



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme



TECHNICAL MEETING TO ELABORATE A SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLAN FOR LOGGERHEAD TURTLES IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN

Tuesday 25 - Thursday 27 March 2014, Brisbane, Australia

CMS/PLT/TM/REPORT

REPORT OF THE MEETING

Agenda Item 1: Welcoming remarks

1. Ms. Tamara O'Shea, Deputy Director General, Conservation and Sustainability Services, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in the Queensland Government, opened the Meeting and welcomed the participants to the Meeting at the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in Brisbane. (Participants list attached as Annex 1 to the present Report).

2. Ms. Melanie Virtue (CMS Secretariat) expressed her gratitude and appreciation to the Australian Government for funding and hosting the Meeting. She informed the group that Mr. Barry Baker (CMS COP Appointed Councillor) had agreed to act as Chair, which was accepted by the group.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Agenda and Meeting Schedule

3. Mr. Barry Baker thanked the delegates for their trust in electing him as Chair. He thanked the Australian Government for offering to hold the Meeting and the CMS Secretariat for its support in the organisation of the Meeting.

4. He then opened the three-day Meeting with the presentation of the Agenda of the Meeting and asked for comments. As there were no comments, the Agenda was adopted by the Meeting without changes and is attached as Annex 2 to the present Report.

Agenda Item 3: Scene setting presentation

5. Mr. Colin Limpus, Chief Scientist in the Threatened Species Unit of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and also the CMS COP Appointed Councillor for Marine Turtles made the introductory presentation describing the huge migration this species undertakes from eastern Australia, across the width of the Pacific Ocean to the east coast of South America and back again in the course of their lifetime.

Agenda Item 4: Reports:

Agenda Item 4.1: Reports from Experts

Agenda Item 4.2: Reports from Range States

6. The Chair invited Experts and Countries to make brief statements regarding their current work on Pacific Loggerhead Turtles. Experts presented their reports, which were also

available prior to the meeting on the meeting webpage, and elaborated further on their activities. Range States participating in the Meeting also presented their reports on the current activities being undertaken in their countries.

Agenda Item 5: Draft Single Species Action Plan (SSAP)

7. The Chair then presented the Draft Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) to the Meeting for discussion. There was two days of intensive and detailed discussion of the Draft SSAP which included items on biological assessment, threat analysis, existing policies and legislation and framework of action.

8. Participants agreed that the key threats to the Pacific loggerhead turtles are bycatch in fisheries, and being entangled in, or ingesting marine debris.

9. The outcome of these intensive discussions was that an Action Plan was developed, which outlined actions to address threats, a decision to finalize the SSAP in the coming months, in consultation with all Range States, and to present the finalized SSAP to CMS COP11 in November 2014 for adoption. (SSAP will be Annex 3 to the present Report and will be available on the website as soon as it is finalised).

Agenda Item 6: Wrap up and next steps

Agenda Item 6.1: Summary of progress made

Agenda Item 6.2: Next steps and timelines

10. The Chair summarized for the Meeting the decisions taken on the timelines and next steps:

10.1 Australia would finalise the draft arising from the Meeting;

10.2 The Secretariat would edit the document and translate to Spanish and then circulate to all participants for further comments;

10.3 A revised version would be sent out for wider consultation by all Range States and other interested entities. The Draft SSAP would also be presented to the CMS ScC18 in July; and

10.4 The Draft SSAP would be presented to COP11 for adoption, following incorporation of any further revisions that may be necessary.

Agenda Item 6.3: Any other business

11. The Chair expressed his thanks to the participants for their active and lively contributions, and that they went successfully through the Agenda. They had developed an Action Plan, prioritized threats to the turtles, and actions to address these threats. He congratulated the participants and thanked them again for their active participation.

12. The Meeting closed at 1700 hrs. on 27 March 2013.



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Annex 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of Range States

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Annex 2

AGENDA OF THE MEETING

1. Welcoming remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda and Meeting Schedule
3. Scene setting presentation (Colin Limpus, CMS COP Appointed Councillor for Marine Turtles)
4. Reports:
 - 4.1 Reports from Experts
 - 4.2 Reports from Range States
5. Draft Single Species Action Plan (SSAP)
 - 5.1 Biological Assessment
 - 5.2 Threat Analysis
 - 5.3 Existing Policies and Legislation
 - 5.4 Framework for Action
6. Wrap up and next steps
 - 6.1 Summary of progress made
 - 6.2 Next steps and timelines
 - 6.3 Any other business



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SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLAN LOGGERHEAD TURTLE (*Caretta caretta*)

NOTE: SSAP will be available as soon as it is finalised