

## REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE ACCOBAMS BUREAU



**Monaco, 3-4 December 2018**

ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat  
Jardin de l'UNESCO, Terrasses de Fontvieille - MC 98000 MONACO  
Tel: (+377) 98 98 20 78 – Fax: (+377) 98 98 42 08  
Email: [accobams@accobams.net](mailto:accobams@accobams.net) - Website: [www.accobams.org](http://www.accobams.org)

**REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE ACCOBAMS BUREAU**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>OPENING OF THE MEETING .....</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA .....</b>   | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>2. PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT .....</b>   | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>3. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE .....</b>                    | <b>6</b>  |
| 3.1 Report on activities .....   | 6         |
| 3.2 Recommendations from the Twelfth Meeting of the Scientific Committee .....                   | 6         |
| <b>4. BUDGETARY MATTERS .....</b>  | <b>6</b>  |
| 4.1 Report on incomes and expenditures for 2017 .....  | 6         |
| 4.2 Report on incomes and expenditures for 2018 .....  | 6         |
| 4.3 Provisional list of activities for 2019 .....  | 7         |
| 4.4 Call for proposals for projects to be funded under the Supplementary Conservation Fund ..... | 7         |
| <b>5. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES.....</b>   | <b>8</b>  |
| 5.1 Structure and Staff of the Permanent Secretariat .....                                       | 8         |
| 5.2 Mid-term evaluation of the ACCOBAMS Strategy .....   | 9         |
| 5.3 Extended Bureau.....   | 10        |
| <b>6. ACCOBAMS PARTNERS.....</b>   | <b>11</b> |
| <b>7. OTHER BUSINESS .....</b>   | <b>11</b> |
| <b>8. DATE AND VENUE AND DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE NEXT EXTENDED BUREAU MEETING .....</b>  | <b>12</b> |
| <b>9. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING.....</b>  | <b>12</b> |
| <br>   |           |
| <b>ANNEX 1 - LIST OF PARTICIPANTS .....</b>  | <b>13</b> |
| <b>ANNEX 2 – AGENDA .....</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| <b>ANNEX 3 - LIST OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE MOP7.....</b>                      | <b>15</b> |
| <b>ANNEX 4 - THE DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NEXT EXTENDED BUREAU MEETING .....</b>         | <b>16</b> |

## REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE ACCOBAMS BUREAU

### OPENING OF THE MEETING

- 1- The Twelfth Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Bureau was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 in Monaco, at the Novotel Hotel.
- 2- It was attended by the following members of the Bureau: Mrs. Klodiana MARIKA (Albania) through Skype, Ambassador Xavier STICKER (France) and Mr. Savvas MICHAELIDES (Cyprus).
- 3- The vice Chair of the Bureau, Mrs. Klodiana MARIKA (Albania), was unfortunately not able to attend the entire Bureau Meeting. As per the rules and procedures of the Bureau (Resolution 6.4), she was represented by her alternate Mr. Giuseppe DURAZZO, Consul of Albania in Monaco. Mrs. Rahima BERKAT (Algeria) and Mr. Volodymyr DOMASHLINETS (Ukraine) were also not able to attend the meeting.
- 4- Mrs Rahima BERKAT provided the Chair of the Bureau with her comments on the working documents.
- 5- The Meeting was also attended by Mrs. Florence DESCROIX-COMNADUCCI (Executive Secretary of ACCOBAMS), Mr. Simone PANIGADA (Chair of the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS), Mr. Alain Jeudy de Grissac (the consultant contracted to undertake the assessment of the level of effectiveness of the ACCOBAMS Strategy (2014-2025) and staff members of the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat.
- 6- The full list of participants appears in [Annex 1](#) to this report.
- 7- The Chair of the Meeting welcomed the participants and opened the Meeting at 9.30 a.m., on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018.
- 8- The Executive Secretary welcomed the participants and provided details about the logistic arrangements for the participants and the documentation of the Meeting.

### **1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

- 9- The Executive Secretary introduced the provisional Agenda (BU12/2018/**Doc01**), the Provisional Annotated Agenda (BU12/2018/**Doc02**), the List of documents (BU12/2018/**Doc03**) and the Provisional Timetable (BU12/2018/**Doc04**).
- 10- The Meeting adopted the Agenda and the related timetable. The Agenda appears as [Annex 2](#) to this report.

## 2. PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

**11-** The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat and the Chair of the Scientific Committee reported on the activities developed since the last Meeting of the Bureau (December 2017) to implement the programme of work and on the progress made in promoting the Agreement and collaboration with other instruments (BU12/2018/**Doc05**).

**12-** The Executive Secretary and the Chair of the Scientific Committee more specifically reported on three issues: the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative (ASI) and its preliminary results, the interactions with fisheries and the underwater noise.

**13-** The ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative state of progress:

- The Executive Secretary of the ACCOBAMS reminded the context and objectives of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative to the Bureau (BU12/2018/**Inf02**). Aiming to develop a coherent monitoring system for the cetaceans in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, based on objective, robust and comparable data, the ASI is a long-standing project that was made possible thanks to ACCOBAMS Parties, ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee and with the support of several funding and technical partners.
- The ASI Project officer presented the major actions conducted since the beginning of the ASI, with a strong focus on the preparation, organization and implementation of the macro regional survey that was carried out during the summer 2018. The Bureau was also informed of activities undertaken under the key capacity-building component of the ASI developed in collaboration with the SPA/RAC. The capacity building programme will be completed in 2019 with a series of sub regional workshops aiming to address the specific national monitoring needs identified by the ASI Contact Group Members. The ASI survey was also a key occasion for the Secretariat to develop a panel of communication and awareness activities and material. In particular, several celebration events were organized at the occasion of stopovers of the Research Vessel Song the Whale which contributed to the ASI boat surveys.
- The Scientific Coordinator presented the maps with the first outcomes from the ASI campaign derived from the aerial component of the ASI Survey and from the visual and acoustic survey conducted with the R/V Song of the Whale of Marine Conservation Research. All collected data will require in depth and multi levels data analysis. The Scientific Coordinator provided insights of this upcoming analysis exercise, which will include a participatory approach through sub regional analysis workshops in 2019 and 2020.
- After informing the Bureau that the first estimated results of the ASI will be presented during a special ASI Side-event organized for the ACCOBAMS MOP7, the Executive Secretary concluded the presentation by providing information on the fundraising efforts conducted for the Black Sea survey. She indicated in particular that the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat supported Black Sea partners in preparing a proposal to a European Commission funding call, whose results are expected before the end of 2018.

**Conclusion 1:** The Bureau commended the progresses of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative and congratulated the ACCOBAMS Secretariat and all ASI stakeholders for the impressive work achieved leading to a successful implementation of the survey in the Mediterranean Sea. The Bureau stressed the importance of conducting a similar survey in the Black Sea and encouraged the Secretariat to continue fundraising efforts in this sense. Taking note of the progresses towards the remaining survey implementation in Syria and Egypt, the Bureau invited these countries to complete the survey in their waters as soon as possible.

**14-** Regarding interactions with fisheries the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat presented an update on the four projects supported by the MAVA Foundation aimed at addressing negative interactions between endangered marine species and fishing activities. It has been underlined that the activities of these projects were implemented in the three MAVA prioritized areas of the 2016-2022 MAVA Strategy (Alborán Sea, Strait of Sicily/Tunisia, central Aegean/Cyprus Basin) and in accordance with the objectives of ACCOBAMS and its strategy for 2014-2025.

**15-** Regarding underwater noise issue, the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat, making reference to Document ACCOBAMS-BU12/Inf03, presented the following topics:

- In the framework of the EU funded QuietMed Project, the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat, in collaboration with specific experts, was leading / contributing to several activities in particular the development of guidance on noise modelling and mapping, the development of a regional noise register. Two workshops for disseminating project results and capacity building with non-EU countries were organized in Malta in October 2018. The project will end on 31 December 2018. All the tasks were almost 100% completed and corresponding deliverables were under finalization. The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat participated also to a new project proposal through the call for proposals – MSFD- Second Cycle: implementation of the new GES Decision and Programmes of measures.
- Regarding the implementation of the ACCOBAMS certification for Marine Mammals Observers/PAM operators, three organizations became “ACCOBAMS highly qualified MMOs/PAM operator” trainer organizations. The first ACCOBAMS training for HIGH QUALITY MMO/PAM Operator was organized by ACCOBAMS in Constanta, Romania, from 12 to 16 September 2018. Twelve trainees from 5 Black Sea countries (Ukraine, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Georgia) have followed the training done by four experts and professional MMO/PAM operators.
- The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat also progressed on the organization of a joint workshop with NATO. The consultant retained to assist the Secretariat in approaching NATO and in facilitating the organization of the workshop is Admiral Gérard VALIN. The tentative date for the workshop is September 2019, most probably in France.

**Conclusion 2:** The Bureau members commended all the activities implemented and congratulated the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat and the Scientific Committee for their work undertaken especially in collaboration with other organizations which facilitated co-funding activities. Bureau Members encouraged the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat and the Scientific Committee to continue these collaborations especially in the preparation of the post-2020 biodiversity framework.

### **3. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

#### **3.1 Report on activities**

**16-** This item was addressed under the Agenda item 2.

#### **3.2 Recommendations from the Twelfth Meeting of the Scientific Committee**

**17-** The Chair of the Scientific Committee presented the 8 Recommendations issued by the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Committee (Monaco, 5-8 November 2018).

- **Recommendation 12.1:** Guidelines for the preparation of regional reports
- **Recommendation 12.2:** Cetacean population estimates
- **Recommendation 12.3:** Cetacean interactions with fisheries: bycatch, depredation and prey depletion
- **Recommendation 12.4:** Anthropogenic noise
- **Recommendation 12.5:** Ship strikes
- **Recommendation 12.6:** Commercial whale watching activities
- **Recommendation 12.7:** Marine debris and stranding
- **Recommendation 12.8:** Value of the designation of IMMAs and CCH to achieving ACCOBAMS objectives

### **4. BUDGETARY MATTERS**

#### **4.1 Report on incomes and expenditures for 2017**

**18-** The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat introduced a report on incomes and expenditures for 2017 as per 31 December 2017 (BU12/2018/**Doc06**).

#### **4.2 Report on incomes and expenditures for 2018**

**19-** The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat presented a report on incomes and expenditures for 2018 as per 31 October 2018 (BU12/2018/**Doc07**).

**Conclusion 3:** The Bureau members congratulated the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat for the presentation and the management of the contributions.

They noted with satisfaction the importance of voluntary contributions to support the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative but also to support the implementation of the work program for 2017-2019. They also highlighted the importance of co-funding especially through joint projects.

They requested the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat to invite Parties with unpaid pledges to settle their balance as soon as possible, in order to allow the implementation, by the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat, of activities relevant to the Agreement before the MOP7.

#### 4.3 Provisional list of activities for 2019

- 20-** The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat presented the list of activities proposed for 2019 in accordance with the work programme adopted by the Parties, and taking into consideration priority implementation levels and budget availability (BU12/2018/Doc09).
- 21-** The Executive Secretary also informed the Bureau members that Italy will provide a Voluntary contribution of 231 547€ for 2019 activities.

**Conclusion 4:** The Bureau members approved the provisional list of activities for 2019 and the related budget allocations noting that some of them are pending budget availability. In this context, they highlighted and commended the important support of voluntary contributions, especially from Italy.

#### 4.4 Call for proposals for projects to be funded under the Supplementary Conservation Fund

- 22-** Referring to Resolution 5.5 adopted by ACCOBAMS Parties in 2013, the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat reminded the procedure for the ACCOBAMS Call for proposal for projects to be funded under the Supplementary Conservation Fund and informed the Bureau Members about the three projects selected through the 2016 Call for proposals (BU12/2018/Doc08).
- 23-** The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat also informed the Bureau Members about the project led by the Laboratoire Réseau de Surveillance Environnementale from the Oran University selected through the 2012 call for proposals. Due to a number of unexpected constraints during its implementation, it appears that completing this project is not possible. In this context, the Permanent Secretariat consulted the project coordinator and the Algerian Focal Point to consider closing this project.
- 24-** Considering the situation of this project, the Bureau agreed with the Secretariat proposal to close it.
- 25-** The Executive Secretary presented options for a possible new call for proposals to be opened by the end of 2018/beginning of 2019 for three projects.

**Conclusion 5:** After discussions, the Bureau Members:

- Welcomed the voluntary contributions from Italy and Monaco that will allow to open a new call for proposals;
- Agreed to transfer 4.000 euros from the Trust Fund to the Supplementary Conservation Funds to complete the available budget so that three projects can be funded through this new call
- Invited the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat to proceed with the proposed new call for projects under the SCF and approved the proposed schedule and priority topics for this new call as included in document ACCOBAMS-BU12/2018/Doc 08.

## 5. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

### 5.1 Structure and Staff of the Permanent Secretariat

- 26-** The Executive Secretary recalled the provisions of Resolution 6.3 that mandated the Executive Secretary to (i) entrust a specialized consultant to carry a functional assessment of the personnel needs of the Secretariat and associated costs and (ii) develop a proposal on the structure of the Permanent Secretariat, based on the results and recommendations of the functional assessment and in consultation with the Host Country and the Bureau. She also recalled that through Resolution 6.3 the MOP 6 entrusted the Bureau to address the question of the recruitment procedures for the Executive Secretary as a matter of priority and in consultation with the Host Country.
- 27-** Making reference to Document ACCOBAMS-BU12/**Inf04**, she informed the meeting about the steps taken by the Secretariat in undertaking a consultation with the National Focal Points on this issue prior the MOP7. Then, she introduced Document ACCOBAMS-BU12/**Doc10** containing an analysis of the comments received from National Focal Points on the draft structure and personnel of the Permanent Secretariat as well as on the three implementation options elaborated by the Secretariat.
- 28-** Debating about the procedure for the recruitment of the Executive Secretary as proposed by the Principality of Monaco in collaboration with the Bureau, and the comments made on it by several National Focal Points, the Meeting recommended that the appointment process be conducted by the Bureau and a representative of the host country, acting as the recruitment committee, with the assistance of the Secretariat and using for its decision the Rules of Procedure for the Bureau as set by the Resolution 5.7 and amended by Resolution 6.4.
- 29-** Concerning the proposed structure for the Secretariat and the related budget implications, the Bureau noted that most of the comments received from the National Focal Points were in favour of the proposed structure of the Secretariat and of the proposed Option 2 for the salaries of the Programme Officer and Project Officer / Fundraiser based on the local reference (Public entity in Monaco, as proposed by the Consultant) and involves an increase of 43% of salary mass over 1 or 2 triennium and then, step adjustment of salaries at each MOP.
- 30-** Recalling that the final decision will be made by the MOP7, the Chair invited the Secretariat to prepare a new version of the structure of the Secretariat based on the views and opinions expressed by the National Focal points as reflected in Document ACCOBAMS-BU12/**Doc10** and send it to the National Focal Points for consultation with the view of submitting the final proposal to the Extended Bureau at its Fourth Meeting.

**Conclusion 6:** The Bureau members invited the Secretariat to:

- Amend the draft procedure for the recruitment of the Executive Secretary proposed in Document ACCOBAMS-BU12/Inf04 by indicating that the appointment process shall be conducted by the Bureau with the assistance of the Secretariat and that the Bureau and a representative of the host country shall act as the recruitment committee and shall use for its deliberations its Rules of Procedure as set in Resolution 5.7 and amended by Resolution 6.4.
- Compile the views and opinions received from the National Focal Point (NFPs) to elaborate a new version of the structure of the Secretariat and the related budget implications and submit it to the NFPs for a second round of consultation. The results of the consultation shall be used by the Secretariat to elaborate the draft Resolution on the

Structure and Personnel of the Permanent Secretariat and the draft Resolution on Programme and Budget to be submitted to the next Meeting of the Extended Bureau.

## 5.2 Mid-term evaluation of the ACCOBAMS Strategy

- 31-** The ACCOBAMS Executive Secretary explained that in accordance with the ACCOBAMS Strategy adopted in 2013 by MOP6, the mid-term evaluation of the effectiveness of the ACCOBAMS Strategy should be carried out in 2018/2019. In this context, following a call for consultancy issued by the Permanent Secretariat, Mr. Alain Jeudy de Grissac, was contracted to undertake the assessment of the level of effectiveness of the ACCOBAMS Strategy 2014-2025.
- 32-** Mr. Alain Jeudy de Grissac presented an informal summary of the findings to-date of the mid-term (2019) evaluation of the effectiveness of the ACCOBAMS strategy (2014-2025).
- 33-** The constituency of the ACCOBAMS include different elements and the implementation of the strategy is linked to the activities of each constituents of the Agreement that could be evaluated separately, by group or jointly (the Parties (Ps) and their National Focal Points (NFPs), the Bureau (B), the Permanent Secretariat (PS), the Follow-up Committee (FC), the Scientific Committee (SC), the two Sub-Regional Coordination Units (SRCUs), the collaborating or cooperating entities as Partners (CPs), the International Partners (IPs) and the National Partners (NPs).
- 34-** The main source of information for the evaluation was coming from the national reports of each country presented at each Meeting of the Parties. Nevertheless, these reports are incomplete and do not allow a straightforward and complete evaluation. All the reports provided by each country have been synthesized in one report, to be reviewed and possibly improved by each Party for the next meeting of Parties in 2019, this allowing a better evaluation. In addition, for future evaluation, the new sections of the national reports will be better aligned with those of the Strategy and of the Resolutions adopted by the Parties.
- 35-** Based on the sections of the national report, a self-evaluation system has been drafted and could be used by the countries, the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee or the Scientific Committee to evaluate in the future the progress and the needs for improvement or support.
- 36-** To date, 83 Resolutions have been passed, 38 concerning the Management of the Agreement (MA) and 45 concerning the Conservation Actions (CA). Considering the topics covered by the Strategy, it seems necessary to simplify, when possible, with only one resolution by topic and reorganize the sections based on one side, the responsibilities of the Parties, the Secretariat, the Bureau and the Follow up committee for the Management of the Agreement, and, on the other side, the responsibilities of the Parties and the Scientific Committee for the Conservations Actions
- 37-** The categories of partners, their roles and functions need to be further defined with a separation between the following ones:
- The international and regional instruments could be recognized by establishing triennial (with automatic extension) or permanent Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) to be confirmed by the Parties during the following MOP.

- The international and regional organizations as partners could be recognized by establishing triennial (with automatic extension) or permanent Memoranda of Cooperation (MoC) to be confirmed by the Parties during the following MOP.
- The national partners (such as national administrations, institutes, universities, rescue centres, foundations, cooperatives, associations, NGOS or even private companies) with relation to cetacean knowledge or management could be recognized and supervised by each Party and a list provided to the ACCOBAMS with their reports each triennium.

**Conclusion 7:** The Bureau members congratulated the consultant for his work. They requested the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat to provide all Focal Points with a document on the mid-term evaluation of the effectiveness of the ACCOBAMS Strategy in January 2019.

### 5.3 Extended Bureau

- 38-** Making reference to Document ACCOBAMS-BU12/**Doc 11**, the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat recalled that in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for the Bureau of the Parties to ACCOBAMS (Resolution 6.4), one of the Meetings of the Bureau in each Triennium should be held six months before the Meeting of the Parties (MOP), and will act as a preparatory Meeting for the MOP. It should be extended to include one representative of the State holding the next MOP as well as one representative from each of the two sub-regional Co-ordination Units. Furthermore, it should include a working group made up of three experts having extensive experience in social and economic aspects of conservation and management of marine biodiversity. The three experts shall be selected by the Bureau in close consultation with the Secretariat, based on their Curriculum vitae and according to the development of the Working Programme and the priorities to be taken in consideration for the subsequent triennium.
- 39-** The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat presented three experts it identified as candidates for the next Extended Bureau explaining that they were identified taking into account their qualification and expertise as well as the need of ensuring a balanced geographical representativeness. The three experts were:
- Mr. Ali Cemal GÜCÜ: Marine Biology and Fishery specialist working as Associated Professor at the Institute of Marine Sciences of the Middle East Technical University (Turkey). He has an extensive experience in fisheries and ecosystem modelling in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea, including interactions between marine organisms and fishing activities. He has also experience in marine conservation and Marine Protected Areas.
  - Mrs. Carmen MIFSUD: She is graduated in Marine biology with an advanced diploma in International Maritime Law. She is a Senior Environment Protection Officer within the Environment Resource Authority (Malta). She has been working on marine issues for more than 18 years specialising on marine biodiversity and currently working on compliance and enforcement. She worked on various Multilateral Environment Agreements, as a focal point, including ACCOBAMS.
  - Mr. Patrick VAN KLAVEREN: He has extensive experience in environmental policies including in marine conservation at national level (Principality of Monaco), Regional levels (Mediterranean and Europe) and International level (UNEP, CBD, CMS, CITES, etc.). From 2010 to 2014 he was the

Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco to HM the King of Spain. He retired from 1 April 2015 and currently acts as Senior International Environmental Policy Specialist. Having contributed to the previous Extended Bureau session, his participation in the next Extended Bureau will ensure continuity and passage of information between the two sessions.

**Conclusion 8:** The Bureau endorsed the proposal by the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat and invited the Executive Secretary to contact the three experts and finalise the arrangements for their participation to the works of the next Extended Bureau.

## 6. ACCOBAMS PARTNERS

40- The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat presented the new requests for ACCOBAMS partnership as contained in document ACCOBAMS-BU12/2018/Doc13.

**Conclusion 9:** After discussions, the Bureau decided to:

- grant the status of ACCOBAMS Partners to the French NGO “Cybelle Planète” and invited the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat to officially inform its Director.
- postpone its decision concerning the Italian Marine Protected Area “Capo Carbonara” given the reluctance of the Italian National Focal Point. The Bureau requested the Permanent Secretariat to liaise with the Italian Focal Point to better understand his concerns about this application. The partnership request will be re-examined by the 4th Meeting of the Extended Bureau for decision.

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

41- The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat informed the Bureau Members that, following an invitation received from Turkey, who acceded to the Agreement on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018, the Seventh Meeting of ACCOBAMS Parties (MOP7) will be convened in Istanbul from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2019, a side event dedicated at presenting the results of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative to delegates and to all participants to the Meeting will be organized as well as the Meeting of Head of Delegations.

**Conclusion 10:** The Bureau members welcomed the invitation of the Turkey for MOP7.

42- Mr. Savvas MICHAELIDES, in line with Article 15 of the ACCOBAMS Agreement which clearly states that General Reservations are prohibited, commented that Turkey’s general reservation relating to UNCLOS, is a major issue for adjacent countries with Turkey, including Cyprus, and may affect the good relationships between the Parties of the Agreement. Furthermore, Mr Michaelides strongly suggested and provided guidance to the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat, not to accept such reservations which are specifically prohibited from the Agreement, for the integrity of the ACCOBAMS Agreement and for the good relationships of the Parties to the Agreement.

43- The Executive Secretary informed the meeting that the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat, after reception of the ratification instrument transmitted by the Depositary, requested the ACCOBAMS legal adviser to prepare a note on this matter.

44- The Executive Secretary indicated that, this legal note specifies that *“since such « reservation » do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of ACCOBAMS, then it could be rather considered as a « declaration » in the technical sense of the term. In any case, it is not a General Reservation, which is prohibited under Article XV of ACCOBAMS, and it is not incompatible with the object and purpose of the ACCOBAMS. It is therefore admissible, whatever its character (Reservation or better, declaration)”*.

**Conclusion 11:** The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat will provide the Members of the Bureau with this legal note.

45- The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat proposed a list of the draft Resolutions that will be developed by the next Extended Bureau with the view of submitting them to the MOP7 (BU12/2018/**Doc12**).

**Conclusion 12:** After few amendments, the Bureau members approved the list of the draft Resolutions to be submitted to the MOP7 as it appears in [Annex 3](#).

They invited the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat to seize the opportunity of MOP7 to:

- highlight and promote the results of the ASI;
- propose a declaration on the post-2020 biodiversity.

## 8. DATE AND VENUE AND DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE NEXT EXTENDED BUREAU MEETING

46- The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat presented a Draft Provisional Agenda of the next Bureau meeting (BU12/2018/**Doc14**) recalling that it should take place at least six months before the MOP7 and that it will be an Extended Bureau meeting in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of the Rules of procedure for the Bureau (Resolution 6.4).

**Conclusion 13:** After discussion, the Bureau Members:

- agreed on the proposed dates (18-19 April 2019) for the fourth Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Extended Bureau;
- adopted the draft provisional agenda as it appears in [Annex 4](#).

## 9. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

47- The Chair of the Bureau thanked the Meeting participants and closed the Meeting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 11:30 pm.

## ANNEX 1 - LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU

**STICKER Xavier**

ACCOBAMS Chair  
Ambassadeur de France pour l'Environnement  
MAEDI/MEEM  
37 Quai d'Orsay  
75007 Paris - FRANCE  
Tel : +33 143178016  
[Xavier.sticker@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:Xavier.sticker@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

**MARIKA Klodiana**

Director  
Biodiversity and Protected Areas  
Ministry of Environment  
Str. Norbert Jokl, No. 23 Tirana  
1000 Tirana - ALBANIA  
Tel. + 355 69 20 92872  
[Klodiana.Marika@moe.gov.al](mailto:Klodiana.Marika@moe.gov.al) ;  
[Klodiana.Marika@turizmi.gov.al](mailto:Klodiana.Marika@turizmi.gov.al)

**MICHAELIDES Savvas**

Fisheries and Marine Research Officer  
Marine Environment Unit, Office N°102  
Department of Fisheries and Marine Research  
101 Vithleem str.  
2033 Strovolos, Nicosia - CYPRUS  
Tel:+357 22807851 - Fax:+357 22775955  
[smichaelides@dfmr.moa.gov.cy](mailto:smichaelides@dfmr.moa.gov.cy)

### ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE BUREAU

**DURAZZO Giuseppe**

Consul Honoraire  
Consulat d'Albanie à Monaco  
Villa Bellevue  
49, rue Grimaldi  
MC 98000 Monaco  
Tel.: (+33) 6 61 10 71 34  
[consulatalbanie@durazzo.net](mailto:consulatalbanie@durazzo.net)

### CHAIR OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

**PANIGADA Simone**

Chair of the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee  
Tethys Research Institute  
President  
Viale G.B. Gadio2  
20 121 Milan – Italy  
Tel: (+39) 02 7200 1947 – (+39) 02 6694 114  
[panigada69@gmail.com](mailto:panigada69@gmail.com)

### ACCOBAMS PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

**DESCROIX-COMANDUCCI Florence**

Executive Secretary  
Les Terrasses de Fontvieille, Jardin de l'UNESCO  
MC-98000 Monaco  
Tel: +377 98 98 80 10 / 20 78 – Fax: +377 98 98 42 08  
[fcdescroix@accobams.net](mailto:fcdescroix@accobams.net)

**BELMONT Julie**

ASI Project Officer  
Les Terrasses de Fontvieille, Jardin de l'UNESCO  
MC-98000 Monaco  
Tel: +377 98 98 93 13 – Fax: +377 98 98 42 08  
[jbelmont@accobams.net](mailto:jbelmont@accobams.net)

**JEUDY DE GRISSAC Alain**

ACCOBAMS Consultant for Mid-term evaluation of the effectiveness of ACCOBAMS Strategy 2014 – 2025  
Tel: +34 690 298 747  
[jeudy2g@gmail.com](mailto:jeudy2g@gmail.com)

**LE RAVALLEC Célia**

Project Officer  
Les Terrasses de Fontvieille, Jardin de l'UNESCO  
MC-98000 Monaco  
Tel: +377 98 98 40 74 – Fax: +377 98 98 42 08  
[cleravallec@accobams.net](mailto:cleravallec@accobams.net)

**MONTIGLIO Camille**

Communication Officer  
Les Terrasses de Fontvieille, Jardin de l'UNESCO  
MC-98000 Monaco  
Tel: +377 98 98 20 78 – Fax: +377 98 98 42 08  
[cmontiglio@accobams.net](mailto:cmontiglio@accobams.net)

**MOZZONE Jean-François**

Accountant  
Les Terrasses de Fontvieille, Jardin de l'UNESCO  
MC 98000 MONACO  
Tel: +377 98 98 42 43 - Fax: +377 98 98 42 08  
[jfmozzone@accobams.net](mailto:jfmozzone@accobams.net)

**RAIS Chedly**

ACCOBAMS Consultant  
Tel: +216 98444629  
[chedly.rais@okianos.org](mailto:chedly.rais@okianos.org)

**SALIVAS Maïlis**

Programme Officer  
Les Terrasses de Fontvieille, Jardin de l'UNESCO  
MC-98000 Monaco  
Tel: +377 98 98 42 75 – Fax: +377 98 98 42 08  
[msalivas@accobams.net](mailto:msalivas@accobams.net)

---

## **ANNEX 2 – AGENDA**

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Progress report by the Secretariat**
- 3. Progress report on the activities of the Scientific Committee**
  - 3.1 Report on activities
  - 3.2 Recommendations from the Twelfth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
- 4. Budgetary matters**
  - 4.1 Report on incomes and expenditures for 2017
  - 4.2 Report on incomes and expenditures for 2018
  - 4.3 Provisional list of activities for 2019
  - 4.4 Call for proposals for projects to be funded under the Supplementary Conservation Fund
- 5. Administrative issues**
  - 5.1 Structure and Staff of the Permanent Secretariat
  - 5.2 Mid-term evaluation of the ACCOBAMS Strategy
  - 5.3 Extended Bureau
- 6. ACCOBAMS Partners**
- 7. Other business**
- 8. Date, venue and draft provisional Agenda of the next Extended Bureau Meeting**
- 9. Closure of the Meeting**

**ANNEX 3 - LIST OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE MOP7**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Draft Res 7.1</b>  | Granting the right to vote  |
| <b>Draft Res 7.2</b>  | ACCOBAMS Strategy   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.3</b>  | ACCOBAMS Funding Strategy   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.4</b>  | Scientific Committee  |
| <b>Draft Res 7.5</b>  | ACCOBAMS Partners   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.6</b>  | Structure and Personnel of the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat                                       |
| <b>Draft Res 7.7</b>  | Work Programme and Budget for the triennium 2020-2022   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.8</b>  | Cetacean population estimates and distribution in the ACCOBAMS area: the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative |
| <b>Draft Res 7.9</b>  | Interactions between cetaceans and Fisheries  |
| <b>Draft Res 7.10</b> | Ship strikes  |
| <b>Draft Res 7.11</b> | Anthropogenic noise   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.12</b> | Best practices regarding cetacean stranding   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.13</b> | Marine litter in link with cetacean necropsies  |
| <b>Draft Res 7.14</b> | Commercial Cetacean Watching activities in the ACCOBAMS area and swim-with activities               |
| <b>Draft Res 7.15</b> | Species Conservation and Management Plans   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.16</b> | ACCOBAMS Contribution after 2020  |
| <b>Draft Res 7.17</b> | List of Resolutions in force  |
| <b>Draft Res 7.18</b> | Tribute to the Organisers   |
| <b>Draft Res 7.19</b> | Date, venue and funding of the Eight session of the Meeting of the Parties                          |

---

## **ANNEX 4 - THE DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NEXT EXTENDED BUREAU MEETING**

- 1. Opening of the Meeting**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 3. Administrative issues**
  - 3.1 Update on ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat activities
  - 3.2 Update on Scientific Committee activities
  - 3.3 Budgetary matters
  - 3.4 ACCOBAMS Partners
- 4. 2018 ACCOBAMS Call for proposals for projects to be funded under the Supplementary Conservation Fund**
- 5. Preparation of the Seventh Meeting of the Parties (MOP7)**
  - 5.1 Review of the draft Resolutions to be submitted to MOP7
  - 5.2 Arrangements for the MOP7
- 6. Other business**
- 7. Closure of the Meeting**