

MOP 2: Resolution on Activities of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee 1997-2000 (Bonn 1997)

RESOLUTION ON ACTIVITIES OF THE ASCOBANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1997-2000

The Meeting of Parties:

RECOGNISING the importance of the need to co-operate with, and not to duplicate the work of, other international bodies and the desirability of drawing upon their expertise;

Decide to ask their Advisory Committee to:

INVITE the intergovernmental bodies IWC, ICES, IBSFC, HELCOM, OSPARCOM to send a representative to Advisory Committee meetings;

ADDRESS, on an annual basis, new information on population sizes and structures, and bycatches of small cetaceans in the ASCOBANS area. On the basis of this review, provide recommendations to individual parties and other relevant authorities;

REVIEW at each meeting a list of international meetings, compiled by the Secretariat, at which the aims of ASCOBANS might most usefully be promoted, and recommend which meetings should be attended, by whom, and with what objective;

REVIEW, by 2000, criteria for identifying, establishing and managing protected areas for small cetaceans with a view to producing guidance to Parties;

CONTINUE to establish, and to facilitate management by the Secretariat of, a database on post-mortem results and contaminant studies in the ASCOBANS area;

REVIEW, in 1999, levels of disturbance to small cetaceans caused by seismic activity in the ASCOBANS area, methods to reduce such disturbance, and where appropriate to provide recommendations to Parties and other authorities;

REVIEW, on an annual basis, new information on pollution and its effects on small cetaceans which occur in the ASCOBANS area and, on the basis of this review, provide recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities;

DEVELOP, by 1999, precise conservation objectives for Parties for small cetacean populations in the ASCOBANS area that will enable decisions on unacceptable levels of by-catch and on monitoring programmes to be refined;

DEVELOP, in 1998, a practical format for national reports that will encourage Parties and Range States to submit such reports promptly and in a way that will enable progress to be reviewed easily; this will build on the discussions which have already taken place in the Advisory Committee where it has been agreed that a short national report will be prepared each year and a full report at the end of each triennium.