
Document : ACCOBAMS-SC13/2020/Inf 20
Distribution : 24/02/2020

UPDATE ON THE FOLLOW UP COMMITTEE

UPDATE ON THE FOLLOW UP COMMITTEE

During the Seventh Meeting of Parties to ACCOBAMS (Istanbul, Turkey, 5-8 November 2019,) Mr. Victor Escobar, Chair of the ACCOBAMS Follow-up Committee for 2014-2019, presented the main considerations and recommendations issued from the Second Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Follow-up Committee which was convened in Monaco on 5th - 6th March 2018, at which four submissions, by one ACCOBAMS Partner, were presented:

- Submission by OceanCare on the assessment and control by Greece of military activities around South-East Crete;
- Submission by OceanCare on the assessment and control by Spain of petroleum exploration activities around the Balearic Islands;
- Submission by OceanCare on the assessment and control by Portugal of petroleum exploration activities in the Algarve and Alentejo basins;
- Submission by OceanCare on the failure by Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Syria and Tunisia to implement the ACCOBAMS Conservation Plan for Mediterranean common dolphins.

Moreover, the Chair of the Follow-up Committee introduced the reviews that the Follow-up Committee was requested to make by the Sixth Meeting of the Parties to ACCOBAMS (22-25 November 2016, Monaco) according to Article 6, paragraph 1d, of the ACCOBAMS Follow-up Procedure, on the legal and technical issues of implementation and follow-up:

- of existing obligations and commitments related to seismic and military activities producing underwater noise,
- relating to interactions between humans and dolphins addressed by Resolution 3.13 (Dolphin interaction programme).

All this information is included in the Report of the Second Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Follow-up Committee report (ACCOBAMS-FC8/2018/Doc14).

During MOP7, the Chair of the ACCOBAMS Follow-up Committee informed Parties that Portugal had provided the Follow-up Committee with information on the submission on the assessment and control by Portugal of petroleum exploration activities in the Algarve and Alentejo basins, by a letter sent on 31st October 2019.

The consideration of the two submissions relating to the assessment and control by Portugal of petroleum exploration activities in the Algarve and Alentejo basins and to the ACCOBAMS Conservation Plan for Mediterranean common dolphins (since some Parties made remarks regarding the modalities and the difficulties in ensuring the implementation of the conservation plan), will be summarized at the next Meeting of the Follow-up Committee in the light of the new information available.

Finally, referring to the Rules on the ACCOBAMS Follow-up Procedure adopted through Resolutions 5.4 and 6.8, one of the three members elected by the Parties and one of the two members elected by the Partners together with their alternates were replaced.

The new composition of the ACCOBAMS Follow up Committee is as follows:

Members nominated by Parties

Nadia DECKERT	Full term (2017-2022)
Moustafa FOUDA	Full term (2017-2022)
Imane TAI	Full term (2020-2025)
Zurab GURIELIDZE	Alternate

Members nominated by ACCOBAMS Partners

Tilen GENOV	Full term (2017-2022)
Aur�lie MOULINS	Full term (2020-2025)
Dimitar POPOV	Alternate