

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL

38TH MEETING

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)

16 FEBRUARY 2005

DOCUMENT IRP-38-15

ELECTION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

Elections for the non-governmental members of the IRP will take place during the next several months, before the next meeting of the Panel in June. The procedure for electing the non-governmental members is spelled out in Annex VII of the AIDCP. Specifically, the Agreement states that:

3. The non-governmental members shall have a two-year term of membership, starting at the first meeting of the IRP immediately after their election.
4. The non-governmental members will be elected in accordance with the following procedure:
 - a. Prior to the expiration of the term of a non-governmental member, the relevant non-governmental organizations may present candidates' nominations 60 days before the expiration of the term to the Director. A *curriculum vitae* should accompany each nomination. The current non-governmental members may be nominated for additional periods.
 - b. Once the nominations are received, the Director shall transmit them in writing to the Parties within 10 days. The Parties should send their votes to the Director within 20 days of the transmittal of the nominations by the Director. In this election, the three nominees from each non-governmental sector who receive the most votes shall be elected; the nominee who receives the fourth largest number of votes shall be designated the alternate member. In the case of a tie, the Director should solicit a new vote from the Parties to determine the member and the alternate.

The current non-governmental members of the Panel began their service with the 33rd IRP meeting in Antigua, Guatemala, on 18 June 2003. Thus, the nominations must be received by 18 April. The Secretariat will send out a reminder regarding this at the beginning of March.

The Secretariat will transmit the nominations to the Parties for voting on 28 April, and the voting must be completed by 18 May. The Secretariat will report the results of the voting to the Parties and to all of the candidates immediately thereafter. The election will thus be complete approximately one month before the AIDCP meetings. If a tie should occur, the precedent of 2003 will be followed, and a vote will be taken at the beginning of the IRP meeting in June.