

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC2)

CONCERTED ACTIONS
UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.26.1

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP12

- Adopt the consolidated resolution, including the Guidelines and Template, and the draft decisions, with the proposed revision.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

- The Scientific Council supports the consolidation and amendments proposed by the Secretariat, including the *Guidelines to the implementation of the Concerted Actions process* and the *Template for proposing Concerted Actions* to be annexed to the resolution.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

Pages 10-12, several paragraphs

- In several paragraphs of the proposed *Guidelines to the to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process*, the expression “Scientific Council / Sessional Committee” is used.

While it is understood that the expression was used to cover the possibility of a given function to be undertaken by meetings of either the entire Scientific Council or the Sessional Committee, considering that the Sessional Committee has the authority to operate on behalf of the entire Scientific Council, with a view to limit the risk of confusion it is recommended to replace the expression “Scientific Council / Sessional Committee” with the expression “Scientific Council” throughout the *Guidelines*.

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- While the box “Activities and expected outcomes” has been completed in a comprehensive manner, the proposals would be improved by the addition on a box “Summary of activities” immediately above. If agreed, add a box “**Summary of Actions**: Summarize the activities proposed (100-200 words)”.
 - When a complex set of activities are proposed, it would be useful to add a table that outlines for each activity: outputs/outcomes, timeframe, responsibility and funding. Such a table enables Parties and stakeholders to quickly and clearly understand what is being proposed, when it will occur, who will be responsible, and if (and how much) additional resources may be needed for implementation. (The proposed Concerted Action on the Angelshark, Doc.26.2.5 contains a good example of this on page 5). If agreed, additional guidance text should be added at the end of the section “**Activities and expected outcomes**”.
- The current template does not require proponents to outline whether or not they have consulted with Range States and other stakeholders. It would be useful to add a box “**Consultations Planned/Undertaken**” and the instructions: “If work is targeted in Range States, outline what consultations, if any, are planned or have been undertaken. Outline

any consultations with other relevant stakeholders.

Page 21, Draft Decision 12.AA

- In relation to the tasks assigned to the Scientific Council with paragraphs a) and b) of the draft Decision, the Scientific Council notes that no time frame is specified to deliver its recommendations to COP.
- The Scientific Council proposes to undertake the tasks and deliver its recommendations by the time of COP13, and to reflect this in the draft Decision as follows (new text underlined):
By COP13, the Scientific Council shall: