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## Foreword

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# **SYMPOSIUM — WHALES AND WHALING: CURRENT PROBLEMS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS**

The following contributions were initially prepared for a joint symposium organized by the Wildlife Law Group of the American Society of International Law and the Denver Journal of International Law and Policy, held at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law at Washington, D.C. in April 1988. We are grateful to the authors and to the Editorial Staff of the Denver Journal of International Law and Policy who have helped in preparation of this special issue, especially the editors who have been more than patient with continuous delays while still maintaining their sanity. The importance of this publication at this time is especially enhanced due to the fact that in 1990 the International Whaling Commission will face the most difficult issue of its life, that is, how to avoid lifting the current moratorium on commercial whaling. Articles in this special issue cover some of the most pressing problems and suggest how best to deal with them. Topics covered deal with the International Whaling Commission, whales right to survival, a conservation approach, the U.S. whaling policy, the Japanese whaling policy and, finally, subsistence whaling. There have been some significant developments since April 1988, especially in the area of U.S.-Norwegian and the U.S.-Icelandic relations. Some of these developments have been added in the revised version of the articles. It is hoped that these articles will provide a broad base for further discussion in the coming years and will be of particular interest to international lawyers, conservationists and government officials who deal with the issue of whales.

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