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## SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLAN FOR THE HAWKSBILL TURTLE (Eretmochelys imbricata) IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE WESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN REGION

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting (Samarkand, February 2024)

Noting that the Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) was listed on CMS Appendix II in 1979 and Appendix I in 1985,

Concerned that the Hawksbill Turtle has been assessed for *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* in 2008 as Critically Endangered (CR), and the population trend was assessed as decreasing, raising serious concerns about the viability of a number of populations given ongoing high threat levels,

Welcoming the two recent scientific assessments of the conservation status of Hawksbill Turtles in the Indian Ocean South-East Asia Region prepared under the leadership of the Advisory Committee of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU), and in the Western Pacific Ocean Region, published as CMS Technical Series No. 45,

*Noting* that use and trade were identified as key threats to Hawksbill Turtles in the South-East Asia and Western Pacific Ocean Region in the abovementioned scientific assessments,

Recognizing that there are complex linkages between community and commercial use, and that use at the domestic and international levels need to be addressed in conjunction.

Recognizing the support of civil society and others in the implementation of COP mandates related to Hawksbill Turtles, assisting governments in implementing coherent conservation measures addressing their use and trade,

Affirming the need to address these issues in close collaboration with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) as well as other relevant partners, such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP),

*Noting* that CITES Resolution Conf.19.5 welcomed this Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) and recommended numerous measures in line with those outlined in it,

Also noting the SPREP Pacific Islands Regional Marine Species Programme 2022-2026, which likewise recommends numerous measures in line with those outlined in this SSAP,

Recognizing the primary responsibility of the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU for the conservation of marine turtles in the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia region and for the implementation of this SSAP.

Recognizing that the actions contained in this SSAP may be relevant for other regions outside of its geographic scope, such as the area covered by the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC),

Welcoming the opportunity to foster close collaboration between the Convention and the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU,

## The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

- 1. Adopts the Single Species Action Plan for the Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Ocean Region, as adopted by four Range States on 2 June 2022 and contained in the Annex;
- 2. *Urges* Parties in the area covered by the Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) to urgently undertake actions to implement its provisions;
- 3. *Invites* non-Party Range States to adopt the Action Plan;
- 4. *Encourages* Parties and non-Party Range States to provide technical and/or financial support to activities outlined in the Action Plan, as appropriate;
- 5. Invites the governing bodies and Secretariats of other intergovernmental agreements and programmes, such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP), as well as, insofar as relevant the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC), to take into account the provisions of the Action Plan in the consideration of their activities and to support implementation of relevant Action Plan activities that fall within their mandate, as appropriate; and
- 6. *Instructs* the Secretariat to bring the Action Plan to the attention of all Range States and relevant intergovernmental organizations and to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan.