



NORTH ATLANTIC MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

TWENTY FOURTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

08 - 11 February 2009, Grand Hotel, Oslo, Norway

DOCUMENT 20 **Outline of the Japanese New Scientific Whale Research Program in the Antarctic NEWREP-A**

Submitted by: Government of Japan

Action requested: Take note of the document.
 Take note of the NAMMCO Scientific Committee comments on the project (see below).

Background: The document will be introduced by the Japanese delegates under point 15 – Any Other Business.

NAMMCO Scientific Committee (SC) at its 22nd meeting was presented with the project, but did not review it. SC makes its report under point 4.1 Progress Reports.

For NEWREP-A, the SC thanked Postene and Kishinouye for their presentation of this ambitious and well-financed programme. Postene explained that main method for age determination would be earplugs, but that the project would also examine the possibility of non-lethal techniques, the role of DNA methylation. They also plan to investigate the acoustic vocalization method using eye lenses.