

Summary of Scientific Committee tasks identified for intersessional period 2008/09 (From the Plenary Report)
(The number in brackets refers to the number of the intersessional group given in Annex Q)

| Item | Task | SC Report + Annex Item | Responsibility | Timescale | Funding allocated |
|---|--|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------------|
| National Progress Reports | | | | | |
| Circulate Progress Report template | Circulate the Progress Report template by 6 January each year. | 7.1 (J: 6.3) | Secretariat | By 6 January 2009 | |
| Data Collection, Storage and Manipulation | | | | | |
| Southern Hemisphere catch data | Finalise catch series for Southern Hemisphere operations. | | Working Group (8) | Ongoing | |
| Revised Management Procedure (RMP) Annex D | | | | | |
| General issues | Consider ways to make the RMP report more accessible and develop a template to assist rapporteurs in this regard. | 5 | Donovan | Intersessionally | |
| | Analyse date 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 (D:5.2) | Steering Group (3) | Intersessionally | |
| | Organise an intersessional Workshop to review MSY rates. | 5.2 (D: 2.1), 22 | Steering Group (3) | Intersessionally | £3,000 |
| | Provide a paper on modelling MSY-related parameters under stochastic dynamics to the MSYR workshop. | 5.1.2 (D:2.1) | Cooke | Before MSYR workshop | |
| North Atlantic fin whales | Conduct data analyses aimed at detecting signatures of selection to resolve uncertainty regarding genetic divergence. | 6.2.1.6 (D: App.5), 22 | Palsbøll, Bérubé | Intersessionally | £14,500 |
| | Guide work for the second intersessional Workshop for the North Atlantic fin whale <i>Implementation</i> . | 6.2.1.10, 22 | Steering Group (2) | Intersessionally | £8,000 |
| | Implement the decisions of the Committee with respect to <i>Implementations</i> and <i>Implementation Reviews</i> . | 6.2.1.10 (D: App.6), 22 | Cunningham, Rademeyer, Punt, Allison, Butterworth | Intersessionally | £20,000 |

| Bycatch (BC) Annex J | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Collaboration with FAO | Agree format for bycatch and fisheries data so that a Memorandum of Understanding with the FAO FIRMS can be completed. | 7.2.1 (J: 6.1) | Secretariat, Northridge | Intersessionally | |
| Ship strikes database | Develop and implement data quality standard for validating and assessing uncertainty with source data and metadata standards for importing data into the database. | 7.2.3 (J: 5.4), 22 | Secretariat, Steering Group (22) | Intersessionally | £2,000 |
| Aboriginal Whaling Management Procedure (AWMP) and Bowhead Right and Gray Whales Annex E, Annex F | | | | | |
| Greenlandic fisheries and the Greenlandic Research Programme | Work on developing an <i>SLA</i> for Greenlandic fisheries. | 8.2 (D: 4.4), 9.3 | Punt/Steering Group (2) | Intersessionally | £8,000 |
| | Hold a technical meeting to standardise methods and solve technical issues. | 8.2, 9.3 (D:11) | Steering Group (1) | Intersessionally | |
| | Plan for a full workshop on Greenlandic fisheries to review results of work and ensure that the SWG and thus Committee will be in a position to make management recommendations in 2009. | 8.2, 9.3, (D: 11), 22 | Steering Group (1) | Intersessionally-Copenhagen | |
| Humpback whales off St. Vincent and the Grenadines | Maintain archive of genetic samples. | 9.7.1 (D: 7.1) | Palsbøll | ongoing | |
| Bowhead whales | Prepare a paper on issues arising out of the bowhead whale <i>Implementation Review</i> (DAA and genetic issues). | 8.3 (D: 8.1) | Donovan, George | Intersessionally | |
| Gray whales | Submit papers under the DAA for the 2009 gray whale <i>Implementation Review</i> . | 9.2.2 (D:9) | Scientific Committee | By 28 Feb 2009 | |
| Whale Stocks (IA, IANP) Annex G, G1 | | | | | |
| SOWER cruises | Provision of funds to support the 2008/09 SOWER cruise. | 10.5.2 (G: 5.3, App.2), 22 | Steering Group (12) | 2008/09 season | £67,700 |
| | Complete the planning of the 2008/09 SOWER cruise. | 10.5.2, (G: 5.3, App2), 22 | Steering Group (15) | Intersessionally-Tokyo | (Included in funding above) |
| | Report to the planning meeting information on possible satellite tagging options and the appropriateness of using these tags on minke whales. | 10.5.2 (G: 5.3, App. 2) | Gales, Ensor | Intersessionally-Tokyo | |
| | Analyse survey data and incorporate 2007/08 data into and maintain IWC-DESS. | 10.5.2 (G: 5.3), 22 | Burt | Prior to planning meeting (above), September 2008 | £10,000 |

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|--|---|---|---|---|---------|
| | Develop plans to commemorate the 30 years of the IWC-IDCR/SOWER cruises. Undertake analyses, including consideration of the use of mark-recapture methods and sighting surveys. | 10.5.1 10.5.2 (G: App.2) | Steering Group (14) Bravington | Intersessionally Prior to planning meeting (above), September 2008 | |
| Estimating abundance of Antarctic minke whales | Refine the specific diagnostics for testing abundance estimation methods. Organise a Workshop (if necessary) to resolve issues with respect to new methods and abundance estimates. Consider suggestions for reasons for differences between CPII and CPIII abundance estimates. Update table on possible hypotheses for differences between CPII and CPIII abundance estimates. | 10.1.1.2 (G: 6.2.2) 10.1.1.4 (G: 6.1.4), 22 10.1.2 (G: 6.2) 10.1.2 (G:6.2) | Working Group (11) Steering Group (13) Working Group (9) Working Group (9) | Intersessionally Intersessionally- St. Andrews Intersessionally Intersessionally | £8,000 |
| Estimating trends in abundance of Antarctic minke whales | (1) Continue ADAPT-VPA and integrated statistical catch-at-age analyses work. | 10.1.3.1.1 (G: 6.3.1, App. 3), 22 | Working Group (10), especially Punt | Intersessionally | £2,000 |
| Evaluating ageing errors for Antarctic minke whales | Ask a number of aging experts to conduct a calibration experiment in order to quantify age reading errors. Update IWC database after being supplied with data on coding errors in aging data. | 10.1.3.1.1 (G: 6.3.2, App. 4), 22 10.1.3.1.1 (G:6.3.2) | Lockyer, Japanese Scientists Japanese Scientists, Secretariat | Intersessionally- Japan Intersessionally | £10,000 |
| J-stock WNP common minke whales | Incorporate distance and angle experimental data into the analyses in SC/60/NPM2. Analyse data from Korean surveys in sub-area 6 in as consistent a manner possible to investigate trends in abundance over time. Reanalyse data in SC/60/NPM5 using vessel as a factor rather than pooling data over vessel. Plan sighting survey in the East Sea in April/May 2009. | 10.6.2 (G1: 5.2) 10.6.2 (G1: 5.2) 10.6.2 (G1: 5.2) 10.6.2 (G1: 5.3) | Researchers Researchers Researchers Working Group (16) | Intersessionally Intersessionally Intersessionally April/May 2009 then at SC/61 | |

| Other Southern Hemisphere Whale Stocks (SH) Annex H | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| Humpback whales | Compile all available information that might clarify stock structure within BSB. | 10.2.1 (H: 2.3.2) | Working Group (6) | Intersessionally | |
| | Collect and report data that will contribute to the understanding of the population structure of BSC. | 10.2.1.2.1 (H: 2.4) | Working Group (6) | Intersessionally | |
| | Plan and convene a workshop on modelling methodologies for mixing and substructure of humpback whale populations. | 10.2 (H: 5.1), 22 | Steering Group (7) | Intersessionally | £10,000 |
| | Develop additional humpback whale assessment models. | H:5.2, 22 | Holloway | 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. | 10.2.2.2.4 (H: 2.6) 22 | COA | Ongoing | £6,600 |
| Blue whales | Locate the most important outstanding photographs taken during three recent cruises in Area V (2001/02, 2002/03, 2003/04). | 10.3.1.2 (H: 3.1.2) | Secretariat | Intersessionally | |
| | Incorporate blue whale photographs collected by JARPA into the collection described in SC/60/SH29. | 10.3.1.2 (H: 3.1.2) | Japanese Scientists | Intersessionally | |
| | Compute abundance estimates using data from Chilean blue whale catalogue. | 10.3.1.2 (H: 3.1.2) | Researchers | Intersessionally | |
| | Establish a web-based catalogue of blue whale photographs. | 10.3.4 (H: App.6), 22 | Galletti | Intersessionally | £7,800 |
| Bowhead, Right and Gray Whales (BRG) Annex F | | | | | |
| Southern right whales | Plan an assessment of Southern right whale populations. | 10.4.4 (F: 6.3.4) | Working Group (5) | Intersessionally | |
| Telemetry | Discuss telemetry and its potential effects on whales in preparation for a joint session of IA/BRG/SH at SC/60. | 10.7.2 | Steering Group (4) | Intersessionally | |
| Stock Definition (SD) Annex I | | | | | |
| Testing of Spatial Structure Models (TOSSM) | Employ a specialist programmer to work full-time on TOSSM (extension from 2008/09). | 11.1 (I: 3.4, App.3), 22 | Martien + Steering Group (18) | Intersessionally | £17,000 |
| | Oversee development of simulations and testing of methods. | 11.1 (I: 3.3) | Steering Group (18) | Intersessionally | |
| DNA issues | In relation to DNA data quality, produce a report considering experimental design, procedure, data presentation and assessment of error rates. | 11.1 (I: 2) | Working Group (19) | Intersessionally | |
| | Develop guidelines for analysis of DNA. | 11.1 (I: 2) | Working Group (20) | Intersessionally | |
| | Update JCRM guidelines to include advice on reporting genetic errors. | 11.1, 25 | Baker/Secretariat | Intersessionally | |

| Environmental Concerns (E) Annex K | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| State of the cetacean environment report | Compile and produce draft report. | 12.5 (K: 9, 12.3), 22 | Working Group (24) | Intersessionally | £2,000 |
| POLLUTION 2000+ | Hold a scoping Workshop to consider <i>inter alia</i> validation and critical assessment of biopsy techniques with application to large whale species as selected for study during Phase II. | 12.3 (K: 8.1, App.4), 22 | Steering Group (25) | Intersessionally | £1,000 |
| Climate change | Plan and convene the 2 nd Workshop on climate change. | 12.2, (K: 7, App.2), 22 | Steering Group (23) | Intersessionally-Siena | £22,500 |
| Cetacean emerging and resurging diseases | Produce standardises protocols for assessing skin diseases in cetaceans. | 12.1 (K: 6, 8.1) | Working Group (26) | Intersessionally | |
| | Compile and maintain a list of labs and experts for specific or general diagnostic capabilities by country, continent and/or region. | 12.4 (K: 6, 8.1) | Working Group (26) | Intersessionally | |
| Ecosystem Modelling (EM) Annex K1 | | | | | |
| CCAMLR/IWC Workshop | Continue planning for and convene the joint Workshop on modelling Antarctic krill predators. | 13.1 (K1: 1.2) | Joint Steering Group (28) | Intersessionally-Tasmania | |
| | Coordinate a summary of and access to the SO-GLOBEC data series. | 13.1 (K1: 1.3.1) | Tynan, Zerbini | Prior to workshop | |
| Small Cetaceans (SM) Annex L | | | | | |
| Franciscana | Continue efforts to study franciscanas in the Bibitonga Bay estuary. | 14.2.3 (L: 7.3) | Cremer, Lopes | ongoing | |
| Boto | Take immediate steps to stop the hunt of botos and provide information on progress in this regard. | 14.2.4 (L: 7.4) | Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela | Intersessionally | |
| Abundance estimates | Provide an updated analysis of abundance estimates for offshore European Atlantic waters. | 14.2.8 (L: 9) | Macleod et al (authors of SC/60/O2) | Intersessionally | |
| List of cetacean species | Change the scientific name for Longman's beaked whale from <i>Mesoplodon pacificus</i> to <i>Indopacetus pacificus</i> . | 14.4.1 (L: 8.1) | Secretariat | Intersessionally | |
| | Add the preferred IWC common name 'Guiana dolphin' for <i>Sotalia guianensis</i> . | 14.4.2 (L: 8.1) | Secretariat | Intersessionally | |

| Whalewatching (WW) Annex M | | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------|
| Large-scale whalewatching research | Hold a Steering Group meeting to finalise proposal for large-scale whalewatching experiment. | 15.1 (M: 5), 22 | Advisory Group (31) | Intersessionally- Aberdeen | £3,000 |
| 'Swim-with' programmes | Further develop questionnaire to assess the extent and potential impact of swim-with-whale operations. | 15.4.3 (M: 8.3) | Working Group (33) | Intersessionally | |
| Platforms of opportunity | Identify data sources from platforms of opportunity of potential value to the Scientific Committee. | 15.4.2 (M: 8.2, 9.1) | Working Group (32) | Intersessionally | |
| DNA (DNA) Annex N | | | | | |
| Validation of sequences | Conduct a second round of sequence assessment for species assignment of baleen whales deposited in <i>GenBank</i> in 2007. | 16.2 (N: 6), 22 | Ross, Working Group (17) | Intersessionally | £2,500 |
| Scientific Permits (SP) Annex O, P | | | | | |
| Reviewing permits | Identify experts for and convene a JARPN II review workshop. | 17.2 (P), 22 | Bjørge, Donovan, Zeh, Bannister, Reilly, DeMaster | Intersessionally- Japan | £15,000 |
| Other | | | | | |
| SC document submission | Include information on the IWC workshop noting that papers considering anything else other than priority topics will probably not be addressed at next year's meeting. | 20.1 | Secretariat | Intersessionally | |
| Working methods | Create a reference document summarising the overall structure and working practices of the Committee and, if appropriate, suggest possible improvements. | 23 | Donovan, Hammond | Intersessionally | |
| | Circulate agendas in as far in advance as possible and make it clear which items will be discussed in pre-meeting meetings. | 23 | Secretariat, Convenors | Intersessionally | |
| | Consider the approach of SC/60/O17 when developing agendas for SC/60 | 23 | Convenors | Intersessionally | |
| JCRM | Pursue possibility of making JCRM papers available on a pay-per-download basis. | 24 | Secretariat | Intersessionally | |