

ICR internal investigation (Unofficial English translation)

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1. Result of investigation

- 1) The salted unesu, which GPJ has secured from Seino Un-yu Aomori Branch as "evidence" was sent by the processing staff of Nisshinmaru (residence in Hakodate, 52 years of age) to his home. It includes meat that his colleagues asked him to send together, however they were all distributed as "souvenirs" when disembarking from the ship. (note: Kyodo Senpaku purchases whale meat from ICR every year for distributing to the crew members as souvenirs – 8kg of salted unesu and 1.6kg of chopped red meat each)
- 2) The purchasing price of whale meat is usually being decided on completion of ICR's research (June), thus for souvenirs the price is based on the previous year's figure.
- 3) Kyodo Senpaku has conducted an investigation to all crew members who participated in the previous Southern Ocean cetacean research. Findings are as follows:
 - a. The quantity of salted unesu for souvenirs meets the production volume. No unauthorised taking of meat was found.
 - b. Some crew members gave the meat to others.
 - c. No one sold the souvenir meat to retailers or restaurants.

2. Improvement for the future

- 1) The distribution of souvenirs to crews and price-fixing, as stated above, are done in a fair and appropriate way. However, for the purpose of transparency, we will disclose the method and details of distribution.
- 2) With regards to the whale meat for distribution (to crews), Kyodo Senpaku will take sole responsibility on board the ship. Kyodo Senpaku will also send the boxes directly to individuals.
- 3) Purchase of the souvenir meat from crews: the price was based on the previous year's figure, but from now on will make adjustments once the price is fixed.
- 4) For the purpose of preventing resale, in addition to notifying the staff in written form, we will include in the work regulation.