



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.12.1
THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY
SHARKS

16 January 2016

Original: English

Second Meeting of the Signatories
San José, Costa Rica, 15-19 February 2016
Agenda Item 12

DRAFT FORMAT FOR NATIONAL REPORTS

(Cover note prepared by the Secretariat)

1. Pursuant to paragraph 15 b of the MOU, each Signatory should endeavour to provide to the Secretariat a regular national report on the implementation of this MOU and its Conservation Plan.
2. As requested by MOS1, the Advisory Committee has prepared a draft format for national reporting, presented as Annex 1 to this document. The format was developed based on a structure and content of the Conservation Plan and the objectives of the MOU.
3. The draft format was developed as a basis for an online reporting tool. This way of reporting is widely used throughout the CMS Family and has proven to be an efficient mechanism to simplify the preparation of national reports and the analysis and comparison of results. The Secretariat therefore encourages Signatories to consider online reporting as the preferred option over reporting via offline forms. The Secretariat would be able to make use of an existing development tool, used for other CMS Family Agreements, and could hence set up an online reporting tool in house.
4. The MOU itself is silent about the frequency of reporting. However, as it is normally the case for Agreements under CMS and as it was the practice before and during the first triennium of the CMS Sharks MOU, the Secretariat proposes that national reports should be submitted once per triennium, before each Meeting of the Signatories.
5. The draft format will be discussed at the First Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC1), immediately prior to the MOS2. The recommendations of the AC will be presented in CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.13.1.

Action requested:

The Meeting of the Signatories is invited to:

- a) Review and consider the draft format for national reporting, presented as Annex 1, for adoption;
- b) Note and take into account, as appropriate, the recommendations of the AC1 which will

be presented in CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.13.2 immediately before the MOS2;

- c) Consider online reporting as a modus operandi for the submission of national reports;
- d) Agree on the frequency and timing of the submission of national reports.

DRAFT FORMAT FOR NATIONAL REPORTS

[When relevant, please include hyperlinks or attachments to relevant agencies, previous reports, data sets and proposed actions]

I. General information

Year - Country - “National Report”

Year	Country	National Report
YYYY	(Country)	

Report Submitted By:	
Name	
Title	
Institution	
Address	
Email	
Telephone / Fax	
Website	
Date of Submission	MM.DD.YYYY

II. Executive summary of activities or programmes related to the Sharks MOU

[Insert text]

III. General data information on sharks in your country

1. Which domestic policies and legislations are being implemented in your country in regards to shark management and conservation?

Please provide information and links:

[Insert text]

2. Presence and current population trends of species in the national waters of your country:

[Section repeated for all species in Annex1]

Basking Shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*)

Population:

Population Trend:

- Increasing
- Decreasing
- Stable
- Unknown

This assessment is based on the following information:

[Insert text]

Additional Remarks:

[Insert text]

3. Has your country identified priority fields of research and data gaps?

Yes

No

[If yes]

- a) What areas have been prioritized?
- b) What progress has been made on areas of priority?
- c) Which are the major obstacles?

- Unclear competencies;
- Lack of financial resources;
- Lack of institutional capacity;
- Lack of institutional knowledge;
- Lack of scientific data / information;
- Other _____

4. Is your government compiling relevant data, improving ecological knowledge and/or conducting baseline studies on species in Annex 1?

[Section repeated for all species in Annex 1]

Basking Shark

- Population demographics; (*defined as size, dynamics, structure and abundance*)
- Critical Seasons;
- Critical life stages
- Essential marine habitats;
- Distributional range;
- Migration corridors;
- Behaviour and ecology;
- Threats to conservation
- Identifying species that are most vulnerable to human activities and fisheries; and
- Other _____

[If selected: There would be a new section with the previous box name as the title for each box selected]

Please describe:

[For those options not selected: this part would be a separate page for each selectable option]

Do you have future plans to develop data collection and research programmes?

- Yes No

[If yes]

Please describe:

[If no]

Which are the obstacles?

- Lack of financial resources;
- Lack of institutional capacity;
- Lack of data;
- Alternative priorities
- Other

5. Are your scientific and technical data publicly available?

Yes No

[If yes]

Please provide links and information

IV. FISHERIES

6. Indicate whether your government has established standardized monitoring and reporting schemes in fisheries

Yes No

[If yes]

What data are being covered by these schemes?

- Total catch
- CPUE
- Type of fishing gear
- Level of bycatch
- Release of bycatch
- Size and sex of individuals caught or bycaught
- Other

Are data collected and reported at a species specific level?

Yes No

[If no]

Do you have future plans to develop monitoring and reporting schemes?

Yes No

7. Which species are caught in the fisheries of your country?

[Section repeated for all species in Annex1]

Basking Shark

a) Targeted in fisheries

Yes

No

[If yes]

Total Catch _____

CPUE _____

Unknown

Trends over the previous X years

Increasing

Decreasing

Stable

Unknown

This assessment is based on the following information:

[Insert text]

Additional Remarks:

[Insert text]

b) Bycaught in fisheries

Yes

No

[If yes]

Total Catch

CPUE

Unknown

Trends over the previous X years

- Increasing
- Decreasing
- Stable
- Unknown

This assessment is based on the following information:

[Insert text]

Additional Remarks:

[Insert text]

Is the bycatch:

- Released
- Released and monitored
- Utilized
- Other

8. Has your country instituted any of the following measures for species in Annex 1 or in general:

- Fishing quotas
- Effort reductions
- Bycatch mitigation measures
- Selective fishing gear
- Applying spatial closures of fishing areas
- Applying seasonal closures of fishing areas
- Other restrictions

[If selected]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

9. Indicate whether your country developed/established observer schemes:

- Vessel monitoring systems
- Inspections
- On-board observers
- Monitoring programmes
- Other

[If selected]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

10. Has your country prohibited the taking of species listed in CMS Appendix I?

- Yes No

[If yes]

Please provide the relevant information and/or legal sources:

[If no]

a) Please describe any future planned regulations or legislation:

[Insert text]

b) Please indicate which species listed in CMS Appendix I are being taken in your country:

[Insert text]

11. Has your country engaged indigenous and local communities (ILC) in the fishery management process?

- Yes No

[If yes]

Please describe and include any relevant links or studies:

[Insert text]

12. Has your country developed alternative livelihoods that will complement any shark conservation or management policies?

Yes No

[If yes]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

13. Indicate whether your country complies with the prohibition of the use of all large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing as specified by the UN 1992 conference on development and the environment:

Yes No

14. Indicate whether your country has developed or is developing a National Plan of Action for Sharks – NPOA Sharks:

Yes No

[If yes]

Please provide us with details and links to the relevant documents:

[Insert text]

[If no]

Please indicate if you require support for the development of an NPOA Sharks:

Yes No

15. Has your country implemented regulations requiring sharks to be stored on board and landed with each fin naturally attached?

Yes No

16. Has your country identified subsidies that result in the unsustainable use of sharks?

Yes No None Exist

[If yes]

Has your country developed plans to phase out or reduce these subsidies?

Yes No

[If yes]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

V. Habitat Conservation

17. Does your country protect critical habitats for species in Annex 1?

Yes No

[If yes]

Please provide detailed information:

[Insert text]

VI. Public Awareness and Participation

18. Does your government improve public knowledge regarding...

- Sharks' importance in the ecosystem;
- Threats to sharks;
- Threats to marine and coastal habitats;
- This Memorandum of Understanding;
- International conservation policies regarding sharks; and
- Other

[If yes]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

19. Is your government engaged with any of the following organizations to increase public knowledge of sharks and their conservation:

- NGOs
- Academic
- Research
- Private Sector

[If yes]

- a) Please indicate which organizations, including contact information and relevant websites:

[Insert text]

- b) Please describe:

[Insert text]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

VII. Cooperation

20. Has your country identified areas where cooperation among States is required for successful conservation and management activities?

- Yes No

[If yes]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

21. Has your country engaged with other States to address these areas?

- Yes No

[If yes]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

22. Has your country assisted other States in developing institutional capacity and/or competencies in:

- Shark Identification
- Management and Conservation techniques
- Habitat Protection
- Coordination with other stakeholders
- Implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding
- Other

[If selected]

Please describe:

[Insert text]

23. Please provide links to relevant datasets and an appropriate contact person:

	Datasets	Contact Person
Population Estimates for Each Species		
Targeted Catch Data		
Sighting Data		
Bycatch		
Managed Fisheries		
Estimated IUU Activity		
GIS		

24. Please provide information about nationally sponsored projects and research in the areas of...

Science and Research	
Monitoring and Data Collection and Analysis	
Compliance and Enforcement	
Species Identification	
Threat Definition and Reduction	
Habitat Identification and Protection	
Education and Public Awareness	
Information Exchange and Capacity-Building	

[This would be separated based on species and population specifics]