



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON THE CONSERVATION OF
MIGRATORY SHARKS**

CMS/Sharks/MOS4/National
Report/United Arab Emirates
10/02/2023
Original: English

4th Meeting of the Signatories (Sharks MOS4)
Bonn, 28 February – 2 March 2023

United Arab Emirates National Report

Page number	Item
1 – 5	Completed National Reporting Form
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Sharks MOS4: National Reporting Format (Offline version)

Purpose: Evaluate the status of how Signatories are meeting the objective of the Memorandum of Understanding: "*to achieve and maintain a favorable conservation status for migratory sharks based on the best available scientific information, taking into account current management and conservation actions, the socio-economic, and other values of these species for the people of the Signatories*" and to report on implementation of the Conservation Plan.

*Compulsory field

Additional instructions are provided in *italics*.

Report submitted by

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Species in your area of national jurisdiction

6. Signatory*
Please select the Signatory you represent
United Arab Emirates
7. Please open the [excel spreadsheet](#) that you were provided for your country by the Secretariat. Use the spreadsheet to review the status of Annex 1-listed species in your national jurisdiction. Once complete, please email the spreadsheet, along with this word document, to the Secretariat (fenella.wood@cms.int)

Please contact the Secretariat if you have any difficulty accessing the spreadsheet or require additional advice and support to complete the spreadsheet.

- I have downloaded the spreadsheet successfully
 I could not download the spreadsheet

Commented [RAA1]: I requested the spreadsheet by e-mail.

8. Do your vessels catch (landed, transhipped, or discarded) any Annex 1-listed species WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction? *

- Yes
 No

9. If yes, please report species-specific catch information within your area of national jurisdiction on the **spreadsheet** provided.

Please provide information on species that are caught (landed, transhipped, or discarded).

*Please infill **column F** on the spreadsheet for each species. There is a drop-down list for you to use with the following options: 'taking occurs', 'taking potentially occurs', 'taking does not occur', 'unknown' or 'not applicable'.*

*Please provide any additional information in **column G**, for example links to publicly available reports that may contain relevant data.*

- I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
 Not applicable

Please note that for the species that taking potentially occurs, it is most likely due to bycatch because all the listed species that occur in the UAE waters are banned.

10. Do your vessels catch (landed, transhipped, or discarded) any Annex 1-listed species OUTSIDE of your area of national jurisdiction? *

- Yes
 No

11. If yes, please report species-specific catch information outside of your area of national jurisdiction on the **spreadsheet** provided.

Please provide information on species that are caught (landed, transhipped, or discarded).

*Please infill **column H** on the spreadsheet for each species. There is a drop-down list for you to use with the following options: 'taking occurs', 'taking potentially occurs', 'taking does not occur', 'unknown' or 'not applicable'.*

*Please provide any additional information in **column I**, for example links to publicly available reports that may contain relevant data.*

- I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
 Not applicable

The UAE's fisher folk are not allowed to fish outside the UAE's national jurisdiction

Management and conservation measures

12. Are any Annex 1-listed species protected or have a managed fishery? *

- Yes
 No

13. If yes, please include details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species in the **spreadsheet** provided.

These could include national, supranational regulations or the implementation of Regional Fisheries Body measures.

*Please infill **column J** on the spreadsheet for each species.*

- I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
 Not applicable

14. Are there any regulations concerning Annex 1-listed species currently in the process of being proposed or implemented? *

- Yes
 No

The list of banned species in the UAE will be updated to reflect the amendments to CITES Appendices

15. If yes, please include details of the proposed or in the process of implementation in the **spreadsheet** provided.

*Please infill **column K** on the spreadsheet for each species.*

- I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
 Not applicable

16. Have you established other conservation measures for Annex 1-listed species in your area of national jurisdiction? *

- Yes
 No

17. If yes, please include details of the conservation measures in the **spreadsheet** provided.

These could include activities including research, capacity building, training, habitat conservation, etc.

*Please infill **column L** on the spreadsheet for each species.*

- I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet

Not applicable

Cooperation

18. Are you cooperating with other Signatories or NGOs on the implementation of the Sharks MOU and its Conservation Plan? *

Please provide details of the cooperation.

The UAE cooperates with the IFAW to raise awareness about the importance of shark conservation. Additionally, the UAE cooperates with the IFAW to support and increase compliance through training workshops and creating species identification tools such as posters.

19. Have you identified the need, or do you have a request for cooperation with other Signatories or Cooperating Partners to implement the Conservation Plan within your country/region? For example a relevant Regional Fisheries Body. *

Please describe.

Cooperation with regional bodies such as RECOFI will be helpful especially if regional bans are implemented.

20. Have you identified any barriers preventing cooperation and partnership to implement the Sharks MOU and its Conservation Plan? *

Please describe.

Economic factors may prevent cooperation due to differences in capacities and varying priorities.

Capacity and materials

21. What capacity needs have you identified in your country? Please provide details. *

This could include, but not limited to, training, equipment, materials, funding, data collection etc.

Data collection especially landing data, DNA based identification, knowledge on migration routes and habitats

22. What regional (or national) identification guides, and safe handling and release guidelines do you use? *

Please provide citation and internet link. If national guides can be made available to other Signatories, please email them as a PDF to fenella.wood@cms.int.

Sharks of the Arabian Seas: an Identification Guide

THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF SHARKS, RAYS, AND CHIMAERAS IN THE ARABIAN SEA AND ADJACENT WATERS

<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2017-035.pdf>

23. Please send any documents related to the conservation and management of Annex 1-listed species that should be included in the Info Hub (<https://www.cms.int/sharks/en/sharks-mou-infohub>) to fenella.wood@cms.int.

- Relevant documents for the Info Hub have been emailed to the Secretariat
- Not Applicable

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction ¹	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits ²	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	Common name (English)						
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark	Doesn't Occur	Extant (Resident)	Taking potentially occurs		Taking does not occur	
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking potentially occurs		Taking does not occur	
<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>	Common Thresher Shark	Possibly Extant	Doesn't Occur	Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	Narrow Sawfish	Doesn't Occur	Extant (Resident)	Taking does not occur			
<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Silky Shark	Doesn't Occur	Extant (Resident)	Taking potentially occurs		Taking does not occur	
<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Oceanic Whitetip Shark	Doesn't Occur	Extant (Resident)	Taking potentially occurs		Taking does not occur	
<i>Carcharhinus obscurus</i>	Dusky Shark	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	Great White Shark	Possibly Extant	Doesn't Occur	Taking does not occur			
<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	Basking Shark	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Shortfin Mako Shark	Doesn't Occur	Extant (Resident)	Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Isurus paucus</i>	Longfin Mako Shark	Doesn't Occur	Extant (Resident)	Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Manta alfredi</i> (<i>Mobula alfredi</i>)	Reef Manta Ray	Extant (Resident)	Doesn't Occur	Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	

¹ Species that your vessels catch (landed, transhipped or discarded) WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction.

² Species that your flag vessels are engaged in catching (landed, transhipped or discarded) OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits. This also includes those vessels with the potential to take these species.

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction ¹	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits ²	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	Common name (English)						
<i>Manta birostris</i> (<i>Mobula birostris</i>)	Manta Ray	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula eregoodootenkee</i> (<i>Mobula eregoodoo</i>)	Longhorned Pygmy Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula hypostoma</i>	Atlantic Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula japonica</i> (Please enter information under <i>Mobula mobular</i>)	Japanese Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)				Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula kuhlii</i>	Shortfin Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula mobular</i>	Giant Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula munkiana</i>	Pygmy Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula rochebrunei</i> (Please enter information under <i>Mobula hypostoma</i>)	Lesser Guinean Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur				Taking does not occur	
<i>Mobula tarapacana</i>	Sicklefin Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction ¹	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits ²	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	Common name (English)						
<i>Mobula thurstoni</i>	Bentfin Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Pristis clavata</i>	Dwarf Sawfish	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur		Taking does not occur	
<i>Pristis pectinata</i>	Smalltooth Sawfish	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur			
<i>Pristis pristis</i>	Large-tooth Sawfish	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur			
<i>Pristis zijsron</i>	Green Sawfish	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur			
<i>Rhincodon typus</i>	Whale Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur			
<i>Rhinobatos rhinobatos</i>	Common Guitarfish	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur			
<i>Rhynchobatus australiae</i>	Bottlenose Wedgefish	Doesn't Occur	Extant (Resident)	Taking potentially occurs			
<i>Rhynchobatus djiddensis</i>	Whitespotted Wedgefish	Extant (Resident)		Taking does not occur			
<i>Rhynchobatus laevis</i>	Smoothnose Wedgefish	Extant (Resident)		Taking potentially occurs			
<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Scalloped Hammerhead Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking potentially occurs			
<i>Sphyrna mokarran</i>	Great Hammerhead Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking potentially occurs			
<i>Sphyrna zygaena</i>	Smooth Hammerhead Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking potentially occurs			

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction¹	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits²	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	Common name (English)						
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spiny Dogfish	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur			
<i>Squatina squatina</i>	Angelshark	Doesn't Occur		Taking does not occur			

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	Common name (English)				
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>	Common Thresher Shark	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	Narrow Sawfish	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements. Moreover, technical workshops as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Silky Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Oceanic Whitetip Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly +	

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	Common name (English)				
				Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Carcharhinus obscurus</i>	Dusky Shark				
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	Great White Shark	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	Basking Shark	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Shortfin Mako Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Isurus paucus</i>	Longfin Mako Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	Common name (English)				
<i>Manta alfredi</i> (<i>Mobula alfredi</i>)	Reef Manta Ray	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	Arabian Gulf & Sea of Oman excluded in distribution based Rays of the World
<i>Manta birostris</i> (<i>Mobula birostris</i>)	Manta Ray	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements. Moreover, technical workshops as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Mobula eregoodootenkee</i> (<i>Mobule eregoodoo</i>)	Longhorned Pygmy Devil Ray	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements. Moreover, technical workshops as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Mobula hypostoma</i>	Atlantic Devil Ray	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Mobula japonica</i> (Please enter information)	Japanese Devil Ray				

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	Common name (English)				
<i>under Mobula mobular)</i>					
<i>Mobula kuhlii</i>	Shortfin Devil Ray	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Mobula mobular</i>	Giant Devil Ray	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Mobula munkiana</i>	Pygmy Devil Ray	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Mobula rochebrunei</i> (Please enter information under <i>Mobula hypostoma</i>)	Lesser Guinean Devil Ray				
<i>Mobula tarapacana</i>	Sicklefin Devil Ray	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirments.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Mobula thurstoni</i>	Bentfin Devil Ray	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly +	

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	Common name (English)				
		species complies with CITES requirements.		Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Pristis clavata</i>	Dwarf Sawfish	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Pristis pectinata</i>	Smalltooth Sawfish	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Pristis pristis</i>	Largetooth Sawfish	Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Pristis zijsron</i>	Green Sawfish	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Rhincodon typus</i>	Whale Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in coloumn J	
<i>Rhinobatos rhinobatos</i>	Common Guitarfish				
<i>Rhynchobatus australiae</i>	Bottlenose Wedgefish	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this		Identification workshops and training as well as awarness campaigns such as	Last, P.R., W.T. White,

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	Common name (English)				
		species complies with CITES requirements.		Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	M.R. de Carvalho, B. Séret, M.F.W. Stehmann and G.J.P. Naylor, 2016. Rays of the world. CSIRO Publishing.
<i>Rhynchobatus djiddensis</i>	Whitespotted Wedgefish	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Rhynchobatus laevis</i>	Smoothnose Wedgefish	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Scalloped Hammerhead Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Sphyrna mokarran</i>	Great Hammerhead Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	Common name (English)				
<i>Sphyrna zygaena</i>	Smooth Hammerhead Shark	The fishing of this species is banned in the UAE. Imports and re-exports of this species complies with CITES requirements.		Identification workshops and training as well as awareness campaigns such as Shark Week are conducted regularly + Decree 43 of 2019 stipulates the mentioned in column J	
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spiny Dogfish				
<i>Squatina squatina</i>	Angelshark				