



Convention on the Conservation of  
Migratory Species of Wild Animals



**Range State Meeting on the Single Species Action Plan  
for the Angelshark in the Mediterranean Sea  
(online, 5 & 6 July 2022)**

CMS/Angelshark-SSAP/Doc.4

**Draft Governance Structure to support the Implementation  
of the Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark  
in the Mediterranean Sea**

*Prepared by the Secretariat*

**Commented [A1]:** This paper implies the creation of a series of additional structures and refers to a series of periodical meetings whose financial and hr raise questions. In this context, we would like to have a clear understanding of the financial implications of such a structure.

**Introduction**

1. The governance structure aims to support the implementation of the 'Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) for the Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) in the Mediterranean Sea' by providing a framework to help all Range States identify priorities and opportunities for Angelshark conservation within their nation. Working groups, at both national and international levels, can use the framework to strengthen coordination and monitor implementation progress.

**Coordination**

**International Working Group**

2. To achieve Action 4.2 'Establish International Working Group for the Mediterranean', an overarching chair and co-chair will be elected, on a voluntary basis, to coordinate the International Working Group (IntWG). The IntWG is suggested to comprise one national government representative (Focal Point) and one national expert per Range State. The IntWG could also consider including international stakeholders as either members or observers. The Secretariat will assist the IntWG by providing secretarial services, but they will not act as a coordinator for the SSAP's implementation.
3. Tasks required by the IntWG chair, with support from the co-chair, on a yearly basis include coordinating contact between IntWG members, organising yearly meetings of the IntWG, and participating in the review of Range State yearly reports. Further tasks would be required on a triennial basis, including reviewing the SSAP and synthesising reports on the limitations Range States face and recommendations to overcome these.

### National Working Groups

4. National Focal Points and experts may find it useful to establish a National Working Group (NatWG) consisting of local stakeholders ~~or~~ and scientists, particularly those who would be involved to develop and implement actions. The frequency and format of NatWG meetings could be according to the discretion and need of the NatWGs, but three times a year, in-person in the first instance is recommended, with minutes and actions recorded.
5. If established, NatWGs are recommended to create workplans for the implementation of the SSAP and provide yearly updates on the implementation of the SSAP in their Range State. These reports would be reported to the chair of the IntWG ahead of yearly IntWG meetings.
6. NatWGs may want to translate the SSAP into their preferred language, if deemed necessary.

### International Working Group meetings

7. The IntWG is recommended to meet online yearly to review the implementation occurring in all Range States.
8. Triennial IntWG meetings would be required to encompass both the progress of NatWGs, but also to review the SSAP. The SSAP should be reviewed and may need to be updated at the triennial meetings.
9. The CMS Secretariat would support the organization of the meetings upon request by the Chair of the IntWG. Meetings would normally be held online and in English.

### Implementation

10. Following the finalisation of the SSAP and accompanying documents, and any establishment of the IntWG and NatWGs, a workplan should be created by each NatWG focusing on priority actions 1.1-1.4, 2.1-2.3, 3.1, 4.1, and 4.2. The NatWGs workplan should be a living document, which is regularly updated by members of the NatWG as they progress with the plans.
11. The IntWG and NatWGs would have access to online content that will contain the SSAP and accompanying documents, as well as the progress reports and meeting minutes. This can also be a space to share national workplans by the NatWGs. The Secretariat will assist the IntWG upon request, providing a platform to collaboratively work on documents through adequate technical tools.

**Commented [A2]:** Same workplan as the one for the national working groups? sorry not clear...

**Commented [A3]:** Publically accessible for transparency?

**Commented [A4]:** The workplan? The single species action plan? Both?

### Funding

12. Range States would be responsible for securing their funding for SSAP implementation activities. –Range States might consider establishing a fund to support implementation activity by developing countries and non-governmental organizations.

### **Monitoring**

13. A draft template (see [CMS/Angelshark-SSAP/Gov/Draft 1/Annex](#)) for NatWG progress reporting is provided to monitor implementation of each recommended action by each Range State. The yearly report templates would be accessible via an accessible drive. IntWG members would also be reminded yearly by the chair to complete the report prior to the IntWG meeting.
14. Every three years, the IntWG chair would conduct analyses of any national yearly reports to monitor progress of implementation of the SSAP and highlight where further targeted effort needs to be focused, identifying limiting factors as to why they have yet to be achieved.
15. A report should be produced by the Chair of the IntWG using these analyses, particularly highlighting common issues between Range States, and discussing recommendations as to how these issues may be resolved or mitigated.

### **Documentation**

16. Reports of Range States' annual progress, and IntWG meeting minutes and decisions, would be made available online. Outcomes of meetings would have courtesy translations into French and Spanish.