

## Background

The aim of the workshop is to:

- Provide a platform for an exchange of views and information between scientists, policy makers, and other interested parties on work to define 'unacceptable interactions' and the development of thresholds/environmental limits for bycatch;
- Aid the development of a common understanding by ASCOBANS Parties on how, thresholds/environmental limits might best be described/defined; and
- Inform consideration of if, where and when thresholds/environmental limits might be used, flagging up key issues, concerns, and implications for meeting ASCOBANS conservation objectives, including uncertainty and data limitations.

In order to achieve this, the workshop will seek to provide a view on the following questions:

- 1. *In meeting its objectives, would it be helpful for ASCOBANS to establish limits/thresholds for bycatch and why?***
- 2. *If ASCOBANS adopts limits/thresholds for bycatch, how should they be applied in the framework of delivering on ASCOBANS objectives?***

## Draft Agenda

0. Coffee (9:15am)

**1. Introduction and Background (9:30)**

- 1.1. Welcoming Remarks
- 1.2. Round Table
- 1.3. Chair's Introduction

**2. Presentations (10:00)**

- 2.1. Policy context – ASCOBANS (Heidrun Frisch, ASCOBANS Secretariat)
- 2.2. The concept - Thresholds of unacceptable interactions (Mark Tasker, JNCC)
- 2.3. Other related considerations in cetacean conservation

*Lunch break (12:00-13:00)*

**3. Discussion**

**4. Next Steps**

**5. Close of the Meeting**