

(Provisional Translation)

November, 2014

Fisheries Agency of Japan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

## **Outline of the Proposed Plan for the New Scientific Whale Research Program in the Antarctic Ocean\***

### **1. Research Title**

NEWREP-A : **N**ew Scientific **W**hale **R**esearch **P**rogram in the **A**ntarctic Ocean

### **2. Research Objectives**

- (1) Improvements in the precision of biological and ecological information for the application of the Revised Management Procedure (RMP) to the Antarctic minke whale.
- (2) Investigation of the structure and dynamics of the Antarctic marine ecosystem through building ecosystem models.

### **3. Research Area**

Latitude: South of 60°S, Longitude: 0° to 120°W (the Management Areas III to VI defined by the International Whaling Commission (IWC)) (Refer to the map attached).

### **4. Research Period**

12 years (2015/06-2026/27, midterm review after the first six years).

### **5. Research Methods**

#### **(1) Lethal Survey**

- a. Whale species: Antarctic minke whales
- b. Sample size: 333 animals

- (a) As there is no other means than lethal methods, at this stage, the use of lethal method is indispensable to obtain age data which is necessary for estimating the age-at-sexual maturity (ASM), which makes considerable contribution to achieving the application of the RMP.
- (b) The sample size is limited to the number required for the estimation of the ASM with sufficient accuracy.
- (c) Data obtained through lethal sampling will be utilized to the maximum extent to develop improved ecosystem models (Main Objective II).

#### **(2) Non-lethal Surveys**

In addition to the non-lethal methods employed by JARPA and JARPA II