

RESOLUTION 7.9**ACCOBAMS PARTNERS**

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

Recognizing the significant role played by many Entities in the conservation of cetaceans in the Agreement area,

Recalling Resolution 1.14, 4.21 and 4.20 on strengthening the status of ACCOBAMS Partners,

Desirous of further strengthening the involvement of qualified Entities in the implementation of ACCOBAMS and of encouraging them to undertake further action to achieve the Agreement's objectives,

Aiming at clarifying the role of the different ACCOBAMS Partners,

Aware that partnership can be developed with international, regional and national Entities concerned with the conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement,

Taking note of the information provided by the Permanent Secretariat on the activities of the ACCOBAMS Partners,

1. *Decides* that international, regional and national Entities interested in being granted the status of Partners to the ACCOBAMS shall:
 - in the case of Entities based in ACCOBAMS Parties, present an application to the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat, which will be transmitted to the National Focal Point for advice and submitted to the subsequent meeting of the Bureau for approval. In case of objection by the National Focal Point, the final decision shall be taken by the Meeting of the Parties;
 - in the case of Entities based in States Non-Parties to the ACCOBAMS, present an application to the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat for approval by the subsequent meeting of the Bureau;
2. *Adopts* the Criteria for applying for the status of ACCOBAMS Partner ([Annex 1](#)), the Rules and Commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners ([Annex 2](#)) and the Application form ([Annex 3](#));
3. *Decides* that:
 - ACCOBAMS Partners shall be taken into consideration as regards to their involvement in the implementation of ACCOBAMS Programme of Work;
 - ACCOBAMS Partners shall provide information to the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat on all relevant activities whenever needed for communication and awareness purposes;
 - ACCOBAMS Partners shall report each triennium on the implementation of their activities and on the use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo;
 - ACCOBAMS Partners shall provide their report, through NETCCOBAMS, at the latest two months before the Bureau meeting held to prepare the Meeting of the Parties;

- the status of ACCOBAMS Partner may be reviewed and, if appropriate, withdrawn by the ACCOBAMS Bureau based on the information provided by the Permanent Secretariat and/or the relevant National Focal Point, if any, in accordance with the Rules and Commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners;

4. *Decides* that the present Resolution replaces Resolution 4.20.

ANNEX 1
CRITERIA FOR APPLYING TO THE STATUS OF ACCOBAMS PARTNER

1. ACCOBAMS Partners can be an Entity based either within ACCOBAMS Parties, or in States Non-Parties to the ACCOBAMS, whose cetacean conservation actions are developed within the Agreement area;
2. These Entities shall belong to one of the following types:
 - Public National Entities;
 - Non-Governmental Organizations;
 - Public and private Research Institutes;
 - Private Companies;
3. The following documents shall be sent to the ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat by the applicant:
 - a) a copy of the Entity's statute, in original language and translated into English or French, indicating the objectives of the Entity;
 - b) a signed Declaration of Commitment (included in the Application form here attached as Annex 3), declaring that the Entity actions include conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement;
 - c) a note concerning the applicant's capacities with particular attention to:
 - (i) experience in providing support to cetacean conservation by implementing practical research, collection and analysis of information or other educational and training activities;
 - (ii) demonstrated experience in implementing partnership ventures, such as for training and education, technical and scientific expertise, policy development or evaluation and assessment, particularly when such ventures would bring new and additional benefits to the functioning of the ACCOBAMS partnership;
 - (iii) demonstrated willingness and ability to cooperate with national and international governmental and non-governmental bodies;
 - (iv) readiness to contribute actively on a regular basis to the further development of policies and tools of the Agreement and their application, particularly by assisting Parties to meet their obligations under the Agreement;
 - (v) if any, previous experience in communicating with the Secretariat and cooperating with ACCOBAMS in the achievement of its objectives;
 - (vi) the benefits expected for the Entity and for ACCOBAMS;
 - d) the *Curriculum Vitae* of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status;
 - e) a signed copy of the Rules and Commitments (here attached as Annex 2), together with a commitment to comply with them;
 - f) a copy of the Application form duly filled and signed (here attached as Annex 3).

ANNEX 2
RULES AND COMMITMENTS OF ACCOBAMS PARTNERS

1. ACCOBAMS Partners shall be expected to contribute on a regular basis and to the best of their ability to the further development of policies, technical and scientific tools of the Agreement and to their application.
2. ACCOBAMS Partners shall present, at the latest two months after each Meeting of the Parties, a programme of collaboration with the Permanent Secretariat during the triennium. The programme shall include all activities carried out in the frame of the partnership and related to the conservation plan and the support to the Permanent Secretariat.
3. ACCOBAMS Partners shall make proper use of the ACCOBAMS Partners logo in compliance with ACCOBAMS Resolution 4.21.
4. ACCOBAMS Partners shall communicate with the Permanent Secretariat on activities related to ACCOBAMS objectives. ACCOBAMS Partners shall share information, including their publications, with their National Focal Point. ACCOBAMS Partners that own original data on cetaceans in the Agreement area are strongly encouraged to share such data, as appropriate, through NETCCOBAMS, the MEDACES stranding database and through the OBIS SEAMAP database and any other relevant tools.
5. Before each Meeting of the Parties, ACCOBAMS Partners shall report on the implementation of their activities and on the use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo. To this end, their reports shall reach the Permanent Secretariat and the relevant National Focal Point at the latest two months before the Bureau meeting held to prepare the Meeting of the Parties.
6. Partners shall be invited to participate, in an observer capacity and as advisors, in all activities of the Agreement, except when otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties.
7. ACCOBAMS Partners could be invited to contribute to the development of project proposals, project implementation and to the evaluation of project results.
8. The ACCOBAMS Bureau may decide to withdraw the status of ACCOBAMS Partner if no activities are reported, if they are considered not to be relevant and if they are contrary to the achievement of ACCOBAMS objectives or to the present Rules and Commitments. Withdrawal of the Partner status does not prejudice any legal action for improper use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo.

Date and place

Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status and Signature

Stamp and/or logo if applicable.

**ANNEX 3
APPLICATION FORM**

Applicants shall send all relevant documents by email at: secretariat@accobams.net or by mail at the following address:

ACCOBAMS Permanent Secretariat
Les Terrasses de Fontvieille
Jardin de l'UNESCO
MC-98000 Monaco

The _____ (name of the Entity applying) represented by (Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status) _____ in quality of _____ with the aim to apply for the ACCOBAMS Partner status declares that the application contains the following elements:

	YES	NO
1. A copy of the statute of the Entity (in original language and a translation into English or French);		
2. The signed Declaration of Commitment (included in the Application form) declaring that the Entity actions include conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement;		
3. A note concerning its capacities with a particular attention to:		
(i) experience in providing support to cetacean conservation by implementing practical research, collection and analysis of information or other educational and training activities;		
(ii) demonstrated experience in implementing partnership ventures, such as for training and education, technical and scientific expertise, policy development or evaluation and assessment, particularly when such ventures would bring new and additional benefits to the functioning of the ACCOBAMS partnership;		
(iii) demonstrated willingness and ability to cooperate with national and international governmental and non-governmental bodies;		
(iv) readiness to contribute actively on a regular basis to further development of policies and tools of the Agreement and their application, particularly by assisting Parties to meet their obligations under the Agreement;		
(v) if any, previous experience in communicating with the Secretariat and cooperating with ACCOBAMS in the achievement of its objectives;		
(vi) the benefits expected for the Entity and for ACCOBAMS		
4. <i>Curriculum Vitae</i> of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status		
5. A signed copy of the Rules and Commitments (Annex 2 of the Resolution)		

DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

On behalf of the Entity, I commit to comply with the rules and commitments specified in the Resolution. Actions of the entity include conservation of cetaceans and of their habitat, human-cetacean interactions or other activities relevant with the spirit of the Agreement.

Name of the Entity Address, Telephone/fax email website Social media link(s)	
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Date and place

Name of the person responsible of the entity applying for the ACCOBAMS Partner status and Signature

Stamp and/or logo if applicable.