

RESOLUTION 4.6

FORMAT FOR NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS OF THE AGREEMENT

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

Referring to Article VIII of the Agreement establishing the need to report regularly on the national implementation of the Agreement,

Considering that these reports should primarily focus on the obligations as defined in the Agreement itself,

Recognizing that a follow up of the implementation of Resolutions and Recommendations is part of the execution of the Agreement and has to be included in the national reports,

Considering that national reports should also deal with the constraints and difficulties encountered in the implementation of the Agreement,

Also recognizing that information provided in the national reports will be necessary to determine whether ACCOBAMS is meeting its objectives,

Taking into account the functioning and user-friendliness of the online reporting system,

Desirous to draw up a reporting format that, meeting also reporting obligations under other agreements, could ease the burden of the Parties and could therefore increase the rate of submission of national reports,

Recalling Resolution 3.7, inviting the Agreement Secretariat to liaise regularly with other relevant intergovernmental bodies in order to harmonize data and information collection and management,

1. *Adopts* the new format of national reports, as here annexed;
2. *Urges* Parties to regularly update on-line the information provided as soon as it is appropriate to do so and at least once every year;
3. *Invites* Parties to regularly report to each Meeting of the Parties on the results and possible improvements of the on-line reporting system;
4. *Recommends* the Parties, to improve, on this matter, coordination between their ACCOBAMS National Focal Points and the Focal Points responsible for reporting to the Organizations listed in the Agreement preamble¹;
5. *Asks* the Agreement Secretariat to circulate the updated information on a regular basis to all Parties and the members of the Scientific Committee;

¹ The International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946; the Convention for the Protection of the marine environment and the coastal region of the Mediterranean, 1976, its related protocols and the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea adopted under its auspices in 1991; the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, 1979; the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982; the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992; the Convention for the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution, 1992; and the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Management and Utilization of Marine Mammals of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted in 1984; as well as initiatives of *inter alia* the General Fisheries Commission for Mediterranean, the International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean, and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

6. *Asks* the Agreement Secretariat to invite non-Parties within the Agreement area to report on a voluntary basis using the on-line format for implementation reports;
7. *Encourages* the Agreement Secretariat to exchange views with these relevant Organizations on the manner to ease reporting burdens by Parties;
8. *Decides* that the present Resolution complements Resolutions 1.8, 2.5 and 3.7.

ANNEX

 PROPOSED FORMAT FOR THE ON LINE REPORTING TO ACCOBAMS¹

Reporting item	Content	Filled in by ²	Source of information for the Secretariat ³
1. Name of Party			
2. Date when report finalized		NFP	
3. Focal Point	Full name, organization, function, address, telephone, fax, e-mail	A	National reports Notification
4. Definition of the areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application	The limits of any area declared by the Party, in the Agreement area, that is beyond and adjacent to its territorial sea and subject to the legal regime of the Exclusive Economic Zone of the UNCLOS, including fishing zone, Ecological Protection Zones and PSSAs.	A	National reports Notification
5. The Party is a member of an organization of economic integration ⁴	No Yes (if yes, name of the Organisation)	A	National reports Notification Relevant documentation
6. Signature/ratification	Date of signature, ratification, accession Date from which the Country became a Party to ACCOBAMS	A	The Depository National reports Notification
7. Ratification of amendments	Date when ratified the amendment, Date of entry into force of the Ratification	A	The Depository National reports

¹ The online format will include examples to assist the users filling in the format

² NFP : National Focal Point of ACCOBAMS, A : Filled in by the Secretariat and then reviewed and completed as appropriate by the NFP

³ National reports : previous national reports of the Party to ACCOBAMS, Notification : notification received from the NFP, Relevant Documentation : Reports and web sites of relevant International Governmental Organisations (IGOs)

⁴ as defined in Article I, paragraph (h) of the Agreement

			Notification
8.			
9. Reservation ⁵	Date, relevant Article of the Agreement and Subject Date of withdrawal of the reservation (if applicable)	A	The Depositary National reports Notification
10. National bodies	National authorities, organizations, research centres and rescue centres active in the field of study and conservation of cetaceans	A	National reports Notification
11. Legislation/Regulation	Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans: Date, Title, Objectives, Authorities responsible for application	A	National reports Notification Relevant documentation
12. Relevant International Conventions and Agreements to which the country is Party	Date of entry into force of the Ratification, Acceptance, Approval or Adhesion ⁶	A	National reports Notification Relevant documentation

⁵ Possible reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

⁶ The following Convention/Agreements will be considered :

- Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)
- Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)
- Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (Barcelona, 1995)
- Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (*Bucharest Convention*)
- Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)
- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)
- Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)
- General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
- La Commission Internationale pour l'Exploration Scientifique de la Méditerranée

13. Networks set up for monitoring cetacean strandings	Coordinating system, agents, means available, databases, publishing of results Transmission of data to MEDACES (yes or No)	A	National reports Notification
14. Data about cetacean stranding	Species, location and date.	A	MEDACES
15. Emergency plans	Conditions of activating, coordinating system, agents, means available, databases, publishing of results	A	National reports Notification
16. Cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area	For each of the species listed in the Annex 1 to the Agreement and other species recorded in the national waters: Common, Rare or Occasional, list of relevant bibliographic references	A ⁷	National reports Notification Relevant documentation
17. Information on the national fishing fleet active in the area of the Agreement	Number of boats using fishing gears that may interact with cetaceans, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing boats with fixed gill-nets and gill-net size • Fishing boats with purse seines • Fishing boats with drift-nets • Fishing boats with surface long lines • Others 	A	Notably GFCM National reports Notification
18. Conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a state of conservation favourable to cetaceans	Measures concerning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliberate removal • Reduction of man/cetacean interaction • Protected areas of relevance to cetacean habitats • Reduction of pollution • Strengthen the national capacities, the institutional framework, the collection and dissemination of information and education • Other measures 	A	National reports Notification Relevant documentation

⁷ This information will be also checked by the President of the Scientific Committee

19. Research and monitoring programmes and projects done to improve knowledge about, the biology, ecology and conservation of cetaceans	Objectives, period (date), area covered, involved organisations and scientists, reference of published reports (if applicable).	A	National reports Notification Relevant documentation
20. Relevant bibliographical references	List of relevant scientific literature published during the triennium	A	
21. Bilateral or multilateral cooperation programmes	Title (if applicable), objectives, period (date), area covered	NFP	
22. Measures related to the Resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties	[For each Resolution, the information to be reported in the national reports of Parties will be decided by the Meeting of the Parties adopting the Resolution]	NFP	