



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme



TECHNICAL MEETING FOR THE ELABORATION OF A CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MIGRATORY SHARKS

Manila, Philippines, 8-9 February 2010

UNEP/CMS/TMMS/Doc.3

DRAFT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

(Note prepared by the Secretariat)

1. At the Second Meeting on International Cooperation on Migratory Sharks under the Convention on Migratory Species (SHARKS-II, Rome, 6-8 December 2008), a consensus was reached amongst States present on the development of an instrument for the conservation of migratory sharks under CMS in the form of a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). It was also agreed that the MoU should be accompanied by a Conservation and Management Plan for migratory sharks. For the development of the Conservation and Management Plan (CMP), an open-ended Inter-Sessional Drafting Group under the Chairmanship of the USA was established.
2. A first draft of the CMP was circulated for comments by the USA in April 2009. A second draft was circulated within the Drafting Group for a further round of comments in November 2009. The third draft version produced on the basis of this consultative process, including an introductory note by the Coordinator, is attached to this document for the consideration of this meeting.

Actions requested:

The Meeting is invited to:

- a. *Note* the progress made by the Inter-Sessional Drafting Group in the elaboration of the CMP.
- b. *Consider and further elaborate* the draft CMP, and *reach consensus* on a revised version to be transmitted to the 3rd Meeting on International Cooperation on Migratory Sharks under the Convention on Migratory Species (Manila, 10-12 February 2010) for consideration and endorsement

For reasons of economy, documents are printed in a limited number, and will not be distributed at the meeting. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copy to the meeting and not to request additional copies.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE BY THE COORDINATOR

1. The following draft Conservation and Management Plan (CMP)¹ is the product of two rounds of comments from contact group participants. There were multiple sets of comments, both specific concrete revisions to the text as well as conceptual or general comments that were submitted separately, though there were considerably fewer comments on the second draft than on the first. I have worked to try to incorporate as many textual comments into the draft text as possible, and summarize some of the other comments below. Any mischaracterization or inaccuracies in communicating these comments is entirely my responsibility.
2. Regarding the text of the CMP itself, while some participants found the comprehensiveness and significant number of actions potentially useful, others found it too long, detailed and possibly overwhelming to potential signatories to the MoU, preferring a more streamlined CMP that outlines priority actions for the conservation of migratory sharks. Comments seemed to indicate that a more simplified structure might better assist Signatories and potential participants to identify the most urgent actions to implement in their respective regions or fisheries.
3. Similarly, some concerns focused on both the language and the content of the CMP, which were viewed as possibly exceeding the scope of a non-binding instrument such as the MOU under consideration. It was explained that if the objective of the MOU is to obtain a favourable state of conservation, the CMP may exceed this objective by calling for the application of administrative and management measures for directed shark fisheries. Particularly, in Objective No. 2 of the Plan of Action, it should refer only to the reduction of incidental catch, and the remainder of the fisheries objective would be addressed in regulations that are particular to the administration of each Signatory.
4. There were comments supporting a more defined implementation framework to the CMP which could better define or structure the possible activities to reach the objectives proposed in the text, priorities for implementation, time schedule for implementation (e.g. ongoing, immediate, short/near term, medium term, long term,), measurable targets and attribution of responsibilities for action.
5. There were a number of comments suggesting that the CMP Annex include some preambular text that reiterates and clarifies that Signatories will determine the most appropriate priority actions within their region for the relevant shark species, and that the CMP seeks to outline a wide range of actions and measures that signatories may find useful to consider carrying out or adopting. The inclusion of such preambular language may alleviate some of the concerns nature of the current draft CMP may be overly prescriptive.
6. Comments were submitted questioning the link between the CMP and the IPOA-Sharks. In particular, it was pointed out that there may not be clarity in how Article 15, section (e), which includes the objective to “ensure the development and the implementation of the NPOA sharks, under the auspices of the voluntary IPOA shark of the FAO,” would or could complement/contribute to implementation the voluntary IPOA of the FAO.

¹ Formal title and reference in the MoU to be decided.

7. One question related to the scope of the CMP, asking whether the Plan would be implemented in international waters given that strengthening of migratory shark conservation and management would result from the interaction and cooperation between countries that operate in international waters, as well as with organizations that may have competence for such areas.

8. Concerns were expressed that some actions and activities included in the draft CMP, in particular, the references to the creation of administrative structures, will result in greater costs, financially and in human resources, that could undermine the objective of a global, non-binding instrument because it could discourage countries, in particularly developing countries, from supporting or becoming a Signatory to the CMS MOU.

9. It was noted that several countries in the Americas, including Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and the United States, among others, are in the process of developing a Regional Plan of Action for the conservation of sharks in the Eastern Pacific, and concern was expressed that there are initiatives in that process and the CMP that overlap with one another, which may weaken in the long term the international work dedicated to the conservation and management of sharks.

10. Finally, there were numerous comments surrounding the issue of the identification of the species to be covered by the CMP (and the MoU). Some comments supported only the initial three species, proposing that the CMP be re-drafted to apply to whale shark, basking shark and great white shark, which might simplify the MoU and render it more manageable. Other participants supported a CMP that could apply to all species that are currently listed by CMS, and an explicit mechanism to consider additional species. This matter of the number of species to be covered may best be addressed in the negotiations of the MoU itself, with any necessary cross-references adjusted in the final CMP text.

11. If the result maintains the current draft CMP text's contemplation of the possibility of listing additional species in the future, one comment proposed to add species categories along the lines of the categories found in other, similar agreements. One example cited is from the CMS Birds of Prey MoU, which establishes the following categories:

Category 1: Globally threatened and Near Threatened species as defined according to the latest IUCN Red List and listed as such in the BirdLife International World Bird Database;

Category 2: Species considered to have Unfavourable Conservation Status at a regional level within the Range States and territories listed in Annex 2 to the MoU; and

Category 3: all other migratory species.

DRAFT
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Preambular paragraph:

Objective 1: Improve understanding of migratory shark populations² through research, monitoring and information exchange

1.1 [Conduct [conservation and management] studies on shark populations, [~~their~~] habitats, and migratory patterns [targeted to their conservation and management][Compile and analyze information from fishery dependent and independent sources on migratory [patterns] and conduct new studies where necessary]

- a) Conduct baseline studies [and] collect relevant data on:
 - i. shark populations;
 - ii. shark habitats [(including breeding, pupping/nursery and feeding areas)]; and
 - iii. shark migratory patterns/routes(including through the use of tagging, genetic studies and/or satellite tracking).
- b) [In carrying out the studies described in 1.1a above, [provide][pay] special attention to identifying vulnerable or threatened shark [stocks] [populations], including those that are subject to high levels of direct and incidental catch [and finning], and the resulting population dynamics affected by fishing pressure].
- c) Identify migratory patterns and [essential][critical] habitat, including [feeding], [breeding], [mating], [and] [pupping,] [and nursery] areas.
- d) [Assess the impact of IUU fishing activities on shark populations] [and identify the species most vulnerable to IUU fishing].
- e) Initiate and/or continue long-term monitoring of priority shark populations in order to assess their conservation status.
- f) [Establish indicators to assess progress towards national and/or regional targets, and develop species specific reference points as basis for the establishment of enhanced conservation measures].
- g) Characterize shark populations, their genetic structure and population trends.
- h) Carry out studies on shark population dynamics and survival rates as a result of fishing or other pressures/threats.
- i) [Promote the use of traditional ecological knowledge in research studies.
- j) Review periodically and evaluate research and monitoring activities.

1.2 Conduct collaborative research and monitoring:

- a) Identify and include priority research and monitoring needs in [any] regional and sub-regional action plans [developed under this MoU or pursuant to other relevant instruments such as the FAO IPOA-Sharks].
- b) Conduct collaborative studies and monitoring in pursuing activities described in 1.1 above.

² For purpose of this Conservation and Management Plan (CMP), any reference to sharks is considered a reference to the migratory sharks covered by the MoU to which the CMP is an Annex.

- c) Improve and develop frameworks for establishing and coordinating effective consultations involving stakeholders in research, management, and educational initiatives between States.

1.3 Identify and assess threats:

- a) Compile and analyze information from fishery dependent and independent sources concerning existing catch, catch rate, gear, and effort information to establish baseline data on incidental and directed capture of sharks including waste and discards.
- b) Implement data collection and catch monitoring programs to gather information on the catch and effort; species size and sex of sharks caught, released, or discarded; location of catch ; gears used for both directed and incidental fisheries; migratory patterns of sharks, and the nature and magnitude of non-fisheries threats to shark populations.
- c) Assess [harvesting][fishing] strategies consistent with the principles of biological sustainability and rational long-term [economic]use.

1.4 Exchange information

- a) Standardize methods and levels of data collection and adopt or develop an agreed set of protocols for research, monitoring, and information exchange, including, *inter alia*, such activities as stock assessment, genetic sampling, collection of mortality and indirect and direct catch data, and studies of life-cycles, [including]feeding[, mating] [and] [pupping][rearing][nursery] grounds, and migratory routes.
- b) Determine the most appropriate methods for information dissemination.
- c) Exchange at regular intervals scientific and technical information and expertise among nations, scientific institutions, non-governmental and international organizations, in order to develop and implement best practice approaches to conservation of sharks and their habitats.
- d) Disseminate [traditional] knowledge on sharks and their habitats for conservation and management.
- e) Compile on a regular basis data on shark populations of regional interest.

Objective 2: Reduce direct and incidental fisheries-related causes of shark mortality

2.1 Reduce to the greatest extent practicable the incidental capture and mortality of sharks in the course of fishing activities:

- a) Prioritize shark populations for conservation actions, offering highest priority to threatened or particularly vulnerable species with the [fewest][least amount of] safeguards in the face of high fishing pressure.
- b) Develop and use gear, devices, and techniques[, to the extent practicable,] to minimize incidental capture of sharks in fisheries, such as devices that effectively deter catches, or [allow][facilitate] the escape or live release of sharks.
- c) Estimate and record magnitude of shark bycatch mortality including estimates of waste and discards and numbers of sharks caught incidentally that could be released alive but are instead wholly or partially retained.
- d) [Determine whether spatial and seasonal closures are effective in reducing incidental capture of sharks[, particularly to protect nursery grounds as well as adults aggregated for mating or pupping][Develop and implement spatial and/or seasonal closures that

are effective in reducing incidental capture of sharks, particularly to protect nursery grounds as well as adults aggregated for mating or pupping].

- e) Liaise and coordinate with fishing industries[, conservation groups] and fisheries management organizations to develop and implement incidental capture mitigation mechanisms in national waters and on the high seas.

2.2 Determine and apply best practice approaches to minimizing [those] threats to shark populations and their habitats and managing directed harvests:

- a) [Protect or preserve threatened or endangered shark species through the development of appropriate conservation and management measures, including through legislation].
- b) [Implement and enforce conservation and management measures through effective monitoring, control and surveillance].
- c) Facilitate reporting of species-specific biological, catch, landings, trade, and monitoring data.
- d) Develop [on-board observer] programs to monitor [[directed]shark]fisheries [and fisheries taking high quantities of sharks] that includ[e][ing] procedures and training [programs] [to promote implementation of these measures, such as vessel monitoring systems[, and] inspections (at sea, in port, and at landing sites) [and [national] on-board observer programs [(including surveillance by video cameras)], and consider same for fisheries with high rates of incidental take of sharks.
- e) Identify and document best practice protocols for conserving and managing shark populations within the region that protect biodiversity and ecosystem structure and function.
- f) Develop and adopt region- and fishery-specific best conservation and management practices for shark populations in cooperation with relevant bodies, including existing regulatory frameworks and related instruments, such as RFMOs and FAO.
- g) [Impose science-based and[/or] precautionary fishing limits to e][Ensure shark catches from directed and indirect fisheries are sustainable].
- h) [Promote] concrete measures to r][R]educe excess fishing capacity, minimize waste and discard, and implement a precautionary and ecosystem based approach.
- i) Improve implementation of and compliance with national measures and conservation and management measures adopted by existing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that regulate shark fisheries or shark fishing practices.
- j) Support and respond to the calls in UN General Assembly resolutions 59/25, 61/105 and 62/177 concerning [unregulated sub-regional and regional fisheries]the implementation of the International Plan of Action for sharks, and bans on finning.
- k) [Reduce the mortality of juvenile sharks in order to maximize recruitment and survival][Minimize the mortality of fecund females, to the extent practicable, [during reproduction] or take other appropriate actions to maximize [recruitment][reproduction]].
- l) [Establish time/area closures management programs to minimize take in critical life periods and habitats].
- m) Identify resources and sources of funding for the development and implementation of National Plans of Action to manage sharks within a State's jurisdictional waters, including highly-migratory and straddling populations[, and for the regulation of the activities of States' fleets fishing on the High Seas].
- n) Ensure no increase in and minimize the use of plastics and non-degradable materials in fishing operations.

2.3 Implement programs to address adverse economic incentives that threaten shark populations:

- a) Conduct socio-economic studies among communities that utilize, trade, and purchase sharks and shark products.
- b) Identify [appropriate][desired] modifications to economic incentives in order to reduce threats to and mortality of shark populations, and develop programs to implement the modifications.
- c) Eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported, and unregulated shark fishing and to related overfishing and overcapacity.

2.4 Regulate and manage the harvest of sharks [where such harvest is] solely for the purpose of finning:

- a) Where not already in place, enact legislation or regulations that [control or] prohibit fisheries where sharks are targeted/harvested solely for fins[and the remainder of the shark is not harvested].
- b) Assess the level and impact of traditional fin harvest][finning] on sharks.
- c) Establish management programs that may include limits on levels of [intentional] fin harvest.
- d) Determine the cultural and traditional values and economic uses of shark [fins][, if any, including [(]both consumptive and non-consumptive[)]].
- e) Consider taking measures, as appropriate, to require that sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached in line with UN General Assembly Resolution 62/177 and with IUCN Recommendation 4.114.
- f) Minimize waste and discards from shark catches in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, such as requiring the retention and/or utilization of sharks from which fins are removed.
- g) Encourage full use of dead sharks and release of live sharks.

2.5 Develop time area closures management programs to minimize take in breeding, wintering, and nursery habitats:

- a) Identify areas of critical habitat such as [mating, pupping, and nursery grounds as well as] migratory corridors, [breeding, wintering, and nursery habitats], and feeding [areas][sites] [and consider implementation of fishery time and area closures based on [this][these] data].
- b) Reduce the mortality of [large] juvenile sharks in order to maximize recruitment and [population growth][survival].
- c) Minimize the mortality of fecund females during reproduction.

Objective 3: Improve effectiveness of science-based management for ecological factors

3.1 Establish necessary measures to protect sharks and shark habitats

- a) Develop and implement regulations to protect critical habitat such as [mating, pupping, and nursery areas as well as]migratory corridors, [breeding, [wintering,]and rearing habitats,]and feeding areas.

- b) Designate and manage protected/conservation areas, sanctuaries or temporary exclusion zones along migration corridors and in areas of critical habitat, including those on the high seas, or take other measures (e.g. modification of fishing gear, restrictions on vessel traffic) to remove threats to such areas.
- c) Develop incentives for adequate protection of areas of critical habitat outside protected areas.
- d) Undertake assessments of the environmental impact of marine and coastal development and other human activities that may affect shark populations and their habitats [(from draft 1)and agree with such plans or projects only after having ascertained that they will not adversely affect shark populations and their habitats (except in exceptional circumstances, such as relating to public safety, human health or imperative reasons of overriding public interest, provided that adequate compensatory measures are taken.)]
- e) Monitor and promote the protection of [environmental][quality from land-based and maritime pollution, including marine debris such as plastics, that may adversely affect shark populations.
- f) Strengthen the application and ensure enforcement of existing bans on the use of poisonous chemicals and explosives in the exploitation of marine resources.
- g) Improve implementation and compliance [with] ~~of existing~~ [and future] regulations on shark fisheries [and ensure enforcement of future regulations on shark fisheries].
- h) Adopt science-based management [measures][strategies] that [reflect][use] an ecosystem and precautionary approach[, taking into account that sharks are particularly susceptible to changes in environmental conditions such as changes in water temperature, oceanic chemistry, stratification and circulation patterns].

Objective 4: Increase public awareness of the threats to sharks and their habitats, and enhance public participation in conservation activities

4.1 Establish public education, awareness and information[al] programmes:

- a) Collect, develop and disseminate education materials [aimed at educating fishermen and the public on shark status, conservation needs, and associated regulations].
- b) Establish community learning/information centers.
- c) Develop and implement accurate mass media information programmes.
- d) Develop and conduct focused education and awareness programmes for target groups (e.g. [consumers,] policy makers, teachers, schools, fishing communities, media).
- e) Encourage the incorporation of shark population biology and conservation issues into broader marine ecology school curricula.
- f) Organize special events related to shark conservation and biology (e.g. Shark Day, Year of the Shark, symposia, Track-a-shark).

4.2 Develop alternative livelihood opportunities for local communities to encourage their active participation in conservation efforts[, such as by[

I][i]dentify[ing] and facilitate[e][ing] environmentally sound and sustainable alternative livelihoods [including income generating activities such as] [that are not detrimental to shark populations and their habitats including non-consumptive alternatives such as] ecotourism, in consultation with local communities and other stakeholders.

4.3 Promote public participation:

- a) Involve stakeholders and local communities in particular, in planning and implementation of shark conservation and management measures.
- b) Encourage the participation of [government]institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, scientists and the general community (e.g. students, volunteers, fishing communities, and local communities) in research,[and] conservation [and public awareness] efforts.
- c) Implement, where appropriate, incentive schemes to encourage public participation [in conservation initiatives] (e.g. T-shirts for tag returns, public acknowledgement, and/or certificates).

Objective 5: Enhance national, regional and international cooperation

5.1 Collaborate with and assist signatory and non-signatory States to regulate and share information on trade, to combat illegal trade, and to cooperate in enforcement activities relating to shark products:

- a) Encourage signatory States that have not already done so to become Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
- b) Review at a national level compliance with obligations under CITES relating to trade in shark species and shark products.
- c) Facilitate better compliance with CITES through training of relevant authorities in cooperation with other signatory States, the CITES Secretariat and other relevant organisations.
- d) Develop strategies that ensure that shark products entering international trade are caught in accordance with existing conservation and management measures.
- e) Identify routes of international illegal trade through monitoring, and seek cooperation to take action to prevent, deter and, where possible, eliminate illegal trade.
- f) Ensure that illegal trade in shark products can be investigated and proper sanctions are imposed.
- g) Exchange and discuss information on compliance and trade issues at regular intervals, such as through annual reporting to the MoU Secretariat and at meetings of the signatory States.
- h) Identify, prevent, deter and, where possible, eliminate domestic illegal trade through monitoring, investigations, development and implementation of legislation, identification of gaps in enforcement capabilities in each country, and training of enforcement officers.

5.2 Assist signatory and non-signatory States, upon request, to develop and implement national, sub-regional and regional action plans for the conservation and management of shark populations and their habitats:

- a) Encourage signatory States that have not already done so to become Parties to Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) relevant to their shark catches.

- b) Develop, implement, and enforce national plans of action through consultation with concerned Government authorities, research institutions, NGOs, local communities and other stakeholders.
- c) Identify existing action plans, including the FAO IPOA-Sharks and related national plans of action, that could be used as models and establish guideline for development of such actions plans.
- d) Identify specific local management issues where cooperation among States is required for successful conservation and management.
- e) Review action plans at regular intervals to take into account recent advances in skills and knowledge regarding shark conservation and management, as well as changes in conservation status of shark populations.
- f) [Where RFMOs competence for shark management does not exist, or where [they][a competent RFMO] fail[s] to adopt regional shark conservation measures, d] [~~D~~]develop and implement regional cooperation on shark conservation management including data sharing to assess sustainable levels of take in directed and incidental fisheries based on ecosystem requirements.

5.3 [Consistent with points 1.2 and 1.4 above, e][E]nhance mechanisms for cooperation and promote information exchange:

- a) Identify and strengthen existing mechanisms for cooperation among coastal and fishing states, as well as relevant IGOs and RFMOs, at the sub-regional level.
- b) Develop a[n MoU] website and/or newsletter to facilitate networking and exchange of information on the conservation of sharks.
- c) Develop a web-based information resource for shark conservation (including data on populations, rearing, migration, on-going projects).
- d) Create a directory of experts and organizations concerned with shark conservation.
- e) Develop networks for cooperative management of shared populations, within or across sub-regions, and, where appropriate, formalise cooperative management arrangements.
- f) Cooperate, where possible, in the establishment of transboundary marine protected areas using ecological rather than political boundaries.
- g) Develop a streamlined format for reporting and exchanging information (through the MoU Secretariat and among signatory States) on the [state][status] of shark conservation at the national level.
- h) Encourage MoU signatory States that have not already done so to become Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).
- i) Encourage signatory States to become Parties to global fisheries agreements such as the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (1995) and the FAO Compliance Agreement (1993) and implement the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995).
- j) Establish relationships with regional fisheries bodies with a view to obtaining data on [shark catches][incidental capture] and encourage them to adopt shark conservation measures within [EEZs and on the high seas] [their areas of competence].

5.4 Build capacity to strengthen conservation measures:

- a) Identify needs for capacity-building in terms of human resources, knowledge and facilities.
- b) Provide training (e.g. through workshops) in shark identification and conservation and management techniques to relevant agencies, individuals and local communities.

- c) Coordinate training programs and workshops on best practices in data collection and science based management.
- d) Develop partnerships with universities, research institutions, training bodies and other relevant organizations.

5.5 Strengthen and improve enforcement of conservation and management measures and legislation:

- a) Review domestic policies and laws to address gaps or impediments to shark conservation.
- b) Cooperate in law enforcement to ensure compatible application of laws across and between jurisdictions (including through bilateral/multilateral agreements and intelligence sharing through [existing] channels such as the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network [and the Interpol Wildlife Crime group).

Objective 6: Promote implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan and the MoU

6.1 Broaden membership in the MoU and ensure continuity of MoU activities

- a) Encourage non-signatory States to sign the CMS Migratory Shark MoU.
- b) Arrange sub-regional workshops involving non-signatory States to raise awareness of the MoU.
- c) [Consider at the first meeting of the signatory States the development of a timetable for possible amendment of the MoU to make it a legally binding instrument].

6.2 Promote the role of the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee of the MoU in ensuring the objectives of the Conservation and Management Plan are met:

- a) Secure reliable sources of funding to support the MoU Secretariat.
- b) Appoint at the first meeting of the signatory States the members of the Advisory Committee.
- c) Establish lines of communication between the MoU Secretariat and the Advisory Committee to facilitate advice to the signatory States.

6.3 [Seek resources to support the implementation of the MoU]

- a) [Prioritize conservation and management activities for funding.
- b) Explore funding options with Governments and other donors such as the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, UNDP, European Union, UNEP, GEF, [and other relevant organizations or donors]~~ete~~.
- c) Solicit funding and other contributions from industries that have impacts on sharks and their habitats (e.g. fisheries, tourism, oil industry,) [Shark Fin Traders' Association].
- d) Explore the use of economic instruments for the conservation of sharks and their habitats.
- e) Approach the private sector, foundations and NGOs that may have an interest in funding activities in particular countries to catalyze the creation of a small grants fund.

- f) Generate funding for conservation and management activities through [responsibly] managed ecotourism and other self-supporting schemes (while benefiting local communities).
- g) Seek synergies (with respect to fund-raising, provision of institutional support, etc.) with other regional/global convention secretariats.
- h) Explore international funding support and other incentives for signatory States that effectively manage shark populations, which might include the complete prohibition of direct harvest (capture or killing) or harvest solely for fins].

6.4 Improve coordination among government and non-government sectors in the conservation of sharks and their habitats:

- a) [Review the roles and responsibilities of government agencies related to the conservation and management of sharks and their habitats].
- b) [Identify the lead agency responsible for coordinating national shark conservation and management policy].
- c) Encourage cooperation within and among government and non-government sectors, including through the development and/or strengthening of national networks.

6.5 Enhance the effectiveness of CMS in contributing to the global effort to conserve sharks by maximizing the scope of the MOU:

- a) Consider the inclusion of [all][any] shark species and not solely those listed in the CMS Appendices in the application of the MOU[, or]
- b) Include within the scope of the MOU all shark species listed in the CMS Appendices[, as appropriate and agreed by the Signatories on a case-by-case basis] [Develop a mechanism whereby species listed in the CMS Appendices are automatically [and immediately included] [forwarded to the Signatories for consideration of inclusion] within the scope of the MOU].