



**TERRES AUSTRALES ET ANTARCTIQUES FRANÇAISES
DISTRICT DE TERRE ADÉLIE**

Dumont D'Urville Station, December 18th, 2009

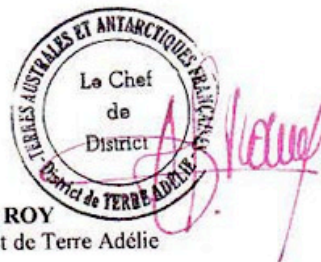
I, undersigned, Marie-France ROY, District Chief of Terre Adélie, confirm the presence of the vessel Steve Irwin of the Seashpherd Conservation Society, in French Territorial Waters.

It has been for the last 48 hours pursued by the vessel Shonan Maru 2, who is tailing close behind.

We have welcomed to day on the Base, Locky Maclean, First Officer and Chris Aultman, Aviation Director, who arrived via Helicopter.

We have proposed that the Steve Irwin position itself near the Vessel Astrolabe located 30nm from the Base.

Furthermore, Mr. the Prefect of the French Austral and Antarctic Lands has noted:
"Our sympathy goes out towards this ship's activities in enforcing the recommendations of the International Whaling Commission".



Marie France ROY
Chef du district de Terre Adélie