



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON THE CONSERVATION OF
MIGRATORY SHARKS**

CMS/Sharks/AC2/Doc.8
12 November 2017

Original: English

2nd Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC2)
2nd Workshop of the Conservation Working Group (CWG2)
Bonaire, Netherlands, 20 - 24 November 2017
Agenda Item 8

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPECIES-SPECIFIC CONSERVATION MEASURES

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Background:

1. As specified in its Terms of Reference, the Advisory Committee (AC) is generally requested to serve and assist the Signatories in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding including the Conservation Plan.
2. The purpose of the Conservation Working Group (CWG), which was established at MOS2, is to serve and assist the AC and complement areas where expertise within the AC is needed. In its Terms of Reference it is specified that the CWG should amongst other things compile relevant biological data of species listed in Annex 1 and review and identify species-specific priority research and conservation needs at the appropriate scale.
3. At their 1st Workshop (CWG1), in November 2016, the CWG started a process to compile relevant information on species-specific or family level for all 29 species, that are included in Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU. It was decided at the workshop that this process should be continued intersessionally and that species-specific information and recommendations on priority research and conservation measures should be presented in form of fact sheets.
4. Based on the outcome of CWG1, the Secretariat has therefore prepared eleven draft fact sheets for each species or family in close consultation with the AC and selected experts. The template, which was agreed amongst Advisory Committee members, focuses on basic information on ecology, distribution and population trends, as well as the legal status of the respective species in various international and regional treaties. In order to provide guidance on priority research and conservation measures, which Signatories are recommended to undertake, the fact sheets also highlight research and knowledge gaps and makes recommendations for activities that the Signatories may wish to concentrate on in order to achieve the objectives of the Sharks MOU and its Conservation Plan.
5. The following table gives an overview of all draft fact sheets prepared, and which are provided on the meeting website. As the fact sheets are still in an intermediate status of finalization

and as they contain a number of comments from experts and the Secretariat, the documents are password-protected and can only be accessed by the participants of the meeting.

Taxon	Relevant Documents <i>(provided as draft versions for completion by the participants of the Advisory Committee)</i>
Basking Shark	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 1
Hammerhead Sharks	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 2
Mako Sharks	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 3
Mobulid Rays	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 4
Porbeagle	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 5
Sawfishes	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 6
Silky Shark	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 7
Spiny Dogfish	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 8
Thresher Sharks	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 9
Whale Shark	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 10
White Shark	CMS/Sharks/Doc.8/Annex 11

6. The AC and experts present at this meeting are requested to finalize the fact sheets during the meeting. Final versions will be presented to the 3rd Meeting of the Signatories for consideration and adoption by the Signatories.

Action requested:

The Advisory Committee is requested to:

- a) review the draft Species-specific factsheets which are provided as CMS/Sharks/AC2/Doc.8/Annex 1-11;
- b) add missing information to the factsheets and finalize the recommendations to the Signatories on species-specific measures, that should be undertaken to achieve the objectives of the Sharks MOU and its Conservation Plan.