



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.6/Doc. 2  
Agenda item 4

12 January 2012

SIXTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES  
Bangkok, Thailand, 23-27 January 2012

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda Items	Relevant Documents	Comments / Expected outcomes
<p><b>1. Welcoming remarks</b></p> <p>The meeting will be formally opened at the Amari Watergate Hotel (Ballroom C), at 9.00 on the morning of Monday, 23 January 2012.</p>		<p>English-French simultaneous interpretation will be provided for all plenary sessions</p>
<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 authorised representatives of additional States, in order to allow them to participate in the meeting as <i>de facto</i> Signatory States.</p>	<p>Inf. 2</p>	<p>At the time of writing, no additional States are expected to sign the MoU in Bangkok.</p>
<p><b>3. Election of officers</b></p> <p>The Meeting will elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the representatives of the Signatory States in attendance.</p>		<p>It is proposed that all decisions at the present meeting be taken by consensus.</p>
<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>	<p>Docs. 1, 2, 3, 4</p>	<p>Adoption of the agenda and schedule, by consensus.</p>
<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 regarding signature of the Memorandum of Understanding.</p>		<p>Statements to be submitted to the Secretariat in writing, for inclusion in the meeting report, as appropriate.</p>
<p><b>6. Reports of the Secretariat and Advisory Committee</b></p> <p>(a) <i>Secretariat</i></p> <p>The Secretariat will report on developments since the Fifth Meeting of Signatory States (Bali, 2008); with more detailed discussion expected under other agenda items.</p> <p>(b) <i>Advisory Committee</i></p> <p>The Chair of the Advisory Committee will report briefly on matters discussed at its meeting on 21-22 January); with more detailed discussion expected under other agenda items. The report of that meeting will be circulated as soon as it is available.</p>	<p>Doc. 5 Inf. 4, 6, 7</p> <p>Inf. 5</p>	<p>Noting of oral/written reports; clarification of points, as necessary</p>

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<p><b>7. Review of implementation progress</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 to date</i></p> <p>General discussion of national reporting to date and comprehensive review of implementation progress, strengths and weaknesses/gaps. A synthesis of the core reports has been prepared by the Secretariat, primarily using information contained in the IOSEA Online Reporting Facility as at early December 2011.</p> <p>A separate paper explains, by way of specific examples, the value and practical application of site-based information on species/habitats, threats and mitigation measures contained in the Online Reporting Facility; identifies information gaps and makes recommendations for improvement of the Site Data Sheet contents.</p> <p>(b) <i>Review of past and current species assessments</i></p> <p>The 2006 Leatherback Assessment will be reviewed to identify progress made towards addressing gaps in information or conservation action; and to propose specific follow-up projects. A volunteer will be sought to lead this exercise. A new Loggerhead Assessment (to be circulated at the meeting, after review by the Advisory Committee) is expected to follow a similar format.</p> <p>(c) <i>National networks/committees</i></p> <p>Signatory States have been requested to summarise steps taken to establish and effectively use national networks/committees to coordinate national sea turtle conservation efforts. A paper prepared by the Secretariat presents the key findings. The discussion is expected to focus on the importance of national committees and impediments to their establishment and effective function.</p> <p>(d) <i>Sub-regional groups and related coordination mechanisms</i></p> <p>Each of the 4 IOSEA sub-regions will meet collectively at least once and will report on their deliberations to plenary (led by sub-regional Focal Points). Presentations will be invited from representatives of sub-regional arrangements, such as the WIO – Marine Turtle Task Force; South-East Asia (possibly SEAFDEC representative?); Northwest Indian Ocean (informing of possible cooperation through ROPME); Northern Indian Ocean (informing of possible future initiatives).</p> <p>(e) <i>Current use and further development of implementation tools</i></p> <p>The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the latest developments concerning the IOSEA website, including tools intended to benefit Signatory States and other interested partners in relation to their marine turtle conservation activities, including the Satellite Tracking Metadatabase, Bibliography Resource, Project Database, Flipper Tag Series etc.</p>	<p>Doc. 6</p> <p>Inf. 3</p> <p>Doc. 6.1</p> <p>Doc. 7</p> <p>Doc. 12</p> <p>Doc. 2 Addendum</p> <p>Inf. 9</p>	<p>Review/agree on suggestions for improvements in reporting and recommendations for specific follow-up activities, contained in Part I.</p> <p>Commitment of Signatory States to comprehensively review, update, and/or complete their Site Data Sheets within an agreed timetable.</p> <p>Brief update of Leatherback Assessment; drafting of project concepts; endorsement of Loggerhead Assessment; agreement on approach for next (Green?) assessment.</p> <p>Signatory States that have not already completed or updated their questionnaire on national committees/networks may submit it to the Secretariat at the meeting.</p> <p>Discussion / feedback on sub-regional issues of concern.</p> <p>Participants will be asked to fill in a questionnaire to give feedback on website usage, suggestions for improvement etc., as well as commit to providing website content and promote greater usage.</p>

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<p><b>8. Consideration of major thematic issues</b></p> <p>(a) <i>Proposal for the establishment of a network of sites of importance to marine turtles</i> The proposal contained in Working Papers #1 and #2, circulated in September 2011, has been developed and refined over a lengthy consultation process led by a working group established at SS5, as well as other experts. If the Signatory States agree to proceed with the establishment of the network, it is proposed that a steering committee be created at this meeting to begin to chart the next practical steps forward. A volunteer will be sought to lead this committee.</p> <p>(b) <i>Further development of the technical support/capacity building programme</i> Initiatives undertaken within the framework of the original programme will be briefly presented; and Signatory States will be invited to indicate whether there is interest in having the programme continue in some form. A draft concept or 'road map' for the development of training modules, benefitting from substantial expertise within the Advisory Committee, will be introduced (Doc. 8, Annex 4). This idea may be refined during the Advisory Committee meeting that precedes SS6.</p> <p>(c) Thematic workshops / expert presentations  The meeting will be enriched by two interesting workshops on: (1) Satellite Tracking and (2) Climate Change Impact and Mitigation Strategies – topics that are of direct relevance to priority setting and implementation of the IOSEA Conservation and Management Plan. Additionally, the Secretariat has arranged for a number of expert presentations on subjects of general interest to the IOSEA membership.</p>	<p>Doc. 7</p> <p>Doc. 8</p>	<p>Endorsement of the Site Network proposal (by way of a resolution), after any necessary revision; and agreement on a mechanism and timetable for making it operational.</p> <p>Indication of interest in continuing the delivery of support, through the Advisory Committee, subject to availability of funds; finalisation of 'road map' for development of complementary training modules.</p> <p>Conclusions drawn from the workshops and expert presentations may be expected to influence IOSEA priority setting in the areas of research and conservation actions.</p>
<p><b>9. Institutional matters</b></p> <p>(a) <i>IOSEA Focal Point roles and responsibilities</i> Draft terms of reference and guidance for IOSEA (National and Sub-regional) Focal Points have been in circulation for more than a year. Signatory States are invited to propose any final amendments to the texts prior to their formal adoption. Arrangements for some of the Sub-regional Focal Points (mentioned in Doc. 13) may need to be reviewed under this agenda item.</p> <p>(b) <i>Proposal for creation of an inter-sessional executive committee</i> Signatory States are invited to consider a proposal aimed at strengthening information exchange among the four sub-regional Focal Points, Advisory Committee Chair and Secretariat (without necessarily creating a new IOSEA body).</p>	<p>Doc. 11</p> <p>Doc. 13</p> <p>Doc. 14</p>	<p>Terms of reference and guidance formally adopted by the Meeting and applied, as far as possible, by all Signatory State Focal Points in future IOSEA undertakings. Consensus on sub-regional Focal Points.</p> <p>In its simplest form, this proposal would entail minor amendment of the proposed terms of reference for IOSEA Focal Points (Doc. 11)</p>

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<p>(c) <i>Advisory Committee membership and tasks</i>  Signatory States are invited to appoint / re-appoint experts to serve on the Advisory Committee. At least one new nomination will be submitted for consideration. Signatory States may also consider developing a list of tasks for the Advisory Committee to work on inter-sessionally, bearing in mind that members offer their services voluntarily, without remuneration. Signatory states may wish to discuss the need and feasibility for the Advisory Committee to meet inter-sessionally. A small working group will be established to review the nominations and make recommendations to the plenary.</p> <p>(d) <i>Collaboration with other organisations</i>  Time permitting, IGO/NGO representatives responsible for, or involved in, other regional or sub-regional sub-region programmes may be invited to give a brief explanation of how these contribute to or complement IOSEA implementation, insofar as 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>(e) <i>Timetable for possible amendment of the legal character of the MoU</i>  The Secretariat will report on the responses of Signatory States in relation to this matter, in their national reports. 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; and to agree whether or not to maintain this point as a standing agenda item.</p> <p>(f) <i>Forthcoming meetings and events of relevance to IOSEA</i>  All participants are invited to draw attention to upcoming meetings and events of interest to IOSEA, with a view to compiling a comprehensive list, including locations and dates</p> <p>(g) <i>Next meeting of the IOSEA Signatory States</i>  Signatory States were requested, in advance, to consider tabling offers to host the Seventh Meeting, in order to give a clearer timetable for future work and to simplify the necessary follow-up. The next meeting should take place in 2014, if IOSEA reverts to a two-year interval between meetings.</p>	<p>Doc. 13  Inf. 5</p> <p>Nomination forms (as received)</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Inf. 9</p>	<p>Advisory Committee composition, work programme and meeting frequency agreed.</p> <p>Expression of views by Signatory States; consensus on whether or not to continue to maintain this point as an agenda item for future meetings.</p> <p>List of relevant meetings compiled</p> <p>One or more provisional offers to host the Seventh Meeting tabled, for Secretariat follow-up.</p>
<p><b>10. Financial and administrative matters</b></p> <p>(a) <i>Review of expenditures and status of voluntary contributions</i>  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 during the previous reporting period.</p>	<p>Doc. 10,  Doc. 5</p>	<p>Noting of Secretariat report.</p>

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<p><i>(b) Work programme and indicative budget for 2009-2010</i></p> <p>The Secretariat will introduce an indicative budget covering the 2012-2014 calendar years, together with an indicative scale of voluntary contributions, to be agreed by consensus.</p> <p><i>(c) Additional sources of funding and support for coordination and implementation</i></p> <p>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 IOSEA MoU over the next 2-3 years.</p>		<p>Agreement on the proposed 2012-2014 budget</p> <p>Agreement on the indicative scale of voluntary contributions, to be communicated to Signatory States following the meeting, as appropriate</p> <p>Offers of additional in-kind support to be noted</p>
<p><b>11. 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><b>12. Closure of the meeting</b></p> <p>The formal meeting is expected to be closed by 1700 on Thursday, 26 January 2012; however participants are invited to attend an excursion the following day to Koh Mannai (Island), about 3 hours drive from Bangkok.</p>		<p>Participants are requested to indicate their interest in joining the excursion, when registering on 22-23 January. (Sponsored delegates are automatically included)</p>

NOTES: