

**ADDENDUM 1****SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**

(arising from ScC-SC8)

**Sharks and Rays****UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.25.6.3**

(ScC-SC8 Agenda item 8.6.3)

**GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT**

The Sessional Committee welcomed the work on oceanic whitetip shark and agreed to recommend broadening the extend of the Decisions to other CMS Appendix I-listed species.

It was noted that with the recent inclusion of *Mobula* spp., whale shark, and oceanic whitetip shark in CITES Appendix I, problems with compatibility between CMS and CITES were eliminated.

The Sessional Committee welcomed that the *List of Shark and Ray Species that Meet the Criteria for Listing on CMS Appendices* will be finalized on time for review by the Sessional Committee at its 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP15**

The Scientific Council recommends adopting the draft Resolution and Decisions with amendments as specified below.

**COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION**

Note from the Secretariat: The Decision numbers (15.AA, 15.BB,...) will be changed in a revision of Document 25.6.3 in early January. The references below are to the numbering that will exist in that revision.

**Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark (*Squatina Squatina*) in the Mediterranean Sea**

The following paragraph is proposed for addition in draft Decision 15.AA (page 23 of the document):

b.bis) consider and apply the recommendations on area-based management of the Angelshark in the Mediterranean provided in doc. UNEP/CMS/COP15/Inf.25.6.3f and in line with doc. UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.25.3.1 on priorities for area-based conservation of marine migratory species.

The following amendments are proposed in Decision 15.DD (page 23 of the document):

- a) encourage non-Party Range States to adopt the SSAP Angelshark Med and become members of the International Working Group of the SSAP Angelshark Med;

**Implementation of the CMS Appendix I-Listing For the Oceanic Whitetip Shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*)**

The following Decision 15.DD *bis* is proposed for addition (on page 24 of the document):

15. DD *bis* Parties are reminded of their obligations to prohibit taking of all Appendix I listed shark

and ray species and to endeavour to prevent, reduce of control factors that endanger such species.

The following amendments are proposed in Decision 15.EE (page 24 of the document):

- a. [Parties are requested to] establish national legislation to prohibit the taking of *C. longimanus*, and other Appendix I listed shark and ray species, including measures to mitigate bycatch, both in national waters and in areas beyond national jurisdiction, and participate in the National Legislation Programme if not already doing so;
- b. [Parties are requested to] require the safe handling and release of *C. longimanus*, and other Appendix I listed shark and ray species, caught in fisheries and prohibit retention on board to make every effort to remove incentives for the retention of incidentally caught specimens that are still alive;