

**Report of the Scientific Committee Working Group to plan NASS-95**  
Copenhagen, 2 February 1995

**1 - 3 Opening procedures**

The Chairman, Finn Larsen, welcomed the participants (Appendix 1) to the third meeting of the Working Group. The agenda as adopted is given in Appendix 2. The Chairman acted as rapporteur.

**4. Review of available documents**

Papers of relevance to the Working Group were SC/3/7, SC/3/9 and SC/NASS-95 WG/WP1. The latter is attached as Appendix 3.

**5. Identification of priority species**

After some discussion on whether the earlier pilot whale abundance estimates could be improved without carrying out a new survey, it was decided to keep pilot whales on the list of priority species.

**6. Area coverage**

*6.1 Areas planned to be covered by national research programmes*

- |                |   |  |
|----------------|---|--|
| Faeroe Islands | - | As given in SC/3/7.  |
| Greenland      | - | Due to other commitments, there will be no Greenlandic participation in NASS-95. |
| Iceland        | - | As given in SC/3/7.  |
| Norway         | - | As given in SC/3/7   |

*6.2 Other areas of interest*

The Working Group noted that for fin and pilot whales, present survey plans do not cover important areas in the southeastern part of the area covered by earlier NASS surveys, i.e. along the British Isles and the Iberian Peninsula. It was also noted that for these species there will be an important lack of coverage in the Northwestern Atlantic, i.e. along West Greenland and Northern North America. The Working Group further noted that for minke whales, present plans do not cover important areas, such as around the British Isles and around Greenland.

*6.3 Coordination of survey effort*

The Working Group agreed that the practical coordination of survey effort would be done by correspondence.