

ADDENDUM 1

In-session version

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS

(arising from ScC-SC8)

ATLAS ON ANIMAL MIGRATION

UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.21

(ScC-SC8 Agenda item 7)

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

The Meeting welcomed the progress made under this agenda item and highlighted additional key tools that could support this work, including the Blue Corridors Project and the MegaMove Project led by the Australian National University, which focuses on marine species and migratory corridors. It recommended that the CMS Secretariat collaborate with these initiatives.

The Meeting further noted that while projects such as MegaMove compile and visualise animal tracking data, the identification of migratory corridors requires additional analytical processing (e.g., kernel density or other utilisation distribution analyses) to distinguish pathways of directed movement from areas of core habitat use. It also recommended that the Secretariat cooperate with the IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group workstream on identifying Important Shark and Ray Areas (ISRAs), as well as with the IUCN SSC Cetacean Specialist Group on Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs), to support the differentiation between migratory corridors and movements associated with residency or core habitat areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP15

The Scientific Council recommends to adopt the draft resolution and decisions with amendments as below.

Footnote 2 of the UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.21 on page 4 should be amended to “MiCO is a consortium of more than 50 organizations, led by ~~the Marine Geospatial Ecology Lab (MGEL) of Duke University~~ the Applied Marine Biogeography Lab of the University of Queensland”