



Indian Ocean – South-East Asian Marine Turtle Memorandum of Understanding



Action points arising from the Fourth Meeting of Signatory States to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU (Muscat, Oman, 11-14 March 2006)

The following action points are taken from the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Signatory States (SS4). They supplement the general and specific activities contained in the IOSEA Conservation and Management Plan.

The actions have been sorted according to the intended implementing country/MoU body. The relevant paragraphs in the report are indicated alongside. For ease of reference, the action points have also been organized and sorted in a second table, by *theme*. Refer to the notes for abbreviations used in the table.

Table 1: Sorted by implementing body

Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
All Signatory States	Continue to develop sub-regional frameworks; propose core sub-regional issues for discussion at the next meeting of the Signatory States; strive to maintain continuity in representation at meetings	69	
All Signatory States / Secretariat	Consider options for improving the financial status of the MoU (eg. increasing donor support; identifying new funding sources; applying minimum subscription levels; postponing the annual meeting in 2007)	65	
All Signatory States / Secretariat	Review and discuss bilaterally with the Secretariat the individual evaluations of national reports, with a view to improving future reporting	37	
All Signatory States / other partners	Contribute material for inclusion in the IOSEA website and make prominent links from existing organisational websites in order to increase visitations to the IOSEA site	68	
All Signatory States / other partners	Use the IOSEA website, especially the Year of the Turtle events calendar, for timely exchange of information on YoT activities	31	
NWIO Signatory States, GCC, PERSGA, IOSEA Secretariat, various UN agencies	Endeavour to implement the resolution aimed at promoting and strengthening marine turtle conservation in the Northwestern Indian Ocean sub-region – with particular regard to collaboration on tag recoveries; establishment of specialist groups under the GCC and PERSGA; and awareness-raising initiatives	51	
WIO Signatory States	Collaborate in the creation of an interim Western Indian Ocean Marine Turtle Task Force under the chairmanship of Dr. Ronel Nel, South Africa	52	
Non-Signatory States	Malaysia: make arrangements with the IOSEA Secretariat for signing the MoU; Yemen: advise Secretariat on outcome of Cabinet deliberations regarding signature	8	

Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
Other organisations: CMS	Make arrangements for \$5,000 contribution towards Year of the Turtle activities	9	Contribution was gratefully received in May 2006
Other organisations: FAO	Inform IOSEA Focal Points (and Secretariat) about future FAO-organised workshops of relevance to marine turtle conservation in the IOSEA region	17	
Advisory Committee	Participate in preparation of loggerhead and green turtle species assessments; finalise beach management guidelines paper; contribute to further development of IMapS; contribute/review proposals for improving the IOSEA reporting template	47, 63	
Secretariat / Advisory Committee	Finalise outstanding aspects of the proposal for a network of sites of importance for marine turtles, for review by the Advisory Committee	53	
Secretariat	Explore the possibility of organising a strategic planning exercise for IOSEA, subject to availability of funds	15	
Secretariat	Liaise with PERSGA counterpart on inter-agency collaboration	20	
Secretariat	Review applications for funding of small-scale Year of the Turtle activities	31	Applications reviewed / funding processed April-May 2006
Secretariat	Continue to develop the online reporting system and template, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, taking account of SS4 feedback	32-44	
Secretariat	Finalise and publish the leatherback and tsunami assessment as separate documents	46	Reports will have been published and distributed in July 2006
Secretariat	Work with KESCOM to finalise outstanding elements of a marine turtle conservation project in Kenya	48	
Secretariat	Work with Indian-based NGO to publish the conclusions of a CMS-funded project to establish a network for sea turtle conservation in India	49	
Secretariat	Include on SS5 agenda the issue of transforming the IOSEA MoU to a 'legally-binding instrument'	72	

Abbreviations used in the table:

CMS: Convention on Migratory Species

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

GCC: Gulf Cooperation Council

IMapS: Marine Turtle Interactive Mapping System

IOSEA: Indian Ocean and South-East Asia

KESCOM: Kenya Sea Turtle Conservation Committee

MoU: Memorandum of Understanding

NWIO: Northwestern Indian Ocean

PERSGA: Regional Organisation for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

SS4/5: Fourth/Fifth Meeting of the IOSEA Signatory States

WIO: Western Indian Ocean

Table 2: Sorted by theme

Action theme	Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
Membership	Non-Signatory States	Malaysia: make arrangements with the IOSEA Secretariat for signing the MoU; Yemen: advise Secretariat on outcome of Cabinet deliberations regarding signature	8	
Sub-regional collaboration	All Signatory States	Continue to develop sub-regional frameworks; propose core sub-regional issues for discussion at the next meeting of the Signatory States; strive to maintain continuity in representation at meetings	69	
Sub-regional collaboration	NWIO Signatory States, GCC, PERSGA, IOSEA Secretariat, various UN agencies	Endeavour to implement the resolution aimed at promoting and strengthening marine turtle conservation in the Northwestern Indian Ocean sub-region – with particular regard to collaboration on tag recoveries; establishment of specialist groups under the GCC and PERSGA; and awareness-raising initiatives	51	
Sub-regional collaboration	WIO Signatory States	Collaborate in the creation of an interim Western Indian Ocean Marine Turtle Task Force under the chairmanship of Dr. Ronel Nel, South Africa	52	
Inter-agency collaboration	Other organisations: FAO	Inform IOSEA Focal Points (and Secretariat) about future FAO-organised workshops of relevance to marine turtle conservation in the IOSEA region	17	
Inter-agency collaboration	Secretariat	Liaise with PERSGA counterpart on inter-agency collaboration	20	
Implementation advice / support	Advisory Committee	Participate in preparation of loggerhead and green turtle species assessments; finalise beach management guidelines paper; contribute to further development of IMapS; contribute/review proposals for improving the IOSEA reporting template	47, 63	
Implementation advice / support	Secretariat / Advisory Committee	Finalise outstanding aspects of the proposal for a network of sites of importance for marine turtles, for review by the Advisory Committee	53	
Implementation advice / support	Secretariat	Explore the possibility of organising a strategic planning exercise for IOSEA, subject to availability of funds	15	
Finance	All Signatory States / Secretariat	Consider options for improving the financial status of the MoU (eg. increasing donor support; identifying new funding sources; applying minimum subscription levels; postponing the annual meeting in 2007)	65	
Finance	Other organisations: CMS	Make arrangements for \$5,000 contribution towards Year of the Turtle activities	9	Contribution was gratefully received in May 2006

Action theme	Action directed to:	Activity	Report para.	Remark
Reporting	Secretariat	Continue to develop the online reporting system and template, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, taking account of SS4 feedback	32-44	
Reporting	Secretariat	Finalise and publish the leatherback and tsunami assessment as separate documents	46	Reports will have been published and distributed in July 2006
Reporting	Secretariat	Work with Indian-based NGO to publish the conclusions of a CMS-funded project to establish a network for sea turtle conservation in India	49	
Website	All Signatory States / other partners	Contribute material for inclusion in the IOSEA website and make prominent links from existing organisational websites in order to increase visitations to the IOSEA site	68	
Website	All Signatory States / other partners	Use the IOSEA website, especially the Year of the Turtle events calendar, for timely exchange of information on YoT activities	31	
Admin	Secretariat	Review applications for funding of small-scale Year of the Turtle activities	31	Applications reviewed / funding processed April-May 2006
Admin	Secretariat	Work with KESCOM to finalise outstanding elements of a marine turtle conservation project in Kenya	48	
Admin	Secretariat	Include on SS5 agenda the issue of transforming the IOSEA MoU to a 'legally-binding instrument'	72	