



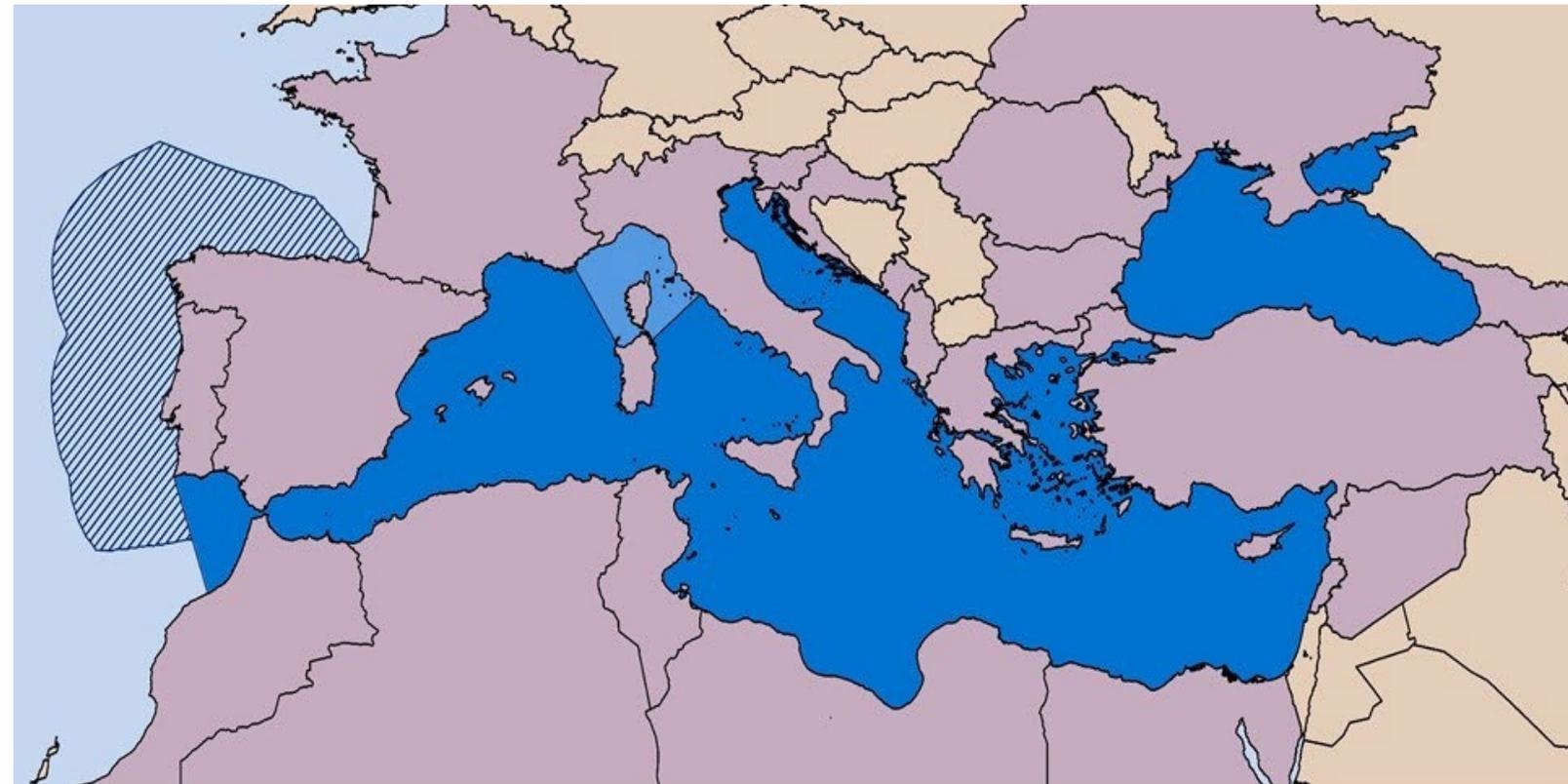
Overview of relevant ACCOBAMS provisions for the workshop

Celia Le Ravallec, ACCOBAMS Secretariat



What is ACCOBAMS?

- Adopted in 1996 and entered into force in 2001
- Established under the UNEP/CMS Convention on Migratory Species
- Its purpose is to reduce threats to cetaceans, in particular by improving our knowledge of these animals
- 24 Contracting Parties
- Secretariat hosted by the Principality of Monaco



ACCOBAMS Resolution 8.20 on Marine Litter & Chemical Pollution



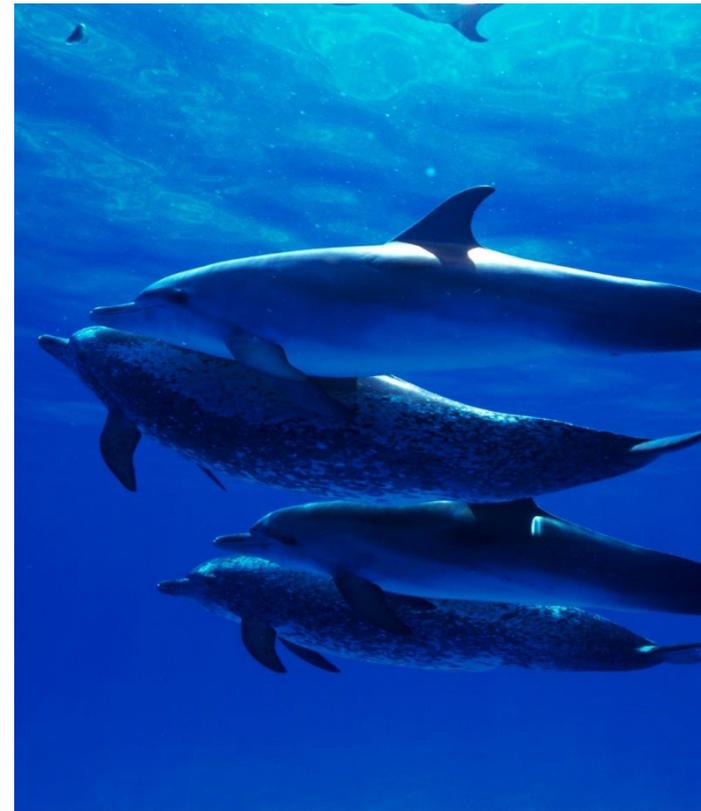
ACCOBAMS Parties are invited:

- to **undertake post-mortem investigations** according to the best practice guidelines (...);
- to support:
 - collective scientific efforts on the **development of standardized methods** to detect the occurrence and effects of marine litter, including micro-plastics, in cetacean species; and
 - the **use of standardized formats to report results** across the ACCOBAMS Area (...);
- to support the **identification of hot-spot areas for marine litter accumulation** (...);
- to **propose cetacean species as indicators of marine litter** in the ACCOBAMS Area (...);
- to **focus on the assessment of cumulative effects and multiple stressors**, including chemicals, marine litter, climate change, and emerging pathogens, on cetaceans in the ACCOBAMS Area (...).



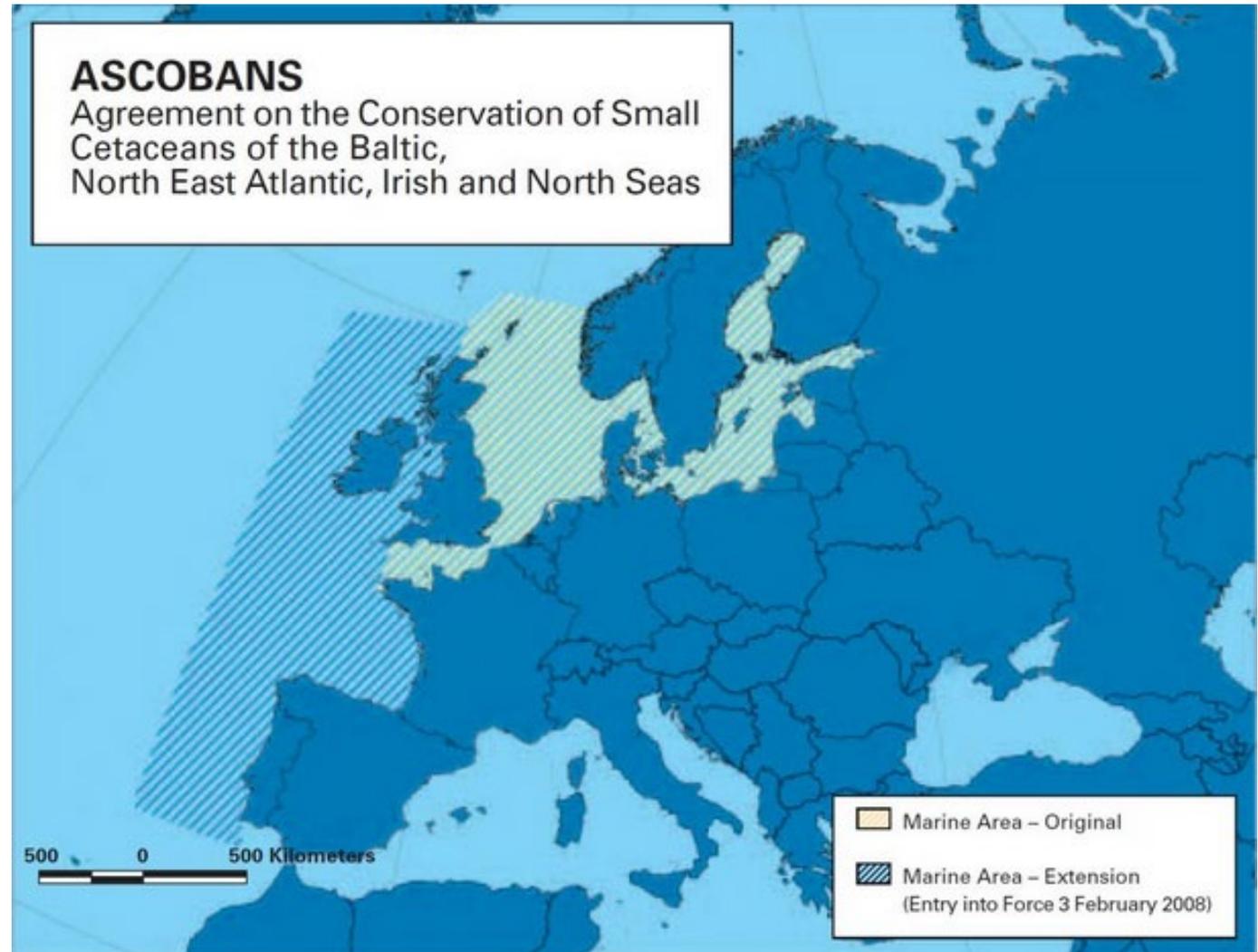
Overview of relevant ASCOBANS provisions for the workshop

Jenny Renell, ASCOBANS Secretariat



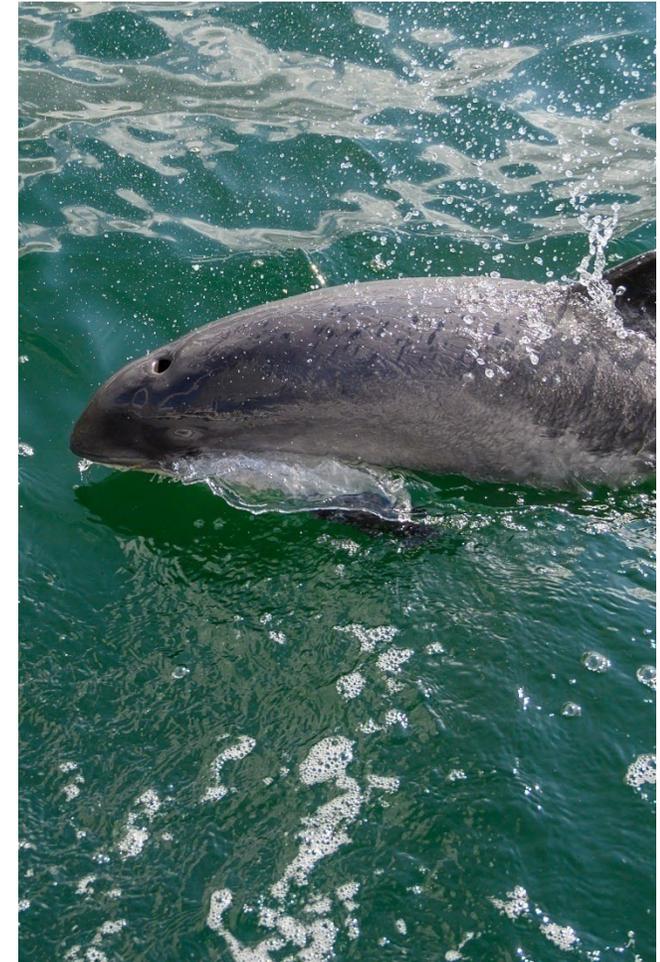
What is ASCOBANS?

- Legally binding, multilateral UN treaty
- Promotes close cooperation between countries, to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for small cetaceans
- Administered by UNEP; Secretariat shared with CMS
- 10 Parties, 7 non-Party Range States
- Covers any species, subspecies or population of toothed whales (*Odontoceti*) occurring in the Agreement Area (except the sperm whale)
- www.ascobans.org



ASCOBANS Resolution 9.3 on Marine Debris

- Collaboratively identify, prioritise and mitigate impacts of marine debris on marine mammals
- Use available information from cetaceans to inform policy-making and help address the marine debris problem
- Support efforts to end unnecessary use of single-use plastics across the Agreement Area and to address ALDFG or otherwise discarded fishing gear, including retrieval and recycling projects
- Requires further research
- Collection of information about marine debris during cetacean population and other surveys
- Collaborate with initiatives focused on mitigating this problem
- Explore ways of increasing coordination and collaboration with regional and international organizations to share information and develop and implement best practices



ASCOBANS AC27, Action Point 5

- Marine debris workshop aimed at **better understanding the effects of marine debris on cetaceans and the relationship between marine debris and fisheries**
- Consider:
 - How to improve collection of relevant data from stranded cetaceans, including identifying guidance for appropriate pathology
 - How to best investigate the relationship between fishing gear and marine debris
 - Best practice for debris recording for both ingested and entangled materials
 - Best practice for sampling and recording of micro-debris
 - How to best share information between interested scientists

