MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE TURTLES AND THEIR HABITATS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA

CMS/IOSEA/MOS8/Doc.8.1/Annex 1

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8TH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES
Da Nang, Viet Nam, 21-25 October 2019
Agenda Item 8.1

SYNTHESIS OF EXISTING RECOMMENDATIONS: NORTHERN INDIAN OCEAN (NIO) SUBREGION

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Action Requested:

- Take note of the document in preparation for the discussion of the Draft IOSEA Work Programme

- Consider relevance of recommendations for the development of the IOSEA Work Programme

Synthesis of existing recommendations specific to NIO MTTF or arising from the sub-regional discussions

Recommendation	Lead/ responsible	Source	CMP[1]	Subject	Notes/priority level if known
1. Provide technical support to Signatory States to address bycatch, including observer training, and capacity-building on proper recording of turtle interactions in a harmonized and standard way, inter alia, to assist IOTC member countries in meeting their reporting requirements	Not specified	NIO sub-regional group discussion, MOS7 report, MOS7 report	5.4	Fisheries Interactions	Sub-regional workshops may be linked to these activities
2. Capacity building is needed to address for by-catch and hatchery (mis)management in the sub-region	Not specified	Discussion of AC recommendations to MOS7	5.4	Capacity Building	Use project concepts outlined under species assessments
3. Assess and advise on hatchery management practice (e.g. Maldives and Sri Lanka) and assess hawksbill hatchery production success in Indonesia and Philippines, as appropriate.	AC, Signatory States	Action Points, MOS7	5.4	Capacity Building	
4. Investigate potential opportunities for sub-regional capacity building / technical workshops, particularly in NWIO and NIO, including involvement of Advisory Committee.	Signatory States	Action Points, MOS7	5.4	Capacity Building	
5. Regional flipper tagging database/addressing gaps	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	5.3c)	Collabora-tive Research	High
6. Ensure training of observers particularly for small-scale fisheries (separate for trawlers/ gill nets, smaller outboard fisheries in large quantities): a) Address associated training and technology transfer needs where applicable	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	1.4b)	Fisheries Interactions	High

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[1] Corresponding Objective and/or Programme of the Conservation and Management Plan of the MOU

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7. Consider reducing soak time to reduce bycatch	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	1.4	Fisheries Interactions	High
8. Conduct training for safe release of bycaught turtles	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	1.4	Fisheries Interactions	High
9. Consider using bycatch reduction technologies (TEDs, LED lights)	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	1.4	Fisheries Interactions	High
10. Delimiting net sizes (needs preliminary data collection)	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	1.4	Fisheries Interactions	High Original wording of the Recommendation, meaning unclear
11. Enforce compliance with fishing regulations	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	1.4	Fisheries Interactions	High
12. Task Force Members IOSEA (national focal points) should help and coordinate their contributions on turtle issues to national scientists and national delegations attending IOTC	Not specified	Discussion of AC recommendations to MOS7	3.4	Fisheries Interactions	

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13. Participate in IOTC meetings to promote the cause of turtles in respective meetings, and to communicate issues with Secretariat and others for information.	NIO Signatory States and IOTC members	Action Points, MOS7	3.4	Fisheries Interactions	
14. Link genetics work more closely with the Species Assessments and the Site Network process, which could help to identify index beaches and priority foraging areas	Not specified	Discussion of AC recommendations to MOS7, MOS7 report	3.1	Genetics	NIO Countries agree to endorse this approach
15. It is recommended that genetics work to identify genetic stocks under IOSEA should focus on the hawksbill turtle to complement other efforts, which are ongoing on other species.	IOSEA Stakeholders	Discussion of AC recommendations to MOS7, MOS7 report	3.1c	Genetics	Identification of genetic characteristics of the nesting populations (document MT-IOSEA/SS.7/Doc. 10.2)
16. Continue to address the problem of ghost nets via direct dialogue with fishermen and surveys	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	1.4, 4.3	Marine Debris	High
17. Develop/identify a standardized monitoring protocol to guide and collect data on: a) hatchery and head-starting practices b) in-water studies (photo identification, etc.) c) strandings and mortality (data collection, database) d) tissue sampling e) determining sex ratios	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	3.4	Method Standardi-zation	High

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18. Educate (potential) participants of citizen science activities about species identification and data collection techniques	Not specified	Programme of work for NIO MTTF for 2017-2020, NIO MTTF 2 meeting report	4.3	Public Outreach	High
19. Support project concepts for leatherbacks in the leatherback species assessment document, in particular, to devise a low-cost monitoring protocol, to identify and monitor index sites consistently for a period of 3-5 years in Sri Lankan leatherback rookeries, and to collect genetic samples as a contribution to a region-wide assessment. Seek to find possible collaborates as suggested.	Not specified	NIO sub-regional group discussion, MOS7 report, MOS7 report	3	Species: Leatherback	
20. Conduct an expert workshop and provide training to set up a monitoring program of 3-5 years in Sri-Lankan Leatherback rookeries (see Provisional List of Project Concepts Resulting from the Updated (2012) Leatherback Assessment)	Not specified	Provisional List of Project Concepts Resulting from the Updated (2012) Leatherback Assessment	1.1	Species: Leatherback	
21. Organize an expert workshop, including initial training to set up a 3-5-year monitoring program of nesting Loggerhead Turtles on Socotra, Oman and in Sri Lanka (see Provisional List of Project Concepts Resulting from the Loggerhead Assessment (2013)	Not specified	Provisional List of Project Concepts Resulting from the Loggerhead Assessment (2013), MOS 7 Report	1.1	Species: Loggerhead	

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22. Identify management units for loggerhead turtles, via genetic analysis, in the IOSEA region, starting with Sri-Lanka	Sri Lanka (Dept. of Wild-life and/or NGOs; and co-operating countries for sample analysis	Recommendations for logger-head turtle conservation, MT-IOSEA/SS.7/Doc. 9	3.1	Species: Loggerhead	It is not known whether the loggerhead turtles breeding in Sri Lanka are a distinct management unit, or part of other Indian Ocean units
23. Encourage and develop synergies between governments and NGOs	Not specified	NIO sub-regional group discussion, MOS7 report	4.3 b)	Stakeholder Engagement	IUCN in Maldives was working on a Proposal for a Citizen Science-based Maldives Turtle Monitoring Program