

**SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**  
(arising from ScC-SC2)

**SUSTAINABLE BOAT-BASED MARINE WILDLIFE WATCHING**  
**UNEP/CMS/COP12/DOC.24.4.5**

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP12**

- Recommended for adoption

**GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT**

- The Sessional Committee considered the draft guidelines as comprehensive and well-structured.
- It was considered important that in the coming triennium the guidance on boat-based and in-water activities was brought together, since these activities often occur together.
- Some concerns were raised whether the guidelines relating to seabirds and sharks were practical and would indeed result in reduced disturbance as intended.

**COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION**

- Page 4, 10<sup>th</sup> preambular paragraph  
- Include the full name of ACCOBAMS
- Page 25, explanation to 4<sup>th</sup> bullet point  
- Correct “feeding areas” to “inter-nesting habitat”
- Page 50, paragraph 12.BB  
- In point b), add a reference to ACCOBAMS, since they also work on whale watching and are also members of the IWC Standing Working Group on Whale Watching