



Report of the Seventh Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Bureau

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REPORT OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ACCOBAMS BUREAU

The Seventh Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Bureau was convened to take place in Monaco in the premises of the Agreement's Permanent Secretariat, on the 13th and 14th of December, 2011. It was attended by: Mr Cyril Gomez, Chair of the Bureau (Monaco); Mr Andrej Bibic (Slovenia), Mr Volodymyr Domashlinets (Ukraine); Mr Gaby Khalaf (Lebanon), Ms Marina Sequeira (Portugal), Ms Céline Van Klaveren (Monaco).

It was also attended by Mrs Marie-Christine Grillo-Compulsione (Executive Secretary of ACCOBAMS), Mr. Alexeï Birkun (Chair of the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS) and Ms Ana Strbenac (facilitator of the working Group on the ACCOBAMS Strategy), the Permanent Secretariat. The full List of Participants appears in **Annex 1** to this report.

The Chair of the Bureau welcomed the participants and opened the Meeting at 9.30 a.m., on Tuesday the 13th of December, 2011.

The Executive Secretary welcomed the participants and provided details about the logistic arrangements for the participants and about the documentation of the meeting

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Executive Secretary introduced the draft Agenda (BU7/2011/Doc01) and the List of Documents (BU7/2011/Doc03). The Meeting reviewed and adopted the Agenda as it appears in **Annex 2** to this report.

2. Report of the Secretariat

The Executive Secretary introduced Document BU7/2011/Doc05 and Addendum 1 and 2, and Document BU7/ 2011/Inf03, presenting information about the activities carried out since the last Meeting of the Parties and about the progress made in promoting the Agreement and strengthening collaboration with other instruments.

2.1- Administrative matters

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting that the ACCOBAMS Contact Point in Israel informed the Secretariat that the Ministry of Environmental Protection was exploring the possibility for Israel to join ACCOBAMS.

Concerning the amendment, she informed the Meeting that the Depositary received instrument of acceptance from Monaco and that ratification procedure started in Bulgaria, Slovenia and Spain.

She also informed the Bureau members about the changes occurred in the Secretariat staff composition. In this context she introduced Ms. Célia Le Ravellec, appointed in the post of project officer to replace Ms Fanny Dubois who resigned in 2011. Ms Le Ravellec will be working on part time basis under a first contract of six months, as a first step.

The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to prepare a letter to be sent by the Depositary to the relevant national authorities in each ACCOBAMS Party to encourage the ratification or acceptance of the amendments to the Agreement decided by the MOP. The letter will also inform the Parties about the missing word in the English, Spanish and Arabic versions of the Resolution 4.1 – Amendments: Extension of the ACCOBAMS geographical scope.

2.2- Implementation of the working programme 2011-2013 by the Secretariat

The Executive Secretary presented the activities developed since the MOP4:

2.2.1 Main activities on Research and Conservation

The Executive Secretary informed the Bureau on the following activities undertaken, making reference to the relevant section of the Report of the Secretariat (Document BU7/2011/Doc05). Following the debate under this agenda item, the Bureau made the following decisions:

- Population Structure

Considering that the document of Stefania Gaspari and Ada Natoli was prepared 3 years ago, the Bureau invited the Secretariat to send the document to the Members of the Scientific Committee seeking their inputs to update it. The Secretariat shall also contact the Focal Points and the relevant ACCOBAMS Partners to collect information on the subject with the view of updating the document.

The Bureau proposed that the Secretariat identify a leader to support the organization of the joint workshop ECS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS, in consultation with ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee and ASCOBANS.

- Responses to emergency situations

Following the information received by the Secretariat from Scientific Committee Members and ACCOBAMS Partners about the event of the mass stranding of *Ziphius* in the Ionian Sea, the Bureau invited the Secretariat to contact the Focal Points in the concerned countries to collect information based on the Scientific Committee recommendations.

The Chair of the Bureau shall contact UNCLOS Secretariat to collect information on other similar events and the measures taken to mitigate such impacts on cetaceans.

The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to liaise with the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention to ensure that issues related to cetacean conservation be dully considered in the elaboration of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Barcelona Convention's Offshore Protocol, in particular regarding emergency situations and marine noise.

2.2.2 Communication, awareness and capacity building

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting about the activities undertaken for the implementation of the "Train the Trainers" Programme and the National Action Plans on cetacean conservation. She also briefed the Bureau members about the Second Biennial Conference on Cetacean Conservation in South Mediterranean Countries (CSMC 2) held from 12 to 14 October 2011 at El Jadida (Morocco).

2.2.3 Projects

Under this agenda item, the Executive Secretary informed the Meeting on (i) the Call for proposals of projects under the Supplementary Conservation Grants fund of ACCOBAMS, (ii) the Project proposal submitted by BICREF (Malta) and (iii) the progress made in the preparation of the Teaching Module on cetacean conservation.

She emphasised that the Call for proposals for projects had been issued by the Secretariat after consultation with the Scientific Committee, and making reference to Document ACCOBAMS-BU7/2011/Doc8, she emphasised that six projects were received before the deadline (18th July 2011). She suggested that the proposed projects and the assessment made by the Scientific Committee be examined by the Bureau under Agenda item 4 of the Meeting.

The project submitted by BICREF included aerial survey activities aimed at evaluating the *Delphinus delphis* population around Malta. It was submitted in March 2011 following the decision of the MOP4 to develop activities to implement the *Delphinus delphis* conservation plan. The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting that the Scientific Committee requested additional information that was provided in a revised version of the Project submitted in May 2011.

The Bureau asked the Secretariat to inform BICREF that the surveying activities it proposed will be included in the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative and to encourage it to join the initiative. The Focal Point of Malta will be copied.

The Bureau also asked the Secretariat to contact the Focal point in Malta to identify possible action to implement the Action Plan on *Delphinus delphis*.

2.2.4 National Report online

The executive Secretary informed the meeting that in accordance with Resolution 4.6 the Secretariat launched the preparation of the new version of the online reporting system of ACCOBAMS and to feed the related databases with information contained in the national reports to ACCOBAMS and to other relevant conventions (CMS, Barcelona Convention, CBD, and GFCM). By June 2012 the system would be made available on the ACCOBAMS web site and the Parties will be invited to review the information it contains, to complete it and update it as appropriate.

The Executive Secretary also informed the Meeting about the Infor-MEA initiative launched under UNEP for harmonising and streamlining the reporting systems of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and proposed to contact the Infor-MEA team to investigate the possibility for ACCOBAMS to join the initiative.

The Bureau agreed on the proposal made by the Executive Secretary to contact Infor-MEA to investigate ways and means of involving ACCOBAMS in this initiative.

2.2.5 Collaboration with other Organisations

- CMS

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting that joint activities were developed with ASCOBANS:

- collaboration on noise with a joint working group,
- a joint workshop, should be organised on the Implementation of the Cetacean Component of the Habitats Directive in EU Member States (24 March 2012) and another one on population structure,
- a joint working group on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive is envisaged in collaboration with ASCOBANS.

The Executive Secretary presented the main Resolutions adopted by the CMS COP 10 (20th – 25th November 2011, Bergen, Norway) relevant for ACCOBAMS.

Concerning the joint ASCOBANS/ACCOBAMS working group on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Bureau invited the Secretariat to send the proposal of ToR to the SC Members with a deadline for sending their possible comments.

The Bureau recommended the Secretariat to strengthen the collaboration with the CMS and to contact the CMS Secretariat for further information on how to link/integrate the ACCOBAMS website to the envisaged web portal of CMS.

- MedPAN

The Meeting was informed about the collaboration initiative envisaged with MedPAN:

- Training of MPAs managers on cetacean conservation through the ACCOBAMS kit
- Project on cetacean conservation in the Mediterranean: the MEDPAN adopted the system of call of proposals for projects to be developed in MPAs. In order to avoid duplication both Secretariats will exchange on the projects received and will share financial support where possible and relevant.

The Executive Secretary informed the Bureau Members that he ACCOBAMS Secretariat received from the Secretariat of MedPAN a proposal for collaboration MoU.

- GFCM

The Executive Secretary informed the meeting that the Secretariat of GFCM proposed to elaborate collaboration MoU between GFCM and ACCOBAMS and to sign it at the occasion of the next meeting of GFCM in Marrakech (2012).

Following the proposal from the GFCM secretariat and considering the importance of the collaboration between ACCOBAMS and GFCM, the Bureau encouraged the Secretariat to work with the GFCM Secretariat to elaborate a collaboration agreement and sign it at the occasion of the next meeting of the GFCM (Marrakech, 2012).

- Pelagos Sanctuary

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting that the main collaboration activities with Pelagos were related to Responses to emergency situations and to Whale Watching.

3. **Budgetary matters**

3.1 - 2011 Budgetary issues

The Executive Secretary introduced Documents BU7/2011/Doc06 and BU7/2011/Doc07 on incomes and expenditures of the last quarter 2010 and 2011.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to contact the new national authorities in Libya concerning the unpaid contribution of this Party.

3.2 - Provisional list of activities for 2012

The Executive Secretary presented Document BU7/2011/Doc08 with a provisional list of activities for 2012, specifying that the Regional Workshops will be held in 2012.

The Bureau approved the proposed activities and provided guidance to the Secretariat concerning their implementation, in particular regarding:

- Noise generated by maritime traffic: the Secretariat should contact the leader of the project in Gibraltar area in order to know the progress made for this activity (including the collaboration with the Spanish experts) and accordingly adapt the proposed activity on modeling.

- Regional Workshops: In addition to the basic objectives of the Regional Workshops, the Secretariat should endeavour to use the opportunity they offer to consult with the Focal Points about the preparation of the working programme for the next triennium and about the ACCOBAMS Strategy. The coordinator of the working group on the Strategy should be involved in the RW.

4. Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund (SCF)

4.1 - Projects submitted for funding under the SCF

The Secretariat introduced the Document BU7/2011/Doc 09 and informed the Bureau about the projects it received as applications to the “call for proposals” advertised by the Secretariat within the framework of the SCF.

The Chair of the Scientific Committee presented the results of the evaluation by the Scientific Committee of the received projects.

Considering the overlapping of the 2 projects in Adriatic, the Bureau decided to support financially these projects only if their proponents agree to propose a common programme or any solution that avoid geographical overlap. If they agree, the Bureau mandated the Secretariat to elaborate a contract with them to optimize funding and ensure that data would be public data (through Obis SeaMap for example).

The Bureau agreed to support both projects from Black Sea following the advice of the SC to improve technically the projects, and at the end of the projects, the Bureau recommended to develop only one database for the Black Sea. The Bureau entrusts the Secretariat to assist the proponent to improve the project when establishing the contract.

The Bureau proposed to reject the CIMA projects because of the absence of support document from the national authorities of the countries (Algeria and Tunisia).

Project Title	Proponents	Total cost of the project (€)	Amount requested from SCF (€)
Pilot Cetacean Photo-ID activities along southern Bulgarian Sea coasts	Green Balkans NGO	23090	14940
Photo-identification of dolphins from the Romanian Black Sea coastal waters	Mare Nostrum NGO	12650	12650
Estimation of abundance and distribution of bottlenose dolphins (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) in the Croatian part of Central Adriatic Sea based on photo-identification	Udruga za zastitu prirode Val (VAL)	8900	8900
Identifying the home-range of the “Cres-Losinj” bottlenose dolphins	Blue World Institute of Marine Research and Conservation	14660	14660

Table 1: Accepted projects

4.2 - Revision of the Application Form of the “Call for proposal”

The Executive Secretary presented Document BU7/2011/Doc10 containing an amended version of the rules applicable to the “Call of proposals” under the SCF. She emphasised that the proposed amendments were aimed at clarifying and facilitating the use of the application form and that they were drafted on the basis of the lessons learned from the first round.

The Bureau approved the proposed amendments and recommended to translate the application form into French and to allow that project proposals be submitted in French

The Bureau proposed the following calendar for the Evaluation process, and asked the Secretariat to add in the document the date of the final decision to the proponent.

Forwarding the eligible projects to the Chair of the SC	1 week from the deadline of submission
Possible request of further info from the applicants	Within 3 weeks from the deadline of submission
Submission of additional information as requested from the applicants	2 weeks from the request
Submission of the evaluation by the SC	9 weeks from the deadline of submission
Decision by the Bureau about the selected projects	13 weeks from the deadline of submission during its annual meeting in December
Information to proponents about the result of the selection procedure	14 weeks from the deadline of submission

The revised application form was adopted as presented in **Annex 3** of the report.

5. Administrative matters

5.1 - Institutional arrangements

The Executive Secretary introduced Document BU7/2011/Doc11 and informed the Bureau Members about the implementation of the Headquarter Agreement with the Host Country, including a proposal of amendment taking into account practical issues identified in implementing it.

Following the information provided by the Secretariat about the need to amend some of the provisions of the Headquarters Agreement, the Bureau instructed the Secretariat to work with the relevant authorities of the Host Country to propose the needed changes and inform the Bureau.

The Chair of the Bureau will inform the relevant authorities of the Host Country about this decision of the Bureau.

5.2 - The future composition of the Scientific Committee

The Chair of the Scientific Committee presented the document BU7/2011/Doc12 prepared by the Scientific Committee, concerning the future composition of the Scientific Committee and selection criteria.

The Bureau considered Document BU7/Doc12 and made the following comments:

Criteria for selection of the Scientific Committee(SC) members:

- Proficiency in English and French should be considered an asset
- The criteria should ensure a balanced composition of the SC as for the field of expertise and for the knowledge of the cetacean conservation issues in the regions making the ACCOBAMS area.
- The fields of expertise should be adapted to the priority set by the Parties in the Working Programme for each triennium

Composition of the SC:

- In addition to the 2 scenarios proposed by the document, the Bureau recommended to add a third scenario based on balanced representation of the relevant Organizations and giving a central role to CIESM, through the nomination of the Chair and the Vice-Chair among its representatives. The Bureau recommended that the working group and the Bureau develop more scenarios to be presented to the SC8 and that an analysis of weaknesses and strengths of each proposed scenario be provided, including financial implications.
- In order to involve a greater number of qualified scientists in the SC, a good rate of renewal of the SC members should be ensured.

5.3 - Strategic planning - Long term strategy for ACCOBAMS (2013-2023)

The facilitator of the Working Group established in accordance with Resolution 4.4 to prepare a proposal for the ACCOBAMS Strategy introduced BU7/2011/Doc13 on the preliminary analysis of the effectiveness of ACCOBAMS as basis for this strategy.

The Bureau decided that the comments from its members, from the Secretariat and from the Chair of the SC will be provided not later than end of January 2012.

The Bureau agreed on the schedule presented in the Document BU7/CRP01 (**Annex 4**) and to:

- take into account the Aichi target
- prepare a summary of the preliminary analysis to be used in the preparation of the strategy

The Executive Secretary presented the document BU7/2011/Inf04 and informed the Meeting about the case file system established in the Bern Convention.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to prepare for the next Meeting of the Parties a document on the system of "case files" for the notification to the MOP, by the Scientific Committee and NGOs, of cases of non compliance with the Agreement. A first draft of the document will be presented to the next meeting of the Bureau with the view of submitting it to MOP5.

The Bureau asked the Scientific Committee to prepare, a recommendation on the identification of cetaceans that could be presented by a Party to CITES.

6. Progress report on the activities of the Scientific Committee

The Chair of the Scientific Committee presented Document BU7/2011/Doc14 on the activities of the Scientific Committee between the 4th Meeting of the Parties (MOP4, November 2010) and the 7th Meeting of the Bureau.

He emphasised that during the one-year period the 7th Meeting (SC7) of the SC was convened in Monaco (29-31 March 2011). Most activities before and after that meeting were coordinated and implemented by means of e-mail communication.

The agenda of the SC7 and subsequent activities fully complied with decisions of the MOP4 and the ACCOBAMS Work programme for 2011-2013 adopted by the Parties (Res. 4.5). The details of the SC7 are contained in the report of the Meeting and annexed documents available from the Secretariat and on the ACCOBAMS website.

The Bureau expressed its concern about the low participation of some SC members in charge of specific activities:

- concerning ship strikes, the Bureau asked the Secretariat to contact the Secretariat of IWC to designate a contact person for ACCOABMS concerning this issue,
- concerning Population Structure and Marine Strategy, the Bureau invited the Chair to contact the relevant Task Manager to see if he is still available and interested in being involved as Vice-Chair and Task Manager. With no reply by the end of January 2012, a new coordinator for the task should be identified.

The Bureau suggested asking the Task Manager on Capacity Building to contribute to the preparation of the Scientific Committee Working Programme for the next triennium according to his expertise.

Considering the lack of communication with all stakeholders of the working group on Noise, the Bureau invited the Secretariat to contact the coordinator of the working group expressing the concern of the Scientific Committee and the Bureau and asking him if he needs some assistance (complementary work by a co leader).

7. Partnership

7.1 - Declaration of commitment

The Secretariat introduced the document BU7/2011/Doc15 and informed the Bureau about the Organisations and Institutions, already granted with the ACCOBAMS Partner status, that have signed the “Declaration of Commitment “ as requested in the Resolution 4.20.

The Bureau recommended the Secretariat to contact main Partners to remind them to sign the declaration of commitment and to remind the others by letter.

7.2 - New requests for ACCOBAMS partnership

The Executive Secretary introduced Document BU7/2011/Doc15 and presented the three new applications of partnership.

She also informed the Meeting that in 2006, a formal Partnership Agreement between the CMS and WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquariums) was signed. The Partnership Agreement also covers the Secretariats of Agreements concluded under the auspices of CMS, allowing the whole CMS Family to share information of mutual interest.

The Bureau granted the status of ACCOBAMS Partners to the NGO “ALNILAM Conservacion” and to “CORSICA MARE OSSERVAZIONE” and recommended to reject the request from EAAM as well as the proposal from the Secretariat concerning a potential partnership with WAZA. Nevertheless the Bureau suggested developing collaboration with these two Organizations to help ACCOBAMS to develop good practices in delphinarium and in delivery of permits.

8. Other business

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting, that a short document was presented to the CMS COP 10 presenting scientific arguments to list Cuvier’s Beaked Whale in CMS Appendix 2. This proposal was welcomed by the Parties to the CMS. The ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee is now asked to prepare a file to list such species in CMS Appendix 2.

The Bureau recommended that a Party should present this document for the next CMS COP (2013).

She added that during the CMS COP 10, Egypt expressed its willingness (with other countries from Red Sea) to extend the Agreement to the Red Sea.

- She informed the Meeting about the Compliance System in place in the Bern Convention and suggested to develop such a system for ACCOBAMS

The Bureau agreed to mandate the Secretariat to prepare a document on the Compliance System to be submitted to the next MOP.

9. Date and venue of the next Bureau Meeting

The next Meeting of the Bureau will take place on December 2012, in Monaco.

10. Closure of the Meeting

The Chair of the Bureau closed the Meeting at 2.00 p.m., on Wednesday, the 14th of December, 2011.

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ANNEX 2: AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Report of the Secretariat**
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- 8. Other business**
- 9. Date and venue of the next Bureau Meeting**
- 10. Closure of the Meeting**

**ANNEX 3: CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF PROJECTS UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTARY
CONSERVATION GRANTS FUND OF ACCOBAMS**

Summary

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Presentation of ACCOBAMS

[ACCOBAMS (Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area) is an intergovernmental legal tool for cetacean conservation taking in account social and economic activities. Signed in Monaco in 1996 and entered into force in 2001, ACCOBAMS aims to reduce threats to cetaceans and improve knowledge on them.

Today, 23 Countries are Parties to the Agreement whose geographical coverage includes by all the maritime waters of the Black Sea and the Mediterranean and their gulfs and seas, and the internal waters connected to or interconnecting these maritime waters, and of the Atlantic area contiguous to the Mediterranean Sea west of the Straits of Gibraltar. In 2010 the Parties adopted a Resolution to extend the ACCOBAMS area to cover the whole Exclusive Economic Zones of Spain and Portugal in the Atlantic.]

The Supplementary Conservation Fund of ACCOBAMS

At their Second Meeting (Palma de Mallorca, Spain, November 2004), the Parties to ACCOBAMS decided to establish a Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund from voluntary contributions of Parties or from any other source in order to increase the funds available for monitoring, research, training and projects relating to the conservation of Cetaceans.

The Parties agreed that the following conditions shall apply to the award of grants from the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund (Resolution 2.4):

- a) only developing Countries and Countries with economies in transition shall benefit from this funding;
- b) the proposed activities should clearly contribute to the implementation of the Agreement and the priorities adopted by the Parties;
- c) the proposed activities should be implemented at a national or sub-regional level;
- d) inter-ministerial involvement and partnership with economic sectors and/or NGOs will be favoured;
- e) the award for any single project will not exceed € 15,000;
- f) priority will be granted to Parties having no unpaid pledge for the prior years.

Priorities

The projects proposed under this call for proposals should address at least one of the following priority areas adopted by the Parties for the Work Programme of ACCOBAMS 2011-2013:

- bycatch and interactions with fisheries;
- population structure;
- species Conservation Plans: Mediterranean short-beaked common dolphin;
- species Conservation Plans: Black Sea cetaceans;
- species Conservation Plans: Cuvier's beaked whales;
- anthropogenic Noise;
- ship strikes;
- responses to emergency situations;
- Marine Protected Areas;
- climate change;
- promoting National Plans on cetacean conservation;
- monitoring of cetacean stranding;
- promoting the use of cetacean photo-identification.

The following type of activities could be covered: Data collection, Monitoring, Research, Capacity Building and Awareness Raising.

Eligibility Criteria

4.1- This call for proposals is open for Governmental Institutions and non-profit NGOs from the following Countries: Albania, Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Egypt, Georgia, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Romania, Syria, Tunisia, and Ukraine. Only proposals addressing the conservation of cetaceans in these countries will be considered.

4.2- Partnership and collaboration with Governmental Institutions and NGOs from other Parties to ACCOBAMS is encouraged provided that the receiver of the grant is a Governmental Institution or an NGO from one of the Countries listed above and the amount of budget allocated to the partner(s) from other Parties to ACCOBAMS doesn't exceed 40% of the request grant.

4.3- The final decision about the projects to be financially supported by the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund of ACCOBAMS will be made by the Bureau of the Parties, taking into account the scientific and technical evaluation of the projects by the Scientific Committee.

4.4- Proposals from Governmental Institutions and NGOs having direct link with one or more members of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties or one, more members of the Scientific Committee **or one or more staff of the Permanent Secretariat** of ACCOBAMS are not eligible.

How to apply and deadline for submission

Submission of proposals should include the following documents:

- Doc 1: a cover letter addressed to the Executive Secretary of ACCOBAMS;
- Doc 2: a CV of the team leader;
- Doc 3: the concept form completed (Annex 1);
- Doc 4: the project presentation form completed (Annex 2);
- Doc 5: a letter of support from the relevant ACCOBAMS National Focal Point of the Country where the proposed project will be implemented (The list of the National Focal Points is given in Annex 3).

The complete set of the required documents should be sent by mail and e-mail to:

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Jardin de l'UNESCO, Terrasses de Fontvieille - 98000 MONACO
Email: mcgrillo@accobams.net

The submission should reach ACCOBAMS before (*date to be decided*). Submission of proposals by e-mail shall be accepted provided they include scanned copies of Doc 1, Doc2, and Doc5 (all of them dated and signed). The original documents should be addressed by mail, and should reach the Secretariat of ACCOBAMS not later than (*date to be decided*).

If needed, requests for clarification should be addressed to the Permanent Secretariat (mcgrillo@accobams.net) not later than (*date to be decided*). The received requests for clarifications and the relevant answers from the Secretariat will be posted on the web site of ACCOBAMS. However the names of the authors of requests of clarifications will not appear on the web site.

Selection procedure

The proposals received before the deadline will be checked by the Secretariat as for their eligibility (status and country of the proponents and total cost). The eligible proposals will be sent to the Scientific Committee, 1 week after the deadline, to be evaluated using the evaluation sheet (Annex 4) and the following scoring system.

Scoring criteria

1. Potential impact on the conservation of cetacean in the ACCOBAMS area (Score max: 5):
 - contribution to achieve the objectives of ACCOBAMS;
 - appropriateness of the proposed activity in relation to the priorities of the ACCOBAMS work plan [2011-2013].
2. Quality and efficiency of the methodology and team (Score max: 5):
 - quality and relevant experience of the team leader;
 - soundness of the proposed methodology and associated work plan;
 - appropriateness of the allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment).

Scoring scale

Scores must be in the range 0-5. Half marks may be given.

- 0 - The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.
- 1 - Poor. The criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2 - Fair. While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses.

-
- 3 - Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, although improvements would be necessary.
 - 4 - Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are still possible.
 - 5 - Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question, any shortcomings are minor.

If necessary the Secretariat will ask the applicant for further information, no later than 3 weeks after the dead line.

The final decision about the projects to be financially supported by the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund of ACCOBAMS will be made by the Bureau of the Parties also intersessionally, taking into account the evaluation by the Scientific Committee and the available budget.

Proponents will be informed about the result of the selection procedure no later than the end of December of the ongoing year.

Annex 1: Project Concept Form

Reserved to ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat
Form reference: PCF-

Title of the project:

Project category: Research and monitoring Capacity building Public awareness

Project topic(s):

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bycatch/Depredation | <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Protected Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Stranding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climate change | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo-identification | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population structure | <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Strikes | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency situation | | |

Project amount (Euro):

Expected starting date:

Project duration:

Geographical area of the project:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Albania | <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> Romania |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Algeria | <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon | <input type="checkbox"/> Syria |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulgaria | <input type="checkbox"/> Tunisia | <input type="checkbox"/> Ukraine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croatia | <input type="checkbox"/> Montenegro | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Egypt | <input type="checkbox"/> Morocco | |

Partnership if relevant:

Date: Signature and organisation stamp

Annex 2: Project Presentation Form

Reserved to ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat
Form reference: PPF-

A. The applicant

1. Identity

Full legal name	
Acronym	
Legal status	
Official address	
Contact person:	
Telephone number	
Fax number	
E-mail address	

2. Description of applicant

2.1. When was your organization founded, and when did it start its activities?

2.2. What are the main activities of your organization?

2.3. Will the project be implemented in collaboration with a partner organisation?

Yes

No

If Yes, please indicate :

- the identity of the partner:

Full legal name	
Acronym	
Legal status	
Official address	
Contact person:	
Telephone number	
Fax number	
E-mail address	

- the role of the partner:

--

(Please read the Eligibility Criteria)

B. The project

1. Description

1.1. Title

1.2. Coordination

1.3. Location

Provide here a brief description of the area in which the project will be carried out (Please attach a map to this document).

1.4. Expected starting date

Please note that the project cannot start before end of January of the following year.

1.5. Countries participating in the project

1.6. Objectives (maximum 150 words)

1.7 Justification (how the activities meet the priorities decided by the Parties)
(maximum 250 words)

1.8 Activities to be carried out and timetable

1.9 Methodology (Maximum: 400 words)

1.10 Budget estimates

Please provide for each activity a breakdown of

- personnel
- non-consumable equipment
- consumables
- travel
- field work
- other (specify)

If the financial arrangements for the project include any other financial support for an extra funding, please provide detailed information on the amounts, the donor(s) and the relevant commitments.

1.11 Issues relevant to transfer of technology (mandatory for applications for financial support)

The project should include the concept of transfer of technology, with detailed proposals. Please provide information.

1.12 Links with other initiatives

(Remark: the Secretariat might consult with other organisations if the Project activities were submitted to them for funding or are complementary to activities having received funding from them.)

Please indicate here if the proposed activities (i) were presented for funding under other initiatives/organisations

Yes

No

If Yes please indicate the initiative/ organisation

- (ii) have direct links or are complementary to other activities having received funding from other organisations.

Yes

No

If Yes please indicate such link or complementary

Annex 3: List of ACCOBAMS National Focal Points

PARTIES	NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS
<p>ALBANIA ALBANIE</p>	<p>Mrs. Elvana RAMAJ Nature Protection Policies Directorate Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration Tirana - ALBANIA Tel. + 355 692 121 425 Fax. + 355 42270625 eramaj@moe.gov.al</p>
<p>ALGERIA ALGERIE</p>	<p>Mr. Nadir BENSEGUENI Chargé d'Etudes et de Synthèse. Conseiller de Monsieur le Ministre. Ministère de la Pêche et des Ressources Halieutiques Rue des Quatre Canons, Alger - ALGERIE Tel: + 213 2143 39 42/+ 213 551 771 891 - Fax: + 213 433169 nadirbensegueni3@yahoo.ca</p>
<p>BULGARIA BULGARIE</p>	<p>Ms Tihomira SLAVEYKOVA Ministry of Environment and Water 67 William Gladstone St. 1000 Sofia BULGARIA Tel: +359 29 40 61 77 tslaveykova@moew.government.bg</p>
<p>CYPRUS CHYPRE</p>	<p>Ms. Marina ARGYROU Senior Fisheries and Marine Research Officer Marine Environment Unit Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR) Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment 101 Vithelem Street 1416, Nicosia - CYPRUS Tel: + 357 22 80 78 52 - Fax: +357 22 77 59 55 margyrou@dfmr.moa.gov.cy</p>
<p>CROATIA CROATIE</p>	<p>Ms. Ana STRBENAC Head of the Expertise Division State Institute for Nature Protection Trg Mažuranica 5, 10000 Zagreb - CROATIA Tel: +385 1 5502 912 - Fax: + 385 1 5502 901 Mobile: +385 91 54 288 68 ana.strbenac@dzzp.hr</p>
<p>EGYPT EGYPTE</p>	<p>Prof. Dr. Mustafa FOU DA Minister Advisor for Biodiversity Nature Conservation Sector Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs 30 Misr Helwan El-Zyrea Rd. P.O.Box 11728, Al Maadi, Cairo - EGYPT Tel: +202 25271391 - Fax: +202 25280931 Mobile: 012-2283890 foudamos@link.net</p>

<p>FRANCE</p>	<p>Mrs. Martine BIGAN Chef de projet, espèces marines Ministère de l'Ecologie, du Développement durable et de la Mer – Direction générale de l'aménagement du logement et de la nature - Direction de l'eau et de la biodiversité -Sous Direction du littoral et des milieux marins La Grande Arche,1, Parvis de la Défense F-92055 – La défense Cedex - FRANCE Tel: +33 1 40 81 32 09 - Fax: +33 1 40 81 71 87 martine.bigan@developpement-durable.gouv.fr</p>
<p>GEORGIA GEORGIE</p>	<p>Mrs. Irina LOMASHVILI Main specialist of the Biodiversity Protection Service Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia 6, Gulia st, Tbilisi, 0114, Georgia Tel/fax: (+995 32) 72 72 31 - mob: (+995 32) 99 46 07 50 irinaloma@yahoo.com</p>
<p>GREECE GRECE</p>	<p>Dr. Eleni TRYFON Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change Directorate General for the Environment Natural Management Station 36, Trikalon, Str. GR 11526 Athens, Greece Tel: +30 210 6918202 - Fax: +30 210 6918487 e.tryfon@prv.ypeka.gr</p> <p>-----</p> <p><i>Copy to</i></p> <p>Dr. Charalambos VERVERIS Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change Directorate General for the Environment Natural Management Station 36, Trikalon, Str. GR 11526 Athens, Greece Tel: +30 210 6921952 - Fax: +30 210 6918487 Ch.ververis@prv.ypeka.gr</p>
<p>ITALY ITALIE</p>	<p>Dr. Oliviero MONTANARO Direzione per la Protezione della Natura Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44, 00147 Roma ITALIA Tel: +39 06 5722 3441- Fax: +39 06 5722 8424 montanaro.oliviero@minambiente.it</p>
<p>LEBANON LIBAN</p>	<p>Mr. Gaby KHALAF Directeur du Centre de Recherches Marines Centre National des Sciences Marines P.O. BOX 534, Batroun - LIBAN Tel: +961 6741580 - Fax : +961 6741584 Mobile: +9613303969 bihar@cnrs.edu.lb</p>
<p>LIBYA LIBYE</p>	<p>To be appointed</p>
<p>MALTA MALTE</p>	<p>Ms. Carmen MIFSUD Senior Environment Protection Officer Environment Protection Directorate Malta Environment & Planning Authority St. Francis Ravellin, Floriana PO Box 200 Marsa MRS 1000 MALTA Tel.: +356 22.90. 71.03 - Fax: +356 21.22.84.38 accobams.malta@mepa.org.mt</p>

<p>MONACO</p>	<p>Mlle. Céline VAN KLAVEREN Rédacteur Principal Direction des Affaires Internationales MINISTERE D'ETAT Place de la Visitation MC 98015 - MONACO Cedex Tel: +377 98.98.44.70 / Fax: +377 98.98.19.57 cevanklaveren@gouv.mc</p>
<p>MONTENEGRO</p>	<p>To be appointed</p>
<p>MOROCCO MAROC</p>	<p>Mr. Abdelouahed BENABBOU Directeur de la Coopération et des Affaires Juridiques, Ministère de l'Agriculture, du Développement Rural et des Pêches Maritimes Nouvelle Cité j - Agdal - B.P. 47 Rabat Tel/Fax: +212 537 68 81 95/ 96 Mobile : +212 669 28 18 22 benabbou@mpm.gov.ma</p>
<p>PORTUGAL</p>	<p>Ms. Marina SEQUEIRA Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e da Biodiversidade Reserva Natural do Estuário do Sado Praça da República 2900-587 Setúbal - PORTUGAL Tel: + 351 265 541 140 - Fax: + 351 265 541 155 sequeiram@icnb.pt</p>
<p>ROMANIA ROUMANIE</p>	<p>Mrs. Camelia DUMITRACHE National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" Blv. Mamaia, 300, Constanta, 8700 - ROMANIA Tel: +40 241543 288 / +40 241 540 870 Fax: +40 241 831 274 iulia@alpha.rmri.ro</p>
<p>SLOVENIA SLOVENIE</p>	<p>Mr. Andrej BIBIC Sector for Nature Conservation Policy Directorate for the Environment Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning Dunajska 48 SI-1000 Ljubljana - SLOVENIA Phone: +386 14787471 andrej.bibic@gov.si</p>
<p>SPAIN ESPAGNE</p>	<p>Ms. Marta Garcia PEREZ Deputy Director of Biodiversity Directorate General of Natural Environment and Forest Policy Ministry of the Environment, and Rural and Marine Affairs Rios Rosas, 24-4ª pl. E-28003 Madrid - SPAIN Tel: +34 91 749 36 15 - Fax: +34 91 749 38 73 mgperez@mma.es</p> <p>----- <i>Copy to</i></p> <p>Mr. Juan José ARECES Head of Marine Biodiversity Service Directorate General of Natural Environment and Forest Policy Ministry of the Environment, and Rural and Marine Affairs Rios Rosas, 24-4ª pl. E-28003 Madrid - SPAIN Tel: +34 91 749 39 33 - Fax: +34 91 749 38 73 jareces@mma.es</p>

<p>SYRIA SYRIE</p>	<p>Mr. Mhmmad MHMMAD Ministry of State for Environment Affairs P.O.Box:3773 Damascus – SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC Tel:+963 11 231 8682 / 231 86083 Fax: +963 11 231 2120 Mobile: +963 956 702 264 Mhammad.a.a@hotmail.com</p>
<p>TUNISIA TUNISIE</p>	<p>Mr. HAMANI Mohamed Directeur de la Conservation des Ressources Halieutiques Ministère de l’Agriculture et des Ressources Hydrauliques Direction Générale de la Pêche et de l’Aquaculture 30 Rue Alain Savary – 1002 Belvédère - Tunis – TUNISIE Tel: + 216 71 890 784 – Fax: +216 71 799 401 m.hmani09@yahoo.fr</p>
<p>UKRAINE</p>	<p>Dr. Volodymyr DOMASHLINETS Head of Fauna Conservation Division Directorate of Biotic Resources and EcoNet Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine Urytskogo str., 35, Kiev, 03035 - UKRAINE Tel.: +380 44 206 31 27 - Fax: +380 44 206 31 34 vdomashlinets@yahoo.com</p>

Annex 4: Project Evaluation Form

Reserved to ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat
Form reference: PEF-

Project Title:

Applicant:

Do you have collaboration relationship or conflicts with the applicant or with its staff or the proposed project team?

Yes No

If Yes, the provisions of paragraph 4.4 of the eligibility section apply.

1. Are the project objectives inline with the objectives of ACCOBAMS?

Yes No

2. Will the proposed project clearly contribute to the implementation of the Agreement and the priorities adopted by the Parties?

Yes No

If no, please explain why.

3. Do the proposed activities duplicate or overlap previous or ongoing projects?

Yes No

If yes please give details

4. General appreciation

- The project is acceptable
- The project needs improvements

Please specify

The project cannot be accepted

Please explain

5. Other suggestions and/or comments (if any)

To Resume:

Potential impact on the conservation of cetacean in the ACCOBAMS area (please choose a score):

0	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---

Quality and efficiency of the methodology and team (please choose a score):

0	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---

Name of the evaluator:

Date:

^(*)This evaluation sheet is to be used by the members of the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS and the Sub-Regional Coordination Units to give their opinion about the projects proposed for funding under the Complementary Conservation Fund of ACCOBAMS. The final decision for awarding grants from the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund is made by the Bureau of ACCOBAMS, on proposal of the Secretariat and, as far as relevant, the advice from the Scientific Committee and/or the Sub-Regional Coordination Units.

ANNEX 4: DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACCOBAMS STRATEGY (2013-2023)

Proposal of the development steps (Reference: Resolution 4.24, point 2)

Steps/Tasks	Persons/Groups Responsible	Schedule
Prepare the proposal of strategy development steps	Facilitator	March 2011
Discuss the proposal of strategy development steps and responsibilities	Chairs of the Bureau and Scientific Committee, Executive Secretary	March 2011
Present and review the proposal of strategy development steps and responsibilities	Facilitator	SC 7 meeting March 2011
Review the proposal by the Bureau members	Chair of the Bureau	End of August 2011
Organise the Working Group for preparation of the Strategy (WG) : after reply from the Bureau; WG MEMBERSHIP: Members of the Bureau, Chair of the SC and former Chair of the SC, Executive Secretary, representatives of Subregional coordination units, representatives of Focal Points (or their representatives), representatives of partners and representatives of Range states (non Parties) ¹ . The CMS will be invited to nominate a representative to the WG. Meeting of the WG should be adjoined to the meeting of the Bureau	Secretariat	End of September 2011
Gather information (existing written information + interviews / questionnaires when/if needed) and prepare a draft preliminary analysis of Agreement's effectiveness ² to be presented at the BU7. Send the document to the Secretariat.	Facilitator, Secretariat in cooperation with SC, Bureau,	15 October 2011
Prepare a draft structure of the strategic plan to be presented at the BU7 and send it to the Secretariat	Facilitator	10 November 2011
Presentation of the preliminary analysis document and the draft structure of the strategic plan to the BU7	Facilitator	13- 14 December 2011
Incorporate the suggestions from BU, SC and Secretariat to the preliminary analysis document	Facilitator	End January 2012
Circulate the final draft analysis to the BU, SC and Secretariat for their final approval		Early February 2012 (Dead line mid February)

¹ The WG is opened to other participants, if necessary

² The content of the document will be used as a part of the Strategic Plan

Circulate the final draft analysis to the WG for information (via e-mail) in the frame of the preparation of the draft Strategy	Facilitator	Mid February 2012 2012
Organise and facilitate 1/2 day workshops adjoining regional workshops to present the analysis, discuss key issues, objectives and actions, as integral parts of the Strategy	Secretariat, Facilitator	April -June 2012
Prepare a draft strategic plan based on results of workshops and consultations	Facilitator	August 2012
Circulate the plan to the WG via e-mail to collect comments and include it in the document	Facilitator	September 2012
Present the draft strategic plan to the SC 8	Facilitator	November 2012 (SC8)
Organise the meeting of the WG (adjoining BU8) to present a draft strategy plan	Secretariat, Facilitator	December 2012, at the occasion of the BU8
Finalise the draft strategic plan based on received comments	Facilitator	January – March 2013
Send preliminary effectiveness analysis document and draft resolution with attached draft strategy plan to the Extended Bureau	Facilitator, Secretariat	Mid-March 2013
Present the final draft strategic plan to the Extended Bureau Bureau adopts the draft strategic plan	Facilitator	May 2013 (EB2)
Send the preliminary effectiveness analysis document (as INF type of document) and draft resolution with attached draft strategy plan to the Parties	Secretariat	Mid-September
Present the preliminary analysis document to the Meeting of Parties (MOP 5) Present the draft strategic plan for approval to the 5 th Meeting of Parties (as a resolution) in collaboration with the Secretariat	Facilitator, Secretariat	November 2013 (MOP 5)