

Agenda Item 1.3

Opening of the Meeting

Opening of the Scientific Session

Document 1.3
Rev.1

**ASCOBANS Work Plan 2013-2016 –
Progress**

Action Requested

- Take note
- Comment
- Give guidance where required

Submitted by

Secretariat



NOTE:
DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED
TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING

Secretariat's Note

1. This document contains an overview of action points for the current intersessional period of ASCOBANS, covering the work of the Secretariat, the Advisory Committee and Parties, as adopted by the 7th Meeting of the Parties in Resolution No. 2.
2. It also indicates the related Action Points and Decisions of the 20th Advisory Committee Meeting and the progress made towards their implementation. The final column cross-references the related AC21 meeting documents and information documents.
3. The decisions and action points agreed under each agenda item of the 21st Advisory Committee Meeting will serve to provide guidance on further action required for the implementation of the Work Plan.

ASCOBANS Work Plan 2013-2016 - Progress

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
Conservation Actions					
1. Review new information on bycatch and associated strandings, bycatch mitigation and monitoring measures, including local initiatives, and fisheries effort and make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action, in particular advice concerning the EU Common Fisheries Policy reform and Regulation 812/2004	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	At each AC Meeting	1. Habitat Conservation and Management 2. Surveys and Research	(AC20/AP5) The joint CMS/ASCOBANS Secretariat will request the European Commission to provide information on the current status of the revision of EC Reg.812/2004 and the expected timelines for a decision on the European Parliament Fisheries Committee's proposal for a comprehensive review by 2015. → <i>Done</i> (AC20/AP6) The Secretariat, with the support of the Bycatch Working Group, will compile a list of all previous recommendations made by the Advisory Committee and its working groups regarding cetacean bycatch to be submitted to the European Commission. → <i>Partly done</i> (AC20/AP7) The Terms of Reference of the Bycatch Working Group were amended with an additional action point.	AC21/Doc.3.1 (EU Legislation) AC21/Doc.3.1.1.a Rev.1 (Report Bycatch WG) AC21/Doc.3.1.1.b (Report Unacceptable Interactions WG) AC21/Inf.3.1.a AC21/Inf.3.1.b AC21/Inf.3.1.c

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
				<p>(AC20/AP8) Data on fishing effort and bycatch rates provided by Parties to the EC and/or ICES should be submitted in the required reporting format, allowing for spatial (ICES divisions) and temporal (monthly/quarterly) stratification.</p> <p>(AC20/AP9) Terms of Reference for a working group for the further development of management procedures for defining the threshold of 'unacceptable interactions' were endorsed by the Meeting.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">→ <i>New Chair for WG needed</i></p> <p>(AC20/AP10) Parties that are members of OSPAR will provide their comments on the draft Marine Mammal Indicators through their national experts on ICG-COBAM.</p>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
<p>2. Review new information on pollution, including marine debris, and its effects on small cetaceans that occur in the ASCOBANS area and make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities</p>	<p>AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)</p>	<p>At each AC Meeting</p>	<p>1. Habitat Conservation and Management 2. Surveys and Research</p>	<p>→ <i>Annual pollution compilation to be annexed to AC21 report</i> → <i>Part of ToR of Marine Debris WG</i> → <i>New Chair for Marine Debris WG needed</i></p>	<p>AC21/Inf.3.4.3.a AC21/Inf.3.4.3.b AC21/Inf.3.4.3.c AC21/Inf.3.4.3.d</p>
<p>3. Review the extent of negative effects of sound, vessels and other forms of disturbance on small cetaceans and review relevant technological developments and best practices, working where possible with initiatives by other organizations</p>	<p>AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)</p>	<p>At each AC Meeting</p>	<p>1. Habitat Conservation and Management 2. Surveys and Research</p>	<p>(AC20/AP11) It was agreed that the joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS Noise Working Group should be extended to include CMS with appropriately amended Terms of Reference. The Secretariats of ACCOBAMS and CMS are requested to present these to the appropriate bodies for endorsement. → <i>Done, endorsed by ACCOBAMS and CMS</i> (AC20/AP12) It was agreed that the joint Noise Working Group should continue to have co-Chairs. (AC20/AP13) The offer from OceanCare to serve as co-Chair of the joint Noise Working Group was gratefully accepted.</p>	<p>AC21/Doc.3.2.1 (Report Noise WG) AC21/Inf.3.2.1 AC21/Inf.3.2.2.a AC21/Inf.3.2.2.b AC21/Inf.3.2.3 AC21/Inf.3.7.2.a AC21/Inf.3.7.2.b AC21/Inf.3.7.2.c</p>

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
<p>4. Develop guidelines which Parties and stakeholders may use to reduce disturbance by noise, where possible in collaboration with ACCOBAMS and other partners</p>	<p>AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)</p>	<p>2013</p>	<p>1. Habitat Conservation and Management</p>	<p>➔ <i>Part of ToR of Noise WG</i></p>	<p>AC21/Doc.3.2.1 (Report Noise WG) AC21/Inf.3.2.1 AC21/Inf.3.2.2.a AC21/Inf.3.2.2.b AC21/Inf.3.2.3 AC21/Inf.3.7.2.a AC21/Inf.3.7.2.b AC21/Inf.3.7.2.c</p>
<p>5. Review knowledge about and potential adverse effects of underwater unexploded ordnance as well as methods for its environmentally-friendly removal and make appropriate recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities</p>	<p>AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)</p>	<p>At each AC Meeting</p>	<p>1. Habitat Conservation and Management</p>	<p>(AC20/AP14) The Secretariat will liaise with HELCOM and OSPAR to ascertain how ASCOBANS can best support their processes regarding underwater ordnance.</p> <p>➔ <i>To be addressed before AC22</i></p> <p>(AC20/AP15) At appropriate fora of HELCOM and OSPAR, Parties will stress the importance of environmentally-friendly removal of underwater ordnance.</p> <p>(AC20/AP16) The Secretariat should collate the information that Parties submit to the appropriate fora in HELCOM and OSPAR relating to underwater ordnance (location, quantity and plans,</p>	

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				methods and technologies for its safe removal) to enable the Advisory Committee to make progress with Work Plan Activity 5. → <i>Ongoing</i>	
6. Review and catalyse new information on small cetacean population size, distribution, structure and causes of any changes in the ASCOBANS area and make appropriate recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities	AC	At each AC Meeting	1. Habitat Conservation and Management 2. Surveys and Research	(AC20/AP19) The project coordinators running SCANS-III are encouraged to liaise with their counterparts organizing the T-NASS survey in order to make the results as compatible as possible and exchange expertise. (AC20/AP20) Parties are encouraged to continue to provide support to appropriate monitoring work in the Baltic as a follow-up of the SAMBAH project. (AC20/AP21) Management units need to be established for all the regularly occurring small cetacean species in the area of overlap of ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS. Priority should be given to those species for which there is not only evidence of sub-structuring but also which appear to be especially vulnerable to anthropogenic activities. Species identified in the	AC21/Inf.4.1.a AC21/Inf.4.1.b AC21/Inf.6.1.c

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				region include <i>inter alia</i> killer whale, bottlenose dolphin, Risso's dolphin, pilot whale and harbour porpoise. (AC20/AP22) The Secretariat was instructed to contact the Faroese authorities with a request to provide information on recent hunts. → <i>To be addressed before AC22</i>	
7. Review new information on emerging issues posing a potential threat to small cetaceans, such as climate change effects, where possible in collaboration with ACCOBAMS and other partners	AC	At each AC Meeting	1. Habitat Conservation and Management 2. Surveys and Research	→ <i>Still to be addressed</i>	AC21/Inf.3.7.1.a AC21/Inf.3.7.1.b AC21/Inf.3.7.3.a AC21/Inf.3.7.3.b AC21/Inf.3.7.4 AC21/Inf.3.7.5
8. Review best practice approaches to management of marine protected areas for small cetaceans and make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities	AC	At each AC Meeting	1. Habitat Conservation and Management	→ <i>Still to be addressed</i>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
9. Evaluate progress in the implementation of the Recovery Plan for Baltic Harbour Porpoises (Jastarnia Plan), establish further implementation priorities, carry out the periodic review of the Plan and promote the implementation of the Plan	Jastarnia Group (supported by the Secretariat)	Throughout the intersessional period		(AC20/AP1) All Action Points agreed at the 9 th Meeting of the Jastarnia Group were endorsed by the Advisory Committee. (AC20/AP2) The Terms of Reference of the Jastarnia Group and the North Sea Group were amended to allow mutual representation between them. (AC20/AP3) The Jastarnia Group will consider the representation of environmental and fisheries organizations and make a concrete proposal to the next meeting of the Advisory Committee. → Done	AC21/Doc.2.1.1.a (Report JG10) AC21/Doc.2.1.1.b (Draft JG ToR)
10. Evaluate progress in the implementation of the Conservation Plan for Harbour Porpoises in the North Sea, establish further implementation priorities, carry out the periodic review of the Plan and promote the implementation of the Plan	Coordinator/ North Sea Group (supported by the Secretariat)	Throughout the intersessional period		(AC20/AP2) The Terms of Reference of the Jastarnia Group and the North Sea Group were amended to allow mutual representation between them. (AC20/AP4) All Action Points agreed at the 3 rd Meeting of the North Sea Group were endorsed by the Advisory Committee.	AC21/Doc.2.2.1.a (Report NSG3) AC21/Doc.2.2.1.b Rev.1 (Report NS Coordinator)

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11. Evaluate progress in the implementation of the Conservation Plan for Harbour Porpoises in the Western Baltic, the Belt Seas and the Kattegat, establish further implementation priorities, carry out the periodic review of the Plan and promote the implementation of the Plan	Jastarnia Group (supported by the Secretariat)	Throughout the intersessional period		(AC20/AP1) All Action Points agreed at the 9 th Meeting of the Jastarnia Group were endorsed by the Advisory Committee. (AC20/AP2) The Terms of Reference of the Jastarnia Group and the North Sea Group were amended to allow mutual representation between them.	AC21/Doc.2.1.1.a (Report JG10)
12. Consider how the work of ASCOBANS should be extended to take account of the new Agreement Area, including information on ship strikes	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	At each AC Meeting		→ <i>Extension Area WG</i>	AC21/Doc.4.3.1 (Report Extension Area and Large Cetacean WGs)
13. Consider output of informal working group on large cetaceans in the Agreement Area, which summarizes information on the species and addresses aspects of their conservation	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	As appropriate during the intersessional period		(AC20/AP23) Parties were invited to provide information on large cetaceans in their waters to the chair of the Informal Working Group, where appropriate with a regional focus.	AC21/Doc.4.3.1 (Report Extension Area and Large Cetacean WGs)

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14. Review progress of bottlenose dolphin project (TURSIOPS SEAs) and advise on a way forward	AC, led by UK	At each AC Meeting		→ <i>Still to be addressed</i>	
15. Issue call for project proposals and conduct consultation on prioritization prior to each meeting of the Advisory Committee	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting		(AC20/AP18) The meeting recognized SCANS-III as a priority and Parties are urged to provide the matching funding needed. → <i>2014 call done and rated</i>	AC21/Doc.6.2.a (Proposals Received)
16. Seek to develop improved liaison and skill-sharing across the ASCOBANS Area concerning (1) responses to individual or groups of small cetaceans at risk in dangerous circumstances (this would include but not be limited to small cetaceans entering ports and rivers and live entangled animals); and (2) associated investigations into the causes of such problems and the development of strategies to address these issues	AC	During the intersessional period		(AC20/AP17) The Secretariat will ask Parties to provide details of those responsible for cetacean rescue, and what laws require, allow and prohibit in each country. → <i>To be addressed before AC22</i>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
ASCOBANS Meetings, Working Groups and Workshops					
17. Ensure the cycle of Advisory Committee Meetings, with papers circulated one month in advance of the meetings	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	Article 4.2	<p>(AC20/AP40) The 21st Meeting of the Advisory Committee will be held in Gothenburg at the kind invitation of Sweden. Dates will be confirmed in due course.</p> <p>→ <i>Host needed for 2015</i></p> <p>(AC20/AP41) Documents for the next meeting of the Advisory Committee will be divided into meeting documents and information documents.</p> <p>→ <i>Done, AC21 September 2014</i></p>	
18. Seek to secure a host for the 8 th Meeting of Parties at least a year in advance of the meeting; otherwise arrange for it to be held in Bonn	Secretariat	One year before MOP8	Article 4.2	→ <i>Host needed for 2016</i>	
19. Organize meetings of regional working groups (Jastarnia Group, North Sea Group) at intervals defined in each group's ToR	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1, 4.2	<p>→ <i>JG10 April 2014</i></p> <p>→ <i>NSG4 September 2014</i></p> <p>→ <i>Hosts needed for JG11 and NSG5 in 2015</i></p>	

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20. Consider revisions to the national reporting format and make recommendation to the 8 th Meeting of the Parties	AC	During the intersessional period		(AC20/AP28) The Secretariat will lead a consultation process with key players, including the chairs of the intersessional working groups, to determine the content of the new national reporting format. → <i>To be addressed before AC22</i>	AC21/Doc.6.2.b (Activities Requiring Funding) AC21/Doc.12.2 (Revision ANR Format)
21. Organize workshops at the annual conferences of the ECS on a topic of priority interest to ASCOBANS, funding permitting	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting		(AC20/AP29) The Joint Noise Working Group and the Secretariats of ASCOBANS and ACCOBAMS, in consultation with ECS, are requested to prepare a proposal for a workshop on underwater noise to be held in the margins of the 2014 ECS Conference. → <i>Done</i> → <i>AC21 to provide guidance for 2015</i>	AC21/Inf.3.2.3
22. If feasible, hold a joint CMS Family workshop on a subject of common interest such as bycatch	Secretariat	During the intersessional period		→ <i>AC21 to provide guidance</i>	

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23. Support intersessional correspondence working groups as needed	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period		(AC20/AP39) The Secretariat will prepare a list of all intersessional working groups, including their membership and terms of reference, as an annex to the report of this meeting. → <i>Done</i>	
24. Propose priorities for the coming period	AC	AC Meeting before MOP8		→ <i>Task for AC22 in 2015</i>	
Budgetary and Administrative Issues					
25. Report on budgetary and administrative issues to each meeting of the Advisory Committee	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	Article 4.2	(AC20/AP37) Parties accepted all the Secretariat's reports on administrative and budgetary matters for 2012 and 2013.	AC21/Doc.14.1 (Admin Report) AC21/Doc.14.2 (Budget 2013) AC21/Doc.14.3 (Mid-Term Budget 2014)
26. Present a draft budget for the next financial period for consideration at the last meeting of the Advisory Committee prior to MOP8	Secretariat / AC	AC Meeting before MOP8	Article 4.1, 4.2	→ <i>Task for AC22 in 2015</i>	

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27. Prepare draft resolutions on budgetary and administrative issues for consideration at the last meeting of the Advisory Committee prior to MOP8	Secretariat / AC	AC Meeting before MOP8	Article 4.1, 4.2	➔ <i>Task for AC22 in 2015</i>	
28. Encourage Parties and partner organizations to provide voluntary contributions for projects prioritised by the AC or outreach initiatives	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1	(AC20/AP25) Parties were encouraged to provide voluntary contributions in support of the activities outlined in AC20/Doc.6.2.b. (AC20/AP18) The meeting recognized SCANS-III as a priority and Parties are urged to provide the matching funding needed.	AC21/Doc.6.2.b (Activities Requiring Funding)
29. Assist in developing funding arrangements for projects prioritized by the Advisory Committee and Meeting of Parties	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1	(AC20/AP38) Parties agreed to allocate the funds available for conservation projects to the "Preparation for SCANS-III" submitted by the University of St. Andrews, United Kingdom. ➔ <i>Done</i>	AC21/Doc.6.1 (Progress Projects) AC21/Inf.6.1.a AC21/Inf.6.1.b AC21/Inf.6.1.c

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
Communication, Education and Public Awareness					
30. Report on outreach and communication issues to each meeting of the Advisory Committee	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	Article 4.2	→ <i>Done</i>	AC21/Doc.5.2 (Outreach Report)
31. Implement CEPA to raise awareness of issues related to cetacean conservation in the Agreement Area, with a particular focus on outreach to relevant stakeholders, and where possible in collaboration with partner organizations	Secretariat / Parties and partners	Throughout the intersessional period	5. Information and education	(AC20/AP24) The Advisory Committee expressed its appreciation for the donation by the Humane Society International to ASCOBANS outreach activities. (AC20/AP25) Parties were encouraged to provide voluntary contributions in support of the activities outlined in AC20/Doc.6.2.b.	AC21/Doc.5.2 (Outreach Report) AC21/Doc.6.2.b (Activities Requiring Funding)
32. Develop the ASCOBANS website, and other information material as needed, aiming to meet the needs of a wide range of target audiences in the languages of the Agreement Area	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	5. Information and education	(AC20/AP25) Parties were encouraged to provide voluntary contributions in support of the activities outlined in AC20/Doc.6.2.b.	AC21/Doc.5.2 (Outreach Report) AC21/Doc.6.2.b (Activities Requiring Funding)

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33. Support annual celebration of the International Day of the Baltic Harbour Porpoise on the 3 rd Sunday in May	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	5. Information and education	→ <i>Done</i>	AC21/Doc.5.2 (Outreach Report)
34. Facilitate presentation of the ASCOBANS Outreach and Education Award at MOP8	Secretariat / AC	AC Meeting before MOP8	5. Information and education	→ <i>Task for AC22 in 2015</i>	
Cooperation with other Organizations					
35. Identify priorities and improve co-operation between ASCOBANS and the European Union institutions	AC / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1, 4.2	(AC20/AP32) The revised draft Terms of Reference of the Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS MSFD Working Group were endorsed by the Meeting. The draft will be submitted by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat to their Scientific Committee and MOP for their approval. → <i>Done and endorsed</i>	AC21/Inf.13.3.a AC21/Inf.13.3.b AC21/Doc.13.3.1 (Report MSFD WG) AC21/Inf.13.3.1

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<p>36. Ensure close collaboration with the Secretariats and scientific advisory bodies of CMS and other CMS Regional Agreements on all issues of mutual interest</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>	<p>Throughout the intersessional period</p>	<p>Article 4.1, 4.2</p>	<p>(AC20/AP11) It was agreed that the joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS Noise Working Group should be extended to include CMS with appropriately amended Terms of Reference. The Secretariats of ACCOBAMS and CMS are requested to present these to the appropriate bodies for endorsement.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">→ <i>Done, endorsed by ACCOBAMS and CMS</i></p> <p>(AC20/AP30) ASCOBANS National Coordinators should liaise with their CMS National Focal Points to feed any input into the working group developing the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species. ASCOBANS observers are invited to contribute to this process by submitting input to the working group.</p> <p>(AC20/AP31) The Advisory Committee endorsed ASCOBANS' participation in the Migratory Species Champion Programme.</p> <p>(AC20/AP32) The revised draft Terms of Reference of the Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS MSFD Working Group were endorsed by</p>	<p>AC21/Doc.3.2.1 (Report Noise WG)</p> <p>AC21/Inf.3.2.3</p> <p>AC21/Inf.13.1</p> <p>AC21/Doc.13.2 (Strategic Plan)</p> <p>AC21/Doc.13.3.1 (Report MSFD WG)</p>

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				the Meeting. The draft will be submitted by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat to their Scientific Committee and MOP for their approval. → <i>Done and endorsed</i> (AC20/AP33) Sinéad Murphy's offer to co-chair the Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS MSFD Working Group on behalf of ASCOBANS was gratefully accepted. The ACCOBAMS Secretariat would seek a second co-chair from its region. → <i>Done</i>	
37. Seek to cooperate closely with CBD, ECS, HELCOM, ICES, IWC, NAMMCO, OSPAR, UNCLOS and other relevant organizations	Secretariat / AC	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1, 4.2	(AC20/AP10) Parties that are members of OSPAR will provide their comments on the draft Marine Mammal Indicators through their national experts on ICG-COBAM. (AC20/AP14) The Secretariat will liaise with HELCOM and OSPAR to ascertain how ASCOBANS can best support their processes regarding underwater ordnance. → <i>To be addressed before AC22</i>	AC21/Inf.13.1 AC21/Doc.13.4 (Collaboration OSPAR Species) AC21/Doc.13.5 Rev.1 (Dates of Interest)

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				<p>(AC20/AP15) At appropriate fora of HELCOM and OSPAR, Parties will stress the importance of environmentally-friendly removal of underwater ordnance.</p> <p>(AC20/AP16) The Secretariat should collate the information that Parties submit to the appropriate fora in HELCOM and OSPAR relating to underwater ordnance (location, quantity and plans, methods and technologies for its safe removal) to enable the Advisory Committee to make progress with Work Plan Activity 5.</p> <p>→ <i>To be addressed before AC22</i></p>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	ACTION BY	TIMING	LINKS TO AGREEMENT, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN	AC ACTION POINT & STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED DOCUMENTS
38. Work towards establishing positive relationships with other stakeholders, especially the fishing industry and Regional Advisory Councils	AC / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1, 4.2	(AC20/AP34) The Secretariat will seek and facilitate where appropriate stronger stakeholder engagement through meetings and other fora, in order to further the conservation objectives of ASCOBANS. → To be addressed before AC22 (AC20/AP35) National representatives should seek opportunities to participate in local stakeholder meetings.	AC21/Doc.13.4 (Collaboration OSPAR Species)
39. Compile for each meeting of the Advisory Committee a report of representation of ASCOBANS at other meetings and a list of Dates of Interest	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	Article 4.1, 4.2	(AC20/AP36) The representation of ASCOBANS in meetings of other relevant organizations was decided as reflected in Annex 17.	AC21/Inf.13.1 AC21/Doc.13.5 Rev.1 (Dates of Interest)

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40. Insofar as budgetary provisions and guidance by the Advisory Committee allow for it, ensure proper representation at meetings of other relevant organizations	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1	(AC20/AP34) The Secretariat will seek and facilitate where appropriate stronger stakeholder engagement through meetings and other fora, in order to further the conservation objectives of ASCOBANS. → <i>To be addressed before AC22</i> (AC20/AP36) The representation of ASCOBANS in meetings of other relevant organizations was decided as reflected in Annex 17.	AC21/Inf.13.1 AC21/Doc.13.5 Rev.1 (Dates of Interest)
Institutional Issues					
41. Promote accession of non-Party Range States and the European Commission to the Agreement	Secretariat / Parties	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1	(AC20/AP27) Belgium, Lithuania and the United Kingdom were encouraged to complete their acceptance procedures for the 2003 amendment to the Agreement.	AC21/Inf.11.1
42. Present to Parties, each year no later than 30 June, provided all reports have been received sufficiently in advance of that date, a compilation of Annual National Reports	Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	Article 4.2	→ <i>Delayed due to late submission of ANRs by Parties</i>	AC21/Inf.12.1.a AC21/Inf.12.1.b AC21/Inf.12.1.c AC21/Inf.12.1.d AC21/Inf.12.1.e AC21/Inf.12.1.f

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					AC21/Inf.12.1.g AC21/Inf.12.1.h AC21/Inf.12.1.i AC21/Inf.12.1.j
43. Present to the Meeting of Parties a summary of, <i>inter alia</i> , progress made and difficulties encountered since the last Meeting of Parties	Secretariat	At MOP8	Article 4.3	→ <i>Due in 2016</i>	
44. Support Parties, Range States and Agreement bodies in implementing this Work Plan, in so far as primary responsibility does not lie with the Secretariat	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	Article 4.1	→ <i>Ongoing</i>	

Other Action Points

(AC20/AP26) There was unanimous endorsement of the proposal by Poland to give the ASCOBANS Lifetime Award to Dr. Karl-Hermann Kock. The Secretariat will have a glass award prepared and will look for the appropriate occasion to make the presentation.

→ Done, award handed over at JG10

(AC20/AP42) Sami Hassani (France) and Penina Blankett (Finland) were unanimously elected as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee for another term.