

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE REGULATION OF WHALING

The Governments whose duly authorized representatives have subscribed hereto,

Recognizing the interest of the nations of the world in safeguarding for future generations the great natural resources represented by the whale stocks;

Considering that the history of whaling has seen overfishing of one area after another and of one species of whale after another to such a degree that it is essential to protect all species of whales from further overfishing;

Recognizing that the whale stocks are susceptible of natural increases if whaling is properly regulated, and that increases in the size of whale stocks will permit increases in the numbers of whales which may be captured without endangering these natural resources;

Recognizing that it is in the common interest to achieve the optimum level of whale stocks as rapidly as possible without causing wide-spread economic and nutritional distress;

Recognizing that in the course of achieving these objectives, whaling operations should be confined to those species best able to sustain exploitation in order to give an interval for recovery to certain species of whales now depleted in numbers;

Desiring to establish a system of international regulation for the whale fisheries to ensure proper and effective conservation and development of whale stocks on the basis of the principles embodied in the provisions of the Inter-

INTERNATIONAL KONVENTION TIL REGULERING AF HVALFANGST

De regeringer, hvis behørigt bemyndigede repræsentanter har underskrevet nærværende konvention, og

som erkender den interesse, verdens nationer har i, at den store naturrigdom, som hvalbestanden repræsenterer, bevares for fremtidige generationer,

som tager i betragtning, at hvalfangstens historie viser, at der er sket overfiskning af det ene område efter det andet og af den ene hvalart efter den anden i en sådan grad, at det er af afgørende betydning at beskytte alle hvalarter mod yderligere overfiskning.

som erkender, at hvalbestanden vil kunne forøges naturligt, hvis hvalfangsten bliver passende reguleret, og at en forøgelse af hvalbestandens størrelse vil muliggøre en forøgelse af det antal hvaler, der vil kunne fanges uden at bringe denne naturrigdom i fare,

som erkender, at det er i almenhedens interesse at opnå den optimale størrelse af hvalbestanden så hurtigt som muligt, uden at der derved forvoldes omfattende skader af økonomisk og ernæringsmæssig karakter,

som erkender, at hvalfangstoperationerne, inden man når frem til dette mål, bør begrænses til de arter, der bedst tåler udnyttelse, for derved at give visse hvalarter, der nu findes i fåtal, tid til genoprettelse af bestanden,

som ønsker at etablere en ordning til international regulering af hvalfangsten for at sikre en passende og effektiv bevaring og udvikling af hvalbestanden på grundlag af de principper, der er indeholdt i bestemmelserne i den interna-