

Result of the International Whaling Commission's Scientific Committee (SC) review of the proposal for a New Scientific Whale Research Program in the Antarctic Ocean (NEWREP-A)

## 1 Japan's response to the SC

Japan reported the result of additional work regarding the reasonableness of lethal sampling and sample size which it considered to be the highest priority among the expert panel's recommendations made in April.

## 2 Results of discussions at the SC

### (1) Overview

They indicated the followings;

- (i) The SC agrees that substantial progress has been made on several of the recommendations.
- (ii) Preliminary results of the additional work indicates collection of age data will reduce uncertainty in estimates of future recruitment.
- (iii) Additional analysis of the statistical power of sample size calculations was conducted generally following the approach suggested by the Panel.

While they pointed out the followings;

- (iv) Results of this analysis were incomplete which precluded a full review.
- (v) The result of (i) (ii) and (iii) does not demonstrate whether the proposed research is likely to lead to substantial improvements in conservation and management of cetaceans.
- (vi) The estimated sample sizes are likely to be too small to achieve the desired levels of statistical power.

### (2) Result of the SC review in relation to each item of Resolution 2014-5

- (i) The SC pointed out shared views shown in the attachment.
- (ii) Devided views were written as some members concluded that the commencement of the research (lethal sampling) in the 2015/2016 season was not justified while other members concluded that there was no reason to postpone immediate implementation of the program.
- (iii) Despite the lack of consensus in the SC's responses to the questions in Resolution 2014-5, the SC agreed that additional work should be reviewed again next year.

## 3 Future responses

Japan will continue necessary work on items agreed by the SC (refer to the attachment) and will explain, in particular, the objective basis regarding the reasonableness of lethal sampling and sample sizes.