

GREENPEACE

Briefing

February 2007

Financial Grants and Votes for Whaling

Japan's Fisheries Aid and Links with the St. Kitts Declaration

From Feb 13th to 15th in Tokyo, the Japanese government is hosting a so-called "Normalization" Meeting, inviting members of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). This document explores the links between the Japanese government's "Grant Aid for Fisheries (Fisheries Aid)" and the recruitment of countries to the IWC who subsequently vote with Japan.

While it cannot be proved beyond doubt that the Japanese government has used its aid money to get votes in support of its position in the IWC, there is however a strong link between the votes for Japan and the aid money some of the members in the IWC received.

The chart below lists the 33 countries that voted for the St Kitts Declaration in the IWC 2006. We have added the columns titled: "whaling countries"; "the total amount of the Fisheries Aid provided by Japanese government from the 1994 till today", and "the opinion poll data on the resumption of commercial whaling" where the data is available.

We have also added extra columns for the observers at the "Normalization" meeting to be able to easily check which countries participate in this meeting.

Fisheries Aid and the votes for the resumption of commercial whaling

53 countries received 98.4 billion yen (about US\$ 820 million) in Fisheries Aid between 1994 and 2007(Full list is available at the end). To receive this aid, the receiver is required to have a strong friendship/relationship with Japan on fisheries issues. (*1)

22 countries out of the 53 countries that received Fisheries Aid from the FY1994 have received a total amount of 56.4 billion yen (about US\$ 470 million) and voted for the St Kitts Declaration. Only 33 countries have voted for the St Kitts Declaration in total, so this means that two thirds of the countries that voted for the St Kitts Declaration had received Fisheries aid from the Japanese government.

On January 24th 2007, the Japanese government decided to provide 1,285 million yen of Fisheries Aid to the Republic of Kiribati for "the project for Improvement of Fisheries-related Roads in South Tarawa." One week later during his visit in Japan, the Prime Minister of Kiribati indicated he supported Japan on whaling. (*2)

In contrast, a survey conducted by WWF shows that the majority of the people in the Pacific and Caribbean countries don't support the resumption of commercial whaling. This shows how some of the representatives to this "Normalization" meeting do not reflect the opinion of the people in their countries. (*3)

Against this backdrop, it is hard to imagine that the discussion on "normalizing" the IWC can be anything other than a discussion about how to push towards a resumption of commercial whaling.

NOTE: The fact that it is Fisheries Aid grants that are most often used is not accidental. The Japanese Government's policy on whaling cannot be viewed in isolation, but as part of a larger framework involving a perceived right to ensure unlimited access to global marine resources, in particular fisheries. Whaling is inextricably tied to the international fisheries agreements on which Japan is strongly dependent.

KEY:

(W)--Whaling nations

(A)---Aboriginal whaling nations

(B)---Whale meat from by-catches distributed to the market

(G)---These countries have never received Fisheries Aid. However, these are the countries that have received other Grant Aid from the Japanese government. For example, Cambodia joined the IWC in June 2006, and voted for the St Kitts declaration. Then, Cambodia has received 927 million yen from Japan two months later. Mongolia alone has received 70.6 billion yen from Japan from FY2000 to FY2004.

No.	Region	List of the countries who voted for St.Kitts Declaration	Whaling Nations	Fisheries Aid (million yen) <FY1994 - Today> (*4)	Agree to commercial whaling	Participated In this Meeting?	Memo
1	Asia	Japan	(W)		34.5% (*5)		
2		Cambodia		(G)			
3		Korea	(B)				
4		Mongolia		(G)			
5	Africa	Benin		1,431			
6		Cameroon		400			

7		Côte d'Ivoire		1,230			
8		Gabon		1,503			
9		Gambia		1,280			
10		Guinea		3,460			
11		Mali		(G)			
12		Mauritania		4,883			
13		Morocco		6,894			
14		Senegal		3,639			
15		Togo					
16		Europe	Denmark	(A)			
17	Iceland		(W)				
18	Norway		(W)				
19	Russia		(A)				
20	Pacific	Tuvalu		1,444	28%		
21		Kiribati		3,105	40%		
22		Marshall Islands		860	13%		
23		Nauru		(G)			
24		Palau		1,929	13%		
25		Solomon Islands		1,982	14%		
26	Central and South America	Antigua and Barbuda		3,856	14%		

27		Dominica		4,416	40%		
28		Grenada		2,807	40%		
29		Nicaragua		1,595			
30		St Kitts and Nevis		1,565	48%		
31		St Lucia		4,256	30%		
32		St Vincent and the Grenadines	(A)	2,817			
33		Suriname		1,111			
		Others					

Sources:

- (*1) Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan, "Grant Aid for Fisheries, Overview and History"
http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/shiryo/hakusyo/01_hakusho/ODA2001/html/siryousr30106.htm
- (*2) Prime Minister of Japan and his cabinet HP
<http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/abepphoto/2007/02/01Kiribati.html>
- (*3) "WWF survey on attitudes towards commercial whaling in the Caribbean and the Pacific", 2006
<http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwfresearchsurveycommercialwhaling.pdf>
- (*4) Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan, ODA section
<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/index.html>
"JAPAN'S 'VOTE CONSOLIDATION OPERATION' AT THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION" June, 2006; Third Millennium Foundation Inc.
http://www.ifaw.org/ifaw/dimages/custom/2_Publications/Whales/IWC/VB_REPORT_2006_FINAL_VERSION.pdf
- (*5) Nippon Research Center Ltd. "Opinion Poll on Scientific Whaling" June, 2006
http://www.greenpeace.or.jp/press/reports/q_whaling_jpn.pdf

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JAPANESE FISHERIES GRANT AID AGREEMENTS FY 1994-2006

(Unit: Million Yen)

No.	Countries that have received the Fisheries Grand Aid since FY1994	Members of IWC	Voted for St Kitts Declaration in 2006 IWC	Joined IWC in	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
1	Algeria															106	488	594
2	Antigua and Barbuda	Yes	Yes	1982				1,280			857	798		168	753			3,856
3	Benin	Yes	Yes	2002	382									762	287			1,431
4	Cameroon	Yes	Yes	2005											400			400
5	Cape Verde								705	671		980	513					2,869
6	Chile	Yes		1979	471	696												1,167
7	Cote d'Ivoire	Yes	Yes	2004	752	478												1,230
8	Dominica	Yes	Yes	1992	559	570			510			1,114	1,663					4,416
9	Dominican Republic										594							594
10	Ecuador				459													459
11	Egypt						1,256	582	544									2,382
12	El Salvador				327													327
13	Eritrea					303	935											1,238
14	Fiji														577			577
15	Gabon	Yes	Yes	2002							721			467	315			1,503
16	Gambia	Yes	Yes	2005						398		882						1,280
17	Ghana				691		65	806	892									2,454
18	Grenada	Yes	Yes	1993	299	502			605				1,401					2,807
19	Guinea	Yes	Yes	2000	465				899			881	810				405	3,460
20	Guinea-Bissau				441				731									1,172
21	Honduras						576											576
22	India	Yes		1981				1,248										1,248
23	Indonesia										632							632
24	Jamaica							364										364
25	Kiribati	Yes	Yes	2004	224	209				648					739		1,285	3,105
26	Marshall Islands	Yes	Yes	2006		453					407							860
27	Madagascar				717	335					702							1,754
28	Malawi							767										767
29	Mauritania	Yes	Yes	2003	865	1,146			608	688	973	603						4,883
30	Mauritius				714								779					1,493
31	Micronesia				116	216	1,258		230	746	459							3,025
32	Morocco	Yes	Yes	2001	864	755	671	1,086	549	1,114		1,121	515	219				6,894
33	Mozambique							770	423	1,133								2,326
34	Nicaragua	Yes	Yes	2003	398											1,197		1,595
35	Oman	Yes		1980							683							683
36	Panama	Yes		2001									449					449
37	Palau	Yes	Yes	2002		190	303		368			487				581		1,929
38	Peru	Yes		1979			1,379										1,320	2,699
39	Samoa															707		707
40	Senegal	Yes	Yes	1982				728		1,012	535	712			652			3,639
41	Seychelles				201	262		452			576							1,491
42	Solomon Islands	Yes	Yes	1993	224	785									973			1,982
43	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center		(not country)										1,012					1,012
44	Sri Lanka				212					389	472							1,073
45	Suriname	Yes	Yes	2004		294											817	1,111
46	St Kitts and Nevis	Yes	Yes	1992							381	567				617		1,565
47	St Lucia	Yes	Yes	1981	388	527		1,015	1,008			1,318						4,256
48	St Vincent and the Grenadines	Yes	Yes	1981		731			776					755			555	2,817
49	Tanzania									840	789							1,629
50	Tonga						700											700
51	Tunisia							841				789						1,630
52	Tuvalu	Yes	Yes	2004		543					901							1,444
53	Vietnam				379	331	1,616							873				3,199
	Total				10,148	9,326	8,759	10,670	8,117	7,639	9,682	10,252	8,015	2,371	4,696	3,208	4,870	97,753

Voted for St.Kitts D, but not received Fisheries Aid from Japan
Denmark
Iceland
Korea
Cambodia
Mali
Mongolia
Nauru
Norway
Russia
Togo
Japan

(Source1: JAPAN'S "VOTE CONSOLIDATION OPERATION" AT THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION, June, 2006 Third Millennium Foundation Inc.)

(Source2: Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Web Site)

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	Total Aid	Average Aid
Voted for St.Kitts D	56,463	2,567
Not voted for St.Kitts D	41,290	1,332