Provisional Annotated Agenda

1 Introduction
   The Chairman will open the meeting at 14.00 hrs on Monday, 13 March.
   Welcome to Finland as new Party.

2 Adoption of Rules of procedure

3 Adoption of the Agenda

4 AC Triennial Workplan 2000 – 2003
   4.1 Next Triennial Workplan
      Chairman and Vice-Chairman will present an outline of a Workplan for the next Triennium.
   4.2 Preparations for MOP 3
      The United Kingdom will present an update on preparations for the upcoming meeting in Bristol; Recommendations.

5 Matters related to research
   5.1 Bycatch issues
      5.1.1 Preparations for the meeting and workshop “A review of bycatch mitigation measures with special reference to the ASCOBANS area”
         The Chairman will present an update on progress in preparing this workshop.
      5.1.2 Other matters
         German paper on echolocation behaviour of harbour porpoises.
   5.2 Disturbance by seismic surveys
      Information submitted by Parties in response to the request of the 6th AC meeting.
   5.3 Disturbance by high-speed ferries
      Secretariat’s update on high-speed ferries in the ASCOBANS and neighbouring areas.
   5.4 Post-mortem research and stranding schemes
      5.4.1 Information submitted by Parties in response to cetaceans stranding schemes questionnaire
      5.4.2 Other matters
         Belgium will present a paper on harbour porpoise strandings on Belgian beaches from 1990 to 1999.
   5.5 Pollutants issues
      5.5.1 Report by pollutants WG on relevant publications
      5.5.2 Other matters
         German paper on the influence of pollutants on the endocrine and immune systems of harbour porpoises in German waters.
   5.6 Further survey and research needs
   5.7 Recovery plan for harbour porpoises in the Baltic Sea
      The Chairman will present an update on progress made in elaborating this plan.
   5.8 Fisheries statistics
      Data and comments on fishing effort submitted by the Parties.
6 Matters related to Parties and Range States

6.1 National legislation
   6.1.1 Potential conflicts between national legislation and the Agreement
   German letter on this issue.
   6.1.2 Other matters

6.2 Protected areas
   German statement on the specially protected area off the islands of Sylt and Amrum

6.3 Progress on the accession of Range States
   6.3.1 Accession of Range States
   The Secretariat will present an update on progress in the accession of Range States.
   6.3.2 (Southward) Extension of the Agreement Area
   Introductory remarks by the Secretariat.

6.4 New information regarding population status

7 Cooperation with IWC, OSPAR, HELCOM and other international organisations
   7.1 Harmonisation of reporting schemes regarding HELCOM Recommendation 17/2
   Secretary's update.
   7.2 Letter of 15 December 1999 from HELCOM to the International Baltic Sea Fishery
   Commission
   7.3 Protected Areas
   Reports on OSPAR Impact workshops in Horta, Azores (July 1999) and Brest (November 1999);
   papers on protected areas by Peter Evans.

8 Business session
(Please note that only delegates of Parties will be admitted to this session)
   8.1 AEWG report on future status and location of the ASCOBANS Secretariat
      8.1.1 AEWG report
      8.1.2 Draft Resolution No.1: Integration of the ASCOBANS Secretariat into the
      UNEP/CMS Agreements Unit
   8.2 Budgetary issues
      8.2.1 Succession AC/MOP financial/administrative officer
      8.2.2 Budget for 1999
      The Secretariat will report on the financial situation of ASCOBANS; Germany will
      report on the German voluntary contribution.
      8.2.3 Budget for 2001 – 2003
      8.2.3.1 Draft Resolution No. 2: Financial, Budgetary and Administrative
      matters
      8.2.3.2 Basis for calculation of Annual National Contributions to
      ASCOBANS*
   8.3 PR issues
      8.3.1 New ASCOBANS poster
      The Secretariat will present the new ASCOBANS poster.
      8.3.2 New ASCOBANS exhibition “Harbour Porpoise in Distress”
      The Secretariat will present the new exhibition.
8.3.3 10th anniversary of ASCOBANS
8.4 Meetings of interest to ASCOBANS during 2000
8.5 Agenda for MOP 3

9 Agreement on the draft report

10 Date and venue of next meeting

11 Any other business
   *Presentation of the UK conservation strategy for the harbour porpoise*

12 Close of meeting

* Item subject to decision on Draft Resolutions Nos. 1 and 2

Notes:
1. In order to save time, opening statements are not included. Should any state or observer wish to make a statement, this should be submitted in writing only.
2. An annotated draft agenda will be distributed in time to Parties, AC members, Range States and invited observers.