

RESOLUTION 3.25
CETACEAN LIVE STRANDING

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area:

*Aware of the work on live stranding undertaken *inter alia* by participants in the ACCOBAMS rescue workshop (November 2006) and that the clear intention of such activities is the safe release to the wild of such animals;*

Recognizing that data from rescue attempts is vitally important for improving knowledge and that records should be kept and results shared among rescue networks;

Recalling the conclusions adopted by the Scientific Committee at its fourth meeting on live stranding;

1. *Invites* range States to act on the recommendations of the Scientific Committee in conducting live stranding activities in the Agreement area;
2. *Recommends* the establishment of an advisory panel for ACCOBAMS rescue activities and a veterinary group, as suggested by the Scientific Committee;
3. *Also invites* the Scientific Committee to promote information on rescue activities;
4. *Further recommends* that the Secretariat and the Parties explore the following options:
 - establishment of an ACCOBAMS-wide rescue network;
 - provision of annual reports on rescue activities to a central body, such as the Mediterranean Database on Cetaceans (MEDACES);
 - further analysis of rescue capacity in the ACCOBAMS area, followed by efforts to make rescue coverage comprehensive;
 - development of an ACCOBAMS rescue triage;
 - establishment of a network of expert veterinarians to provide help and advice to each other and to the ACCOBAMS rescue network,
 - involvement of zoos and aquaria in rescue activities, as appropriate, within their logistic frameworks and infrastructures, without exposing such animals for public display and/or display for commercial purposes; and
 - increasing the numbers of trained volunteers and other rescue workers through appropriate training events (noting that there might be national requirements for licensing rescue workers);
5. *Charges* the Scientific Committee, in collaboration with the Secretariat and the focal points, to develop comprehensive guidelines on live strandings;
6. *Further invites* Parties to report to the next Meeting of the Parties about progress made in implementing this Resolution.