



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

Distr. GENERAL

MT-IOSEA/SS.5/Doc. 2  
Agenda item 4

Rev. 1 – 15 August 2008

FIFTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES  
Bali, Indonesia, 20-23 August 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda Items	Relevant Documents	Notes
<p><b>1. Welcoming remarks</b></p> <p>The meeting will be formally opened at the Sanur Paradise Plaza Hotel, at 9.00 on the morning of Wednesday, 20 August 2008, by representatives of the Government of Indonesia and the IOSEA Secretariat.</p>		Denpasar Room, Third Floor
<p><b>2. Signature of the Memorandum of Understanding by additional States</b></p> <p>The Memorandum of Understanding will be opened for signature by duly accredited representatives of additional 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>	Inf. 2	Original Memorandum of Understanding, concluded in Kuantan, Malaysia, on 14 July 2000
<p><b>3. Election of officers</b></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.</p>		It is proposed that all decisions at the present meeting be taken by consensus.
<p><b>4. Adoption of the agenda and schedule</b></p> <p>The Meeting is invited to review the provisional agenda and schedule, and to make any proposals for amendment prior to their adoption.</p>	Docs. 1, 2, 3, 4	
<p><b>5. Opening statements</b></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>		Statements to be submitted to the Secretariat in writing
<p><b>6. Report of the Secretariat</b></p> <p>The Secretariat will report on developments since the Fourth Meeting of Signatory States (Muscat, March 2006); with more detailed discussion expected under other agenda items.</p>	Doc. 5	
<p><b>7. Sub-regional consultations</b></p> <p>Ample time will be made available in the meeting schedule for sub-regional groups (WIO, NWIO, NIO, SEA+) to organise their own discussions and report back to the plenary on issues of common interest.</p>		List of common issues to be developed for reporting purposes. Sub-regional convenors/facilitators to be identified.

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<p><b>8. Review of implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding, including the Conservation and Management Plan</b></p> <p>The meeting will have before it a detailed review of reporting and implementation, which can be used as a basis for identifying priorities for strategic intervention, as well as related resource needs. It is proposed to structure the discussion as follows:</p> <p>(a) <i>Synthesis of national reports and overview of MoU implementation</i>  General discussion of national reporting to date and comprehensive review of implementation progress, strengths and weaknesses/gaps. Synthesis to be prepared by the Secretariat, primarily using information contained in the IOSEA Online Reporting Facility as at 26 July 2008. Signatory States will be invited to review of the objective criteria developed by the Secretariat in order to analyse the national reports. <i>Expected outcome:</i> identification by the Meeting of key regional issues and priorities / recommendations for concerted interventions.</p> <p>(b) <i>Site-based information on species, threats and mitigation measures</i>  The Secretariat will prepare a separate paper that explains, by way of specific examples, the value and practical application of site-based information on species, threats and mitigation measures contained in the; as well as identifying information gaps and possible future technological advances.</p> <p>(c) <i>Update on preparation of species status reports</i>  Status reports on Green and Loggerhead turtles were agreed by SS4 but have not commenced due to inadequate response; discussion of possible ways forward.</p> <p>(d) <i>National networks/committees</i>  Signatory States are requested to provide a brief summary of steps taken to establish and effectively use national networks/committees to coordinate national sea turtle conservation efforts. The Secretariat will provide a simple template for providing the requested information. The Advisory Committee has offered to analyse the responses received in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>(e) <i>Sub-regional coordination mechanisms / project activities</i>  Representatives of sub-regional arrangements that help to implement, or which complement, the IOSEA MoU will be invited to give short oral presentations on the main activities undertaken and outcomes achieved since SS4, as well as future plans and needs. Presentations are invited/expected from: Western Indian Ocean (Chair – Dr Ronel Nel); South-East Asia (possibly SEAFDEC representative?); Northwest Indian Ocean (informing of possible future initiative); Northern Indian Ocean (informing of possible future initiative). See also Agenda point 12 for complementary IGO/NGO activities.</p>	<p>Doc. 6</p> <p>Doc. 6.1</p> <p>Doc. 7</p> <p>Doc. 8</p>	<p>Signatory States have been requested to update their national reports online by mid-July and, in any case, no later than 26 July 2008.</p>

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<p><b>9. Thematic Workshop I: Coastal Development Issues and Mitigation Options</b></p> <p>This workshop is expected to begin with a presentation requested by the Advisory Committee, summarising the social and environment effects of mass tourism and coastal development in the IOSEA region, particularly the direct and indirect impacts that this has on marine turtles and their habitats. Case studies will follow outlining the main issues with respect to a number of development projects in the region. An overview will be given of the role of terrestrial and marine protected areas in sea turtle conservation, followed by one or more exemplary case studies (eg Habitat protection measures in eastern Australia). Resolutions and/or specific recommendations for follow-up will be developed, as appropriate, for consideration in a final plenary session.</p> <p>The meeting will re-examine a proposal for a Network of Sites of Importance for Marine Turtles, which had been developed to an advanced stage and presented to a previous meeting of the Signatory States. Although drafting work was suspended for lack of capacity, the Secretariat considers it timely to revisit the concept in the light of the wider discussion of coastal development issues and mitigation options.</p>		<p>Case studies under consideration for presentation in the workshop:</p> <p>Dhamra Port development – Orissa, India</p> <p>Sethusamudram Ship Canal Project – India / Sri Lanka</p>
<p><b>10. Thematic Workshop II: Fisheries-Turtle Interactions and Mitigation Options</b></p> <p>The scope and format of this workshop is under development, but its primary aim is to exchange information on the efficacy of turtle by-catch reduction measures introduced to date, with an emphasis on the IOSEA region. It will highlight both positive and negative experiences and lessons learned; as well as future plans and opportunities for collaborative action. The topics to be examined may include: programmes to encourage safe release of by-caught turtles; observer programmes; use or non-use of TEDs; trials with hook design, bait type, fishing practices etc.; and spatial/temporal control of fishing effort. Indonesia will serve as one case study, but interventions are expected from countries across the region. Additionally, a presentation is foreseen on the topic of ghosts nets, gear disposal, and advances in net identification.</p> <p>Depending on interest communicated prior to the meeting, and identification of facilitators, the workshop may be broadened to cover also the topics of directed take of sea turtles (and eggs); as well as illegal international trade in shell and stuffed turtles.</p>		

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<p>11. <b>Financial and administrative matters</b></p> <p>(a) <b>Review of expenditure and status of voluntary contributions</b> 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) <b>Work programme and indicative budget for 2009-2010</b> The Secretariat will present a draft annual work programme and indicative budget covering the 2009-2010 calendar years.</p> <p>(c) <b>Additional sources of funding and support for coordination and implementation</b> 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>Doc. 10, Doc. 5</p>	
<p>12. <b>Advisory Committee</b></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 SS4. No substantive changes are proposed to the existing Terms of Reference for the Committee, which were amended at the last meeting, unless a Signatory State indicates a wish to revisit them.</p> <p>However, it is proposed that a working group be set up to consider the 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 for submission by 21 June 2008. Four AC members will have served through two Meetings of Signatory States and would normally stand down at this meeting. 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 the Committee; 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>Doc. 11</p> <p>Nomination forms (as received)</p>	

<p><b>13. Opportunities for IOSEA input and synergy</b></p> <p>IGO/NGO representatives responsible for, or involved in, other regional or sub-regional sub-region programmes may wish to give a brief explanation of how these contribute to or complement IOSEA implementation, to the extent that they have not already been introduced under other agenda items. 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 meeting may wish to discuss also (here, or under other agenda items) IOSEA's potential contribution to or association with other important global initiatives, such as: the <b>2010 Biodiversity Target</b>; the UNEP/MEA <b>Knowledge Management</b> project; the <b>Bali Strategic Plan</b> for Technology Support and Capacity-building, among others.</p> <p>A number of meetings coming up over the next 6-9 months have been identified in which substantial IOSEA input may be desirable. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Bangkok, Oct 2008)</li> <li>- Technical Workshop on Minimizing Sea Turtle Interactions in Fisheries (Thailand, January 2009)</li> <li>- International Sea Turtle Symposium (Brisbane, February 2009)</li> <li>- Proposed IOSEA Strategic Planning Session</li> <li>- FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI - Rome, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – 2009)</li> <li>- International Year of the Reef – 2009</li> </ul> <p>Participants are invited to identify any other meetings of direct relevance, and to discuss the nature of eventual IOSEA contributions to them -- by Signatory States, Advisory Committee, and Secretariat etc. (individually or collectively).</p>	<p>Other information papers requested from participants, to be tabled at the meeting</p> <p>Doc. 12</p>	
<p><b>14. Current use and further development of implementation tools</b></p> <p>The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the latest developments concerning the IOSEA website (<a href="http://www.ioseaturtles.org">www.ioseaturtles.org</a>), including tools intended to benefit Signatory States and other interested partners in relation to their marine turtle conservation activities, in particular: the projects database and genetics directory, electronic library, flipper tag series, IOSEA Interactive Mapping System, 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>Doc. 13</p>	

<p><b>15. Any other business</b></p> <p>Any other matters relevant to the business of the meeting may be raised under this agenda item.</p> <p>The timing of future meetings, including the Sixth Meeting of the Signatory States will be considered here. Signatory States are encouraged to table provisional offers to host the next meeting, which should take place in 2010 if a two-year interval is maintained.</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><b>16. Closure of the meeting</b></p> <p>The meeting is expected to be closed by 1700 on Saturday, 23 August 2008.</p>		

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