



Memorandum of Understanding on the
Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and
their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia

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Agenda item 4

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES
Bonn, Germany, 8-11 September 2014

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

(as at 2 August 2014)

Agenda Items	Relevant Documents	Comments / Expected outcomes
<p>1. Welcoming remarks</p> <p>The meeting will be formally opened at the Wissenschaftszentrum Bonn, Ahrstrasse 4), at 9.00 on the morning of Monday, 8 September 2014.</p>		<p>The working language of the meeting is English. The opening will include welcoming remarks from the Secretariat and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).</p>
<p>2. Signature of the Memorandum of Understanding by additional States</p> <p>The Memorandum of Understanding will be opened for signature by duly authorised representatives of additional States, in order to allow them to participate in the meeting as <i>de facto</i> Signatory States.</p>	<p>Inf. 2</p>	<p>At the time of writing, no additional States have indicated their intention to sign the IOSEA MoU in Bonn.</p>
<p>3. Election of officers</p> <p>The Meeting will elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the representatives of the Signatory States in attendance.</p>		<p>It is proposed that all decisions at the present meeting be taken by consensus.</p>
<p>4. Adoption of the agenda and schedule</p> <p>The Meeting is invited to review the provisional agenda and schedule, and to make any proposals for amendment prior to their adoption.</p>	<p>Docs. 1, 2, 3, 4</p>	<p>Adoption of the agenda and schedule, by consensus.</p>
<p>5. Opening statements</p> <p>It is <u>not</u> envisaged to have presentations of national activities at this stage of the meeting; however representatives of Signatory States may wish to draw attention to any <i>written</i> statements submitted for the Meeting's consideration. Representatives of any observer countries will be invited to inform the Meeting of their Governments' intentions regarding signature of the Memorandum of Understanding.</p>		<p>Statements to be submitted to the Secretariat in writing, for inclusion in the meeting report, as appropriate.</p>
<p>6. Reports of the Secretariat and Advisory Committee</p> <p>(a) <i>Secretariat</i></p> <p>The Secretariat will report on developments since the Sixth Meeting of Signatory States (Bangkok, January 2012); with more detailed discussion expected under other agenda items.</p>	<p>Doc. 5 Inf. 4, 6, 7</p>	<p>Noting of oral/written reports; clarification of points, as necessary.</p>

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<p>(b) <i>Advisory Committee</i></p> <p>The Chair of the Advisory Committee will report briefly on matters discussed at its meeting held from 5 – 7 September; with more detailed discussion expected under other agenda items. The report of that meeting will be circulated as CRP.1 as soon as it is available.</p>	<p>Inf. 5 CRP.1</p>	
<p>7. Review of implementation progress</p> <p>The meeting will have before it a detailed review of reporting and implementation, which can be used as a basis for identifying priorities for strategic intervention, as well as related resource needs. The discussion will be structured as follows:</p> <p>(a) <i>Synthesis of national reports and overview of IOSEA MoU implementation to date</i></p> <p>General discussion of national reporting to date and comprehensive review of implementation progress, strengths and weaknesses/gaps. A synthesis of the core reports has been prepared by the Secretariat, using information contained in the IOSEA Online Reporting Facility as of early July 2014.</p> <p>A separate paper explains, by way of specific examples, the value and practical application of site-based information on species/habitats, threats and mitigation measures contained in the Online Reporting Facility. The paper identifies information gaps and makes recommendations for improvement of the Site Data Sheet contents.</p> <p>(b) <i>Recommendations arising from species assessments</i></p> <p>The Leatherback Assessment (updated online in 2012) and Loggerhead Assessment (published in 2013) both contain valuable recommendations that can serve as the basis for the design and implementation of specific follow-up projects.</p> <p>(c) <i>National networks/committees</i></p> <p>Signatory States have been requested to summarise steps taken to establish and effectively use national networks/committees to coordinate national sea turtle conservation efforts. A paper prepared by the Secretariat, based on questionnaire results from Signatory States, presents the key findings. The discussion is expected to focus on the importance of national committees and any impediments to their establishment and effective function.</p> <p>(d) <i>Sub-regional groups and related coordination mechanisms</i></p> <p>Each of the 4 IOSEA sub-regions will meet collectively at least once and will report on their deliberations to plenary (discussions to be led by sub-regional Focal Points or alternates). Presentations will be invited from representatives of existing sub-regional arrangements, such as the WIO – Marine Turtle Task Force.</p>	<p>Docs. 6, 6.2 Inf. 3 Doc. 6.1 Doc. 7 Inf. 10 Inf. 11 Doc. 14 Doc. 2.1</p>	<p>Review/agree on suggestions for improvements in reporting and recommendations for specific follow-up activities, contained in Part I.</p> <p>Commitment of Signatory States to review, update, and/or complete their Site Data Sheets within an agreed timetable.</p> <p>Noting / agreement on the project concepts to be taken forward.</p> <p>Signatory States that have not already completed or updated their questionnaire on national committees/networks may submit it to the Secretariat at the meeting.</p> <p>Discussion / feedback on sub-regional issues of concern.</p>

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<p>(e) <i>Current use and further development of online implementation tools</i></p> <p>The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the latest developments concerning the IOSEA website, including tools intended to benefit Signatory States and other interested partners in relation to their marine turtle conservation activities, such as the new International Flipper Tag Recovery Database, Satellite Tracking Metadatabase, Bibliography Resource, Project Database, etc.</p>	Inf. 8	Participants will be asked to fill in a questionnaire to give feedback on website usage, suggestions for improvement etc., as well as commit to providing website content and promote greater usage.
<p>8. Major thematic issues</p>		
<p>(a) <i>Network of sites of importance for marine turtles</i></p> <p>The Site Network was formally established through a resolution adopted at IOSEA SS6, and criteria have been agreed to evaluate the merits of including particular sites in the Network. The Advisory Committee will have used the Evaluation Criteria to assess a number of site nomination proposals formally submitted by Signatory States; and it will report its recommendations to the plenary. The agenda item also provides for discussion of next steps in the development of the Site Network.</p>	Doc. 7	Brief presentation of each Site Network proposal; consideration of the Advisory Committee's recommendations; and agreement on an appropriate course of action with regard to each proposal.
<p>(b) <i>Further development of the IOSEA Technical support / Capacity-building Programme</i></p> <p>Initiatives undertaken within the framework of the existing programme will be briefly presented. A paper developed within the Advisory Committee aimed at assessing current needs, including ideas for improving delivery mechanisms, will be introduced.</p>	Doc. 8	Indication of Signatory State interest in benefiting from expertise offered by the Advisory Committee; and agreement on a 'road map' for development and delivery of complementary training modules.
<p>(c) <i>Reviews/analyses arising from the Sixth Meeting of Signatory States</i></p> <p>The Sixth Meeting identified five main priority areas for IOSEA to address, concerning: (1) capacity-building (<i>covered in Agenda item 8b</i>); (2) socio-economic considerations; (3) genetic stocks; (4) illegal direct take; and (5) incidental capture. Each of these areas is the subject of a paper developed by either the Secretariat or an Advisory Committee member and other partners.</p>	Doc. 10 Doc. 10.1 Doc. 10.2 Doc. 10.3 Doc. 10.4	Review of each of the substantive papers, and agreement on recommendations for specific follow-up activities in each of the five areas (as appropriate).
<p>(d) <i>Thematic workshops / expert presentations</i></p> <p>The meeting will be enriched by two interesting workshops on: (1) Potential solutions to light pollution and (2) Stakeholder engagement through the Community Voice Method – topics that are of direct relevance to priority setting and implementation of the IOSEA Conservation and Management Plan. Additionally, the Secretariat has arranged for a number of expert presentations on subjects of general interest to the IOSEA membership.</p>	N/A	Conclusions drawn from the workshops and expert presentations may be expected to influence IOSEA priority setting in the areas of research and conservation actions.

<p>9. Institutional matters</p>		
<p>(a) <i>IOSEA Focal Point roles and responsibilities</i> Terms of reference and guidance for IOSEA (National and Sub-regional) Focal Points were adopted at IOSEA SS7 (Bangkok, January 2012). Implementation of the ToR by Focal Points may be reviewed using an anonymous self-assessment questionnaire. Arrangements for some of the Sub-regional Focal Points (mentioned in Doc. 13) may be revisited under this agenda item.</p>	<p>Doc. 12</p>	<p>Constructive review of issues related to IOSEA Focal Point roles and responsibilities; and consensus on particular areas in need of improvement.</p>
<p>(b) <i>Advisory Committee membership and tasks</i> Signatory States have been invited to appoint / re-appoint experts to serve on the Advisory Committee. A small working group will be established to review the nominations and make recommendations to the plenary. Signatory States may also consider developing a list of tasks for the Advisory Committee to work on inter-sessionally, bearing in mind that members offer their services voluntarily, without remuneration. Signatory States may wish to discuss the need and feasibility for the Advisory Committee to meet inter-sessionally.</p>	<p>Doc. 13 Inf. 5 Nomination forms</p>	<p>Agreement on the composition and tasks of the Advisory Committee for 2015-2017.</p>
<p>(c) <i>Collaboration with other organisations</i> Time permitting, IGO/NGO representatives responsible for, or involved in, other regional or sub-regional sub-region programmes may be invited to give a brief explanation of how these contribute to or complement IOSEA implementation, insofar as they have not already been introduced under other agenda items. Participants are requested to provide the Secretariat, before the meeting, with copies of project documents or descriptions of broad activities and programmes already under way.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(d) <i>Forthcoming meetings and events of relevance to IOSEA</i> All participants are invited to draw attention to upcoming meetings and events of interest to IOSEA, with a view to compiling a comprehensive list, including locations and dates.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>List of relevant meetings compiled.</p>
<p>(e) <i>Next meeting of the IOSEA Signatory States</i> Signatory States were requested, in advance, to consider tabling offers to host the Eighth Meeting, in order to give a clearer timetable for future work and to simplify the necessary follow-up. The next meeting should take place in the first half of 2017, if IOSEA retains a 2.5-year interval between meetings.</p>	<p>Inf. 9</p>	<p>One or more provisional offers to host the Eighth Meeting tabled, for Secretariat follow-up.</p>

<p>10. Financial and administrative matters</p> <p>(a) <i>Review of expenditures and status of voluntary contributions</i> The Secretariat will report on the current status of voluntary contributions received or pledged in support of the Memorandum of Understanding and on expenditures incurred during the previous reporting period.</p> <p>(b) <i>Work programme and indicative budget for 2015-2017</i> The Secretariat will introduce an indicative budget covering the 2015-2017 calendar years, together with an indicative scale of voluntary contributions, to be agreed by consensus.</p> <p>(c) <i>Proposed Secretariat arrangements during special leave of absence of the Coordinator</i> The Coordinator and/or CMS Secretariat will clarify and answer questions about the interim arrangements described in Doc. 11.</p> <p>(d) <i>Additional sources of funding and support for coordination and implementation</i> Governments, IGOs and NGOs are invited to indicate the resources, financial and in-kind, they are likely to make available to support the further development and implementation of the IOSEA MoU over the next 2-3 years.</p>	<p>Doc. 11, Doc. 5</p>	<p>Noting / clarification of the Secretariat report.</p> <p>Agreement on the proposed 2015-2017 budget.</p> <p>Agreement on the indicative scale of voluntary contributions, to be communicated to Signatory States following the meeting.</p> <p>Offers of additional in-kind support to be noted.</p>
<p>11. Any other business</p> <p>Any other matters relevant to the business of the meeting may be raised under this agenda item.</p>		
<p>12. Closure of the meeting</p> <p>The formal meeting is expected to be closed by 1700 on Thursday, 11 September 2014.</p>		

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