



Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area,  
concluded under the auspices of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

Accord sur la Conservation des Cétacés de la Mer Noire, de la Méditerranée et de la zone Atlantique adjacente, conclu  
sous l'égide de la Convention sur la Conservation des Espèces Migratrices appartenant à la Faune Sauvage (CMS)



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## Seventh Meeting of the Parties to ACCOBAMS

Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 5 - 8 November 2019

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English

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# PRELIMINARY REPORT FIRST TRAINING TO BECOME AN “ACCOBAMS HIGHLY QUALIFIED MMOS/PAM OPERATORS”

*Delegates are kindly invited to bring their own documents to the Meeting.  
This document will be available only in electronic format during the Meeting.*

# **PRELIMINARY REPORT**

## **FIRST TRAINING TO BECOME AN “ACCOBAMS HIGHLY QUALIFIED MMOS/PAM OPERATORS”**



**PRELIMINARY REPORT  
FIRST TRAINING TO BECOME AN “ACCOBAMS HIGHLY QUALIFIED MMOs/PAM OPERATORS”**

**Background**

Considering the growing numbers of seismic operations and the potential for the future development of new projects in the ACCOBAMS area and considering the known negative impacts on cetaceans, the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat has been approached by Focal Points and Partners regarding MMO issue.

The ACCOBAMS Bureau Members, during their Ninth Meeting (Paris, 9-10 December 2014) confirmed to the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat the need of:

- 1/ a standardized reporting protocol,
- 2/ an inventory of national MMOs trainings, and of the national legislation on this issue,
- 3/ an ACCOBAMS certification in existing MMO training centers,
- 4/ a framework document on this issue, to be submitted to the MOP6 in November 2016.

In this sense, the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS has recommended to the Parties the creation of an ACCOBAMS HQMMO/PAM certification.

The Resolution 6.18 “Implementation of an ACCOBAMS Certification for Highly Qualified Marine Mammals Observers” was adopted by Parties in November 2016.

**First training to become an “ACCOBAMS highly qualified MMOs/PAM operators”**

The objective of the ACCOBAMS Certification on this issue is to guarantee, throughout the Agreement area, a high quality standardized training of MMOs/PAM operators by implementing:

- a high quality training of MMOs/PAM operators;
- the standardization of training contents, regardless of the country;
- the standardization and quality of the data collected, which may also be made available to scientists

The ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat organized, thanks to a voluntary contribution from Monaco, and in collaboration with an ACCOBAMS Partner, Mare Nostrum NGO, the First training to become an “ACCOBAMS Highly Qualified MMOs/PAM operators” from 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2018 in Constanta (Romania).

Courses were provided by four external experts:

- Mrs Léa DAVID
- Mr Medjber BOUZIDI
- Mr. Patrick LYNE
- Mr. Romulus-Marian PAIU

Twelve participants from the 5 Black Sea Parties to ACCOBAMS were selected to be trained based on their knowledges and background.

The final list of participants is in Annex 1.

The first 2 days were only theoretical (Fig.1), the following 2 days were dedicated to practical trainings at sea (Fig. 2). During the 2 days at sea, the trainees were learning to use the field equipments and tools related to MMO and PAM activity, studied in the first part of the training, followed by practice and evaluation of each participant by the trainers *in situ* situation. The last day was concluded by an written evaluation of the 12 candidates from which 11 passed with successfully.

Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September		
9h00 – 9h15	<i>Welcome addresses</i>	<b>ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat</b>  <b>Mare Nostrum NGO</b>
9h15 – 9h45	<b>Chapter 1 : Presentation of the High Quality MMO/PAM certificate of ACCOBAMS</b>	<b>Maÿlis SALIVAS</b>
9h45 – 12h30	<b>Chapter 3 : Introduction to marine mammals and acoustics</b>	<b>Marian PAIU</b>
14h30 – 16h00	<b>Chapter 2 : Introduction to underwater acoustics</b>	<b>Medjber BOUZIDI</b>
16h30 – 18h00	<b>Chapter 4 : Introduction to human activities generating impulsive noise</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Chapter 4.5 : Impact of noise on marine mammals (and other life)</b></li> </ul>	<b>Léa DAVID</b>



Fig. 1. Picture during the theoretical part of the training – Hotel Ibis Constanta, Romania



Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> September		
9h00 - 10h30	<b>Chapter 5</b> : Introduction to existing regulations and ACCOBAMS guidelines	<b>Majlis SALIVAS</b>
11h00 – 12h30	<b>Chapter 4</b> : Introduction to human activities generating impulsive noise	<b>Medjber BOUZIDI</b>
14h30 – 16h00	<b>Chapter 6</b> : Introduction to the role of MMO/PAM operators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 6.1</b> : Pre-survey phase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.1.1 Environmental Documentation</li> <li>• 6.1.2 Species Distribution</li> <li>• 6.1.3 Temporal and Spatial Restrictions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Léa DAVID</b>
	• 6.1.4 Marine Mammal Mitigation Plans	<b>Medjber BOUZIDI</b>
	• 6.1.4 Marine Mammal Mitigation Plans	<b>Léa DAVID</b>
16h30 - 18h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 6.2</b> : Survey phase</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 6.5</b> : Communication with crew</li> </ul>	<b>Patrick LYNE</b>

Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> September		
9h00 -12h00	PAM operators - Practical training on land	<b>Medjber BOUZIDI</b> <b>Patrick LYNE</b>
14h00 -17h00	PAM operators - Practical training at sea	<b>Medjber BOUZIDI</b>



Fig. 2. Picture during the practical part of the training on sea using PAM tools

<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September</b>		
<b>9h00 -12h30</b>	<i>MMO operators - Practical training on land</i>	<b>Patrick LYNE Léa DAVID</b>
<b>14h30 -16h00</b>	<i>MMO - Practical training at sea</i>	<b>Patrick LYNE Léa DAVID</b>

<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>		
<b>9h00 – 10h30</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 6.6</b> : Data entry</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 6.8</b>: Post- survey phase</li> </ul>	<b>Patrick LYNE Medjber BOUZIDI</b>
<b>11h00 – 12h30</b>	<b>Chapter 7</b> : Introduction to the “life style” onboard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 7.1</b> : Offshore survival and safety</li> </ul>	<b>Patrick LYNE</b>
<b>14h30 – 15h30</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 7.2</b> : MMO medical condition requirements</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 7.3</b> : Ethics, conflicts of interest and standards of conduct</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 7.4</b> : Data confidentiality</li> </ul>	<b>Patrick LYNE</b>
<b>15h30 -17h00</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>	<b>Patrick LYNE Medjber BOUZIDI</b>

**NETCCOBAMS support also for ACCOBAMS highly qualified MMOs/PAM operators:**

The 12 operators (Annex 2) are to be found on the newly developed Collaborative network for the conservation of cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area (NETCCOBAMS) where was establish a working group on this topic.

The platform brings together the demand and supply to cover the needs of economical and environmental sector but not only.

## ANNEX 1 – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**BULGARIA**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dimitar POPOV</b> <a href="mailto:dpopov@greenbalkans.org">dpopov@greenbalkans.org</a>; <a href="mailto:mity2000@gmail.com">mity2000@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>
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**GEORGIA**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Levan NINUA</b> <a href="mailto:levan.ninua@iliauni.edu.ge">levan.ninua@iliauni.edu.ge</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Davit DEKANOIDZE</b> <a href="mailto:davit.dekanoidze@iliauni.edu.ge">davit.dekanoidze@iliauni.edu.ge</a></li> </ul>

**ROMANIA**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mihaela MIREA CANDEA</b> <a href="mailto:mihaela_candea@marenostrom.ro">mihaela_candea@marenostrom.ro</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Diana MINZALA</b> <a href="mailto:dianaminzala@yahoo.com">dianaminzala@yahoo.com</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Costin TIMOFTE</b> <a href="mailto:costin_timofte@marenostrom.ro">costin_timofte@marenostrom.ro</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marian PAIU</b> <a href="mailto:marian_paiu@marenostrom.ro">marian_paiu@marenostrom.ro</a></li> </ul>

**TURKEY**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Beril GÜL</b> <a href="mailto:bberilgul@gmail.com">bberilgul@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Uğur Yusuf SÜRER</b> <a href="mailto:ugurktu@gmail.com">ugurktu@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>

**UKRAINE**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Karina VYSHNIAKOVA</b> <a href="mailto:karinavishnyakova@gmail.com">karinavishnyakova@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Olena GLADILINA</b> <a href="mailto:el.gladilina@gmail.com">el.gladilina@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>

**TRAINERS**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Medjber BOUZIDI</b> <a href="mailto:medjber.bouzidi@sinay.fr">medjber.bouzidi@sinay.fr</a></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Léa DAVID</b> <a href="mailto:lea.david2@wanadoo.fr">lea.david2@wanadoo.fr</a></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Patrick LYNE</b> <a href="mailto:plyne1@eircom.net">plyne1@eircom.net</a>; <a href="mailto:mmo@manadaenv.com">mmo@manadaenv.com</a></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Marian PAIU</b> <a href="mailto:romulus.marian@gmail.com">romulus.marian@gmail.com</a>; <a href="mailto:marian_paiu@marenostrom.ro">marian_paiu@marenostrom.ro</a></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Maÿlis SALIVAS</b> <a href="mailto:msalivas@accobams.net">msalivas@accobams.net</a></li></ul>