



**COMMISSION
EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION**
VENUE: TBA
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**A guideline for safe and live release of encircled cetaceans
during purse seine fishing operation**

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Proposal by Japan

It is sometimes inevitable for cetaceans to be encircled during operations of purse seine. If that happens, in order to avoid mortality of cetaceans, fishermen should make every effort for its safe and live release using the following as a guideline, while taking due consideration of the safety of fishermen.

A guideline for safe and live release of encircled cetaceans

1. Fishermen should avoid encircling cetaceans during purse seine operation.
2. If a cetacean is found in an encircled net, the operation should be suspended immediately and the net should be opened so that the cetacean can escape. The operation can resumed only after the cetacean leaves the net.