

**Summary of Scientific Committee tasks identified for intersessional period 2007/08 (From the Plenary Report)
(The number in brackets refers to the number of the intersessional group given in Annex R)**

Item	Task	SC Report + Annex Item	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding allocated
National Progress Reports					
Update Progress Report template	Modify the Progress Reports template for reporting opportunistic data collection to include more detailed information such as type of data, animal behaviour, and environmental data.	15.2 (M: 6)	Secretariat	Before template is distributed	
	Clarify the instructions for use of gear codes in Progress Reports.	7.1.7 (J: 5.7)	Secretariat	Before template is distributed	
Data Collection, Storage and Manipulation					
Southern Hemisphere catch data	Finalise catch series for Southern Hemisphere operations.	10.4 (H: 2)	Working Group (1)	Intersessionally	
Revised Management Procedure (RMP) Annex D					
General issues	Analyse data to the stage that the SC has sufficient background by SC/60 to consider and possibly revise the range of plausible MSY rates for use in RMP trials.	5.2, 5.3 (D: 2.2)	Working Group (7)	Intersessionally	
	Organise an intersessional Workshop to review MSY rates.	5.2, 23 (D: 2.2, App.3)	Working Group (7)	Intersessionally	£6,000
Consideration of potential research programme to accompany variant with research	Attach the <i>pro forma</i> developed at SC/59 to the 'Requirements and Guidelines for <i>Implementations</i> '.	6.1.1.3 (D: 3.1.3, App.5)	Secretariat	Intersessionally	
WNP Bryde's whales: absolute abundance estimates and catches for use in the CLA	Conduct an audit of the verification of the WNP Bryde's whales data.	6.1.1.4, 23 (D: 3.1.4)	Secretariat	By no later than 3 months prior to SC/60	£2,000
	Update the 'Requirements and Guidelines for Surveys' to include the new text developed at SC/59.	6.1.1.4 (D: 3.1.4, App.7)	Secretariat	Intersessionally	

North Atlantic fin whales	Attempt to match the small holdings in the eastern North Atlantic to catalogues in the Northwest Atlantic and the Mediterranean.	6.2.1 (D: 3.2.1)	Robbins	By at least 2 months prior to 1 st intersessional Workshop	
	Compile the catches, to allow the development of a best and alternative catch series for use in simulation trials.	6.2.2 (D: 3.2.2)	Allison	By at least 2 months prior to 1 st intersessional Workshop	
	Commence <i>Implementation</i> by (1) holding a small technical Workshop and (2) the 1 st intersessional Workshop.	6.2.3, 23 (D: 3.2.2, 3.2.3)	Steering Group (6)	Intersessionally-(2) Reykjavik	(1) £5,000; (2) £10,000
	Employ someone to provide computing support for the <i>Implementation</i> .	23 (D: 5, App.9)	Steering Group (6)	Intersessionally	£20,000
<i>Implementation Review</i> for WNP common minke whales	Discuss and synthesise new information on stock structure.	6.3 (D: 3.3)	Steering Group (8)	Intersessionally	
<i>Implementation Review</i> for central and northeastern Atlantic common minke whales	Prepare for the probable 2008 <i>Implementation Review</i> .	6.4 (D: 3.4.1)	Steering Group (9)	Intersessionally	
Bycatch (BC) Annex J					
Collaboration with FAO	Assist with the consolidation of the IWC data from Progress Reports and enter new data directly into the integrated IWC/FAO database.	7.1.1 (J: 5.1)	Secretariat	Intersessionally	
Collaboration with CMS	Closely coordinate efforts between CMS and IWC, with regards to a plan of action for small cetaceans in West Africa.	7.1.7 (J: 5.6)	Van Waerebeek	Intersessionally	
Vessel strike data standardisation	Further fine-tune the database and forward to the Commission's SSWG/CC for comment.	7.3.2 (J: 7.2, App. 2))	Working Group (31)	Intersessionally	
Aboriginal Whaling Management Procedure (AWMP) and Bowhead Right and Gray Whales Annex E, Annex F					
Greenlandic fisheries and the Greenlandic Research Programme	Consider how to obtain a minimum estimate of abundance of common minke whales off West Greenland using genetic methods.	8.2.1	Steering Group (3)	Intersessionally	
	Carry out further analyses on Norwegian catches and the dataset from the first Greenland fishery period to provide information on the catch distributions of common minke whales.	8.2.2 (E: 3.1.2.1)	Working Group (5)	Intersessionally Intersessionally	
Aboriginal subsistence whaling stock assessments	Organise a Workshop on Greenlandic assessments.	9.4.2, 23 (E: 4.2.1)	Working Group (2)	Intersessionally-Copenhagen (?)	£10,000
	Determine the best collection of abundance estimates for humpback whales off West Greenland to use for future	9.6.1 (E: 5.1.1.3)	Working Group (4)	Intersessionally	

	assessments.				
Developers' fund	Continue progress with development in relation to Greenlandic fisheries	23	Developers, Steering Group (2)	Interessionally	£10,00
B-C-B bowhead whales	Match all existing photos to maximise the information available in the dataset.	9.1.2, 23 (F: 4.1.2)	Researchers	Interessionally	£16,000
WNP gray whales	Oversee a telemetry study on WNP gray whales.	10.7.3 (F: 6.2)	Reeves, Weller, Donovan, Brownell, Gales	Ongoing	£2,000
Whale Stocks (IA, IANP) Annex G, G1					
SOWER cruises	Provision of funds to support the 2007/08 SOWER cruise.	10.12, 23 (G: 5.4, App.2)	Steering Group (15)	2007/08 season	£66,750
	Complete the planning of the 2007/08 SOWER cruise.	10.12.2, 23 (G: 5.4, App.2)	Steering Group (15)	Interessionally-Tokyo	(Included in funding above)
	Analyse BT mode survey data and incorporate 2006/07 data into and maintain IWC-DESS.	10.1.2, 23 (G: 5.3)	Burt	Prior to planning meeting (above), September 2007	£10,000
	Recover data 'lost' due to hard disc failure during 2006/07 cruise.	10.1.2 (G: 5.3)	SOWER researchers	Interessionally	
Estimating abundance of Antarctic minke whales	Continue analyses of SOWER data to obtain abundance estimates.	10.2.1 (G: 6.1.7)	Working Group (18)	Interessionally	
	Organise a Workshop to resolve issues with respect to new methods and abundance estimates.	10.2.1, 23 (G: 6.1.7)	Working Group (17)	Interessionally	£4,000
Abundance and trends using JARPA data	Re-establish the Advisory Group on abundance estimates (previously established during the JARPA review meeting).	10.2.1.2	Advisory Group	Interessionally	
Estimating trends in abundance of Antarctic minke whales	(1) Continue ADAPT-VPA and integrated statistical catch-at-age analyses work; and (2) develop diagnostic statistics to quantify the extent to which the recruitment rates from VPA analyses are consistent with the a priori expectations based on trends in age-at-maturity.	10.2.3, 23 (G: 6.4, App. 5)	Working Group (16) especially Punt, Polacheck	Interessionally	£6,000
Evaluating ageing errors for Southern Hemisphere minke whales	Ask a number of aging experts to conduct a calibration experiment in order to quantify age reading errors.	10.2.3.1, 23 (G: 6.4, App.6)	2 Japanese readers + Lockyer or Best + Kitakado (data analysis)	Interessionally	£2,000
J-stock WNP common minke whales	Undertake the following analyses: (1) a sensitivity analysis to examine how results changed with temporal stratifications; (2) a fuller examination of data, in which the effects of combining	10.3.1 (G1: 6.1)	Researchers	Interessionally	

	quarters in different ways is explored; (3) a jackknife analysis.				
	Conduct collaborative analyses incorporating data from bycaught animals for 2005 and 2006.	10.3.1 (G1: 6.1)	Researchers	Interessionally	
	Analyse mtDNA and microsatellites from 1982.	10.3.1 (G1: 6.2)	Researchers	Interessionally	
	Provide an oversight on the IO passing mode sighting survey conducted in the Okhotsk Sea and Sea of Japan in mid May-late June 2007.	10.3.2 (G1:7.3)	Miyashita; Working Group (30)	Mid May-late June 2007 then at SC/60.	
Other Southern Hemisphere Whale Stocks (SH) Annex H					
Humpback whales	Further develop issues related to minimum abundance (N_{min}).	10.5 (H: 3)	Jackson <i>et al.</i>	Interessionally	
	Finalise assessment of humpback whale Breeding Stocks B and C.	10.5.3.2, 10.5.3.3, 23 (H: 5.2, 5.3, App. 3)	Rosenbaum, Butterworth, Cerchio, Findlay, Collins, Johnston, Working Group (26)	Interessionally	£23,000
Antarctic humpback whale catalogue	Continue to provide funding to support the catalogue curated by the College of the Atlantic (COA), which is available online.	10.5.4.2, 23 (H: 6)	COA	Ongoing	£6,600
Blue whales	Analyse catches, both from the Antarctic and elsewhere to separate Antarctic from pygmy blue whales.	10.6, 23 (H: 7.9, App.4)	Branch	Interessionally	£3,300
	Locate the CPUE data used by the sub-committee of Three/Four in the 1960s.	10.6 (H:7.9)	Secretariat	Interessionally	
	To investigate possible stock structure: (1) match existing photo-ID catalogues; (2) analyse existing Antarctic (true) blue biopsy samples; and (3) investigate JSV sightings data for possible aggregations.	10.6 (H:7.9)	(1) Olsen; (2) Le Duc; (3) Japanese scientists)	Interessionally	
	To obtain biological parameters: (1) investigate likely increase rates; and (2) investigate age at maturity.	10.6 (H: 7.9)	Branch	Interessionally	
	Update JARPA abundance estimates.	10.6 (H: 7.9)	Japanese Scientists	Interessionally	
Stock Definition (SD) Annex I					
Testing of Spatial Structure	Employ a specialist programmer to work full-time on TOSSM	11.1, 23 (I: App 4)	Martien + Steering	Interessionally	£9,000

Models (TOSSM)	(extension from 2006/07) Oversee development of simulations and testing of methods.	11.1 (I: 4).	Group (11) Steering Group (11)	Intersessionally	
DNA data quality	In relation to DNA data quality, produce a report considering experimental design, procedure, data presentation and assessment of error rates.	11.2.2 (I: 2.1, App.2)	Working Group (35)	Intersessionally	
Environmental Concerns (E) Annex K					
Southern Ocean Collaboration	Complete all high priority work funded during 2006/07.	12.3 (K: 8.1)	Researchers, Steering Group (23)	Intersessionally	
	Integrate sea-ice, cruise track data and maps into the IWC Southern Ocean Database and lodge the full database with the IWC Secretariat.	12.3 (K: 8.1)	Researchers, Steering Group (23)	June 2007	
State of the cetacean environment report.	Compile and produce draft report.	12.6 (K: 8.3, App. 6)	Steering Group (21)	Intersessionally	
POLLUTION 2000+	Hold a scoping Workshop to consider validation and critical assessment of biopsy techniques with application to large whale species as selected for study during Phase II.	12.2 (K: 7, App 3)	Steering Group (22)	Intersessionally-Mexico (?)	
Climate change	Plan and convene a scoping Workshop on climate change.	12.6.1 (K: 10.1, App.4)	Steering Group (19)	Intersessionally	
Cetacean emerging and resurging diseases	Summarise current knowledge and Plan a Workshop on cetacean emerging and resurging diseases.	12.3.5 (K:6)	Working Group (25)	Pre-meeting Workshop prior to SC/60	
Ecosystem Modelling (EM) Annex K1					
CCAMLR/IWC Workshop	Continue planning for the 2008 joint Workshop on modelling Antarctic krill predators.	13.1, 23 (K1:1.2)	Joint Steering Group (24)	Intersessionally	£36,000
Small Cetaceans (SM) Annex L					
Killer whales	Contact CCAMLR and request a compilation of data on killer whale occurrence and fisheries interactions from their observer reports.	14.1.1	Secretariat	Intersessionally	
	If possible, complete the analysis of southern resident killer whale status using the new models that examine temporal variations in crude survival rates for the population as a whole.	14.1.8	Wade	Intersessionally	

Whalewatching (WW) Annex M					
Whalewatching Workshop	Prepare for Workshop on the strategic planning of large-scale whalewatching research.	15.3.2, 23 (M: 7.2)	Working Group (33)	Pre-meeting Workshop prior to SC/60	£6,000
'Swim-with' programmes	(1) Identify local researchers who can serve as liaisons with whalewatching operator; and (2) distribute questionnaires.	15.3.3 (M: 7.3)	Working Group (28)	Intersessionally	
Platforms of opportunity	Identify data sources from platforms of opportunity of potential value to the Scientific Committee.	15.2 (M: 6)	Working Group (27)	Intersessionally	
Cetacean vessel responses	Conduct a meta-analysis to assess the influence of cetacean biology and ecology on the short-term impact effect from whalewatching vessels.	15.1.4 (M: 5.4)	Working Group (29)	Intersessionally	
DNA (DNA) Annex N					
Validation of sequences	Commence the first round of validation using <i>DNA Surveillance</i> .	16.1 (N:8, App.2)	Working Group (10)	Intersessionally	£2,700
Scientific Permits (SP) Annex O, P					
Reviewing permits	Work towards improving the SP review process and plan for a Workshop.	17.4 (O: 5)	Working Group (13)	Intersessionally	13,000
Other					
Data Availability Agreement	Revise the DAA and associated deadlines.	9.1.1	Bjørge, Donovan, Palka	Intersessionally	
List of cetacean species	Update the recognised species list to include Omura's whale (<i>Balaenoptera omura</i>), Australian snubfin dolphin (<i>Orcaella heinsohni</i>) and <i>Sotalia guianensis</i> .	27.1 (D:4, L:7)	Secretariat	Intersessionally	