The International Whaling Commission (IWC) was set up under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling in 1946. At their annual meeting the Commission passed a resolution condemning Japan’s whaling programme for scientific research in the Antarctic, which catches nearly 1000 whales per year. The Commission has also been considering aboriginal subsistence whaling. The Commission’s report of the Scientific Committee on the status of a number of large whale stocks, received new information on Antarctic minke whales, North Pacific common minke whales, Southern Hemisphere humpback whales, Southern Hemisphere blue whales and a number of other small stocks of bowhead, right and gray whales. The International Whaling Commission (IWC) has 88 members divided almost evenly between countries that condone whaling and those that favor whale conservation. This situation leads to contentious votes and accusations that decisions are not based on science but on politics, in particular, whether or not a country favors whaling. Article V of the Convention authorizes the Commission to set catch limits for aboriginal subsistence whaling. These limits require a three-fourths majority to pass. The catch limits become effective on the member countries 90 days after notification, unless a country objects. The International Whaling Commission (IWC) and International Seabed Authority (ISA).