the structure of the individual stocks themselves.*

*The Scientific Committee has continued to work on establishing long term advice for the Greenlandic hunts and it will report progress under this item.*

- 4.1.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 4.1.2 Discussion and Recommendations

#### 4.2 Review of the Makah Management Plan

*The Scientific Committee was asked by the USA to review a draft management plan for its proposed hunt of gray whales by the Makah Tribe (Washington State). This item will give the Scientific Committee an opportunity to report its progress.*

- 4.2.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 4.2.2 Discussion and Recommendations

#### 4.3 Implementation Review for bowhead whales

*The Commission adopted a Strike Limit Algorithm (SLA) for bowhead whales from the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas stock of bowhead whales in 2001. Although SLAs generate long term advice, the Scientific Committee reviews their validity at regular intervals (usually every five years) to ensure no new information is available that would require further testing. These reviews are called Implementation Reviews. This year the Scientific Committee undertook an Implementation Review for this stock.*

- 4.3.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 4.3.2 Discussion and Recommendations

### 5. ABORIGINAL WHALING SCHEME (AWS)

*The purpose of the Aboriginal Whaling Scheme is to consider the generic aspects of managing ASW hunts (the SLAs are case-specific. The Scientific Committee has updated its views of the scientific components of such management (e.g. survey intervals, carry over, data collection, etc.).*

- 5.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 5.2 Discussion and Recommendations

### 6. ABORIGINAL WHALING SUBSISTENCE CATCH LIMITS

*Size and duration of catch limits for Aboriginal Whaling are set out at paragraph 13 of the Schedule to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.*

*In 2012 catch limits were re-established for a period of six years for stocks of bowhead whales in the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas, gray whales in the eastern Pacific and humpback whales off St. Vincent and The Grenadines. In 2014 the Commission re-established catch limits for stocks of whales around Greenland for a period of four years. Accordingly catch limits for all stocks are established until 2018.*

*This year the Commission needs to set catch/strike limits from 2019.*

#### 6.1 Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas stock of bowhead whales

- 6.1.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.1.2 Discussion and Recommendations

#### 6.2 North Pacific Eastern stock of gray whales

- 6.2.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.2.2 Discussion and Recommendations

### 6.3 Common minke whale stocks off West Greenland

- 6.3.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.3.2 Discussion and Recommendations

### 6.4 Common minke whale stocks off East Greenland

- 6.4.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.4.2 Discussion and Recommendations

### 6.5 West Greenland stock of fin whales

- 6.5.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.5.2 Discussion and Recommendations

### 6.6 West Greenland stock of bowhead whales

*This item also includes an opportunity for the Commission to discuss information received from the Government of Canada in respect of their catches of bowhead whales from the same stock.*

- 6.6.1 Information from the Government of Canada
- 6.6.2 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.6.3 Discussion and Recommendations

### 6.7 Humpback whales off West Greenland.

- 6.7.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.7.2 Discussion and Recommendations

### 6.8 North Atlantic humpback whales off St. Vincent and The Grenadines

- 6.8.1 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 6.8.2 Discussion and Recommendations

## 7. STATUS OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND

*At IWC65 in 2014 the Commission agreed to establish a dedicated Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling fund. This item will provide an update on the status of the fund.*

## 8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The terms of reference of the Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Sub-committee are to consider relevant information and documentation from the Scientific Committee, and to consider nutritional, subsistence and cultural needs relating to aboriginal subsistence whaling and the use of whales taken for such purposes, and to provide advice on the dependence of aboriginal communities on specific whale stocks to the Commission for its consideration and determination of appropriate management measures (*Rep. Int. Whal. Commn* 48: 31)

## **ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS**

### *Rule of Procedure C.2*

2. Observers accredited in accordance with Rule [of procedure] C.1.(a) and (b) are admitted to all meetings of the Commission and the Technical Committee, and to any meetings of Committees and all subsidiary groups of the Commission and the Technical Committee, except the Commissioners-only meetings, meetings of the Bureau and closed meetings of the Finance and Administration Committee.

## **SPEAKING RIGHTS FOR OBSERVERS**

### *Rule of Procedure C.3*

3. Observers accredited in accordance with rule C.1.(a) and (b) will have speaking rights during Plenary sessions and sessions of Commission subsidiary groups and Committees to which they are admitted to under C.2, in accordance with the Rules of Debate of the Commission. Observers might also submit documents for information to the delegations and observers participating in such sessions, provided these are submitted through the Secretariat at least 48 hours before the session in which they are intended to be made available, and are duly authored or endorsed by the accredited organisation making the submission, which is to be held responsible for its contents.

### *Rules of Debate Paragraph A*

#### **A. Right to Speak**

1. The Chair shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak, with the exception of accredited Observers, which should be allowed to speak only after all Commissioners desiring to speak do so. As a general rule, Observers will only be allowed to speak once at each Agenda item under discussion, and at the discretion of the Chair.