



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

CMS/Sharks/AC3/Doc.8.2  
28 November 2019

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3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC3)  
Bonn, Germany, 10 - 12 December 2019  
Agenda Item 8

**IDENTIFICATION OF JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH  
THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE  
IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA  
(CITES)**

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

1. This document aims to draw attention to the implementation of one element contained in activity 12 in the Programme of Work 2019-2021 which was adopted at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Signatories to the sharks MOU Sharks (MOS3).

*Activity 12: Strengthen synergies and collaborate with CITES and FAO<sup>1</sup>:*

- *Contribute to the implementation of the CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020 regarding sharks and rays;*
  - ***Include activities on sharks and rays in a new CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme with the CITES Secretariat in consultation with Signatories;***
  - *Organize regular meetings (and teleconferences);*
  - *Share best practice;*
  - *Coordinate conservation activities;*
  - *Share knowledge and expertise.*
2. Among other tasks the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee were tasked to include activities to be proposed for inclusion in the new CITES/CMS Joint Work Programme, in consultation with the Signatories.
  3. The current *CMS CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020<sup>2</sup>* include the following activities related to sharks and rays:

*B17 Optimize the effectiveness of actions taken by Parties to both CMS and CITES concerning sharks and rays, and strengthen synergies with FAO, RFMOs and other relevant bodies.*

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

<sup>2</sup> *CMS CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020*: available at <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/disc/sec/CITES-CMS-wp-en.pdf>

*B18 Cooperate on capacity building regarding the implementation of regulations of both Conventions related to sharks and rays.*

4. A new joint Work Programme 2021-2025 will be developed by the CMS and CITES Secretariats in 2020. Suggestions for activities to be included should be made in February 2020.

**Action requested:**

Provide guidance to the Signatories and the Secretariat on activities that would support the implementation of the Sharks MOU and which should be proposed for inclusion in the new CMS CITES *Joint Work Programme*.