



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

CMS/Sharks/AC2/Rec 2.4  
02 February 2018

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2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC2)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop of the Conservation Working Group (CWG2)  
Bonaire, Netherlands, 20 - 24 November 2017

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING OF THE  
SIGNATORIES OF THE SHARKS MOU  
ON  
ELEMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN A CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR THE  
SHARKS MOU**

1. The table below includes recommendations of the Advisory Committee (AC) to MOS3 for specific activities that may be included in a Capacity-Building Programme for the Sharks MOU. In addition, the AC has made suggestions on the entity under the MOU that should be responsible for the implementation of these activities. To provide guidance to the Signatories with view to the relative importance of activities, these were prioritized, ranging from 1 (highest priority) to 3 (lowest priority).
2. The recommendations are based on an assessment of capacity-building needs of Signatories, derived from a survey, which was undertaken between 5 August and 15 September 2017 by the Secretariat with guidance from the AC. A summary of the survey results is provided in CMS/Sharks/AC2/Doc.7.

Activities	Implementing Entity	Priority <sup>1</sup>	Comments by the AC to MOS3
1. Technical Capacity:			
a) Develop or update/translate and disseminate identification guides;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– AC</li> </ul>	1	ID guides should be developed based on the needs of the region. Surveys might have to be undertaken to develop a checklist of species that occur in certain areas and regions; Cooperation with CITES and FAO is recommended.
b) Develop CMS/CITES ID guide in multiple languages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– AC</li> </ul>	1	
c) Identify existing or develop training materials, including for Training of Trainers (TOT), on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– species identification;</li> <li>– documentation of (standardized) protocols;</li> <li>– data collection (incl. preliminary analysis, data storage) and reporting;</li> <li>– safe handling and release techniques.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories in cooperation with RFMOs</li> </ul>	1	FAO provides already training materials on data collection, data analysis and reporting; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the USA (NOAA) and others provide guides on safe handling and release techniques.
d) Provide training or inform Signatories about appropriate training workshops occurring in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– AC</li> <li>– Cooperating Partners</li> <li>– Secretariat</li> </ul>	2	Signatories with capacity-building needs may be invited to regional workshops held by other Signatories, relevant organizations or Cooperating Partners.
e) Facilitates the exchange of knowledge and expertise between Signatories within and across regions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– AC</li> <li>– Cooperating Partners</li> <li>– Secretariat</li> </ul>	3	This may be in form of training workshops or provision of training materials; repository of training materials Provision of databases, and providing assistance with analysis and reporting

<sup>1</sup> The activities were ranked by priority on a scale of 1 (highest priority) - 3 (lowest priority).

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2. Policy Development:			
a) Review and provide guidance on national strategies and legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– Secretariat</li> <li>– Cooperating Partners</li> </ul>	1  upon request	Upon request by Signatories; Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) may be able to review strategies.
3. Compliance and Enforcement of CMS-listed species:			
a) Provide training and develop training materials for national staff concerned with surveillance and enforcement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– Cooperating Partners</li> </ul>	1	RFBs might be able to provide assistance
4. Habitat conservation and rehabilitation:			
a) Assist Signatories with marine spatial planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– AC</li> </ul>	3	Please refer to recommendations on spatial management
b) Support for the development of management plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– AC</li> </ul>	3	Please refer to recommendations on spatial management
5. Development and management of conservation projects:			
a) Stimulate and incentivize the development of projects e.g. through start-up grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signatories</li> <li>– Secretariat</li> <li>– Cooperating Partners</li> </ul>	2	
6. Awareness-raising and Communication/Community Participation:			

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b) Develop awareness-raising materials or identify existing ones, that can be tailored to the needs of the different regions and countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperating Partners</li> <li>- Secretariat</li> <li>- AC</li> </ul>	2	Information may be already available through Signatories or NGOs.
c) Assist with developing community events to educate on shark conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signatories</li> <li>- Cooperating Partners</li> <li>- Secretariat</li> </ul>	2	
7. Cooperation with other Range States:			
a) Inform Signatories of opportunities for regional or international cooperation, such as multi-national initiatives, projects or meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signatories</li> <li>- Secretariat</li> <li>- Cooperating Partners</li> </ul>	1	This activity could be achieved at low cost.
b) Signatories to engage in existing international agreements (RSCs and APs and other regional bodies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signatories</li> <li>- Cooperating Partners</li> </ul>	2	
8. Funding:			
a) Identify suitable funds and make Signatories and Range States aware of funding opportunities for the implementation of the MOU.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signatories</li> <li>- Secretariat</li> <li>- Cooperating Partners</li> <li>- AC</li> </ul>	1	Signatories, Cooperating Partners and AC might be able to provide feedback on proposals.
b) Encourage funding bodies to consider the CMS listings as criterion for assessing proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signatories</li> <li>- Secretariat</li> </ul>	2	