



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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Campo Grande, Brazil, 23 to 29 March 2026
Agenda Item 31.2.10

**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCERTED ACTION
FOR THE BLUE SHARK (*Prionace glauca*)***

Summary:

Marine Research and Conservation Foundation (MARECO) has submitted the attached report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), UNEP/CMS/Concerted Action 14.6.

*The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CMS Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author

**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCERTED ACTION
FOR THE BLUE SHARK (*Prionace glauca*)**

UNEP/CMS/ CONCERTED ACTION 14.6

CONCERTED ACTION

Title: Concerted Action for the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*)

Document number: *Concerted Action 14.6*

Marine Research and Conservation Foundation (MARECO)

TARGET SPECIES/POPULATION

Class: Chondrichthyes

Family: Carcharhinidae

Order: Carcharhiniformes

Species: *Prionace glauca*

Population: Global

PROGRESS IN ACTIVITIES

Current activities completed and underway:

- IUCN Green List Assessment – species recovery planning (see Polo-Silva et al. 2025);
- ISRAS being identified for blue sharks through the IUCN Shark Specialist Group ISRA consultation process;
- Ongoing research on blue shark bycatch, mitigation and management relevant to this CA and Range States (e.g. Lucas et al. 2025);
- Stakeholders from different shark tourism operations around the world consulted for best practices, including blue sharks. A workshop in the UK to develop global guidelines for blue sharks is ready to happen, but funding is currently lacking. Hosting will likely be led by MARECO in the UK.
- Blue shark global genomics and trade routes underway (ongoing research/analyses).

Annex 1 from the original CA document:

	Activity	Expected outcomes	Original timeline	Progress	Changes or solutions
Management					
1.	Encourage Parties to continue engaging with other MEAs, RFBs, and other relevant entities to enhance blue shark management including the development of the IUCN SSC SSG Conservation Strategy and Action Plan for Pelagic Sharks and Rays, in cooperation with the Sharks MOU.	Heightened attention to blue shark conservation needs.	2024-2026	Ongoing	This should be an ongoing Activity – not a one-off item.
Sustainable Tourism					
2.	Develop international guidelines from countries with established blue shark tourism (e.g. Azores, UK, South Africa).	Protocols for responsible blue shark tourism interaction established.	2024-2025	Ongoing	Stakeholders consulted across different geographies. Funding-pending to organize a workshop to develop a global document for adoption.
Research					
3.	Support the assessment into the impacts of fisheries on blue shark interactions (fisheries-induced mortality, discards to design mitigation strategies and support the assessment of post-release mortality of blue sharks across regions, demographics and fishing gears)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Interactions incidence and mortality rates determined; — Proposals to reduce risk of interactions of blue sharks produced; — Effects of fisheries interaction on blue shark populations assessed; — Post-release survival for blue sharks determined. 	2024-2026	Ongoing	Ongoing process.
4.	Support the identification of sub-population and genetic differences (to support regional TACs through fisheries-independent data)	Sub-populations identified.	2025	Ongoing	Samples sourced from different geographies and sequencing completed. Analyses underway, supplemented by trade route identification

	Activity	Expected outcomes	Original timeline	Progress	Changes or solutions
					using these methods.
5.	Identify inconsistencies in the level of protection ensured by different Party Range States.	Protection gap analysis undertaken.	2024	Ongoing	Consultation with policy experts completed. Funding-dependent for completion of the work.
6.	Identify critical habitats and understand the connectivity and migrations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Critical areas identified; — Migratory routes identified; — Priority areas for conservation (PAC) identified; — E-Atlas/other GIS output of critical habitats. 	2024-2025	Ongoing	Research ongoing at various localities to compile these data.
7.	Support assessments into the impacts of climate change on blue sharks by stock or region.	Vulnerability and impacts of climate change on blue shark populations better understood.	2025	Ongoing	Dependent on similar data to Activity 6 for thorough analyses. Pending funding for completion of the work.

CHANGES TO THE CONCERTED ACTION (IF ANY)

Please refer to Table Annex 1 above.

REFERENCES

- Lucas, S., Araujo, G., Bown, R.M.K., ...Berggren, P. 2025. Ferrite magnets do not deter blue sharks (*Prionace glauca*) from bait strikes in behavioural trials. *Fisheries Research* 291, 11-2025, 107561, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fishres.2025.107561>.
- Polo-Silva, C.J., Blanco-Parra, M.P., Barrera-Garcia, A., Araujo, G. & Scotts, G. 2025. *Prionace glauca* (Green Status assessment). *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2025*: e.T39381A3938120252. Accessed on 20 October 2025.

ACTION

The Concerted Action for the blue shark is proposed for continuation in the subsequent intersessional period to ensure delivery of remaining activities and implementation of new conservation outcomes.

This extension will strengthen coordination among Range States, promote science-based management and reinforce synergies between CMS, the Sharks MOU and RFMOs.