

## Bilag 2

**Report of the Technical Committee Working Group on Humane Killing (IWC/38/19)**

That animals must be driven out again if certain minimum conditions are not met. Rules governing the conduct of the catch (p. 25-6) were more easily enforced and people could more easily be taken to court. Sheriffs could close the whaling district if enough meat is provided.

20. Clarification was sought as to the status of Mr. Jordan's paper »The Pilot Whale Drive Fishery in the Faroese Islands - Humane Killing Considerations« (TC/38/HK3). Dr. Gambell explained that the IWC often asked for papers from Working Group members to acquire information. Because a hunt did not take place while he was in the Faroes, Jordan was unable to see a grind (hunt) and it was therefore impossible to give a professional veterinary opinion. However, as his paper indicates he was able to make professional assessments on the basis of information obtained from the three local veterinarians, a sheriff, a Grindforeman and many others and from viewing films.

21. Denmark was asked if the seven bays which it had been proposed should be closed to the hunt due to lack of beaching opportunities had been closed. Denmark explained that only three of these bays had beaching problems, namely Torshavn, Vestmanna and Tindholmur. Tindholmur had been closed and at Vestmanna the foreman and the local sheriff had felt that hunts there could not meet the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act. The Torshavn foreman had felt, however, that they could beach up to 200 whales and had done so in Autumn 1985.

22. Denmark was also asked if it was willing to agree to IWC observers being present at future hunts. Denmark said that they were,

but wondered why the Faroes were being singled out for such observation and made to set a precedent. Australia pointed out that IWC observers were common, not unusual, and that their observation of the hunt set no precedent. *Denmark responded that one difference was that they did not accept the IWC as a regulatory body for small cetaceans.* In the course of the discussion Denmark commented that of course the drive was open for all to see.

23. Concern was expressed at the use of the gaff in this hunt, on the basis that it could not be painless. Denmark responded that the gaff was used to hold the animals still in order to despatch them quickly. Some countries stated the view that the use of the gaff resulted in the whole whaling operations being cruel, independent of the humaneness or otherwise of the killing method used. Concern was also expressed about the use of the spear to herd animals to shore. Denmark said that only one whale was spurred on with the spear and explained that this was done in order to make whales beach more quickly. Denmark expressed concern that its hunt was being considered as inhuman even though the time to death is often quicker than that associated with the use of explosive harpoons. In response, it was said that the length of time during which the animals were stressed to time of kill is too long to be humane. Australia stated that it considered all whaling to be inherently inhumane but it believes efforts can be made and have been to reduce the level of inhumaneness.

24. It was suggested by the Seychelles that other films of pilot whales kills had been similar to the one shown today.