

3rd Session of the Meeting of Parties

Bristol, United Kingdom

26 – 28 July 2000

Resolution No. 8
Activities of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee 2001-2003

The Meeting of Parties:

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

RECOGNISING that much progress is achieved by the commissioning of work by specialists, whether members of the Advisory Committee or otherwise;

NOTING that the Advisory Committee needs a balance of scientists, policy-makers and administrators to adequately cover its role;

Decides to ask the Advisory Committee to:

CONTINUE to invite the intergovernmental bodies IWC, ICES, IBSFC, HELCOM, OSPARCOM and the European Commission to send a representative to Advisory Committee meetings;

CONTINUE to review, on an annual basis, new information on population distribution, sizes and structures, and by-catches of small cetaceans in the ASCOBANS area. On the basis of this review, provide recommendations to individual Parties and other relevant authorities;

CONTINUE to 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 and to review the outcomes of meetings attended;

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

CONTINUE to 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;

CONTINUE to review the progress and implementation of the IWC programme POLLUTION 2000+ and provide recommendations to Parties and Range States on ways to facilitate its execution;

REVIEW, in 2002, knowledge on by-catch in the ASCOBANS area with a view to providing recommendations on further by-catch monitoring to Parties and Range States;

FORMULATE, by 2002, advice to Parties, Range States and other relevant authorities on by-catch mitigation measures applicable to the ASCOBANS area;

REVIEW the progress on by-catch mitigation and report on this progress to the 4th Meeting of Parties;

REVIEW, in 2001, the extent of disturbance to small cetaceans due to seismic surveys in the ASCOBANS (and possibly adjacent) areas during the period 1997-2000;

REVIEW, in 2003, progress of Parties and Range States in working with military authorities to reduce disturbance to cetaceans by military activities;

REVIEW, in 2003, the extent of disturbance to small cetaceans by shipping;

REVIEW, in 2003, the output of the IWC programme POLLUTION 2000+ and, based on the review, provide recommendations to Parties, Range States and other relevant authorities.

Requests that Parties

ENSURE that all nominated Advisory Committee members and their advisors can allocate time to attend Advisory Committee meetings, to intersessional work, and to participate in the intersessional Advisory Committee working groups;

CONTINUE to ensure where possible a suitable balance of expertise within delegations to the Advisory Committee.