

Annex A

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Annex B

Agenda

1. Introductory items
 - 1.1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks
 - 1.2 Remembrances
 - 1.3 Appointment of Rapporteurs
 - 1.4 Meeting procedures and schedule
 - 1.5 Establishment of sub-committees
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of available data, documents and reports
 - 3.1 Documents submitted
 - 3.2 National Progress Reports on research
 - 3.3 Data collection, storage and manipulation
 - 3.4 Guidance for the format of recommendations and discussion of the Recommendations Database
 - 3.5 Review of Commission Resolutions from 2018
4. Cooperation with other organisations
 - 4.1 Summary of Secretariat co-operation with other organisations
 - 4.2 African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO)
 - 4.3 Arctic Council
 - 4.4 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) [Secretariat]
 - 4.5 Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) [Secretariat]
 - 4.6 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) [Secretariat]
 - 4.6.1 Scientific Council
 - 4.6.2 Conference of Parties
 - 4.6.3 Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)
 - 4.6.4 Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
 - 4.7 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
 - 4.8 Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) [Secretariat]
 - 4.9 Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)
 - 4.9.1 Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)
 - 4.9.2 Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
 - 4.10 International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) [Haug]
 - 4.11 International Maritime Organisation (IMO) [Leaper and Secretariat]
 - 4.12 International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) [Cooke, Reeves]
 - 4.12.1 IUCN Red List status of cetaceans [Braulik]
 - 4.12.2 Integrated Conservation Planning for Cetaceans [Abel/Taylor]
 - 4.12.3 IUCN Task Force on Marine Mammal Protected Areas (formerly ICMMPA) [Panigada and Mattila]
 - 4.13 North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) [Secretariat, Moronuki]
 - 4.14 North Pacific Marine Science Organisation (PICES) [Tamara]
 - 4.15 Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) of the Cartagena Convention for the Wider Caribbean [Nelson]
 - 4.16 Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) [Secretariat]
 - 4.17 Marine Traffic [Secretariat and Leaper]
 - 4.18 Other
5. General Assessment and Modelling Issues
 - 5.1 Use of ISTs for consideration of species' and populations' status
 - 5.2 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 5.3 Biennial workplan

6. AWMP and RMP *Implementation* related matters
 - 6.1 *Implementation Review* of West Greenland bowhead whales
 - 6.2 Plan for *Implementation Review* of West Greenland common minke whales
 - 6.3 *Implementation Review* of North Atlantic common minke whales
 - 6.4 Plan for *Implementation Review* of North Atlantic fin whales
 - 6.5 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 6.6 Biennial workplan

7. Stocks subject to Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling
 - 7.1 New information and progress on recommendations
 - 7.1.1 Eastern Canada/West Greenland bowhead whales
 - 7.1.2 Bering Chukchi Beaufort Seas bowhead whales
 - 7.1.3 North Pacific gray whales
 - 7.1.4 Common minke whale stocks off East Greenland
 - 7.1.5 Common minke whale stocks off West Greenland
 - 7.1.6 Fin whales off West Greenland
 - 7.1.7 Humpback whales off West Greenland (see Item 8.2.7)
 - 7.1.8 Humpback whales off St. Vincent and The Grenadines (see Item 8.2.7)
 - 7.2 Biennial workplan

8. Whale stocks not subject to directed takes by Contracting Governments
 - 8.1 Comprehensive or In-depth Assessments
 - 8.1.1 Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific humpback whales
 - 8.1.2 Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific sei whales
 - 8.1.3 Progress on in-depth assessment of western North Pacific common minke whales
 - 8.1.4 Biennial workplan
 - 8.2 Potential new assessments: progress on previous recommendations and prioritised workplan
 - 8.2.1 Non-Antarctic blue whales in the Southern Hemisphere
 - 8.2.2 Antarctic blue whales
 - 8.2.3 Southern Hemisphere right whales not the subject of CMPs
 - 8.2.4 North Pacific blue whales
 - 8.2.5 North Atlantic sei whales
 - 8.2.6 North Atlantic right whales
 - 8.2.7 North Atlantic humpback whales (see Items 6.1, 7.1.7 and 7.1.8)
 - 8.2.8 Rice's whales
 - 8.2.9 Biennial workplans
 - 8.3 New information (if provided) for other northern stocks
 - 8.3.1 North Atlantic blue whales
 - 8.3.2 North Atlantic common minke whales
 - 8.3.3 East Greenland Svalbard Barents Sea (Spitsbergen) bowhead whales
 - 8.3.4 Unusual mortality events affecting northern stocks (see Item 14.3.2)
 - 8.3.5 Biennial workplan
 - 8.4 New information (if provided) for other Southern stocks
 - 8.4.1 Southern Hemisphere humpback whales (if new information from Australia provided for estimating abundance of breeding stock D)
 - 8.4.2 Southern Hemisphere fin whales
 - 8.4.3 Biennial workplan
 - 8.5 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 8.6 Biennial workplan

9. Stocks that are or have been suggested to be the subject of Conservation Management Plans (CMPs)
 - 9.1 Stocks with existing CMPs: new information and progress with previous recommendations
 - 9.1.1 SE Pacific southern right whales
 - 9.1.2 SW Atlantic southern right whales
 - 9.1.3 North Pacific gray whales
 - 9.1.4 Franciscana
 - 9.1.5 South American river dolphins
 - 9.2 Progress with identified priorities
 - 9.2.1 Humpback whales in the northern Indian Ocean including the Arabian Sea

- 9.2.2 Central American humpback whales
 - 9.2.3 Mediterranean sperm whales
 - 9.2.4 Mediterranean fin whales
 - 9.3 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 9.4 Biennial workplan
10. Stock definition and DNA testing
- 10.1 Provide advice to other sub-groups on population structure for requested stocks
 - 10.1.1 North Pacific gray whales
 - 10.1.2 Franciscana
 - 10.1.3 *Sotalia guianensis*
 - 10.2 DNA data quality
 - 10.3 DNA guidelines checklist
 - 10.4 Recommendations on the avoidance of sample depletion
 - 10.5 Review terminology used for stock structure related terms used within the IWC
 - 10.6 New genetic approaches (if submitted) for use by the Scientific Committee in addition to stock structure issues
 - 10.7 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 10.8 Biennial workplan
11. Cetacean abundance estimates and stock status
- 11.1 Review of abundance estimates
 - 11.1.1 Bering Chukchi Beaufort bowhead whales
 - 11.1.2 North Atlantic common minke whales
 - 11.1.3 North Atlantic humpback whales
 - 11.1.4 North Atlantic right whales
 - 11.1.5 Eastern North Pacific gray whales
 - 11.1.6 North Pacific sei whales
 - 11.1.7 North Pacific blue whales
 - 11.1.8 North Pacific humpback whales
 - 11.1.9 Southern Hemisphere non-Antarctic blue whales
 - 11.1.10 Antarctic blue whales
 - 11.1.11 Southern Hemisphere right whales
 - 11.1.12 Southern Hemisphere humpback whales
 - 11.1.13 Franciscana
 - 11.1.14 Finless porpoise
 - 11.1.15 Other species/stocks identified intersessionally by SC Convenors
 - 11.2 Update and review abundance table maintained by the IWC
 - 11.3 Review and refine the abundance review process
 - 11.4 Methodological issues
 - 11.4.1 Amendments to RMP guidelines to consider model-based abundance estimates
 - 11.4.2 Progress on simulation software to evaluate methods for abundance estimates
 - 11.4.3 Consider diagnostic methods for mark recapture models
 - 11.5 Provide advice to the Commission on the status of stocks
 - 11.6 Review and provide advice on surveys (past and future)
 - 11.7 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 11.8 Biennial workplan
12. Bycatch and entanglements
- 12.1 IWC's Bycatch Mitigation Initiative
 - 12.2 Collaboration on bycatch mitigation with IGOs (including FAO, Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and others)
 - 12.3 Review new methods and estimates of bycatch and entanglement rates, risks and mortality
 - 12.4 Reporting of bycatch and entanglements (both small and large cetaceans) including National Progress Reports
 - 12.5 Review mitigation measures for preventing bycatch and entanglement
 - 12.6 Review studies examining the implications of effort reductions on cetacean bycatch, fisheries economics and yields
 - 12.7 Review of topics related to Hector's and Māui dolphins in New Zealand (with SM)
 - 12.8 Consider definition of r_{\max} for small cetaceans for use by the Scientific Committee
 - 12.9 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 12.10 Biennial workplan

13. Ship strikes
 - 13.1 Review new methods and estimates of rates of ship strikes, risk of ship strikes and mortality (including review progress on ship strike database)
 - 13.2 Mitigation of ship strikes in high-risk areas
 - 13.3 Co-operation with IMO Secretariat and relevant IMO committees
 - 13.4 Review progress for obtaining Automated Information System (AIS) data
 - 13.5 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 13.6 Biennial workplan

14. Environmental concerns
 - 14.1 Chemical pollution
 - 14.1.1 Review intersessional work on Pollution 2025 (Report on Workshop on Cumulative Effects)
 - 14.1.2 New information on pollution
 - 14.2 Diseases of concern
 - 14.2.1 Review progress in intersessional work on emerging diseases
 - 14.2.2 Special primer on coronavirus surveillance in aquatic wildlife
 - 14.2.3 Review new information on Diseases of Concern
 - 14.3 Strandings and mortality events
 - 14.3.1 Review progress of steering committee for IWC Strandings Initiative
 - 14.3.2 New information on unusual mortality events
 - 14.3.3 Other information
 - 14.4 Climate change
 - 14.4.1 Review report from intersessional workshop on climate change
 - 14.4.2 Review new information
 - 14.5 Underwater noise
 - 14.5.1 Review progress from intersessional work on impacts to cetaceans from underwater noise
 - 14.5.2 Review new information
 - 14.6 Marine debris
 - 14.6.1 Review progress on recommendations on marine debris
 - 14.6.2 Review new information
 - 14.7 Habitat alteration as anthropogenic impact on cetaceans
 - 14.8 SOCER report (Polar regions)
 - 14.9 Review strategy to better integrate E workplan with other Committee sub-groups
 - 14.10 Review strategy on developing and using a 'One Health' approach
 - 14.11 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 14.12 Biennial workplan

15. Ecosystem modelling
 - 15.1 Workshop on the Role of Cetaceans in Ecosystem Functioning: Gap Analysis
 - 15.1.1 Review outcomes and recommendations
 - 15.2 Review results of ecosystem modelling in the Antarctic Ocean and northeast Atlantic Ocean
 - 15.3 Review progress on estimating pre- exploitation and current abundance of large whale populations
 - 15.4 Progress on multi- species distribution models (MSDMs)
 - 15.5 Progress with development of individual- based energetic models (IBEMs)
 - 15.6 Modelling of competition among whales and relationships between whales and prey
 - 15.7 Standing topics
 - 15.7.1 Progress on considering effects of long- term environmental variability on whale populations
 - 15.7.2 Review progress on evaluation of krill distribution and abundance
 - 15.8 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 15.9 Biennial workplan

16. Small cetaceans
 - 16.1 Small cetacean use as aquatic wildmeat
 - 16.1.1 Discuss framework for progressing on identified issues/areas
 - 16.1.2 Review of other information
 - 16.2 Potential CMP for small cetaceans
 - 16.2.1 Asian river dolphins
 - 16.3 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 16.3.1 Finless porpoise

- 16.3.2 Atlantic humpback dolphin
- 16.3.3 Vaquita
- 16.3.4 Strait of Gibraltar killer whales
- 16.3.5 Management of the solitary sociable dolphin in northwest Spain
- 16.3.6 Lahille's dolphin
- 16.3.7 Review of previous recommendations
- 16.3.8 Other
- 16.4 South Pacific island small cetaceans
 - 16.4.1 Review of SPREP work on small cetaceans
 - 16.4.2 Threats to small cetaceans of the South Pacific islands
 - 16.4.3 Workplan for future review of the small cetaceans of the South Pacific islands
- 16.5 Review direct takes and live captures of small cetaceans
 - 16.5.1 Direct takes
 - 16.5.2 Live captures
- 16.6 Status of the voluntary fund for small cetacean conservation research
- 16.7 Biennial workplan
- 17. Whale watching
 - 17.1 Assess the impacts of whale watching and swim with whale operations on cetaceans
 - 17.1.1 Studies on assessing impacts: (i) short term; (ii) mid to long term; (iii) swim with operations; (iv) emerging issues of concern; and (v) emerging technologies
 - 17.1.2 Review responses to MAWI questionnaire
 - 17.2 Finalise IWC's General Principles for Whale Watching after intersessional discussion with the Conservation Committee and Secretariat
 - 17.3 Progress with regional reviews of whale watching
 - 17.3.1 Sri Lanka
 - 17.3.2 Latin America
 - 17.3.3 Timor-Leste
 - 17.3.4 Indian Ocean Sanctuary
 - 17.4 Collaborative work within the IWC
 - 17.4.1 Update on IWC's Whale Watching Handbook
 - 17.4.2 Communication with Conservation Committee's Standing Working Group on Whale Watching
 - 17.4.3 Collaboration with other SC sub groups on platforms of opportunity and citizen science
 - 17.5 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 17.6 Biennial workplan
- 18. Whale sanctuaries
 - 18.1 Updates from relevant sub committees on new information relevant to the Southern Ocean Sanctuary management plan
 - 18.2 New information for Indian Ocean Sanctuary
 - 18.3 Progress on previous recommendations
 - 18.4 Biennial workplan
- 19. Extinction initiative
- 20. IWC List of Recognised Species
- 21. IWC databases and catalogues
 - 21.1 Guidelines for IWC catalogues and photo ID databases
 - 21.2 Progress with existing or proposed new catalogues
 - 21.2.1 Right whale photo catalogues
 - 21.2.2 Happywhale database
 - 21.2.3 Flukebook
 - 21.2.4 Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue (SHBWC)
 - 21.2.5 Antarctic Blue Whale Catalogue (ABWC)
 - 21.2.6 Fin whale photo catalogues
 - 21.2.7 Humpback whale photo catalogues
 - 21.2.8 Other photo identification catalogues

- 21.3 Progress with existing IWC databases
 - 21.3.1 Summary of IWC databases and current priorities
 - 21.3.2 IWC National Progress Reports
 - 21.3.3 Review database procedures, evaluate possible integration and consolidation of existing databases, and define rules for accessing data
 - 21.4 Potential future IWC databases
 - 21.4.1 IWC database proposal pro forma
 - 21.4.2 New proposals for IWC databases
 - 21.5 Biennial workplan

 - 22. Multinational research programmes and national research cruises that require IWC endorsement
 - 22.1 IWC-POWER and co-operation with Japan
 - 22.2 Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP)
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REPORTS FROM INTERSESSIONAL WORKSHOPS

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01. Report of the IWC Climate Change Workshop, 30 November-3 December 2021, virtual meeting. 50pp.
02. Report of the Pollution 2025 IWC Intersessional Workshop, 1-4 November 2021, virtual meeting. 38pp.
03. Report of the IWC-POWER Planning Meeting, 9-10 December 2021, virtual meeting. 23pp.

RESEARCH PROPOSALS

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01. ASI: IWC-POWER cruise in 2023 and 2024 including associated workshop/meetings and processing. 10pp.
02. ASI: Annual Meeting of the Abundance Steering Group: Review of Estimates and Status of Stocks Website. 8pp.
03. WW: Communicating the science of sustainable, responsible whale watching. 5pp.
04. SH: Assessing movement rates of Southwest Atlantic southern right whales between Argentina and Brazil. 6pp.
05. SH: Assessment of Antarctic blue whales. 9pp.
06. SH: Mark recapture analysis of Southern Hemisphere blue whale photo-ID datasets to estimate regional abundance. 7pp.
07. SH: Southern right whale catch series, stock structure and catch allocation review workshops. 10pp.
08. SH: Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue 2023-2024. 8pp.
09. SH: Passive acoustic monitoring of cetaceans from the former Durban whaling ground, western Indian Ocean. 7pp.
10. SH: Rock 'n Whales: can we detect blue and fin whale acoustic presence from a land-based seismic station in the equatorial Atlantic Ocean? 9pp.
11. IA/IST: Essential computing support to the Secretariat for IA and IST for assessments of several species. 6pp.
12. IA/NP: Assessment modelling for in-depth assessments of North Pacific sei and humpback whales – 2022 to 2024. 6pp.
13. HIM: Progressing the development and use of the IWC Ship Strikes Database. 9pp.
14. GDR: Ongoing SC database hosting and server management by IWC Secretariat. 6pp.
15. SM: Assessment of the traditional drive-hunt in the Solomon Islands: Collaborating with Indigenous communities and updating the IWC Direct Take Database 9pp.
16. CMP: Passive Acoustic Monitoring of the Eastern South Pacific Southern Right Whale CMP - Outputs 2023/2024 9pp.
17. CMP: Development of a GIS (meta) database on information on human activities that might have an adverse impact on Southern right whales. 11pp.
18. CMP: Assessment of spatio-temporal distribution of humpback whale and blue whale song along the Arabian Sea coast of Oman. 12pp.
19. CMP: Continuation of field deployments in 2023-2024 for Passive Acoustic Monitoring for humpback, blue and other baleen whales off Oman. 13pp.
20. E: Compilation of the State of the Cetacean Environment Report (SOCER) for 2023-2024 including the 2nd 5-year global compendium. 5pp.
21. E: Climate Change Workshop part II. 10pp.
22. E: Contaminant Mapping in Cetaceans: Review of spatial and temporal trends in POPs and heavy metals. 5pp.
23. NH: Review of the Spanish statistics in the IWC catch database. 5pp.
24. NH: Assessing endangered baleen whales in the eastern North Atlantic through Passive Acoustic Monitoring off Senegal, West Africa. 10pp.
25. SAN: Southern Ocean Sanctuary Review. 7pp.
26. SEC: Scientific Committee Communications Initiative. 6pp.