

obtained by legislation. The Government of France is prepared to accede to the Principal Agreement subject to certain reservations affecting land stations, which are dealt with later in this Act. Towards the end of the proceedings of the Conference the Japanese Delegation informed the Conference that their Government was prepared to take the necessary legislative and other measures to enable them to accede to the Principal Agreement and the Protocol after an interval of a year subject to a reservation in respect of the first paragraph of Article 3 of the Protocol. The Japanese Government is also prepared to observe the principles of the present Agreement as nearly as possible in the meantime. There is no information at present available as to the attitude of Portugal and the Government of Newfoundland has reserved its decision.

4. The necessary majority required by Article 21 of the Principal Agreement for the extension of its duration after the 30th June, 1938, has been secured.

5. The Conference took note of the fact that, according to the statistics of the catch of the last Antarctic season, the opinion expressed in paragraph 2 of the Final Act of the Conference of 1937, that the Principal Agreement was likely to go far in maintaining the stock of whales, had not been justified by the event, inasmuch as the actual number of whales killed (approximately 44,000) and the number of barrels of oil produced (approximately 3,250,000) respectively, some 10,000 and 600,000 in excess of the corresponding figures for the previous season.

6. The Conference had also before it a Resolution of the Whaling Committee of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, which met in Copenhagen on the 23rd May, 1938, in the following terms:—

„The Committee, viewing with alarm the evident decline of the stock of Blue Whales, is of opinion that nothing less than a limitation of the total amount of whale oil which may be taken in any

melser. Den franske Regering er rede til at tiltræde Hovedoverenskomsten med visse i denne Slutprotokol senere omtalte Forbehold vedrørende Landstationer. Henimod Konferencens Slutning meddelte den japanske Delegation Konferencen, at den japanske Regering var rede til at tilvejebringe fornøden Lovhjemmel og til at træffe andre Foranstaltninger for at muliggøre Tiltrædelse af Hovedoverenskomsten og Protokollen efter 1 Aars Forløb under Forbehold med Hensyn til Protokollens Artikel 3, Stk. 1. Den japanske Regering er ligeledes rede til i Mellemtiden saavidt muligt at overholde Principperne i den nuværende Overenskomst. Der foreligger for nærværende ingen Meddelelse med Hensyn til Portugals Holdning, og Regeringen i New Foundland har forbeholdt sig sin Afgørelse.

4. Den Majoritet, der ifølge Hovedoverenskomstens Artikel 21 er nødvendig for Overenskomstens Forlængelse udover den 30. Juni 1938, er blevet sikret.

5. Konferencen tog paa Grundlag af Statistikken for Fangsten under den sidste antarktiske Sæson den Kendsgerning til Efterretning, at den i Stykke 2 i Slutprotokollen for Konferencen af 1937 udtrykte Anskuelse, at Hovedoverenskomsten sandsynligvis vilde faa stor Betydning for Bevarelse af Hvalbestanden, ikke er blevet retfærdiggjort, idet Antallet af dræbte Hvaler (omtrent 44 000) og Antallet af producerede Tønder Olie (omtrent 3 250 000) var henholdsvis ca. 10 000 og 600 000 over de tilsvarende Tal for den foregaaende Sæson.

6. Konferencen havde ligeledes faaet forelagt følgende Resolution fra Hvalfangst-udvalget under Det internationale Raad for Havundersøgelser, som traadte sammen i København den 23. Maj 1938:

„Udvalget, som med Bekymring har konstateret den aabenbare Aftagen i Bestanden af Blaa-hvaler, er af den Formening, at intet mindre end en Begrænsning af den samlede Mængde Hvalolie,