

## Main outcomes, Wednesday, 25 September 2024

<b>Report of the Working Group on Operational Effectiveness</b>	<p>The Commission agrees by consensus to accept the WGOE's recommended change to Rule of Procedure E.2 on exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>The Commission agrees by consensus to accept the WGOE's recommended change to Rule of Procedure E.2 and Financial Regulation F.2 to encourage Contracting Government payments.</p> <p>The Commission agrees by consensus to accept the WGOE's recommended change to Financial Regulations F to encourage the use of payment plans.</p> <p>The Commission requests the WGOE to consider the current situation of locking the exchange rate to GBP and consider an alternative, including, but not limited to, the USD, and report back to IWC70.</p> <p>The Commission requests the WGOE to consider the adopted changes to Rule of Procedure E.2 and Financial Regulation F.2 and report to IWC70 on how the two-year period fits within the equivalent norms at similar bodies to the IWC so that we can have a discussion among the Commission as to whether that period is reasonable by international standards.</p> <p>The Commission requests the WGOE to consider the Acting Chair's ruling on Rule of Procedure F.5(e) and bring back a recommendation to IWC70.</p> <p>The Commission requests the WGOE to conduct a comprehensive review of the Rules of Procedure for clarity and inconsistencies.</p>
<b>Rules of Procedure</b>	<p>The Commission agrees by consensus to adopt the proposed changes to Scientific Committee Rule C.4 as presented in Document IWC/69/10.4/01.</p>
<b>Adoption of the WKM&amp;WI Working Group Report</b>	<p>The Commission adopts the Whale Killing Methods and Welfare Issues Working Group's Report and its recommendations.</p>
<b>Adoption of the Infractions Sub-Committee Report</b>	<p>The Commission adopts the Infractions Sub-Committee's Report.</p>
<b>Adoption of the Conservation Committee Report and Work Plan</b>	<p>The Commission adopts the Conservation Committee's Report and its recommendations, noting the support in principle from the Government of Cambodia for the Irrawaddy river dolphin CMP.</p>
<b>Biennial budget</b>	<p>The Commission notes that the proposed budget has been developed following the principles in the Budgetary Reform Strategy agreed at IWC68.</p> <p>The Commission agrees to the proposed budget for 2025/2026 which requires increases in financial contributions from Contracting Governments of 3% in 2025 and a further 3% in 2026 (Document IWC/69/10.2/01.Rev1 Annex 1), and notes that this includes new critical priority items (Document IWC/69/10.2/01.Rev1 Annex 2).</p> <p>The Commission notes the remaining priority needs and exceptional items that are not included in the core budget proposal (Document IWC/69/10.2/01.Rev1 Annex 3).</p>

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	<p>The Commission agrees in principle to the provisional budget of 2027/2028, which requires increases of 5% in 2027 and 5% in 2028 (Document IWC/69/10.2/01.Rev1 Annex 4). This will be reviewed and adjusted before being presented to the Commission for agreement at IWC70.</p>
	<p>The Commission notes the ongoing uncertainties with the sale of the Red House and agrees that the General Fund reserves should be drawn on to cover the income gap if the Red House doesn't sell before 2025.</p>
	<p>The Commission agrees that the General Fund reserves should be drawn on to fund two one-off items: ensuring the Commission is compliant with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) regulations and funding the gap in the hosting costs of IWC69, noting the latter has already been covered by the Government of Germany.</p>
	<p>The Commission agrees that the Budgetary Sub- Committee work intersessionally on the activities identified in Document IWC/ 69/10.2/01/Rev1 and return to IWC70 with recommendations to address these matters.</p>
<b>Update on Co- operation with Other Organisations</b>	<p>The Commission notes the Update on Co-operation with Other Organisations.</p>
<b>Election of Chair</b>	<p>The Commission appoints the representative of Australia, Dr Nick Gales, as Chair of the Commission for the next biennial period.</p>
<b>Election of Vice-Chair</b>	<p>The Commission appoints the representative of Benin, Dr Urbain Brito, as Vice-Chair of the Commission for the next biennial period.</p>
<b>Call for hosts</b>	<p>The Commission accepts the offer from Australia to host IWC70 in 2026.</p>