



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia

DRAFT Format for Submission of National Reports (first draft of 6 January 2003)

(Lay-out will be adjusted to leave additional space for responses, after content has been finalised)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Which agency or institution has been primarily responsible for the preparation of this report?
List any other agencies, institutions, or NGOs that have provided input
Reports submitted to date : First: (Period covered) Second:
Period covered by this report (day) (month) (year) to (day) (month) (year):
Memorandum in effect in country since: [Date: dd / mm / yy]:
Designated Focal Point (and full contact details):

Note: For any of the questions that follow, if an activity has not been carried out, respondents are at liberty to explain any impediments encountered.

OBJECTIVE 1: REDUCE DIRECT AND INDIRECT CAUSES OF MARINE TURTLE MORTALITY

1.1 Threats to marine turtle populations and their habitats

- a) Using the sheet given in Annex 1, describe the nature and intensity of exploitation and threats to marine turtles in your country on nesting beaches, in feeding areas and in developmental habitats that are considered to be important for marine turtles. Where appropriate and possible, describe the nature of exploitation / threats for each site (or area) using a separate sheet for each.
- b) YES NO Does your country have in place baseline data collection and monitoring programmes to gather information on the nature and magnitude of threats? If yes, please give details.

1.2 Best practice approaches to minimizing threats

- a) Describe any protocols or approaches for conserving and managing marine turtle populations which you consider to be exemplary and suitable for adaptation and adoption elsewhere in the region.
- b) Which best practice approaches has your country adapted and/or adopted with success?

1.3 Programmes to correct adverse economic incentives

- a) YES NO Have any socio-economic studies been conducted among communities that interact with marine turtles and their habitats? If yes, please give details.
- b) Which economic incentives are in need of modification in your country in order to reduce threats to and mortality of marine turtles?
- c) Describe any progress made towards implementing modifications to these economic incentives, as well as resources needed and already secured for their implementation.

1.4 Reduction of incidental capture and mortality

- a) Which gear, devices and techniques have been developed and/or are used in your country to minimize incidental capture of marine turtles?
- Devices that allow the escape of marine turtles
 - Spatial closures of fishing activities
 - Seasonal closures of fishing activities
 - Other (list them):
 - None of the above
- b) Describe any procedures or training programmes developed to promote implementation of these measures (e.g. vessel monitoring systems, inspections, on-board observer programmes etc.)
- c) YES NO Has your country exchanged information and provided technical assistance to other signatory States to promote these activities? If yes, please give details.

- d) Describe in more detail any initiatives undertaken with fisheries industries and fisheries management organisations to implement mitigation measures in national waters and on the high seas.
- e) What measures has your country taken in support of UN General Assembly Resolution 46/215 concerning the moratorium on the use of large-scale driftnets?
- f) YES NO Has your country developed and/or implemented net retention and recycling schemes? If yes, please give details.
- g) YES NO Does your country provide and ensure the use of port facilities for the disposal of ship-borne waste? If yes, please give details.

1.5 Prohibition of harvest of, and trade in, marine turtles

- a) YES NO Has your country already enacted legislation to prohibit direct harvest and domestic trade in marine turtles, their eggs, parts and products? If yes, please give details, including any exceptions made.
- b) Describe, in general terms, the level and the impact of traditional harvest on marine turtles and their eggs in your country, and indicate the source of information to make this assessment.
- Level of harvest: HIGH MODEST LOW NONE UNKNOWN
- Basis for this assessment:
- Impact of harvest: HIGH MODEST LOW NONE UNKNOWN
- Basis for this assessment:
- c) YES NO Have any management programmes been established that include limits on levels of intentional harvest? If yes, please give details.
- d) What are the cultural and traditional values, and economic uses of marine turtles in your country (consumptive and non-consumptive). Use additional space to describe in more detail, as necessary.
- Meat consumption
 - Egg consumption
 - Shell products
 - Fat consumption
 - Traditional medicine
 - Eco-tourism programmes centred on marine turtles
 - Marine turtles are culturally/traditionally significant
 - Other (list):
- e) Describe any management agreements being negotiated, or already in place, with other concerned States in relation to sustainable levels of traditional harvest.

1.6 Nesting beach programmes

- a) YES NO Has your country undertaken a recent evaluation of the effectiveness of its nest and beach management programmes? If yes, provide a reference/contact for any published or unpublished reports.
- b) What measures are in place to minimise or reduce the mortality of eggs, hatchlings and nesting females (including that caused by feral and domestic animals)?

OBJECTIVE 2: PROTECT, CONSERVE AND REHABILITATE MARINE TURTLE HABITATS

2.1 Measures to protect and conserve marine turtle habitats

- a) Describe, in a separate annex to this report, areas of critical habitat for marine turtles in your country (including migratory corridors, nesting beaches, inter-nesting and feeding areas)
- b) In general terms, what measures have been introduced to remove threats to marine turtles in these areas? (Give details for specific sites)
- Designation/management of protected areas, sanctuaries, exclusion zones etc.
 - Modification of fishing gear
 - Restrictions on vessel traffic
 - Other (list):
- c) What incentives are there for assuring adequate protection of critical habitat *outside* of established protected areas?
- d) YES NO Are assessments routinely made of the environmental impact on marine turtles and their habitats of marine and coastal development and other human activities? If yes, give details.
- e) In general terms, what measures are in place to manage and regulate the use of beaches and dunes?
- Regulations regarding location and design of buildings
 - Regulations on the use of artificial lighting
 - Regulations on the transit of vehicles in nesting areas
 - None of the above
 - Other (describe):
- f) YES NO Is water quality monitored, and are steps taken to protect water quality from land based and maritime pollution? If yes, please give details.
- g) What measures are being applied to ensure the effective prohibition of the use of poisonous chemicals and explosives?

2.2 Rehabilitation of degraded marine turtle habitats

- a) YES NO Have any efforts been made to re-vegetate frontal dunes at nesting beaches? If yes, give details (location, timing, effectiveness etc.)
- b) YES NO Are efforts being made to remove debris that impedes turtle nesting and hatchling production?
- c) YES NO Are efforts being made to recover degraded coral reefs? If yes, give details (location, timing, effectiveness etc.)
- d) YES NO Are efforts being made to recover degraded mangrove and seagrass habitats? If yes, give details (location, timing, effectiveness etc.)

OBJECTIVE 3: IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF MARINE TURTLE ECOLOGY AND POPULATIONS THROUGH RESEARCH, MONITORING AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE

3.1 Studies on marine turtles and their habitats

- a) YES NO Have baseline studies been conducted or other information gathered on marine turtle populations and their habitats in your country? If yes, cite any available relevant literature in a separate annex.
- b) YES NO Are *long-term* monitoring programmes in place for priority marine turtle populations? If yes, give details.
- c) YES NO Has the genetic identity of marine turtle populations frequenting the waters of your country been characterized? If yes, give details.
- d) What studies have been / are being used to identify migration routes? (Give details)
- Tagging
 - Genetic studies
 - Satellite tracking
 - Other
 - None of the above
- e) YES NO Have studies been carried out on marine turtle population dynamics and survival rates? If yes, give details.
- f) YES NO Has research been conducted on the frequency and pathology of diseases of marine turtles? If yes, give details.
- g) YES NO Is the use of traditional ecological knowledge in research studies being promoted? If so, how?
- h) YES NO Are research and monitoring activities periodically reviewed and evaluated for their efficacy?

3.2 Collaborative research and monitoring

- a) Have priority research and monitoring needs been identified and included in regional and sub-regional action plans? If yes, which plans?
- b) On which of the following themes have collaborative studies and monitoring been conducted? (Give brief details for each)
- Genetic identity
 - Conservation status
 - Migrations
 - Other biological and ecological aspects
 - None of the above
 - Other (describe)

3.3 Data analysis

- a) List in order of priority the marine turtle populations in your country need of conservation actions, and indicate for each of them their population trends.
- b) In what areas are research results being used to improve the efficacy of conservation actions:
- Management
 - Threat mitigation
 - Assessment of hatchery management practices
 - Assessment of habitat loss
 - Other (describe):
 - None of the above

3.4 Information exchange

- a) YES NO Has your country undertaken any initiatives to standardise methods and levels of data collection, including an agreed set of protocols? If yes, give details.
- b) What methods are being used for dissemination of information (to other Range States)?
[NB: This question differs from 4.1 a), below]
- c) To what extent does your country exchange scientific and technical information and expertise with other Range States?
- OFTEN (SYTEMATICALLY) OCCASIONALLY RARELY NEVER
- d) To what extent does your country disseminate traditional knowledge on marine turtles?
- OFTEN (SYTEMATICALLY) OCCASIONALLY RARELY NEVER
- e) YES NO Does your country compile data on marine turtle populations of a regional interest? If yes, give details.

OBJECTIVE 4: INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE THREATS TO MARINE TURTLES AND THEIR HABITATS, AND ENHANCE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

4.1 Public education, awareness and information programmes

- a) Describe, in general terms, the nature of the education materials that have been collected, developed and disseminated in your country.
- b) YES NO Have any community learning / information centres been established? If yes, give details.
- c) YES NO Have any mass media information programmes been developed and implemented? If yes, give details.
- d) For which of the following groups have focused education and awareness programmes been developed and conducted?
- Policy makers
 - Teachers
 - Schools
 - Fishing communities
 - Media
 - Other (list):
 - None of the above

Please give further details:

4.2 Alternative livelihood opportunities

Describe initiatives undertaken to identify and facilitate alternative livelihoods (including income generating activities) for local communities.

4.3 Public participation

- a) Describe initiatives undertaken to involve stakeholders, and local communities in particular, in the planning and implementation of conservation and management measures.
- b) Describe initiatives undertaken to encourage the participation of Government institutions, NGOs, private sector and the general community in research and conservation efforts.
- c) What incentive schemes have been used to encourage public participation?
- T-shirts for tag returns
 - Public acknowledgement
 - Certificates
 - Other (list):
 - None of the above

Please give further details:

OBJECTIVE 5: ENHANCE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

5.1 Collaboration with, and assistance to, signatory and non-signatory States

- a) YES NO Has your country actively encouraged other (non-Party) States to join CITES?
- b) YES NO Has your country undertaken a national review of its compliance with CITES obligations in relation to marine turtles?
- c) YES NO Does your country have, or participate/cooperate in, CITES training programmes for relevant authorities?
- d) YES NO Does your country have in place mechanisms to identify international illegal trade routes (for marine turtle products etc.) and to cooperate with other States to prevent/deter/eliminate illegal trade? If yes, give details. If no, describe any impediments in this regard.
- e) Which compliance and trade issues has your country exchanged information on or raised for discussion (e.g. through the MoU Secretariat, at meetings of Signatory States etc.)?
- f) Describe measures in place to prevent, deter and eliminate *domestic* illegal trade in marine turtle products (e.g. monitoring, legislation, identification of enforcement gaps, training etc.)

5.2 Development and implementation of national, sub-regional and regional action plans

- a) YES NO Has your country taken steps towards developing a set of key management measures to be used as a basis for more specific action plans? If yes, give details.
- b) What existing action plans are being considered as possible models?
- c) For which specific *local* management issues is *international* cooperation considered necessary?
(List them)
- d) Do the national, sub-regional and regional action plans in which your country is involved provide for regular review? When did this(these) review(s) last take place? Give details.

5.3 Cooperation and information exchange

- a) Identify what you consider to be useful existing (or potentially useful) mechanisms for cooperation in relation to marine turtle conservation and management at the sub-regional level. What initiatives has your country taken to try to strengthen these mechanisms?
- b) YES NO Does your country have or contribute to any web-sites or newsletters to facilitate networking and information exchange? If yes, give details.

- c) What material can your country contribute to the development of a web-based information resource for marine turtle conservation?
- Data on marine turtle populations
 - Nesting data
 - Migration data
 - Information on projects
 - Other (list)
- d) YES NO Has your country contributed names to the directory of experts and organizations concerned with marine turtle conservation?
- e) YES NO Has your country developed, or is it participating in, any networks for cooperative management of shared populations? If yes, give details.
- f) YES NO Has your country cooperated in the establishment of any transboundary marine protected areas? If yes, give details.
- g) Please provide any comments/suggestions to improve the present reporting format.
- h) What has your country done to encourage other MoU signatory States to join CMS?
- i) What has your country done to encourage other MoU signatory States to join global fisheries agreements?
- j) What steps has your country taken to secure data on incidental capture and to encourage them to adopt marine turtle conservation measures within EEZs and on the high seas?

5.4 Capacity-building

- a) What capacity-building needs does your country have in terms of human resources, knowledge and facilities?
- b) Describe any training provided in marine turtle conservation and management techniques (e.g. workshops held, training manuals produced etc.)
- c) How have training programmes, workshops etc. been coordinated nationally and regionally (in order to avoid duplication of effort and to achieve economies of scale)?
- d) In relation to capacity-building, describe any partnerships developed with universities, research institutions, training bodies and other relevant organizations.

5.5 Enforcement of conservation legislation

- a) YES NO Has your country conducted a review of policies and laws to address any gaps or impediments in relation to marine turtle conservation? If not, indicate any impediments encountered in this regard and when this review is expected to be done.
- b) YES NO Have any problems been encountered in relation to cooperation in law enforcement to ensure compatible application of laws across and between jurisdictions? If yes, please give details.

OBJECTIVE 6: PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOU, INCLUDING THE CMP

6.1 MoU membership and activities

- a) What has your country done to encourage other States to sign the MoU?
- b) List any sub-regional workshops held which provided an opportunity to raise awareness of the MoU.
- c) YES NO Is your country favourable towards amending the MoU in the future with a view to making it a legally-binding instrument?

6.2 Secretariat and Advisory Committee

- a) What has your country done to secure reliable sources of funding to support the MoU secretariat and implementation of the MoU?
- b) Has your country nominated candidates to serve on the Advisory Committee?

6.3 Resources to support implementation of the MoU

- a) From your country's perspective, which conservation and management activities ought to be among the highest priorities for funding (list up to 10 activities from the CMP)
- b) YES NO Has your country explored options for funding of marine turtle conservation activities with other Governments and donor organizations? If yes, give details of the approaches made (successful or unsuccessful).
- c) YES NO Has any funding and other contributions been solicited from industries impacting marine turtles and their habitats? If yes, give details of the approaches made (successful or unsuccessful).
- d) Describe an initiatives made to explore the use of economic instruments for the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats.
- e) YES NO Have the private sector, foundations and NGOs been approached to catalyse the creation of a small grants fund?
- f) Describe any managed ecotourism or other projects that have generated funding for conservation and management activities.
- g) In what way has your country promoted synergies with other regional/global convention secretariats?
- h) YES NO Has your country explored (and secured) international funding support or other incentives for effectively managing marine turtle populations? If yes, give details.

6.4 Coordination among government and non-government sectors

- a) YES NO Has your country conducted a review of the roles and responsibilities of government agencies related to the conservation and management of marine turtles and the habitats? If not, indicate any impediments encountered in this regard and when this review is expected to be done.
- b) YES NO Has your country designated a lead agency responsible for coordinating national marine turtle conservation and management policy. If not, when is this information expected to be communicated to the MoU secretariat?
- c) Describe any initiatives that have been undertaken to encourage cooperation within and among government and non-government sectors (e.g. development of national networks, formation of steering committees etc.)

Intensity of threats to marine turtles on nesting beaches, in feeding areas and in developmental habitats considered to be important for marine turtles

Site type: Nesting beach Feeding Area Developmental Habitat General area

Geographic location (name, as appropriate; description of location):

Charateristics/Significance of site (including listing of the marine turtle species found there):

General threats (tick, as appropriate):

	Not Applicable	Little	None	Moderate	Strong
Exploitation of nesting females					
Exploitation of live animals at sea					
Egg collection					
Incidental capture in fisheries					
Boat strikes					
Plastics (at sea)					
Industrial effluent					
Inshore oil pollution					
Agricultural/urban development					
Artificial lighting					
Coastal erosion					
Vehicles					
Sand mining					
Logs					
Natural threats/predation					
Other (list):					

Other remarks: