

Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda

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www.mofa.go.jp/about/emb_cons/mofaserv.html
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Honorable Officials Of Japan:

I respectfully ask Prime Minister Fukuda to work with ministries and agencies toward stopping Japan's whale hunt.

As a member of the International Whaling Commission (IWC), Japan should uphold its pledge to the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary around Antarctica. Yet Japan's whaling fleet headed to the Southern Ocean Sanctuary on November 18, 2007 to slaughter over 1,000 whales — with 50 endangered humpback whales among those targeted.

Japan has killed whales in defiance of international treaty obligations for two decades. Now, despite worldwide disapproval, Japan hunts a species whose numbers have dropped by an estimated 90%. Humpbacks are so threatened, their slaughter is forbidden.

Japan is known for its modern social and industrial perspectives — except in the area of whaling. I urge you to act in accordance with 21st Century conservation policy. Whales are already vulnerable to chemical pollution, seismic and naval sonar, entrapment in nets, ship strikes, habitat loss and other hazards.

Whales are slow breeders with a high infant death rate. Scientific and commercial hunts impede population recovery. To expand Japan's "kill list" with endangered humpbacks is scandalous.

Japan has long exploited IWC's exemption for "scientific whaling." There is no rationale for butchering whales to analyze migration, age, ecology or behavior. Top IWC scientists have repeatedly condemned manipulation of this loophole. Science-based slaughter is a veil for commerce in whale meat. Whale cuisine shows up in Japan's school lunch programs and even dog food.

I encourage Prime Minister Fukuda to lead Japan in the right direction. Abide by IWC rulings and end the whale hunt now.

Thank you,

Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs

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NORWEGIAN EMBASSIES, OTHER COUNTRIES: www.embassyworld.com/embassy/norway1.htm

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Honorable Officials Of Norway:

I respectfully ask you to stop Norway's whale hunt.

Norway, a member of the International Whaling Commission (IWC), should uphold the moratorium on commercial whaling. But like Japan, Norway is criticized for its defiance of international treaty obligations.

I urge you to act in accordance with 21st Century conservation policy. Whales are already vulnerable to chemical pollution, seismic and naval sonar, entrapment in nets, ship strikes, habitat loss and other hazards.

Whales are slow breeders with a high infant death rate. Scientific and commercial hunts impede population recovery. To perpetuate this violence against nature is scandalous.

Please do not exploit IWC's exemption for "scientific whaling." There is no rationale for butchering whales to analyze migration, age, ecology or behavior. Eminent scientists and legal authorities rebuke "scientific whaling" as pointless and illegitimate. Science-based slaughter is a veil for commerce in whale meat.

Moreover, whale hunts are profoundly inhumane. Harpoons explode inside their bodies, shredding internal organs. It can take up to a half or full hour for a whale to die. Some, tied to the side of whaling vessels, suffocate as they thrash about in vain attempts to escape.

Personally, I cannot tour or otherwise support any society that condones senseless brutality against animals. Please abide by IWC rulings and end Norway's whale hunt now.

Thank you,

Ministry of Fisheries in Iceland

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Icelandic Tourist Board

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Honorable Officials Of Iceland:

I understand Iceland suspended its whale slaughter, but intends to renew it in the near future. I respectfully ask you to permanently stop whale hunts.

Iceland, a member of the International Whaling Commission (IWC), should uphold the moratorium on commercial whaling. Like Japan, Iceland has been criticized for its defiance of international treaty obligations in recent years

Environmental organizations and tour operators have stated Icelandic whaling hinders tourism and whale watching. Why risk revenue and project a negative international image?

I urge you to act in accordance with 21st Century conservation policy. Whales are already vulnerable to chemical pollution, seismic and naval sonar, entrapment in nets, ship strikes, habitat loss and other hazards.

Whales are slow breeders with a high infant death rate. Scientific and commercial hunts impede population recovery. To perpetuate this violence against nature is scandalous.

Please do not exploit IWC's exemption for "scientific whaling." There is no rationale for butchering whales to analyze migration, age, ecology or behavior. Eminent scientists and legal authorities rebuke "scientific whaling" as pointless and illegitimate.

Moreover, whale hunts are profoundly inhumane. Harpoons explode inside their bodies, shredding internal organs. It can take up to a half or full hour for a whale to die. Some, tied to the side of whaling vessels, suffocate as they thrash about in vain attempts to escape.

Personally, I cannot tour or otherwise support any society that condones senseless brutality against animals. Please abide by IWC rulings and end Iceland's whale hunt permanently.

Thank you.

The Honorable Representative _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Senators _____
The U.S. Senate, U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative _____ and Senators _____:

On November 18, 2007, Japan's whaling fleet headed to Southern Ocean Sanctuary around Antarctica to slaughter over 1,000 whales — with 50 endangered humpback whales among those targeted.

Japan now hunts a species whose numbers have dropped by an estimated 90%. Commercial slaughter of humpbacks has been forbidden for more than 40 years. I call upon my elected officials to advocate uncompromising U.S. guidance for whale protection in the 21st Century.

As members of the International Whaling Commission (IWC), Japan, Norway and Iceland should uphold the moratorium on commercial whaling. These nations (especially Japan) are criticized for their continuing defiance of international treaty obligations.

Whales are already vulnerable to chemical pollution, seismic and naval sonar, entrapment in nets, ship strikes, habitat loss and other hazards. Whales are slow breeders with a high infant death rate. Scientific and commercial hunts impede population recovery. For Japan to expand its "kill list" with endangered humpbacks is scandalous.

Whaling nations have long exploited IWC's exemption for "scientific whaling." There is no rationale for butchering whales to analyze migration, age, ecology or behavior. Eminent scientists and legal authorities rebuke "scientific whaling" as pointless and illegitimate. In fact, science-based slaughter is a veil for commerce in whale meat.

Moreover, whale hunts are profoundly inhumane. Harpoons explode inside their bodies, shredding internal organs. It can take up to a half or full hour for a whale to die. Some, tied to the side of whaling vessels, suffocate as they thrash about in vain attempts to escape.

The United States needs to let whaling nations know: If you fail to act in accordance with IWC rulings, you face serious consequences. If Japan proceeds without penalty, whale populations and marine ecosystems may never recover. Please help lead the way in whale protection before it's too late.

Thank you,