

Agenda Item 1

Opening of the Meeting

Opening of the Scientific Session

Document 1.3

**ASCOBANS Work Plan 2017-2020 -  
Progress**

**Action Requested**

- Take note
- Comment

Submitted by

Secretariat



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

## **Secretariat's Note**

The Rules of Procedure adopted at the ASCOBANS 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Parties remain in force until and unless an amendment is called for and adopted.

### ASCOBANS Work Plan 2017-2020 - Progress

Note: Related Resolutions of past Meetings of Parties are indicated for each Work Plan Activity. The colour codes for the status are:

- Done
- Partly done or ongoing activity
- No progress
- Requires action by AC23

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
<b>Habitat Conservation and Management</b>					
<b>Fisheries-related Threats</b>					
1. Review new information on <b>bycatch</b> and associated strandings, bycatch mitigation and monitoring measures, including remote electronic monitoring and any further new techniques as well as local initiatives, and fisheries effort. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.3 Jastarnia Plan</a> <a href="#">8.4 Common Dolphins</a> <a href="#">8.5 Bycatch</a> <a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Ongoing, to be covered by AC24</li> <li>→ Covered by 2018 National Reporting Cycle</li> </ul>	Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)
2. Develop a joint working group with ACCOBAMS on bycatch.	<a href="#">8.5 Bycatch</a>	AC (incl. Bycatch Working Group) / Secretariat	As soon as possible	→ Joint Bycatch Working Group of ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS to be established ASAP	
3. Review whether the following remain appropriate, bearing in mind the overall	<a href="#">8.5 Bycatch</a> <a href="#">5.7 Research</a>	AC (incl. relevant	2018	→ Ongoing, workshop held in February 2017	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
<p>objective of the Agreement to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for small cetaceans, and to make recommendations to Parties as appropriate:</p> <p>(a) the current maximum annual removal rate of 1.7 per cent of the best available estimate of abundance</p> <p>(b) the current intermediate precautionary aim of reducing bycatch to less than 1 per cent of the best available estimate of abundance</p> <p>(c) the objective of restoring and/or maintaining management units or populations to 80 per cent or more of their carrying capacity</p> <p>(d) the assessment/management units that have been proposed for regularly occurring species.</p>	<p><a href="#">5.5 Incidental Take</a>  <a href="#">3.3 Incidental Take</a></p>	<p>Working Groups)</p>		<p>→ <i>Host needed for follow-up workshop</i></p>	
<p>4. Make recommendations on appropriate triggers indicating when an environmental limit (an unacceptable interaction) is at risk of being reached or exceeded.</p>	<p><a href="#">8.5 Bycatch</a></p>	<p>AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)</p>	<p>2018</p>	<p>→ <i>Ongoing, to be covered by AC24</i></p> <p>→ <i>Covered by 2018 National Reporting Cycle</i></p>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
5. Review new information on <b>resource depletion</b> and its impacts on small cetacean populations. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	→ <i>National reporting in 2018 (for 2017) covered resource depletion</i>	Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)
<b>Disturbance (incl. potential physical impacts)</b>					
6. Review new information on <b>underwater noise</b> , its impacts on small cetaceans and their prey species, mitigation measures, technological developments, best practices and guidelines. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.6 Ocean Energy</a> <a href="#">8.8 Munitions</a> <a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a> <a href="#">8.11 Noise EIA Guidelines</a> <a href="#">6.2 Offshore Construction</a> <a href="#">5.4 Adverse Effects</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2017	→ <i>Covered by 2017 National Reporting Cycle and AC23</i> → <i>National Reporting Format for 2020 will also address underwater noise; review of the format required</i>	
7. Review new information on <b>ocean energy</b> , its impacts on small cetaceans, mitigation measures, technological developments, best practices and guidelines. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.6 Ocean Energy</a> <a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a> <a href="#">6.2 Offshore Construction</a> <a href="#">5.4 Adverse Effects</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2017	→ <i>Covered by 2017 National Reporting Cycle and AC23</i> → <i>National Reporting Format for 2020 will also address ocean energy; review of the format required</i>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
8. Review new information on the <b>cetacean watching industry</b> , impacts on small cetaceans, best practices and guidelines. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		<b>Inf.9.3</b> (CMS COP12)
9. Review new information on <b>recreational sea use</b> , impacts on small cetaceans, best practices and guidelines. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		<b>Inf.9.3</b> (CMS COP12)
10. Review new information on <b>other sources of disturbance</b> , impacts on small cetaceans, best practices and guidelines. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a> <a href="#">5.4 Adverse Effects</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		<b>Inf.9.3</b> (CMS COP12)
<b>Habitat Change and Degradation (incl. potential physical impacts)</b>					
11. Review new information on <b>underwater munitions</b> , their impacts on small cetaceans and cetacean habitat, and methods for their environmentally-friendly removal. Make	<a href="#">8.8 Munitions</a> <a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2017	<p>→ Covered by 2017 National Reporting Cycle and AC23</p> <p>→ National Reporting Format for 2020 will also address underwater munitions;</p>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.				<i>review of the format required</i>	
12. Review new information on <b>marine debris</b> (ingestion and entanglement), including microplastics, and its impacts on small cetaceans. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	<p>→ <i>Ongoing, to be covered by AC24</i></p> <p>→ <i>Covered by 2018 National Reporting Cycle</i></p>	<b>Inf.2.a-j</b> (National Reports)
13. Review new information on other forms of <b>pollution</b> and hazardous substances, and their impacts on small cetaceans and cetacean habitat. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.7 PCBs</a> <a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a> <a href="#">7.4 Chemical Pollution</a> <a href="#">5.7 Research</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		
14. Review new information on <b>ship strikes</b> and their impacts on small cetaceans. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a> <a href="#">5.4 Adverse Effects</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		
15. Review new information on <b>climate change</b> and ocean acidification, and the impacts these have on small cetaceans,	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant	2019		

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
their prey and their habitat. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.		Working Groups)			
16. Review new information on <b>physical habitat change</b> , e.g. from construction, and its impacts on small cetaceans, their prey and their habitat. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		
17. Review new information on <b>any other issues</b> , including emerging issues posing a potential threat, and the impact they have on small cetaceans, their prey and their habitat. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		
<b>Management of Cumulative Impacts</b>					
18. Review best practice approaches to management of cumulative impacts on small cetaceans and their habitats, such as marine spatial planning. Make recommendations to Parties	<a href="#">8.9 Cumulative Impacts</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2017	<p>→ Covered by 2017 National Reporting Cycle and AC23</p> <p>→ National Reporting Format for 2020 will also address cumulative impacts; review of the format required</p>	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
and other relevant authorities for further action.					
19. Contribute to the development of risk maps showing the spatial and temporal (by season) distribution of activities that have an impact on cetaceans, including information provided in National Reports, taking into account the work done by other organizations (funding may be required).	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a>	AC	2020		
<b>Area-based Conservation / Marine Protected Areas</b>					
20. Review best practice approaches to management of marine protected areas for small cetaceans. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a> <a href="#">5.7 Research</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2019		
21. Contribute to the development of a map of MPAs where cetaceans form part of the selection criteria, for the entire ASCOBANS Area, including information provided in National Reports, taking into account the work done by other	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a>	AC	2020		

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
organizations (funding may be required).					
<b>Species Action Plans and Regional Initiatives</b>					
22. 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.	<a href="#">8.3 Jastarnia Plan</a> <a href="#">7.1 Porpoise Conservation</a> <a href="#">6.1 Jastarnia and North Sea Plans</a>	Jastarnia Group	At each annual meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	<b>Doc.3.1.a</b> (Report JG14) <b>Doc.3.1.b</b> (Progress Report Jastarnia Plan)
23. 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.	<a href="#">7.1 Porpoise Conservation</a> <a href="#">6.1 Jastarnia and North Sea Plans</a>	North Sea Group	At each annual meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	<b>Doc.2.2.b</b> (Progress Report North Sea Plan)
24. 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	<a href="#">7.1 Porpoise Conservation</a>	Jastarnia Group	At each annual meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	<b>Doc.3.3</b> (Progress Report WBBK Plan)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
Plan and promote the implementation of the Plan.					
25. Finalize the Conservation Plan for Common Dolphins and circulate it to the Parties for adoption.	<a href="#">8.4 Common Dolphins</a>	AC	2017	→ Sent to Parties 15 June 2018	<b>Doc.3.4</b> (Draft Common Dolphin Action Plan)
26. Review progress and actions in the “Extension Area”, maintain or establish collaboration, as appropriate.	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a> <a href="#">7.3 Actions in Extension Area</a> <a href="#">5.3 Extension of Area</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	At each AC meeting	→ Ongoing, addressed partly by several agenda items at AC24	
<b>Surveys and Research</b>					
<b>Biological Information</b>					
27. Review new information on population size, distribution, structure, life-history parameters and causes of any changes in the ASCOBANS Area of populations of small cetaceans. Make appropriate recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities.	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a> <a href="#">5.7 Research</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	→ Ongoing → AC24 to provide recommendations, as appropriate	<b>Inf.2.a-j</b> (National Reports)
<b>Monitoring Programmes</b>					
28. Review new information on monitoring programmes	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a>	AC (incl. relevant)	2018	→ Ongoing	<b>Inf.2.a-j</b> (National Reports)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
relevant for small cetaceans, their prey and their habitat. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">5.7 Research</a>	Working Groups)		→ AC24 to provide recommendations, as appropriate	
<b>Dedicated Surveys and Other Relevant Research</b>					
29. Review new information on dedicated surveys and other research relevant for small cetaceans, their prey and their habitat. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a> <a href="#">5.7 Research</a> <a href="#">4.7 Populations</a> <a href="#">3.5 Population Studies</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	→ Ongoing → AC24 to provide recommendations, as appropriate	Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)
30. Contribute to the development of maps of survey effort, including information provided in National Reports, taking into account the work done by other organizations where appropriate (funding may be required).	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a>	AC	2020		
<b>Project Funding</b>					
31. Issue call for project proposals when instructed to do so by the Advisory Committee, and conduct consultation on prioritization to the next meeting.		Secretariat	When instructed		Doc.11.1 (Activities Requiring Funding)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
					<b>Doc.18.2.b</b> (Budget mid-2017)
32. Prepare for each meeting of the Advisory Committee an overview of approved activities requiring funding.		Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	<b>Doc11.1</b> (Activities Requiring Funding)
<b>Use of Bycatches and Strandings</b>					
<b>Stranding Networks</b>					
33. Review new information on the establishment and functionality of stranding networks, especially with a view to facilitating liaison and skill-sharing. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.10 Stranding Response</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	→ Ongoing → AC24 to provide recommendations, as appropriate	<b>Inf.2.a-j</b> (National Reports)
34. Engage actively in the ongoing work on best practice guidelines for stranding events in the frameworks of the International Whaling Commission and ACCOBAMS.	<a href="#">8.10 Stranding Response</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups) / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	
35. Facilitate development of guidelines for responses to individual or groups of small	<a href="#">8.10 Stranding Response</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)			

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
cetaceans at risk in dangerous circumstances.					
<b>Strandings</b>					
36. Review new information provided through the national reports. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a> <a href="#">8.10 Stranding Response</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	→ Ongoing → AC24 to provide recommendations, as appropriate	Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)
37. Engage actively in the ongoing work on best practice guidelines for necropsies in the frameworks of the International Whaling Commission, the European Cetacean Society and ACCOBAMS.	<a href="#">8.10 Stranding Response</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups) / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	
38. Continue monitoring new information on the causes of strandings and mortality of cetaceans, as well as best practice guidance on stranding responses and necropsies, and to make recommendations to Parties as appropriate.	<a href="#">8.10 Stranding Response</a> <a href="#">5.7 Research</a>	AC (incl. relevant Working Groups)	2018	→ Ongoing → AC24 to provide recommendations, as appropriate	Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)
39. Contribute to the development of a map showing location and numbers of strandings (both dead and alive), including information	<a href="#">8.1 National Reporting</a>	AC	2020		AC23/Inf.9.1.a (strandings database)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
provided in National Reports, taking into account the work done by other organizations where appropriate.					Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)
<b>Information and Education</b>					
<b>Information, Outreach and Education</b>					
40. Make efforts to implement the existing (and possible future) Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Plan.		Parties / Partners / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	Doc.10.1 (outreach report)
41. Review and revise, if necessary, the ASCOBANS Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Plan, in alignment with the Communication Strategy for Migratory Species (currently in draft).		AC / Secretariat	2019		
42. Develop the ASCOBANS website, including the children's 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.	<a href="#">5.8 Education and Promotion</a>	Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	Doc.10.1 (outreach report)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
43. Support annual celebration of the International Day of the Baltic Harbour Porpoise on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in May.	<a href="#">8.3 Jastarnia Plan</a>	Parties / Partners / Secretariat	Every year	→ Done for 2017 and 2018	Doc.10.1 (outreach report)
44. Facilitate presentation of the ASCOBANS Outreach and Education Award at MOP9.		Secretariat / AC	2019		
45. Take advantage of attendance at other fora to give presentations or make information available on topics related to ASCOBANS.		Secretariat / Parties / Partners	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	Doc.10.1 (outreach report)
46. Report on outreach and communication issues to each meeting of the Advisory Committee.		Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	Doc.10.1 (outreach report)
<b>Stakeholder Involvement</b>					
47. Work towards strengthening or establishing positive relationships with stakeholders, especially the fishing industry and European fisheries Advisory Councils.		AC / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	
<b>Institutional Issues</b>					
<b>Meetings, Working Groups and Workshops</b>					
48. Ensure Advisory Committee Meetings are organized as		Secretariat	For each AC Meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	Inf.1.2.b (List of documents)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
scheduled, with papers circulated one month in advance of the meetings.					
49. Arrange for a special session dealing with a species selected by the previous meeting at each meeting of the Advisory Committee, covering issues such as population status and structure, distribution, abundance, life history, threats and pressures, the conservation status and recommendations for research and conservation actions.		AC / Secretariat	For each AC Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ AC23: <i>white-beaked dolphin</i></li> <li>→ AC24: <i>Atlantic white-sided dolphin</i></li> <li>→ AC24 to make recommendations, as appropriate</li> <li>→ AC24 to choose species to be considered at AC25</li> </ul>	<b>Inf.4.1.a-b</b> (species reviews)
50. Organize meetings of regional working groups (Jastarnia Group, North Sea Group) at intervals defined in each group's ToR.		Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Jastarnia Group (12-14 March, Copenhagen)</li> <li>→ 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the North Sea Group (24 September, Vilnius)</li> </ul>	<b>Doc.3.1.a</b> (Report JG14) <b>Doc.3.2.a</b> (Report NSG7)
51. Organize workshops including at the annual conferences of the ECS on topics of priority interest to ASCOBANS, funding permitting.		Secretariat	As instructed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS/RAC-SPA workshop on marine debris and strandings held at ECS</li> <li>→ AC24 to provide guidance on future ECS proposals</li> </ul>	<b>Inf.2.3.a</b> (ECS workshop report)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
52. Support intersessional correspondence working groups as needed.		Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	
53. Seek to secure a host for the 9 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of Parties at least a year in advance of the meeting; otherwise arrange for it to be held in Bonn.		Secretariat	2019		
<b>Budgetary and Administrative Matters</b>					
54. Report on budgetary and administrative issues to each meeting of the Advisory Committee.		Secretariat	At each AC Meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	<b>Doc.18.1.a</b> (Admin report) <b>Doc.18.2.a</b> (Budget 2017) <b>Doc.18.2.b</b> (Budged mid-2018)
55. Prepare draft budget options and resolutions on budgetary and administrative issues for consideration at the last meeting of the Advisory Committee prior to MOP9.		Secretariat / AC	2019		
56. Encourage Parties and partner organizations to provide voluntary contributions for projects prioritized by the AC or outreach initiatives.		Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing → Voluntary contributions encouraged	<b>Doc.11.1</b> (Activities Requiring Funding)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
57. Develop funding arrangements for projects prioritized by the Advisory Committee and Meeting of Parties.		Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period		<b>Doc.11.1</b> (Activities Requiring Funding)
<b>Cooperation with Other Organizations</b>					
58. Identify priorities and improve co-operation between ASCOBANS and institutions of the European Union.		AC / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	
59. Ensure close collaboration with the Secretariats and scientific advisory bodies of the CMS Family on all issues of mutual interest.		Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	<b>Inf.9.3</b> (CMS COP12)
60. Seek to implement the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 (CMS Resolution 11.2) and consider the development of sub-targets.		AC	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	<b>Inf.9.3</b> (CMS COP12)
61. Seek to cooperate closely with CBD, ECS, HELCOM, ICES, IWC, NAMMCO, OSPAR, UNCLOS, UNEP and other relevant organizations.	<a href="#">8.6 Ocean Energy</a> <a href="#">8.7 PCBs</a> <a href="#">8.8 Munitions</a> <a href="#">8.10 Stranding Response</a>	AC / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
	<a href="#">5.8 Education and Promotion</a>				
62. Seek to collaborate with the ICES Working Group on Bycatch of Protected Species (WGBYC), the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) established by the European Union, the Regional Coordination Groups, and other relevant organizations addressing bycatch.	<a href="#">8.5 Bycatch</a>	AC	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	<b>Doc.3.1.b</b> <b>Doc.3.2.b</b> <b>Doc.3.3</b> (Progress reports for HP Action Plans)
63. Transmit information on the effects of PCBs on small cetaceans to UNEP, the Stockholm Convention, the CLRTAP Protocol on POPs, HELCOM and OSPAR for further consideration and possible action, and seek to engage with these processes as far as feasible.	<a href="#">8.7 PCBs</a>	Secretariat / AC	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	
64. Seek to strengthen collaboration with civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations.		AC / Partners / Secretariat	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
65. Compile a list of Dates of Interest and report back to each meeting of the Advisory Committee on attendance at such meetings.		Secretariat / Parties / Partners	At each AC Meeting	→ Done for AC23 and AC24	Doc.9.4 (Dates of interest)
66. 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ ECS 2018</li> <li>→ Meeresumwelt-Symposium (BSH, Hamburg)</li> <li>→ Progress in Marine Conservation (BfN, Stralsund)</li> </ul>	Doc.10.1 (outreach report)
<b>National Reports</b>					
67. Develop the sections of the reporting format one by one, starting with those to be considered in each report and at the first Advisory Committee Meeting after MOP8.		AC	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Done for AC23/AC24</li> <li>→ National Reporting Format for 2020 will address the same issues as 2016/2017; review of the format required</li> </ul>	Inf.2.0 (National reporting template)
68. In developing the detail of each section, consult experts on the subjects in order to ensure that essential information is gathered in a form that standardizes responses and lends itself to statistical analysis as far as possible, and decide which		AC	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Done for AC23/AC24</li> <li>→ National Reporting Format for 2020 will address the same issues as 2016/2017; review of the format required</li> </ul>	Inf.2.0 (National reporting template)

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
topics should be reported on by region.					
69. Make full use of the information submitted in order to assess progress in the implementation of the Agreement and make recommendations to Parties.		AC	Annually	→ Ongoing	Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)
70. Tailor the agenda for each of the meetings of the Advisory Committee to reflect the topics selected for the previous year's national reports.		AC	Annually	→ Done for AC24	Doc.1.2.a (Provisional agenda) Doc.1.2.b (Annotated agenda)
<b>Other Matters</b>					
71. Consider output of the 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	→ No progress → AC24 to provide guidance on appropriate way to handle this activity in future AC agendas	
72. Promote accession of non-Party Range States and the European Commission to the Agreement.		Secretariat / Parties	Throughout the intersessional period	→ Ongoing	
73. Present to the Meeting of Parties a summary of, <i>inter alia</i> ,		Secretariat	At MOP9		

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY	LINK TO EXTANT RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY	TIMING	STATUS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	RELATED AC24 DOCUMENTS
progress made and difficulties encountered since the last Meeting of Parties.					
74. 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	→ Ongoing	
75. 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	→ Not done, only 8 out of 10 national reports on 23 August 2018	Inf.2.a-j (National Reports)