

The Commissioners of the 47th Annual meeting
of the International Whaling Commission

Wildlife Conservation Philosophy Society of Japan (JWCS)
President Hideo Obara

**Statement regarding the Sanctuary in the Antarctic Ocean
and Japanese research whaling**

Recognizing the unavoidable and urgent necessity of the conservation of the existing natural ecosystem remained on the earth, and in order to stop further deterioration of the natural environment, we herein express our strong intention of supporting the settlement of "the Sanctuary in the Antarctic Ocean".

We undoubtedly believe that the presently on-going 'Research whaling' under the name of 'scientific contribution' be promptly stopped. A science-based research is to be essentially conducted only on the basis of the specific nature which the object creature has. Specially on the researches for the ecological and ethological study of the large-sized mammals population, it is a common recognition among scientists that such research should be performed with the object animal being alive, without killing them.

We regret, therefore, that the request recently submitted from the Japanese authority for the approval of further research whaling and for enlarging their research area seems to involve some unseen purpose other than for a real scientific contribution, which may cause to worsen the international image of Japan. In this sense, too, we as the Japanese scientists and citizens, desire the alteration of the present Japan's researching procedure with harvesting and killing basis.

We, here again, request for more international addressing of this issue, and submit this statement in order to appeal that not all the Japanese and the Japanese scientists, and JWCS does not, support the present policy on whaling being adopted by the Japanese government.