

Summary of Scientific Committee tasks identified for intersessional period 2006/07 (From the Plenary Report)

Item	Task	SC Report + Annex Item	Responsibility ¹	Timescale	Funding allocated
National Progress Reports					
Update Progress Report template	Revise template to (1) include an additional code for derelict fishing gear; (2) remove tables for 'strandings or dead whales encountered at sea' and 'non-natural mortalities'; (3) include tables detailing ship strikes and bycatches; (4) include an extra column for the number of animals involved in each of (3); ensure cases with no reports are indicated rather than being left blank.	7.1.2, 7.3.1 (J: 5.2, App 3)	Secretariat	Before SC/59	
Data Collection, Storage and Manipulation					
Soviet Southern Hemisphere catch data	Finalise catch series for Soviet Southern Hemisphere operations. Obtain copies of technical, administration and inspection reports from Michalev to help clarify inconsistencies. Obtain new individual catch data sheets for the <i>Yury Dolgoruky</i> for the 1960/70 season from Tormosov.	3.3.2 (H: 5) 3.3.2, 21	Working Group (1) Allison, Mikhalev, Tormosov	Intersessionally Allison to meet with Tormosov intersessionally	Voluntary contributions
Revised Management Procedure (RMP) Annex D					
General issues	Process for modifying RMP Plan the review of MSY rates. Draw up a list of cases to be considered in the review of MSY rates. The list should include existing estimates and corresponding primary papers, analyses in preparation intended for submission to the review and other relevant datasets of which analyses would be desirable. Specify the additional environmental degradation trials for testing amendments to the <i>CLA</i> . Integrate the adopted set of requirements for simulation trials into the RMP specification as a footnote and provide a draft text for consideration at SC/59.	5.2, 5.3 (D: 2.2, 2.3) 5.2 (D: 2.2) 5.2, 5.3 (D: 2.2) 5.2.1 (D: App. 5)	Working Group (8) Working Group (8) Working Group (6) Donovan, Hammond	Intersessionally Intersessionally Intersessionally Intersessionally	

¹ The number in brackets refers to the number of the intersessional group given in Annex R

<i>Preparations for Implementation:</i> Western North Pacific Bryde's whales	Finalise and agree the remaining conditioning.	6.1.2 (D: App. 7)	Steering Group (5)	Intersessionally	£7,500
	Hold second intersessional Workshop, 10-14 December 2006, Tokyo.	6.1.2.2, 18, 21 (D: 3.1.9)	Steering Group (5)	Intersessionally-Japan	
<i>Preparations for Implementation:</i> North Atlantic fin whales	Continue simulation testing the model under levels of differentiation observed in whale populations as well as examining its performance by applying it to other species and stocks for which stock structure is better known.	6.2.1.3 (D: 3.2.3.1)	Kitakado	Intersessionally	
	Compile all relevant information on photo-identification studies.	6.2.1.3 (D: 3.2.3)	Robbins	Intersessionally	
	Work towards obtaining estimates of F_{st} values and other data from genetic studies in order to produce realistic rates of dispersal for input into trials.	6.2.1.3 (D: 3.2.3.3)	Working Group (7)	Intersessionally	
	Oversee the 2006 Norwegian survey in Small Management Area CM around Jan Mayan.	6.2.3 (D: 4.1)	Øien	Intersessionally-2006	
Oversee the 2007 TNASS survey.	6.2.1.3, 6.2.3 (D: 4.2)	Hammond, Donovan	Summer 2007		
Bycatch (BC) Annex J					
Collaboration with FAO	Work towards associating bycatches reported to the IWC with the fisheries that are described in the FAO's global inventory of fisheries.	7.1.1, 21 (J: 5.1)	Northridge	Intersessionally	
Follow-up Workshop on use of market sampling to estimate bycatch	Conduct further simulation work.	7.2.1, 21 (J: 6.1.2)	Working Group (11)	Prior to the Workshop (not anticipated prior to SC/59)	£2,000
Ship strikes	Develop a process by which vessel strike data provided by a range of sources could be stored in a database in a standardised way that clearly identifies the level of uncertainty in the data.	7.3, 21 (J: 7)	Working Group (30)	Intersessionally	£1,000
Aboriginal Whaling Management Procedure (AWMP) Annex E					
Greenlandic fisheries: stock structure, range and movements	Attempt a preliminary <i>implementation</i> using the available genetic data.	8.1.1 (E: 3.1.1)	Steering Group (3)	Intersessionally	
	Update aerial survey estimates.	(E: 8)	Heide-Jørgensen	Intersessionally	
	Update fin whale assessment method.	9.4.5 (E: 4.2.2, 8)	Witting	Intersessionally	

Greenlandic catch data for fin and minke whales	(1) Develop and undertake appropriate analyses related to the inclusion of sex ratio data in assessments; (2) investigate common minke whale sex ratio data inter alia to determine whether they can be incorporated into an <i>SLA</i> . Include intersessional meeting	8.1.3, 9.4.3, 21 (E: 4.2.1)	Steering Group (4)	Intersessionally	£3,500
	Conduct genetic analyses on samples collected in accordance with advice of Steering group 3.	9.4.60 (E: 4.1)	Steering Group (3)	Intersessionally	
Developers' fund	Continue progress with development in relation to Greenlandic fisheries. Bowhead catch series.	21	Developers	Intersessionally	£9,00
Preparations for <i>Implementation</i> : Bowhead whales	Prepare for two intersessional workshops to allow completion of the <i>Implementation review</i> in 2007. The first will occur from 12-15 January 2007.	8.2, 21 (E: 8)	Steering Group (2)	Intersessionally-(1) Colorado; (2) Seattle	£16,000
	Complete bowhead whale catch series.	(E:8)	George, Suydam	By September 2006	
	Completion of initial examination of mixing matrices.	(E: 2.5.1, 8; Rep2)	Zeh	By September 2006	
	Carry out modifications to AWMP-lite.	(E: 2.5, 8)	Punt, Allison	By September 2006	
	Complete genetic analyses detailed in Rep2.	(E: 8)	TAMU	By September 2006	
Whale Stocks (IA) Annex G					
SOWER cruises	Provision of funds to support the 2006/07 SOWER cruise.	10.6.2.1, 21 (G: 2.4, 8)	Steering Group (14)	2006/07 season	£76,000
	Complete the planning of the 2006/067SOWER cruise.	10.1.1.2 (G: 2.4, App 2))	Steering Group (14)	Intersessionally-Tokyo	
	Investigate likely precision of future abundance estimates using a single SOWER vessel.	10.6.2.1, 21 (G: 8)	Hedley, Bravington, Peel	Prior to planning meeting (above), September 2006	£4,000
	Incorporate 2006/07 data into and maintain IWC-DESS.	10.6.2.1, 21 (G: 8)	Burt	Intersessionally	£2,000 + £2000
	Analyse BT mode survey data.	10.6.2.1, 21 (G: 2.1.2.2, 8)	Burt	Prior to planning meeting (above), September 2006	£6,000
Estimating abundance of Antarctic minke whales	Continue analyses of SOWER data to obtain abundance estimates.	10.1.1.1 (G: 3.1)	Working Group (17)	Intersessionally	

	<p>Assist analysts of SOWER data by (1) developing in what form results should be presented (including diagnostics); (2) further develop what factors should be simulated, taking account of the high priority to allow sufficient time to analyse the data.</p> <p>Further develop the hazard probability method to estimate abundance of Antarctic minke whales.</p> <p>Investigate the relationship between minke whales and sea ice.</p> <p>To further the comparison of abundance estimates and sea ice extent changes Working Group 17 should: (1) encourage collaboration between sea ice experts and abundance analysts to obtain abundance estimates by 10° longitudinal 'slices'; (2) provide information about sea ice extent so it could be included as a covariate in abundance estimation; (3) examine hypotheses that could explain if, and how, a change in sea ice extent might be related to the abundance estimates.</p>	<p>10.1.1.5 (G: 3.1.5)</p> <p>10.1.1.2, 21 (G: 3.1, 3.1.2, 8)</p> <p>10.1.3, 21 (G: 3.3.2, 8)</p> <p>10.1.3</p>	<p>Working Group (16) + analysts</p> <p>Okamura, Kitakado</p> <p>Shimada</p> <p>Working Group (17)</p>	<p>Intersessionally</p> <p>Intersessionally</p> <p>Intersessionally</p> <p>Intersessionally</p>	<p>£1,700</p> <p>£700</p>
Estimating trend in abundance of Antarctic minke whales	(1) Continue ADAPT-VPA and integrated statistical catch-at-age analyses work; and (2) request data under Procedure B of the Data Availability Protocol to allow population modelling work to proceed.	10.1.2, 21 (G: 3.2, 8, App. 4)	Working Group (15) especially Punt, Polacheck	Intersessionally	£20,000
Other Southern Hemisphere Whale Stocks (SH) Annex H					
Humpback whales	Run new population dynamics models that incorporate the 'Core' or the 'Overlap' catch allocation hypotheses, a uniform prior on r or a prior given by the posterior distribution of this parameter obtained for stock A and an N_{min} bound.	10.3.2, 21 (H: 2.2.3.3)	MARAM group	Intersessionally	£2,000
Antarctic humpback whale catalogue	Continue to provide funding to support the catalogue curated by the College of the Atlantic (COA), which is available online.	10.3.2, 21 (H: 2.2.5, 5)	COA	Ongoing	£6,600
Blue whales	Digitise, catalogue and analyse blue whale photographs from the IWC IDCR and SOWER cruises.	10.6.1, 10.4, 21 (H: 5)	Olson	Intersessionally	£8,500
	Work towards addressing (1) blue whale distribution; (2) revising abundance estimates for the Antarctic using IDCR and SOWER cruise data; (3) develop an abundance estimate for Chilean waters from the SOWER cruise in 1997/98.	10.4, 21 (H: 3.1, 5)	Branch and colleagues	Intersessionally	6,000

Stock Definition (SD) Annex I					
Testing of Spatial Structure Models (TOSSM)	Employ a specialist programmer to work full-time on TOSSM.	11.1, 21 (I: 3.3, App 2)	Martien +Steering Group (10)	Interessionally	£16,000
	Oversee development of simulations and testing models.	11.1 (I: App 3).	Steering Group (10)	Interessionally	
Environmental Concerns (E) Annex K					
Southern Ocean Collaboration	Investigate the possibility of collaborating with CCAMLR in their IPY multi-vessel survey.	10.6.2.2, 21 (K: 8.2; G: 2.5)	Hedley	Interessionally	£1,000
	Initiate high priority analyses recommended at the Sea Ice Symposium and participate in the planning of the ICED field programmes.	12.3.2, 21 (K: 8.2)	Thiele	Interessionally	£12,000
	Progress towards completion of the IWC SOC database.	12.3.2, 21 (K: 8.2)	Deakin University	Interessionally	£15,000
	Provide data to researchers working on Antarctic cetacean ecosystem and spatial analyses projects.	12.3.2 (K: 8.2)	Steering Group (22)	Interessionally	
	Conduct analyses and presentations for the July 2006 SCAR meeting.	12.3.2 (K: 8.2)	Steering Group (22)	Interessionally	
	Participate in the final SO GLOBEC cruise. Make preparations for a joint CAMLR/IWC Workshop on krill predators	12.3.2 (K: 8.2) 12.3.2, 21 (K: 10.4, App 6)	Steering Group (23)	Interessionally	£3,000
State of the cetacean environment report.	Compile and produce draft report, with a focus on the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean and Black Seas.	12.3.3, 21 (K: 10.2, App 4)	Steering Group (20)	Interessionally	
POLLUTION 2000+	Hold interdisciplinary Workshop to help identify the need for a possible Phase II and if appropriate design an outline research proposal for the programme's continuation.	12.3.1 (K: 8.1.4, App 2)	Steering Group (21)	Interessionally	
FAO expert consultation	Participate in FAO expert consultation on modelling ecosystem interactions in 2007.	12.2, 21 (K: 7.2)	One or more of: Butterworth, Cooke, Hammond, Mori, Punt	Interessionally	£1,500
Climate change	Develop an agenda and investigate practical arrangements for a Workshop on climate change in 2008 (tentatively).	12.4 (K: 10.5)	Steering Group (18)	Interessionally	

Diseases	Plan and convene a symposium on infectious and non-infectious diseases of marine mammals and impacts on cetaceans.	12.3.5 (K: 10.1, App. 5)	Working Group (29)	Intersessional pre-meeting prior to SC/59	
Small Cetaceans (SM) Annex L					
Small cetacean bycatch table	Add an extra column to the small cetacean bycatch table to allow the number of animals to be entered when multiple bycatches of the same species are recorded.	13.3	Secretariat	Before SC/59	
Whalewatching (WW) Annex M					
Data collection	Examine and improve data collection from whalewatching operations.	14.2 (M: 9)	Working Group (26)	Intersessionally	
Planning research	Conduct strategic planning of large-scale whalewatching research	14.3 (M: 9)	Working Group (28)	Intersessionally	
'Swim-with' programmes	Further develop a questionnaire and improve methodologies to assess the extent and potential impact of swim-with-whale operations.	14.3 (M: 9)	Working Group (27)	Intersessionally	
Platforms of opportunity	Identify data sources from platforms of opportunity of potential value to the Scientific Committee.	14.3 (M: 9)	Working Group (25)	Intersessionally	
DNA (DNA) Annex N					
Validation of sequences	Continue development of plans for sequence validation.	15.1 (N: App 2)	Working Group (9)	Intersessionally	
Scientific Permits (SP) Annex O, P					
JARPA	Finalise planning and convene JARPA review Workshop	16.2.4, 21 (O: 6, App 2)	Working Group (13)	Intersessionally	13,000
Reviewing permits	Work towards improving the SP review process.	16.1 (P)	Working Group (12)	Intersessionally	