



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

CMS/Sharks/CWG1/Doc.4.1

21 October 2016

Original: English

First Workshop of the Conservation Working Group
Bristol, United Kingdom, 31 October-01 November 2016
Agenda Item 4

**DRAFT SURVEY TO COLLECT BIOLOGICAL DATA AND TO IDENTIFY PRIORITY
RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION NEEDS**

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Introduction

1. In its Terms of Reference (ToR), the Conservation Working Group (CWG) was tasked by the Signatories to compile relevant biological data of species listed in Annex 1 and to identify species-specific priority research and conservation needs at the appropriate scale.
2. The CWG was also asked to provide guidelines on the implementation of the Sharks MOU Annex 1 listings and CMS Appendices listings for CMS Parties.
3. In order to facilitate the work of the CWG and Advisory Committee, the Secretariat proposes to undertake an online survey amongst a large number of scientists working in relevant fields.
4. To this end, the Secretariat has prepared a draft questionnaire to collect relevant biological data and information of species listed in Annex 1 and to identify species-specific priority research and conservation needs. The questionnaire is presented in Annex 1 to this document.
5. The Secretariat will undertake the survey between November 2016 and February 2017. An analysis of this survey will be discussed at the Second Meeting of the Conservation Working Group (CWG2), which is foreseen to be held in 2017. The final recommendations of the CWG will be presented as a meeting document to the Second Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC2) in 2017, which will then inform the Third Meeting of the Signatories (MOS3) in 2018.

Action requested:

The CWG is requested to:

- a) Review and finalize the draft questionnaire for a survey amongst scientists presented as Annex I to this document;
- b) Advise the Secretariat on which experts should be included in the survey.

Draft Questionnaire

The purpose of this online survey is to collect species-specific biological data from scientists and to identify priority research and conservation needs.

I. General Information

Year	Country	

Survey submitted by:

Name	
Title / role	
Institution	
Address	
Email	
Telephone / Fax	
Website	
Date of Submission	
Do you work in:	
Fisheries management/policy	
Research	
Other (please name)	

1. What species, listed on Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU do you work on?

Multiple selections possible

[checkboxes]

Species	Common name	Comments
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark	
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark	
List continues...		

2. What are your areas of knowledge?

Multiple selections possible

[checkboxes]

Species	Common name	Biology	Fisheries	Management /Policy	Trade	Aquaria	Education/ Outreach	Recreational activities	Others: please specify
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark								
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark								
List continues ...									

3. Do you work on a local, regional or global scale?

Multiple selections possible

[checkbox]

1. Local
2. regional
3. global
4. All

4. Which Countries and/or regions to you work in or have expertise in?

Multiple selections possible

[checkbox and dropdown of Regions and Oceans/Seas]

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1. Africa
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
Red Sea</p> | <p>2. Asia
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Indian Ocean
Red Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>3. North America
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Carribbean Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> |
| <p>4. Europe
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
North Sea/Baltic Sea
Atlantic Ocean</p> | <p>5. Oceania
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Indian Ocean
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>6. South, Central America
& Caribbean]
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Carribbean Sea</p> |
7. Others – Please specify

5. Any other comments?

II. Species- Specific Information

6. Priority Species

Please indicate in a scale of 1 – 3 (1 least – 3 highest) the level of priority for species based on their level of threat and importance for the ecosystem in the different regions

[checkbox]

1. Africa

[dropdown –
Checkboxes]

Mediterranean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
Red Sea

2. Asia

[dropdown –
Checkboxes]

Mediterranean Sea
Indian Ocean
Red Sea
Pacific Ocean

3. North America

[dropdown –
Checkboxes]

Atlantic Ocean
Caribbean Sea
Pacific Ocean

4. Europe

[dropdown –
Checkboxes]

Mediterranean Sea
North Sea/Baltic Sea
Atlantic Ocean

5. Oceania

[dropdown –
Checkboxes]

Indian Ocean
Pacific Ocean

6. South, Central America
& Caribbean]

[dropdown –
Checkboxes]

Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Caribbean Sea

7. Others – Please specify

[list of species will appear for each region]

Species	Common name	1 (low priority)	2 (medium priority)	3 (high priority)	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark				
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark				
List continues...					

7. Major Threats

Please identify the major threats to these species in each region
[checkbox]

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <p>1. Africa
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
Red Sea</p> | <p>2. Asia
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Indian Ocean
Red Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>3. North America
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Carribean Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>4. Europe
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
North Sea/Baltic Sea
Atlantic Ocean</p> | <p>5. Oceania
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Indian Ocean
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>6. South, Central America
& Caribbean]
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Carribean Sea</p> | <p>7. Others – Please specify</p> |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|

[list of species will appear for each region]

Species	Common name	Threat 1	Threat 2	Threat 3	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark				
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark				
List continues...					

8. Value of species

Information on the use and value of sharks and rays (cultural, economic, ecological) in each region

[checkbox]

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <p>1. Africa
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
Red Sea</p> | <p>2. Asia
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Indian Ocean
Red Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>3. North America
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Carribbean Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> | |
| <p>4. Europe
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
North Sea/Baltic Sea
Atlantic Ocean</p> | <p>5. Oceania
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Indian Ocean
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>6. South, Central America
& Caribbean]
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Carribbean Sea</p> | <p>7. Others – Please specify</p> |

[list of species will appear for each region]

Species	Common name	cultural	Economical	Ecological	Provide any literature/references
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark				
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark				
List continues...					

9. Data

Please provide relevant **up to date** data/links/sources/literature/contacts about Annex 1 listed species (data should be within past 5 years)

Species	Common name	Biology	Taxonomy	Ecology	Commercial Fisheries	Recreational Fisheries	Artisanal Fisheries	Trade	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark								
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark								
List continues...									

10. Data gaps

Please identify 3 main data gaps for Annex 1 listed species that affect the implementation of conservation and management measures (e.g. limited catch data, no life history data, etc.)

[checkbox]

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Africa
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
Red Sea | 2. Asia
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Indian Ocean
Red Sea
Pacific Ocean | 3. North America
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Carribbean Sea
Pacific Ocean |
| 4. Europe
[dropdown –
Checkboxes] | 5. Oceania
[dropdown –
Checkboxes] | 6. South, Central America
& Caribbean |
| | | 7. Others – Please specify |

Mediterranean Sea
 North Sea/Baltic Sea
 Atlantic Ocean

Indian Ocean
 Pacific Ocean

[dropdown –
 Checkboxes]
 Atlantic Ocean
 Pacific Ocean
 Carribean Sea

[list of species will appear for each region]

Species	Common name	gap 1	gap 2	gap 3	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark				
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark				
List continues...					

11. Gaps in protection and management measures

Please identify 3 main conservation and management gaps (e.g. no trade regulation, no habitat protection etc.).

Species	Common name	gap 1	gap 2	gap 3	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark				
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark				
List continues...					

12. Critical areas and priority areas

Please identify the most critical areas (countries/regions/ etc.) for these species. If possible, indicate whether the species are already protected or managed there, or require management action

[checkbox]

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <p>1. Africa
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
Red Sea</p> | <p>2. Asia
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
Indian Ocean
Red Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>3. North America
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Caribbean Sea
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>4. Europe
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Mediterranean Sea
North Sea/Baltic Sea
Atlantic Ocean</p> | <p>5. Oceania
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Indian Ocean
Pacific Ocean</p> | <p>6. South, Central America
& Caribbean]
[dropdown –
Checkboxes]
Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Caribbean Sea</p> | <p>7. Others – Please specify</p> |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|

[list of species will appear for each region]

Species	Common name	area 1	area 2	area 3	area 4	area 5	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark						
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark						
List continues...							

13. Priority actions

Please identify 3 priority actions/activities/measures that would significantly benefit the conservation status of the species, please be specific! (e.g. listing on CITES Appendices, species protection under national laws, fisheries management, fishing gear controls, regulation of trade in Asia, creation of a marine protected area in a certain region or seasonal closures, etc.)

Species	Common name	action 1	action 2	action 3	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark				
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark				
List continues...					

14. Limiting factors

Please identify 3 potential factors limiting the implementation of the priority actions (lack of funding, capacity, knowledge, etc.)

Species	Common name	factor 1	factor 2	factor 3	N/A
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Thresher Shark				
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Bigeye Thresher Shark				
List continues...					

III. Other Comments, information, recommendations: