

ADDENDUM 1**SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**

(arising from ScC-SC8)

MARINE TURTLES**UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.25.5**

(ScC-SC8 Agenda item 8.5)

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

The Sessional Committee thanked the Advisory Committee of the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU for their leadership in implementing the joint mandates of CMS and the MOU.

It was noted that reporting on the Single Species Action Plan for Hawksbill Turtles came in addition to other reporting requirements for CMS Parties and Signatory States to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU. The Secretariat was requested to consider whether this could be streamlined somehow.

Australia wished to put on record that in the implementation report on the Hawksbill Turtle SSAP, it had marked several actions as 'No progress being made' because there was no need to progress those actions. For example, actions 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 relate to tackling the illegal trade of hawksbill turtles within each jurisdiction. However, Australia is free of illegal hawksbill trade and therefore does not need to produce new enforcement measures. Since this action was marked as 'No progress being made', it gives the impression that the problem DOES occur in Australia AND is not being addressed. Ideally, this action should have been marked as 'N/A'. Australia suggested that opportunity be given to Parties that reported to revise the summary, if possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP15

The Scientific Council recommends to adopt the draft decisions.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

The following amendments are proposed in Annex 3:

Further clarity is required in Table 1.

- It only displays the information provided by 8/33 Range States of the Hawksbill SSAP. The remaining 25 Range States have not provided any information but might also be progressing items. This provides a biased image of who has contributed to implementing the Hawksbill SSAP. This should be made clear in the Table legend, for example by highlighting the other Range States that did not provide input.
- The left column should summarise each action, not just display the action numbers. This would allow Parties to focus on the topics of interest to their jurisdictions.