



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



RECOMMENDATION 7.2

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 6.2 ON BY-CATCH

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Seventh Meeting (Bonn, 18-24 September 2002)

Concerned that, notwithstanding recent developments addressing the problem, by-catch remains one of the major causes of mortality of migratory species from human activities in the marine environment;

Noting that the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties adopted Resolution 6.2 (By-catch) with a view to stimulating remedial measures by Parties; and

Encouraging proper implementation of Resolution 6.2 in the shortest possible period of time and an adequate assessment of its outcomes;

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

Calls on Range State Parties, working through regional fisheries management organizations and agreements, as appropriate, to:

- (a) Compile information and take action regarding fishing activities in waters under their jurisdiction, or by flagged fishing vessels under their jurisdiction or control, as the very first step to address the problem, covering:
 - i. resources targeted;
 - ii. resources being caught accidentally;
 - iii. effects on the resource being caught accidentally (estimate total by-catch in the fishery(ies) and population impact); and
 - iv. implementation of mitigation measures;
- (b) Implement appropriate schemes (including, where appropriate, onboard observers) for fisheries within waters under their jurisdiction, or carried out by flagged fishing vessels under their jurisdiction or control, in order to determine the impact of fisheries by-catch on migratory species. Where relevant, this should be carried out in the context of FAO's International Plans of Action on Seabirds and Sharks;
- (c) Encourage research proposals in geographical areas in which there is a particular lack of information and that, at the same time, are not covered by currently existing CMS Agreements. In particular, information is needed on:

- i. artisanal fisheries, generally;
 - ii. pelagic and bottom trawling, and purse seine fisheries;
 - iii. in the case of cetaceans, special attention is to be paid to South, Southeast and East Asia and West Africa;
 - iv. for turtles, these include long-line fisheries in the Pacific Ocean and impacts on Olive ridley turtles in South Asia;
 - v. for birds, South America and northern gillnet fisheries; and
 - vi. for sharks, all fisheries; and
- (d) Consider and implement ways and means to reduce the amount of discarded and lost nets and other detrimental fishing gear both within their maritime zones and on the high seas, as well as ways and means of minimising such losses from vessels flying their flag.

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