

## SYNTHESE SUR LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DE L'ACCOBAMS PAR LES PARTIES

L'article VIII (paragraphe b) de l'ACCOBAMS invite les Parties à préparer, pour chaque session ordinaire de leur Réunion, un rapport sur la mise en œuvre de l'Accord.

Afin d'aider les Points Focaux de l'ACCOBAMS, certaines parties des Rapport nationaux ont été préalablement et partiellement remplies par le Secrétariat de l'ACCOBAMS, dans la mesure du possible, en prenant en compte les informations existantes recueillies à partir :

- des Rapports Nationaux précédents, soumis lors des MOP ACCOBAMS ;
- les rapports, le cas échéant, sur les "niveaux de mise en œuvre du programme de travail 2020-2022" complétés par les Pays pour la Cinquième Réunion des Représentants Nationaux de l'ACCOBAMS, juillet 2021 ;
- des Rapports régionaux présentés par les Représentants Régionaux du Comité Scientifique de l'ACCOBAMS lors du SC13 en février 2020, et lors du SC14 en novembre 2021.

L'objectif était de gagner en efficacité pour avoir une meilleure connaissance des besoins des Parties et *in fine* pour obtenir une meilleure mise en œuvre de l'ACCOBAMS L'objectif était d'aider les pays de l'ACCOBAMS à accomplir l'obligation prévue à l'Article VIII (paragraphe b) de l'Accord.

Le Secrétariat a inséré les informations existantes (recueillies à partir des sources susmentionnées) dans les Rapports Nationaux respectifs, afin que les Points Focaux Nationaux puissent ensuite ajouter, modifier, adapter et/ou supprimer toute partie du rapport.

Par conséquent, les Points Focaux de l'ACCOBAMS ont été invités par le Secrétariat à examiner les informations, concernant leurs pays, contenues dans le système de rapportage et à les modifier le cas échéant en vue de les présenter lors de la MOP8 comme Rapport National de leur Pays respectif (document ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Inf03).

Le présent document est une brève synthèse des activités pertinentes réalisées et rapportées, par les Parties à l'ACCOBAMS, au cours de la période triennale 2020-2022 dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de l'Accord.

Oui - **O**  
 Non - **N**  
 Partiellement - **P**  
 Non pertinent - **NP**  
 Aucune information - **AI**

ALB = Albanie ; ALG= Algérie ; BUL= Bulgarie ; CRO= Croatie ; CYP= Chypre ; EGY= Égypte ; FRA= France ; GEO= Géorgie ; GRE= Grèce ; ITA= Italie ; LEB= Liban ; LIB= Libye ; MAL= Malte ; MC= Monaco ; MNT= Monténégro ; MOR= Maroc ; POR= Portugal ; ROM= Roumanie ; SLO= Slovénie ; SP=Espagne ; SYR= Syrie ; TUN= Tunisie ; TÜR= Türkiye ; UKR= Ukraine

Les questions et demandes spécifiques des Parties sont annexées au présent rapport.

	ALB	ALG	BUL	CRO	CYP	EGY	FRA	GEO	GRE	ITA	LEB	LIB	MAL	MC	MNT	MOR	POR	ROM	SLO	SP	SYR	TUN	TÜR	UKR	
<b>POINT FOCAL NATIONAL, RAPPORTS NATIONAUX, PRINCIPAUX ENJEUX ET BESOINS</b>																									
Le Point Focal National est désigné	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Rapports Nationaux mis à jour en 2022	O	O	O	O	O	N	O	O	O	O	O	N	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	N	O	O	O	O
Questions et demandes spécifiques	Veuillez vous référer à l' <a href="#">Annexe</a>																								

	ALB	ALG	BUL	CRO	CYP	EGY	FRA	GEO	GRE	ITA	LEB	LIB	MAL	MC	MNT	MOR	POR	ROM	SLO	SP	SYR	TUN	TÜR	UKR	
<b>GESTION DE L'ACCORD</b>																									
ACCOBAMS est ratifié	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Amendement de l'article 2 du Plan de conservation concernant les filets dérivants (Résolution A3.1) - réglementation relative à l'emploi des filets dérivants	AI	AI	O	O	O	AI	O	O	AI	O	AI	AI	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	AI	
L'amendement relatif à l'extension de la zone géographique d'ACCOBAMS (Res. A4.1 et 6.10) a été accepté, signé ou ratifié	N	N	O	N	O	N	O	N	N	O	N	N	O	O	O	N	N	N	O	O	N	N	NP	O	
Des autorités nationales, les administrations sont désignées ou mandatées pour la mise en œuvre de l'ACCOBAMS	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Des ONGS nationales soutiennent les activités sur les cétacés	O	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Des centres nationaux de recherche, les universités travaillent sur les cétacés	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	AI	O	AI	O	
Centres nationaux de secours	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	AI	O	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	
Dolphinarium au niveau national	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	O	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	
Opérateurs nationaux d'observation des baleines	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	N	AI	O	AI	AI	O	O	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	
Des textes législatifs et réglementaires nationaux pertinents ou spécifiques à la conservation des cétacés sont adoptés et appliqués	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	P	O	O	O	
Des fonds sont affectés à des activités de conservation des cétacés	O	O	AI	O	O	AI	O	AI	O	O	AI	AI	O	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	AI	O	AI	O	
Le Pays est Partie à la plupart des instruments internationaux ou régionaux impliqués dans la conservation des cétacés	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	
Le pays a conclu un accord bilatéral ou multilatéral sur la pêche	O	AI	O	O	AI	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	O	O	AI	O	O	AI	AI	O	O	AI	O	O	O	

	ALB	ALG	BUL	CRO	CYP	EGY	FRA	GEO	GRE	ITA	LEB	LIB	MAL	MC	MNT	MOR	POR	ROM	SLO	SP	SYR	TUN	TÜR	UKR
<b>ACTIONS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS / RECHERCHE ET SURVEILLANCE</b>																								
Des programmes de recherche et des projets de recherche liés aux cétacés (nationaux, bilatéraux ou multilatéraux) sont menés dans les eaux nationales	AI	O	AI	O	O	AI	O	AI	O	O	AI	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	O	O
Un réseau national d'échouage de cétacés est en place	AI	O	O	O	O	AI	O	P	O	P	AI	AI	O	O	NO	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	O	O
L'évaluation du statut des cétacés dans les eaux nationales (ou au niveau sous-régional) a été menée et des mesures de protection spécifiques sont prises pour les espèces	AI	N	O	O	AI	AI	AI	O	AI	O	AI	AI	O	N	O	O	O	P	O	O	AI	AI	O	O
Des plans de gestion de conservation des espèces de cétacés ont été élaborés.	P	P	AI	O	P	AI	O	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	O	O	P	P	P	AI	O	AI	O	AI	O
<b>ACTIONS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS / MESURES DE GESTION</b>																								
Les interactions entre les pêcheries et les cétacés (capture et déprédation) sont prises en considération	P	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	NR	O	O	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	N	O
Des réglementations de la navigation sont en place dans les zones sensibles pour réduire les impacts de navires (systèmes de navigation, observateurs à bord)	P	O	AI	O	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	NR	AI	AI	O	AI	P	AI	AI	AI	AI	N	P
Le bruit anthropogénique sous-marin est réglementé	N	O	P	O	O	AI	O	O	AI	O	AI	AI	O	O	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	N	P
L'observation des baleines et les autres activités touristiques commerciales sont réglementées (ou ne sont pas pratiquées).	P	AI	AI	P	O	AI	O	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	O	P	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	N	P
La pollution marine, y compris les débris marins, est gérée par une législation nationale ou des instruments régionaux (tels que les Conventions de Barcelone et de Bucarest).	AI	O	O	O	AI	AI	AI	O	AI	O	AI	AI	O	O	AI	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	AI
Des plans d'urgence pour des événements spécifiques (pollution, échouages) sont adoptés et mis en œuvre	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	AI	N	AI	O	AI	AI	O	O	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	AI	O	N	O
Les questions liées à la captivité et les delphinariums sont interdits / Pas de captivité	O	AI	N	O	O	AI	P	N	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	P	O
Des Aires Marines Protégées (AMP), zones de pêche, réserves de pêche ou autres mesures spatiales de conservation efficaces (OECM-CDB) sont en place et pertinentes pour la conservation et la gestion des cétacés.	O	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	O	AI	AI	AI	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	O
<b>ACTIONS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS / COMMUNICATION ET SENSIBILISATION</b>																								
Des événements (réunion, symposium, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) sont organisés/des représentants y ont assisté et des produits (newsletter, brochure, dépliant, affiche, vidéo, autocollant, etc.) sont produits et diffusés.	AI	O	O	O	O	AI	O	AI	AI	AI	AI	AI	O	O	AI	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	AI	O
<b>ACTIONS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS / RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS</b>																								
Le renforcement des capacités sur les cétacés, y compris les sessions de formation, les conférences et les programmes d'études, sont réalisés au niveau national ou sont suivis à l'étranger.	AI	O	O	O	O	AI	O	O	AI	O	AI	AI	O	AI	O	O	O	O	O	AI	AI	O	O	O

## Annexe - Questions et demandes spécifiques des Parties

### ALBANIE

- Training activities for the capacity building, in particular necropsy for veterinarians is a necessity. National stranding network to be established as soon as possible. So far only incidental cases of stranding are reported by the fisherman.

### ALGÉRIE

- Examen et validation du plan national de suivi des cétacés le long du littoral algérien ;
- Formation en nécropsies ;
- Enquête sur la déprédation et le bycatch ;
- Evaluer l'état de conservation des cétacés conformément à la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN ;
- Les parties sont tenues de faire des efforts pour présenter dans le futur un plan de gestion national pour la conservation et la préservation des populations de cétacés.
- Prévoir des ateliers techniques pour la discussion sur les méthodes de protection des habitats et de gestion des cétacés, notamment des modèles de plans de gestion des aires marines protégées.
- Evoquer les mesures incitatives pour la motivation des différents acteurs intervenant dans la protection et la conservation des cétacés.
- Le suivi des cétacés nécessite un cadre réglementaire qui est en cours de finalisation. En effet, le cadre juridique (la loi 01-11 du 03 juillet 2001, modifiée et complétée) prévoit la mise en place de dispositions réglementaires pour la protection et la préservation des ressources biologiques marines.
- La prise en charge des échouages de cétacés se fait en coordination entre les services locaux relevant des différents départements ministériels en collaboration avec les associations environnementales à but non lucratif. Cependant, ce travail mérite d'être formalisé à travers la mise en place d'un cadre réglementaire fixant les conditions d'organisation et de fonctionnement de ce réseau.
- Besoin d'assistance de la part du Secrétariat de l'ACCOBAMS afin de mettre en œuvre **un Plan d'Action National**

### CHYPRE

- Review ACCOBAMS members implementation of «RESOLUTION 3.10 GUIDELINES TO ADDRESS THE IMPACT OF ANTHROPOGENIC NOISE ON MARINE MAMMALS IN THE ACCOBAMS AREA» and ACCOBAMS METHODOLOGICAL GUIDANCE ON UNDERWATER NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES.

### GEORGIE

- Every kind of support is important.
- There is a need for research and monitoring programs for noise and anthropogenic pressure on cetaceans.
- Enactive, long-term resolution of the con would require further detailed research on the frequency of damage suffered by fishermen and the potential impact of repellent devices as a way to mitigate the conflict. Which will be the base for creating financial opportunities for fishermen to implement effective mitigation measures and sustainable use and protection of the Black Sea biodiversity.
- Keep in mind that the main cause of death is represented by bycatch.
- Filling out the ASI with the Black Sea component for complete coverage of the ACCOBAMS area, will achieve better knowledge and fill out the gaps on the basin scale.
- Encourage and sustain research for the offshore area.

- International support for establishing MPAs, including transboundary areas, is desirable.
- Mass mortalities events showed a lack in managing the situation at the Party's level, it stresses the need for a databank, analysis, and expertise in pathology at the regional level.
- Organizing key skills workshops for a wide range of stakeholders will increase research capacities.
- Close collaboration with academic and scientific bodies, decision-makers, and forums or commissions (eg. Black Sea Commission, Black Sea Advisory Council) will increase the research capacities and threat assessment which will correctly target the needed conservation efforts.

## **ITALIE**

- For the next reports, Italy would like to advance the proposal to use following tool, created within the UN, and named DaRT (<https://dart.informea.org/>). Better known as "The Data Reporting Tool for MEA, which is the first tool that supports the Parties in the effective use of synergies in the field of knowledge and information management for national reporting to conventions related to biodiversity. The DaRT is developed by the Program of United Nations for the Environment (UNEP) with the support of the SCBD, was approved by the InforMEA Initiative which brings together Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA) and is financially supported by the European Union and Switzerland" the utilization of such instrument will provide the Parties with a broader vision and understanding of the complexity of migratory species. Moreover, it will provide more updated data.
- Italy suggests the recommendation of utmost caution in the case of studies that require study practices that make use of potentially invasive techniques. Indeed, any activities involving the disturbance of species of Annex IV of the Habitats Directive, such as biopsies, satellite markings, active acoustics experiments (including the use of pingers), etc, must be authorized by derogation, as expressed by the art 16 of the up mentioned EU Directive.
- Besides, it should be remembered that studies of toxicology, genetics, diet of the species, medium / long-term displacements make use of two types of techniques: 1) skin biopsy 2) satellite telemetry and such techniques, if not correctly conducted (there are international studies produced in the light of various experiences in various parts of the world) can cause serious disturbance and have harmful effects to the specimens. In particular, these techniques, especially skin biopsy, have spread strongly in the Mediterranean and are now also used by nascent groups with little or no experience, elements that increase the danger of causing harm.
- Therefore, Italy requests more attention on the release of authorizations, which must be carefully evaluated according to the species concerned, the experience of the operator, the actual need in consideration of the type of study or analysis proposed. Besides, Italy recalls the attention of the Scientific Committee on such matter

## **MALTE**

- To continue providing capacity building in terms of national stranding networks and including necropsy training for veterinarians
- To further evaluate the functioning of the stranding networks;
- To further help countries to set up a tissue bank; (4) To organise passive acoustic training.
- Noting that impacts from marine litter, underwater noise and ship strikes are omnipresent throughout the Mediterranean, it is deemed pertinent to continue providing capacity building regarding common methodologies for assessment of such impacts.

**MONTENEGRO**

- Support to put in place national stranding network is absolutely necessary including equipment needed to perform necropsy. Also support in relation to set up tissue bank and training on MMO-PAM is of high relevance. Support to the development of Management plan for Cetaceans would be also very welcome
- Strategy on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Adriatic Sea for the period 2016 - 2025 - recognize a threat and their impacts on cetaceans in the Adriatic Sea. To date when Strategy was developed (2015.), eight types of threats have been identified, with bycatch and marine debris being assessed as the most significant ones in terms of severity of impacts and number of cetacean species they may affect. However, it should be stressed that assumptions were given based on scarce data about actual impact. For instance, existing stranding data indicates relevance of bycatch, but do not show the accurate state. The significance of climate change is least known, but due to geographical features of the Adriatic, it is expected this is an important issue to tackle in the future.

**MAROC**

- L'observation des dauphins et autres cétacés dans leur milieu naturel est un outil efficace en matière de sensibilisation des gens vis à vis de l'importance et de la noblesse de ces créatures. Grâce au grand appui de l'ACCOBAMS, le Royaume du Maroc a parcouru un long chemin vers l'intégration de cette activité touristique parmi les activités de pêche. Le Royaume du Maroc a tout intérêt à réussir cette approche écosystémique dans la mesure où cela constitue une occasion pour approcher le maximum de personnes dans un but d'information et de formation sur les bonnes pratiques de comportement avec les cétacés. L'appui de l'ACCOBAMS restera toujours souhaitable pour implémenter durablement ce projet au Maroc notamment en matière d'accompagnement et d'équipement des navires candidats à abriter ce type d'activité.
- La zone du détroit de Gibraltar et les espaces avoisinants en Méditerranée et en Atlantique constituent une zone critique pour les cétacés car de nombreuses espèces fréquentent cet espace de manière continue ou saisonnière. Des populations connues d'Orques, de Grands dauphins et de Globicéphales noir y résident continuellement et effectuent des mouvements saisonniers. De nombreuses autres espèces l'empruntent pour effectuer des migrations de et vers la Méditerranée. Selon les statistiques, un trafic intense se développe au niveau de cette zone. Plus de 100000 bateaux de commerce la traversent annuellement, ce qui constitue un danger majeur pour ce groupe d'espèces, particulièrement du point de vue bruit anthropique engendré par ce trafic. Le Maroc ne dispose pas d'un état des lieux, ni d'expérience lui permettant de décrire et d'évaluer l'impact du bruit sur le comportement des cétacés. Par conséquent, une assistance de l'ACCOBAMS à ce sujet serait fort souhaitable notamment via l'élaboration de projet de formation, de sensibilisation et d'accompagnement portant sur le renforcement des capacités des scientifiques de l'INRH et d'autres parties prenantes dans le domaine de la certification des Observateurs des Mammifères Mains (MMO) Hautement qualifiés et de la Surveillance Acoustique Passive (PAM).
- Un projet scientifique pourrait être réfléchi et orienté vers l'élaboration d'une stratégie permettant au Maroc d'appréhender les expériences des autres pays plus développés en matière d'observation des mammifères marins et de se doter d'un plan d'action lui procurant la protection des cétacés contre les menaces engendrées par le trafic maritime du détroit de Gibraltar. Il est proposé d'organiser un atelier sous l'égide de l'ACCOBAMS en invitant le Maroc, l'Espagne et peut être le Portugal pour débattre sur ce sujet et établir un réseau régional afin de constituer une plateforme servant à l'identification de ces problématiques et à la prospection des mesures potentielles d'atténuation

**PORTUGAL**

- Sighting survey from platform of opportunity, such as ferry lines, should be developed in countries with less opportunity to make dedicated surveys on a regular basis. The existing network and common standard protocols ensure reliability of data and compatibility for analyses at the Mediterranean scale. The MMO/PAM certification should be used and promoted by all Parties to the Agreement.
- Furthermore, the mitigation measure of noise impact on cetaceans should go forward with a systematic Impact Assessment Study before every noise generating human activity at sea, and the possibility for a cetacean expert to postpone the activity in order to avoid areas or periods of cetacean higher encounter rates, and associated exposure risk.
- More generally, every initiative that could contribute to reduce the bias between the northern and southern parts of the sub-region in terms of cetacean research, monitoring and conservation should be promoted. They can be large cooperative projects providing opportunities to put hands on by actively participating to the project (e.g., the ASI) or smaller sized initiatives like training workshops or North-South or South-South transboundary actions. In both cases, external funding would be needed

**ROUMANIE**

- water pollution due to residential or recreational activities, water transport, application of fertilisers, use of plant protection chemicals in agriculture, underwater noise
- the war which started in February 2022 and put the cetaceans, but not only, under the threat due to bombardments, contamination with explosives and ammunition;
- reduction of species/prey populations
- disturbance of species
- bycatch and incidental killing due to fishing activities
- climate change
- implementation of the conservation measures to stop the biodiversity loss
- monitoring by-catch in turbot nets which is the main cause of cetaceans' mortality
- establishing the functionality of the national cetacean stranding monitoring network involving authorities, institutes, NGOs etc
- monitoring the strandings to reduce the mortality induced by fishing activity
- identify funds for implementing the Work Programme 2023-2025

**ESPAGNE**

- Underwater noise

**TUNISIE**

- Les données existantes sur l'abondance et la densité sont très anciennes (campagne INSTM-2005 ) et aussi limitées géographiquement (ASI-2018).
- La réalisation des campagnes de prospection tout le long des côtes Tunisiennes.
- Standardisation de la technique d'observation et analyse des données.
- Identification des zones IMMA et CCH.
- En Tunisie comme la plupart des pays en Méditerranée, les menaces encourues par les cétacés sont liées généralement à la concentration des activités humaines et principalement à l'activité de pêche . Les dauphins

sont aujourd'hui considérés par les pêcheurs professionnels comme de réels compétiteurs pour l'accès aux ressources halieutiques d'où les problèmes de la déprédation le bycatch et l'échouage

## UKRAINE

- Military activities producing underwater noise: According to the Resolution 3.22 “Marine protected areas for cetaceans”, among the Areas of special importance for the Black Sea cetaceans there is “The Kerch Strait for the bottlenose dolphin and the harbour porpoise”. At present, the independent monitors’ access to this region is limited. Meanwhile, it is known that the government of the Russian Federation is doing construction works and transformation of marine environment which can be harmful for cetaceans. Therefore, an appropriate measure can be deployment of the international mission of environmental monitoring in waters of the Kerch Strait, based on international law regulations. In addition, multiple military activities producing underwater noise were conducted by the naval ships of the Russian Federation in the EEZ of Ukraine during 2022
- There is a need of research and monitoring programs of noise and development of mitigation actions guides and legislative tools relevant to the conservation of cetaceans in regard with anthropogenic pressure like seismic surveys, drilling, marine traffic, fisheries etc. The main cause of death of the harbour porpoise in the Black Sea is the bycatch. Therefore, effective, long-term resolution of the conflict with fisheries would require further detailed research on the frequency of damages suffered by fishermen and the potential impact of repellent devices and passive tools as a way to mitigate the conflict. It will be the base for creating financial opportunities for fishermen to implement effective mitigation measures and sustainable use and protection of the Black Sea biodiversity. Filling out the ASI with the Black Sea component for a complete coverage of the ACCOBAMS area, which will achieve a better knowledge and fill out the gaps on the basin-wide scale. Encourage and sustain research for the offshore area. International support for establishing MPAs, including transboundary areas, is desirable. Mass mortalities events showed a lack in managing the situation at the Parties level, it stresses the need for a databank, analysis, and expertise in pathology at the regional level. Organizing key skills workshops to a wide range of stakeholders will increase research capacities. A close collaboration with academic and scientific bodies, decision makers and forums or commissions will increase the research capacities and threat assessment which will correctly target the needed conservation efforts
- The continuous oil and gas related activities (seismic, drilling) in the region and no concrete legislation at national level in order to assure the monitoring and conservation of cetaceans. Knowledge gaps, mainly for offshore areas, slows the process for development of conservative measures and tools. Systematic surveys are in urgent need to continue in order to fill the knowledge gaps which are long missing in the area and currently under heavy human pressure. Unclear reports on illegal capture and trade by captive bottlenose dolphins should be investigated, and the dolphinarium should be strictly monitored (a punctual problem raised by Ukraine).
- There is a need of research and monitoring programs of noise and development of mitigation actions guidelines and legislative tools relevant to the conservation of cetaceans in regard with anthropogenic pressure like seismic surveys, drilling, marine traffic, fisheries etc. Noise monitoring. Of critical importance for noise monitoring is the development and distribution of standardized instruments for measuring underwater noise. It is very important to conduct international trainings and widely disseminate uniform methodological manuals, as well as annual meetings (possibly on the Internet) to discuss monitoring results, as well as methods for improving it. A separate problem for the Black Sea is the assessment of noise impact on aquatic organisms, including marine mammals, during NATO military training, for example, the study of the effects of underwater explosions (detonations). Effective, long-term resolution of the conflict would require further detailed research on the frequency of damage suffered by fishermen and the potential impact of repellent



devices as a way to mitigate the conflict. Which will be the base for creating financial opportunities for fishermen to implement effective mitigation measures and sustainable use and protection of the Black Sea biodiversity. Having in mind that the main cause of death is represented by bycatch. Mitigation of the effects of fishing. Deaths of dolphins due to entering into the trawl during fishing are widely known. Moreover, it is known that part of marine mammals specializes in feeding fish leaving the nets during fishing. One of the monitoring tasks may be the photoidentification of dolphins during the trawl fishery to determine the number of animals that have adapted to such way of eating. It is possible that dolphins recognize fishing vessels by the characteristic underwater noise they produce.

- When fishing with fixed nets, or more precisely enslaving nets, legislative restriction of fishing rules, for example, introducing restrictions on the mesh size, as was done in Ukraine in 2018 for the Danube area of the sea, can be of great importance for reducing the number of dolphins (first harbor porpoise) killed in nets. Encourage and sustain research for the offshore area. Offshore areas. In 2019, Ukraine prepared an application for participation in the third session of the International Conference at UNCLOS (UN Convention on the Sea Law), which addresses to maritime regions in open sea, outside the jurisdiction of states, such as Antarctica waters. International support for establishing MPAs, including transboundary areas, is desirable. MPAs for dolphins. During the 4-th regional meeting of ACCOBAMS for the parties from Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea (Tunis, 11-12 May 2018) Ukraine has proposed creating a reserve for the reproduction of dolphins in the area of Cape Ayia near Balaklava (South Coast of Crimea), as well as expanding the borders Dzharylhach National Nature Park. Mass mortalities events showed a lack in managing the situation at the Parties level, it stresses the need for a databank, analysis, and expertise in pathology at the regional level. Organizing key skills workshops to a wide range of stakeholders will increase research capacities. Databank, analysis and expertise in pathology. The poorly studied side of infection of organisms with parasites, as well as pathogens of viral and bacterial diseases, is the complexity of the life cycles of organisms. In this regard, an important aspect in the life of marine mammals is their dependence on food organisms (fish and invertebrates). For human life, early warning of the transfer of pathogenic organisms from dead dolphins to farm animals is extremely important. Creating a bank of biological materials will solve many problems of the population ecology of marine mammals.
- In 2019, at the Institute of Marine Biology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, a special room was equipped for preparation of dead dolphins in order to diagnose the causes of their death. For this, a major repair was made in the room with a total area of 26.8 m<sup>2</sup>. Professional table for dissection of animals, the air extractor, and racks for storing samples fixed with formalin and alcohol were purchased and mounted. Storage of biological materials (teeth, tissues, blood smears, parasites) is planned in the same room. Soon it is planned to purchase a freezer. There is a preliminary discussion to sign an agreement with the Institute of Zoology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine on the creation of a joint bank of biological materials for cetaceans, fish and their parasites. Institute of Marine Biology National of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine has signed the joint agreements on the investigation of marine mammals on the shore with 8 reserves of Ukraine, within the boundaries of which there are marine waters. A close collaboration with academic and scientific bodies, decision makers and forums or commissions (e.g. Black Sea Commission, Black Sea Advisory Council) will increase the research capacities and threat assessment which will correctly target the needed conservation efforts. Collaboration with academic and scientific bodies, the Black Sea Commission. In recent years, Ukraine has been paying special attention to academic science in solving the main environmental problems of the Black Sea. In particular, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine agreed with draft of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine institutes of a number of important laws: "On Amendments to the Marine Doctrine of Ukraine for the period until 2035" and the Scientific Program "Support for implementation of monitoring of the fauna during investigations of aquatic biological resources of the Azov-Black Sea basin and inland waters within the boundaries of nature reserves for 2019-2023", "National Environmental Action Plan for 2020-2025", "About the Emerald network of Ukraine», «On the approval of the

procedure for issuing permits for the special use of wildlife objects as natural resources of general state significance”.

- Two advisory groups of the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution (CBD- Conservation of biological diversity, FOMLR - Environmental aspects of the Management of Fisheries and other Marine Living Resources) regularly discuss the problems of the study and protection of marine mammals, coordinate work with representatives of ACCOBAMS. The Chairman of AG CBD from 2004 and until his tragic death in 2019 was the representative of Ukraine Dr Borys Aleksandrov. Unclear reports on illegal capture and trade by captive bottlenose dolphins should be investigated, and the dolphinariums should be strictly monitored (a punctual problem raised by Ukraine). In accordance with Decision No. 17.299 of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, when issuing permits for the temporary export of bottlenose dolphins *Tursiops truncatus ponticus* from the dolphinariums of Ukraine, starting from 2018 a mandatory blood test and the issuance of a genetic report for each exported animal are carried out. Genetic examination is carried out at the Department of Genetics and Molecular Biology of the Biological Faculty of I.I. Mechnikov Odessa State University. During the reporting period, 6 dolphins were genetically examined. One of the key difficulties that needs to be addressed first by international scientific organizations is the genetic isolation of bottlenose dolphins in the Black Sea and Atlantic area.
- Unfortunately, to date, these subspecies can only be distinguished morphometrically, according to the measurements of the skulls of the studied animals. The achievements of Ukrainian scientists in conducting genetic examinations of animals from dolphinariums were supported at the 4th regional meeting of ACCOBAMS on May 11-12, 2018 (Tunis). Other difficulties in Ukraine are: lack of legal instrument and administrative mechanism for shifting ACCOBAMS provisions and resolutions from decisions, agreed and adopted on the international level, to real day-to-day activities on-site; lack of due information about ACCOBAMS as well as relevant guidelines and training for authorities operating at the local level; lack of adequate funds to implement the Conservation Plan for Black Sea Cetaceans which is already translated into Ukrainian and available from the ACCOBAMS web site.