

Agenda Item 3

ASCOBANS Awards

Document 3-02

Nomination for ASCOBANS Lifetime Award

Action Requested

- Take note of and endorse the nomination for the ASCOBANS Lifetime Award

Submitted by

United Kingdom



NOTE:
IN THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING

PROPOSAL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR AN ASCOBANS LIFE-TIME AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO MARINE MAMMAL CONSERVATION AND NOMINATION

Introduction

1. Achieving and maintaining a favourable conservation status for small cetaceans relies heavily on research, outreach and education. These areas often draw their greatest contributions from individuals, sometimes through unique and important contributions carried out over lifetimes.
2. We believe that it is appropriate as ASCOBANS enters its 15th year, that we formally recognise these important contributions and achievements which also support the objectives of the agreement and its Parties.
3. The education and outreach award from ASCOBANS helpfully recognizes one type of important contribution but not all possible contributions.

Proposal

4. We propose that the Meeting of Parties launches an 'ASCOBANS life-time award for outstanding contribution to marine mammal conservation'.
5. This award would be made occasionally to individuals who through their careers have made such a contribution and where this includes making a contribution to the work of ASCOBANS.

Candidate

6. We believe that it would be most appropriate that Peter Reijnders be bestowed with the honour of the first award of this kind in recognition of his important lifetime contribution to the conservation of marine mammals throughout the world.
7. The significance of Peter's contribution is well known to everyone working in the conservation and marine mammal scientific fields. It can be seen via his extensive publication list (particularly his ground-breaking studies on the impacts of pollution); his appointment as a Professor in Germany as well as in the Netherlands; the guidance that he has provided to undergraduate and postgraduates through the years; his networking activities; his personal commitment to conservation and in many other aspects.
8. In the ASCOBANS context, Peter has been the chair or vice chair of the Advisory Committee virtually from the launch of the agreement until the last few years. As such, he has continually provided wise and expert guidance to the agreement.
9. Peter's official retirement is at the end of May making the timing of an award this year highly appropriate.