



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

THIRD MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES
Bangkok, 29-31 March 2005

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

	Relevant Documents	Notes
<p>1. Welcoming remarks</p> <p>The meeting will be formally opened at 9.00 on the morning of 29 March 2005 with welcoming remarks by representatives of the Secretariat and the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.</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 Agreement Area, 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.3/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. The Meeting may wish to consider the desirability of preparing and adopting formal rules of procedure at a future meeting.</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.3/Doc. 1 (Rev.1) MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc. 2 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc. 3 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/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>6. Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>The Secretariat will report, generally, on developments since the Second Meeting of Signatory States; with more detailed discussion expected under other agenda items.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc. 5 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Inf. 3 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Inf. 4 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Inf. 5</p>	

	Relevant Documents	Notes
<p>7. Presentation and discussion of complementary initiatives</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 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 brief oral report 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.</p>	<p>As tabled at the meeting (Documents requested from participants)</p>	<p>Inter-American Conv: Frazier CMS Africa MoU: Secretariat</p> <p>FAO: Hogan IATTC: Hogan IOTC: Seychelles</p> <p>SPREP: Limpus SEAFDEC: Chokesanguan SACEP: Prasantha Dias ROPME: Oman/Iran? CIO: Seychelles WIO Task Force: Kenya</p> <p>WWF: McLellan SEASTAR: Thailand</p> <p>Sulu-Sulawesi Project: Trono Bay/ Bengal LME: Bangladesh UNEP/GEF South China Sea: ?</p>
<p>8. Review of implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan</p> <p>Unlike previous meetings, which necessarily had to devote considerable time to gathering of information, the present 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> <p>(a) General discussion of national reporting to date, including use of the electronic template, and changes to be introduced after the meeting as a result of user feedback.</p> <p>(b) Review of implementation progress, strengths and weaknesses or gaps, based on a report prepared by the Secretariat using information contained in national reports as at 31 January 2005.</p> <p>(c) Presentation of status reports on CMS/IOSEA-funded projects that are meant to contribute to IOSEA implementation.</p> <p>(d) Identification by the meeting of thematic priorities for concerted intervention, based on the findings of the Secretariat report and other information.</p> <p>(e) Identification, by the meeting, of priorities for site-specific interventions, based on the findings of the Secretariat report and other information.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Inf. 2 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.7 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.7.1 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.7.2</p>	

	Relevant Documents	Notes
<p><i>Expected outcome:</i> (a) acknowledgment of gaps in reporting; agreement on proposals for revision of the national reporting format; (b) comprehensive summary of progress in implementation already made; acknowledgement of gaps in implementation and/or provision of new information previously unreported; priority (c) noting of the projects and any recommendations arising therefrom; (d) prioritisation of thematic actions to be undertaken, with specific follow-up action proposed for those of high priority; (e) prioritisation of site-specific actions to be undertaken, with specific follow-up action proposed for those of high priority.</p>		
<p>9. General considerations pertaining to the Memorandum of Understanding</p> <p>A number of general issues will be dealt with in detail under this agenda item, perhaps in smaller working groups, including:</p> <p>(a) consideration of a draft proposal for the creation of a network of sites of importance for marine turtles, an idea first introduced by the Secretariat at SS2;</p> <p>(b) preparations for 2006 Year of the Turtle Campaign, including substantive inputs and financial considerations;</p> <p>(c) a paper examining various aspects of the traditional and cultural use of marine turtles, an issue assigned to the AC by SS2;</p> <p>(d) a policy paper on hatchery management, also entrusted to the AC;</p> <p>(e) a review of information on fisheries-turtle interactions in the IOSEA region.</p> <p>Additionally, the Secretariat will report on any developments in relation to the preparation of an exploratory paper on possible extension of the geographic scope of the MoU. The meeting will also be invited to briefly revisit the standing agenda item of a timetable for possible amendment of the legal character of the MoU.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> (a) agreement on any general substantive amendments to be introduced to the site network proposal and on the next steps required to bring the plan to fruition; (b) agreement on the broad outlines of the YoT campaign, and on the actions that need to be taken in 2005 by Signatory States and collaborating partners to prepare for this event; (c) agreement on how the AC paper on cultural/traditional might be amended and/or used to provide policy options or other helpful guidance to Signatory States; (d) agreement on how the AC paper on hatchery management might be amended and/or used to provide policy options or other helpful guidance to Signatory States; (e) if a report is available to the meeting, develop a set of recommendations on appropriate follow-up of its key findings. Additionally, the meeting should note any exploratory work undertaken in relation to expanding the MoU's geographic scope and agree on next steps in this regard; and agree whether or not to develop a timetable for consideration of the legal character of the MoU, or to retain the status quo.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.8 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.8.1 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.8.2 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.8.3 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.8.4 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.8.5 MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.8.6</p>	

	Relevant Documents	Notes
<p>10. Special considerations related to the impacts of Indian Ocean tsunami</p> <p>The meeting is invited to discuss any special actions that might be undertaken in response to the December 2004 tsunami disaster (e.g. with regard to impacts on marine turtle populations and key habitats, as well as conservation projects). The Secretariat will introduce available information. Among the topics for possible consideration: (a) assessment needs in relation to impacts on turtles and habitats that might not have been addressed by other studies; (b) special mitigation measures that might be undertaken; (c) region-wide coordination and analysis of data from baseline studies to assess effects on nesting; (d) support for conservation projects that have been damaged or destroyed.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Identification of concrete activities that could be undertaken collectively within the IOSEA framework to try to compensate for the effects of this unprecedented natural disaster.</p>	<p>MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc. 9</p>	
<p>11. Advisory Committee</p> <p>The Chairman of the Advisory Committee will be invited to provide an oral report on activities of the Advisory Committee since SS2 (including brief introduction of items to be discussed in more depth under other agenda items), and to outline its work programme for the coming year, including as far as possible tasks agreed at the present meeting. The meeting will be invited to review the functioning the Advisory Committee, including any substantive proposals that may be forthcoming 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. Forms for this purpose were circulated to Focal Points on 8 November 2004, for submission by 28 January 2005. Four AC members will have served a full-term of two years. All current members, including those recently appointed intersessionally, 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 major 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.3/Doc. 10 (+ Annexes: Terms of Reference)</p> <p>Nomination forms (as received)</p>	

	Relevant Documents	Notes
<p>12. Financial and administrative matters</p> <p>(a) Review of expenditures and status of voluntary contributions The Secretariat will report on expenditures incurred to date and on the current status of voluntary contributions received or pledged in support of the Memorandum of Understanding.</p> <p>(b) Work programme and indicative budget for 2005-2006 The Secretariat will present a draft annual work programme and indicative budget covering the 2005-2006 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>	MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc.11	
<p>13. Further development of implementation tools</p> <p>The Secretariat will introduce a number of tools available on the MoU website (www.ioseaturtles.org) 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 Application (IMapS), and other information services.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Participants are expected to indicate what concrete inputs they can make to existing applications, and to give feedback on other items they may wish to see included on the website.</p>	MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Doc. 12	
<p>14. 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 4th Meeting of 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 2006.</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 4th Meeting of Signatory States.</p>	MT-IOSEA/SS.3/Inf. 6	
<p>15. Closure of the meeting</p> <p>The meeting is expected to be closed no later than 17.00 on 31 March 2005.</p>		