

CMS Sharks MOU

First global agreement for the conservation of migratory sharks





A Global Convention





Sharks MOU

45% of all migratory sharks assessed are endangered (IUCN 2007)

100 million sharks killed annually

Finning, by catch, overfishing and coral habitat destrucction





Main objective of the Sharks MOU

Achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for migratory sharks

- based on the best available scientific information
- taking into account the socio-economic and other values of these species for the people of the Signatory States



Species covered by the MOU

- White Shark (C. carcharias)
- Basking Shark (C. maximus)
- Whale Shark (R. typus)
- Porbeagle (L. nasus)
- **Spiny Dogfish** (*S. acanthias*)
 - Northern Hemisphere
- Longfin Mako (I. paucus)
- Shortfin Mako (I. oxyrinchus)

















Shark species listed under CMS and the CMS Sharks MOU

| Species | CMS I | CMS II | Sharks MoU |
|---|-------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Whale Shark (Rhincodon typus) | | 1999 | 2010 |
| White Shark (Carcharodon carcharias) | 2002 | 2002 | 2010 |
| Basking Shark (Cetorhinus maximus) | 2005 | 2005 | 2010 |
| Porbeagle (Lamna nasus) | | 2008 | 2010 |
| Spiny Dogfish (Squalus acanthias) | | 2008 | 2010 |
| Shortfin Mako Shark (Isurus oxyrinchus) | | 2008 | 2010 |
| Longfin Mako Shark (Isurus paucus) | | 2008 | 2010 |
| Giant Manta Ray (Manta birostris) | 2011 | 2011 | will be proposed for listing at MOS2 |
| Reef Manta Ray (M. birostris) | 2014 | 2014 | |
| Great hammerhead Shark (Sphyrna mokarran) | | 2014 | |
| Scalloped Hammerhead Shark (Sphyrna lewini) | | 2014 | |
| All species of Thresher Sharks (Alopias spp.) | | 2014 | |
| Silky Shark (Carcharhinus falciformis) | | 2014 | |
| All species of Sawfishes (Pristidae spp.) | 2014 | 2014 | |
| All species of Mobula (Mobula spp.) | 2014 | 2014 | |



Five Objectives

- A. Improving scientific knowledge
- B. Applying Sustainable Fisheries
- C. Protecting critical habitats, migratory corridors and critical life stages of sharks
- D. Increasing public awareness and participation in conservation
- E. Enhancing national, regional and international cooperation



Objective A

Improving understanding of migratory shark populations through research, monitoring and information exchange





Objective B

Ensuring that directed and non-directed fisheries for sharks are sustainable

- Fisheries-related research and data collection
- Ecologically sustainable management of shark populations, including monitoring, control and surveillance
- Bycatch
- Policy, legislation and law enforcement
 - Review of domestic Policy
 - International Trade
 - Finning
 - Law Enforcement
 - Economic incentives





Objective C

Ensuring to the extent practicable the protection of critical habitats and migratory corridors and critical life stages of sharks

- Conservation activities
- Legislation
- Economic Incentives



Objective D

Increasing public awareness of threats to sharks and their habitats, and enhance public participation in conservation activities

- Awareness Raising
- StakeholderParticipation





Objective E

Enhancing national, regional and international cooperation

- Cooperation among governments
- Cooperation with existing instruments and organizations related to shark conservation
- Accession to international instruments relevant for the conservation and management of sharks



General Principles

- Successful shark conservation and management require the fullest possible cooperation:
 - Governments
 - IGOs, including relevant MEAs (CITES, CBD, Ramsar, UNCLOS)
 - NGOs
 - Fishing industry
 - Local communities



General Principles

Sharks should be managed allowing for sustainable harvest

- Signatories should apply
 - Ecosystem approach
 - Precautionary approach
- Establishment of
 - bilateral
 - sub-regional
 - regional management plans

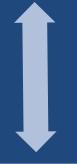




Bodies of the MOU

Interim Secretariat

Assists MOS and AC





Partners:

- non-Range States
- IGOs
- NGOs
- or other relevant bodies and entities

Meeting of the Signatories

• Decision making body



Advisory Committee

• Provides scientific Advice





Meeting of the Signatories (MOS)

- Decision making body
- Decisions should be taken by consensus
- Assessment of
 - Progress in implementing the MOU
 - Amendments to the MOU
- Frequency:3 Years





Advisory Committee

Tasks of the Advisory Committee

- Provide expert advice and information
- Make recommendations on
 - new initiatives
 - the implementation of the MOU and the Conservation Plan
- Analyze scientific assessments
- Review listing proposals and listing criteria



Secretariat

Tasks of the Interim Secretariat

- Organization of Meetings
- Facilitate and promote implementation of co-operative activities
- Consult and share information with:
 - IGOs, NGOs, FAO, relevant RFMOs, CITES, CBD, Regional Seas Conventions, stakeholders of the fishing industry and local communities, and other relevant international organizations
- Outreach (Signatories, Cooperating Partners)
- Awareness raising
- Fundraising



Cooperating Partners

Humane Society International

- Australia
- USA





- IFAW
- Pew Charitable Trust
- Shark Advocates International
- D.E.G.
- Project Aware
- Shark Trust
- Manta Trust



Becoming a Signatory to the MOU

- Open for Signature by all Range States and REIOs of the Shark Species listed in Annex I
 - Any State, that exercises jurisdiction over any part of the range of migratory sharks, or
 - ❖ A State, flag vessels of which are engaged outside its national jurisdictional limits in taking, or which have the potential to take migratory sharks
- Contacts for information:

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http://www.cms.int/sharks/en





Prospects of the MOU

- Increase number of Signatories and Cooperating partners
- Enhance cooperation with the Fisheries Sector, RFMOs, RSCs, and relevant MEAs
- Grow Awareness on Shark conservation and threats to sharks
- Improve knowledge about sharks
- Make use of sharks sustainable to maintain healthy ecosystems for future generations



