



Dear Supporter,

Thank you for your making a stand with us and taking action!

Twenty years after commercial whaling was banned, many whale species still hover on the brink of extinction. But that hasn't stopped Japan from slaughtering hundreds of whales every year in the name of "science."

The Japanese government has been using a loophole in international law to continue commercial whaling under the pretext of research. Last year, they doubled the number of whales they killed in the Southern Ocean, including 853 minke whales and 10 endangered fin whales. Japan also announced plans to start targeting endangered humpbacks - unless we stop them now.

Last season Greenpeace, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the Environmental Investigation Agency targeted the whaling business like we never had before - by going after their bottom line. We traced the largest three shareholder companies in the Japanese whaling fleet to subsidiary companies like Gorton's of Gloucester right here in the U.S. After just 4 months of targeting these businesses, all three companies divested their shares in the Japanese whaling fleet.

This is a tremendous milestone for those who support our effort. But now we're gearing up for the greatest challenge of all - the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting this June. That's where the fate of whales may be decided, because Japan has been buying votes to the tune of billions of Yen, and may have turned enough votes to win the majority and begin the process to declare an end to the ban on commercial whaling.

So we've put together an action pack to help you take action to protect the whales. **But we urge you to join us in taking action right away**, the IWC will meet in only a few days and we really need to make our voice heard.

What can you do?

1. Send faxes, letters and make calls to the Ambassadors of the Marshall Islands, Guatemala and Nicaragua. These are three countries whose support for Japan is undecided. (Contact details and sample letters can be found below).
2. Take online action now at <http://members.greenpeace.org/action/start/103/>
3. E-mail and write to Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoelick. (Contact details can be found below. Use the attached petition to sign up others).
4. Make Origami whales and send them to us, we will deliver them to participants at the IWC meeting.

Ambassadorial contacts

H.E. Mr. Banny de Brum, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Embassy of the Republic of the Marshall Islands
2433 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20008
Fax (202) 232-3236
E-mail: info@rmiembassyus.org
Cc: Jack Niedenthal, President, Majuro Chamber of Commerce
commerce@ntamar.net

H.E. Mr. Salvador Stadthagen
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Embassy of the Republic of Nicaragua
1627 New Hampshire Ave NW
Washington, DC 20009
Fax (202) 939-6542
E-mail: sandradario@embani.org

H.E. Mr. Banny de Brum,
Ambassador of Guatemala to the United States of America
Embassy of the Republic of Guatemala
2220 R Street NW
Washington, DC 20008
Fax (202) 745-1908
E-mail: info@guatemala-embassy.org

State Department contact

Ambassador Robert Zoellick
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520
E-mail: Zoellickrb@state.gov

Ambassadorial Sample Letter

Your Excellency:

I am writing to share my serious concern about a looming threat to our ocean wildlife, and to ask you to do everything in your power to help avert this threat. Next week, the International Whaling Commission (IWC) will meet to decide the fate of the world's whales.

Whales are an important and irreplaceable part of our ocean environment. Just as you are an ambassador of your country, whales' intelligence, grace and beauty make them ambassadors of our increasingly endangered seas. Throughout the twentieth century, however, whales of many species were being driven to extinction by rampant and uncontrolled commercial whaling. The IWC moratorium that brought an end to this whaling was a landmark victory for whales and a foundation of our global ocean legacy.

Events at the 58th meeting of the IWC next week could place both that legacy and the whales themselves, at great risk. A coalition of pro-whaling nations threatens to take over the IWC, undermine its conservation efforts, and endorse the resumption of whale killing on a scale not seen in two decades. Like millions of people in my country and around the world, I care deeply about whales and abhor the resumption of commercial whaling under any guise. I am thus deeply concerned to hear that your country may vote in favor of whaling and against conservation when it joins the Commission this month.

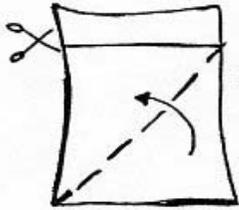
I urge your government to reconsider this decision. Whaling is a brutal and unnecessary practice carried out with little concern for its impacts on whales or their environment. While the global demand for whale meat has dwindled, the global demand for whale watching tours and other whale-related tourism has expanded dramatically. As a country with no whaling industry, but a growing interest in tourism, you stand to benefit far more from saving the whales than from contributing to their deaths.

At the IWC next week, your country can choose to become a friend to whales, or a friend to whalers. I urge you to choose wisely

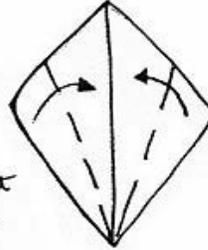
Sincerely,

Please send your completed Origami whales to:
Greenpeace, Oceans Campaign, 702 H Street NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20001

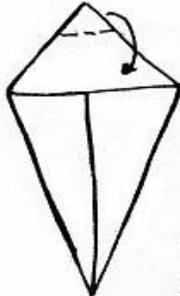
Origami Whale



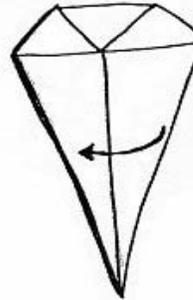
1. First make yourself a square piece of paper by simply folding one corner to the adjacent side. Then cut off the small rectangle on top.



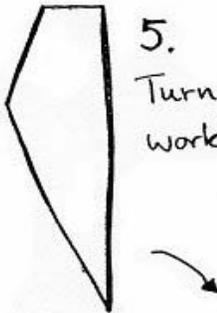
2. Fold left and right sides to meet at the center fold.



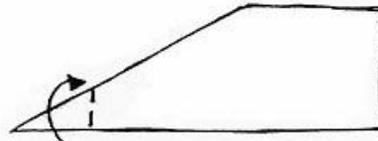
3. your paper should look like an ice-cream cone. Continue by folding the tip over so that it meets the other folds.



4. Fold the right side over, so that it meets with the left side.



5. Turn your work around.



6. Make the tail by folding the end point up.

7. Now you can start being creative: draw eyes, fins or write a message on your whale.

