

## PROTEST AGAINST JAPAN'S WHALING ACTIVITIES

### To the Government of Japan

The international society has long ago recognised that Cetaceans belong to the whole world and not merely a few countries undertaking whaling. This is why cetaceans are under the protection of UN agreements such as CITES and CMS, and whale sanctuaries have been adopted by IWC under the auspices of International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.

Since 1986 the IWC (International Whaling Commission) has implemented a moratorium on commercial whaling, a moratorium, which Japan has chosen not to respect. Japan continues whaling, referring to scientific research. This whaling is ongoing in the Northern Pacific, threatening the survival of the endangered J-stock of Minke whales. This year Japan has decided to take 120 Minke whales in the sea close to Kushiro, which will put the J-stock under an even higher threat. Japan also undertakes whaling in the Antarctic Whale Sanctuary. After decades of research there Japan still is claiming the need to kill whales for scientific purposes.

Japan is pressuring IWC to reopen commercial whaling and allow for quotas in the Antarctic Sanctuary and the North West Pacific. In addition Japan is each year taking several thousands and up to 20.000 cetaceans, which are covered but not yet regulated by IWC.

Whaling cannot be undertaken in a humane manner. According to information from Japan 60% of the whales taken in the Antarctic waters do not die instantly.

### We request:

- 1) Modern management of wild animals, including cetaceans, today can be undertaken using none-lethal methods. These methods must be used by Japan for any future scientific cetacean research.
- 2) Stop all forms of whaling in the Antarctic Sanctuary, without further delay.
- 3) Japan is taking or planning to take populations and species of whales and cetaceans, which are endangered according to IUCN or the IWC Scientific Committee. Such takes are unacceptable and must be stopped.
- 4) IWC in 1992 agreed on a mathematical model, the RMP, with a tuning of 0.72 to be used for setting quotas for any future sustainable whaling. Japan is requested to respect this decision by IWC and the need to use this model for setting eventual future quotas.

### The request is send on behalf of the following Danish NGO's

The Danish Nature Conservation Society

The Wild Dolphins

DOSO (the association of 17 Animal Welfare Organisations, covering a membership of 100.000)

WWF

Society for the Conservation of Marine Mammals

Friends of the Animals

Society for the Conservation of Marine Mammals

Yours sincerely,

Peter Mollerup, President for Friends of the Animals

