



Memorandum of Understanding on the
Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and
their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia

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Agenda item 4
21 February 2006

FOURTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES
Muscat, Oman, 11-14 March 2006

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda Items	Relevant Documents	Notes
<p>1. Welcoming remarks</p> <p>The meeting will be formally opened in the main conference hall of the Crowne Plaza Hotel, at 9.00 on the morning of Saturday, 11 March 2006, by representatives of the Secretariat and the Government of Oman</p>		
<p>2. Signature of the Memorandum of Understanding by additional States</p> <p>The Memorandum of Understanding will be opened for signature, as necessary, by duly accredited representatives of States of the Region, and other concerned States, during a short ceremony to be held immediately after the Welcoming Remarks, in order to allow them to participate in the meeting as <i>de facto</i> Signatory States.</p>	<p>Original Memorandum of Understanding, concluded in Kuantan, Malaysia, on 14 July 2000</p> <p>(Reproduced as: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Inf. 2)</p>	
<p>3. Election of officers</p> <p>The Meeting will be invited to elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson and rapporteur from among the representatives of the Signatory States in attendance. It is proposed that all decisions at the present meeting be taken by consensus.</p>		
<p>4. Adoption of the agenda and schedule</p> <p>The Meeting is invited to review the provisional agenda and schedule, and to make any proposals for amendment prior to their adoption. <i>Expected outcome:</i> Agreement on the agenda and schedule for the meeting.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 1 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 2 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 3 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 4</p>	
<p>5. Opening statements</p> <p>It is <u>not</u> envisaged to have presentations of national activities at this stage of the meeting; however representatives of Signatory States may wish to draw attention to any <i>written</i> statements submitted for the Meeting's consideration. Representatives of observer countries will be invited to inform the Meeting of their Governments' intentions vis-à-vis signature of the Memorandum of Understanding.</p>	<p>Statements to be submitted to the Secretariat in writing</p>	
<p>6. Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>The Secretariat will report on developments since the Third Meeting of Signatory States; with more detailed discussion expected under other agenda items.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 5 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Inf. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</p>	

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<p>7. Alliances, synergies and complementary activities</p> <p>Signatory States will be invited to provide updates on completed, ongoing or planned <i>regional or sub-regional level</i> project activities in which they are involved, outside the framework of the IOSEA Memorandum of Understanding, but which complement the MoU. Contributions from inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations are also very welcome. Participants are requested to provide the Secretariat, before the meeting, with copies of project documents or descriptions of broad activities and programmes already under way.</p> <p>The Secretariat proposes, under this agenda item, to call on rapporteurs to give a presentation of up to 10-15 minutes on developments directly relevant to marine turtle conservation, having arisen in the framework of other instruments or <i>major</i> initiatives, projects and meetings. An indicative list of initiatives, projects and instruments (and suggested rapporteurs) is given in the notes.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Up-to-date picture of other complementary activities with which the IOSEA MoU should attempt to synergise. Presenters are requested to focus on new developments or activities since the time of SS3, to describe how these are relevant to the IOSEA MoU, and to indicate possible areas of synergy with IOSEA over the coming year(s), which may require additional follow-up.</p>	<p>As tabled at the meeting (Documents requested from participants)</p>	<p><i>Indicative speaker's list:</i></p> <p>Africa MoU: CMS Secretariat Inter-American Conv: Frazier (AC)</p> <p>FAO: Bianchi IATTC: Hogan (USA) SEAFDEC: Chokesanguan (AC) PERSGA: Al-Zibdah (Jordan) ROPME: Oman or Iran? IOTC: Adams (Seychelles)</p> <p>WWF: McLellan IUCN-MTSG : Pilcher Conservation. Int'l: Mast/Hutchinson TRAFFIC E/S Africa : Patterson</p> <p>Marine Turtle Conservation Act: Possardt (USA) IFF3 : Hogan (USA) WIO Task Force: Nel (S. Africa)</p>
<p>8. Review of 2006 Year of the Turtle campaign preparations</p> <p>The Secretariat will give a general overview of preparations for the international IOSEA YoT campaign, launched officially in Bangkok on 1 March 2006, with particular emphasis on generic information materials meant to benefit all participating countries. The Secretariat will report also on the status of applications for funding of small-scale activities. Signatory States and observers will have an opportunity to elaborate and, to the extent necessary, coordinate their YoT plans in sub-regional working groups.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Secretariat and all participants well-informed about the current status of Year of the Turtle activities at all levels. Organisations are motivated to carry out additional activities and to report on their outcomes via the IOSEA website. Table compiled of known/proposed events.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 7</p>	

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<p>9. Review of implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding, including the Conservation and Management Plan</p> <p>The meeting will have before it a detailed review of implementation and reporting, which can be used as a basis for identifying priorities for strategic intervention, as well as related resource needs. The discussion will be structured as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) General discussion of national reporting to date, including use of the electronic template incorporating revisions introduced after the Third Meeting; (b/e) Review of implementation progress, strengths and weaknesses or gaps, based on Doc. 3 prepared by the Secretariat, using information contained in national reports as at 19 February 2006, as well as other sources of information. Review of the objective criteria developed by the Secretariat in order to analyse the national reports. Identification by the Meeting of key regional issues and priorities / recommendations for concerted interventions, including those described under agenda item 9e. (c) Introduction and consideration of a region-wide report on leatherback conservation status and tsunami impacts, containing specific recommendations for follow-up actions which the Meeting may choose to endorse. (d) Consideration of status reports on other CMS/IOSEA-funded projects that may be tabled, including recommendations for possible follow-up. (e) Issue-based priorities for concerted intervention (see above) (f) Progress report on the proposal to develop a network of sites of importance for marine turtles. (g) Identification, by the Meeting, of priorities for site-specific interventions, based on the findings of Doc. 8.3, Doc. 9, and Doc. 10, and any other available information. <p><i>Expected outcomes:</i> (a) comprehensive review of progress already made in implementation, and identification of significant gaps; (b) identification of gaps in reporting and provision of new information previously unreported; (c) noting of complementary projects and any recommendations arising therefrom; (d) specific recommendations for follow-up action arising from the Leatherback—tsunami report; (e) prioritisation of other actions to be undertaken, with specific follow-up proposed for those of high priority; (f) renewed impetus to the proposal to develop the region-wide site network.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Inf. 2</p> <p>9a: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.8 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.8.1</p> <p>9b: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.8.2 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.8.3</p> <p>9c: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.9</p> <p>9d: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.8.4</p> <p>9e: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.8.3</p> <p>9f: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.10</p> <p>9g: MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.8.3 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.9 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.10</p>	

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<p>10. Advisory Committee</p> <p>The Chairman of the Advisory Committee will be invited to provide a written or oral report on activities of the Advisory Committee since SS3. The meeting will be invited to review the functioning the Advisory Committee, including any substantive proposals to improve its operation. The existing Terms of Reference for the Committee will be considered, with a view to introducing any necessary changes.</p> <p>It is proposed that a working group be set up to consider nomination/re-nomination of experts to serve on the Committee for the next biennium, as well as involvement of sub-regional observers. Forms for this purpose were circulated to Focal Points on 17 November 2005, for submission by 10 January 2006. Three AC members will have served through two Meetings of the Signatory States and would normally stand down. However, all current members are eligible for re-nomination and re-appointment.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Identification of any additional expertise required; appointment of new members to Committee; agreement on any necessary amendments to the Committee's structure, function and terms of reference; identification of tasks to be undertaken by the Committee inter-sessionally; agreement the timing, venue and financing of the Committee's next meeting.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 11 (+ Annexes: Terms of Reference)</p> <p>Nomination forms (as received)</p>	
<p>11. Financial and administrative matters</p> <p>(a) Review of status of voluntary contributions and expenditures The Secretariat will report on the current status of voluntary contributions received or pledged in support of the Memorandum of Understanding and on expenditures incurred to date.</p> <p>(b) Work programme and indicative budget for 2006-2007 The Secretariat will present a draft annual work programme and indicative budget covering the 2006-2007 calendar years.</p> <p>(c) Additional sources of funding for implementation Governments, IGOs and NGOs are invited to indicate the resources, financial and in-kind, they are likely to make available to support the further development and implementation of the MoU over the next 2-3 years.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.5 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc.12</p>	

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<p>12. Current use and further development of implementation tools</p> <p>The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the latest developments concerning the IOSEA website (www.ioseaturtles.org), including tools intended to benefit Signatory States and other interested partners in relation to their marine turtle conservation activities, in particular: the projects database, electronic library, flipper tag series, IOSEA Interactive Mapping System (IMapS), and other information services.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> The discussion is expected to focus on how the website is currently being used, and how its use could be extended even further through new applications, better promotion and linkages etc. Participants are expected to give feedback on other applications or content they may wish to see included on the website, to indicate what additional content they can contribute themselves, and how they or their organisations might promote even greater use of the website.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 13 MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Inf. 8</p>	
<p>13. Any other business</p> <p>Any other matters relevant to the business of the meeting may be raised under this agenda item. The timing of future meetings, including the Fifth Meeting of the Signatory States will be considered here. Signatory States will be invited to offer to host the next meeting, which should take place in the first trimester of 2007 if the current timetable is followed.</p> <p>Additionally, the Meeting will be invited to consider whether or not to develop a timetable for reviewing the legal character of the MoU, or to retain the status quo.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Identification of key dates and opportunities for follow-up meetings; agreement on the approximate timing and venue of the Fifth Meeting of the Signatory States. Consideration and agreement on how to proceed in relation to the legal status of the MoU.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Inf. 9</p> <p>MT-IOSEA/SS.4/Doc. 5</p>	
<p>14. Closure of the meeting</p> <p>The meeting is expected to be closed no later than 12.30 on 14 March 2006.</p>		