



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

CMS/Sharks/MOS3/CRP8/Rev.1  
14 December 2018

**GUIDANCE FOR SHARKS MOU SIGNATORIES AND THE SECRETARIAT IN THEIR  
ENGAGEMENT WITH RFMOS**

Directed to the Secretariat:

- Enhance collaboration with RFMOs via the signing of Memoranda of Cooperation or the conclusion of other mechanisms;
- 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;
- Enhance visibility of MOU activities in RFMOs and vice versa.

Directed to the Signatories:

- Actively promote and raise awareness of the objectives of the Sharks MOU
- Liaise 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;
- Keep the Secretariat and other Signatories informed about discussions relevant to Sharks MOU listed species that are taking place in fisheries fora;
- Support adoption of measures consistent with the objectives of the MOU and its associated Conservation Plan, such as:
  - measures to ensure that all shark catch is within sustainable limits;
  - measures requiring sharks to be landed with fins naturally attached;
  - recommendations for the safe handling and release of all sharks and Mobulid rays caught incidentally;
  - measures to improve data collection including catch and effort, biological data, bycatch, and discard and release information;
  - measures to mitigate bycatch and associated mortality and reduce entanglement;
  - research programs to assess and monitor the status of shark species in the RFMO Convention Areas;
  - precautionary management approaches with regard to fisheries that catch sharks.