



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

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Report/Actions Arising

THIRD MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES
Bangkok, 29-31 March 2005

Action points arising from the Third Meeting of Signatory States to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU (Bangkok, 29- 31 March 2005)

The following action points are taken from the report of the Third Meeting of Signatory States (the relevant paragraphs in the report are indicated below). They have been sorted alphabetically according to the intended implementing country/MoU body. For ease of reference, they have also been organized and sorted in a second table, by theme.

These action points supplement the general and specific activities contained in the Conservation and Management Plan. Activities directed to non-Signatory States that are not yet participating formally in the IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU (country names shown in *italics*) are made in the spirit of constructive recommendations. (*NB: In the text that follows, SS4 refers to the Fourth Meeting of the Signatory States.*)

Table 1: Sorted by implementing body

Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
All IOSEA States	Launch the Year of the Turtle (YoT) campaign to coincide with SS4 in early 2006.	46	Develop and finance national YoT programmes in advance of this launch.
All IOSEA States	Contribute information to the Advisory Committee to assist its assessments of the tsunami's impacts on turtles and turtle habitats and the status of the Leatherback turtle in the Indian Ocean.	73	
All Signatory States	Approach neighbouring non-Signatory States to encourage their signature of the MoU.	15	
All Signatory States	Promote the IOSEA MoU in other sub-regional fora, and aim to align these instruments with the objectives of the agreement.	25	
All Signatory States	Contribute to, and use, the features of the IOSEA website: www.ioseaturtles.org (e.g. electronic library, flipper tag database, Profiles of the Month, projects database, IMapS and other tools)	17	
All Signatory States	Provide further information (where relevant/ possible) in national reports regarding NGO activities.	30, 31	Secretariat to analyse the contents of the projects database.
All Signatory States	Provide further comments on the proposal for a site network to the Secretariat by mid-May 2005.	43	
All Signatory States	Seek additional funding for the site network and specific aspects or sites within their countries.	32	
All Signatory States	Collaborate with embassies and regional organisations to promote, and generate additional support for, the YoT.	52	SAARC and ROPME were mentioned as possible collaborators in the areas of education/awareness and fisheries.
All Signatory States	Submit funding needs related to the YoT to the Secretariat by mid-April 2005.	54	

Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
All Signatory States	Agree by consensus on a representative from each of the four sub-regions to observe Advisory Committee meetings and act as a conduit for information. Communicate these arrangements to the Secretariat.	83	The interim representative for the Northwest Indian Ocean sub-region is the Focal Point for the Islamic Republic of Iran.
All Signatory States	Make budgetary provision in 2005 for voluntary financial and/or in-kind contributions to sustain Secretariat operations and implementation activities at least to the end of 2006.	96	If possible, concrete pledges of support for 2006 should be communicated to the Secretariat by July 2005.
All Signatory States	Communicate to the Secretariat interest in hosting the SS4 Meeting to coincide with the YoT launch.	99	In the absence of an alternative offer, the meeting will be held in Bangkok, likely around March 2006.
Regional bodies (SEAFDEC, IUCN MTSG, etc.)	Consider arranging activities back-to-back with SS4 to encourage cross-participation, if feasible.	46	
Non-Signatory States	Prepare up-to-date national reports, using the IOSEA MoU national reporting template, pending membership of the agreement.	28	
NGOs	Contribute summaries of current turtle conservation projects to the Secretariat, for inclusion in the IOSEA MoU projects database.	17	
NGOs	Confirm participation in YoT preparations.	47	Offers of assistance were received from the Environmental Protection of Asia Foundation, IUCN-MTSG, Scubazoo, TRAFFIC Southeast Asia, Turtle Conservation Project-Sri Lanka and WWF.
Australia	Raise the YoT at the International Fishers Forum in July 2005 to solicit input.	52	
Malaysia	Finalise internal procedures leading to signature of the IOSEA MoU in 2005.	10	
Timor Leste	Undertake initial turtle conservation activities, and investigate the possibility of signing the IOSEA MoU.	11	
Advisory Committee	Provide advice regarding criteria for the selection of sites for inclusion in a potential network.	43	
Advisory Committee	Finalise and circulate the report on hatchery management in the next few months.	59	Secretariat to circulate the report, when available, to Signatory States and others.
Advisory Committee	Finalise an assessment of the tsunami's impacts on turtles and turtle habitats.	73	
Advisory Committee	Conduct an investigation into the status of the Leatherback turtle in the Indian Ocean.	73	
YoT Steering Committee	Develop and circulate YoT resources including a briefing package and logo.	51	
Secretariat	Explore the addition of a feature to the online editor to allow users to upload additional attachments, such as maps and photos, etc.	27	
Secretariat	Revise and finalise the national reporting template, taking into account feedback from SS3.	29	The Secretariat circulated a revised template to the SS3 working group for comment on 3 May 2005.
Secretariat	Develop and circulate criteria to assess the progress of implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan.	32	Criteria to be developed after revision of the national reporting template.
Secretariat	Consider producing an additional publication based on the review of implementation of progress.	32	

Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
Secretariat	Facilitate contacts between parties/institutions interested in developing a common system for sample collection, distribution and analysis.	38	
Secretariat	Finalise the site network proposal and seek Ministerial endorsement of the concept.	43	
Secretariat	Explore the possibility of linking the SEASTAR2000 scientific symposium with SS4.	46	
Secretariat	Produce and circulate a letter outlining the decision to hold a YoT, and summary table of potential actions, by mid-April 2005.	54	The Secretariat circulated an introductory letter and summary action tables on 15 April 2005.
Secretariat	Investigate the possible creation of a list-serve to facilitate communications among the members of the YoT Steering Committee.	56	
Secretariat	Initiate closer co-operation between the IOSEA MoU Secretariat and relevant fisheries commissions.	61	
Secretariat	Develop a reporting framework within the IOSEA MoU for the FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations.	61	
Secretariat	Communicate the resolution regarding the IOTC to the relevant secretariat and discuss ways forward, including the possible development of a MoU.	62	The resolution in question has been transmitted and is to be presented at the Commission's next meeting in June 2005.
Secretariat/ WWF	Share information on respective approaches regarding the assessment of fisheries-turtle interactions.	61	
Secretariat/ Australia/ SPREP	Develop an options paper on expanding the geographic scope of the IOSEA MoU, or creation of a new instrument for the Pacific, for possible presentation at the Pacific Regional Environment Programme meeting in September 2005.	64	

Table 2: Sorted by action theme

Action theme	Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
Admin	All Signatory States	Make budgetary provision in 2005 for voluntary financial and/or in-kind contributions to sustain Secretariat operations and implementation activities at least to the end of 2006.	96	If possible, concrete pledges of support for 2006 should be communicated to the Secretariat by July 2005.
Admin	All Signatory States	Agree by consensus on a representative from each of the four sub-regions to observe Advisory Committee meetings and act as a conduit for information. Communicate these arrangements to the Secretariat.	83	The interim representative for the Northwest Indian Ocean sub-region is the Focal Point for the Islamic Republic of Iran.
Admin	Regional bodies (SEAFDEC, IUCN MTSG, etc.)	Consider arranging activities back-to-back with SS4 to encourage cross-participation, if feasible.	46	
Admin/ YoT	All Signatory States	Communicate to the Secretariat interest in hosting the SS4 Meeting to coincide with the YoT launch.	99	In the absence of an offer, the meeting will be held in Bangkok, likely around March 2006.
Liaison	All Signatory States	Promote the IOSEA MoU in other sub-regional fora, and aim to align these instruments with the objectives of the agreement.	25	
Liaison	Secretariat	Explore the possibility of linking the SEASTAR2000 scientific symposium with SS4.	46	
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Membership	All Signatory States	Approach neighbouring non-Signatory States to encourage their signature of the MoU.	15	
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