

Agenda Item 13.4

Relations with other Bodies

Cooperation with Other Stakeholders

Document 13.4

**Collaboration with OSPAR on  
Threatened and/or Declining Species**

**Action Requested**

- Take note
- Give guidance
- Submit relevant information to OSPAR

Submitted by

Secretariat



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



## Collaboration with OSPAR on Threatened and/or Declining Species

1. In early August, the Secretariat received an invitation from the OSPAR Secretariat to participate as an observer organization in the ICG-POSH (ICG on the implementation follow up of measures for the protection and conservation of species and habitats). Heidrun Frisch was accordingly nominated to represent both the CMS and the ASCOBANS Secretariats in this group, since several of the species on the OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species are of interest to the CMS Family. The first meeting of ICG-POSH is foreseen for 13-14 January 2014.
2. The Terms of Reference for ICG-POSH are attached as Annex 1.
3. On 20 August, the OSPAR Secretariat sent the following request to BDC contact points and observers and ICG-POSH nominees:

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to initiate work for Product B-3 under the new JAMP 2014-2021 “Threatened and/or declining species and habitats (includes impact of Human Activities)” has the objective to assess:

- the status of threatened and/or declining species and habitats and whether it is changing;
- the main pressures from human activities (e.g. fisheries) affecting species and habitats on the OSPAR List are changing;
- whether the actions and measures taken to address these pressures have been effective

As one of the first steps for this current meeting cycle, this product calls for **a review the availability of species data from Contracting Parties and other organisations** (see also BDC 2014 (§2.29) and Terms of Reference for ICG-POSH (§12.f.ii).

In lieu of the fact that no task lead has been identified, the Secretariat has prepared an excel template to facilitate contributions to this review by Contracting parties and Organisations on available species data (focusing on sources of data for OSPAR Listed species). Guidance notes are also attached.

Thank you in advance for your active contribution to this task. This information will serve as a critical input to the first meeting of ICG-POSH, as well as a number of other areas of OSPAR’s work.

Please return completed spreadsheets to [secretariat@ospar.org](mailto:secretariat@ospar.org)

DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE: 31 October 2014

4. The attachments mentioned in the message above are annexed to this document as Annex 2 and Annex 3.
5. The Advisory Committee is requested to consider whether any information should be passed on to OSPAR, either through the ASCOBANS Secretariat or by each Party as desired.

OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic  
Meeting of the OSPAR Commission  
Cascais (Portugal): 23-27 June 2014

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## Terms of Reference for a proposed ICG on the implementation follow up of measures for the protection and conservation of species and habitat (ICG-POSH)

### Background

1. The OSPAR Commission's vision is a clean, healthy and biologically diverse North-East Atlantic ocean, used sustainably. The work to achieve this will be guided by the application of an ecosystem approach the comprehensive, integrated management of human activities based on the best available scientific knowledge about the ecosystem and its dynamics, in order to identify and take action on influences which are critical to the health of the marine ecosystems (cf. Agreement 2010-03).
2. OSPAR Ministers committed in 2010 to halt the decline of species and habitats, in particular to restore threatened and/or declining species and habitats by establishing measures to protect such species and habitats from the pressures of human activities.(cf. §24 Bergen statement).
3. In order to progress this work, and on the basis of the OSPAR List of threatened and/or declining species and habitats agreed in 2008 (cf. Agreement 2008-6), there has been an extensive body of work to develop the understanding of the current state of these species and habitats through the development of background documents, and a process for developing and agreeing measures. The process to establish recommendations for their protection and conservation has also progressed significantly.
4. There is now a need to understand how these species and habitats are responding to pressures, and the measures that are being agreed to enhance their protection and conservation, in order to be in a position to deliver assessments that will provide a response to the objectives of the North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy i.e. to:
  - a. improve the status of threatened and/or declining species and habitats and ensure that they are effectively conserved, working, where appropriate, with other competent authorities.
  - b. ensure that the effects of human activities and pressures on the marine environment, individually or cumulatively, do not adversely affect species, habitats and ecosystems, in particular those on the OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species and Habitats.
5. These objectives can also serve the needs of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive and other relevant directives, both monitoring and assessment requirements and programmes of measures.

### Objective

6. It is the objective of ICG-POSH during the period 2014/2015 to:
  - a. establish the process to implement those actions in the Recommendations for Contracting Parties to be undertaken whilst acting collectively within the framework of the OSPAR Commission;
  - b. deliver the relevant products described under Theme B of the JAMP for 2014-2015, in close cooperation with ICG-COBAM and ICG-MPA.

- c. to ensure and improve the effective and efficient implementation of the species and habitat Recommendations;
- d. ensure cross committee liaison where this is appropriate to the implementation of the Recommendations;
- e. to identify opportunities for work with national/ international competent organisations whose mandates intersect with OSPAR with respect to the species and habitat Recommendations.
- f. to advise on possible arrangements to review the OSPAR list (Agreement 2008/6) and background documents.

#### Linkages to other work streams

7. The tasks set out in these terms of reference have relevance to a number of work streams within OSPAR:

- a. reporting of regionally coherent programmes of measures under the MSFD;
- b. delivery of biodiversity indicators for MSFD.
- c. supporting the work of EIHA looking at reducing the effect (individually and cumulatively) of human induced pressures on ecosystem components;
- d. the delivery of the work of ICG-COBAM and ICG-MPA.

#### Practical arrangements

8. ICG-POSH will be coordinated by BDC and will report to both the Biodiversity Committee and the Environmental Impact of Human Activities Committee.

9. The ICG-POSH will be convened in the first instance by the chairs of BDC and EIHA, or their nominated representative, until such time as co-convenors have been identified. The ICG is open to all Contracting Parties and Observers in accordance with the OSPAR Rules of Procedure.

10. ICG-POSH will work through correspondence, making use of appropriate electronic communication means. One face to face meeting will be scheduled for the period 2014/2015 to be held in late 2014 at the kind invitation of Spain.

11. A work programme will be developed to ensure the delivery of these Terms of Reference.

#### Activities for 2014/2015

12. These terms of reference are relevant for the OSPAR meeting cycle 2014/2015 and are considered to be the first necessary steps to progress towards the implementation and follow up of the OSPAR Recommendations for the protection and conservation of threatened and/or declining species as well as key deliverables under the JAMP 2014-2021.

##### *Implementation and follow up of Recommendations*

- a. make arrangements and establish criteria for the first overview assessment of reporting against the species and habitat Recommendations (to be delivered in 2017)
- b. identify activities to aid Contracting Parties in the implementation of their collective responsibilities under the species and habitat Recommendations
- c. assess the recommendations on species and habitats to establish an overview of science and knowledge needs and serve as an input to the OSPAR science needs agenda

##### *Implementation of the JAMP*

- d. undertake a review of existing assessment procedures for species and habits.

*Data and information management*

- e. establish the data needs for the assessments identified under the JAMP, determining whether there is sufficient data available and where necessary proposing how to fill data and information gaps.
- f. maintain oversight of the data and information management relating to the status of OSPAR Listed Species and Habitats, in line with the OSPAR data and information management strategy and for this period:
  - i. review and revision of the OSPAR Habitat database
  - ii. review the availability of species data

*Development and update of background documents, recommendations and list*

- g. maintain oversight of the documentation concerning the background justification and Recommendations relating to the OSPAR List;
  - i. developing a process for periodically reviewing the:
    - List of Threatened and/or Declining species and habitats.
    - Background documents including their relationship to status assessment ;
    - Recommendations
  - ii. to ensure OSPAR programmes and measures (including recommendation) are in place, where appropriate for all species and habitats on the list, as soon as possible

Scientific Name	Common name		OSPAR Regions where the species occurs	OSPAR Regions where the species is under threat and/or in decline	Information about available data					
	English	French			Dataset name	Data scale: National (N), Regional (R), Sub-National (SN), Sub-Regional (SR)	Description of area covered	Data type: Observed/Predicted	Data source: Weblink	Data administrator contact details
<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>										
<i>Arctica islandica</i>	Ocean quahog	<i>Cyprina islandica</i> , ( <i>Praire d'Islande</i> ), ( <i>Clam de Islande</i> )	I, II, III, IV	II						
<i>Megabalanus azoricus</i>	Azorean barnacle	<i>Balane des Azores</i>	V	All where it occurs						
<i>Nucella lapillus</i>	Dog whelk	<i>Pourpre petite pierre</i>	All	II, III, IV						
<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	Flat oyster	<i>Huître plate</i>	I, II, III, IV	II						
<i>Patella ulyssiponensis aspera</i>	Azorean limpet	<i>Patelle des Azores</i>	V	All where it occurs						
<b>BIRDS</b>										
<i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>	Lesser black-backed gull	<i>Goéland brun</i>	I	All where it occurs						
<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Ivory gull	<i>Mouette blanche</i>	I	All where it occurs						
<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>	Steller's eider	<i>Eider de Steller</i>	I	All where it occurs						
<i>Puffinus assimilis baroli</i> (auct.incert.)	Little shearwater	<i>Puffin de Macaronésie</i>	V	All where it occurs						
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Balearic shearwater	<i>Puffin des Baléares</i>	II, III, IV, V	All where it occurs						
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Black-legged kittiwake	<i>Mouette tridactyle</i>	I, II, III, IV, V	I, II						
<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	Roseate tern	<i>Sterne de dougall</i>	II, III, IV, V	All where it occurs						
<i>Uria aalge</i> – Iberian population (synonyms: <i>Uria aalge albionis</i> , <i>Uria aalge ibericus</i> )	Iberian guillemot	<i>Guillemot de Troil</i>	IV	All where it occurs						
<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Thick-billed murre	<i>Guillemot de Brünic</i>	I	All where it occurs						
<b>FISH</b>										
<i>Acipenser sturio</i>	Sturgeon	<i>Esturgeon d'Europe</i>	II, IV	All where it occurs						
<i>Alosa alosa</i>	Allis shad	<i>Alose vraie ou Grande Alose</i>	II, III, IV	All where it occurs						
<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	European eel	<i>Anguille européenne</i>	I, II, III, IV	All where it occurs						
<i>Centroscyrnus coelepis</i>	Portuguese dogfish	<i>Pailona commun</i>	All	All where it occurs						
<i>Centrophorus granulosus</i>	Gulper shark	<i>Squale-chagrin commun</i>	IV, V	All where it occurs						
<i>Centrophorus squamosus</i>	Leafscale gulper shark	<i>Petit squale</i>	All	All where it occurs						

<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	Basking shark	<i>Requin pèlerin</i>	All	All where it occurs							
<i>Coregonus lavaretus oxyrinchus</i> (Linnæus, 1758)	Houting	<i>Corégone oxyringue</i>	II	All where it occurs							
<i>Dipturus batis</i> (synonym: <i>Raja batis</i> )	Common Skate	<i>Pocheteau gris</i>	All	All where it occurs							
<i>Raja montagui</i> (synonym: <i>Dipturus montagui</i> )	Spotted Ray	<i>Raie douce</i>	II, III, IV, V	All where it occurs							
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	<i>Cabillaud (morue)</i>	All	II, III							
<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i> (synonym: <i>Hippocampus ramulosus</i> )	Long-snouted seahorse	<i>Cheval de mer(hippocampe) à long bec</i>	II, III, IV, V	All where it occurs							
<i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i>	Short-snouted seahorse	<i>Cheval de mer(hippocampe) à court bec</i>	II, III, IV, V	All where it occurs							
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	<i>Hoplostète orange</i>	I, V	All where it occurs							
<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	<i>Requin taupe</i>	All	All where it occurs							
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Sea lamprey	<i>Lamproie marine</i>	I, II, III, IV	All where it occurs							
<i>Raja clavata</i>	Thornback skate / ray	<i>Raie bouclée</i>	I, II, III, IV, V	II							
<i>Rostroraja alba</i>	White skate	<i>Raie à bec pointu</i>	II, III, IV	All where it occurs							
<i>Salmo salar</i>	Salmon	<i>Saumon de l'Atlantique</i>	I, II, III, IV	All where it occurs							
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	[Northeast Atlantic] spurdog	<i>Aiguillat commun</i>	All	All where it occurs							
<i>Squatina squatina</i>	Angel shark	<i>Ange de mer</i>	II, III, IV	All where it occurs							
<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	Bluefin tuna	<i>Thon rouge</i>	V	All where it occurs							
<b>REPTILES</b>											
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead turtle	<i>Tortue caouanne</i>	IV, V	All where it occurs							
<i>Dermodochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback turtle	<i>Tortue luth</i>	All	All where it occurs							
<b>MAMMALS</b>											
<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	Bowhead whale	<i>Baleine franche boréale</i>	I	All where it occurs							
<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blue whale	<i>Baleine bleue</i>	All	All where it occurs							
<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	Northern right whale	<i>Baleine franche noire</i>	All	All where it occurs							
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	Harbour porpoise	<i>Marsouin commun</i>	All	II, III							

**Species Data Sources – Reporting Format Guidance notes**

Scientific Name	Common name		OSPAR Regions where the species occurs	OSPAR Regions where the species is under threat and/or in decline	Information about available data					
	English	French			Dataset name	Data scale: National (N), Regional (R), Sub-National (SN), Sub-Regional (SR)	Description of area covered	Data type: Observed/Predicted	Data source: Weblink	Data administrator contact details

Column Header	Expected Input	
Scientific Name	This information is taken from the <i>OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species and Habitats (2008-6)</i> and requires no user input.	
Common Name (English, French)		
OSPAR Regions where the species occurs		
OSPAR Regions where the species is under threat and/or decline		
Dataset name	The name of the dataset which contains the information on the particular species (e.g. Seabirds at Sea data)	
Information about available data	Data scale: National (N), Regional (R), Sub-National (SN), Sub-Regional (SR)	The scale of the identified dataset. Choose from “N”, “R”, “SN” or “SR”
	Description of area covered	A textual description of the area covered, e.g. “Wadden Sea” or “Norfolk coastline”
	Data type: Observed/Predicted	The type of data available. Choose from “Observed” or “Predicted”
	Data source: Weblink	Where the data can be accessed if available online, address as a URL.
	Data administrator contact details	The contact details for those responsible for the maintenance/storage/ of or access to the dataset
	Additional documentation	Any additional information or documentation about the dataset