

**Range State Meeting on the Single Species Action Plan
for the Angelshark in the Mediterranean Sea
(online, 5 & 6 July 2022)**

CMS/Angelshark-SSAP/Doc.3/Addendum

General comments to the draft Angelshark SSAP

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

In addition to the comments included in *CMS/Angelshark-SSAP/Doc.3*, the following general comments have been received from:

European Union:

As a general comment, the action plan seems like a great initiative to further protect Angelsharks. On the draft text itself, as an initial reaction:

- The draft is focused mainly on data collection and lacks concrete actions. Could the spelling out of specific actions be foreseen?
- It would be good to also add some research topics to the draft
- We are currently working in the Commission on an Action Plan under the Biodiversity Strategy 2030 to conserve fisheries resources and protect ecosystems and it would be a good idea to make some links between this action plan and the one proposed for Angelsharks. In particular in areas such as encouraging countries to prepare joint recommendations on a regional basis to protect species i.e. Angelshark. It is still a work in progress.

Malta:

- As a general comment, Malta believes that there should be more flexibility in the application of certain actions, and these need to reflect common methodologies between Contracting Parties prior to implementation.
- Regarding Governance Structure and Reporting, Malta suggests that the reporting is simplified through broader more strategic reporting fields in order to avoid duplication of work for Contracting Parties. For example, rather than specific references to eDNA, Malta would be able to make reference to the data collection processes that are already in place, and links to the data that is already provided through other reporting streams.