



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON THE CONSERVATION OF
MIGRATORY SHARKS**

CMS/Sharks/Outcome 3.9

14 December 2018

3rd Meeting of the Signatories (Sharks MOS3)
Monaco, 10 – 14 December 2018

**PROGRAMME OF WORK (2019-2021)
TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SHARKS**

(This document replaces CMS/Sharks/Outcome 2.6)

**PROGRAMME OF WORK (2019-2021)
TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION OF
MIGRATORY SHARKS**

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
Species Conservation/Habitat Conservation						
1.	Provide support to the implementation of CMS Concerted Action Plans as adopted in CMS/Sharks/Outcome 3.8. The Secretariat, with support from the AC as required, is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – assist the government of the Philippines with the organization of a regional workshop on the conservation of whale sharks in Southeast Asia. – assist the Principality of Monaco with the organization of regional workshops on the conservation of the Angelshark, in particular in the Mediterranean region. 	MOS3 Outcome 3.8	high	2019-2021	SIG SEC CooP AC	Fundraising
2.	Finalize existing species factsheets and draft species factsheets for species newly listed in Annex 1 of the MOU.	MOS3 Outcome 3.12	high	2019	AC	Budget
3.	Further develop and prioritize suggested areas of action as contained in Outcome 3.12 with options by taxa, region, and other relevant factors.	MOS3 Outcome 3.12	high	2019-2021	AC	Budget
4.	Facilitate communication and support Signatories with the identification of regional and local projects.	CP 1.2 SEC TOR	core	2019-2021 ongoing activity	SEC AC	Budget
5.	When instructed by Signatories to do so, identify suitable partners for implementation and manage Funding Agreements for conservation projects.	CP 1.2 CP 1.3 SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC AC	Fundraising
Fisheries Management and data collection (incl. bycatch)						

1 Conservation Plan (CP), Terms of Reference of the Advisory Committee (AC TOR), Terms of Reference of the Secretariat (SEC TOR)

2 Core Secretariat activities and suggested priorities (High, Medium)

3 Year(s) during which activity should be implemented

4 Signatories (SIG), Advisory Committee (AC), Secretariat (SEC), Conservation Working Group (CWS), Consultants, Cooperating Partners (CooP)

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
6.	Encourage collation of those data that are relevant to RFMOs and stock assessments (e.g. fisheries-independent data, historical and traditional data) and promote their dissemination.	CP 2.6 CP 3.2	medium	2019-2021	SIG	Fundraising
7.	Promote research focussing on the identification of species-selective fishing gear and bycatch mitigation measures, with emphasis on those Annex 1 listed species which are known to experience high post release mortality (e.g. sawfish, thresher sharks, hammerhead sharks).	CP 4.5	medium	2019-2021	SIG CooP	Fundraising
8.	Set up a repository for relevant information to assist managers, including species identification, bycatch mitigation and safe handling, discard survival, and other relevant fisheries management information. Encourage Signatories to provide such information to the Secretariat.	MOS3	medium	2019-2021	AC SEC SIG	Budget
9.	Improve, where appropriate, monitoring, implementation and enforcement of relevant spatial management measures.	CP 14.5	medium	2019-2021	SIG	Fundraising
Capacity Building						
10.	Implement the Capacity-building Programme for the MOU as adopted in CMS/Sharks/Outcome 3.6 to assist Signatories with the implementation of the Conservation Plan.	CP 1.1 CP 6.2 SEC TOR MOS3 Outcome 3.6	high	2019-2021	SIG AC SEC CooP	Fundraising
11.	Cooperate with the CMS Family on matters related to shark conservation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contribute to the implementation of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CMS Res. 12.20 on "Management of Marine Debris"; - CMS Res. 12.22 on "Bycatch"; - CMS Res. 12.23 on "Sustainable Tourism and Migratory Species"; - CMS Res. 12.24 on "Promoting Marine Protected Area Networks in the ASEAN Region"; - Contribute to the preparation of CMS COP13⁵ and other relevant meetings of CMS (ScC⁶, StC⁷); - Provide comments on proposals for the inclusion of shark and ray species in the Appendices of CMS to the CMS Scientific Council and Conference of the Parties. 	SEC TOR MOS3	core	2019-2021	SEC AC	Budget

⁵ 13th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory species of Wild Animals

⁶ Scientific Council

⁷ Standing Committee

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
12.	Strengthen synergies and collaborate with CITES ⁸ and FAO ⁹ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Contribute to the implementation of the CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020 regarding sharks and rays; – Include activities on sharks and rays in a new CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme with the CITES Secretariat in consultation with Signatories; – Organize regular meetings (and teleconferences); – Share best practice; – Coordinate conservation activities; – Share knowledge and expertise. 	SEC TOR	high	2019-2021	AC SEC	Budget + Fundraising
13.	Implement the guidance to the Secretariat and the Signatories on their engagement with RFMOs as agreed in CMS/Sharks/Outcome 3.4.	MOS3 Outcome 3.4	high	2019-2021	SIG SEC CooP	Budget
14.	Establish partnerships and strengthen collaboration with other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with shark science, conservation and management.	CP 13.1 CP 14.3 SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
15.	Encourage all Range States to join CMS and become Signatories to the MOU.	CP 16.2	high	2019-2021	SIG SEC CooP	Budget
16.	Liaise with the IUCN Shark SSG and participate in assessment and conservation planning workshops, where relevant.	CP 13.1	high	2019-2021	AC CWG SEC	Budget
Management of the Secretariat						
17.	Manage and implement the budget for the MOU.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
18.	Prepare annual budget implementation reports for the information of the Signatories and project reports to donors.	SEC TOR	core	yearly	SEC	Budget
19.	Inform and raise awareness about the Sharks MOU in accordance with the “Communication and Awareness raising Strategy of the Sharks MOU.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC Consultant	Budget

⁸ CITES – Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

⁹ FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
20.	Prepare publications as required (e.g. domestic legislation, species priorities).	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
21.	Compile information, review data, liaise with stakeholders and provide information to Signatories on the implementation and functioning of the MOU.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
22.	Facilitate and encourage regular information exchange and cooperative activities between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the shark research and conservation community; – stakeholders in all Range States; – Focal Points; – Advisory Committee. 	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
23.	Represent the MOU at meetings of other intergovernmental agreements (e.g. CITES, IUCN, FAO), as appropriate to facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the MOU.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget + Fundraising
24.	Prepare reports of the Secretariat activities for AC and MOS meetings.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
25.	Recruit and manage the staff and interns of the Secretariat.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
Support for Meetings (MOS, AC and WG)						
26.	Undertake meeting arrangements for the 4 th Meeting of the Signatories (MOS4): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify a venue and liaise with the host government; – Develop the draft agenda in consultation with Signatories; – Coordinate, draft and prepare meeting documents, including posting of documents; – Coordinate and prepare translations into 3 languages (English, French and Spanish); – Support and arrange attendance and travel of sponsored delegates and experts; – Handle contracts with interpreters, report writers and other staff, as required; – Organize and prepare media and press work in collaboration with the Joint Communication Team of CMS; – Prepare and publish a report of the meeting. 	SEC TOR	core	2021	SEC	Budget

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
27.	<p>Undertake meeting arrangements for the 3rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify a venue and liaise with the host government; – Develop the draft agenda in consultation with the AC; – Coordinate, draft and prepare meeting documents, including posting of documents; – Support and arrange attendance and travel of sponsored participants and experts; – Handle contracts with interpreters, report writers and other staff, as required; – Organize and prepare media and press work in collaboration with the Joint Communication Team of CMS; – Prepare and publish a report of the meeting. 	SEC TOR	core	2019	SEC	Budget
28.	<p>Undertake meeting arrangements for the 4th Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify a venue and liaise with the host government; – Develop the draft agenda in consultation with the AC; – Coordinate, draft and prepare meeting documents, including posting of documents; – Support and arrange attendance and travel of sponsored participants and experts; – Handle contracts with interpreters, report writers and other staff, as required; – Organize and prepare media and press work in collaboration with the Joint Communication Team of CMS; – Prepare and publish a report of the meeting. 	SEC TOR	core	2020	SEC	Budget
Support of the Advisory Committee						
29.	Assist the Chair of the AC as required to facilitate the work of the Committee and the preparation of meeting documents.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC	Budget
30.	Review the implementation of the Conservation Plan and the Programme of Work and present a report to MOS4. The report should be based on an analysis of National Reports from Signatories, Reports from Cooperating Partners, activities undertaken by the AC and the Secretariat.	SEC TOR	core	2021	SEC	Budget

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
31.	Liaise with non-Signatory Range States to provide them with the necessary information to join the MOU and facilitate accession.	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SEC CooP SIG	Budget
Fundraising / Mobilization of resources						
32.	<p>Identify existing and new opportunities for financial resources to support the long-term implementation of the Conservation Plan and the POW. Expand and enhance fundraising activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a fundraising strategy for the MOU - Raise funds and voluntary annual contributions from Signatories; - Raise funds for joint projects with partners and potential partners; - Explore possibilities of alternative funds (e.g. private sector); - Support funding applications and opportunities for Signatories and Cooperating Partners. 	SEC TOR	core	2019-2021	SIG SEC CooP	Fundraising