

ADDENDUM 1**SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**

(arising from ScC-SC8)

PROPOSAL FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE ANGULAR ANGELSHARK (*Squatina guggenheim*) ON APPENDIX II OF THE CONVENTION

UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.30.2.16

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP15

The Scientific Council recommends to adopt the proposal.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

The Sessional Committee welcomed the advice from the Advisory Committee (AC) to the Sharks Memorandum of Understanding. The AC noted that evidence mainly shows inshore-offshore movements and strong population structuring, with no predictable transboundary migrations and, therefore, does not meet Appendix II listing requirements. The species was, however, recognised as being in unfavourable conservation status due to declines and range contraction. Assessing migratory status remains difficult due to major data gaps. The species occurs across multiple jurisdictions and shows seasonal habitat shifts, but whether short-range transboundary movements occur is unknown. These uncertainties highlight the need for coordinated regional conservation action.

The Committee recommended supporting the listing with a request to provide additional information to the Secretariat on migratory movements and to address missing elements (including section 7.3). The Committee also noted the absence of alternative management frameworks and emphasized the importance of coordinated regional conservation efforts.