

AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

RESOLUTION ON FINANCING THE IDCP

10 October 2002

The Parties to the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP):

Recalling the commitment expressed in Article XV of the AIDCP that the Parties shall contribute to the expenses necessary to achieve the objectives of the Agreement, through the establishment and collection of vessel fees;

Noting the deficit in the funding for the International Dolphin Conservation Program in 2002;

Anticipating a further deficit in 2003 and successive years;

Noting the commitment of the Parties to provide to the Secretariat information on the well volume of each vessel as the basis for calculating these fees; and

Recalling the agreement by the 7th Meeting of the Parties to verify, by independent measurement, the information on the well volume of each vessel provided to the Secretariat;

Agree:

1. To use the vessel assessments paid for 2003 to finance the deficit in 2002.
2. At the meeting of the Working Group on Vessel Assessments and Financing in January 2003, to:
 - a. review and determine the services and associated costs necessary to achieve the objectives of the Agreement;
 - b. determine the actions, including adjusting the level of vessel assessments, necessary to eliminate the deficit in 2002 and 2003 and fund the program adequately in future years.
3. That, in accordance with Annex II, paragraph 2, of the AIDCP, the On-Board Observer Program shall cease assigning observers to vessels in 2003 and subsequent years once the funds available for the year are exhausted. Should the funds available for a year prove insufficient due to reasons unforeseen at the time the level of funding for that year was agreed, other options may be considered.
4. To recommend, on the basis of a draft budget prepared by the Secretariat for the meeting of the IRP in January, a budget for the IDCP to the Meeting of the Parties in June of each year.
5. That the Parties and the Secretariat shall continue seeking funding alternatives, and consider, as necessary, cuts in the AIDCP budget, in the short, medium and long term, to address the financial problems affecting the IDCP.