

## **RESOLUTION ON HUMANE KILLING**

WHEREAS Article IV,1 of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling provides that the Commission may encourage, recommend or organise studies and investigations relating to whales and whaling.

WHEREAS the IWC, following its 43rd Annual Meeting in Reykjavík, convened a special workshop, which met in Glasgow on 20 to 22 June 1992, to consider all methods of killing currently in use in whaling or known to be in development; to assess those methods, their efficacy and physiological effects; to evaluate times to death achieved by the various killing methods; to evaluate progress since 1980; and to complete a comparative analysis of the methods.

WHEREAS the participants in that Workshop are to be congratulated on the constructive manner in which they approached their task, exchanged information and promoted a better understanding of killing methods.

WHEREAS the Workshop submitted its report, IWC/44/18 SUP, with advice, to the Humane Killing Working Group of the IWC's Technical Committee.

Now THEREFORE the Commission

- (1) COMMENDS the report of the Workshop
- (2) URGES that the members of the IWC continue to promote the development of humane killing methods
- (3) ACCEPTS the 11 point action plan appended to this resolution as the basis for advice to members of the IWC.

### **ACTION PLAN**

#### **Equipment and methods**

- 1) Encourage continued cooperation between Japanese and Norwegian agencies to refine the design of penthrite grenades as far as possible.
- 2) Review means of improving accuracy of delivery of penthrite grenade harpoons, including assessment of refined sighting equipment suitable for rapid action under conditions encountered at sea. Support the development and implementation of programmes to provide training in the safe handling and effective use of devices such as the penthrite grenade and in other aspects of the hunt.
- 3) Review constraints on shooting distance and relative orientation of vessel and whale and identify and encourage reduction of practices which may lead to increased times to death in whales.
- 4) Review effectiveness of secondary killing methods with a view to reducing time to death in whales.

#### **Indication of insensibility and death**

- 5) Investigate the basis of agreed criteria for assessment of loss of sensibility and time of death in whales, using observations, including those of muscle tone, jaw and flipper disposition; and recordings of EEG and evoked responses under controlled conditions; to establish baselines.

#### **Assessment of cause of death in relation to observed time to death**

- 6) Where possible undertake post-mortem assessment of representative penthrite-killed animals, to determine location and extent of injuries and precise cause of death, including specific assessment of the role of concussive cerebral damage and arterial embolism in death. Develop standardised protocols for post-mortem recording of major indicators of rapid death.

#### **Collection and provision of information on time to death**

- 7) Undertake analyses and presentation of any further information on penthrite harpoon use, including times to death and strike area on body, in Japanese commercial Antarctic whaling for 1984-1986/87 seasons and in Japanese coastal minke whaling since 1984. Introduce where appropriate methodology comparable to that used in commercial Antarctic whaling, in collecting and analysing data for times to death in catches under special scientific permit.
- 8) Encourage collection and presentation of struck and lost rates and standardised time to death records in aboriginal subsistence catches of whales and undertake assessment of requirements for controls on the use of rifles to kill unsecured whales.
- 9) Encourage the incorporation of data collection and reduction of struck and lost rates in initiatives in Greenland relating to the beluga and narwhal hunts.

#### **Assessment of physiological status of hunted animals**

- 10) Develop procedures for, and where possible implement collection of, representative samples of blood, brain and other tissues from selected animals, to allow assay of stress indicators and other physiological parameters in animals killed in whaling operations.

#### **Next steps**

- 11) Encourage the International Whaling Commission to review progress regularly in all the above areas, seeking data and papers; and to consider holding further workshops.

**RESOLUTION ON THE NEED FOR RESEARCH ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND WHALE STOCKS  
IN THE ANTARCTIC REGION**

RECALLING the Commission's responsibility to promote research into whales and whaling in accordance with Article IV,1(a) of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling as endorsed by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

RECALLING that Article V,1 of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling provides for the designation of sanctuary areas to achieve the Convention's objectives.

AWARE of the guidelines for establishing whale sanctuaries under this Article as recommended by the Technical Committee Working Group of the 34th Annual Meeting of the IWC (IWC/34/14).

RECOGNISING the ecological sensitivity of the Antarctic region and its particular importance as the largest single feeding area for Southern Hemisphere whales.

NOTING the French Government's proposal to the 44th Annual meeting of the IWC for a Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary (IWC/44/19).

NOTING the recognition given to the precautionary approach by UNCED in the face of inadequate scientific data and of the need to improve our understanding of the effects of global environmental change on marine ecosystems (Agenda 21, Chapter 17).

RECOGNISING the value of the Scientific Committee's work on the Comprehensive Assessment of Southern Hemisphere baleen whales and the need for it to continue.

CONSCIOUS of the advisory role and expertise of the Scientific Committee of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) to enhance our understanding of the Antarctic environment.

CONSCIOUS of the scope to develop existing links between the Scientific Committees of the IWC, CCAMLR and SCAR.

The Commission Decides

- i) That the Scientific Committee establish a regular agenda item to address the impact of environmental changes upon whale stocks.
- ii) That the Scientific Committee should contact CCAMLR, SCAR and other relevant organisations to exchange information on the effects of global environmental change in the Antarctic region which may be of relevance to whale stocks.
- iii) That the Scientific Committee should develop practical means to address the questions raised by these exchanges.

## **RESOLUTION ON THE REVISED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

WHEREAS the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling Recognises the interests of the nations of the world in safeguarding for future generations the great natural resources of the whale stocks;

WHEREAS Schedule paragraph 10(a) to 10(c) proved to be deficient in several important respects particularly with regard to the expected advice which the Scientific Committee was unable to provide in the face of uncertainty over the status of stocks, and which, therefore, often left the Commission without adequate advice on classifications and catch limits;

WHEREAS the Commission as a consequence of these deficiencies adopted paragraph 10(e) of the Schedule and committed itself to the undertaking of a Comprehensive Assessment of the effects of its decision;

WHEREAS the Commission, having considered the advice of the Scientific Committee at its 43rd Annual Meeting:

- (i) accepted the Scientific Committee's recommendation for the core single-stock management procedure for baleen whales;
- (ii) proposed, *inter alia*, that the 'high tuning' of 0.72, and the protection level of 0.54, be adopted;
- (iii) requested the Scientific Committee to continue the development of multi-stock management procedures;

WHEREAS the Scientific Committee has now provided to the Commission a Draft Specification for the calculation of catch limits in a Revised Management Scheme for baleen whales (IWC/44/4 Annex H);

GRATEFUL for the hard and dedicated work of the Scientific Committee in the development of the multi-stock Catch Limit Algorithm and its specification;

NOTING that the Scientific Committee has made considerable progress on the specification of minimum standards for data and related issues;

NOW THEREFORE the Commission:

1. ACCEPTS that the Draft Specification for the Calculation of Catch limits in a Revised Management Scheme for baleen whales given in IWC/44/4 Annex H together with its attached annotations completes the main scientific component of the development of a Revised Management Scheme for commercial baleen whaling;
2. REQUESTS the Scientific Committee to provide full documentation of the Catch Limit Algorithm and the control program;
3. REAFFIRMS its agreement that commercial whaling shall only be permitted for populations in areas and seasons for which catch limits are in force. These catch limits shall have been calculated by the Scientific Committee, and forwarded to and approved by the Commission in conformity with all the provisions of the Revised Management Scheme. Commercial catch limits for all other populations in all areas and seasons shall be zero.

4. NOTES that the additional steps required to complete the Revised Management Scheme include agreement upon:

- minimum data standards;
- guidelines for conducting surveys and analysing the results;
- a fully effective inspection and observation scheme;
- arrangements to ensure that the total catches over time are within the limits set under the Revised Management Scheme;
- incorporation of the Draft Specification and the other elements of the Revised Management Scheme into the Schedule;

CONSIDERS that until there is agreement on all aspects of the Revised Management Scheme elaborated above, the Catch Limit Algorithm should not be implemented.

## **RESOLUTION ON A SANCTUARY IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE**

WHEREAS the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling seeks to provide for the proper conservation of whale stocks and thus make possible the orderly development of the whaling industry;

WHEREAS Article V of the Convention provides for the adoption of regulations fixing open and closed waters, including the designation of sanctuary areas;

WHEREAS the Government of France has proposed in IWC/44/19, annexed to this resolution, that a sanctuary be designated in the waters of the Southern Hemisphere;

WHEREAS the Contracting Governments did not have sufficient time to give full consideration to all aspects of the proposal IWC/44/19;

WHEREAS the proposal IWC/44/19 contained a number of specific questions addressed to the Scientific Committee, for which the Committee was unable to prepare answers in the time available at its 1992 meeting;

Now THEREFORE the Commission;

RESOLVES to give full consideration to the proposal by France at its 45th meeting when the advice of the Scientific Committee will be available;

INVITES Members to submit questions and comments on the proposal, by January 31 1993, for consideration by the Scientific Committee and the Commission at the next annual meeting;

REQUESTS the Secretariat to invite the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR) and other relevant organisations to comment on scientific matters raised in the proposal.

REQUESTS the Scientific Committee to structure its agenda for its next annual meeting to allow it to review and provide advice to the Commission at its next annual meeting on scientific questions and comments raised;

ESTABLISHES a Working Group of the Technical Committee to meet prior to the 45th Annual Meeting to collate the responses from the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission, SC-CCAMLR, SCAR and other relevant organisations, with comments of Members arising from the proceedings of the 44th meeting of the Commission, and any other matters subsequently raised by Member Governments.