

Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1. This document has been submitted by Japan.

Doc. 10.34 (Rev.) Annex

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Relationship with the International Whaling Commission

NOTING that, for marine species, in the case of amendments to Appendices I and II, the Convention requires the Secretariat to consult with inter-governmental bodies having a function in relation to those species especially with a view to obtaining scientific data these bodies may be able to provide and to ensure co-ordination with any conservation measures enforced by such bodies (Article XV, paragraphs 1(a) and 2(b), of the Convention);

RECOGNIZING that the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties (San José, 1979) adopted a Resolution to request that, with regard to cetaceans, the Secretariat consult with the International Whaling Commission (IWC) together with other sources concerning proposals to amend Appendices I and II, and that advice from such sources be circulated by the Secretariat (Resolution Conf. 2.7, San José, 1979);

RECOGNIZING also that the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting (San José, 1979) adopted a Resolution to recommend that the Parties agree not to issue any import or export permit, or certificate for introduction from the sea, under this Convention for primarily commercial purposes for any specimen of a species or stock protected from commercial whaling by the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Resolution Conf. 2.9, San José, 1979);

ACKNOWLEDGING that the IWC, through its Scientific Committee, is studying scientific aspects of stocks and species of whales, and welcoming the fact that the IWC historically contributed to the protection of depleted whale stocks based on the findings of its Scientific Committee;

CONCERNED, however, that the IWC has introduced protection measures also for abundant stocks of whales for which the IWC Scientific Committee had not reached agreement on the necessity of such protection by way of (i) the blanket moratorium for all commercial whaling adopted in 1982 by majority voting (see Rep. Int. Whal. Commn 33:21) and (ii) the Southern Ocean Sanctuary for commercial whaling adopted in 1994 by majority voting (see Rep. Int. Whal. Commn 45:28);

ACKNOWLEDGING the rapid progress on whale science since the 1970s and that now more precise information on stocks and species of whale is available through the IWC Scientific Committee;

ACKNOWLEDGING also that the analysis of DNA is an effective and practical means of monitoring and checking illegal trade in whale meat;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE
CONVENTION

RESOLVES that amendment of Appendices I and II with regard to whale species be decided under CITES's own criteria set forth in Resolution Conf. 9.24, taking into account; (i) scientific information from the IWC together with other sources; and (ii) consistency with scientific relevance for the listing of other species in the appendices;

REPEALS Resolution Conf. 2.9 (San José, 1979); and

REQUESTS the Secretariat to forward this Resolution to the IWC Secretariat and to seek further co-operation with the IWC and its Scientific Committee in respect of scientific information.