IOSEA 25 YEARS 2001-2025

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE TURTLES AND THEIR HABITATS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA

CMS/IOSEA/AC11/Inf.7.2
3 November 2026

11TH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Bonn, Germany, 8-11 December 2026
Agenda Item 7.2

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE WORKING GROUP ON THE NATIONAL REPORTING FORMAT & EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME 2024-2028

(*Prepared by the Secretariat*)

National Reporting under the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU serves as the official account of measures taken by Signatory States to implement the MOU and provides the basis for assessing overall progress in achieving the Conservation and Management Plan (CMP). MOS9 decided to establish a Working Group to revise the national reporting format and a Working Group to develop a system for evaluating progress in implementing the Work Programme 2024–2028. Given the close linkage between reporting and evaluation, these mandates are now combined into a single Working Group with Co-Chairs.

Background

MOS8 had established a working group consisting of representatives of the Comoros, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, AC Member J. Miller, N. Esteban of Swansea University and the Secretariat. The WG concluded its work in 2021, and the resulting revised national reporting format was used for reports collected for MOS9.

The questionnaire contained a request to provide feedback on the reporting form itself. Feedback received was summarized and presented to MOS9 (see National Reports Feedback_summary.docx), which decided to establish a new Working Group to revise the format further.

Purpose

The Working Group will:

- Review and improve the National Reporting Format to facilitate effective reporting, including spatial analysis, while maintaining the CMP structure.

- Develop a system for evaluating progress made in implementing the Work Programme 2024-2028, including identification of key performance indicators (KPIs).

Remit

WP#96: Establish a working group to conduct an in-depth review and improve the national reporting format to facilitate effective reporting and analysis, incl. spatial analysis. It will deliver its outputs to the Secretariat by 30 June 2025 for circulation to the Signatories for their comments within two months. The Secretariat will circulate to Signatories the final proposals for intersessional adoption by correspondence in order to enable their use in the run-up to MOS10.

WP#77: Establish a working group to develop a system allowing evaluation of the progress made with the implementation of this Work Programme, including key performance indicators for high-priority measures, where appropriate.

Membership

Australia, Kenya, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, Advisory Committee, Marine Turtle Task Forces

Governance

The Working Group is convened jointly by the Signatory States and the Advisory Committee. It will elect Co-Chairs, one representing a Signatory State and one from the Advisory Committee, from amongst its members.

Coordination with members is through regular email correspondence and online meetings.

The Working Group operates by consensus and can request advice from the Advisory Committee, Marine Turtle Task Forces and the IOSEA Secretariat, and will report on its actions, membership and other related issues to the Meeting of Signatory States.

Organization of Work

The Secretariat will assist with organization of meetings and administration of the Group.

The Co-Chairs will coordinate the work with the Secretariat on issues such as resource mobilization, outreach and communication.

Duration

The Working Group is established for the intersessional period until MOS10.