

P.M. 1.

Kantoor ban die Eerste Minister Prime Minister's Ottice.

MINISTERS have the honour to inform His Excellency the Governor-General that pending the coming into operation of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling concluded in Washington on the 2nd December, 1946, the Agreement for the Regulation of Whaling signed in London on the 8th June, 1937, as amended by the Protocol signed in London on the 24th June, 1938, is the only permanent effective instrument for the control of international whaling.

MINISTERS have the honour to state that the aforesaid Agreement provides, inter alia, for the period to be determined in any annual season during which baleen whales may be taken or treated by whale catchers and factory ships and that this period has been determined in respect of subsequent seasons by Protocols to the original Agreement and signed on behalf of the various participating Governments.

MINISTERS are informed that similar provision requires to be made in respect of the forthcoming 1948/49 whaling season and that a Protocol embodying substantially the same provisions which governed the extension of the whaling period during the last two seasons, has been prepared and awaits signature.

MINISTERS have the honour to recommend that as it is in the interests of concerted international action in this matter and desirable that the Union of South Africa should become a signatory to this Protocol, His Excellency the Governor-General may be pleased to approve of the said Protocol being signed on behalf of the Union Government by LEIF EGELAND, High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa, London.

D.F. Malan

Approved in anticination of the next meeting of the East tive Council.

- 3 SEP 1948

Frandelan

