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Goedgekeur deur Uitvoerende Raad	Approved by Executive Council
Minute No. 501	
14-2-1947	
<i>[Signature]</i>	
Klerk van die Uitvoerende Raad	Clerk of the Executive Council

Kantoor van die Eerste Minister.

Prime Minister's Office.

PRETORIA.

10 DEC 1946

MINUTE NO.....

MINISTERS have the honour to inform His Excellency the Governor-General that an International Whaling Conference was convened in Washington on the 20th November, 1946, the object of which was to consider measures for conserving and developing existing whaling grounds and making regulations applicable to the 1947 - 48 whaling season and subsequent seasons, and to create a commission to facilitate modifications of these regulations from time to time as conditions may require.

MINISTERS have the honour to state, also, that Mr. J. Smit who was deputed to attend the Conference as an Observer Delegate on behalf of the Union Government, signed the final Act only, which does not commit the Union Government in any way.

MINISTERS consider that it is in the interests of the Union Government to become a signatory to the present Agreement and special Protocol which was signed by the following Governments at Washington on the 2nd December, 1946:- Argentine, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

MINISTERS, therefore, have the honour to recommend that His Excellency the Governor-General may be pleased to ratify the signature of the final Act by the Observer Delegate and to authorise Mr. Harry Thomson Andrews, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for the Union of South Africa in Washington, to sign the said Agreement and special Protocol on behalf of the Union Government.

[Signature]

Approved in anticipation of the next meeting of the Executive Council.	By voorbaat goedgekeur in afwagting van die volgende vergadering van die Uitvoerende Raad.
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10th December, 1946.

[Signature]

[Handwritten initials]