

REPORT OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ACCOBAMS BUREAU



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Monaco, 11-12 December 2012

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DRAFT REPORT OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ACCOBAMS BUREAU

1. OPENING SESSION

The Eighth Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Bureau was convened to take place in Monaco at the Congress Centre “Auditorium Rainier III”, on 11th and 12th of December, 2012. 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) and Mrs. Céline Van Klaveren-Impagliazzo (Monaco).

It was also attended by Mrs. Marie-Christine Grillo-Compulsione (Executive Secretary of ACCOBAMS), Mr. Alexei Birkun (Chair of the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS), Ms. Ana Strbenac (facilitator of the Working Group on the ACCOBAMS Strategy) and the staff of 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 9.00 a.m., on Tuesday 11th of December, 2012.

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

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Executive Secretary introduced the provisional Agenda (BU8/2012/Doc01). The Meeting reviewed and adopted the Agenda. It appears as [Annex 2](#) to this report.

3. REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

The Executive Secretary introduced Document BU8/2012/Doc05, presenting information about the activities carried out since the last Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Bureau and about the progress made in promoting the Agreement and strengthening collaboration with other instruments.

She updated the Meeting about the status of the amendment to the Agreement adopted in 2010 and the Members of the Bureau informed the Meeting about the steps undertaken in their respective countries on this issue.

The Focal Point for Monaco informed that, as agreed during the BU7, the Depositary sent a letter to the relevant national authorities in each ACCOBAMS Party to encourage the ratification or acceptance of the amendments to the Agreement adopted by the Meeting of the Parties.

The Bureau invited the Depositary to send a letter:

- to the relevant national authorities in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Israel and the Russian Federation to encourage the ratification of the Agreement;
- to the relevant national authorities in the ACCOBAMS Parties that have not yet ratified the amendments to the Agreement to encourage them to speed up the ratification process with the view of having these amendments into force before the next Meeting of the Parties.

Discussion on the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative

The Chair of the Scientific Committee presented the Document BU8/2012/Doc22Rev1 on the ACCOBAMS survey in the Central and Eastern Black Sea in order to complete a survey funded by the European Commission (DG MARE) in the Western Black Sea.

Regarding a potential contribution from Ukraine to the Black Sea survey, Volodymyr Domashlinets informed the Meeting that the national procedures would imply that the allocation of the funds would have to be done through a call for tenders.

The Chair of the Scientific Committee raised the attention of the Bureau members about the preparation of a survey in Bulgarian national waters and on the possible duplication of effort if such initiative is conducted without coordination with the other survey initiative.

The Bureau confirmed the allocation of 150.000 € from ACCOBAMS budget to carry out the survey in the Central and Eastern Black Sea and took note of the efforts developed by the Secretariat to identify additional sources (140.000 €) to cover the project costs. The Secretariat was therefore authorized to allocate this amount to extend the survey to all the Black Sea waters.

It was also decided that the Secretariat will send a letter to the Ukrainian and Bulgarian authorities stressing the importance of having one survey covering the entire Black Sea instead of separated initiatives.

Upon a request of the Executive Secretary, Mr. Hervé Lethier, expert in project development, presented a series of comments ([Annex 3](#)) on the document prepared by the Scientific Committee for the “ACCOBAMS survey initiative” (Roma, 16-17 November 2011). He emphasized that the document provided a strong scientific baseline of what should be done for improving knowledge on the state of conservation of cetacean populations. Hervé Lethier stressed however that the document should be further developed in particular through the elaboration of a logical framework, which would refer to the Agreement provisions, as well as all to the recommendations and decisions adopted by the Parties so that this initiative is understood as a response to the international and regional commitments and priorities in terms of conservation of cetaceans in the geographic scope of the Agreement.

This project should be interpreted as a mean to address and reduce the main threats and concerns that do or can affect those species (eg.: by-catch, degradation of marine habitats, disturbances, pollutions, etc) and take benefit of the experience of other similar approaches developed in the Northern Atlantic, among others (eg.: SCAN II).

A coordination group should be set up in the nearest future, with support of partner Organizations, in order to draft a project identification document on the basis of which the Secretariat is able to identify and approach funding Organizations, with technical external support if necessary, and finalize a detailed project document for final funding. The aim would be to (1) get clear support and commitments from the State Parties, (2) obtain additional funds from external sources, and (3) start the implementation of this project in 15-18 months.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to ask IUCN to implement the IUCN-AAMP financial agreement according to the new terms of reference of the consultant to be appointed.

The Bureau also mandated the Secretariat to inform the Parties about the progress made in the development of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative and invite them to participate actively in the project development phases as well as in the related fundraising effort.

Discussion on databases

The Permanent Secretariat presented information on OBIS-Seamap and Intercet databases. The Meeting was also informed about the work undertaken by the Secretariat to develop an interactive map platform for ACCOBAMS activities and projects. The next steps for building a full web GIS on the ACCOBAMS website were also presented stressing that this tool was aimed at facilitating information-sharing.

Regarding Intercet database, the Bureau encouraged the collaboration between ACCOBAMS and the Pelagos Sanctuary, expressed its interest in this tool and invited the Secretariat to assess this database regarding its user-friendliness and its usefulness for ACCOBAMS.

The Bureau Members commended the work done by the Secretariat in developing the ACCOBAMS interactive map platform and invited the Secretariat to make it available on internet and to ensure its regular updating.

4. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Scientific Committee presented the Document BU8/2012/Doc06 on the activities of the Scientific Committee between the Seventh Meeting of the Bureau (Monaco, 13-14 December 2011) and the Eighth Meeting of the Bureau.

He emphasized that during the one-year period the 8th Meeting of the Scientific Committee (SC8) was convened in Monaco (13-15 November 2012) and he presented the recommendations adopted by SC8.

a) CITES Draft Resolution:

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting on the draft Resolution to be presented under CITES on the identification of origin of cetaceans bred or kept in captivity. As it was too late for the forthcoming CITES Meeting to be held in March 2013, this draft Resolution would have to be presented at the next Meeting of the CITES in 2016.

b) Discussion on the Scientific Committee statement regarding seismic survey in Hellenic Trench:

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting about a statement made by the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee concerning the ongoing seismic survey work in the area of the Hellenic Trench and the exchanges with Mr. Kriton Arsenis (Greek Member of the European Parliament) on his willingness to help on this issue.

Regarding the statement made by the Scientific Committee on the seismic surveys in the Hellenic Trench, the Bureau encouraged the Secretariat to ask Mr. Kriton Arsenis (Greek Member of the European Parliament) and the Greek Focal Point for additional information on the suspected seismic activities and invited the Chair of the Scientific Committee to help the Secretariat in finding more information on the involved companies.

The Bureau mandated the Secretariat to elaborate, on the basis of the additional information that will be received, a statement of concern and send it on behalf of the ACCOBAMS Bureau to the Greek competent authorities through the Greek Embassy.

The Bureau Members invited the Secretariat to post on the ACCOBAMS website the statement made by the Scientific Committee.

5. BUDGETARY MATTERS

The Executive Secretary introduced the Documents BU8/2012/Doc07 on incomes and expenditures of 2011 and BU8/2012/Doc08 on incomes and expenditures of 2012 as per 31 October 2012.

The Bureau members took note of the presented documents.

The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to send the requests for payment of 2013 contributions with the related invoices, before the end of the year.

6. PROVISIONAL LIST OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2013

The Executive Secretary presented the Document BU8/2012/Doc09 with a provisional list of activities for 2013.

a) Preparation of the conservation plan on *Tursiops truncatus*:

The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting that Mr. Guido Gnone, Coordinator of this initiative, will be asked to contact the Focal Points in order to involve them through a participatory approach in the preparation of the action plan, including the Focal Point of Portugal for covering the Atlantic extension of the Agreement area.

b) IPA project:

Ms. Ana Štrbenac, Coordinator of the Working Group for the development of the ACCOBAMS Strategy, informed the Meeting about the project "Network for the Conservation of Cetaceans and Sea Turtles in the Adriatic" (NETCET) that was approved in mid 2012 under the EU IPA Adriatic Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2007-2013. The main objective of the project is to develop common strategies for the conservation of sea turtles and cetaceans in the Adriatic through regional cooperation. The project will be implemented by Institutions and Organisations from Adriatic countries: Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro and Albania. The project foresees carrying out the aerial survey of cetacean and sea turtle populations in the Adriatic Sea (scheduled for 2013). Ms. Ana Štrbenac offered to send to the Secretariat information on the activities of the project in 2013 to post them on the ACCOBAMS website.

c) IMPAC3:

Referring to the Report of the Chair of the Scientific Committee, the contribution of the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee to IMPAC3 to be held in 2013 was discussed.

The Bureau recommended that the proposed ACCOBAMS workshop on MPAs as contribution to IMPAC 3 be replaced by another type of contribution to avoid duplication with the ECS/ASCOBANS/ACCOBAMS workshop to be organized at the next ECS Conference.

7. SUPPLEMENTARY CONSERVATION GRANTS FUND (SCF)

The Permanent Secretariat introduced the Document BU8/2012/Doc10 on the projects submitted for funding under the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund of ACCOBAMS.

a) 2011 call for proposals:

The Secretariat informed the Bureau Members about the first call for proposals and reminded that pursuant the decision of the Seventh Meeting of the Bureau (BU7, Monaco, 13-14 December 2011) two different projects on photo-identification were supported in Bulgaria and Romania.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to share with the Bureau Members and the Members of the Scientific Committee the progress reports as well as the final reports to be prepared in the frame of the projects funded under the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund when information will be available.

The Secretariat informed also the Meeting that following the Bureau Decision, the two NGOs having proposed two projects with similar activities in two overlapping zones in Croatia, were invited to collaborate to avoid duplication as well as the elaboration of two separate photoidentification catalogues covering overlapping zones. The Secretariat reminded that the two projects were evaluated by the Scientific Committee and, based on their evaluation scores, the Bureau decided to accept both of them provided the proponent NGOs collaborate to avoid duplication.

The Bureau members took note of the replies received from the two NGOs and concluded that one of the proponent NGOs was not willing to collaborate. The Bureau members expressed their disappointment regarding the lack of collaboration will and confirmed that the Bureau cannot approve two separate projects aimed at implementing similar activities in overlapping areas.

The Meeting mandated the Secretariat to inform the proponents of the two projects that, given the lack of collaboration will, the Bureau decided to not allocate funding from the SCF to their proposed projects. The Secretariat was also mandated to provide the two proponents with the rationale of the Bureau decision.

b) 2012 call for proposals:

The Secretariat informed the Bureau Members about the projects received in the frame of the second call for proposals advertised by the Secretariat under the SCF.

Considering that there was no letter of support from the Algerian Focal Point, the Bureau mandated the Secretariat to approach the Focal Point of Algeria on general issue of communication, and in particular regarding the project proposed by Algerian University.

The Bureau will give a final decision on the eligibility of this project after the report of the Secretariat on this issue.

The Meeting was informed that during its Eighth Meeting (Monaco, 13-15 November 2012), the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee raised several issues regarding the project evaluation process and decided to postpone the evaluation of the received project proposals waiting for the Bureau decisions on these issues.

The Bureau members took note of the issues raised by some Members of the Scientific Committee regarding the ACCOBAMS call for proposal procedures as presented in Document BU8/2012/Doc11.

The Bureau mandated the Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) to organize the evaluation of the project proposals by establishing and coordinating an evaluation group made of Scientific Committee Members. The composition of the evaluation group and the evaluation procedure shall be decided by the Chair of the Scientific Committee in consultation with the other members of the

Scientific Committee. The Bureau stressed that each project proposal should be assessed by at least two members of the Working Group.

Considering that many members of the Scientific Committee can easily review project proposals written in French, the Bureau considered that it would not be necessary to translate the project proposals submitted in French.

The Bureau recommended that the evaluation scores be sent by the Chair of the Scientific Committee to the Secretariat by the end of January 2013.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to inform the proponents about the delay taken in the evaluation and decision about their projects. Final decision will be sent on 1st March 2013.

c) Amendment of the procedure:

The Secretariat presented the Document BU8/2012/Doc12 on proposal for amending the Form used for application for funding under the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund.

Further to a point raised by the Chair of the Scientific Committee, the Bureau mandated the Secretariat to define the notion of “direct link” in the eligibility criteria 4.4 and proposed to exclude Organizations having among their employees or board, members of the ACCOBAMS Bureau/Scientific Committee/Secretariat.

Regarding the letter of support from Focal Points, the Bureau mandated the Secretariat to check with the CMS Secretariat how they managed the situation when a project proposal submitted in the frame of the CMS Small Grants Programme does not include the endorsement form signed by the CMS Focal Point.

Concerning the list of Countries that could benefit from the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund, the Bureau mandated the Secretariat to take in consideration that the Resolution 2.4, partly copied in the ACCOBAMS call for proposals, should be updated.

The Bureau agreed to further elaborate the current procedure applicable to the ACCOBAMS call for proposals and to submit it to the next Meeting of the Parties taking into account the proposals made by the Secretariat.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Regarding the list of Focal Points, the Bureau invited the Secretariat to ask to the Parties to confirm their respective nominations, or to designate a Focal Point (through diplomatic channel).

8.1 Headquarters Agreement

The Secretariat informed the Bureau Members about the implementation of the Headquarter Agreement with the Host Country and on an ongoing revision of some details in order to make it coherent with the rules applied in the Principality.

The Bureau mandated the Secretariat to contact the relevant authorities of the Principality of Monaco to review the Headquarter Agreement in order to present a finalized version to the MOP5.

a) Appointment of the new Executive Secretary:

Mrs Marie-Christine Grillo-Compulsione informed the Meeting that she will resign from the Post of ACCOBAMS Executive Secretary after the MOP5. She introduced the Document BU8/2012/Doc21 on the Executive Secretary job description. She also informed the Bureau Members that ACCOBAMS had no procedure for the recruitment of the Executive Secretary.

The Bureau commended the significant support provided by Monaco to ACCOBAMS and suggested that the nomination of the new Executive Secretary be decided by the next MOP following a proposal by Monaco. In this process, Monaco may wish to consult other Parties.

The Bureau recommended that the Secretariat prepare appointment procedures and submit it to the next MOP.

8.2 The Extended Bureau

The Executive Secretary informed the Bureau Members about the progress made so far in the establishment of the Extended Bureau and Pr. Tullio Scovazzi presented the Document BU8/2012/Doc13 with a proposal of revision of the Rules of Procedure for the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the ACCOBAMS.

After discussion, the Meeting approved the amendments to the rules of procedure for the Bureau ([Annex 4](#)) and invited the Secretariat to propose to the following experts to join the Bureau Working Group at the next Bureau Meeting:

- Kriton Arsenis,
- Simion Nicolaev,
- Mustafa Fouda.

As the next Meeting of the Parties will be organized in Morocco, the Bureau, deeming its necessary for the organization of such Meeting, recommended inviting Morocco to designate one representative to attend the next Bureau Meeting.

8.3 Arrangements for the Scientific Committee

The Permanent Secretariat introduced the Document BU8/2012/Doc14 on “Proposals and analysis of scenarios for ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee’s reorganization” and the Chair of the Scientific Committee presented the conclusions of the last Scientific Committee Meeting on this point.

The Bureau expressed its regret that the Scientific Committee refused to examine the options included in the document during the Eighth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (Monaco, 13-15 November 2012).

The Chair of the Bureau reminded that the Resolution 4.4 mandated the Bureau and the Scientific Committee to work together to prepare the proposal on the composition of the Scientific Committee to be presented at the next MOP.

A new proposal came out from the Meeting debate on this issue. It is based on the following four elements agreed during the Meeting by the Bureau in consultation with the Chair of the Scientific Committee:

- Ensuring more transparency in the selection of the Scientific Committee Members through the adoption of relevant criteria;

- Allowing Parties to designate, on a voluntary basis, national experts to participate to the work of the Scientific Committee, in addition to the CIESM representatives, the representatives of partner organizations and regional representatives.
- The chair of the Scientific Committee and the Task managers will be designated among the representatives of CIESM,
- The Task managers and the regional representatives should have a more active role to support the Chair during the Scientific Committee Meetings and other works.

The Bureau mandated the Secretariat to prepare a document based on the four elements agreed during the Meeting and circulate it to the Bureau and Scientific Committee Members with the view of elaborating a proposal for the new shape and working procedures of the Scientific Committee to be submitted to MOP5.

8.4 Organization of the MOP5

The Secretariat informed the Bureau Members on the progress made in the preparation of the MOP5. The MOP5 will be organized in Morocco, in November 2012.

Pr. Tullio Scovazzi presented the draft list of the Resolutions to be submitted to the Parties.

The Bureau Members proposed to add a Resolution on the Partner Status and a Resolution on the Conservation Plan for *Tursiops truncatus*, if the action plan is finalized before MOP5.

The proposal on the future list of the draft Resolutions for the MOP5 is presented in [Annex 5](#).

According to the Bureau decision in 2011, the Secretariat presented a draft of Compliance Procedure for the notification to the MOP, by the Scientific Committee and NGOs, of cases of non compliance with the Agreement.

After discussions, the Meeting approved the draft Compliance Procedure under the ACCOBAMS. The Bureau invited the Secretariat to prepare a non compliance notification form to be presented to the Extended Bureau.

9. LONG TERM STRATEGY FOR ACCOBAMS (2014-2023)

Ana Štrbenac, facilitator of the Working Group established in accordance with Resolution 4.4, to prepare a proposal for the ACCOBAMS Strategy, presented the first draft strategy of ACCOBAMS for 2014-2023 (BU8/2012/Doc17).

The Bureau agreed with the proposal to carry out a public consultation on the draft strategy in February 2013.

The Bureau suggested amending the part of the strategy related to A.3.1 regarding new funding possibilities in order to include a fundraising strategy.

The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to prepare the programme of work of the next triennium in accordance with the ACCOBAMS Strategy.

10. NEW REQUESTS FOR ACCOBAMS PARTNERSHIP

The Secretariat presented the new applications of partnership and informed the Bureau Members 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 granted the status of ACCOBAMS Partners to :

- ❖ The NGO “**CRAM Foundation**”
- ❖ The NGO “**Archipelagos Institute of Marine Conservation**”
- ❖ The NGO “**ORCA**”

The Bureau mandated the Secretariat to prepare for the Extended Bureau a draft Resolution revising the status of Partners to include the situation when an NGO from a non-Party State apply for the Partner status

The Bureau Members welcomed Alnilam initiative for creating its webpage in English and formalized its appointment as an ACCOBAMS Partner.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

11.1. MEDACES

The Permanent Secretariat was approached by the Spanish Focal Point in order to provide financial support to the maintenance of MEDACES (Mediterranean database on cetacean stranding) and its web page, due to the economical situation of his Country.

This support would be dedicated to remunerate a specific position in the University of Valencia with an amount of 20 000€/year.

The Secretariat was informed by the RAC/SPA that similar request was received in 2012 but it was unable to grant any additional support. Nevertheless, the RAC/SPA proposed to host the database and is waiting for a reply.

Considering the limited mandate of the Bureau on the financial planning decisions, the Bureau proposed to discuss this issue at MOP5, if Spain is willing to do it.

The Bureau mandated the Secretariat to send a letter to the Spanish Focal Point to support the RAC/SPA proposal of hosting the database.

11.2. Military use of Bottlenose dolphins

The Permanent Secretariat informed the Bureau Members about the recent military operation by the US Navy using bottlenose dolphins searching for detecting and locating sea mines in the waters of Montenegro.

This issue was raised during the Eighth Meeting of the Scientific Committee that expressed its concern as for the serious negative impacts (eg. The danger of emission of foreign pathogens into the Med Sea and/or genetic pollution) that could be generated by such practices.

The Bureau Members mandated the Secretariat:

- to collect additional information on the issue,
- to sent a letter to the Embassy of Montenegro to recall ACCOBAMS objectives and relevant decisions of the Parties,
- to contact the US Marine Mammal Commission to inform them about ACCOBAMS objectives.

In order to clarify the question of cetacean taking and dolphinarium, the Bureau recommended to prepare for the next MOP a legal analysis on how these questions should be addressed in ACCOBAMS.

12. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT BUREAU MEETING

The Extended Bureau Meeting will take place in May 2013 in Monaco.

13. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Chair of the Bureau thanked the Meeting participants and closed the Meeting on Wednesday 12th December 2012 at 6:15 pm.

ANNEX 1 : LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 2 : AGENDA

- 1. Opening session**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 3. Report of the Secretariat**
- 4. Progress report on the activities of the Scientific Committee**
- 5. Budgetary matters**
 - 5.1 Budgetary issues (2011)
 - 5.2 Budgetary issues (2012)
- 6. Provisional list of activities for 2013**
- 7. Supplementary conservation Grants Fund (SCF)**
- 8. Administrative matters**
 - 8.1 Head Quarter Agreement
 - 8.2 The Extended Bureau
 - 8.3 Arrangements for the Scientific committee
 - 8.4 Organisation of the MOP5
- 9. Long term strategy for ACCOBAMS (2014-2024)**
- 10. New request for ACCOBAMS Partnership**
- 11. Other business**
- 12. Date and venue of the next Bureau Meeting**
- 13. Closure of the Meeting**

ACCOBAMS Bureau meeting

11 December 2012

« ACCOBAMS SURVEY INITIATIVE »

EMC2I-LETHIER

1

The workshop report 16-17 November 2011 A methodological synthetic document

- **A method of survey**
- **Subregional scientific leaders**
- **Several (scientific) partners**
- **An overall budget**
- **A general timeframe**
- **Guidance for governance and organization**

What is missing A logical framework

- 1. Aim of the project**, in response to ACCOBAMS priorities, goals and decisions
- 2. Comprehensive operational and targetable conservation objectives** (general/specific)
- 3. Suitable actions and means needed**
- 4. Expected achievable and realistic results** in relation to ACCOBAMS priorities, goals and decisions
- 5. Detailed methodology** (tasks/duration, protocols)
- 6. Detailed manageable and feasible time table**
- 7. Project funding** (stakeholders' share of costs + extrafunds needed)
- 8. Clear and detailed budget breakdown**

Additional requirements

- ***A project leader***

Additional requirements

- **A *project leader*** (to be done)

Additional requirements

- **A *project leader*** (to be done)
- **Partnership with strong commitments from partners (types/level/conditions)**

Additional requirements

- A ***project leader*** (to be done)
- **Partnership with strong commitments from partners (types/level/conditions)** (partly done and to be completed and concluded)

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- A ***project leader*** (to be done)
- **Partnerships with strong commitments from partners (types/level/conditions)** (partly done and to be completed and concluded)
- **Identification of the local actors (administrative)**

Additional requirements

- A ***project leader*** (to be done)
- Partnerships with strong **commitments from partners (types/level/conditions)** (partly done and to be completed and concluded)
- Identification of the **local actors (administrative)** (partly done and to be contacted)

Additional requirements

- A ***project leader*** (to be done)
- Partnerships with strong **commitments from partners (types/level/conditions)** (partly done and to be completed and concluded)
- Identification of the **local actors (administrative)** (partly done and to be contacted)
- To seek **complementarities**, at all levels (CBD, IWC, CMS, Bern and other regional conventions, EU directives, IMO, GFCM ...)

Additional requirements

- **A *project leader*** (to be done)
- **Partnerships with strong commitments from partners (types/level/conditions)** (partly done and to be completed and concluded)
- **Identification of the local actors (administrative)** (partly done and to be contacted)
- **To seek complementarities, at all levels (CBD, IWC, CMS, Bern and other regional conventions, EU directives, IMO, GFCM...) (to be done)**

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Respond to ACCOBAMS mandate

- **Priorities, goals and decisions ?**
- **Areas ?** (eg: Mediterranean sea and Black sea)
- **Countries ?** (all State parties)
- **Species ?** (cetaceans)
- **Threats and concerns ?** (state of conservation, key habitats, migratory routes, pollutions, bycatch, disturbances, ...)

Set up the overall objectives of the project

- **General** : *improve the conservation status for cetaceans*

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- **Specific** : amongst others,
 - Assess human/cetacean interactions
 - Identify key habitats for protection
 - Improve knowledge on cetaceans behaviors
 - Monitor their status and trends
 - Build a baseline of reliable data, other information on cetaceans (*indicators*)
 - Strengthen regional cooperation between the State parties and other stakeholders (*socioeconomic*)
 - Develop scientific and technical capacities at both regional, subregional and local levels

Develop a « *passport* » for each action

1. **Name**
2. **Description** (*which activities*)
 - Training
 - Inventory, census and monitoring
 - Mapping
 - Protective measures
 - Management guidance and tools
 - Education and awareness
 - ...
1. **Methods and equipments**
2. **Protocols**
3. **Reasons why it is necessary**
4. **Action leader**
5. **Expected results** (*outputs/outcomes*)
6. **Estimated costs** (*personal, travel, external assistance, durable/consumable, other costs, ...*)

Other matters

- **Name** the *project leader*
- **Commit** the technical and financial partners
- **Establish** the institutional organisation of the project
- **Detail and share** the means needed amongst all partners (funding, equipment, human capacities, ...)
- **Draft** a conceptual document based on the above recommendations, with the detailed *action passports*
- **Identify, list and approach** potential funders (multi/bilateral)

Conclusion

- A **scientific baseline** available (*to detail, update and and complete*)
- **Needs for *interpretation*** in the light of the ACCOBAMS mandate and priorities
- Towards a **standardized logical framework**
- In a **project document** that clarifies the role and contribution of each leader/partner, State party and others
- And allows **to raise additional funds**

The road map ?

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- **Within 6 months :** to raise funds and frame the final « **project detailed document** »

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- **Within 3 months :** reinterpret the conclusions of the 2011 workshop in the light of the ACCOBAMS mandate and priorities and draft a « **project identification document** »
- **Within 6 months :** raise funds, frame and adopt the final « **project detailed document** »
- **Within 12-18 months year :** start to implement the project

ANNEX 4 : RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE BUREAU**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE BUREAU OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION ON CETACEANS OF THE BLACK SEA, MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND CONTIGUOUS ATLANTIC AREA¹****Article 1**

The Bureau shall:

- a) provide general policy guidance and operational and financial direction to the Agreement Secretariat and the subregional Co-ordination Units concerning the implementation and promotion of the Agreement;
- b) carry out, between sessions of the Meeting of the Parties, such interim activities on its behalf as may be necessary or assigned to it by the Meeting of the Parties; and
- c) represent the Parties *vis-à-vis* the Government of the Host Country of the Agreement Secretariat and the Meeting of the Parties, the Depositary and other international Organizations on matters relating to the Agreement and its Secretariat.

Article 2

The Bureau shall meet at least twice between two Meetings of the Parties. One of these Meetings shall be held six months before each Meeting of Parties, and will act as a preparatory Meeting for the Meeting of Parties.

Article 3

1. At its preparatory meeting for the Meeting of the Parties and in the accomplishment of the functions provided for in Article 1, a) and b), the Bureau shall be supported by a representative of the State holding the next Meeting of the Parties, if not already represented in the Bureau, as well as by a Working Group to examine:

- the progress made in the activities of the Secretariat and the subregional Coordination Units;
- the proposals made by the Scientific Committee, and
- the drafts of recommendations and resolutions to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties.

2. The Working Group shall be made up of three experts having extensive experience in social and economical aspects of conservation and management of marine biodiversity. The three experts shall be selected before the third year of each triennium by the Bureau in close consultation with the Secretariat, according to the development of the Working Programme and the priorities to be taken in consideration for the subsequent triennium. In order to ensure a balanced regional representatively in the Working Group, the three experts shall be selected as follows:

- one from a Northern Mediterranean Party;
- one from a Southern Mediterranean Party; and
- one from a Black Sea Party.

3. Cumulative function between member of the Scientific Committee and member of the Working Group shall be avoided.

¹ The composition and functions of the Bureau are settled by Article VI of the Agreement. The rules of procedure of the Bureau, acting as Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties, are already stated in the general Rules of procedures of the Meeting of the Parties which will apply *mutatis mutandis* to the meetings of the Bureau.

4. The Secretariat shall invite the three selected experts to attend the Bureau Meeting on a voluntary basis and shall cover their travel and accommodation fees.

Article 4

The precise dates of the Meetings shall be set by the Chairperson of the Bureau, after consultation with the Secretariat and the other members. The Secretariat shall inform the members of the Bureau of the date, place and agenda of each Meeting and shall invite them to participate.

The Secretariat shall inform the members of the Working Group of the date, place and agenda of the Meeting of the Bureau preparatory to the Meeting of the Parties and shall invite them to participate.

Article 5

The Secretariat shall prepare the provisional agenda of each Meeting, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Bureau.

Article 6

The Bureau shall provide a report on its activities for each session of the Meeting of the Parties that shall be circulated to all Parties in advance of the session by the Agreement Secretariat.

Article 7

The Chairperson of the Scientific Committee shall be invited to participate as an observer in the Meetings of the Bureau.

Article 8

The Agreement Secretariat shall provide secretariat services for the Bureau Meetings.

Article 9

These rules may be amended as required by the Meeting of the Parties

ANNEX 5 : PROPOSALS ON THE FUTURE LIST OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FOR THE MOP5

Administrative items	
Res 5.1	Granting the right to vote
Res 5.2	Financial and administrative matters for 2014-2016
Res 5.3	Composition of the Scientific Committee
Res 5.4	Work programme 2014-2016
Res 5.5	Compliance Committee
Res 5.6	Rio + 20: perspectives for ACCOBAMS
Res 5.7	Guidelines and format for the Call of proposals
Res 5.8	ACCOBAMS long term strategy 2014-2023
Res 5.9	Strengthening the status of ACCOBAMS Partners
Res 5.16	Confirmation of previous Resolutions
Res 5.17	Tribute to organisers
Res 5.18	Date, venue and funding of the Sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties
Scientific issues	
Res 5.10	ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative
Res 5.11	Cetacean watching
Res 5.12	Ship strikes
Res 5.13	Conservation plan for fin whales
Res 5.14	Conservation plan for Bottlenose dolphin
Res 5.15	Live removals of bottlenose dolphins in the Black Sea