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IOSEA 25 YEARS

**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 5.8

# IDENTIFYING SYNERGIES BETWEEN CMS WORK ON THE TAKING OF WILDLIFE AND THE MOU WORKING GROUP ON ILLEGAL TAKE AND TRADE

(*Prepared by the Secretariat*)

**Mandate:**

- WP #29: *Engage with the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group of the CMS Scientific Council and transmit any relevant advice to Signatories.*
- WP #73: *Cooperate with CMS in the joint implementation of the* Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) for the Hawksbill Turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata) in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Ocean Region *to address the trade and use of hawksbill turtles at both the domestic and the international level.*

**Summary:**

- The report identifies opportunities for the MOU Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade to synergise work streams with the CMS Work on the Taking of Wildlife and the Joint CMS/IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU Single Species Action Plan for the Hawksbill Turtle in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Ocean Region (Hawksbill SSAP)
- Potential synergies exist across knowledge sharing, research efforts, reporting, shared analysis on main drivers and scale of illegal and unsustainable take, information collection and address consumptive use through working with local communities, as well as coordination with CITES
- The report includes recommendations for where and by whom synergies could be implemented

**Action requested:**

- The AC is invited to take note of identified synergies and recommendations to the ITWG, and to review, revise and provide comments on the proposed recommendations

## IDENTIFYING SYNERGIES BETWEEN CMS WORK ON THE TAKING OF WILDLIFE AND THE MOU WORKING GROUP ON ILLEGAL TAKE AND TRADE

1. Illegal direct take has long been a focus of the work under the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU. In 2014, the Secretariat presented a paper on 'Illegal Take and Trade of Marine Turtles in the IOSEA Region' to MOS7, and at the same meeting decided to establish a working group to address the issue further.

2. CMS Parties adopted Resolution 12.15 Aquatic Wild Meat in 2017, following on from having identified "aquatic bushmeat take" as a major threat to some dolphin species already much earlier, but now recognizing that the issue applied to other taxonomic groups, too, and was not receiving the same attention than terrestrial bushmeat take in international policy fora. A dedicated working group (the "AWMWG") operating under the CMS Scientific Council was formed in 2018.

3. Due to illegal take and trade being intricately linked, the CITES-led study "Status, scope and trends of the legal and illegal international trade in marine turtles, its conservation impacts, management options and mitigation priorities" was prepared in cooperation with the CMS, the IOSEA Marine Turtles MOU and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC). It was tabled at CITES COP18 in 2019.

4. More recently, building on mandates adopted at CMS COP14 in 2024, the CMS Secretariat formally launched the Global Initiative on the Taking of Migratory Species (GTI) at COP15 in Brazil in March 2026.

5. The current IOSEA Work Programme 2024-2028 contains numerous activities related to the issues of illegal take and trade, which have been distilled into the current task list of the Illegal Trade Working Group (ITWG) of the MOU. Given the related work streams in CMS, in order to maximize synergies and avoid duplication, the Secretariat compared the mandates given to these different work streams within CMS and the MOU and developed some recommendations on what priority tasks to focus on during the remaining two years of the current Work Programme 2024-2028 could be for the ITWG.

6. This review also suggests how to implement WP #73 in this context, given that the joint CMS/IOSEA *Single Species Action Plan for the Hawksbill Turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata) in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Ocean Region* specifically addresses the issues of turtle use and trade.

### The Global Initiative on the Taking of Migratory Species (GTI) under CMS

7. **Background and purpose**: Illegal and unsustainable taking is one of the most pervasive threats to migratory species. The 2024 State of the World's Migratory Species report found that it affects around 70 per cent of CMS-listed species. Much of this taking is driven by domestic use rather than international trade. Species are hunted, fished, trapped, or collected for food, local sale, medicine, and cultural practices, or killed in retaliation for human–wildlife conflict. Because these pressures arise within national borders, they often fall outside trade-focused frameworks such as CITES, and they have received comparatively little coordinated international attention.

8. The GTI was developed in response to mandates adopted at CMS COP14. The CMS Secretariat formally launched it at COP15 in Campo Grande, Brazil, in March 2026. The initiative is a multi-stakeholder platform that brings together governments,

intergovernmental organizations, scientific institutions, NGOs, and Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Its aim is to address the drivers of illegal and unsustainable taking and to provide coordinated support to Parties and Range States.

9. **Areas of work**: The GTI is organized around four areas of work:

- improving data on and monitoring of taking;
- strengthening national legal, policy and enforcement frameworks;
- enhancing community engagement and supporting community-led solutions;
- raising awareness and reducing demand for illegally or unsustainably sourced migratory species.

10. **Current status**: The GTI is in its early implementation phase following its launch. It is supported by a part-time coordinator. Its Steering Committee members include the CBD Secretariat, UNEP-WCMC, TRAFFIC, WCS, IFAW, Fauna & Flora and the IUCN Species Survival Commission. The Governments of Uzbekistan, the United Kingdom and France have provided financial support. Terms of reference have been prepared for the in-depth analysis of illegal and unsustainable taking of CMS-listed species requested under CMS Decision 15.195(b), and confirmation of funding is pending.

11. The GTI is supported scientifically by the CMS Scientific Council's Working Group on Illegal and Unsustainable Taking. In line with Decision 15.194(a), the Scientific Council will be renewing the Working Group for the intersessional period until COP16. Under its revised terms of reference, the Working Group will:

- review the in-depth analysis under Decision 15.195(b) and recommend further research and measures for Parties and other stakeholders. The recommendations will cover the drivers and scale of taking, its impacts on species and ecosystems, effective legal and management practices, and priorities for strengthening monitoring and enforcement capacity;
- lend its scientific and technical expertise to the other actions under Decision 15.195, including the workshop, forum, strategy development, and priority-setting work for the GTI;
- work with the Chairs of related CMS Working Groups and Task Forces to identify overlaps, foster synergies, and streamline work.

12. **Relevance to IOSEA and the CMS Aquatic Wild Meat work stream.** Marine turtles are a clear example of the problems the GTI is designed to address. Across the IOSEA region, much of the pressure on turtles comes from domestic take: the harvest of eggs, the consumption of meat, and the local use of shell and other products. This take often happens alongside, and sometimes feeds into, illegal trade. The GTI is intended to complement, not duplicate, existing species- and taxon-specific processes, including the IOSEA MOU's work on illegal take and trade and the CMS work stream on aquatic wild meat.

13. The aquatic wild meat work focuses specifically on the consumption of aquatic species. The GTI provides a broader, cross-taxa framework for domestic taking, so lessons, tools and data can flow in both directions. The Working Group's mandate to coordinate with related CMS working groups and task forces offers a practical channel for this exchange, and IOSEA expertise on marine turtles could usefully feed into its review of the in-depth analysis.

**CMS Work on Aquatic Wild Meat**

14. **Background and purpose**: The increased demand for aquatic wild meat poses an immediate threat to aquatic wildlife globally, including CMS-listed aquatic migratory species. The use of aquatic wild meat is largely restricted to subsistence and other traditional uses by coastal communities, with limited international trade operating. Growing human populations, a changing climate, displacement from viable agricultural land from the expansion of plantations, commercial forestry and industrial mining have all contributed to an increasing demand for aquatic wild meat. Moreover, evidence suggests that opportunistic bycatch has been developed into directed catch.

15. The CMS Scientific Council Working Group on Aquatic Wild Meat (AWMWG) was established in 2017 through Resolution 12.15 Aquatic Wild Meat. It provides expert advice to CMS Parties, seeks to collaborate with relevant organizations such as the International Whaling Commission (IWC), and coordinates science and policy participation with the relevant MOUs and Agreements concluded under CMS. The Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group also supports implementation of Resolution 14.15 Action Plan to Address Aquatic Wild Meat Harvests in West Africa.

16. **Areas of work**: The Terms of Reference for the AWMWG adopted at COP15 revolve around:

- improving knowledge and monitoring of aquatic wild meat harvest, consumption and trade;
- assessing impacts of aquatic wild meat use on migratory species and informing conservation responses;
- strengthening community engagement, Indigenous Peoples' participation, and culturally appropriate conservation approaches;
- supporting implementation of policy measures and action plans to address unsustainable aquatic wild meat harvests;
- enhancing collaboration, information exchange and coordination among relevant organizations and stakeholders.

17. **Current status**: The AWMWG reported on its progress in implementing relevant CMS Decisions at COP15 in Doc. 25.1.4 Aquatic Wild Meat. Decisions 15.33 to 15.35 and Decisions 15.36 to 15.38 provide mandates for the Parties, the Scientific Council and its AWMWG, and the Secretariat, in line with the areas of work outlined above. The AWMWG is also requested to make efforts to coordinate with the CMS Working Group on Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Wildlife, and provide input, where appropriate and necessary.

18. **Relevance to IOSEA and the GTI work stream**: In Resolution 12.15, which inaugurates the thematic Working Group dealing with aquatic wild meat, marine turtles are explicitly referenced as a species affected by harvesting for products derived from aquatic megafauna that are used for food and non-food purposes. This Resolution also calls on all bodies of the Convention to support the efforts of Parties to achieve conservation and sustainable use of affected species. The knowledge exchanged within the AWMWG may provide useful insights specifically regarding the human dimensions of take that could feed into the GTI's work on understanding the wider drivers and scale of taking and its impacts on the species and ecosystems. The IOSEA could also contribute specific knowledge on marine turtles to the aquatic wild meat working group for it to fulfil its terms of reference.

**The IOSEA Illegal Take and Trade Working Group (ITWG)**

19. **Background and purpose**: In 2011, the IUCN Turtle Specialist Group published a baseline study "Global Conservation Priorities for Marine Turtles" identifying bycatch in fisheries and direct take of turtles and their eggs as the two main threats. Despite regulatory frameworks to restrict or prohibit the taking and trading of these species, such activities prevail across countries in the IOSEA region. The majority of marine turtle taking is driven by domestic use, either for meat, raw material for craftwork, or medicine or for the consumption of turtle eggs where they are considered a delicacy.

20. There is also evidence that international illegal trade prevails, especially in the South-East Asia region, with trade routes leading from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines to East Asia. In this region, turtle taking is driven by demand of meat, medicine, and craftwork. Illegal trade is also known to occur in Madagascar and Mozambique, and egg collection has been documented in various other countries in the IOSEA region, including Bangladesh, India, Kenya, Mozambique, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

21. The ITWG is an informal working group that was established in 2015, with its mandate having been renewed at each Meeting of the Signatories since. It brings together members representing IOSEA Signatory States, Advisory Committee members, intergovernmental organizations, and NGOs. Its aim is to increase the visibility of the issue of illegal take and trade of marine turtles in the IOSEA region and beyond and help tackle underlying issues.

22. **Area of work**: The ITWG has an established Task List for 2024-2028. It is based on the IOSEA Work Programme and the IOSEA Conservation and Management Plan, while taking into consideration relevant CITES mandates. In addition to general tasks regarding updating tasks lists, reporting, funding and accession, the ITWG has 4 categories of tasks:

    - MOU internal communication and coordination;
    - cooperation and outreach;
    - awareness campaigns; and
    - research.

23. **Current status**: The ITWG is established for the intersessional period until the 10th Meeting of Signatories. The current member list available on the IOSEA website. The ITWG is currently in the process of undertaking tasks as listed in the Task List 2024-2028, where capacity allows and to the extent possible. The Secretariat assists with the organization of meetings and administration of the ITWG while the Chair coordinates the work.

24. The ITWG will also have an advisory role in developing the draft MOU Work Programme 2028-2032 to ensure priorities relating to take and trade are captured appropriately.

**The Joint CMS/IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU Single Species Action Plan for the Hawksbill Turtle in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Ocean Region (Hawksbill SSAP)**

25. **Background and purpose**: The hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), listed on CMS Appendices I and II and classified globally as Critically Endangered by the IUCN, faces numerous threats across its range. In South-East Asia and the western Pacific, a particularly severe and distinctive threat is the continued trade in hawksbill shell and

tortoiseshell products, compounded by unsustainable use of turtles and eggs, bycatch, and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Growing concern over the status of regional populations led CMS COP12 (2017) and IOSEA MOS8 (2019) to mandate development of a joint Single Species Action Plan (SSAP).

26. The resulting Hawksbill SSAP, covering South-East Asia and the western Pacific, focuses on addressing unsustainable use and trade while supporting countries that require additional capacity and resources to tackle these challenges. Following consultations and negotiations, the SSAP was adopted by Range States in 2022, by CMS Parties through Resolution 14.1 (2024), and by IOSEA Signatory States at MOS9 (2024). It provides a coordinated framework to address domestic and international trade and use of hawksbill turtles, supporting cohesive implementation of commitments under CMS, the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU, CITES and related agreements.

27. **Areas of work**: The SSAP has three core objectives:

- Strengthened legislation, policy, compliance and enforcement addressing hawksbill turtle take, use and trade.
- Enhanced monitoring, reporting, data exchange and regional cooperation to improve understanding of and responses to hawksbill take, use and trade.
- Expanded research and evaluation of the impacts of trade and fishery activity on hawksbill populations and delivery of on-ground implementation projects.

28. **Current status**: Prior to COP15 in March 2026, Range States to the Hawksbill SSAP were requested to report on the actions taken, obstacles to implementation and progress in implementing activities in order to inform recommendations for further implementation of the Action Plan. Of the Range States that did report, the Steering Group and Secretariat found that there has been significant progress in strengthening the criminal justice process, legislative reform for hawksbill protection, and efforts to close legal gaps. Limited funding, capacity, information and scientific data, overlapping powers and legal jurisdiction as well as conflicting interest between economic gains and environmental sustainability were identified as key challenges to implementation.

29. Based on these reports, the following recommendations for further implementation were developed:

- Secure additional funding, establish capacity-building and training across stakeholders, and enhance institutional capacity to support the need for additional CITES officials.
- Strengthen efforts on data collection regarding illegal wildlife take and trade as well, and address illicit financial flows linked to Hawksbill Turtle trafficking.
- Promote interagency collaboration through targeted capacity-building to address the illegal take and trade of the Hawksbill Turtle, including regular training, joint workshops, and shared best practices.
- Support targeted research to fill current data gaps, facilitate improved exchange of relevant conservation data to inform planning and monitoring.

30. **Relevance to IOSEA ITWG, AWMWG, and the GTI work stream**: The Hawksbill SSAP and the ITWG address common threats and seek to improve cooperation, information sharing and the population status of turtles. Therefore, the activities completed to enhance protection of the hawksbill turtle in turn contribute to the overall goal of reduced illegal take outlined by the ITWG.

31. In particular, Hawksbill SSAP Objective 3 seeks to increase awareness, education and

sustainable alternatives reduce poaching, overexploitation and trade in hawksbill turtles, matching the awareness campaign tasks of the ITWG (Tasks 19-20). This could be addressed jointly by using an agreed-upon engagement strategy, which could focus on the common geographic area, or be applied more widely.

32. While the Hawksbill SSAP includes awareness-raising activities, its species-specific focus means that the ITWG would need a wider approach in order to ensure equal conservation attention for all marine turtle species. The SSAP also places greater emphasis on strengthening national legislation, policy, compliance and enforcement for hawksbill turtle conservation, areas that are not a specific focus of the ITWG.

33. Implementation of the Hawksbill SSAP would contribute to the mandates of the AWMWG and the GTI work streams, albeit through a single-species approach. The research, development of best practice protocols, enhanced accountability, and legislative changes would work towards the implementation of the AWMWG and GTI mandates. Therefore, any relevant information should be shared with the AWMWG and GTI. Similarly, findings of those broader work streams should be brought to the attention of the Hawksbill SSAP Steering Group to consider their relevance for the species.

**Recommendations:**

- *Develop and implement a joint engagement strategy between the ITWG and Hawksbill SSAP to coordinate awareness-raising, education and outreach activities related to marine turtle take, use and trade, and to support coordinated engagement with local communities and other relevant stakeholders to address the drivers of marine turtle take and use.*
- *Establish regular mechanisms for information-sharing between the Hawksbill SSAP, ITWG, AWMWG and GTI to promote the exchange of relevant data, research findings, best practices and implementation experience, and to identify opportunities for collaboration.*

34. Given its single-species focus, the Hawksbill SSAP is otherwise not included in the analysis of mandates below.

**Potential Synergies**

35. The ITWG, AWMWG and GTI have distinct but complementary mandates. The ITWG contributes marine turtle-specific expertise, data and implementation experience; the AWMWG contributes expertise on aquatic wild meat use, human dimensions and community engagement; and the GTI contributes broader knowledge on illegal and unsustainable taking, policy development and assessment frameworks. Strengthening communication and cooperation among the three work streams would enable each to benefit from the comparative advantages of the others, avoid duplication of effort, and promote more effective implementation of activities addressing the drivers of marine turtle take, use and trade.

36. To understand in detail the degree of overlap between mandates, the Secretariat has prepared the overview contained in Annex 1 of this document. By identifying where mandates of the ITWG match or partially match with the AWMWG and GTI, it is possible to avoid duplication of effort and focus on each initiative's specific strengths.

37. A summary of the findings is provided below, followed by recommendations directed to the ITWG on facilitating cooperation and engaging with AWMWG or GTI activities for the period 2027-2028.

Research, Reporting and Assessment Framework

38. The ITWG is to generally engage with the AWMWG and to transmit any relevant advice to Signatories, in accordance with Task 11. Principally, the ITWG can benefit from the research, assessment frameworks, and scientific advice generated by both the AWMWG and GTI, as the mandated research, reporting and assessment framework efforts overlap with ITWG information needs.

**Recommendation:**

- *Maintain regular engagement with the AWMWG and GTI to identify and disseminate research findings, scientific advice and assessment frameworks relevant to marine turtle conservation, and consider opportunities to contribute to or support studies of mutual interest, as capacity allows.*

Drivers and Scale of Illegal and Unsustainable Take

39. The ITWG is tasked with directly engaging with the CMS GTI and contribute to the analysis on main drivers and scale of illegal and unsustainable take of CMS species; measures aimed at ensuring that taking of wildlife is legal; and priorities for increasing capacity of Parties for monitoring and enforcement of national legislation and regulations. The ITWG could contribute to this mandate through contributing any knowledge gained as a result of completing Task 6 and Tasks 19-23, and through collaboration with the AWMWG.

**Recommendation:**

- *Provide relevant marine turtle data, analyses and findings generated through implementation of Tasks 21-23 relating to information on satellite tracking, stable isotopes, flipper tags, genetic markers, where available to support the GTI in-depth analysis of scale of illegal and unsustainable take, and review resulting GTI and AWMWG outputs to inform ITWG priorities and activities.*

Socio-Economic and Socio-Cultural Drivers of Take

40. There are matching mandates between the AWMWG and the ITWG on supporting studies to understanding socio-economic and socio-cultural drivers of take, human dimensions, and context-specific solutions to reduce the unsustainable take, use and trade of marine turtles, and more specifically in the context of domestic illegal trade. Both mandates also provide different potential topics of study to support: the ITWG provides the example of genetic traceability and the sustainability of alternative livelihoods, inter alia, while the AWMWG suggests topics such as the role of taboo systems, the nutritional roles aquatic wild meat provides, or the efficacy of existing legislation, inter alia.

**Recommendation:**

- *Maintain communication with the AWMWG regarding planned, ongoing and completed research on socio-economic and socio-cultural drivers of take, use and trade, in order to avoid duplication of effort, identify opportunities for collaboration, and facilitate the exchange of relevant findings.*

Community Engagement and Culturally Sensitive Approaches

41. Community engagement and culturally sensitive approaches represent another potential synergy. Both the AWMWG and the ITWG emphasize community-led conservation, traditional knowledge, local engagement, culturally sensitive processes, and seek to work with Indigenous Peoples and local communities to address unsustainable use.

However, the AWMWG seeks to improve consideration of community-led, traditional knowledge, while the ITWG seeks to undertake information collection and address consumptive use through working with local communities, through a culturally sensitive process. This represents an opportunity for the ITWG to first engage with local communities and report their observations to the AWMWG to avoid duplication of effort.

**Recommendation:**

- *Through implementation of Task 19 and the ITWG-Hawksbill SSAP joint engagement strategy, document and share lessons learned on community engagement, traditional knowledge and culturally appropriate approaches with the AWMWG and GTI, while drawing on relevant guidance and experiences generated through those work streams.*

Legislation, Enforcement and Responses to Illegal Take

42. The CMS work streams seek to increase understanding of the efficacy of existing legislation, enforcement and responses to illegal take. Task 9 of the IWTG seeks to jointly prepare outreach material to presenting new findings, exemplary actions, legislation, and projects to further understand and reduce illegal take of marine turtles. Therefore, there is opportunity for ITWG to use relevant findings from the AWMWG and from the GTI Global Assessment of the Scale and Impacts of Illegal and/or Unsustainable Taking of CMS-listed Migratory Species to inform the curation of outreach materials, particularly with regard to legislation.

**Recommendation:**

- *Review and incorporate relevant findings, examples of effective legislation, enforcement approaches and conservation initiatives generated through AWMWG and GTI activities into ITWG outreach materials, awareness activities and information-sharing efforts.*

Coordination and Cooperation with CITES

43. ITWG is to maintain cooperation with CITES by identifying supply and demand areas and trade routes (including online trade) for the domestic and international illegal trade in marine turtles and their products (Task 27). The AWMWG is tasked with supporting efforts for coordination between CMS and CITES for improved regulation and sustainable management of trade. In identifying trade routes with CITES, the ITWG partially fulfils the AWMWG mandate for coordination with CITES. In addition, the ITWG findings would provide the AWMWG a better understanding of where opportunities lie for improved regulation and sustainable management of trade.

**Recommendation:**

- *Continue cooperation with CITES on identifying supply and demand areas and trade routes for marine turtles and their products, and communicate relevant findings to the AWMWG and GTI where they may support broader efforts on illegal and unsustainable taking and trade.*

**Distinct Tasks of each Work Stream**

44. The ITWG mandate does not overlap with that of the AWMWG and the GTI for implementing some tasks specifically related to marine turtles. ITWG Distinct tasks include maintaining and reporting on the ITWG task list, fundraising, recruitment of Signatories and partners, engagement with the IOSEA Site Network Working Group,

and communication with non-Signatory States.

**Recommendation:**

- *Continue implementation of ITWG-specific tasks under the Task List 2024-2028, while contributing marine turtle expertise and relevant findings to AWMWG and GTI processes where mandates overlap and making use of their outputs where relevant to ITWG objectives.*

45. Distinct tasks for the GTI work stream includes the development and governance of the initiative itself, renewing the Scientific Council Working Group, supporting Scientific Council processes, and assessing ecosystem-level impacts of illegal and unsustainable taking across CMS-listed migratory species.

46. Distinct tasks for the AWMWG work stream include assessments of *crocodylians* and freshwater *chelonians*, supporting studies on the nutritional roles of aquatic wild meat, food security and safety, discard impacts, and implementation of the West Africa Action Plan.

**Annex 1. Identifying Synergies between CMS Work on the Taking of Wildlife and the MOU Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade**

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Task List 2024-2028 | 1. *Review and update the task list for the ITWG* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 2. *Report on the implementation of the task list at each MOS* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 3. *Raise funds for implementing the activities of the Working Group, if needed* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 4. *Consider inviting additional Signatory States, non-Signatory Consumer States, CITES, Ramsar and relevant NGOs to join the ITWG* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 5. *Use information collected in National Reports to identify potential barriers for Signatory States to join and implement CITES obligations* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| ***Task List 2024-2028: MOU internal communication and coordination*** | | | | | | |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 6. *Exchange and discuss information on monitoring, compliance and trade issues at regular intervals, particularly on illegal take and domestic illegal trade.*<br>*Take into consideration or contribute to similar discussions at the CITES Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as applicable (see CITES Resolution Conf. 19.5).* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Task List 2024-2028 | *7. Consider preparing written reports on illegal take and trade in the IOSEA region/sub-regions in cooperation with CITES with the view to addressing gaps and avoiding duplication of effort (See CITES Resolution Conf. 19.5)* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the human dimensions of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*…*<br>*v. increased **quantitative assessments** of consumption and trade in aquatic wild meat to better understand demand and trade pathways;* | COP Decisions 15.195b.i | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*…*<br>*b) building on the scoping analysis, conduct, subject to the availability of resources, an **in-depth analysis of:***<br>***i. the scale of illegal and unsustainable take** of migratory species listed on CMS Appendices I and II;* | Partial |
| | | - | *N/A* | ToR - Global Assessment | *• Assessment of scale: compile and analyse available information on the occurrence, magnitude and characteristics of illegal and/or unsustainable taking of species identified in the Scoping Analysis (as well as others as relevant to ensure representation across taxa and regions).* | Partial |
| | | - | *N/A* | ToR - Global Assessment | *• Assessment of impacts: **evaluate impacts on conservation status at species, population and migratory-range levels**, including cumulative impacts across Range States and implications for ecosystem functioning and ecosystem services.* | Partial |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Task List 2024-2028 | 8. Liaise with the IOSEA Site Network Working Group, with a view to giving more consideration to the issue of illegal take and trade in marine turtles in the Site Network proposal evaluation process | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 9. Jointly prepare outreach materials to present any new findings, exemplary actions, legislation, projects to further understand and reduce illegal take of marine turtles, carried out in Signatory (and Consumer) States by various actors. Post these on the IOSEA Website and/or disseminate at relevant forums. | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 10. Members of the Working Group to submit any relevant materials and present these at the meetings organized by CITES, TRAFFIC, ASEAN-WEN, SAWEN, CTI-CFF, Interpol, etc. or to encourage other MOU Members (Signatories, AC Members, partner organizations) to do so | - | *N/A* | ToR - Global Assessment | *The methodology should comprise:*<br>*• Evidence synthesis: Conduct a* ***systematic review and synthesis of the best available scientific, technical and policy information*** *relating to illegal and/or unsustainable taking of migratory species. The review should integrate information from CMS reports, including the Scoping Analysis, as well as relevant reports and datasets produced by CITES, FAO, the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW), the Sustainable Wildlife* | Minor |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | *Management (SWM) Programme, UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, BirdLife International, TRAFFIC, UNODC, INTERPOL and other relevant organizations. The assessment should* ***draw upon both peer-reviewed and grey literature, identify available datasets and methodologies, and highlight key knowledge gaps****, ensuring that existing information is fully utilized.* | |
| ***Task List 2024-2028: Cooperation and outreach*** | | | | | | |
| Task List 2024-2028 | *11. Engage with the CMS Scientific Council Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group and transmit any relevant advice to Signatories* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | Yes |
| Task List 2024-2028 | *12. Engage with the CMS Scientific Council Working Group on Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Wildlife and contribute to the analysis on main drivers and scale of illegal and unsustainable take of CMS species; measures aimed at ensuring that taking of wildlife is legal; and priorities for increasing capacity of Parties for monitoring and enforcement of national legislation and regulations* | - | *N/A* | ToR - Global Assessment | *• Assessment of scale: compile and analyse available information on the occurrence, magnitude and characteristics of illegal and/or unsustainable taking of species identified in the Scoping Analysis (as well as others as relevant to ensure representation across taxa and regions).* | Yes |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Task List 2024-2028 | 13. Strengthen internal, bilateral and international cooperation in enforcement, collaborating with IGOs and NGOs, including but not limited to CITES, ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN), South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN), and TRAFFIC, to ensure the issue of marine turtle trade is on the agenda of future meetings, where required | Decision 15.35 | The Secretariat shall:<br>*a) facilitate exchanges between the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group of the Scientific Council and other international forums, such as the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, CITES, IWC, AEWA and ACAP regarding mutual workstreams;* | COP Decisions 15.195a | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*a) on the basis of the review in Annex 1, **develop a more integrated approach** to effectively support Parties in addressing pressures from illegal and unsustainable taking of migratory species;* | Partial |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 14. *Cooperate with IAC on activities of mutual interest in relevant action plans and initiatives* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 15. *Join mailing lists of TRAFFIC and other relevant partners to ensure receipt of illegal trade news and associated information, such as reports of court cases* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 16. *Members of the ITWG and Secretariat to ensure communication and coordination with relevant partner organizations, such as Ramsar and CITES to avoid duplication of effort* | Decision 15.35 | The Secretariat shall:<br>*a) facilitate exchanges between the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group of the Scientific Council and other international forums, such as the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, CITES, IWC, AEWA and ACAP regarding mutual workstreams;* | COP Decisions 15.195a | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*a) on the basis of the review in Annex 1, **develop a more integrated approach** to effectively support Parties in addressing pressures from illegal and unsustainable taking of migratory species;* | Partial |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| Task List 2024-2028 | 17. *Enhance communication with neighbouring non-Signatory States and neighbouring non-Range States to raise awareness and address illegal trade in marine turtles (e.g. non-Range States: Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Range States: Somalia, China, Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan)* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 18. *Exchange actionable intelligence regarding illegal take and trade of marine turtles and encourage transboundary database use and analysis* | - | *N/A* | COP Decisions 15.195f | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*…*<br>*f) support Parties in the development of a strategy to combat illegal taking using best practices which may include the use of a scoreboard;* | Partial |
| ***Task List 2024-2028: Awareness Campaigns*** | | | | | | |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 19. *To collect information on, evaluate the context of, and address consumptive use and domestic trade in marine turtles through a culturally sensitive process:*<br>*work with local communities to reduce unsustainable use, incl. by engaging appropriate local actors, such as educators raise awareness of turtle consumers, highlight existing regulations, conservation and possibly health issues involved* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…*<br>*d. seek to improve consideration of* ***community-led conservation, traditional knowledge*** *complementing modern approaches, and strengthening the leadership of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in its work, including through collaboration with IPBES and IUCN; and* | ToR - Global Assessment | *• Review of existing responses: building on examples in the Scoping Analysis,* ***assess legislation, enforcement, monitoring, adaptive management, community-based conservation, sustainable use programmes, behaviour change initiatives, technological innovations and transboundary cooperation, identifying good practice and lessons learned****.* | Partial |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| | *(e.g. tourists, vendors, egg consumers)*<br>*engage religious leaders, as appropriate, in awareness campaigns*<br>*support initiatives to increase youth and women participation in marine turtle conservation*<br>*enhance transboundary cooperation in education and awareness campaigns* | | | | | |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 20. *Take further steps to understand and reduce use and domestic trade, if necessary, and to develop education and awareness campaigns on existing laws, including online trade* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the human dimensions of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*…*<br>*vii. implementation of environmental education programmes to raise awareness of the importance and benefits of migratory megafauna and laws concerning them;* | - | *N/A* | Partial |
| ***Task List 2024-2028: Research*** | | | | | | |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 21. *Promote and, where applicable, support studies of take and trade, especially domestic illegal trade (and, as appropriate, contribute findings as described in 12). Studies can include the topics of genetic traceability, socio-economic* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the* ***human dimensions*** *of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over* | - | *N/A* | Yes |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| | *drivers of take and trade, sustainability of alternative livelihoods and/or address further research needs identified by the 2019 CITES report titled "Status, Scope and Trends of the Legal and Illegal International Trade in Marine Turtles, its Conservation Impacts, Management Options and Management Priorities"* | | *unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*i. contemporary and historical* ***socio-cultural aspects*** *of harvesting and consuming aquatic wild meat, including the role of taboo systems, to provide insights or management measures that can be respectful of the cultural practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities;* | | | |
| | | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the human dimensions of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*…*<br>*ii. the* ***drivers*** *of the harvest and consumption of aquatic wild meat;* | - | *N/A* | Yes |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 22. *Determine population-specific threats to be used as a basis for monitoring and management:*<br>*a) collect samples to perform genetic analysis on marine turtles caught in fisheries interactions, take or trade and record results systematically,*<br>*b) use existing information (e.g., satellite tracking, stable isotopes, flipper tags, genetic* | - | *N/A* | | *N/A* | No |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| | *markers) to determine population structure of marine turtles caught in fisheries interactions, take or trade* | | | | | |
| Task List 2024-2028 | *23. Assess the level and impact of traditional harvest on marine turtles and their eggs, suggest and negotiate limits of harvest accordingly* | - | *N/A* | ToR - Global Assessment | • *Assessment of scale: compile and analyse available information on the occurrence, magnitude and characteristics of illegal and/or unsustainable taking of species identified in the Scoping Analysis (as well as others as relevant to ensure representation across taxa and regions).* | Partial |
| | | | | COP Decisions 15.195b.ii | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*…*<br>*b) building on the scoping analysis, conduct, subject to the availability of resources, an in-depth analysis of:*<br>*…*<br>*ii. the* ***impacts of illegal and unsustainable take*** *on the conservation status of such species, including cumulative impacts on species at the migration range and population level, and the* ***consequences of these impacts on affected ecosystems*** *and the services they provide;* | Partial |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| Task List 2024-2028 | 24. *Review knowledge on motivations and drivers that underpin the use and trade of marine turtles, turtle products, eggs and hatchlings in order to develop context-specific solutions* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the human dimensions of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*…*<br>*ii. the drivers of the harvest and consumption of aquatic wild meat;* | - | *N/A* | Partial |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 25. *Conduct community surveys to estimate catch and motivations behind that catch to identify solutions to mitigate targeted take and bycatch by using and adapting as appropriate e.g. the questionnaire developed by the CMS Dugong MOU* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 26.*Consider the use of community voice method and consider applying MIKE methodology for village-based monitoring of turtle harvest (see Solomon Islands example) and using community voice method to engage communities in policy-making processes and manage turtles more effectively* | - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | No |
| Task List 2024-2028 | 27. *In cooperation with CITES, continue to identify supply and demand areas and trade routes (including online trade) for the* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…* | - | *N/A* | Minor |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| | *domestic and international illegal trade in marine turtles and their products (see CITES Resolution Conf. 19.5)* | | *e. ensure dissemination of information on its work on aquatic wild meat and the resulting recommendations by:*<br>*…*<br>*iv. supporting efforts for coordination between CMS and CITES for improved regulation and sustainable management of trade in aquatic wild meat species;* | | | |
| ***Non-ITWG-interacting Mandates*** | | | | | | |
| - | *N/A* | Decision 15.34 | *The Scientific Council, with support from the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group and Secretariat, is requested to collaborate with the relevant IUCN Specialist Groups to assess the migratory nature of crocodylians (Genera: Gavialis, Crocodylus, Mecistops, Caiman, Melanosuchus) and freshwater chelonians, and the potential relevance of CMS to their conservation and management, including whether or not they may fit the criteria for inclusion in the Appendices.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | Decision 15.35 | *The Secretariat shall:*<br>*a) facilitate exchanges between the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group of the Scientific Council and other international forums, such as the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, CITES,* | COP Decisions 15.195g | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*g) **convene a forum** on illegal and unsustainable taking of species to showcase positive examples, existing challenges and solutions, as well as the role* | Partial |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| | | | *IWC, AEWA and ACAP regarding mutual workstreams;* | | *of the different CMS initiatives and instruments in supporting Parties in addressing these threats;* | |
| - | *N/A* | Decision 15.35 | *The Secretariat shall:*<br>*b) bring the outcomes of the review of the potential suitability for listing on the CMS Appendices of crocodylians and freshwater chelonians to the attention of the Scientific Council.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *A. The primary objective of the Working Group is to support the delivery of relevant tasks contained in the Programme of Work of the Sessional Committee.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *B. In addition, the Working Group will support the implementation of relevant Resolutions and Decisions directed to the Scientific Council.* | COP Decisions 15.194c | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*…*<br>*c) support the Secretariat for the other actions in Decision 15.195.* | Minor |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *C. The Working Group will support the implementation of take-related goals and targets within the Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024–2032, as well as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the further development of its monitoring framework.* | - | *N/A* | No |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
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| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *D. The Working Group will provide a platform to discuss and exchange information and scientific findings on aquatic wild meat-related matters. Mandates will be given through Decisions at each COP.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *E. The Working Group will also support Parties that are Range States to the Action Plan to Address Aquatic Wild Meat Harvests in West Africa with implementation and reporting.* | COP Decisions 15.195d | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*…*<br>*d) **support measures** to address illegal and unsustainable taking of migratory species identified in the scoping analysis;* | Partial |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *F. The Working Group will make efforts to coordinate with the Working Group on Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Wildlife, and provide input to their work, as appropriate and necessary.* | | *N/A* | Yes |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the human dimensions of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*…*<br>*iii. the **nutritional roles** aquatic wild meat provides, the strengths and weaknesses of* | - | *N/A* | No |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *alternatives, and the health risks from both;* | | | |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the human dimensions of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*…*<br>*iv.* ***food security and safety*** *of aquatic wild meat use;* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*a. support studies of the human dimensions of aquatic wild meat use, which are critical for designing effective conservation and management programmes that favour sustainable over unsustainable uses, including:*<br>*…*<br>*viii. analysis of the extent of discard cases and their impact on the availability of aquatic wild meat;* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…*<br>*b. review,* ***compile*** *and, if necessary, help refine* ***methods to evaluate the impact of trade*** | ToR - Global Assessment | • ***Development of an impact assessment framework: develop practical indicators and metrics that can be applied consistently across taxa and regions and*** | Partial |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *in aquatic wild meat on wildlife populations;* | | ***accommodate different levels of data availability and uncertainty.*** | |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…*<br>*c. encourage the establishment of **networks of appropriate experts** to foster collaborative efforts to develop regional action plans for reducing unsustainable aquatic wild meat harvests;* | COP Decisions 15.195f | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*…*<br>*f) support Parties in the development of a **strategy to combat illegal taking using best practices** which may include the use of a scoreboard;* | Partial |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…*<br>*e. ensure dissemination of information on its work on aquatic wild meat and the resulting recommendations by:*<br>*i. sharing information with the IWC and participating in future Small Cetacean Subcommittee meetings with a focus on aquatic wild meat;* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…*<br>*e. ensure dissemination of information on its work on aquatic wild meat and the resulting recommendations by:*<br>*…*<br>*ii. continuing to provide advice to the CMS Secretariat to input to the Collaborative Partnership* | - | *N/A* | No |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *on Sustainable Wildlife Management;* | | | |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…*<br>*e. ensure dissemination of information on its work on aquatic wild meat and the resulting recommendations by:*<br>*…*<br>*iii. extending collaboration to include COMFAUNA, CIMFAUNA, the Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme, and the WILDMEAT Project;* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Purpose | *G. The Working Group will also, as capacity allows:*<br>*…*<br>*e. ensure dissemination of information on its work on aquatic wild meat and the resulting recommendations by:*<br>*…*<br>*v. drawing relevant scientific publications about aquatic wild meat harvests to the attention of the Scientific Council.* | COP Decisions 15.194b | *The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of resources, to:*<br>*…*<br>*b) review the in-depth analysis described in Decision 15.195 b) and provide recommendations on the analysis and on further research and conservation priorities, if needed, for consideration by the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;* | Partial |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Membership | *A. Membership of the Working Group is open to members of the Scientific Council and external experts, including from observer organizations.* | COP Decisions 15.195h | *The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to*<br>*…*<br>*h) support the Scientific Council in its work to implement Decisions 15.194.* | Partial |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Membership | *B. The Working Group strives to maintain a balance of gender, regional representation and areas of expertise.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Membership | *C. The involvement of Working Group members is entirely on a voluntarily basis.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Membership | *D. If and when needed, experts external to the Working Group and interested in contributing to its objectives may occasionally be invited to join meetings or to support specific tasks.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Organization Work | *A. The Working Group will elect a Chair from among its members and will operate by seeking consensus among the Group. If not a member of the Scientific Council, the Chair will be supported by the COP-appointed Councillor for Bycatch to ensure close alignment with the Scientific Council's work and procedures. If the Chair has to leave her/his position, a new Chair will be appointed from among its members.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Organization Work | *B. The Working Group will predominantly operate electronically by communicating via a dedicated workspace in MS Teams, and email if needed. Meetings (in-person or virtual) will be held as required, depending on funding.* | - | *N/A* | No |

| Source | IOSEA Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade | Source | CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group | Source | Global Take Initiative/Illegal and Unsustainable Taking | Matching Mandates ? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Organizatio n Work | *C. The Chair of the Working Group will report on progress to the Sessional Committee.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | ToR AWMWG Organizatio n Work | *D. The CMS Secretariat will support and facilitate the coordination of the activities and the organization of meetings of the Working Group.* | - | *N/A* | No |
| - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | COP Decisions 15.194a | The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of resources, to:<br>a) renew the Scientific Council Working Group on Illegal and Unsustainable Taking and, as needed, amend the Terms of Reference, | No |
| - | *N/A* | - | *N/A* | COP Decisions 15.195c | The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of resources, to:<br>…<br>c) develop priorities for the work of the Global Initiative on Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Migratory Species during the intersessional period; | No |

*Terms of Reference - Consultancy to Undertake a Global Assessment of the Scale and Impacts of Illegal and/or Unsustainable Taking of CMS-listed Migratory Species