



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
ON THE CONSERVATION AND  
MANAGEMENT OF MARINE TURTLES  
AND THEIR HABITATS OF THE INDIAN  
OCEAN AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA**

CMS/IOSEA/AC9/Doc.3  
02 March 2021

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9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
*online*, 15-19 March 2021  
Agenda Item 3

**AC-TASKS OF THE WORK PROGRAMME 2020-2024, WITH PROGRESS UPDATE**

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

Action Requested:

- Note the report and comment

## **AC-TASKS OF THE WORK PROGRAMME 2020-2024, WITH PROGRESS UPDATE**

This document is based on the full Work Programme 2020-2024, as adopted by the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Signatory States in October 2019. Only Measures with a role assigned to the Advisory Committee have been included in this document. The complete Work Programme can be accessed [here](#).

The two columns on the right-hand side have been added to the MOS-agreed Work Programme to indicate the AC Members who volunteered to lead on the AC's activities relating to the different measures, as well as reflect the status of discussions and progress, summarized from the regular calls of the Advisory Committee and Secretariat.

Items relating to agenda items during AC9 have been highlighted.

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
<b>Section 1: Measures that Implement CMP Objectives and Programmes</b>										
<b>Objective 1: Reduce direct and indirect causes of marine turtle mortality</b>										
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Identify and document the threats to marine turtle populations and their habitats</b>									
	5. Identify nesting beaches that are vulnerable to climate change in the IOSEA region, using beach height data, temperature profiles, and distribution maps.	Climate Change	Sigs, AC	<b>High</b>	High	Med	High	High	<b>Baldwin Nel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile list of ideas for academic institutions (see also #42)</li> <li>• Both genetic stocks and individual beaches need investigation</li> <li>• AC to stimulate research (see #42, #102)</li> </ul>
	6. Compile information on the status of on-board observer programmes and the status of marine turtle bycatch recording within those observer programmes and share with the Advisory Committee.	Fisheries Interactions	Sigs, AC	<b>Medium</b>	Med	Low	Low	High	<b>Bourjea Tiwari</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bourjea to summarise information from IOTC</li> <li>• Tiwari to compile information from trusted NGOs</li> <li>• Develop manual for small-scale fisheries (see e.g. #85, #87)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Number of the Programme (indicated by a number) or a specific activity (indicated by a number and a letter) from the CMP

<sup>2</sup> **AC** = Advisory Committee, **Cons** = specialized project consultancy, **Exp** = in-country or external experts, **Fleets** = nations with fleets in the region, **IGO** = Intergovernmental Organizations, **ITWG** = IOSEA Illegal Trade Working Group, **MTTF** = IOSEA Marine Turtle Task Forces, **Nat St** = national stakeholders, **NGO** = Non-governmental Organizations, **NRWG** = IOSEA National Report Working Group, **Res** = research institutions, **RFMO** = Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, **RS** = Range States, **Sec** = Secretariat, **Sigs** = Signatory States, **SRFP** = IOSEA Sub-regional Focal Points

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	8. Collaborate with the Olive Ridley Project by regularly submitting available data and/or linking to existing databases on ghost nets and entanglement of turtles in ghost nets to the online data portal. <sup>3</sup>	Marine Debris, Cooperation	Sigs, AC	<b>Medium-Low</b>	Med	Low	Low	Med		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec to promote collaboration on website with guidance</li> <li>• Ask ORP to identify countries to target specifically</li> </ul>
	9. Establish and/or continue a reliable nesting beach monitoring programme <sup>4</sup> for nesting and hatching, with a specific focus on suitable index sites for each species (e.g. taking into account gaps identified in the species assessments). Ensure that data are standardized.	Nesting Sites	Sigs, AC	<b>High</b>	Very high	High	High	High	<b>Whiting Tiwari Miller</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify monitoring gaps at stock level from Species Assessments and National Reports</li> <li>• Develop questionnaire for Sigs on data collection on the ground</li> <li>• Provide guidance to Sigs on gaps and why/how to close them</li> <li>• Linked with task #15</li> </ul>
	10. Provide input to the CMS Scientific Council review of relevant scientific information on conservation and threats to marine turtles, such as climate change and sky glow, and to the development of corresponding recommendations.	Climate Change, Light Pollution, Cooperation	AC, Sec	<b>Medium</b>	Med	Med	High	-		
	12. Send out the draft Hawksbill Assessment to other experts in the region for their comments and provide a final report to the Secretariat <b>by 30 June 2020</b> for publishing.	Species: Hawksbill	AC	<b>High</b>	High	High	-	-	<b>Limpus Hamann</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 4)</b></li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> <https://oliveridleyproject.org/report-a-ghost-net>

<sup>4</sup> Signatories in the NWIO sub-region to consult PERSGA manuals (available [here](#))

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	13. Initiate the next species assessment for Olive Ridley Turtles with a view to tabling a draft at IOSEA MOS9.	Species: Olive Ridley	AC	High	Med	High	High	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 21)</li> </ul>
	14. Prepare a brief document on the conservation status of Flatback Turtles with a view to tabling a draft at IOSEA MOS9.	Species: Flatback	AC	Low	Low	-	-	-	Whiting	
1.2	<b>Determine and apply best practice approaches to minimising those threats to marine turtle populations and their habitats</b>									
	15. Develop guidelines on the management of beaches for successful hatchling production, including management of hatcheries if and when required <sup>5</sup> . The Advisory Committee to provide these documents to the Secretariat <b>by 31 October 2020</b> for circulation to the Signatories for their comments within two months. The Secretariat to circulate to Signatories the final proposals for intersessional adoption by correspondence in order to enable their use in the run-up to MOS9.	Hatcheries Nesting Sites	AC, Sec	High	High	High	Low	-	<b>Nel Tiwari (support Limpus, Miller)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop objectives and scope, circulate to AC for comments</li> <li>Review available manuals (compilation by Miller available on Teams)</li> <li>Draft guidelines for AC review</li> <li>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 16)</li> </ul>
	16. Organize workshops to disseminate best practice information for the management of hatcheries. Secretariat to invite countries to nominate to participate in the training.	Hatcheries	Sigs, AC, Sec	Medium	High	Low	High	Low		
	17. Provide input to the CMS Scientific Council development of draft tourism guidelines and recommended code of conduct for operators on recreational in-water interactions with CMS-listed species.	Tourism, Cooperation	AC, Sec	Medium	Med	High	Low	-		

<sup>5</sup> Relates also to CMP Programme 1.6 Develop nesting beach management programmes to maximize hatchling recruitment

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	18. Utilize the <i>Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife Including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds</i> <sup>6</sup> nationally and engage with CMS in any further work to be done on the subject. Ensure that the document reaches the relevant authority/department.	Light Pollution, Cooperation	Sigs, AC, Sec	High	High	High	Low	High		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AC to flag new studies and guidance</li> <li>Sec to make prominent on website</li> </ul>
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Implement programmes to correct adverse economic incentives that threaten marine turtle populations</b>									
	20. Compile information on available tools and mechanisms that incorporate all stakeholders to evaluate and address socio-economic issues.	Socio-economics	Cons, MTF, NGO	Low	Low	-	-	High		
<b>1.4</b>	<b>Reduce to the greatest extent practicable the incidental capture and mortality of marine turtles in the course of fishing activities</b>									
	25. Ensure that concerns related to sources of turtle mortality are presented at IOTC Meetings/ especially WPEB (e.g. including FADs and gill nets, based on new information that comes to light): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>initiate dialogue on current issues of concern among Signatories and IOTC members in advance of each IOTC meeting (including subsidiary bodies)</li> <li>continue to contribute to the IOTC Executive Summary on marine turtles</li> <li>AC Members and National Focal Points to communicate important issues to members of national delegations attending IOTC in advance of each IOTC meeting</li> <li>Signatories (especially if FPs are the same) to promote the cause of turtles in IOTC meetings, and to communicate issues with Secretariat and others for information.</li> </ol>	Fisheries Interactions, Cooperation	Sigs, AC, Sec	High	High	Low	High	High	<b>Bourjea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bourjea to alert AC and Sec when turtles on agenda, convene small group to develop input for NFPs and Sec</li> <li>Sec to make attendance at regular intervals a priority to re-establish close collaboration (see #74) → Sec participated in IOTC WPEB16</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> See [MOS8/Doc.11.1](#)

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
1.5	<b>Prohibit the direct harvest (capture or killing) of, and domestic trade in, marine turtles, their eggs, parts or products, whilst allowing exceptions for traditional harvest by communities within each jurisdiction provided that: such harvest does not undermine efforts to protect, conserve and recover marine turtle populations and their habitats; and the marine turtle populations in question are able to sustain the harvest</b>									
	26. Request inclusion of an AC member in the CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group and provide opportunities to the Advisory Committee to comment on draft documents.	Take and Trade, Cooperation	AC, Sec	High	High	High	High	Med	<b>Limpus Mohd Jani</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec to write to CMS AWMWG Chair → done</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 2. Protect, conserve and rehabilitate marine turtle habitats</b>										
2.1	<b>Establish necessary measures to protect and conserve marine turtle habitats</b>									
	30. Define criteria for identifying habitats critical for marine turtles (e.g. proportion of population, core areas).	Habitat Protection	AC	Medium	High				<b>Tiwari Hamann</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate outcome of MTSG initiative, when available, through Secretariat to Signatories</li> <li>• Shanker and Pendoley lead similar initiative</li> <li>• Support participation?</li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 17)</b></li> </ul>
	33. Create marine protected area networks to provide management and connectivity across different habitats, for example by completing development and implementation of an effective network / list of sites of importance for marine turtles.	Habitat Protection	Sigs, AC, Sec	High	High	-	High	High		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address when #35 is completed</li> </ul>

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
<b>Site Network</b>										
	35. The Site Network working group <sup>7</sup> established by MOS8 should develop 1) revised Site Information Template, 2) refined evaluation criteria and scoring instructions, and 3) a simplified post-scoring process. The working group to provide these documents to the Secretariat <b>by 31 October 2020</b> for circulation to the Signatories for their comments within two months. The Secretariat to circulate to Signatories the final proposals for intersessional adoption by correspondence in order to enable their use in the run-up to MOS9.	Site Network	Sigs, AC, Sec	<b>High</b>	High	High	High	-	<b>Hamann Nel Tiwari Frazier</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revisit comments made on documents in Da Nang</li> <li>• WG to select chair (Sec to stimulate, e.g. UAE?)</li> <li>• Circulate documents to AC for their input, afterwards to WG</li> <li>• Maintain contact with MTSG on related initiative</li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 10)</b></li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)</b>										
	39. Consider incorporating progress updates on EIA implementation in national reporting; and possibly analyse how EIA processes are implemented in each country.	Environmental Impact Assessment	NRWG, AC, Sec	<b>Medium-High</b>	Med	High	High	Med		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handle as part of #78</li> </ul>

<sup>7</sup> Membership: Saudi Arabia, UAE, Seychelles, Pakistan, Viet Nam, M. Hamman (AC), M. Tiwari (AC), R. Nel (AC), J. Frazier (AC)



CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
<b>Objective 3. Improve understanding of marine turtle ecology and populations through research, monitoring and information exchange</b>										
	42. Promote a list of IOSEA-endorsed research projects to help to leverage funding for scientific research to investigate the conservation biology of marine turtles.	Biological Research, Funding	AC, Sec, Res	<b>High</b>	High	-	-	High	<b>Tiwari</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiwari circulated draft list based on AC input</li> <li>• SRFPs have been consulted</li> <li>• <i>Think about criteria to use</i></li> <li>• <i>Next step: how to promote</i></li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 5)</b></li> </ul>

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
3.1	<b>Conduct studies on marine turtles and their habitats targeted to their conservation and management<sup>8</sup></b>									
	<p>44. Conduct genetic analyses to identify genetic stocks (management units) for Marine Turtles in the IOSEA region:</p> <p>a) compile and assess available information to identify needs and opportunities for regional analyses to inform genetic stock assessment, starting with nesting beach sampling</p> <p>b) develop maps for each genetic stock indicating rookery locations and habitat use in pelagic and benthic environments, rather than relying on the Regional Management Unit (RMU) maps given in Wallace et al. (2011)<sup>9</sup></p> <p>c) incorporate genetic sampling into ongoing monitoring activities (subject to budget and resources available)</p> <p>d) standardize protocols for collection and storage of samples to ensure they will remain usable in the long term</p> <p>e) address capacity building needs to enable in-country analyses, upon request</p> <p>f) AC and Secretariat to facilitate contacts with laboratories and CITES permits to conduct genetic analyses, upon request</p>	Genetics	Sigs, AC, Sec	High	High	High	Med	High	<b>Limpus Frazier Bourjea Nel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile information/citations to be put on website</li> <li>• Next step: assess available information to identify needs and opportunities for regional analyses</li> <li>• Sec to promote Queensland gov mapping tool on website once public</li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 23)</b></li> </ul>

<sup>8</sup> Relates also to CMP Programme 3.2 Conduct collaborative research and monitoring, and CMP Programme 3.3 Analyse data to support mitigation of threats and to assess and improve conservation practices

<sup>9</sup> Wallace et al. (2011) Global Conservation Priorities for Marine Turtles. PLoS ONE 6(9): e24510. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0024510>

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	45. Periodically update the list of genetic studies in the IOSEA region <sup>10</sup> and publish it on the IOSEA website.	Genetics	AC, Sec	Medium	Med	High	High	Low	<b>Limpus Hamann Miller Frazier Bourjea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Limpus in discussion with Fitzsimmons to assess possibilities for update of 2014 article</i></li> <li>• <i>List of citations to be compiled for Sec to publish on website</i></li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 23)</b></li> </ul>
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Exchange Information</b>									
	46. Apply guidelines and protocols recommended by the Advisory Committee for data collection and management of sea turtles and their habitats. <sup>11</sup>	Method Standardization	Sigs, AC	High	High	High	High	High	<b>Miller</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Miller submitted documents, made available on Teams</i></li> <li>• <i>Miller to prepare comparative table (early 2021)</i></li> <li>• <i>AC to provide further input, including on more sophisticated methods</i></li> <li>• <i>See also #15, #115</i></li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 12)</b></li> </ul>

<sup>10</sup> (link to be provided in due course)

<sup>11</sup> Citations to useful and accepted guidelines and protocols for data collection and management will be provided on the IOSEA website (link to be provided in due course).

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	47. Review data collected to assess gaps and needs for the sub-regions in terms of research and monitoring methodology	Method Standardization	AC	High	Med	High	High	High		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address later</li> <li>• See also #9, #15, #46 and #78</li> <li>• Linked to other products under preparation, e.g. species assessments</li> </ul>
	48. Facilitate capacity building in applying best practice/standard methods	Method Standardization	AC, Sec	High	High	High	High	High	<b>Whiting Tiwari</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider together with WP #85, 87, 88, 89</li> <li>• Sec to write to AC calling for input on capacity-building projects they are already involved in</li> <li>• Linked to other products under preparation, e.g. species assessments</li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 11)</b></li> </ul>

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
<b>Objective 4. Increase public awareness and public participation</b>										
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Establish public education, awareness and information programmes</b>									
	50. Promote high profile events such as World Sea Turtle Day for the purpose, <i>inter alia</i> , of raising public and political awareness of turtle conservation and IOSEA's role. Develop media materials to raise the profile of marine turtle conservation issues.	Outreach and Communication	Sigs, AC, Sec, NGO	<b>High</b>	High	High	High	High	<b>Mohd Jani</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sec and Sigs to lead, Mohd Jani advising → concept developed</i></li> <li>• <i>Reach out to other initiatives, e.g. SWOT, Blue Habits, World Sea Turtle Week, inform Sigs → Sigs informed through letter</i></li> <li>• <i>Engage Dr Judy Mann (contact through Nel) in this conversation to evaluate effectiveness, tweak messages</i></li> <li>• <i>Consider developing an IOSEA communication plan for major issues</i></li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 6)</b></li> </ul>

<b>CMP<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Measures to be taken</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Actors<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Overall Priority</b>	<b>SEA+</b>	<b>NWIO</b>	<b>NIO</b>	<b>WIO</b>	<b>AC Lead</b>	<b>Comments / Next Steps / Progress</b>
	52. Develop and document lessons learnt from successful campaigns about turtle conservation issues: a) use examples and lessons learnt from previous campaigns to develop successful approaches, b) evaluate and document lessons learnt from your campaigns based on evaluation criteria to be developed by the Advisory Committee c) share lessons learnt publicly, for example, through IOSEA Secretariat	Outreach and Communication	Sigs, AC, NGO, Nat St	<b>Medium</b>	Med	Med	Med	High		
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Develop alternative livelihood opportunities for local communities to encourage their active participation in conservation efforts</b>									
	54. Assess available knowledge on best practice approaches compiled from national reports and consultations to produce a best practice guide for alternative livelihood projects that ensure that all stakeholders are fully involved. Follow these best practices to develop alternative livelihoods tailored to local conditions.	Alternative Livelihoods	Sigs, AC, Cons	<b>Medium</b>	High	Med	Med	Med	<b>Miller</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec to request Sigs to submit best practice examples → done through letter, needs follow-up</li> </ul>
<b>4.3</b>	<b>Promote public participation</b>									
	55. Train organizers and (potential) participants of citizen science activities about species identification and data collection techniques.	Stakeholder Engagement	AC, Exp	<b>Medium</b>	High	Med	-	Med	<b>Miller Tiwari Hamann</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile existing manuals (e.g. IUCN)</li> </ul>

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
<b>Objective 5. Enhance national, regional and international cooperation</b>										
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Assist Signatory and non-Signatory States, upon request, to develop and implement national, sub-regional and regional action plans for the conservation and management of marine turtles and their habitats</b>									
	62. Encourage development and implementation of national action plans, where needed, in collaboration with local communities and other stakeholders: a) compile/provide examples of National Action Plans for review and possible adaption by Signatory States to other contexts b) prioritize countries that need National Action Plans and offer additional assistance to Signatory States in their development (e.g. using expertise within the Advisory Committee, Focal Points, external expertise) c) assist in the implementation and review of such plans, if requested.	Capacity Building	AC, Exp	<b>High</b>	High	High	High	High	<b>Miller Tiwari</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Usually initiative by Sigs, Sec to reach out and ask for expressions of interest, ask for copies of existing NAPs → done through letter, needs follow-up</li> <li>• Annually updated plans for local situation</li> </ul>
	63. Cooperate with CMS in the joint development of a draft Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) for the conservation of the Hawksbill Turtle to address the trade, use and other threats to the conservation of hawksbill turtles in South-east Asia, and the adjacent western Pacific.	Take and Trade, Cooperation, Species: Hawksbill	Sigs, AC, Sec	<b>Medium-High</b>	Med	-	High	-		
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Enhance mechanisms for cooperation and promote information exchange</b>									
	64. Encourage more sub-regional interactions (e.g. by organizing intersessional sub-regional meetings, training, task forces, etc.)	Sub-regional Coordination	Sigs, SRFP, AC, MTTF Chairs	<b>High</b>	High	High	High	High		
	67. Encourage cooperative research and management of marine turtle management units that are shared across international boundaries.	Sub-regional Coordination	Sigs, SRFP, AC	<b>High</b>	High	High	High	High		

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
<b>RFMOs</b>										
	73. Request RFMOs to gather information and report on the occurrence, distribution and take of marine turtles in oceanic areas.	Stakeholder Engagement, Fisheries Interactions, Cooperation	Sigs, AC, Sec	High	High	High	High	High		
<b>National reporting</b>										
	78. The working group established by MOS8 to revise the format for National Reports <sup>12</sup> should seek feedback from Signatory States and the Advisory Committee. It will deliver its outputs to the Secretariat <b>by 31 October 2020</b> for circulation to the Signatories for their comments within two months. The Secretariat will circulate to Signatories the final proposals for intersessional adoption by correspondence in order to enable their use in the run-up to MOS9.	National Reports	Sigs, AC, Sec	High	High	High	High	High	<b>Miller</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WG developed proposal, comments from Sigs and AC are currently being integrated and discussed within WG</li> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 22)</b></li> </ul>
	80. Provide training or webinars or any further technical help, when requested, to prepare and submit national reports and available IOSEA online tools.	National Reports, Capacity Building	AC, Sec	Medium-Low	Med	Med	Low	Low		
<b>Online Tools</b>										
	84. Develop page on EIA guidance based on MOS8 Documents 7.5 and 11.2 on the IOSEA website.	Information Sharing, Environmental Assessments	AC, Sec	High	High	High	High	Med		

<sup>12</sup> Membership: Comoros, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, J. Miller (AC), N. Esteban (Swansea University) and the Secretariat



CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
5.4	<b>Build capacity to strengthen conservation measures</b>									
	85. Adopt a proactive process for identifying needs and providing training within the IOSEA region: a) offer Signatory States training topic options b) develop an over-arching structure for training to be based on the Objectives of the CMP and activities in the Work Plan c) structure training to address identified 'needs' of the Signatory States through tailoring content d) develop skills of country representatives in the preparation and revision of country reports e) develop skills of Sub-regional and Country representatives and researchers in (1) collecting, analyzing, and presenting biological data, (2) defining foraging populations, and (3) conservation management techniques (interactions with fisheries, coastal development). In addition, training should emphasize communication and coordination techniques that can be used among various levels (local, province, country, sub-region, region) to coordinate conservation activities f) organize follow-up visits to assess the effectiveness of the transfer of information and skills	Capacity-building	Sigs, Sec, AC	High	High	High	High	High	<i>Whiting Tiwari</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 11)</b></li> </ul>

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	<p>87. Encourage organization of sub-regional capacity building / technical workshops, including involvement of Advisory Committee. Topics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) management of nesting beaches, hatchery management, lighting etc.</li> <li>b) identification of threatening processes</li> <li>c) rescue and rehabilitation</li> <li>d) training on site network management</li> <li>e) socio-economic and cultural aspects</li> <li>f) training and technology-transfer needs to reduce mortalities in fisheries operations, in particular by providing training for:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. observers particularly for small-scale fisheries (separate for trawlers/ gill nets, smaller outboard fisheries in large quantities)</li> <li>ii. proper recording of turtle interactions in a harmonized and standard way, inter alia, to assist IOTC member countries in meeting their reporting requirements</li> <li>iii. safe release of bycaught turtles</li> <li>iv. enhancing use of bycatch reduction technologies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Capacity-building, Fisheries Interactions, Habitat Protection, Site Network, Hatcheries</p>	<p>SRFP, AC, MTF, Sec</p>	<p><b>High</b></p>	<p>High</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>High</p>	<p><b>Whiting Tiwari</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 11)</b></li> </ul>

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	88. Conduct sub-regional capacity-building workshops on bycatch assessment methods and engagement strategies with key government authorities and stakeholders a) develop a concept note and send a formal proposal to potential hosting countries b) government and NGOs in the region to investigate potential opportunities for organizing the workshops and identify the role that each party can play c) conduct follow-up workshops to address specific issues at country level following regional capacity building workshops, involving fishers associations and communities. <sup>13</sup>	Capacity-building, Fisheries interactions	Sigs, AC, MTF, Sec	High	High	High	High	High	Whiting Tiwari	• To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 11)
	89. Consider a) activities to address capacity-building needs to integrate marine turtle considerations into existing Ramsar Site management plans, b) cooperating with the Ramsar Secretariat to raise funds for implementing these activities, c) soliciting capacity-building support to conduct coordinated or joined activities for sites that are both IOSEA Network Sites and Ramsar Sites, from the IOSEA and Ramsar Secretariats.	Capacity-building, Cooperation, Funding	Sigs, AC, Sec	Medium	Med	Med	-	High	Whiting Tiwari	• To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 11)
<b>Objective 6. Promote implementation of the MOU including the Conservation and Management Plan</b>										
6.2	<b>Promote the role of the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee of the MOU in ensuring the objectives of the Conservation and Management Plan are met</b>									
	94. Periodically review the appropriateness of the size and composition (skill sets) of the Advisory Committee.	Institutional	Sigs, AC	Medium-High	Med	Med	High	High		

<sup>13</sup> Note: The involvement of experts, policy/administrative government officials and fishermen is important to be considered at different stages of engagement and during these workshops - the role of NGOs providing the links between government and fishermen associations/communities should be considered.

CMP <sup>1</sup>	Measures to be taken	Subject	Actors <sup>2</sup>	Overall Priority	SEA+	NWIO	NIO	WIO	AC Lead	Comments / Next Steps / Progress
	97. Review, comment, and provide guidance on advances and new and emerging issues related to species and habitat management.	Evaluation	AC, MTF	High	High	Med	High	High		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be discussed at AC9 (Agenda Item 27)</li> </ul>
	98. In advance of each MOS, provide advice on a new Work Programme to implement the CMP.	Institutional	AC	High	High	High	High	High		
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Seek resources to support the implementation of the MOU</b>									
	101. Assist countries to seek available counterpart funding (e.g. by helping with national or regional project proposal development, offering guidance on "packaging" of proposals, facilitating links to potential donors, providing letters of support, etc.).	Capacity Building, Funding	AC, Sec	High	High	High	High	High		
	102. Compile and disseminate information on available funding opportunities.	Funding	AC, Sec	High	High	High	High	High		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed by Sec in consultation with AC, to be published on website and circulated shortly</li> </ul>

<b>Section 2: Measures Related to MOU Administration and Coordination<sup>14</sup></b>			<b>Actors<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Comments/Questions/Steps</b>
<b>Meetings, Working Groups and Workshops</b>				
	107. Ensure Advisory Committee Meetings are organized as scheduled, with documents circulated at least two months in advance of the meetings.		Sec, AC	
	108. Facilitate conference calls with the Advisory Committee on a quarterly basis to discuss and facilitate progress in the implementation of the WP		Sec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Held regularly since March 2020, in addition monthly informal calls</li> </ul>
<b>Website</b>				
	114. Maintain and develop the IOSEA website, post news items and other material as appropriate. Reach out to Signatories and stakeholders to solicit their input and publish relevant information in the website news section.		Sigs, AC, Sec, MTF, NGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing, call for contributions made</li> </ul>

<sup>14</sup> If not yet included in Section 1

	<b>Section 2: Measures Related to MOU Administration and Coordination<sup>14</sup></b>	<b>Actors<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Comments/Questions/Steps</b>
	115. Restore selected functions on IOSEA website: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) continue work to restore and update IOSEA bibliography and library in collaboration with the AC and set up the electronic bibliography on the IOSEA Website</li> <li>b) restore and update flipper tag database in collaboration with government authorities, research institutions, MTF members and other relevant stakeholders</li> <li>c) as time and resources allow, address restoring of: project database, satellite tracking database, genetic directory.</li> </ol>	Sec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing, bibliography in collaboration with Miller</li> <li>• Call for updates of flipper tag series information made, several responses received; updated information to be published on IOSEA website shortly</li> </ul>