



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

CMS/Sharks/AC3/Doc.4.1
06 December 2019

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3rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC3)
Bonn Germany, 10 – 12 December 2019
Agenda Item 4

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK 2020 – 2022
FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

One key objective of the 3rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC3) of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (Sharks MOU) is to allow the Advisory Committee (AC) to develop its Programme of Work (POW) for the period of 2020-2022, and to discuss and agree the modalities of delivering it.

The present document proposes a template for the development of the POW and an approach for its implementation, for the consideration of the AC.

The AC will finalize its Programme of Work 2020-2022 during this meeting.

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2020 – 2021

Background

1. The 3rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC3) is being convened, with the main objective of allowing the AC to develop its Programme of Work (POW) for 2020-2022 and discuss and agree the modalities of delivering it.
2. Annex 1 to this document includes a proposed template for the development of the POW, prepared by the Secretariat as a basis for AC's work during the meeting. The AC is expected to review and finalize the template in the beginning of the meeting, with a view to use it as a frame for the development of the POW throughout the rest of the meeting.

Summary of Mandates

3. With a view to supporting the AC in identifying areas for action, the Secretariat has filled the first two columns of the table in Annex 1 to this document with the specific requests addressed to the AC through decisions (Outcomes) of the 3rd Meeting of the Signatories (MOS3) of the Sharks MOU and mandates that derive from other sources and earlier Meetings of the Signatories. Please refer to [CMS/Sharks/AC3/Inf.2/Rev.1](#) *Mandates of the Advisory Committee* for an overview of mandates directed to the AC.

Structure of the Template for the Programme of Work

Mandates

4. The Secretariat pre-selected several mandates, slightly rephrased them and clustered them under general topics. The first column makes reference to the numbering of the mandate as in CMS/Sharks/AC3/Inf.2/Rev.1, the second column indicates the origin of the mandate and the third column sets out the mandate.
5. The Secretariat took most mandates of the AC as summarized in CMS/Sharks/AC3/Inf.2/Rev.1 into account. However, exceptions were made for those mandates that were of general nature, namely mandates numbers 1, 3-5 and 33.

Suggested Activities

6. For some mandates, activities have been pre-filled and remarks have been added by the Secretariat and the Chair as tentative suggestions for the review of AC.

Expected Output and Time Line for Delivery

7. This column contains information about concrete outputs of activities and should indicate a time line for their delivery.

Lead / Contributors

8. The AC is expected to identify individual experts to take the lead on implementation as well as additional contributors. Those individuals do not necessarily have to be members of the AC.

Priority

9. The AC is invited to determine the priority for the implementation of the activities taking into account the importance and urgency of the activity, but also the capacity of the AC and the

Secretariat.

10. For some mandates arriving from the Conservation Plan (Annex 3 to the Sharks MOU) and the Sharks MOU Programme of Work 2019-2021 (Outcome 3.9) the levels of priority were already indicated by the Signatories and shall not be changed.

Funding

11. This column includes information about the need for funding, in particular the amount of funding required and potential sources.
12. It is to be noted that many of the mandates are not time-bound, while the implementation of them and others is dependent the availability of resources, financial or in kind, that are currently not available to the Sharks MOU.

Action requested:

1. Review and finalize the template for the Programme of Work 2020-2022;
2. Develop and adopt the Programme of Work 2020-2022

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2020-2022

Mandate			Suggested Activities	Expected Outputs and Timeline	Lead / Contributors	Level of Priority ¹	Funding
Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
Amendment of Sharks MOU Annex 1/ CMS Appendices							
14	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 11	Contribute to the preparation of CMS COP13 and other relevant meetings of CMS. Provide comments on proposals for the inclusion of shark and ray species in the Appendices of CMS to the CMS Scientific Council and Conference of the Parties.	Participate in relevant CMS meetings (COP, ScC-SC). Prepare a review of shark and ray listing proposals submitted to CMS COP. Completed		AC Chair/AC members	High	-
6	Outcome 3.2 Modifying Annex 1 Para 5-6	Review proposals for the inclusion of species in Annex 1 of the MOU, submitted to MOS4.			AC Chair/AC members	High	-
2	MOU text Para 24	Analyze, as necessary, scientific assessments and making recommendations on the conservation status of shark populations listed in Annex 1 and others which may be contemplated for inclusion.	Review the conservation status following any recent IUCN Red List or population assessments and make advise MOS4 on any changes that require the Signatories' attention.		AC Chair/AC members	High	?
Conservation Issues							
14	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 11	Contribute to the implementation of: – CMS Res. 12.20 on “Management of Marine Debris”;	Bycatch: Cooperate with the CMS COP-Appointed Councilor for Bycatch on the implementation of Decision XX.		John Carlson		

¹ Level of priority: High, medium low. Pre-filled information is not subject to changes as the level of priority was decided by Signatories.

Mandate			Suggested Activities	Expected Outputs and Timeline	Lead / Contributors	Level of Priority ¹	Funding
Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CMS Res. 12.22 on “Bycatch”; – CMS Res. 12.24 on “Promoting Marine Protected Area Networks in the ASEAN Region”; 					
35	Outcome 3.7 AC TOR Para 5	Undertake further tasks as identified in the Conservation Plan (Annex 3 of the MOU).	<p>Habitat Loss: (Focus on particular species/regions)</p> <p>Climate Change (request to IPBES)</p>				
36	Outcome 3.7 AC TOR Para 5	Review priorities and timeframes and responsible entities for implementation of the Conservation Plan.					
7	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 11	Contribute to the implementation of CMS Res. 12.23 on “Sustainable Tourism and Migratory Species”;	<p>Tourism: Evaluate the role of ecotourism for elasmobranchs; pros and cons Contribute to the development of global guidelines for sustainable Whale Shark tourism.</p>		AC and external colleagues (Divers4Sharks, LAMAVE, Project Aware tbc)		Grant proposal
14	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 1	Assist the government of the Philippines with the organization of a regional workshop on the conservation of whale sharks in Southeast Asia.	See above		See above	High	See above Funding available through CMS Champions Programme (tbc)
20	Outcome 3.8 CMS Concerted	<u>Whale Shark (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>):</u>	Assist with the development of a Regional Action for		Moonyeen Alava Cooperating Partners (LAMAVE) and		

Mandate			Suggested Activities	Expected Outputs and Timeline	Lead / Contributors	Level of Priority ¹	Funding
Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
	Action <u>Whale Shark</u>	(5.3) Encourage all Range States to develop action plans for the conservation of Whale Sharks. (5.6) Encourage the development of regional action plans to foster cooperation between Range States with connected populations.	the South East Asia region.		additional experts		
7	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 1	Assist the Principality of Monaco with the organization of regional workshops on the conservation of the Angelshark, in particular in the Mediterranean region.	Assist the Secretariat with the development of a draft Regional Action Plan for the Angelshark in the Mediterranean region for discussion at the CMS Range State meeting.		James Ellis Marino Vacchi (Consultant, Angelshark Network)	High	Funding available through CMS Champions Programme
22	Outcome 3.8 CMS Concerted Action <u>Angelshark</u>	<u>Angelshark (<i>Squatina squatina</i>):</u> (4) Global Strategy: Engage with IUCN SSG and contribute to Global Red List reassessments for all angel shark species.	See above		Marino Vacchi James Ellis		
8	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 2	Finalize existing species factsheets and draft species factsheets for species newly listed in Annex 1 of the MOU.	Partially completed		AC Chair/AC members	High	
9	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 3	Further develop and prioritize suggested areas of action as contained in Outcome 3.12 with options by taxa, region, and other relevant factors.	See agenda item 6			High	
24	Outcome 3.12 TOR IWG Conservation	There should be an additional factsheet produced summarizing actions across	See agenda item 6				

Mandate			Suggested Activities	Expected Outputs and Timeline	Lead / Contributors	Level of Priority ¹	Funding
Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
	Measures	species;					
17	From MOS3 Meeting report	Directed to the AC: ² Develop focussed targets within the Programme of Work	Develop Programme of Work 2022-2024 for the Sharks MOU	Draft POW By the of end 2020	AC members		
18 e	Outcome 2.8 TOR CWG	(Directed to the CWG) Undertake a prioritization of the activities of the Conservation Plan by species or group of species (as appropriate), with priority to those listed under Appendix I of the CMS, taking into consideration relevant existing initiatives.	See agenda item 6				
36	Conservation Plan Activity 1.1	Identify priority research, monitoring and training needs, taking into account regional differences.	See agenda item 6			High	
37	Conservation Plan Activity 1.7	Establish conservation targets and indicators to assess progress towards reaching these targets at the species population level and develop species-specific reference points for enhanced conservation measures.	See agenda item 6			High	
39	Conservation Plan Activity 2.2	Recommend standard methods and set minimum levels of data collection and adopt or develop a recommended set of protocols	Provide support to Signatories with the implementation of RFMO standards.			High	

² • “The POW needed focused targets, which the AC working with a small number of Signatories might develop. The EU agreed and endorsed the idea of developing targets before MOS4. New Zealand preferred the option of working with the AC rather than establishing a dedicated working group. The Vice-Chair sought a volunteer to steer the process. Mauritania indicated its willingness to take the lead. Australia suggested reaching out to cooperating partners. The IUCN indicated its support and mentioned its assessment and conservation planning workshops which would be relevant to activity 16 of the POW.”

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Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
		for research, monitoring, and information exchange.					
Cooperation with relevant Organizations							
16	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 16	Liaise with the IUCN Shark SSG and participate in assessment and conservation planning workshops, where relevant.	Assist the IUCN SSG with the development of a Global Strategy for the Conservation of "Rhino Rays" (see also CA proposal)		John Carlson/Rima Jabado/Others	High	
19	Outcome 3.4 RFMO Engagement	Directed to the Secretariat: Liaise and communicate with RFMOs to identify opportunities for joint activities, including capacity-building activities that are relevant for the conservation and management of species listed in Annex 1.	Support the Secretariat		Appropriate AC members		
18g	Outcome 2.8 TOR CWG	(Directed to the CWG) Present recommendations and position statements to stakeholders at relevant meetings and workshops of FAO, RSCAPs and RFBs and other relevant organizations.	Follow developments under relevant organizations. Prepare notifications to Signatories to keep Signatories informed about relevant meetings and agendas.		AC members, Sec		
18d	Outcome 2.8 TOR CWG	(Directed to the CWG) Participate, when possible, as observers in relevant meetings of FAO, the United Nations Environment Programme, RSCAPs, RFBs and other	Identify relevant meetings that the AC should be represented at. e.g. the joint tRFMO WG on bycatch	List of meetings that require attendance	AC members		

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Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
		relevant organizations on behalf of the MOU.					
15	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 12	Strengthen synergies and collaborate with CITES: Include activities on sharks and rays in a new CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme with the CITES Secretariat in consultation with Signatories.	Make suggestions for joint activities with CITES.		Appropriate AC members	High	
15	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 12	Strengthen synergies and collaborate with FAO.	Make suggestions for joint activities with FAO.			High	
Capacity-building, Information and Awareness raising							
12	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 8	Set up a repository for relevant information to assist managers, including species identification, bycatch mitigation and safe handling, discard survival, and other relevant fisheries management information.	Further develop the information hub on the website of the CMS Sharks MOU. Share new publications, in particular on relevant fisheries management information with the Secretariat, that can be published on the Info Hub.			Medium	
13 (and 25-32)	Outcome 3.9 POW 19-21 Para 10	Implement the Capacity-building Programme for the MOU as adopted in CMS/Sharks/Outcome 3.6 to assist Signatories with the implementation of the Conservation Plan, including to – Develop or update/translate and	Info Hub Develop CITES and CMS ID guides in French, English and Arabic		Rima Jabado	High	Significant funding required for most tasks

Mandate			Suggested Activities	Expected Outputs and Timeline	Lead / Contributors	Level of Priority ¹	Funding
Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
		disseminate identification guides. – Develop CMS/CITES ID guide in multiple languages. – Provide training or inform Signatories about appropriate training workshops occurring in the region. – Facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise between Signatories within and across regions. – Assist Signatories with marine spatial planning. – Support the development of management plans. – Develop awareness raising materials or identify existing ones, that can be tailored to the needs of the different regions and countries. – Identify suitable funds and make Signatories and Range States aware of funding opportunities for the implementation of the MOU.					
38	Conservation Plan Activity 2.1	Facilitate the timely access to and exchange of information necessary to coordinate conservation and management measures.	Info Hub			High	

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Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
40	Conservation Plan Activity 2.3	Determine and, where appropriate, develop the most suitable methods for information dissemination.	Info Hub			High	
41	Conservation Plan Activity 2.4	Regularly exchange scientific and technical information and expertise among: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – national governments; – scientific institutions; – non-governmental organizations and civil society; – international organizations; and – the private sector. in order to develop and implement best practice approaches to the conservation of sharks and their habitats.	Info Hub			High	
42	Conservation Plan Activity 2.5	Create a directory of experts and organizations concerned with shark conservation on a regional and global level.	Info Hub			High	
Additional Tasks							
23	Outcome 3.11 IWG Reporting	Review draft National Reporting format and develop indicators	Agenda item 7 Do be completed during AC3	Draft Format for National Reporting Set of indicators To be finalized during the meeting	AC3	High	

Mandate			Suggested Activities	Expected Outputs and Timeline	Lead / Contributors	Level of Priority ¹	Funding
Number in Inf.2/Rev.1	Source of Mandate	Mandate					
10 and 11	Outcome 3.9 POW Para 4 and 5	Support Signatories with the identification of suitable regional and local projects and funding sources.	Upon specific request		AC members		