



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

CMS/Sharks/AC4/Doc.2.1/Rev.1
15 November 2024
Original: English

4th Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC4)
Puerto Princesa, Philippines, 25 – 29 November 2024
Agenda Item 2

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND LIST OF DOCUMENTS

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

	Monday (25.11)	Tuesday (26.11)	Wednesday (27.11)	Thursday (28.11)	Friday (29.11)
8.30-9.30	Registration	Closed session of the AC and CWG	Closed session of the AC and CWG	Closed session of the AC and CWG	Closed session of the AC and CWG
9.30-10.45	1. Opening 2. Agenda 3. Reports and POW	5.	5.	6.	7. Strategic Focus of the Advisory Committee
10.45-11.00	Coffee break				
11.00-12.30	3.	5.	5.	6.	7.
12.30-14.00	Lunch break				
14.00-15.30	4. Amendments to Annex 1	5.	6. Conservation Strategies and Concerted Actions	6.	8. Date and Venue of the Next Meeting
15.30-15.45	Coffee break				
15.45-17.30	5. Fisheries management and conservation issues	5.	6.	6.	9. Any Other Business 10. Closure

Agenda Item / Documents	Annotation / Action Requested
1 Opening of the Meeting	
2 Adoption of the Agenda	
CMS/Sharks/AC4/Doc.2.1/Rev.1 - Provisional Annotated Agenda and List of Documents	Participants will review the provisional Annotated Agenda, make changes as required, and adopt a final agenda for the purpose of this meeting.
3 Reports and Programme of Work	
3.1 Report of the Chair, Vice Chair, and the Secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.14 – Sharks MOU Advisory Committee: Programme of Work 2023-2025 	The Chair and the Secretariat will report on progress made since the 4 th Meeting of the Signatories (Sharks MOS4) on implementation of the Programme of Work of the AC.
3.2 Updates from Participants No document	Members of the AC, Conservation Working Group (CWG) and observers, including national and local government and NGO representatives are invited to present relevant activities related to the implementation of the Programme of Work of the Sharks MOU 2023-2025 which was adopted at MOS4.
4 Amendments to Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU	
4.1 Analysis of Proposals for Inclusion of Shark and Ray Species in the Appendices of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), adopted at CMS COP14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.12 - Analysis of proposals of species included in CMS Appendices at COP14 (alias UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC6/Inf.13.4) 	<p>The meeting will summarize the “Analysis of proposals of species included in CMS Appendices at COP14” and prepare an update if new and relevant scientific information if available.</p> <p>In addition, the meeting will conduct a comprehensive review of the overlaps between species listed under CMS, the Sharks MOU, and CITES. This exercise will help identify potential synergies for enhanced conservation actions, focusing on areas where joint efforts could lead to more effective outcomes for species management across these frameworks.</p> <p>Furthermore, with MOS5 scheduled after CMS COP15, there may be new listing proposals or confirmed listings that require review by the Advisory Committee. Consequently, this agenda item will be revisited at AC5 to ensure that the most up-to-date information and decisions are taken into account.</p>
4.2 Considerations on migratory shark and ray species that would benefit from listing in Annex 1	The meeting will develop Terms of Reference for an update of FOWLER, S. (2014). THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF MIGRATORY SHARKS The meeting is also invited to make recommendations to Signatories on priority

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.1 - The Conservation Status of Migratory Sharks • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.2 - State of the Worlds Migratory Species Report 	species that would benefit from inclusion in Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU.
5 Fisheries management and conservation issues (and extrabudgetary activities)	
<p>5.1 Important Sharks and Rays Areas (ISRAs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.3 - Mediterranean and Black Seas: A regional compendium of Important Shark and Ray Areas • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.4 - Western Indian Ocean: A regional compendium of Important Shark and Ray Areas • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.5 - Asia: A regional compendium of Important Shark and Ray Areas • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.6 - Central and South American Pacific: A regional compendium of Important Shark and Ray Areas 	Rima Jabado will provide a brief update on implementation of the ISRA initiative. The Meeting will discuss progress and discuss next steps to support the initiative.
<p>5.2 Regional Prioritization of Conservation Action for Annex 1-Listed Species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.7 - Regional prioritization of shark and ray species listed in Sharks MOU Annex 1 and CMS Appendices (alias CMS/Sharks/MOS4/Doc.10.5/Rev.1) 	James Ellis will present the earlier analysis prepared by the AC on Regional Prioritization of Conservation Actions for Annex 1-Listed Species. The meeting will then explore ways to further develop this regional prioritization, including potential options for publishing the regional priorities for Annex 1-listed species in a suitable journal.
<p>5.3 Assessment of Landings Data (Update)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.8 - Improving reporting of landings data for species listed in Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU (alias CMS/Sharks/MOS4/Doc.10.6) 	James Ellis and Maria Pozo Montoro will provide a summary of the earlier analysis of FAO landings data for species listed in the CMS Appendices and Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU. The meeting will then discuss and update the analysis as needed, followed by consideration of options for publishing the findings in a suitable journal.
6 Conservation Strategies and Concerted Actions	
<p>6.1 Oceanic sharks and rays, rhino rays, whale sharks and saw fish</p>	The meeting will review ongoing and recent strategies and action plans for various Annex 1-listed species. Discussions will also cover outputs and potential next steps for the Implementation of Concerted Action for Whale Sharks, considering related

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<p>6.1.1 Conservation Strategy and Regional Action Plans for Pelagic Sharks and Rays (Update and next steps)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.9 - Development of a conservation strategy and action plans for pelagic sharks and rays (alias CMS/Sharks/MOS4/Doc.10.2/Rev.1) <p>6.1.2 Development of a Conservation Strategy and Actions Plans for Rhino Rays (Update and next steps), including sawfish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.10 - Development of a conservation strategy and action plans for rhino rays (alias CMS/Sharks/MOS4/Doc.10.3) <p>6.1.3 Whale Sharks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.11 - Limiting global ship strike on whale sharks - Understanding an increasing threat to the world's largest fish (alias UNEP/CMS/COP14/Inf.27.2.3) 	<p>initiatives such as Australia's whale shark eco-tourism management plan and the recent CMS study on vessel collision risks for whale sharks.</p>
<p>7 Strategic Focus of the Advisory Committee</p>	
<p>7.1. Recent Work of the Advisory Committee in RFMO and RFB Meetings Related to Annex 1-Listed Species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.15 - Migratory sharks and rays in the Atlantic: Chronology of the work of ICCAT, CMS and the Sharks MOU, potential synergies and emerging issues • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.16 - Mobulid rays in the ICCAT Convention area: A review of current knowledge 	<p>James Ellis will present a brief overview of recent initiatives aimed at informing relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) and Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) about the CMS Sharks MOU, highlighting potential areas for synergy. The meeting will subsequently explore options for future collaborative activities.</p>
<p>7.2. Supporting the Strategic Focus of the Sharks MOU No document</p>	<p>Considering the growing scientific understanding of migratory sharks and rays, as well as significant advancements in shark and ray conservation over the past 15 years, the meeting will assess the achievements of the CMS Sharks MOU to</p>

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<p>7.3. Communication Approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS/Sharks/AC4/Inf.13 – Communication and Awareness-raising Strategy (CMS/Sharks/Outcome 3.5) 	<p>date and evaluate its potential future contributions to conservation efforts.</p> <p>The AC and the Secretariat will discuss options for how best to communicate the outputs and work of the AC to scientific audiences, policy, fisheries bodies, and other stakeholders. The meeting will further discuss the need to further refine the communication strategy of the MOU to ensure the work of the Sharks MOU is visible.</p>
<p>8 Date and Venue of the Next Meeting</p>	
<p>9 Any Other Business</p>	
<p>10 Closure of the Meeting</p>	

Action requested:

The Meeting is requested to:

Review the Provisional Annotated Agenda and adopt the agenda for the Meeting.