



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

CMS/Sharks/Outcome 2.6

20 February 2016

Original: English

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

**PROGRAMME OF WORK (2016-2018)
TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SHARKS**

1. The Programme of Work for the next triennium (2016-2018) was adopted by the Meeting and is attached to this document.

**PROGRAMME OF WORK (2016-2018)
TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION
OF MIGRATORY SHARKS**

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
Species Conservation						
1.	Establish and convene a Conservation Working Group (CWG) under the Advisory Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference as defined in CMS/Sharks/Outcome 2.8	AC1	high	2016-2018	AC SEC CWG Cooperating Partners Consultant	Budget + Fundraising
2.	Convene a CWG workshop	CP 1.1 CP 1.7	high	2017	AC CWG SEC Consultant	Budget + Fundraising
3.	Provide recommendations to the AC and produce reports on activities to AC meetings	AC1	high	As required	CWG	Budget
4.	Facilitate communication and support Signatories in the identification of regional and local research projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consult regularly with Focal Points ➤ Based on the outcomes of the Species-specific Action Plans (<i>Activity 1</i>), communicate to focal points relevant activities to be implemented in their region ➤ Seek funding opportunities (refer to activity 58) 	CP 1.2 SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget

¹ Conservation Plan (CP) and the Terms of Reference of the Advisory Committee and the Secretariat (SEC ToR)

² Core Secretariat activities and suggested priorities (High, Medium)

³ Year(s) during which activity should be implemented

⁴ Signatories (SIG), Advisory Committee (AC), Secretariat (SEC), Conservation Working Group (CWS), Consultants, Cooperating Partners

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
5.	When instructed by Signatories to do so, identify or develop suitable conservation projects, partners for implementation and manage Funding Agreements	CP 1.2 CP 1.3 SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Fundraising
Bycatch						
6.	Liaise with CMS Bycatch Working Group and participate in CMS bycatch workshops	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	AC CWG SEC	Budget
Fisheries Management and data collection						
7.	Expand and encourage fisheries-independent research (e.g. historic data on commercially exploited species) to provide additional data for use in the fishery stock assessments and to inform relevant RFMOs	CP 2.6 CP 3.2	medium	2016-2018	SIG	Fundraising
8.	Promote research focussing on the identification of species-selective fishing gear and bycatch mitigation measures	CP 4.5	medium	2016-2018	SIG	Fundraising
9.	Fund and support national and international training courses in : ➤ data collection ➤ shark identification ➤ handling and safe release protocols	CP 1.2	high	2016-2018	SIG SEC	Fundraising
10.	Encourage all Range States to join CMS and become Signatories to the MOU, and to comply with the decisions and recommendations.	CP 16.2	high	2016-2018	SIG SEC Cooperating Partners	Budget
11.	Liaise with CITES, IUCN, TRAFFIC, FAO and other relevant UN bodies to facilitate the implementation of CMS Appendix II and CITES Appendix II listings and raise awareness through regional capacity-building workshops on sustainable harvest and trade, particularly in relation to: • NDF • Traceability • Species identification	CP 7.2 CP 14.3	medium	2016-2018	SEC	Fundraising

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
12.	Improve monitoring and implementation in marine protected areas (MPAs), improve enforcement	CP 14.5	medium	2016-2018	SIG	Fundraising
Cooperation and Partnerships						
13.	<p>Cooperate with the CMS Family on matters related to shark conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Contribute to the implementation of CMS Res. 11.20, Resolutions on bycatch (CMS wide bycatch workshop) ➤ Contribute to the preparation of CMS COP12 and other relevant meetings of CMS (ScC, StC) 	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
14.	<p>Contribute to the implementation of the CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020 regarding sharks and rays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Activity B17: Optimize the effectiveness of actions taken by Parties to both CMS and CITES concerning sharks and rays, strengthening synergies with FAO, RSCAPs, RFBs and other relevant bodies ➤ Activity B18: Cooperate on capacity-building regarding the implementation of regulations of both Conventions related to sharks and rays 	CP 14.3 SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget + Fundraising
15.	<p>Strengthen synergies and collaborate in conjunction with CITES and FAO to support regional programmes as well as collaboration between Range States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organize regular meetings (and teleconference calls) ➤ Share best practice ➤ Coordinate conservation activities ➤ Share knowledge and expertise 	CP 13.1 CP 14.3 SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	AC SEC	Budget
16.	Establish partnerships and strengthen collaboration with relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with shark conservation and management	CP 13.1 CP 14.3 SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
17.	Promote conservation efforts and cooperation between all stakeholders in Range States	CP 13.1 SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
18.	IUCN Red List Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Liaise with the IUCN Shark SSG to coordinate actions implementing the objectives of the Conservation Plan and the species-specific action plans ➤ Participate in assessment workshops to provide recommendations and organize side events 	CP 13.1	high	2016-2018	AC CWG SEC	Budget
Management of the Secretariat						
19.	Manage and implement the budget for the MOU	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
20.	Prepare annual budget implementation reports for the information of the Signatories and project reports to donors	SEC ToR	core	yearly	SEC	Budget
21.	Undertake Fundraising activities	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
22.	Maintain and update the Sharks MOU website as needed	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC Consultant	Budget
23.	Publish articles and press releases relevant to shark conservation and management supported by the CMS Joint Communications Team	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
24.	Produce fact sheets about relevant shark conservation topics and species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bycatch ➤ Overfishing ➤ Species Action Plans 	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
25.	Use Social Media to increase the visibility of the MOU globally supported by the CMS Joint Communications Team	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
26.	Prepare publications using studies (e.g. domestic legislation, species priorities)	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
27.	<p>Develop a Sharks MOU communication and awareness-raising Strategy which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Developing a distinct visual identity for the Sharks MOU; · Developing a distinct website for the sharks MOU; · Developing a distinct email address; · Outreach to relevant bodies and organizations, in consultation with Signatories; · Outreach, in consultation with Signatories, to Non-Signatory Range-States and in particular those that display significant catches, trade and consumption of sharks. <p>As appropriate, align communication with the Communication Strategy for Migratory Species (in preparation)</p>	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Fundraising
28.	Compile information, review data, liaise with stakeholders and provide information to Signatories on the implementation and functioning of the MOU	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
29.	<p>Facilitate and encourage regular information exchange and cooperative activities between</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ the shark research and conservation community ➤ stakeholders in all Range States ➤ Focal Points ➤ Advisory Committee 	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
30.	Represent the MOU at meetings of other intergovernmental agreements (e.g. CITES, IUCN, FAO), as appropriate to facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the MOU	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget + Fundraising
31.	Update and maintain the contact database	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
32.	Prepare reports of the Secretariat activities for AC and MOS meetings	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
33.	Recruit and manage the staff and interns of the Secretariat	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
Support for Meetings (MOS, AC and WG)						
34.	Undertake meeting arrangements for the 3 rd Meeting of the Signatories (MOS3), including the identification of a venue, liaison with host government and organization of contracts	SEC ToR	core	End 2018	SEC	Budget
35.	Undertake meeting arrangements for the 2 nd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC2), including the identification of a venue and organization of contracts	SEC ToR	core	Mid 2017	SEC	Budget
36.	Undertake meeting arrangements for the 3 rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC3), including the identification of a venue and organization of contracts	SEC ToR	core	Mid 2018	SEC	Budget
37.	Undertake meeting arrangements for the Working Group Meetings, including the identification of a venue and organization of contracts	SEC ToR	core	2016 and 2017	SEC	Budget + Fundraising
38.	Coordinate, draft and prepare meeting documents, including posting of documents	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC Consultant	Budget
39.	Coordinate and prepare translations into 3 languages (English, French and Spanish)	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
40.	Support and arrange attendance and travel of sponsored delegates and experts	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget + Fundraising
41.	Organize and prepare media and press work in collaboration with the Joint Communication Team of CMS	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
42.	Prepare meeting reports and distribute to Signatories	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
Support of the Advisory Committee						
43.	Assist the Chair of the Advisory Committee as required to facilitate the work of the Committee	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
44.	Assist the Advisory Committee with the preparation of meeting documents	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
45.	Assist the convenor and chair of the Conservation Working Group, as required to facilitate the work	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC Consultants	Budget
46.	Develop and maintain the list of experts relevant to the Sharks MOU	CP 2.5	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
Implementation of the MOU						
47.	Promote and coordinate activities of the Programme of Work and Conservation Plan	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
48.	Conduct a survey on domestic legislation to address implementation gaps, inform Signatories and monitor the implementation of the Conservation Plan	CP 7.1 SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC	Budget
49.	Liaise with non-Signatory Range States to provide them with the necessary information to join the MOU and facilitate accession	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC Cooperating partners	Budget
50.	Undertake outreach activities on the following priority regions: South-East Asia, South America & the Caribbean and West Africa	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC Cooperating partners	Fundraising
51.	Use other CMS meetings and workshops to promote the accession to the MOU	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SEC CMS	Budget
Capacity Building						
52.	Identify and review gaps in capacity and training needs of Signatories and compile or develop tailored training materials	CP 1.1 SEC TOR	high	2016-2018	AC SEC Cooperating Partners	Fundraising
53.	Assist Signatories with the implementation of the Conservation Plan.	CP 6.2 SEC ToR	high	As requested by Signatories	AC SEC Cooperating Partners	Fundraising

No.	Activities	Mandate ¹	Priority ranking ²	Time frame ³	Responsible entity ⁴	Funding
54.	Contribute to joint capacity-building workshops with CMS and cooperating partners in Africa, Asia, Oceania and South & Central America & the Caribbean, as requested by the regions	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SIG AC SEC Cooperating Partners	Fundraising
55.	Develop a communication and awareness raising strategy for CMS Sharks MOU - listed species	CP 1.6 CP 5.2 CP 6.3	high	2016-2018	SIG SEC Cooperating Partners	Budget
56.	Develop a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on the Conservation and Management of Sharks and their habitats Cooperate with relevant scientific bodies (universities, scientists, international institutions)	CP 12	medium	2017	SEC Cooperating Partners	Fundraising
57.	Translation of "Sharks of the Arabian Seas"- Identification Guide into other languages of the Indian Ocean Region (e.g. Farsi, Hindi, Urdu) and other identification guides as required	CP 12 CP 13	medium	2016-2017	SEC	Fundraising
Fundraising / Mobilization of resources						
58.	Identify existing and new opportunities for financial resources to support the long-term implementation of the Conservation Plan and the PoW. Expand and enhance fundraising activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Raise funds and voluntary annual contributions from Signatories ➤ Raise funds for joint projects with partners and potential partners ➤ Explore possibilities of alternative funds (e.g. private sector) ➤ Support funding applications and opportunities for Signatories ➤ with letters of endorsement / support 	SEC ToR	core	2016-2018	SIG SEC	Budget