

Overview of Relevant CMS COP12 Outcomes

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Resolution 12.13:

- Acknowledges the IMMA criteria and identification process.
- Requests Parties etc to suggest areas where identification of IMMAs could be particularly beneficial.
 - Design and connectivity of protected area networks
 - Comprehensively addressing threats to aquatic mammals

Decisions 12.40-12.41:

- CMS ScC to collaborate with IUCN Joint SSC/WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force.



Resolution 12.14 (consolidation + guidelines):

- Endorses the **Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessments for Marine Noise-generating Activities**.
- Contents:
 - An introduction and link to detailed Technical Support Information, which includes species-specific information
 - Technical Advisory Notes
 - Separate modules for different industries



Decisions 12.42-12.43:

- The CMS ScC instructed to assess the need for further noise-related voluntary guidelines on activities of concern.
- Next Steps
 - Will be presented to ASCOBANS MOP for adoption.



Aquatic Wild Meat



Resolution 12.15:

- Seeks more recognition of topic, which unlike terrestrial “bushmeat” has not yet been the focus of international policy efforts.
- Recommends increasing scientific understanding and knowledge of aquatic wild meat harvests, collaborating, and providing the required support to ensure legal and sustainable subsistence harvests.
- Requests the establishment of a thematic working group dealing with aquatic wild meat.....



Aquatic Wild Meat



- Following a call for nominations of Councillors and external experts, the WG was established in June, 2018 and has started deliberations on the CMS ScC Workspace.
- Some of the tasks include:
 - Collecting information, facilitating discussion on the issue, and serving as an expert resource for CMS Parties, ScC and Secretariat
 - Sharing information with IWC and participating in future Small Cetacean Sub-committee meetings with a focus on aquatic wild meat.



Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes



Resolution 11.22 (Rev. COP12):

- Calls upon Parties to develop / implement national legislation prohibiting the live capture of cetaceans from the wild for commercial purposes.
 - Particularly taking stricter domestic measures in line with CITES Article XIV regarding the import and international transit of live cetaceans.
- Requests Sec & ScC to enhance cooperation with CITES and the IWC on small cetaceans
- Endorses **Best Practice Guidelines** designed to assist interested Parties on how to improve existing legislation or develop new laws.



Recreational In-Water Interactions with Aquatic Mammals



Resolution 12.16:

- Gives recognition to the threat and widespread disturbance it can represent to aquatic mammals.
- Urges the adoption of national measures to regulate such activities.
- Calls for research on the effects and significance of these disturbances.

Decisions 12.50-12.52:

- ScC to develop guidelines and recommended code of conduct for operations, in consultation with the IWC and based on documents on national measures provided by Parties.



Management of Marine Debris



Resolution 12.20 (consolidation):

- Consolidates old Resolutions, Incorporates new knowledge and developments.
- Recognizes the range of challenges and the knowledge gaps in management of marine debris.
- Covers best practice for commercial marine vessels, actions by the industry, public awareness and education campaigns, and collaboration and policy intervention.



Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity



Resolution 11.23 (Rev. COP12):

- Requests the CMS Expert Working Group on Culture and Social Complexity to continue its work, including:
 - developing a list of priority species listed on the CMS Appendices for a comprehensive investigation of culture and social structure and commencing more detailed analysis as appropriate
 - developing a taxonomy of culture across other taxa of relevance to CMS to assist in determining priority species for case studies.



Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity



Resolution 11.23 (Rev. COP12):

- Urges Parties to apply a precautionary approach to the management of populations for which there is evidence that influence of culture and social complexity may be a conservation issue.
- The report from the workshop that took place in Parma in April, 2018 has been published as CMS/ScC-SC3/Inf.8.



Resolution 12.22 (Consolidation):

- Outlines actions needed to achieve effective mitigation and monitoring, in areas including:
 - Participation in RFMOs
 - Bycatch mitigation methods and data collection
 - Collaboration and cooperation
 - Technological and financial assistance



Sustainable Boat-based Marine Wildlife Watching



Resolution 11.29 (Rev.COP12):

- Endorses guidelines on boat-based marine wildlife watching for different taxonomic groups.
- The Guidelines cover:
 - General considerations including EIAs and licensing/permits
 - Species-specific considerations (sirenians, pinnipeds, elasmobranchs, seabirds, and marine turtles)
 - Specific risks, early indicators of disturbance, factors to consider, management considerations, guidelines and suggested thresholds for each taxonomic group



Sustainable Boat-based Marine Wildlife Watching



Resolution 11.29 (Rev.COP12):

- They do not cover in-water interactions, though the ScC has decided to consider these topics jointly in the future.
- Regarding cetacean watching, CMS is collaborating with the IWC, which is taking the lead in the development of a joint IWC-CMS Whale Watching Handbook, to be presented at the IWC67 in Brazil in September 2018.

Decisions 12.78-12.80:

- Emphasize collaboration with IWC and ACCOBAMS.

