



# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SHARKS

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE  
CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SHARKS  
Bonn, Germany, 24-27 September 2012  
Agenda Item 8

### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*(Prepared by the Interim Secretariat)*

#### Background

1. Section 7 of the MOU provides guidance on the establishment of the Advisory Committee.
2. According to paragraph 24 of the MoU, the first session of the Meeting of the Signatories should establish an Advisory Committee, comprising persons qualified as experts in migratory shark conservation, science and management.
3. Furthermore, in line with paragraph 25 of the MoU, the members of the Committee should be appointed as representatives of the regions by the Signatories from each region.
4. Annex 2 of the MoU lists the regions and the number of representatives of each region as follows:

• Africa	2
• Asia	2
• North America	1
• Europe	2
• Oceania	1
• South, Central America and the Caribbean	2
5. A world map demarcating the regions is provided in the Terms of Reference in Annex I to this document. A list of current Signatories (as at 1 August 2012) is provided in Annex II to this document.

#### Terms of Reference of the Advisory Committee

6. Paragraph 24 of the MoU provides an outline of the tasks of the Advisory Committee. Further details are elaborated in the draft Terms of Reference (TOR), attached as Annex I to this document.

7. These draft ToRs specify the mandate and tasks of the Advisory Committee, representation and attendance as well as the procedure to nominate and appoint members to the Committee. Moreover, it gives guidance on meetings, officers and the *modus operandi* of the Committee.

**Additional tasks of the Advisory Committee (paragraph 4 of the draft ToRs)**

8. In line with paragraph 4e) of the draft ToRs the tasks of the Advisory Committee include “carrying out any other task referred to it by the Meeting of the Signatories.” The Secretariat suggests to consider adding the following tasks to the list:

- a) Develop a reporting format for national reports;
- b) Develop criteria for the inclusion of further species in Annex I<sup>1</sup>;
- c) Review proposals for the inclusion of species in Annex I of the MoU submitted by Signatories; and
- d) Undertake further tasks as identified in the Conservation Plan after its adoption (CMS/Sharks/MOS1/Doc.9/Annex.1).

**Action requested:**

The Meeting is invited to:

- a) Adopt the draft Terms of References for the Advisory Committee.
- b) Make recommendations for further tasks of the Advisory Committee.
- c) Appoint regional representatives as members of the Advisory Committee in accordance with paragraphs 5-12 of the draft ToRs.

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<sup>1</sup> If not already developed under Agenda Item 11 (see Doc.11.1).