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Representatives of the Parties
to the 1973 Agreement
on the Conservation of Polar Bears and Their Habitat

Dear Madams and Sirs,

Attached, please find the report by International Polar Bear Specialist Group to meet the request of the Parties to the 1973 Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears on feed-back on action plan elements and issues.

The Final Report from the "Meeting of the Parties to the 1973 Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears and Their Habitat" (March 2009) requested the following:

Parties request of the PBSG an outline or identification of topics that should be included in all national plans for action. Furthermore, the PBSG should identify elements that could benefit from international cooperation.

An extraordinary workshop of the IUCN/SSC International Polar Bear Specialist Group (PBSG) was hosted by the Norwegian Polar Institute and was held in Oslo from February 8 – 10, 2010 to meet the request of the Parties.

Present at the meeting were members of the PBSG, representing the five polar bear nations. The meeting was chaired by me as Chairman of the PBSG, and was rapporteured by Dr. Rachel Vallender from Environment Canada. Following the meeting the outcome report of the Oslo meeting was reviewed by all members of the IUCN/SSC PBSG. Hence, the present report represents the views held by the entire International Polar Bear Specialist Group.

We have attempted to make the report as concise as possible. Should the representatives of the Parties wish more clarification to any of the points in the report the PBSG is of course more than happy to provide that.

The IUCN/SSC PBSG extends its thanks to Norway for arranging and hosting the workshop and to Canada for offering staff assistance for the meeting.

Erik W. Born

Chairman of the IUCN/SSC PBSG
Senior scientist