

**4th MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO ASCOBANS
Esbjerg, Denmark, 19 - 22 August 2003**

Resolution No. 2

Educational and Promotional Activities

Recalling Resolution No. 6 of the 3rd Meeting of the Parties;

Noting that the public support of the aims of ASCOBANS continues to be critical to its success;

Acknowledging the marked increase in the promotional and educational activities of ASCOBANS in the past triennium;

Noting, however, that despite this increase, public awareness of ASCOBANS and the issues of cetacean conservation is not entirely satisfactory in the ASCOBANS area;

Acknowledging the valuable contribution made by NGOs to ASCOBANS to date;

Noting that a particular emphasis of future promotional work will have to be on new Parties and non-Party Range States and on the Baltic region as a whole, in particular on the implementation of the ASCOBANS Recovery Plan for Baltic Harbour Porpoises (Jastarnia Plan);

The Meeting of the Parties to ASCOBANS

Recommends that the Secretariat continue and step up its activities to raise awareness of issues related to cetacean conservation in the Agreement area and to promote the Agreement itself especially with non-Party Range States, inter alia by translating ASCOBANS information material, the European Commission and the International Baltic Sea Fisheries Commission;

Recommends that the Secretariat continue to develop the ASCOBANS website, aiming to meet the needs of a wide range of target audiences;

Recommends that the Secretariat, taking appropriate advice, gives priority to producing targeted information material on conservation issues facing small cetaceans in the region. In particular, it is recommended that the Secretariat, in consultation with appropriate fishermen's organisation and others, develop material to distribute to fishermen, especially with respect to bycatch issues;

Recommends that host Parties of Meetings of the Parties and of the Advisory Committee, in co-operation with the Secretariat, consider ways by which the Agreement might be best promoted;

Encourages Parties and non-Party Range States to continue to co-operate with the Secretariat in this endeavour and to support this work through voluntary contributions;

Encourages NGOs to support the PR activities of the Secretariat if and when possible;

Encourages institutions or individuals to share the use of their intellectual property free of charge for use in non-profit information campaigns in support of ASCOBANS objectives;

Requests the Secretariat to report to Parties on promotional activities at least twice annually.

Repeals Resolution No. 6 of the 3rd Meeting of the Parties.