NATIONAL REPORTS OF ACCOBAMS PARTIES

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ALBANIA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020 - 2022

Name of country : Albania

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

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Tel: + 355 692121425

Address: Nature Protection Policies, Directorate Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration, Boulevard "Deshmoret e Kombit", No. 1, Tirana, Albania

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

Mrs. Etleva CANAJ 2004-2007; Dr. Zamir DEDEJ 2007-2010

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2004-2007-2010-2013-2016-2019

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

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.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

no major special problem for cetaceans during the last two years in the region

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

Signed: 24.11.1996,
Ratified: 25/05/2001,
Accepted: 03/07/2001,
Joined: 01/10/2001,
Competent authority: Ministry of Tourism and Environment, General Directorate of Environmental Policies Development

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

None

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

None

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

No ongoing negotiations for limits with neighbouring countries

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

  Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration (MoEFWA) (Nature Protection Policies Directorate), Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Fisheries Policy Directorate), National Agency for Protected Areas (NAPA), Directorate General of Fisheries- Inter-Institutional Maritime Operational Centre (IMOC), The Ministry of Tourism, Cultural Affairs, Youth and Sports

- Non Govermental Organizations:

The Association of Aquatic Wildlife in Albania, head Dr Samir Beqiraj

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  Museum of Natural Sciences, Fisheries Institute of the Agriculture University, Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Tirana University

- Rescue centres:

- Dolphinaria:

- Whale-watching operators:

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Order of Minister of the Environment, Forests and Water Administration "On the approval of the Red list of Albanian flora and fauna" no. 1280, of 20.11.2013,
- Law no. 9867 of 31.1.2008 "On the rules and procedures on international trade of 31.1.2008 Ministry of Environment endangered species of wild fauna and flora",
- Law no. 10006, of 23.10.2008 "On wild fauna protection" 23.10.2008,
- Law no.81/2017, of 4.5.2017 "On protected Areas", amended in 2008 06.06.2002,
- Law no.9587 of 20.7.2006 "On biodiversity 20.7.2006 Ministry of Environment protection", amended in 2014,

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- The IPA NetwCet cross-border IPA project has carried out some training workshops that also include the issues of cetacean strandings, was implemented until the end of 2016.
- ASI project initiative is on-going

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance	Entry into force	Comments
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea		26/07/2001			

against pollution (1976)					
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	05/01/1994	05/01/1994	07/01/1994	06/01/1994	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)	27/06/2003	27/06/2003		25/09/2003	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	31/10/1995	13/01/1999		01/05/1999	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)	01/09/2001	01/09/2001	01/09/2001	01/09/2001	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean		10/04/1991			
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)					
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)		23/06/2003			

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

Since 10/04/1991, Albania is Party to the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM-FAO). Albania is vice chair of the GFCM since the fall of 2018

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin				
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			There are no specific studies on cetaceans in the Albanian waters. Occasional surveys, stranding and accidental by catch in fishing gears confirm

					the presence of the following five species of cetaceans in Albanian waters. This species is reported as the most common cetacean in the Albanian waters. The threatening status of this species in Albania is VU (Albanian Red List 2007 & 2013). The Red list of fauna of Albania is currently under revision and update.
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin		X		The rarest dolphin recorded in the Albanian waters. Its presence has been mostly reported by fishermen, while it was breathing or jumping in the water surface. The threatening status of striped dolphin in Albania is DD (Albanian Red List 2007 & 2013). The Red list of fauna of Albania is currently under revision and update.
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			The status of the population of common dolphin in Albanian waters is not known. General considerations from fishermen state that this population was strongly declined in the last two decades. The threatening status of this species in Albania is VU (Albanian Red List 2007 & 2013). The Red list of fauna of Albania is currently under revision and update.
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale			X	There are some sporadic reports from fishermen for any rare sight of this species in the open waters, but this data are not documented. The threatening status of Ziphius cavirostris in Albania is DD (Albanian Red List 2007 & 2013). The Red list of fauna of Albania is currently under revision and update.
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale			X	No research on sperm whale has

					been carried out in Albania. The threatening status of Physeter macrocephalus in Albania is DD (Albanian Red List 2007 & 2013).
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale				
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

*2.4. **Red List of cetaceans** at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*

Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level?

If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

The national plan for cetaceans conservation is elaborated in 2006 initially and has been implemented through some pilot actions after that. There is a need for its revision and updated since it is more than 10 years of its preparation.Centre for Fauna and Flora Research (under the Faculty of Natural Sciences) in the framework of the annual monitoring projects, coordinated by National Environment Agency of Albania, is involved in the monitoring of cetaceans species. However, due to the limited funds the monitoring is not comprehensive and it does not cover all cetaceans' species.

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all management / conservation measures *introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.*

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

Incidental by-catch is reported occasionally by fishermen.

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

- *The Law On fishing and aquaculture contains the provisions related to the cetaceans conservation*

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- *Not in the national regulations yet*

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

- *In the last couple of years commercial tourism activities, especially the daily trips in the territory of Marine National Park, through the itineraries of Karaburuni Penninsula and Sazani Island*

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

- *The first rescue center for cetaceans was opened in spring 2019 in Radhima area of Vlora district, under the care of Regional Agency of Protected Areas of Vlora*

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

- *No issues related to captivity so far in Albania. There is no dolphinaria in Albania*

*2.2.8. **Marine protected areas** (MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

Conservation measures include the management and protection of the following marine and coastal protected areas:- - -) -Fushekuqe-Ishem managed nature reserve, 2010

- *Protected landscape Vjose-Narte by Government Decree no. 680, date 22.10.2004 that includes 7225 hectares of marine area- Ramsar site of Shkodra Lake and Velipoje wetland area DCM no. 683, dated 10.11.2005 that includes 15719 hectares of marine areas*
- *Enlargement of Butrinti National Park by Government Decree no 693, dated 10.11.2005 to 8591,2 hectares of which 2509 hectares are marina areas-*
- *Designation of the first marine National Park in Sazani island and Karaburun peninsula area by Government Decree no.289 of 28.4.2010 with a territory of 12427,9 hectares*
- *Enlargement of Kune-Vain- Tale Managed Nature Reserve by Government Decree no. 432 of 28.4.2010 covering an area of 4393, 2 hectaresAccording to RAC/SPA, (2017, based on Mapamed database*
- *Albania has declared protected 10 sites covering the marine environment, some of them with multiple nominations. The marine coverage corresponds to 181.45 km2*
- *1-Pishe Poro, Managed nature reserve, 1977 9- Kune-Vain-Tale, Managed Nature Reserve, 201010- Patok*
- *2-Karavasta lagoon Ramsar site 1995*
- *3- Rrushkull, Managed nature reserve, 1995 4-Butrint National Park, 2000*
- *4- Butrinti Ramsar Site, 2003*
- *5- Vjose-Narte Protected landscape, 2004*
- *6- Lumi-Buna-Velipoje Protected Landscape, 2005*
- *7-Divjake-Karavasta National Park, 2007*
- *8- Karaburuni Sazani National Park, 2010 8-Karaburuni-Sazani SPAMI, 2012*
  9- Kune-Vain-Tale, Managed Nature Reserve, 2010
- *10- Patok*

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

ALGERIA

FORMAT DES RAPPORTS NATIONAUX 2020-2022

Pays : ALGERIE

POINT FOCAL NATIONAL, RAPPORTS NATIONAUX, PRINCIPAUX ENJEUX ET BESOINS

A. Détails du point focal national (email, téléphone, adresse)

Prénom Nom : **Naciba LABIDI-NEGHLI**
*Courriel :*naciba.labidi@gmail.com
Tel:+213 21 43 39 40
*Adresse :*Ministère de la Pêche et des Productions Halieutiques /Algérie

B. Énumérez les points focaux nationaux (PFN) successifs et la période couverte

- *M. Nadir BENSEGUENI jusqu'en 2014*
- *Mme Rahima BERKAT 2014 - 2021*
- Mme Naciba NEGHLI 2021- Septembre 2022
- Mme Sarah CHENITI 2022 Septembre 2022 à ce jour

C. Date de soumission des rapports nationaux (indiquez les années où le rapport a été fourni):

2010, 2016, 2019,

D. Questions spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties. Problème(s) majeur(s), besoins spécifiques ou sujets d'actualité : veuillez fournir des détails sur les problèmes émergents, les menaces ou les difficultés rencontrées et indiquer ce qui devrait être mis en œuvre pour répondre aux problèmes soulevés.

1/ Besoins spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité Scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties:

- Examen et validation du plan national de suivi des cétacés le long du littoral algérien;
- Formation en nécropsies ;
- *Enquête sur la déprédation et le baycatch;*
- *Evaluer l'état de conservation des cétacés conformément à la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN ;*

2/ Recommandations/suggestions pour améliorer l'état de conservation depuis les rapports régionaux du comité scientifique

- Les parties sont tenues de faire des efforts pour présenter dans le future un plan de gestion national pour la conservation et la preservation 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 insitatoires pour la motivation des différents acteurs intervenant dans la protection et la conservation des cétacés.

3/ Principaux problèmes ou menaces ou thématiques importantes :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Sujet qui est ou était important pour les cétacés dans la région, et que nécessiterait la considération et une action par le Comité Scientifique. Exemple de sujets : nombre d'échouages exceptionnellement élevé, ou nombre important de prospection sismiques planifiés, ou augmentation des ferry haute vitesse dansla région impliquant des risques accrus de collision, etc.).

- 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) prévoie 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 ce 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.*

SECTION MA - GESTION DE L'ACCORD (MA)

1.1. Dates de signature (S), de ratification (R), d'acceptation (AC), d'approbation (AP) ou d'adhésion (AD) à l'ACCOBAMS et autorité compétente..
(S et R)19/03/2007, (AC) 25/09/2007 (EF) 01/12/2007 Ministère de la Pêche et des Ressources Halieutiques

1.2. Réserves exprimées conformément à l'article XV ou à l'article X de l'Accord
Pas de réserves.

1.3. Date d'acceptation, signature, ratification des amendements; si en cours de traitement, veuillez indiquer l'autorité compétente, la procédure et les mesures prises.

- Amendement à l'annexe 2 de l'Accord sur l'utilisation des filets maillants

  Date d'entrée en vigueur:Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
  Transposition en loi nationale:Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension de la zone geographique de l'ACCOBAMS
  Etat du processus de ratification: Dossier transmis au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères pour suites à donner (dernier courrier transmis en date du 30 juillet 2019).
  Authorité compétente: Ministère des Affaires Etrangères (MAE).

1.4. *Dérogations autorisées conformément à l'art. II, paragraphe 2 de l'Accord et paragraphe 6 de l'annexe 2*
Aucune situation d'urgence donc pas de dérogations.

1.5. Définition de la zone marine sous juridiction nationale incluse dans le champ d'application de l'Accord. Veuillez indiquer si des négociations sont en cours avec les pays voisins pour les limites.
Une zone économique exclusive a été instituée par le décret présidentiel n° 18-96 du 2 Rajab 1439 correspondant au 20 mars 2018 instituant une zone économique exclusive au large des côtes algériennes. Toutefois, des négociations sont en cours avec des Etats voisins, conformément aux dispositions de l'article 74 de la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer de 1982.

1.6. Lister les entités ayant compétence, responsabilité ou intérêt pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez examiner et compléter la liste fournie et décrire leurs activités. Veuillez préciser les mécanismes d'information / communication / coordination avec d'autres entités nationales.

- Organizations intergouvernementales :
  - Ministère de la Pêche et des Productions Halieutiques
  - Ministère de la Défence Nationale
  - Ministère de l'environnement
  - Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la recherche scientifique
  - Ministère des Transports
  - Ministère de l'Intérieur des Collectivités locales et de l'Aménagement du Territoire
  - Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural
  - Ministre de l'Energie et des Mines

- Autorités nationales/services de l'Etat
  - Commissariat National du Littoral CNL
  - Parc nationaux côtiers (Taza, El Kala et Gouraya)
  - Agence Nationale de Développement de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture
  - Centre National pour le Développement des ressources biologiques
  - Conservatoire national pour la formation sur l'environnement CNFE
  - Observatoire national de l'environnement et du développement durable ONEDD

- Organizations non gouvernementales:
  - Association Ecologique Marine Barbarous
  - Fondation « PROBIUM » d'Annaba
  - Association « OCEANICA » de Béjaia
  - Association « El MORDJANE » d'Alger
  - Fondation « MARE NOSTRUM » de Tipaza
  - Association club de plongée sous marine « HIPPONE » d'Annaba

- Instituts de recherche/Universités:
  - Centre National de Recherche et de Développement de la Pêche et l'Aquaculture (CNRDPA)
  - Le laboratoire de Recherche Réseau de Surveillance Environnementale (L.R.S.E), Département de Biologie Marine de l'Université d'Oran)
  - Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de la Mer et de l'Aménagement du Littoral (ENSSMAL Ex ISMAL)
  - Laboratoire de Recherche "Productions Animales, Biotechnologie et Santé (PABIOS), Département des Sciences Vétérinaires de l'Université Mohamed Chérif Messaadia, de Souk-Ahras.
  - Département de biologie à l'Université de Blida 1
  - Centre de Recherche en Biotechnologies (CRBT)

- Services de secours animalier:
  Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Dolphinaria:
  Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Société ou opérateurs Whale-watching:
  Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Autre:
  Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.7.Principaux textes législatifs et réglementaires nationaux concernant les cétacés.
Les textes peuvent concerner l'environnement (espèces ou zones protégées, biodiversité et pollution), la pêche, le transport maritime (collision), le tourisme, l'énergie, la pollution, l'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement ou d'autres sujets dans la mesure où ils peuvent concerner les cétacés. Indiquez la date, le titre, l'autorité responsable et le lien. Ajoutez une brève description ou citez les articles ou sections pertinents relatifs aux cétacés.

- Décret n° 88-228 du 5 novembre 1988 définissant les conditions, procédures et modalités d'immersion de déchets susceptibles de polluer la mer, effectuées par les navires ou aéronefs ;
- Ordonnance 80-76 de 1976 portant sur le code maritime ;
- Loi n 01-19 du 27 Ramadhan 1422 correspondant au 12 décembre 2001 relative à la gestion, au contrôle et à l'élimination des déchets du 15 Décembre 2001) ;
- Décret exécutif nº 07-145 du 2 Joumada El Oula 1428 correspondant au 19 mai 2007 déterminant le champ d'application, le contenu et les modalités d'approbation des études et des notices d'impact sur l'environnement;

- Décret exécutif nº 08-327 portant obligation de signalement par les capitaines de navires transportant marchandises dangereuses toxiques ou polluantes en cas d'évènement en mer.
- Décret exécutif nº 06-141 définissant les valeurs limites des rejets d'effluents liquides industriels ;
- Décret exécutif nº 06-104 fixant la nomenclature des déchets, y compris les déchets spéciaux dangereux ;
- Décret exécutif nº 07-207 réglementant l'usage des substances qui appauvrissent la couche d'ozone, de leurs mélanges et des produits qui en contiennent ;
- Décret exécutif nº 06-138 réglementant l'émission dans l'atmosphère de gaz, fumées, vapeurs particules liquides ou solides, ainsi que les conditions dans lesquelles s'exerce leur contrôle;
- Vu la loi n°88-08 du 26 janvier 1988, modifiée et complétée, relative aux activités de médecine vétérinaire et à la protection de la santé animale ;
- Décret présidentiel n 05-108 du 20 Safar 1426 correspondant au 31 mars 2005 ratifiant la convention sur la conservation des espèces migratrices appartenant à la faune sauvage faite à Bonn le 23 juin 1979 ;
- Loi 01-11 de 2001 modifiée et complétée en 2022 sur la pêche et l'aquaculture ;
- Loi 03-10 de 2003 sur la protection de l'environnement dans un contexte de développement durable ;
- Loi 11-02 de 2011 sur les aires protégées ;
- Loi 02-02 de 2002 sur la protection et la valorisation du littoral ;
- Loi de 2004 relative au littoral ;
- Décret 15-207 du 27 juillet 2015 fixant les modalités d'initiation et d'Élaboration du le Plan d'Action National pour l'environnement et le développement durable (P.N.A.E.D.D) ;
- Décret exécutif n°02-115 du 3 avril 2002 portant création de l'Observatoire national de l'environnement et du développement durable;
- Décret 04-113 de 2004 sur l'organisation, les fonctions et missions du Commissariat national du littoral ;
- Décret 06-424 de 2006 fixant la composition et les rôles du Conseil de coordination côtière ;
- Décret 09-88 de 2009 relatif au classement des zones critiques du littoral ;
- Décret 09-114 de 2009 relatif à la gestion de zone côtière ;
- Décret 10-31 de 2010 définissant les modalités de protection de la zone marine et côtière ;
- Décret 16-259 de 2016 fixant la composition, les modalités d'organisation et de fonctionnement de la commission nationale et des commissions de Wilaya des aires protégées ;
- Décret 04-186 de 2004 fixant les conditions et modalités de collecte et de transmission des informations et des données statistiques sur les captures et moyens de mis en œuvre tant en ce qui concerne les flottilles de pêche que les populations de pêcheurs ;
- Décret 04-187 de 2004 fixant la nomenclature des engins de pêche dont l'importation, la fabrication, la détention et la vente sont interdites ;
- Décret 10-31 de 2010 définissant les modalités de protection de la zone marine et côtière
- Décret 02-419 de 2002 fixant les conditions et modalités d'intervention des navires dans les eaux sous juridiction nationale ;
- Décret 03-147 de 2003 portant classement de la réserve naturelle marine des iles Habibas ;
- Décret 03-439 de 2003 fixant les conditions d'élaboration et approbation du schéma national de développement des activités de la pêche et de l'aquaculture ;
- Décret 03-481 de 2003 fixant les conditions d'exercice de la pêche ;
- Décret 82-440 de 1982 portant ratification de la convention africaine sur la conservation de la nature et des ressources naturelles ;
- Décret 02-498 de 1982 portant adhésion de l'Algérie à la convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction ;
- Décret 83-509 de 2012 relatif aux espèces animales non domestiques protégées, complétée par l'arrêté du 17 janvier 1995 ;
- Décret 85-01 de 1985 portant ratification du protocole relatif aux aires spécialement protégées de la Méditerranée, signé à Genève le 03 avril 1982 ;
- Décret 85-112 de 1985 portant adhésion de l'Algérie à la convention internationale pour la protection des végétaux, révisée par la résolution 79/77 de la conférence de la FAO du 10 au 29 novembre 1979 ;
- Décret 87-143 de 1987 fixant les règles et modalités de classement des parcs nationaux ;
- Décret 95-322 de 1995 fixant les conditions et les modalités de capture d'animaux non domestiques et leur utilisation à des fins de recherche scientifique ;

- Décret 95-163 de 1995, portant ratification de la convention sur la diversité biologique ;
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.8. Fonds réservés ou affectés à la recherche, au suivi et à la gestion des cétacés (y compris financement national, projets internationaux, régionaux ou sous-régionaux)

- Pas projet de recherche sur financement national ;
- Le projet portant sur la mise en place d'un réseau opérationnel de suivi des échouages de cétacés en Algérie financé dans le cadre du fond additionnel de l'ACCOBAMS pour un montant de 15 000EURO.

1.9. Conventions, commissions et accords internationaux ou régionaux pertinents auxquels le pays est Partie.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptation**	**Entrée en vigueur**	**Commentaires**
Accord des Nations Unies sur les stocks de poissons (1995)					
Accord sur la conservation des petits cétacés de la mer Baltique et de la mer du Nord (ASCOBANS)					
Annexe V concernant la protection et la conservation des écosystèmes et de la diversité biologique de l'espace maritime Convention OSPAR)					
Convention de Barcelone (1976)		16/02/1981	09/06/2004	09/07/2004	
Convention sur la diversité biologique (Rio, 1992)	05/06/1992	06/06/1992		05/06/1992	
La Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction (CITES - Washington, 1973)	03/03/1973	20/12/1982	23/11/1983	21/02/1984	
Convention relative à la conservation de la vie sauvage et du milieu naturel de l'Europe (Berne, 1979)					
Convention de Bonn (CMS, Bonn, 1979)		31/08/2005		31/08/2005	
Convention sur la protection de la mer Noire (Bucharest Convention)					
Commission Général des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM)	24/09/1949	20/02/1952		29/12/2004	
Commission internationale pour l'exploration scientifique de la Méditerranée (CIESM)					
Convention internationale pour la règlementation de la chasse à la baleine (Washington, 1946)					
Convention OSPAR pour la protection de l'environnement marin de l'Atlantique nord-est					
Convention des Nations unies sur le droit de la mer (Montego Bay, 1982)	10/12/1982	11/06/1996		11/06/1996	

1.10. Accords de pêche bilatéraux ou multilatéraux concernant le domaine de l'Accord (tels que CGPM, ICCAT, accords de pêche spécifiques avec l'Union européenne ; fournissez les informations pertinentes comme la date de signature, la durée, la zone concernée, les mesures)

Organisation	Signature	Durée	Zone concernée	Mesures
CGPM	*24/09/1949*		GSA4	*Conformité en matière des Rec de la CGPM*
ICCAT	*16/02/2001*		*Méditerranée et Atlantique Est*	*Conformité en matière des Rec de l'ICCAT*

SECTION CA : ACTIONS DE CONSERVATION POUR LES CETACES (CA)

2.1: CA-1 - RECHERCHEET SURVEILLANCE

2.1. Liste des cétacés signalés dans la zone de l'Accord sous la juridiction du pays (telle que définie à l'article I, paragraphe 3 f de l'Accord).
Légende: "C": Commun, "R": Rare, "O": Occasionnel

Nom scientifique	Nom français	C	R	O	Commentaires
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoenaphocoena	Marsouin commun				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	dauphin à bec étroit				
Grampus griseus	dauphin de Risso	X			
Tursiops truncatus	Grand dauphin	X			
Stenellacoeruleoalba	Dauphin bleu et blanc	X			
Delphinus delphis	Dauphin commun	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	Pseudorque				
Orcinus orca	Orque				
Globicephala melas	Globicephale noir	X			Plus rare que les dauphins
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Baleine à bec de Blainville				
Ziphiuscavirostris	Baleine à bec de Cuvier		X		
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Cachalot		X		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogiasimus	Cachalot nain			X	
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Baleine franche de l'Atlantique nord				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Petit rorqual			X	
Balaenoptera borealis	Rorqual boreal		X		
Balaenoptera physalus	Rorqual commun		X		
Megaptera novaeangliae	Baleine à bosse			X	

2.2. Liste et description des programmes et des projets de recherche concernant les cétacés, en tenant compte des activités nationales, bilatérales et multilatérales.
Veuillez fournir des informations sur les programmes et projets couvrant notamment les thèmes suivants:

Amélioration des connaissances sur l'état des cétacés (estimations et répartition des populations de cétacés, structure de la population, surveillance de l'état des cétacés, réseaux d'échouage fonctionnels et réponses aux situations d'urgence, etc.)

- *Engagement des procédures administratives pour la mise en place d'un réseau national pêche et aquaculture*
- *Mise en place d'un réseau opérationnel de suivi des échouages*
- *Utilisation des plateformes oportunistes pour l'observation des mamifères marins : le cas des campagnes scientifiques.*

Réduction des pressions humaines sur les cétacés (Interactions avec la pêche / aquaculture, Bruit anthropique sous-marin, Collisions avec les navires, Observation des cétacés, Débris marins, Pollution chimique et biologique, Changement climatique, Problèmes liés à la captivité)

- *Projet de réalisation d'enquête sur la déprédation et le baycatch*
- *Projet de suivi de la présence de cétacés à proximité des fermes aquacoles*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

Conservation des habitats des cétacés

- *Etudes pour la création d'aires marines protégées : El Kala; Taza, Gouraya et de Edough et élaboration des plans de gestion.*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

Sensibilisation du public aux cétacés (Information /Communication / Sensibilisation aux cétacés)

- *Elaboration d'un programme de vulgarisation et de sensibilisation sur les cétacés à l'horizon 2024*
- *Célébration de la journée mondiale des océans*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

Tout autre projet pertinent

- *Elaboration d'un projet de décret exécutif fixant les modalités d'exploitation, de conservation et de préservation des ressources biologiques marines.*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.3. ***Échouage de cétacés***
Le pays a-t-il mis en place un réseau de suivi des échouages?

- *Oui mais non formalisé réglementairement*

Si non, s'il vous plaît précisez pourquoi? Si oui, veuillez indiquer le nom, les contacts et un lien vers la base de données.

- *Il existe un réseau pour le suivi des échouages des cétacés dont les conditions d'organisation et de fonctionnement sont en cours de formalisation à travers la mise en place d'un texte réglementaire.*

Envoyez-vous des données à la base de données MEDACES? Pour les rapports et les publications, veuillez fournir des références et des liens.

- *Pas de transmission de données depuis 2017*

2.4. Liste rouge des cétacés au niveau national ou régional utilisant la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN.
Votre pays a-t-il développé ou participé à l'évaluation des cétacés dans vos eaux nationales ou au niveau régional?

- *Non*

Si oui, veuillez décrire et fournir un résumé des résultats ou des liens vers des rapports et des publications. Si la loi exige l'utilisation de la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN, veuillez citer le texte juridique ou les articles pertinents.

- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.5. Existence ou préparation de plans de gestion pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez fournir toute information pertinente

- *Un plan de gestion pour la conservation des cétacés a été préparé par le Professeur BOUTIBA. Les différentes actions proposées ont été révisées et actualisées en concertation avec les parties prenantes puis transmises au secrétariat de l'ACCOBAMS pour la préparation d'un nouveau plan national de suivi des cétacés le long du littoral algérien.*

2.2: CA-2: MESURES DE GESTION POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CETACÉS

Mesures de gestion ou de conservation *introduites pour atteindre et maintenir un état de conservation favorable pour les cétacés et réduire les menaces potentielles, conformément aux résolutions d'ACCOBAMS.*

2.2.1.Interaction avec les pêcheries. Veuillez fournir des informations sur les interactions existantes ou potentielles entre pêcheries et cétacés ou cétacés et pêcheries (texte et / ou tableau). En particulier, précisez les interactions avec les techniques suivantes : filets maillants, filets à senne coulissante, filets dérivants, palangres de surface ou autres, en indiquant les espèces et le nombre d'animaux capturés ou qui se prennent dans les filets et en précisant les mesures de gestion existantes ou prévues :

- L'étude préliminaire sur l'étendue des captures accidentelles et les évènements de déprédation entre les cétacés et les activités de pêche en Algérie, réalisée en 2017 par le CNRDPA en collaboration avec les Secrétariats de l'ACCOBAMS, la CGPM et le CAR/ASP avec le financement de la Fondation MAVA, révèle les résultats suivants :
- L'espèce responsable des attaques est le Grand dauphin Tursiops truncatus, ce qui concorde avec les observations de LAURIANO & al. (2004) mentionnant que le grand dauphin en méditerranée interviens dans la déprédation de poissons aux différents engins, notamment le filet trémail et le filet maillant ;
- La fréquence moyenne des interactions est estimée à 11.38%, le filet maillant et le trémail ont la même probabilité d'être attaqués ;
- Le phénomène étudié est présent durant toute l'année avec une intensité bien marquée en période printanière ;

- Les attaques des dauphins semblent être dépendantes de la dimension de la maille et de la profondeur à laquelle la pêche est exercée. Le filet peut être calé en surface ou sur le fond. Il est fort probable que les mailles étirées inférieures à 40mm ne subissent aucune attaque par les mammifères marins. La fréquence moyenne des sorties de pêche attaquées lors de l'utilisation des filets à maille supérieure à 80mm est de l'ordre de 26.62%, alors que celles inférieures à 80mm ne dépassent pas les 7.68%. Les opérations de pêche à des profondeurs supérieures à 100m montrent une fréquence fortement prononcée (52.68%) ;

- Les frais de ramendage des filets, dus aux attaques des dauphins présentent plus de la moitié par rapport aux frais totaux de ramendage.

2.2.2. Réglementation de la navigation et collision avec des navires

- *Loi n°98/05 du 25 juin 1998 modifiant et complétant l'ordonnance n°6/80 du 23 octobre 1976 portant code maritime*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.2.3. Bruits anthropiques (tels que l'exploration ou l'exploitation des ressources minières ou des exercices militaires) et procédures d'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement (EIE)

- *Dans le cadre d'une prospection offshore prévue en 2019 dans zone ouest du littoral algérien, l'étude d'impact*

a été soumise pour avis aux experts du CNRDPA et 04 scientifiques ont été formés pour l'obtention de la certification PAM/MMO afin de participer aux actions d'atténuation des impacts des bruits engendrés par les prospections sismiques.

- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.2.4. Observation des baleines et autres activités commerciales de tourisme

- *Pas d'activités commerciales de tourisme pour les observations de baleines*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.2.5. Pollution marine, y compris les débris marins

- Opérations ports bleus, organisées annuellement par le ministère chargé de la pêche pour le nettoiement des plages et la sensibilisation du public sur l'impact des débris marins ;
- Recyclage des déchets plastiques ;
- Création de stations d'épuration dans plusieurs régions du littoral algérien ;
- Opérations de récupération des déchets solides par les pêcheurs ;
- Actions de nettoiement et de sensibilisation sur les déchets solides, organises par les institutions sous tutelle du ministère chargé de l'environnement.

2.2.6. Plans d'urgence pour la pollution, les échouages et les centres de sauvetage

- Mise en place du plan national d'intervention d'urgence pour la lutte contre la pollution marine par les hydrocarbures (Tel Bahr) par décret exécutif n 14-264 du 22 septembre 2014 portant organisation de la lutte contre les pollutions marines et institution de plans d'urgence. le secrétariat permanent du comité national Tel Bahr est rattaché au ministère de l'Environnement.
- Intervention des services locaux relevant des différents départements ministériels en collaboration avec les associations environnementales à but non lucratif lors des échouages de cétacés.
- En cas d'échouage d'individu vivant, il y'a intervention de vétérinaires pour les soins avant le déplacement de l'animal vers le large.

2.2.7. Problèmes relatifs à la captivité des dauphins et aux delphinariums

- *Pas de delphinariums en Algérie donc pas de dauphins en captivités*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.2.8. Aires marines protégées (AMP), zones de pêche, réserves de pêche ou autres mesures spatiales de conservation efficaces (OECM-CDB). Énumérez-les et indiquez si elles sont pertinentes pour développer des activités pour la conservation et la gestion des cétacés.

- Réserve naturelle marine des Iles Habibas ayant le statut d'une aire marine protégée d'intérêt méditerranéen (ASPIM), Jugée pertinente pour la conservation et gestion des cétacés.
- Réserve naturelle de Cap Lindles.
- La partie marine du parc national de Taza qui inclu le banc des Kabyles ayant le statut d'une aire marine protégée d'intérêt méditerranéen (ASPIM) pertinente pour la conservation des cétacés.
- La future aire marine protégée adjacente au parc national du Gouraya, pertinente pour la conservation des cétacés.
- *Des études sont prévues et autres en cours de réalisation pour le classement d'autres zones marines en aires protégées (El Kala, Edough, Collo, Reghaia, Zemouri, Chenoua, Rechgoun,...).*

2.2.9. Autres, s'il vous plaît spécifiez

- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.3: CA-3: COMMUNICATION ET SENSIBILISATION SUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de communication et de sensibilisation pertinentes

2.3.1. Principaux événements (réunion, symposium, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) organisés ou planifiés dans le pays,.

- Tenues de visioconférences de concertation pour la validation des fiches pour le lancement du PAN Algérie, avec la participation de l'ensemble des intervenants, notamment le Ministère de la Défense Nationale, le Ministère de l'Intérieur, des Collectivités locales et de l'Aménagement du Territoire, le Ministère de l'Environnement, les Directions des Pêches et de l'Aquaculture des Wilayas maritimes, la chambre Algérienne de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture, l'Agence Nationale de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture, le Laboratpire National de Contrôle et d'Analyses des Produits de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture et de la Salubrité des Milieux ainsi que des associations environementales à but non lucratif.
- Organisation de journées de sensibilisation, telle que la journée mondiale de l'Ocean
- *Planification de journées de sensibilisation pour les pêcheurs*

2.3.2. Principaux événements à l'étranger (réunions, colloques, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) auxquels ont participé des experts nationaux

- *Participation à la 13ème et 14 ème réunions du comité scientifique de l'ACCOBAMS*
- *Participation aux travaux du comité scientifique et aux journées d'informations du Projet MAVA MedBy catchProject : « Comprendre les prises accidentelles d'espèces vulnérables en Méditerranée et tester les mesures d'atténuation : une approche collaborative »*
- *Participation à la 5ème Conférence sur la Conservation des Cétacés dans les Pays du Sud de la Méditerranée (CSMC5)*
- Participation aux ateliers sur les bruits sous marins

2.3.3. Principaux produits (lettre d'information, brochure, dépliant, affiche, vidéo, autocollant, etc.)

- Actualisation des fiches pour le protocole d'intervention lors des échouages
- Préparation de nouvelles fiches pour l'identification des espèces de cétacés
- *Projet de préparation d'un film sur la participation algérienne a l'ASI 2018*

2.4: CA-4: RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de renforcement des capacités pertinentes

2.4.1. Besoins nationaux en termes de renforcement des capacités, en référence à la stratégie et au programme de travail ACCOBAMS

- Formation à la réalisation de nécropsie (intervention sur le terrain)
- Formation en anatomie pathologique des cétacés (diagnostic macroscopique et microscopique)
- Formation en photo identification
- Formation sur les methodes d'attenuation des impact des bruits sous marins
- Formation sur l'Analyse des bruits sous-marins

2.4.2.Formations / ateliers réalisés (nationaux et internationaux) ou planifiés

- Participation de deux experts (CNRDPA, université de Souk Ahras) aux sessions de formation sur les nécropsies, organisées par l'ACCOBAMS et l'université de lièges (en ligne et en présentiel)
- Planification d'une formation sur la conduite à tenir e cas d'échouage
- Planification d'une formation sur les nécropsies

2.4.3. Conférences, programmes éducatifs sur les cétacés (universités, écoles)

- *Organisation d'une conférence internationale sur l'économie bleue, le 31 mai 2022 par l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de la Mer et de l'Aménagement du littoral*
- Le CNRDPA recoit régulierement des écoliers et des étudiants et oeuvre à les sensibiliser et les éduquer sur l'environnemet marin. Les cétacés sont souvent mis en avant.

BULGARIA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : BULGARIA

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Yana Velina

Email: yavelina@moew.government.bg

Tel: +359 2 940 61 28

Address: Biological Diversity Department National Nature Protection Service Directorate Ministry of Environment and Water22, Maria Luisa Blvd.Sofia 1000, BULGARIA

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- *From 2004 to 2009, the NFP was Mr Kristo Popov*
- *From 2010 to 2018, the NFP was Ms Tihomira Slaveykova*

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2004 - 2007 - 2010 - 2013 – 2016 - 2019

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.7. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- *(S) 16/09/1999*
- *(R) 23/09/1999,*
- *(AC) 29/09/1999*
- *(J) 01/06/2001*
- *Competent authority :*

1.8. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.9. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Transfer to the national legislation on 05/10/1999

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Ratified the 25/01/2012

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.10. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.11. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

The maritime waters (internal waters, territorial waters and EEZ of Bulgaria along the Black Sea coast, are conjoined with those of Romania to the north and those of Türkiye to the south

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

  Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- National authorities / administrations:
  - Ministry of Environment and Water – Bulgaria)
  - Executive Environment Agency (EXEA)
  - Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture (EAFA)
  - Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water (RIEW) of Burgas

- Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water (RIEW) of Varna
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry (MAFF)

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Green Balkans
  - Balkani Wildlife Society

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  - Institute of Fish Resources of Varna
  - Institute OF OCEANOLOGY - Bulgarian Academy of science (BAS)
  - Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
  - Sofia University St Kime Ohridski, Faculty of Biology
  - Aquarium of Varna

- Rescue centres:

- Dolphinaria:

- Whale-watching operators:

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- *Biological Diversity Act (BDA) of 09/08/2002, promulgated by State Gazette No. 77/9.08.2002, amended. Relevant sections of the Biodiversity Act: The Bulgarian legislation ensures special protection of the cetaceans in the Bulgarian Black Sea area together with other plant and animal species. The cetaceans are included in Annex 3, Article 37 of the Biological Diversity Act (State Gazette No.80/9.10.2009). It follows therefore that in consistence with the provisions of the Act, Article 38 for the cetaceans the following shall be prohibited in respect of the animal species listed in Annex 3 hereto:1. all forms of deliberate capture or killing of specimens by whatever devices, means or methods;2. hunting and disturbance, particularly during the period of breeding, rearing, wintering and migration;3. destruction or taking of eggs, even where abandoned; destruction of, damage to, or removal of nests;4. damage to, or destruction of, breeding, resting or staging places;5. taking of found dead specimens;6. (supplemented, SG No. 94/2007) possession, keeping, movement, transport, export, trade and offering for sale or exchange of specimens taken in the wild; 7. stuffing, possession, exhibition to the public, movement, transport, export, trade and offering for sale or exchange of stuffed specimens. Permission for exceptions to these prohibitions is on in special defined cases and by procedure set up with the Biological Diversity Act. According to Article 39 any person, who has found an injured or dead cetacean, or who has unintentionally injured or killed a specimen, is obligated, while complying with the provision of Item 5 of Article 38 (1), to notify the nearest regional inspectorate of environment and water or state forestry unit. The provisions of the Chapter Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna of the Act apply to the cetaceans included in the Appendices to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) (State Gazette No. 6 of 1992) which are in danger of extinction or are under a regime of protection and regulated use and are or could be subject to trade, as listed in Annex 3 to this Act. Listed in Annex 3 of Biodiversity Act are:1. Family Phocidae with one species - Monk Seal (Monachus monachus)2. Order Cetacea - Family Phocoenidae: Harbour Porpoise (Phocoena phocoena), Family Delphinidae: Common dolphin (Delphinusdelphis) and Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops truncatus).Atr. 6 (1) of Biodiversity Act sets conditions for*

declaration for protected habitat for species under Directive 92/43/EEC of the Council, for protection of the natural habitats of the wild flora and fauna for the animal and plant species listed in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act; Bans on the Import of Specimens of Animal Species is set in Art. 43a of the Biological Diversity Act for the following:(1) The import for commercial purposes to the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria of seal pup skins of the species listed in Annex 4 of the Act hereto and products derived therefrom shall be prohibited.(2) The ban provided for in Paragraph (1) shall not apply to products resulting from the traditional hunting of Inuit people.(3) The import of the products referred to in Paragraph (2) shall be allowed upon production of an import clearance granted by the Minister of Environment and Water or a person authorised by him Fishery and Aquaculture Act of 24/04/2001Veterinary Practices Act (SG No. 87/1.11.2005, amended)Animal Protection Act of 8/2/2008Protected Areas Act (SG No. 133/1998, amended)

- *European Union Directives and Regulations- Directive 83/129/EEC concerning the importation into Member States of skins of certain seal pups and products derived there from;- Directive 89/370/EEC of 8 June 1989 amending Directive 83/129/EEC concerning the importation into Member States of skins of certain seal pups and products derived therefrom;- Regulation 348/81/EEC on common rules for import of whales or other cetacean products;- Regulation EC No. 1007/2009 of the European Parliament and the Council of 16/09/2009 on trade of seals products*

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance	Entry into force	Comments
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)					
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	12/06/1992	29/02/1996		16/07/1999	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)	03/03/1973	12/12/1990		16/04/1991	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	12/09/1979	25/01/1991		01/05/1991	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)	23/06/1979	23/07/1999		01/11/1999	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)	21/04/1992	23/02/1993		16/01/1994	
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean	03/11/1969				
International Commission for Scientific					

Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)		14/05/2009		16/04/2009	
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)	10/12/1982	15/05/1996		16/11/1994	

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

Mercantile Marine Navigation Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria of 19/05/1995.International Agreement between the Government of the Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria regarding cooperation in the sphere of fisheries of 13/09/1993Agreement concerning fishing for anchovies and sprats in each other's territorial waters in the Black Sea between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria of 03/10/1979

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise	X			
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin				
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin				
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale				
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale				
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				

BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale				
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- *Bulgaria has started developing stranding network since 2008. The target of this network is to collect basic information on cetaceans - live or dead stranded along the coast, bycatched in fishing nets and to identify specific measures to prevent the increased mortality. All cases of stranded specimens should be reported to Regional Inspectorate (RIEW) -Varna and RIEW-Burgas. In August 2016 the Minister of Environment and Water issued an Instruction for cooperation in cases of cetacean stranding on Bulgarian Black Sea coastline. It was elaborated via interdepartmental working group, including ministries, agencies, district administrations, scientific institutions and non-governmental organizations working and responsible on cetaceans stranding cases,in which all the parties had the opportunity to contribute according their experience and point of view. The instruction covers the following topics: passing and receiving of signals; response from the competent state authorities; monitoring; undertaking of actions in cases of live or dead cetaceans stranding on Bulgarian Black Sea coastline, including beaching of single specimens, mass or other unusual mortality; the policy of development capacity of the stakeholders; straight media coverage; relations with third countries and organizations. The aim is to create a unified and clear pattern of action in all stranding cases. In case of fresh carcasses found, there is organization made for their freezing with the purpose of performing necropsy and other necessary examinations. MoEW informed in August 2016 the Ministry of Tourism regarding*

concessionaires and leaseholders of sea beaches in connection of the need of their participation in the Bulgarian stranded network via signalizing RIEW, applying for derogation under Biodiversity Act. They have obligations for sanitary maintenance of beaches, but MoEW requires clear set obligations regarding cetaceans to be defined in the new concession and lease contracts. RIEW Burgas and Varna respond to signals, received on the "green telephones" 24/7 and go on field check-up on the most of the cases, which had been demanded via the above instruction and the other written instructions prepared by the Ministry. Bulgaria has eight Black Sea municipalities, which have expressed their willingness to participate in the process of responding of stranded cetaceans. Because of the need of proceeding with protected species under the requirements of the Biological Diversity Act. Six of them has applied and received permits for such activity in 2016 and one in 2018.

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- *The transmission of data to Mediterranean Database of Cetacean Stranding (MEDACES) is not done on a regular base. Green Balkans NGO has submitted data on strandings to MEDACES for 2017 and 2018 is still under processing. Usually Green Balkans NGO gets data from Burgas Environmental Inspectorate and after analysis collate it with other collected data from Save Koral facebook page "Save the dolphins", data from municipalities and mobile app Black Sea Watch. In 2016 Save Koral NGO was making online database but seems it is closed now. Total data for stranded cetacean in Bulgarian Black Sea coast for 2017, 2018, 2019 (till 10 August) are respectively 126, 101 and40 specimens. The RIEW-Burgas and Varna have not registered absolutely all cases stranded cetaceans, because not all of them are promptly reported by citizens or carcasses are removed, i.e. mortality may be considered higher than the cited numbers.*

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level?

If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

The last evaluation was in 2011 when The Red Data Book of the Republic of Bulgaria has been prepared. It was published in 2015.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all management / conservation measures *introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.*

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

- *Monitoring of bycatch is being made in 2019 and will continue in 2020 within framework of project CeNoBS. It the instruction for fishing logbook it is written that: Any catch or accidental by-catch and release of cetaceans should be recorded using a common code RET. According to EAFA no catches or accidental by-catches of cetaceans have been reported to date. For the period 2017-2019 interactions of cetaceans with fishing gears have been registered many times in the Bulgarian Black Sea aquatory. Cetacean interactions with*

fishing gears "pound nets" type are common. Gears are often torn by cetaceans because of the fish inside. Cetaceans eat the catch and damage the fishing gear, which often leads to negative attitudes of fishermen to marine mammals. Also, such interactions are also recorded with pelagic trawls – Tursiops truncatus and Delphinus delphis specimens are often registered behind pelagic trawling vessels. There have been recorded some attempts of dolphins to tear the trawls and eat fish collected there. For the period 2017-2019 there have been registered many cases of interactions between cetaceans and gillnets for turbot. These interactions are most common in the period March - April and mid June, when the turbot is the most intense. In some cases, the result of these mutual interactions is the death of the dolphins in the gillnets (bycatch). Most commonly registered as victims are Phocoena phocoena specimens. Under the program - "Dolphins and Humans - Coexistence at Sea" in this period two pound nets in Kavarna and Balchik regions and one in Sinemorets were equipped with pingers. The used pingers are designed to expel both Phocoena phocoena 10 kHz and Deplphinus delphis 70 kHz. The results show that the pingers reduce the interactions with cetaceans by about 60% compared to the non-equipped pound nets. Pingers placed on turbot gill nets have shown 100% success in the fight against bycatch - 10 kHz pingers are used. On active nets (with pingers) there was no bycatch, but on the control nets observed there was bycatch (2017 –6 specimens Phocoena phocoena, 2018 – 2 specimens Phocoena phocoena). For 2019, both types of nets (active and control) there was no bycatch.

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- Pilot monitoring of ambient noise will be implemented in CeNoBS project by IO-BAS, Varna.

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

- *"Improving of transnational legislation on marine waste" – MELTEMI (Marine litter transnational Legislation Enhancement and Improvement) – the program Interreg V-B Balkan-Mediterranean 2014-2020Assessing the vulnerability of the Black Sea marine ecosystem to human pressures (ANEMONE). CBC Black Sea. Joint Operational Programme "Black Sea Basin 2014-2020", 2018 – 2020.*
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

- *There is an interaction plan between EAFA and RIEW from April 2019. One of the main tasks of this plan is receiving signals for stranding dolphins and adequate subsequent actions in cases of stranded alive or death cetaceans on Bulgarian Black Sea Coast. In this plan are included also ways and activities for implementing these tasks such as:- once every six months organizing workshops in order to coordinate the activities in cases of stranding cetaceans;- cooperation by EAFA with technical means when there are cases of living cetaceans stranding - the specimen to be returned in the water at an appropriate depth and at the greatest distance from the shore;- provision of information by RIEW to NAFA in cases of unusual mass cetacean mortality;- conducting joint inspections of experts from NAFA and RIEW.*

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

- *In Bulgaria there is only one Dolphinarium – Festa in Varna, in which 5 Bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) with Caribbean origin are grown.*

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- *There are 14 NATURA 2000 sites designated under the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitat Directive), which object of conservation are the bottlenose dolphin and the harbor porpoise (these two species are under the Habitat Directive): •Durankulak lake BG0000154• Shabla Lake-Ezerec BG0000621• Complex Kaliakra -BG0000573• Galata BG0000103• Emona BG0001501• Emine-Irakli BG0001004• Kamchiq BG0000116• Shkorpilovci Beach BG0000100• Gradina Beach-Zlatna Ribka BG0000146• Ropotamo BG0001001• Strandja BG0001007• Aheloi-Ravda-Nessebar BG0000574• Otmanli BG0001502• Aladja Banka BG001500. Full information for the zones is available at the Information system of the protected areas of the ecological network (only in Bulgarian) http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/.*
- *The meaning of the announced protected sites is by means of introduced or upcoming introduction of restrictive regimes to be implemented measures beneficial for habitats and species, including cetaceans, object to protection in each zone. Many investing proposals go through a procedure of Environmental Impact Assessment, Environmental Assessment, and Assessment of the Compatibility under the national legislation which restrict the investment intentions, mitigate the adverse effect or in principal repel investors from the above announced areas.*
- *Currently there is ongoing project "Natura 2000 in the Black Sea" (BG16M1OP002-3.005-0001). The overall purpose of the project is the survey and mapping of the distribution of natural habitats, habitats of species and their populations, incl. of Tursiops truncatus and Phocoena phocoena in the marine areas of the Republic of Bulgaria. The project started in October 2017 and will last 70 months. On the basis of the results to be obtained will be determined if new protected sites are needed and what should be their boundaries.*
- *There are no designated protected territories with object of conservation cetaceans under Bulgarian Protected Areas Act.*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

- *Event name : LIFE17 GIE/BG/000371 'Natura 2000 in Bulgaria – New Horizons - Date : - Description :Within LIFE17 GIE/BG/000371 'Natura 2000 in Bulgaria – New Horizons' following events related to cetaceans have been organized in 2018-2019*
- *:• Presentation on cetaceans to students from Esetra club of Plovdiv University's Ecology department of Biology Faculty*
- *• Black Sea Action Day with Prosveta Community centre at Pomorie in October 2018*

- *• Dolphin afternoon at First progressive school – private primary school in Sofia in January 2019*
- *• Eco-happening celebrating Earth Day at Ivan Vazov library in Plovdiv in April 2019*
- *• Young Blue Earth Festival organized by Natural History Museum in Plovdiv in April 2019*
- *• European Maritime Day 2019 with Trakiya – Plovdiv 2008 Community centre*
- *• Natura 2000 Day in May 2019 with kids at Aleko Konstantinov primary school in Plovdiv• Presentation at Endless story private kindergarten in So□a in May 2019*
- *• Natura 2000 Day in May 2019 with kids at Aleko Konstantinov primary school in Plovdiv• Presentation at Endless story private kindergarten in So□a in May 2019*

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

- *Conference name : "Inputs to the ACCOBAMS ongoing effort to map human threats on cetaceans in the Mediterranean and Black Seas" - Description :"Inputs to the ACCOBAMS ongoing effort to map human threats on cetaceans in the Mediterranean and Black Seas" workshop organized by ACCOBAMS Secretariat during ECS Conference in Middelfart, Denmark in 2018 was attended by representative of Green Balkans NGO*
- *Conference name : "Marine debris and cetacean stranding" and "Towards understanding the overlap of selected threats and Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) across the Mediterranean Sea" - Description :"Marine debris and cetacean stranding" and "Towards understanding the overlap of selected threats and Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) across the Mediterranean Sea" workshops organized by ACCOBAMS Secretariat during ECS Conference in La Spezia, Italy in April 2018 were attended by representative of Green Balkans NGO*
- *Conference name : ASI training on aerial surveys at Cuers Airport, France - Description :ASI training on aerial surveys at Cuers Airport, France organized by ACCOBAMS Secretariat for all participants in the aerial survey campaign for the Mediterranean Sea in summer 2018 was attended by representative of Green Balkans NGO who later participated as observer and Team leader in several blocks from the Eastern Mediterranean.*

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

Good partnership is established between Green Balkans NGO and Plovdiv University's Biology Faculty leading to lectures on Black Sea cetaceans during summer practice at the university's base at Tsarevo on the Southern Black Sea coast. The lecture presents Black Sea cetaceans and techniques for their study, conservation measures, etc. Coast-based observation is complementing the lecture. In April 2019 lectures on cetaceans were made during the module on mammals for students in biology, ecology and molecular biology. In the period 2018-2019 at the Faculty of Biology of Sofia University there were two master's theses and a dissertation withtopics, related to cetaceans.

CROATIA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : CROATIA

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Katja JELIC
Email: katja.jelic@mingor.hr
Tel: *+385 1 5502 977*
Address: *Radnička cesta 80 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia*

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- *In 2016, 2013, 2010, 2007 and 2004, the National focal point was Ms. Ana Strbenac*
- Ms. Katja Jelić is NFP since 2017

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

- *2019 - 2016 – 2013 – 2010 – 2007 – 2004*

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- (AC) 03/05/2000
- (S) 21/11/1996

- (AC) 03/05/2000
- (R) 10/07/2000
- (EF) 02/06/2001
- Competent authority: Ministry of economy and sustainable development

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

none

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: 01/07/2001 Driftnets are forbidden by the European Union

  Transposition at National Level: yes Legislative text : https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/medunarodni/2000_05_6_70.html

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Not yet

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

None

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

Negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring country Republic of Slovenia. The Republic of Croatia states that the border with Republic of Slovenia remains unchanged as of 1991, until its final delimitation. Nothing in this document could prejudice the final delimitation between Croatia and Slovenia.
Croatia has declared Exclusive Economic Zone in Adriatic Sea in 2021 https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2021_02_10_192.html

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

  - The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Devewlopment is the competent authority for the environment and nature protection, performing primarily administrative and enforcement tasks in environmental and nature protection. The Directorate for Nature Protection is the unit of the Ministry responsible for performing administrative tasks related to the conservation of wildlife and natural habitats, sustainable use of natural resources, protection of natural areas, landscape diversity and geo-diversity in accordance with international

agreements & domestic legislation on nature protection, primarily Nature Protection Act (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). In particular, the MoE is responsible for designation of natural values (wild taxa, areas of special protection, minerals & fossils); -preparation of laws & by laws; -giving approval to the protected areas management plans; -adoption of species management plans; -issuing nature protection requirements & permissions for scientific research; -preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. More information: www. https://mingor.gov.hr/

- Institute for Environment and Nature (IENP) (formerly the State Institute for Nature Protection, and the Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature) of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development is a public service for expertise work in nature protection in Croatia. Their tasks include: -organization and implementation of biodiversity inventorying and monitoring including organisation of national stranding network; -operationalization of nature protection information system; -preparation of background studies and proposals for designation of natural values (wild taxa, areas of special conservation value, minerals and fossils); -preparation of species management plans; -coordination of red list preparation; -undertaking of education and information campaigns; -preparation of the national report on the state and the protection of nature. More information: https://www.haop.hr/hr/pocetna-stranica

- Public Institutions for Management of Protected Areas In Croatia there are 19 Public Institutions for Management of Protected Areas at national level (PI for management of national and nature parks established by Government), 21 Public Institutions for Management of Protected Areas and/or parts of nature on regional level (20 established by Counties and 1 established by City of Zagreb) and 5 Public Institutions for Management of Protected Areas and/or parts of nature at local level

- <u>Non Govermental Organizations:</u>

  - Blue World Institute of Marine Research (BWI) and Conservation is a Civil Society Organisation (CSO) that carries out research (encounter rates, density and population estimates, acoustic disturbance, genetics, behaviour, habitat selection etc.), conservation and educational activities in the Croatian part of Adriatic, especially in the area of Lošinj archipelago. More information: www.plavi-svijet.org

  - The Association of Environmental Protection "Val" in cooperation with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine carries out research of sea mammals in the Adriatic Sea, in particularly research on their geographical and temporal distribution, health condition and cause of death, gender and age structure, morphological and genetic characteristics, and nutrition. They also provide education for students, tourists, and inhabitants of the Croatian islands and coastal region about sea mammals. More information: www.val-nature.hr

- <u>Research Institutes / Universities:</u>

  Instutute of Oceanography and Fisheries (IOF)- undertakes marine research activities; collects and enters data into the Adriatic Sea Monitoring Reporting System (e.g. biodiversity, underwater noise, etc.)http://www.izor.hr/web/guest/homeThe Center for Marine Research (CMR) of the Ruđer Bošković Institute – an interdisciplinary centre, whose activities are focused upon basic and applied oceanographic research, including flora, fauna and animal communities (taxonomy, ecology and organism communities in natural and polluted areas) and ecological, physiological and genetic research on marine organisms and the impacts of pollution; monitoring of pollution and marine water quality; investigation of eutrophication; collects and enters data into the Adriatic Sea Monitoring Reporting Systemhttps://www.irb.hr/eng/Divisions/Center-for-Marine-ResearchFaculty of Veterinary Medicine (FVM) in Zagreb is involved in data collection on population dynamics, distribution, behaviour and strandings of cetaceans in Croatian part of Adriatic Sea.

- Croatian Natural History Museum (CNHM) in partnership with Blue World has been involved in the research activities. CNHM is also a central depositor of the national natural-history collections, and in this capacity keeps samples of the stranded animals.

- Rescue centres:
- Dolphinaria:
- Whale-watching operators:
- Others:

  Ministry of Agriculture (Directorate of fisheries)The Ministry of Agriculture is the central state administrative body responsible for marine fishing (The Marine Fisheries Act (OG 62/17, 130/17, 14/19) and provides for the management and protection of renewable biological marine resources, methods and requirements for fishing and aquaculture, monitoring of catches and aquaculture by way of data gathering, fisheries incentives and the market regulation, supervision and inspection as well as other issues concerning fisheries.

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Ordinance on strictly protected species (OG 144/2013, 73/16) (Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development)
- Regulation on Ecological Network the Competence of Public Institutions for Management of the Areas of Ecological Network (OG 80/19) (Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development)
- Environmental Protection Act (OG 80/2013 153/13, 78/15, 12/18, 118/18) (Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development))
- Marine Fishery Act (OG 62/17, 130/17, 14/19) (Ministry of Agriculture)
- Act on Maritime Domain and Sea- ports (OG Nos. 158/2003,141/2006, 141/2006, 38/2009, 123/2011, 56/16, 98/19);
- Maritime Code (OG 181/04,76/07,146/08, 61/11, 56/13, 26/15,17/19) (Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure)
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- O Act on Transboundary Movement and Trade in Wild Species (OG 94/13, 14/19, 69/22) (Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development)
- Nature Protection Act (OG 80/2013, 15/2018, 14/19,127/19) (Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development)
- Ordinance on the amount of damages caused by illegal action on the protected animal species (OG 84/1996 of 09/10/1996, modified by 79/2002) (Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development)Ordinance on the Level of the Compensation of the Damage caused with Unlawful Activities Regarding the Protected Animal Species (OG 158/2009 of 31/12/2009) (Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development))
- The Nature Protection Strategy and Action Plan of the Republic of Croatia for the period 2017-2025 (OG

72/2017) https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2017_07_72_1712.html

-
- For cetacean research. Cetacean research permitting systems is still operational with permits regularly issued by the competent Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. This contributes particularly to implementation of Res 4.15 Marine protected areas for cetaceans and Res 4.18 Guidelines on the granting of exceptions to Article II, paragraph 1, for the purpose of non-lethal in situ research in the Agreement area.
-

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- Funds for cetacean research and monitoring are allocated every year by the State budget (that embeds EU funding). Additionally, the institutions and NGOs quoted in the relevant sections are very active in proposing projects for international funding, often in cooperation and coordination with other countries of the region (e.g. EU LIFE program,).

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance	Entry into force	Comments
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)				*08/10/1991*	
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)				*07/10/1996*	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		*10/03/2000*		*12/06/2000*	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	*03/11/1999*			*01/11/2000*	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)				*01/10/2000*	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean				*22/05/1995*	
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)	*02/06/2007*			*10/01/2007*	
OSPAR Convention for the					

protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)	*10/06/1995*			*08/10/1991*	

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

- *GFCM: 22/05/1996*
- *ICCAT: 20/10/1997*

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin			x	
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	x			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin			x	
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin				regionally extinct
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale			x	
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale			x	
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale		x		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					

Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale			x	
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- Adriatic Dolphin Project
- Contact details: info@plavi-svijet.org
- Description: The Adriatic Dolphin Project is the longest ongoing study of a single resident bottlenose dolphin community in the Mediterranean Sea started in 1987. The aim of this project is to research the population ecology and conservation biology of bottlenose dolphins and other Cetacean species along the Adriatic coasts and around the islands of Lošinj, Murter and Vis using genetics, population and habitat modelling and disturbance factors. Standardized data collection protocols are employed during surveys. These include recording environmental conditions, navigation (times and locations of research vessel), locations of sighting, numbers of encountered dolphins, group composition, photographs of dorsal fins for photo-ID analysis and data about dolphin behaviour and human activities. The data is analysed for abundance, spatial distribution, habitat use and behavioural responses. Standardized protocols allow for exchange of data among researchers working in different parts of the Adriatic and comparison of results. Some additional data and samples are collected occasionally such as the inspection of the fishing trawlers in the area (for the presence of dolphins), interviews with fisherman on dolphin-fisheries interaction, etc.

- Establishment of the system of monitoring conservation status of species and habitats (2018-2023)
- Contact details: luka.katusic@mingor.hr
- Description : The project will result in setting up a system for long-term monitoring of species and habitats that are listed in the Annexes of EU nature directives.

- Photo ID data will be collected through the ongoing ESI funded project "The Development of a framework for the management of the ecological network Natura 2000".
-

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- Life DELFI
- Contact details: alessandro.lucchetti@cnr.it
- Description: The project will last for 5 years (from 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2024) and includes: dolphin research and monitoring activities in the target areas, the involvement of the fishing industry (e.g. participation to training activities about new and sustainable fishing methods), awareness campaigns and media relations activities to involve a wider audience. The main aim of DELFI is the reduction of dolphins mortality caused by fishing activities. This will be achieved through a reduction of interactions between dolphin and professional

fishing in several areas, both in Italy and Croatia, by innovative technical solutions related to fishing gears and the development of additional economic activities.

- "SOUNDSCAPE: Soundscapes in the North Adriatic Sea and their impact on marine biological resources"(2019-2021)
- Contact details: https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/soundscape/
- Description: The project is funded through the European Union CBC Programme Interreg Italy-Croatia, included creation of a cross-border scientific and institutional cooperation which will increase the current knowledge on the underwater noise and the human activities that significantly contribute to it.
-

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

- Development of a framework for the management of the ecological network Natura 2000 (2017-2022)
- Contact details: marija.sabolic@mingor.hr
- Description: The project's objective is to set up the management framework for Natura 2000 network to meet preconditions set out in Habitats Directive in the time frame prescribed by the Directive - definition of conservation measures needed and designation of special area of conservation (SACs).
-
- ECOSS – Ecological Observing System in the Adriatic Sea: oceanographic observations for biodiversity
- (2019 – 2021)
- Contact details: https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/ecoss
- Description: ECOSS overall objective is the establishment of the ECOlogical observing system in the Adriatic Sea (ECOAdS), shared between Italy and Croatia, able to integrate ecological and oceanographic research and monitoring with Natura 2000 conservation strategies. Building on the facilities, infrastructures and long term ecological data existing in the Programme area and developing specific case studies, ECOSS will enhance the marine observational capacities for improving the conservation status and the expansion of the marine component of Natura 2000 network. The synergies and feedbacks among the main conservation management questions, ecological variables and key oceanographic processes will be assessed, basing on the connectivity among habitats and species in coastal and offshore waters.
-
-

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***

Does the country have a stranding network?

- yes

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- Protocol for Alerting and Monitoring of dead, sick or injured strictly protected marine species (marine mammals, sea turtles and cartilaginous - Contact Name: Jasna Jeremić - Tel. +385 1 5502 921, Contact E-mail : jasna.jeremic@mingor.hr

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- no

*2.4. **Red List of cetaceans** at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level?

- Antolović J. et al. 2006. Red Book of Mammals of Croatia. Ministry of Culture and State Institute for Nature Protection. Zagreb

If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- http://www.haop.hr/sites/default/files/uploads/dokumenti/03_prirodne/crvene_knjige_popisi/Crvena_knjiga_sisavaca_WEB.pdf
-
- The use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Nature Protection Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia (OG) 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19) Art. 9. (1) 3. „The Red List is a list of wild species whose extinction risk has been assessed according to internationally accepted criteria.“ and Art. 151. (4) „The Red List is established and updated by the Ministry and published on its website.”
-

*2.5. Existence or preparation of **conservation management plan** for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- In the scope of NETCET project and within Resolution 6.21 the National management plan with action plan for the conservation of cetaceans was drafted.
-

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
***Please list all management / conservation measures** introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.*

*2.2.1. **Interaction with fisheries**. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

At national level, sporadic data on bycatch is collected through the National Stranding Network (Protocol for Alerting and Monitoring of dead, sick or injured strictly protected marine species (marine mammals, sea turtles and cartilaginous fish). One interaction with fisheries was reported in 2022 (one stranded dolphin with fishing net protruding from the mouth).

“Pilot study 2: Level of fishing and impact of fisheries on biological resources and marine ecosystem” was conducted in the period from 2018 to 2020 in accordance with the Croatian Work Plan for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. The aim of this study was to collect the data to assess the impact of European Union fisheries on marine ecosystems in EU waters and outside EU waters. Based on the results of the Pilot study, incidental by-catch of all marine mammals protected under EU legislation and international agreements is monitored during scientific observer trips on fishing vessels since 2021. Additionally, bycatch is monitored by the fisherman themselves through logbooks. Training of scientific observers was organised in February 2022 to ensure appropriate handling and identification of vulnerable species and benthic organisms. Identification guide of vulnerable species and good practice guides for the handling of vulnerable species incidentally caught are currently being prepared.

Based on the experience gained in Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey during phase 1 (2017-2020), the MedBycatch 2 (July 2020-October 2022) expanded the geographical scope of the project to include Croatia and Italy. Medbycatch 2 will

build on the momentum and relationships developed with decision-makers during Phase 1 to focus on:
- Conducting trials of technical solutions/mitigation measures that are effective in reducing the impact of bycatch on vulnerable species.
- Informing and supporting the development of policies related to the bycatch of vulnerable species at national and regional level (e.g. European and Mediterranean).
- Building capacities and supporting fishers to apply measures to tackler bycatch of vulnerable species.

- *2.2.2.* ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

Protected areas in the category of national and nature park are preparing Ordinance on protection and conservation as secondary legislation acts regulating in details requirements and measures for protection, conservation, improvement and use of protected areas of national importance, as well as administrative measures for violations of its provisions. The ordinance include provisions on navigation regime including detailed provisions regulating different activities on sea and on land.
The elementary source of domestic legislation in the field of maritime law is the Croatian Maritime Code (OG 181/04,76/07,146/08, 61/11, 56/13, 26/15, 17/19) (Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure) containing provisions on: maritime zones; safety of navigation; nationality and registration of vessels; maritime property rights; ship operators; maritime contracts and charterparties; maritime accidents and tort liability; forced execution, judicial sale, maritime liens and interim measures; applicable law and jurisdiction of domestic courts; and, maritime offences. Republic of Croatia adopted the Maritime Development and Integrated Maritime Policy Strategy of the Republic of Croatia for the period 2014 to 2020.
Alongside the improvements and the technological development in hydrographic activities, as well as the maintenance and construction of waterways and navigation safety facilities, the organizational and technological basis of the Vessel Traffic Management and Information Service (VTS Croatia) has been formed and, in 2012, the Service started fully monitoring the vessel traffic on inland waterways, in the territorial sea and in the exclusive economic zone of the Republic of Croatia, as the so-called maritime operational service. Further steps in the evolution of these services will be connected with the development and modernization of the mandatory ship reporting system and the traffic routing and separation schemes, as well as with the improvement of quality of information services for maritime shipping in accordance with the international and European e-Maritime17 and e-Navigation18 initiatives, all with the aim of improving the safety, but also increasing the efficiency of maritime transport.

- http://www.csamarenostrum.hr/userfiles/files/Nacion%20zakon%20engl/MDIMPSRC.pdf
-

- *2.2.3.* ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- Monitoring of continuous underwater noise has been conducted every year since 2017 as a part of the Monitoring System for the assessment of the status of the Adriatic Sea (OG No. 153/2014) under the MSFD.
- Additionally, the project "SOUNDSCAPE: Soundscapes in the North Adriatic Sea and their impact on marine biological resources"(2019-2021), funded through the European Union CBC Programme Interreg Italy-Croatia, included creation of a cross-border scientific and institutional cooperation which increased the current knowledge on the underwater noise and the human activities that significantly contribute to it. Summary of the results of the projects can be found in the brochure https://www.italy-croatia.eu/documents/290825/4519686/brochure+soundscape+result+ok.pdf/1f68f50e-1883-1041-75e2-75d85fe8cebc?t=1637415309879
- Project website: https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/soundscape/
-

*2.2.4. **Whale watching** and other commercial tourism activities*

- Blue World Institute (NGO) has prepared unofficial code of conduct during the encounter with cetaceans. This code is published on the web page of the Institute for Environment and Nature, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development: http://www.haop.hr/hr/aktualnosti/pravila-ponasanja-prilikom-susreta-s-dupinom-ili-kitom
-

*2.2.5. **Marine pollution**, including **marine debris***

- Monitoring of marine litter has been conducted every year since 2017 as a part of the Monitoring System for the assessment of the status of the Adriatic Sea (OG No. 153/2014) under the MSFD.
- National plan for marine litter management has been finalised in May 2020.
- Marine litter has been collected during numerous clean-up actions.

*2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, **strandings** and **rescue centres***

- Sub-Regional Contingency Plan for Prevention of, Preparedness for and Response to Major Marine Pollution Incidents in the Adriatic Sea has been ratified in 2008 (OG, IT, 7/08).
- Through the implementation of the EU co-funded projects Life Delfi (LIFE EU) and Improvement and Increase of Sea Turtle Rescue Centre Capacity (EU Cohesion Fund), the Blue World Institute established a team for emergency interventions for rescuing dolphins and sea turtles.
-

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

- Pursuant to the Act on Protection of the Animals (OG, 102/2017), it is forbidden to keep in captivity dolphins and other marine mammals from the Cetaceans family in Croatia, except for the purpose of veterinary treatment, recovery and care and as an official animal.
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

*2.2.8. **Marine protected areas** (MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- National Parks: Brijuni National Park, Kornati National Park, Mljet National Park
- Nature Parks: Lastovo Archipelago Nature Park, Telascica Nature Park
- Special Reserves: Lim Bay Special Reserve, Mali Ston Bay Special Reserve, Neretva Delta-Southeastern part Special Reserve, Pantan Special Reserve, Prvic and Grgur Channel Special Reserve
- According to Regulation on Ecological Network (OG No. 124/13, 105/15) there are 6 Sites of Community Importance (SCIs) for bottlenose dolphins: 1) Cres-Lošinj; 2) Aquatorium of J.Molat-Dugi-Kornat-Murter-Pašman-Ugljan-Rivanj-Sestrunj-Molat; 3) Lastovo and Mljet channel, 4) National park Kornati, 5) Aquatorium of the island of Vis, 6) Aquatorium of western Istria. More information on SCIs for Bottlenose dolphins: http://www.bioportal.hr/gis/.
- In 2017 (by way of national Ordinance on particular management regime in the part of Jabuka Pit area published on 8 September 2017 in OG No 90/17) Croatia enforced a particular management regime in the area of Jabuka/Pomo Pit area, as Fisheries Restricted Area (FRA), which implied a complete prohibition of using trawling gears, bottom set longlines, hooks and lines, pots and gillnets as well as sport and recreational fisheries over the area under the national jurisdiction and beyond it for the period of more than 3 years -

until 31 December 2020. In 2021, FRA became permanent.

-

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

- Since 1993, the Dolphin Day has been a traditional celebration in the village of Veli Lošinj, and since 1999 this unique event is a central element of the Blue World Institute's educational programme.

- https://www.blue-world.org/science-education-losinj/dolphin-day/
-
- https://www.blue-world.org/29-dan-dupina
- https://www.facebook.com/blueworldinstitute/photos/a.10150290443284777/10160157169644777/

- The Blue World Institute organised the first Adriatic Biodiversity Conservation Week in the period from 22 to 28 May 2022 (http://www.plavi-svijet.org/program-tjedna-zastite-bioloske-raznolikosti-jadrana/?fbclid=IwAR1KSkq9eF530trGi-L88Ynxv6aEDOUUCAl5M0vjn_Bo2lsmFWpmwswlhOk)
- During the first Week of Biodiversity Conservation of and as part of the activities within the project "LIFE Delphi - Reducing the interaction with fisheries", the Institute launched the first Croatian Bioblitz. They invited citizens to download the Marine Ranger application (www.marine-ranger.org) for mobile devices and start reporting observations of marine mammals.
-
-
- Educational program "Education on the Marine Environment"
- Description: permanent exhibition of the Lošinj Marine Education Centre

- Awareness raising activities have been performed through several projects, for example:
- "SOUNDSCAPE: Soundscapes in the North Adriatic Sea and their impact on marine biological resources" https://www.facebook.com/soundscapeinterregitalycroatia
- "ECOSS– Ecological Observing System in the Adriatic Sea: oceanographic observations for biodiversity" https://www.facebook.com/ECOSSproject

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

- Product name: Aquamarine
- Description: The Blue World Institute`s Annual Magazine (ISSN: 1849-6172)
- Url: https://www.blue-world.org/resources/educational-resources/
-
- The Blue World Institute, within the LIFE Delfi project, which is co-financed by the European Union through the LIFE program and the Office for Non-Governmental Organizations of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, has developed the Marine Ranger application for mobile devices. The application allows all interested citizens to become "citizen scientists" and join the activities of monitoring marine mammals – dolphins, whales

and monk seals. https://www.blue-world.org/marine-ranger/

- Croatia's largest supermarket chain Konzum launched a campaign "Morsovci" in 2021 aiming at raising public awareness on marine species protection. For each dolphin toy sold, 5 Kn was donated to the Blue World Institute for dolphin research and conservation activities in the Adriatic Sea.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BljkfacWbnA
-
-

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

- Dr. Martina Đuras has been nominated as an national expert to participate in training on necropsies organised by ACCOBAMS Secretariat.
-
- The training for emergency interventions for rescuing dolphins and sea turtles was held in 2022 in order to educate the staff of the Blue World Institute for providing successful care of stranded, injured or entangled dolphins and seaturtles. The training was held with the expert assistance of members of the University of Padua (CERT - Cetacean strandings Emergency Response Team).
- During the training, on Thursday, May 26th 2022, a workshop and demonstration exercises of rescuing large marine vertebrates were held on the beach Veli Žal in Mali Lošinj.
-
-

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

- Children start receiving initial information on cetaceans during their elementary and high school education, through courses covering nature and biology. The Croatian higher education system includes study programmes educating future experts in biology, marine ecology /fisheries/aquaculture courses covering this topic.
-
- Student internship program of the Blue World Institute
- In 2020, 5 students participated in the Blue World Institute internship program. The duration of the internship ranged from 1 to 6 months, depending on the needs of the Blue World Institute, but also on the needs of the students to meet the requirements of the Universities. During the internship, marine mammal research methods, data collection and analysis, and ways of presenting and communicating results to target groups were demonstrated to all students. As part of the internship program, a master's thesis has been prepared, the defense of which is expected at the University of Hamburg (Germany) during 2021.
-
- During 2021, 11 students participated in the student internship program. The duration of the internship ranged from 1 to 5 months. As part of the student internship program, during 2021, two diploma theses were produced: "Home range and movements of the bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) in the North-Eastern Adriatic Sea" and "Population analysis of wild common bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) in Istria region, Croatia"; one final paper: "Correlation between marine traffic and the occurrence of wild bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) in the Cres-Lošinj archipelago (northern Adriatic Sea, Croatia)", and one student project: "Mapping of marine vessel density in the Cres-Lošinj archipelago, including the bottlenose dolphin

designated NATURA 2000 area“.

Information on education program of the Blue World Institute can be found in their annual reports:
https://www.blue-world.org/bw/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Final-Report_educational-programs-2020.pdf
https://www.plavi-svijet.org/bw/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Godisnji-izvjestaj-o-radu-Institut-Plavi-svijet-3.pdf

CYPRUS

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : CYPRUS

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Mr. Lavrentios Vasiliades

Email: lvasiliades@dfmr.moa.gov.cy

Tel: + 357 22 80 78 58

Address: Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment,101 Vithleem Street 1416, Nicosia – CYPRUS

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- 2007-2012 the National focal point was Myroula HADJICHRISTOPHOROU
- 2013-2022 the National focal point was Ms Marina ARGYROU
- 2020-presentthe National focal point is Mr Lavrentios Vasiliades

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2007 - 2010 – 2013 – 2019 - 2022

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

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 GUIDEGUIDANCE ON UNDERWATER NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES.

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

(S) 24/11/1996, (R) 30/01/2006, (AC) 14/02/2006, (J) 01/05/2006, Ministry of Agriculture Department of Fisheries and Marine Research

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Fishing Gear not specifically mentioned in the National Fisheries Law legislation or in the conditions of the professional fishing licence are prohibited. The use of driftnets has never been authorised in Cyprus. In addition the EU legislation related to the ban of the use of driftnets COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 894/97of 29 April 1997 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources, and Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures that repealed COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 894/97 were transposed at National level in 2006 and 2020 under the National Regulation for the Application of Community Decisions and Community Regulations that concerns the Fisheries Sector, Law 134/2006.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

The Republic of Cyprus (RoC) has declared an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around the whole island of Cyprus in 2004, the limit of which is the median line with its neighbours. In particular, the RoC, proclaimed, by Law No. 64 (I) 2004, in 2004, its Exclusive Economic Zone («EEZ»), outer limit of which does not extend beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of its territorial sea is measured. In accordance with the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS 1982), and the relevant customary international law, the delimitation between the EEZ/continental shelf of the RoC and the EEZ/continental shelf of other neighbouring coastal States, is affected by an agreement on the basis of the median-line principle. Accordingly, the RoC has so far concluded Agreements on the delimitation of its EEZ/continental shelf with the Arab Republic of Egypt (in force), the Republic of Lebanon (ratification pending) and the State of Israel (in force), on the basis of the median-line principle. In those parts of Cyprus' maritime boundaries where no delimitation Agreements have been signed and until such Agreements are signed, the RoC considers as the outer limit of its EEZ/continental shelf, the median-line which is measured from the

baselines from which the breadth of their territorial sea is measured.

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

  Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- National authorities / administrations:

  Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment (ARDE), Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR), designated as National Focal Point.
- Non Govermental Organizations:

  Cyprus Wildlife Society
- Research Institutes / Universities:
- Rescue centres:
- Dolphinaria:
- Whale-watching operators:
- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Law 153(1) 2003 refers to the Habitats Directive
- Law 152(1) 2003 refers to the Birds Directive Fisheries
- Law (CAP 135) Fisheries regulations (273/90 and amendments)
- Law N20(III)/2001 which ratifies the Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity in the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention)

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

Monitoring program on Cetaceans has been included in the program European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) 2021-2027. National funds under the implementation of the MSFD are also earmarked for monitoring.

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)		25/09/2002			
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					

Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)	*16.02.76*	*19.11.79*	*18.07.03*	*09.07.04*	
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)		*1996*			
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		1974			
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)		*1988*			
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)		*2001*			
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean			*10/6/1965*		
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean			*1977*		
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)	26/09/2007				
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)		12/12/1988			

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				No records in Cyprus waters
DELPHINIDAE					

Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin			x	Reported during the 2016-2017 National survey within the EEZ of Cyprus.
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin	x			Reported during the 2016-2017 National survey within the EEZ of Cyprus.
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	x			Reported during the 2016-2017 National survey within the EEZ of Cyprus.
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin	x			Reported during the 2016-2017 National survey within the EEZ of Cyprus.
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin				No records in Cyprus waters
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale		x		
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				No records in Cyprus waters
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				No records in Cyprus waters
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				No records in Cyprus waters
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale			x	Reported in Cyprus waters
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale			x	Reported during the 2016-2017 National survey within the EEZ of Cyprus.
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				No records in Cyprus waters
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				No records in Cyprus waters
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				No records in Cyprus waters
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				No records in Cyprus waters
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale		x		Reported in Cyprus waters
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				No records in Cyprus waters

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- Visual and Acoustic Survey 2016_2017
- ACCOBAMS ASI 2018 2019 surveys
- Stranding Network

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture,

Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- COMPENSATION SCHEME TO FISHERMEN, FOR THE DAMAGES ON FISHING GEAR CAUSED BY DOLPHINS, IN THE FORM OF DE MINIMIS.
- The compensation for the loss of / damage to catches caused by protected mammals funded within the frame of EMFF 2014-2020

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

- OCEANID Natura 2000 site Under Habitats Directive for the protection of cetaceans and marine turtles
- Cape Greco Natura 2000 site

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

- CYPRUS BYCATCH PROJECT "Understanding multi-taxa 'bycatch' of vulnerable species and testing mitigation, a collaborative approach in Cyprus"

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- The Cyprus Republics stranding network consist of the DFMR personnel that cooperates with other government agencies such as the Veterinary Services that carry out post mortem investigation and tissue sampling.

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- The DFMR submits data to the MEDACES database

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level?

If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- In accordance with the requirements of the NATURA 2000 the DFMR is preparing a conservation management plan for cetacean species in the Natura 2000 OCEANID area

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all management / conservation measures *introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.*

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

- Interactions between fisheries and cetaceans have been documented through the CYPRUS BYCATCH PROJECT "Understanding multi-taxa 'bycatch' of vulnerable species and testing mitigationa collaborative approach in Cyprus" https://enaliaphysis.org.cy/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/report.pdf

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- The licenses issued by the Cyprus Government for the exploration of hydrocarbons include Environmental Impact Assessment procedures that are in accordance with the ACCOBAMS guidelines.

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

- No Whale watching and other commercial tourism activities related to marine mammals are carried out or authorised

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

- There are no marine mammals held in captivity and no operational Dolphinaria in the Republic of Cyprus

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- Establishment of a Natura 2000, FRA and other MPAs network which covered about the 19 % of marine waters, including EEZ, of the Republic of Cyprus
- Lara-Toxeftra Nature Reserve, 1989 1-Lara Toxeftra SPAMI

- Cape Greco N2000. The bottlenose dolphin, Tursiops truncatus, occasionally present in the area
- PERIOCHI POLIS - Limni - GIALIA, Natura 2000
- Akrotirion-Aspro-Petra Tou Romiou, Natura 2000
- Thalassia Periochi Moulia Natura2000
- Thalassia Periochi Nisia, Natura 2000
- Chersonisos Akama, Natura 2000
- *OCEANID Natura 2000 site. The bottlenose dolphin, Tursiops truncatus, occasionally present in the area*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

- Awareness activity planned with the publication of poster Marine Mammals of Cyprus
- Awareness activity planned with the publication of booklet on Marine Mammals of Cyprus

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

- Monitoring of marine mammals at sea
- Marine mammal necropsy training Course
- Use of new technologies

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

- GFCM Training course on the identification and handling of vulnerable species bycaught in the Med & Black Sea
- ASI Technical Recommendations Workshop
- FIFTH CONFERENCE ON CETACEAN CONSERVATION IN SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

EGYPT

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : EGYPT

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Prof. Dr. Mustafa FOUDA

Email: drfoudamos@gmail.com

Tel: +202 2527 1391

Address: Nature Conservation Sector Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs30 Misr Helwan El-Zyrea Rd.P.O. Box 11728, Al Maadi, Cairo

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

- *2019 - 2016*

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- (R)19/04/2010
- (J) 01/07/2010

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

none

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS
- Ratification status: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

The Egyptian Mediterranean Waters covers from East "Palestinian boundary" to West "Libyan boundary". EEZ limit has been negotiated with Cyprus

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

  - Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs - Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) - Nature Conservation Sector Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries - General Authority for Fish Resources Development (GAFRD)

- Non Govermental Organizations:

- Research Institutes / Universities:

  - National Institute for Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF)- Egyptian National Oceanographic Data Centre (ENODC-NIOF)- Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport

- Rescue centres:

- Dolphinaria:

- Whale-watching operators:

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Decree of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt No. 27 of 09/01/1990 concerning the baselines of the maritime areas of the Arab Republic of Egypt
- Law 102 of 1983 for Nature Protectorates & Biodiversity (NCS/ EEAA)
- Law 4 of 1994 for the Protection of the Environment which is amended by Law 9/2009, & its executive regulation (EEAA)
- Law 124 of 1983 regulating fisheries, forced by General Authority for Fish Resources Development (GAFRD)

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)		08/1997			
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)		06/1993			
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		04/1978			
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)					
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)		06/1982			
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean					
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					

International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)					
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)					

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise		X		
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin		X		
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin	X	X		
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin		X		
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale		X		
Orcinus orca	Killer whale		X		
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale		X		
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale		X		
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale		X		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale			X	
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				

Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale	X			
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

*2.4. **Red List of cetaceans** at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

*2.5. Existence or preparation of **conservation management plan** for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

*2.2.1. **Interaction with fisheries**. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the*

species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

FRANCE

FORMAT DES RAPPORTS NATIONAUX 2020-2022

Pays : FRANCE

POINT FOCAL NATIONAL, RAPPORTS NATIONAUX, PRINCIPAUX ENJEUX ET BESOINS

A. Détails du point focal national (email, téléphone, adresse)

Prénom Nom : Florian EXPERT

Courriel : florian.expert@developpement-durable.gouv.fr

Tel : +33 (0)1.40.81.32.09

Adresse : Ministère de l'écologie, du développement durable et de l'énergie Direction de l'eau de la biodiversité, La Défense Cedex 04 (Tour Sequoïa 08-39/40)

B. Énumérez les points focaux nationaux (PFN) successifs et la période couverte

- Depuis 2015, le Point Focal National est Florian Expert
- Du début jusqu'en 2015, le Point Focal National était Mme Martine Bigan

C. Date de soumission des rapports nationaux (indiquez les années où le rapport a été fourni):

2004 - 2007 - 2010 - 2013 - 2016

D. Questions spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties. Problème(s) majeur(s), besoins spécifiques ou sujets d'actualité : veuillez fournir des détails sur les problèmes émergents, les menaces ou les difficultés rencontrées et indiquer ce qui devrait être mis en œuvre pour répondre aux problèmes soulevés.

1/ Besoins spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité Scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties :

2/ Recommandations/suggestions pour améliorer l'état de conservation depuis les rapports régionaux du comité scientifique

3/ Principaux problèmes ou menaces ou thématiques importantes :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Sujet qui est ou était important pour les cétacés dans la région, et que nécessiterait la considération et une action par le Comité Scientifique. Exemple de sujets : nombre d'échouages exceptionnellement élevé, ou nombre important de prospection sismiques planifiés, ou augmentation des ferry haute vitesse dans la région impliquant des risques accrus de collision, etc.).

SECTION MA - GESTION DE L'ACCORD (MA)

1.1. Dates de signature (S), de ratification (R), d'acceptation (AC), d'approbation (AP) ou d'adhésion (AD) à l'ACCOBAMS et autorité compétente..

- Date entrée en vigueur: 01/07/2004
- Autorité compétente: Ministère de la transition écologique et de la cohésion des territoires

- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.2. Réserves exprimées conformément à l'article XV ou à l'article X de l'Accord

Aucune

1.3. Date d'acceptation, signature, ratification des amendements; si en cours de traitement, veuillez indiquer l'autorité compétente, la procédure et les mesures prises.

- Amendement à l'annexe 2 de l'Accord sur l'utilisation des filets maillants

  Date d'entrée en vigueur: 25/10/2007

  Transposition en loi nationale: Arrêté du 11 juillet 2011 relatif à l'interdiction de pêche à l'aide de filets maillants dérivants

- Extension de la zone geographique de l'ACCOBAMS

  Etat du processus de ratification: 10/11/2016

  Authorité compétente: Ministère de l'Europe et des affaires étrangères

1.4. *Dérogations autorisées conformément à l'art. II, paragraphe 2 de l'Accord et paragraphe 6 de l'annexe 2*

1.5. Définition de la zone marine sous juridiction nationale incluse dans le champ d'application de l'Accord. Veuillez indiquer si des négociations sont en cours avec les pays voisins pour les limites.

- Les eaux méditerranéennes sous juridiction et souveraineté française : eaux territoriales et Zone Economique Exclusive (ZPE) francaises.
- Il existe encore une revendication conjointe de la France et de l'Espagne sur ZEE qui se chevauchent cependant projets d'AMP portés de part et d'autres qui sont cohérents et vont dans le sens de la protection des cétacés (exemple : extension zone N2000 au large enjeu cétacés et corridor espagnol)
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.6. Lister les entités ayant compétence, responsabilité ou intérêt pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez examiner et compléter la liste fournie et décrire leurs activités. Veuillez préciser les mécanismes d'information / communication / coordination avec d'autres entités nationales.

- Organizations intergouvernementales :
  - IUCN France
  - MedPAN

- Autorités nationales/services de l'Etat
  - Ministère de la transition écologique et de la cohésion des territoires
  - Office français de la biodiversité
  - Parc national de Port-Cros - Equipe d'animation française du Sanctuaire Pelagos

- Organizations non gouvernementales:
  - Eco Océan Institut
  - WWF France

- SOS Grand Bleu
- GREC
- Baleines et Dauphins sans frontière
- Cetus
- Corsica mare Osservatione,
- MIRACETI

- Instituts de recherche/Universités:
  - Observatoire Pelagis (UMR CNRS-Univ. de la Rochelle)
  - CNRS
  - EPHE
  - Universités de Marseille et de Toulon
  - IFREMER

- Services de secours animalier:

- Dolphinaria:

- Société ou opérateurs Whale-watching:
  - BeFreeToDive
  - Méditerranée Pêche Découverte
  - Nature Essentielle
  - Nave Va
  - Promenades en mer "San Paulu"
  - Les Bateaux Agathois
  - Cie Maritime Catalogne Transports Maritimes
  - Cie Maritime Roussillon Croisières
  - Navivoile
  - Atlantide (L')
  - Découverte Du Vivant
  - Espace Mer
  - My Sail® Croisière Méditerranée
  - Sea Adventure
  - Tak Sea
  - Vedettes Iles d'Or et le Corsaire
  - Vertical Horizon/Evencrew
  -
- Autre:

1.7. Principaux textes législatifs et réglementaires nationaux concernant les cétacés.
Les textes peuvent concerner l'environnement (espèces ou zones protégées, biodiversité et pollution), la pêche, le transport maritime (collision), le tourisme, l'énergie, la pollution, l'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement ou d'autres sujets dans la mesure où ils peuvent concerner les cétacés. Indiquez la date, le titre, l'autorité responsable et le lien. Ajoutez une brève description ou citez les articles ou sections pertinents relatifs aux cétacés.

- Loi n° 2016-1087 du 08/08/2016 pour la reconquête de la biodiversité, de la nature et des paysages (Ministère chargé de l'environnement)
- Suite à l'entrée en vigueur au 1ier juillet 2017 du décret 217-300 portant application de la loi

biodiversité, de la nature et des paysages, une obligation d'équipement d'un dispositif de partage des positions visant à éviter les collisions avec les cétacés dans les sanctuaires marins Pelagos (Méditerranée) et Agoa (ZEE des Antilles françaises) a été introduite pour certaines catégories de navires. Il s'agit :

- des navires de l'État d'une longueur supérieure ou égale à 24 mètres qui ne participent pas à des activités de sécurité ou de défense nationales
- des navires de charge et des navires à passagers d'une longueur supérieure ou égale à 24 mètres, à l'exception des navires utilisés pour proposer des sorties commerciales comprenant une activité d'observation des mammifères marins
- Le décret exclut les navires qui ne navigueraient que ponctuellement (moins de 10 passages dans l'année civile précédente) dans les zones Pelagos et Agoa. Il dessine également le cadre des exigences techniques des dispositifs anti-collision. Il est complété par l'arrêté du 2 mai 2017 (JO du 4 mai 2017) fixant les caractéristiques et exigences techniques que doivent remplir les systèmes de partage de position qui permettront aux armateurs de s'acquitter de leur obligation. Un dernier arrêté précisera la liste des dispositifs qui répondent aux caractéristiques demandées. A ce jour, un seul système (REPCET) est a priori commercialisé. Suite à l'entrée en vigueur du décret d'application de la loi biodiversité, de la nature et des paysages, une obligation d'équipement d'un dispositif de partage des positions visant à éviter les collisions

- Loi n° 2006-436 sur les parcs nationaux, les parcs naturels marins et les parcs naturels régionaux (Ministère chargé de l'environnement)
- Loi n°1976-629 sur la Protection de la Nature (Ministère chargé de l'environnement)
- Arrêté du 01/07/2011 fixant la liste des mammifères marins protégés sur le territoire national et les modalités de leur protection (Ministère chargé de l'environnement)Arrêté du 3 septembre 2020 modifiant l'arrêté du 1ier juillet 2011 et portant interdiction de l'approche à moins de 100 mètres des cétacés et siréniens dans les aires marines protégées
- 2005- Modifications de l'arrêté du 27 juillet 1995 protégeant les mammifères marins permettant la mise en conformité de nos textes de protection des espèces avec le règlement communautaire d'application de la CITES. (Le Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle est l'autorité scientifique de la CITES).
- Code de l'environnement
- Règlement (UE) 2019/1241 du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 20 juin 2019 relatif à la conservation des ressources halieutiques et à la protection des écosystèmes marins par des mesures techniques
- Règlement (CE) n°1967/2006 du Conseil du 21 décembre 2006 concernant des mesures de gestion pour l'exploitation durable des ressources halieutiques en Méditerranée Arrêté ULYSSE. AP 172/2021 du 6 juillet 2021 encadrant différentes pratiques dans la mer territoriale et les eaux interieures françaises de Méditerranée. Étend à l'ensemble des eaux territoriales françaises les dispositions de l'arrêté ministérielle de 2011 relatives à la protection des mammifères marins.

1.8. Fonds réservés ou affectés à la recherche, au suivi et à la gestion des cétacés (y compris financement national, projets internationaux, régionaux ou sous-régionaux)

- Fonds de l'Etat en particulier pour les zones de conservation
- La France a alloué une contribution pour l'ASI s'élevant à 400 000 euros.
- Dans le cadre des activités conduites par la partie française du Sanctuaire Pelagos dans les eaux sous juridiction française, le Ministère en charge de l'écologie finance le Parc national de Port-Cros pour mener des études de recherche sur les cétacés (200 000 euros sur trois ans), et des actions de fonctionnement

(83 000 euros par an sur trois ans).

- Subventions à des ONG relative à la protection des cétacés de Méditerranée : 302 864 euros de 2019 à 2022 inclues (aux ONG suivantes : GIS3M, Souffleurs d'Ecume, devenues MIRACETI en 2020-2021).

1.9. Conventions, commissions et accords internationaux ou régionaux pertinents auxquels le pays est Partie.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptation**	**Entrée en vigueur**	**Commentaires**
Accord des Nations Unies sur les stocks de poissons (1995)				*19/12/2003*	
Accord sur la conservation des petits cétacés de la mer Baltique et de la mer du Nord (ASCOBANS)				*03/10/2005*	
Annexe V concernant la protection et la conservation des écosystèmes et de la diversité biologique de l'espace maritime Convention OSPAR)					
Convention de Barcelone (1976)				*29/09/1978*	
Convention sur la diversité biologique (Rio, 1992)				*01/07/1994*	
La Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction (CITES - Washington, 1973)				*11/05/1978*	
Convention relative à la conservation de la vie sauvage et du milieu naturel de l'Europe (Berne, 1979)				*22/08/1990*	
Convention de Bonn (CMS, Bonn, 1979)				*01/8/1990*	
Convention sur la protection de la mer Noire (Bucharest Convention)					
Commission Général des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM)				*20/08/1952*	
Commission internationale pour l'exploration scientifique de la Méditerranée (CIESM)					
Convention internationale pour la règlementation de la chasse à la baleine (Washington, 1946)				*03/12/1948*	
Convention OSPAR pour la protection de l'environnement marin de l'Atlantique nord-est				*24/08/2000*	
Convention des Nations unies sur le droit de la mer (Montego Bay, 1982)					

1.10. Accords de pêche bilatéraux ou multilatéraux concernant le domaine de l'Accord (tels que CGPM, ICCAT, accords

de pêche spécifiques avec l'Union européenne; fournissez les informations pertinentes comme la date de signature, la durée, la zone concernée, les mesures)

SECTION CA : ACTIONS DE CONSERVATION POUR LES CETACES (CA)

2.1: CA-1 - RECHERCHE ET SURVEILLANCE

2.1. Liste des cétacés signalés dans la zone de l'Accord sous la juridiction du pays (telle que définie à l'article I, paragraphe 3 f de l'Accord).
Légende: "C": Commun, "R": Rare, "O": Occasionnel

Nom scientifique	Nom français	C	R	O	Commentaires
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Marsouin commun				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	dauphin à bec étroit				
Grampus griseus	dauphin de Risso	X			De moins en moins d'obervations dans la zone
Tursiops truncatus	Grand dauphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Dauphin bleu et blanc	X			
Delphinus delphis	Dauphin commun		X		
Pseudorca crassidens	Pseudorque				
Orcinus orca	Orque				
Globicephala melas	Globicephale noir	X			
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Baleine à bec de Blainville				
Ziphius cavirostris	Baleine à bec de Cuvier	X			Commune mais très sectorielle
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Cachalot	X			Petite population
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Cachalot nain				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Baleine franche de l'Atlantique nord				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Petit rorqual		X		
Balaenoptera borealis	Rorqual boreal				
Balaenoptera physalus	Rorqual commun	X			
Megaptera novaeangliae	Baleine à bosse			X	
Escherichtius robustus	Baleine grise			X	1 observation en 2021, accidentel égaré

2.2. ***Liste et description des programmes et des projets de recherche concernant les cétacés****, en tenant compte des activités nationales, bilatérales et multilatérales.*
Veuillez fournir des informations sur les programmes et projets couvrant notamment les thèmes suivants :

Amélioration des connaissances sur l'état des cétacés (estimations et répartition des populations de cétacés, structure de la population, surveillance de l'état des cétacés, réseaux d'échouage fonctionnels et réponses aux situations d'urgence, etc.)

- ACCOBAMS Survey initiative, 2018
- programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2017-2020 : Étude des populations de mammifères marins au sud-est du Sanctuaire Pelagos. GIS3M (Hélène Labach)
- programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2017-2020 : Évolution des populations de rorqual commun et Dauphin bleu et blanc sur 25 ans dans le Sanctuaire Pelagos. EcoOcéan Institut (Léa David et Nathalie Di-Méglio)
- Convention 2021-2023 entre MIRACETI et le Parc national de Port-Cros - Equipe d'animation française du Sanctuaire Pelagos, financé par le Ministère en charge de l'environnement, pour le suivi et l'exploitation des échouages sur les côtes méditerranéennes françaises
- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2021-2023 : Abondance et distribution du Dauphin de Risso dans le Sanctuaire Pelagos (MIRACETI)
- TURSMED2 2020-2023, contrat R&D entre l'OFB et MIRACETI : favoriser une gestion intégrée et pérenne du Grand dauphin en favorisant le réseau d'AMPs de Méditerranée française.
- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2021-2023 : « Que mangent les cétacés du Sanctuaire Pelagos ? Réflexion sur la mise en place d'une capacité de suivi régulier des régimes alimentaires au sein du Sanctuaire, et mise en application pratique sur le cas du Dauphin bleu et blanc » (GREC, Adrien Gannier)
- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2021-2023 : REGALCEMED Etude du régime alimentaire et de la contamination des cétacés en Méditerranée, Phase I (EcoOcéan Institut - Nathalie Di-Méglio)
- Programme Européen Life Conceptu Maris, CONservation of CEtaceans and Pelagic sea TUrtles in Med, Managing Actions for their Recovery In Sustainability". 2022-2025. Partenaire français : EcoOcéan Institut
- Programme Européen DG/ENV ABIOMMED, Support coherent and coordinated assessment of biodiversity and measures across Mediterranean for the next 6-year cycle of MSFD implementation. 2021-2023. Partenaire français: EcoOcéan Institut
- Programme de recherche « Suivi des Grands dauphins dans le site Natura 2000 « Posidonies de la côte palavasienne » et des eaux adjacentes ». 2019-2020.EcoOcéan Institut, financement DREAL Occitanie
- Programme de recherche « Caractérisation de l'environnement anthropique du Grand dauphin dans le golfe du Lion, en zone Natura 2000 dans les eaux territoriales et au large ». EcoOcéan Institut. Financement DREAL Occitanie, co-financement OFB
- Etude « cétacés et changement climatique ». Financement ACCOBAMS
- Programme "Fixe Line Transect Méditerranée occidentale ou « FLT MedOcci ». 2020-2024. EcoOcéan Institut. Financement OFB
- Travail de redéfinition des objectifs, des échelles, des valeurs de référence et des seuils pour les critères C1, C3 et C4 des indicateurs inscrits dans l'Approche Ecosytémique de la Convention de Barcelone. EcoOcéan Institut. Financement RAC/SPA
- Mise en place d'un programme de surveillance du Grand dauphin au sein du Parc naturel marin du Cap Corse et de l'Agriate. Contrat R&D entre l'OFB et MIRACETI
- Programme de recherche "Suivi des cétacés au sein du Parc national des Calanques" 2020-2022. MIRACETI. Financement PNCal
- Programme de recherche "Etude du Grand dauphin le long des côtes Camarguaises". 2020-2022. MIRACETI. Financement DREAL PACA
- Programme de recherche "Suivi des cétacés sur le site N2000 Corniche Varoise". 2021-2023. MIRACETI. Financement DREAL PACA
- Programme de recherche "Suivi des cétacés sur le site N2000 Cap Ferrat". 2021-2023. MIRACETI. Financement DREAL PACA

Réduction des pressions humaines sur les cétacés (Interactions avec la pêche / aquaculture, Bruit anthropique sous-marin, Collisions avec les navires, Observation des cétacés, Débris marins, Pollution chimique et biologique, Changement climatique, Problèmes liés à la captivité)

- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2017-2020 : Exposition au trafic de plaisance et au tourisme du groupe côtier de dauphins bleu et blanc de la région d'Antibes ; GREC (Alexandre Gannier)
- programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2017-2020 : Évaluation de la contamination par les phtalates des grands cétacés du Sanctuaire Pelagos. WWF France (Denis Ody)
- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2017-2020 : Évaluation de l'impact des activités de whale-watching sur les populations de cétacés en Méditerranée française et de la mise en oeuvre du label High quality whale-watching® ; GIS3M (Hélène Labach)
- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2021-2023 : Contre-minage et mammifères marins (Alexandre Gannier)
- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2021-2023 : Cétacés en milieu anthropisés : observatoires conjoints Bombyx 2, JASON et KM3 autour des îles d'or (SMIOT/TVT - Hervé Glotin)
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
-
- Programme de recherche triennal Pelagos 2021-2023 : Etude du régime alimentaire et de la contamination des cétacés en Méditerranée, REGALCEMED Phase I (EcoOcéan Institut – Nathalie Di-Méglio)
- Programme Européen Life Conceptu Maris, CONservation of CEtaceans and Pelagic sea TUrtles in Med, Managing Actions for their Recovery In Sustainability", partenaire français : EcoOcéan Institut
- Programme de recherche « Caractérisation de l'environnement anthropique du Grand dauphin dans le golfe du Lion, en zone Natura 2000 dans les eaux territoriales et au large ». EcoOcéan Institut. Financement DREAL Occitanie, co-financement OFB
- Programme "Fixe Line Transect Méditerranée occidentale ou « FLT MedOcci ». 2020-2024. EcoOcéan Institut. Financement OFB
- Coordination et animation du groupe de travail du certificat "ACCOBAMS High quality Marine Mammal Observers and Passive Acoustic Monitoring operator". EcoOcéan Institut Financement ACCOBAMS

Conservation des habitats des cétacés

- Programme « Cetacean Critical Habitat » (CCH). EcoOcéan Institut. Financement ACCOBAMS
-

Sensibilisation du public aux cétacés (Information /Communication / Sensibilisation aux cétacés)

- Charte de partenariat Pelagos avec les communes riveraines du Sanctuaire matérialisé par un pavillon Pelagos et un panneau d'information sur les cétacés régulièrement observés
- Mise à disposition des communes / EPCI partenaires de deux expositions sur le Sanctuaire Pelagos dans le cadre de manifestations en faveur de la protection du milieu marin
- Démarche Ambassadeur Pelagos via une inscription à partir du site Internet du Sanctuaire, engagement matérialisé par un guidon nautique
- Posters à destination des plaisanciers : les cétacés du Sanctuaire, devenir Ambassadeur Pelagos et le Code de bonne conduite Pelagos/ACCOBAMS
- Dépliants Pelagos disponibles en 3 langues : français, italien et anglais
- Bulletin Pelagos France édité chaque année depuis 2004 autour de quatre thématiques : actualité / recherche / échouage / sensibilisation
- Courts-métrages sur le Sanctuaire, l'approche écoresponsable des mammifères marins de Méditerranée et le label High Quality Whale-Watching®
- Kit échouage comprenant une bâche d'information à destination du public pour mettre en sécurité une zone d'échouage de cétacé

- Communication auprès de la presse et sur les réseaux sociaux du Sanctuaire et du Parc national de Port-Cros - Equipe d'animation française Pelagos

Tout autre projet pertinent

2.3. ***Échouage de cétacés***
Le pays a-t-il mis en place un réseau de suivi des échouages ?

- oui

Si non, s'il vous plaît précisez pourquoi ? Si oui, veuillez indiquer le nom, les contacts et un lien vers la base de données.

- MIRACETI, Place des traceurs de pierres, La Couronne, MARTIGUES - Frank DHERMAIN – Tel : 0953929263 – 0608730291 email : frank.dhermain@wanadoo.fr
- Commentaire : L'Observatoire Pelagis a vocation à rassembler tous les échantillons français, et à les organiser dans une banque de tissus accessibles sur demande après examen et accord du Comité de Pilotage du Réseau National d'Echouage. Il n'y a pas de collection méditerranéenne différente, mais nous profitons des nécropsies pour alimenter directement les demandes en cours (par exemple recherche de morbillivirus au Laboratoire Vétérinaire Départemental de l'Hérault (LVD 34), ou analyses toxicologiques financées par l'Agence de l'eau au Laboratoire de Chimie analytique de la Faculté de pharmacie de Marseille. La base de données méditerranéenne française (simplifiée) est transmise annuellement, depuis des années, à Toni Raga pour l'Accobams

Envoyez-vous des données à la base de données MEDACES ?

- oui

2.4. Liste rouge des cétacés au niveau national ou régional utilisant la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN. Votre pays a-t-il développé ou participé à l'évaluation des cétacés dans vos eaux nationales ou au niveau régional ? Si oui, veuillez décrire et fournir un résumé des résultats ou des liens vers des rapports et des publications. Si la loi exige l'utilisation de la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN, veuillez citer le texte juridique ou les articles pertinents.

2.5. Existence ou préparation de plans de gestion pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez fournir toute information pertinente

- La France a une responsabilité toute particulière pour la protection des mammifères marins, espèces emblématiques de la biodiversité marine. Les cétacés sont soumis à de multiples pressions qui peuvent impacter directement ou indirectement les populations : captures accidentelles de petits cétacés, collisions, chasse, perturbations liées aux activités de tourisme, augmentation du bruit sous-marin, déchets plastiques et contaminants. Dans ce contexte, un plan national d'actions pour la protection des cétacés visant à limiter leur perturbation est mis en place au niveau national. Ce plan est inscrit comme l'action 43 du plan Biodiversité. Il a été lancé en 2019 et est en cours de mise en oeuvre .

2.2: CA-2: MESURES DE GESTION POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CETACÉS
Mesures de gestion ou de conservation introduites pour atteindre et maintenir un état de conservation favorable pour les cétacés et réduire les menaces potentielles, conformément aux résolutions d'ACCOBAMS.

2.2.1. Interaction avec les pêcheries. Veuillez fournir des informations sur les interactions existantes ou potentielles

entre pêcheries et cétacés ou cétacés et pêcheries (texte et / ou tableau). En particulier, précisez les interactions avec les techniques suivantes : filets maillants, filets à senne coulissante, filets dérivants, palangres de surface ou autres, en indiquant les espèces et le nombre d'animaux capturés ou qui se prennent dans les filets et en précisant les mesures de gestion existantes ou prévues

- Projet interreg FishMPABlue2 (Pelagos partenaire)

2.2.2. Réglementation de la navigation et collision avec des navires

- mise en place d'un dispositif anti-collision au titre de l'article L334-2-2 du code de l'environnement
- Travaux conjoints Italie, Monaco,, France et Espagne visant à aboutir à la désignation d'une zone maritime particulièrement vulnérable en Méditerranée nord-occidenale
- Mise en œuvre d'une stratégie de développement pour améliorer les performances de REPCET® : Echanges réguliers avec les compagnies maritimes autour de la thématique des collisions ; Formations de personnels navigants (matelots, officiers, commandants, etc.) et interventions auprès d'étudiants (ENSM de Marseille) ; Ingénierie pédagogique pour déployer des modules de formations et de sensibilisation sur la thématique "Navigation commerciale et cétacés" ; Organisation et participation à différentes réunions institutionnelles nationales, internationales et locales en lien avec les collisions

2.2.3. Bruits anthropiques (tels que l'exploration ou l'exploitation des ressources minières ou des exercices militaires) et procédures d'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement (EIE)

- Publication en juin 2020 du guide définissant des préconisations pour limiter les impacts des émissions acoustiques en mer d'origine anthropique sur la faune marine https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/guide-lutte-contre-bruit-sous-marin
- Publication de l'ouvrage collectif : Le bruit en mer. Développement des activités maritimes et protection de la faune marine Frédéric Schneider (coordination éditoriale), Hervé Glotin (coordination éditoriale), Annick Girardin (préface)

2.2.4. Observation des cétacés et autres activités commerciales de tourisme

- Arrêté du 3 septembre 2020 modifiant l'arrêté du 1ier juillet 2011 et portant interdiction de l'approche à moins de 100 mètres des cétacés et siréniens dans les aires marines protégées
- Arrêté préfectoral "Ulysse" du 6 juillet 2021 qui élargit l'interdiction d'approche volontaire des mammifères marins à moins de 100 mètres d'un navire à toutes les eaux intérieures et la mer territoriale française.
- Animation annuelle de la marque High Quality High Quality Whale-Watching®, soutenu par le Ministère de la Transition Écologique.

2.2.5. Pollution marine, y compris les débris marins

2.2.6. Plans d'urgence pour la pollution, les échouages et les centres de sauvetage

2.2.7. Problèmes relatifs à la captivité des dauphins et aux delphinariums

- L'interdiction d'acquérir, de commercialiser et de faire se reproduire des animaux appartenant aux espèces non domestiques en vue de les présenter au public dans des établissements

itinérants entre en vigueur à l'expiration d'un délai de deux ans à compter de la promulgation de la loi n° 2021-1539 du 30 novembre 2021 visant à lutter contre la maltraitance animale et conforter le lien entre les animaux et les hommes

2.2.8. Aires marines protégées (AMP), zones de pêche, réserves de pêche ou autres mesures spatiales de conservation efficaces (OECM-CDB). Énumérez-les et indiquez si elles sont pertinentes pour développer des activités pour la conservation et la gestion des cétacés.

2.2.9. Autres, s'il vous plaît spécifiez

2.3: CA-3: COMMUNICATION ET SENSIBILISATION SUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS

Veuillez lister toutes les activités de communication et de sensibilisation pertinentes

2.3.1. Principaux événements (réunion, symposium, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) organisés ou planifiés dans le pays.

- Comité national du Sanctuaire Pelagos (chaque année, en alternance sur les 4 départements riverains du Sanctuaire - Var, Alpes-Maritimes, Haute Corse et Corse du Sud).
- Rencontres Humains/ cétacés (MIRACETI)
- Conseils scientifique et technique du projet Eolien flottant dans le Golfe du Lion
- Congrès Mondial pour la Nature IUCN
- Atelier ZMPV
- Comité de pilotage RNE
- Séminaire RNE
- Atelier comité d'expertise pour les enjeux environnementaux des énergies marines renouvelables (COME3T) Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.3.2. Principaux événements à l'étranger (réunions, colloques, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) auxquels ont participé des experts nationaux

- Groupe de travail international pour la définition des indicateurs, valeurs de référence et seuils pour la DCSMM et le BEE (EcoOcéan Institut)
- Groupe de travail sur l'étude whale-watching de l'ACCOBAMS ((EcoOcéan Institut / MIRACETI))
- Groupe de travail CORMON Biodiversité. RAC/SPA. (EcoOcéan Institut)
- ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative Technical Workshop. (EcoOcéan Institut / MIRACETI)
- MSP-MED workshop. (EcoOcéan Institut / MIRACETI)
- Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBAN Bycatch workshop. (EcoOcéan Institut)
- Groupe de travail sur les espèces mobiles organisé par le MedPAN (MIRACETI)
- Forum de AMP organisé par le MedPAN (MIRACETI)

2.3.3. Principaux produits (lettre d'information, brochure, dépliant, affiche, vidéo, autocollant, etc.)

- bulletin Pelagos France, autres dépliants Pelagos.
- Création d'une exposition pédagogique "Approche écosystémique" (6 kakémonos) présentant la place de l'humain et des cétacés au sein de l'écosystème.
- Newsletters annuelles sur le label High Quality Whale-Watching® ;
- 3 communiqués de presse (1 CP/an)

2.4: CA-4: RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de renforcement des capacités pertinentes

2.4.1. Besoins nationaux en termes de renforcement des capacités, en référence à la stratégie et au programme de travail ACCOBAMS

- Dans le cadre de la réduction du bruit d'origine anthropique, davantage d'interaction avec les activités militaires

2.4.2. Formations / ateliers réalisés (nationaux et internationaux) ou planifiés

- Conférence sur les déchets plastiques et ses impacts sur la biodiversité marine, au CESER de la région Occitanie. EcoOcéan Institut.
-
- Formations aux bonnes pratiques du whale-watching en Méditerranée pour l'obtention de la marque HQWW ®
- Séminaires "Navigation commerciale et cétacés" pour les élèves de 3ème année de l'ENSM
- Formations du personnel navigant de navires équipés de REPCET
- Module de formation "Conservation des cétacés" du Programme Régulier de Formation de MedPAN destinées aux gestionnaires d'Aires Marines Protégées (AMP) méditerranéennes (Formation organisée par MedPAN-network et Parc national de Port-Cros et Porquerolles qui s'est déroulée à l'Observatoire Marin de Cavalaire sur Mer dans le Golf De Saint Tropez en octobre 2020).
- Formations MMO pour différents professionnels de travaux maritimes, solutions et suivis pour minimiser l'impact du bruit sous-marin sur les cétacés. EcoOcéan Institut

2.4.3. Conférences, programmes éducatifs sur les cétacés (universités, écoles)

- Formation des étudiants du BTS Maritime Pêche et gestion de l'environnement marin sur « les cétacés et les tortues marines de Méditerranée et leurs techniques d'études », Sète (34). EcoOcéan Institut.
- Développement de l'outil pédagogique CETAMER et animations auprès des scolaires (primaire, collège, lycée) et du grand public. EcoOcéan Institut. Financement Région Occitanie, Parc Naturel Marin du Golfe du Lion, ACCOBAMS.

GEORGIA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : GEORGIA

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Sergo TABAGARI

Email: sergo.tabagari@mepa.gov.ge

Tel: *+995 555 28 82 28*

Address: Department of Biodiversity and Forest Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture6, Marshal Gelovani Ave, Tbilisi, 0159, Georgia

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- Since 2021, the Focal Point is Mr. Sergo TABAGARI
- From the beginning to 2021, the Focal Point was Mrs. Irine LOMASHVILI

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2004 - 2007 - 2010 - 2013 – 2016 - 2019

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

first of all, 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 ll out the gaps on the basinal scale. Encourage and sustain research for the o shore 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 e orts.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- Date entry into force : 01/06/2001
- Competent authority : Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

none

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  - Date entry into force: 25/10/2007
  - Transposition at National Level: No

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS
  - Ratification status: Procedures are started and before 2022 it will be ratified
  - Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

- Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
- LEPL National Environmental Agency under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Association 'Flora and Fauna' 2. Green Movement of Georgia

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  - - Institute of Ecology of the Ilia State University- Georgian Marine Ecology and Fisheries Research Institute
  - Commission for Endangered Species of the Academy of Sciences of Georgia-
  - Georgian Marine Ecology and Fisheries Research Institute

- Rescue centres:
  - Batumi Rescue Center (Ltd established by Batumi Municipality 'Black Sea Flora and Fauna Educational Scienti cResearch Centre)

- Dolphinaria:
  - Batumi Rescue Center (Ltd established by Batumi Municipality 'Black Sea Flora and Fauna Educational Scienti cResearch Centre)

- Whale-watching operators:
  - none

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Law of Georgia on Red Book and Red List of Georgia of 06/06/2003 and its amendment of 18/07/2006 removing some section included in the Law on environmental licenses and permits of 24/06/2005
- Red List of Georgia adopted in the frame of Law on Red Book and Red List of Georgia, 05/08/2003, revised on 03/05/2006 - Three cetacean species are included in the Red List of Georgia. These are: Common Dolphin Delphinus delphis, Bottlenose Dolphin Tursiops trucatus and Harbour Porpoise Phocoena phocoena
- Law of Georgia on Fauna of 26/12/1996 (Ministry of Environment) - According to the Article 30 (Fishing) of the Law, it is prohibited to catch small cetaceans. According to the same article, the underwater hunting for the marine mammals is also prohibited. At the same time, according to the Article 34, the use of cetaceans with scientific, cultural, educational, recreational, esthetic and veterinary purposes in the form of common use is allowed without extracting species from their natural environment if this does not harm animal world

and their habitats. It is also allowed to extract small cetaceans from their natural environment a) with veterinary purposes in the form of common use;and b) in the form of special use.

- Law of Georgia on Development and Management of Kolkheti Protected Areas of 09/12/1999 - According to the Article 38, in the Kobuleti State Reserve and in the zone of strict protection of nature of the Kolkheti National Park hunting, fishing, catching of water invertebrates and marine mammals, is prohibited.
- Law on Environmental Protection - The Law is a framework act that sets out the basic legal principles for the protection of the environment, but leaves many of thedetails to be developed in further laws. It applies to the whole of Georgia, including its territorial waters, continental shelf andexclusive economic zone, and so embraces both land and sea.
- Law in the Marine Space of Georgia of 24/12/1998
  - The objective of the Law (Article 2) - Among the objectives of the Law are: d) Protection of the environment of the Black Sea and conservation of ecological balance;and e) Promotion of scientific research and rational utilization of Black Sea resources.
  - Legal status of the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf of Georgia (Article 5) - With the purpose of use and conservation of natural resources, protection of economic and ecological interests, Georgia exercises sovereign rights and jurisdiction in accordance with principles and norms of international law, Georgian legislation and international agreements of Georgia in its exclusive economic zone and continental shelf.
  - Rational use and protection of living sea resources in the exclusive economic zone of Georgia (Article 35) - 1. The trade of living resources is prohibited in the exclusive economic zone of Georgia unless there is an agreement on the trade of living resources between Georgia and ship banner state. - 2. With the purpose of rational use and protection within its exclusive economic zone Georgia annually, in accordance with the most reliable data, determines the allowed quota for the trade of all types of living resources. - 3. If Georgian trade organizations cannot fulfil the quotas for trade of living resources, or if there is a special agreement about the trade of the living resources between Georgia and foreign country, the transfer of the trade quotas of living resources toother countries by issuing the license is permitted. - 4. The license for physical and legal persons of Georgia and other countries is issued by the Ministry of Environment of Georgia. - 5. Physical and legal persons of foreign countries, permitted by the Ministry of Environment of Georgia to undertake the trade of living resources in the exclusive economic zone of Georgia, are obliged to observe the relevant legislation of Georgia. - 6. If a foreign trade ship does not have special permit of the trade by living resources in the exclusive economic zone of Georgia,it should not have the trade devices in operational condition while being in this zone.
  - Georgia's rights in its continental shelf (Article 40) - Towards its continental shelf Georgia has jurisdiction on environmental protection and conservation.
  - Sea reserve area and sea sanitation areas (Article 64) - The following sea reserve area and sea sanitation areas are created in Georgia: - a) Sea Reserve Area – the coastal zone of Georgian territorial sea from the mouth of the Rioni river northwards until the Anakliapopulated area, 5 sea miles in width. The sea reserve area is adjacent to two-miles-wide protection zone. Fishing is prohibited inthis area. Navigation is allowed only in exceptional cases; - b) The First Sea Sanitation Area of Georgia (water use area) – Georgian internal waters and coastal zone of territorial sea 12 seamiles in width. The discharge of oil-containing mixtures, waste obtained as a result of the ship exploitation, ship waste-waterand pure ballast from tankers into the sea is prohibited in this zone; c) The Second Sea Sanitation Area – coastal zone 50 seamiles in width. The discharge of oil- containing waters and pure ballast into the sea is prohibited in this zone, except for thosecases, when at the same time the requirements set in the International Convention "on the Prevention of the Pollution from Ships" are fulfilled

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)					
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	02/06/1994			31/08/1994	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		13/09/1996		01/12/1996	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	18/05/2009	19/11/2009		01/03/2010	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)	03/12/1999			01/06/2000	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)	21/04/1992	01/09/1993		15/01/1994	
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean					
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean			21/04/1994		
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)					
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)			21/04/1996		

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration,

area concerned, measures)

- Since 2014 Georgia actively cooperates with the GFCM and obtained a status of non-party cooperating country. An internal procedure forbecoming a full memebre of the GFCM has been launched.

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise	X			
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin				
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin				
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale				
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale				
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale				
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact

details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- because of the korona period activities have not proceeded.

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- YES

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- The Stranding Network is not fully developed, though it is under finale stage of development. National Environmental Agency took this function and sends it's specialists to the stranding place after it receives a notification to the hot line. The weakest point in this scheme, needed to be improved, is the notification system, though taking into account a short coastline of the Georgian coast, almost all cases can be easily covered. Database is not available at the website yet, but will be on the site soon.

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- No

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- Georgia has a project about renewing the red list of Georgia in 2022. every species has been renewed by the IUCN Red List methodology. the renewed red list needs to be proofed which is launched.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- Conservation Management Plan is developed and successfully imoplemented by Institute of Ecology of the Ilia State University.The Management Plan and its implementation is supported by Kolkheti National Park Development Fund.

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

- Drift nets are prohibited by national legislation. Bottom trawls is allowed in certain locations, where they can cause less harm to cetaceans.
- According to data obtained from National Environmental Agency responsible for stranding monitoring, among registered 25 cases of strandings, about 20 specimen were victims of by-catch. The cause of mortality of the rest of them has not been detected

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- Construction of Port Anaklia in the north coast of Georgia is underway for the time being. EIA, developed for these purposes mentioned antropogenic noise as one of the threats to biodiversity in general and especially to cetaceans. There are given some recommendations for mitigation measures to be undertaken.
- Before starting construction works underwater UXOs, neutralization works can cause deep damage to cetaceans, including death and losing hearing ability. It was recommended to develop CEMP (Construction Environmental Management Plan) envisaging the described threat and containing special mitigation measures. There can be undertaken different measures, such as MMOs, Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) and Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADDs).
-

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

- Whale watching is not carried out.

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

- LEPL National Environmental Agency under the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture ofGeorgia conducts regular monitoring on pollution of the BS waters. Georgia is a party to Marpol and Bucharest Conventions.
- The Project "Environmental Monioring in the Black Sea" (EMBLAS) supplies data on pollution including marine debris. It started in 2013 and it's third phase is being carried out.
- Marine Environment Strategy & Action Plan is under development for the time being, which will cover the

  mentioned issues and the relevant regulations will be introduced at national level.

  http://emblasproject.org/publications-reports

*2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, **strandings** and **rescue centres***

- comprehensive emergency plan still does not exist.

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

- One rescue center/dolphinarium is operational in Batumi.
- Cetaceans are there since 2009, when live strandings were documented. The management is undertaken by the rescue cenetr. According to Georgian legislation capture of live specimen is prohibited. *Tursiops truncatus* and *Phocoena phocoena* are protected by the Red List of Georgia, but *Delphinus delphis* is also prohibited for capture.

*2.2.8. **Marine protected areas** (MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- in 1994 Kolkheti National Park was established which includes 5 miles wide marine area. This area was included for the porposes to protect marine biodiversity and wintering place of some of the fish species and cetaceans.
- it's planned to extend the protected area in the Kolkheti region

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

- Ilia State University has a course for students about animal monitoring. the course includes cetacean monitoring. the ilia state university has a base in Grigoleti seaside and students are trained there.

GREECE

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : GREECE

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Charilaos NIKOKAVOURAS

Email: c.nikokavouras@prv.ypeka.gr

Tel: +30 210 8645125

Address: Hellenic Ministry of Environment & Energy - General Directorate of Environmental Policy - Directorate of Natural Environment Management and Biodiversity - Biodiversity Department - 147 Patission Str, 112 51 Athens, GREECE

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- Charilaos NIKOKAVOURAS since 2022
- Eleni TRYFON in 2012-
- No Focal Point in 2010 / 2011
- Alexandros RALLIS in 2007-2009
- Anastasia KOMNENOU 2004-2006

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2013 - 2016

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- Entry into force : 01/06/2001
- Competent authority : Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change
- The ratification of the Agreement has been drafted and is in the process of voting by the Greek Parliament, at the time of submission of this report.

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

  - Ministry of International Affairs
  - Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change
  - Ministry of Mercantile Marine & Island Policy
  - Ministry of Rural Development & Food
  - Ministry of Infrastructures, transports and networks

- Ministry of Tourism
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of National Defense
- Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency, supervising the Management Units of Protected Areas (previously designated as Management Bodies)

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute
  - ARION Cetacean Rescue and Rehabilitation Research Centre
  - Archipelagos Institute for Marine Conservation
  - Tethys Research Institute
  - WWF
  - ANIMA
  - ALKYONI
  - iSea Environmental Organisation for the Preservation of the Aquatic Ecosystems

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  - National University of Athens – Department of Biology
  - Aristotle University of Thessaloniki – Department of Biology
  - Aristotle University of Thessaloniki – Department of Veterinary Medicine
  - University of Patras – Department of Biology
  - University of Crete – Department of Biology
  - University of Aegean – Department of Marine Sciences
  - University of Thessaly - Department Of Agriculture, Ichthyology And Aquatic Environment
  - Democritus University of Thrace

  - Hellenic Centre for Marine Research HCMR
  - National Agricultural Research Foundation
  - Fisheries Research Institute
  - Greek Biotope / Wetland Centre

- Rescue centres:

- Dolphinaria:
  - Attica Park – Zoological Park
  - CRETAquarium Thalassokosmos

- Whale-watching operators:

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Law 4964/2022 of 30/7/2022, " Provisions for the simplification of environmental licensing, establishing a framework for the development of Offshore Wind Farms, dealing with the energy crisis, environmental protection and other provisions " (Ministry of Environment and Energy).
- Law 4685/2020 of 7/5/2020, "Modernization of environmental legislation, integration into Greek legislation of Directives 2018/844 and 2019/692 of the European Parliament and the Council and other provisions" (Ministry of Environment and Energy).
- Law 4519/18 of 20/2/2018, "Protected Area Management Bodies and other provisions", (Ministry of Environment and Energy)
- Law 4014/11 of 21/9/2011, "Environmental licensing of projects and activities, arbitrary regulation in function of environmental balance and other provisions of the competence of the Ministry of Environment", (Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change)
- Law 3983/11 of 17/6/2011, "National strategy for the protection and management of the marine environment - Harmonization with Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 and other provisions", (Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change)
- JMD 50714/1767 of 20/5/2022, "Approval of an Action Plan to improve the policy for the management of Protected Areas (PA), in accordance with article 42 of Law 4685/2020(A'92) ", (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Ministry of Development and Investment)
- JMD 115276/44 O.J. 8/B of 31/01/2011: Buying and selling of species of native flora and wild fauna being in danger of extinction, among approved scientific institutions aiming to the breeding in captivity or artificial multiplication from which there will be benefits for the conservation of these species. (Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change)
- Law 3937/11 of 31/03/2011, "Conservation of biodiversity and other provisions", (Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change)
- P.D. 67/1981 of 30/01/1981, for the protection of native flora and wild fauna and definition of a procedure for coordination and control of research on them, and corrections of18/02/1981, on P.D. 67/1981 (Ministry of Rural Development and Food)
- P.D. 98/2004 of 03/03/2004, Foundation and functioning of zoos, in accordance to the Directive 1999/22/EC (Ministry of Rural Development and Food)
- M.D. 86783/1375/2007 of 21/03/2007 Definition of the non significant number of kept wild animals and species, in order an installation to be considered a zoo (Ministry of Rural Development and Food)
- Law 2055/92 of 30/06/1992 of Ratification of CITES Convention (Ministry of Rural Development and Food)
- J.M.D. of 26/10/2006 on Trade of species of wild fauna and native flora (Ministry of Rural Development and Food)

- M.D. of 18/12/2007 on Reconstitution and nomination of members of CITES Scientific Committee. (Ministry of Rural Development and Food)
- M.D. 115127/124 of 28/01/2011 on Recomposition and nomination of members of CITES Scientific Committee. (Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change)
- M.D. 336107/2000 of 25/02/2000. Criteria and procedure for the recognition and surveillance of Rehabilitation Centres for Wild Animals. Revised on 17/06/2011. (Ministry for Rural Development and Food)
- 28/12/1998 J.M.D. 33318/3028/1998 Determination of measures and procedures for the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change)

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- In May 2022 the Joint Ministerial Decision 50714/1767 was published under the title "Approval of an Action Plan to improve the policy for the management of Protected Areas (PA), in accordance with article 42 of Law 4685/2020(A'92) ". It earmarks funds inter alia for the following :
- National Wildlife Care Network : 1.500.000 Euro
- Support and operation of a National Stranding Network : 1.500.000 Euro
- Additionally the ongoing project for the monitoring of habitat types and species of Community interest in Greece has a budget of 1.523.000 Euro allocated to the study of marine habitats and cetacean species

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (1995)	4/8/1995	4/12/2002			
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)	16/02/1976	23/12/1978		02/02/1979	
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	05/06/1992	15/04/1994		02/11/1994	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)	03/03/1973	30/06/1992		01/06/1993	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	19/09/1979	14/03/1983		01/10/1983	
Convention on the Conservation of	23/06/1979	26/05/1999			

Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)					
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean		25/06/2002			
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)	2/12/1946	7/6/2007			Left the Convention 30/6/2013
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)	10/12/1982	23/06/1995		19/08/1995	

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise	X			
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin			X	
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin	X			
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin	X			
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale			X	
Sousa plumbea	Indian Ocean humpback dolphin		X		
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					

Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale	X			
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale	X			
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale		X		
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale		X		
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale		X		
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale			X	

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- "Monitoring of habitat types and species of Community interest in Greece", Sub-project 8 has a budget of 1.523.000 Euro allocated to the study of marine habitats and marine species including cetaceans. Project duration: 2022-2024 Contact: dviop.gram@prv.ypeka.gr

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- "System for the Avoidance of ship-strikes with Endangered Whales" ("SAvE Whales") Project. Objective is to save endangered whales from being struck by (large) ships. Info : https://www.oceancare.org/en/innovative-hightech-project-to-save-endangered-whales-from-ship-strikes-already-started/ Contact : nentrup@oceancare.org
- Publications of cetacean research projects by « Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute » can be found here : http://www.pelagosinstitute.gr/en/pelagos/publications.html
- Project "Mitigating the risk of ship strikes to sperm whales in the Hellenic Trench", Collaboration between the Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute, IFAW, Ocean Care and WWF. Project duration: 2020-2022. PROJECT ONGOING More information on the project: https://www.wwf.gr/ti_kanoume/fysh/apeiloumena_eidh/fysitires/
- "Addressing the interaction between small-scale fisheries and marine megafauna in Greece" ("InCa") WWF in collaboration with the Ichthyology Laboratory of the Biology Department of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTh) and the Institute of Marine Biological Resources and Inland Waters of the Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR) and other expert bodies (Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute for cetaceans, WWF Greece for monk seals, HCMR for elasmobranchs, Hellenic Ornithological Society for seabirds, and MEDASSET for sea turtles). Project duration: 2020-2022. PROJECT COMPLETED. Project total budget:

500,000 euros. More information on the project results and proposals: https://www.wwf.gr/en/?uNewsID=7648441

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- YES

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- Greece does not have a formal (legislated) stranding network, but an ad hoc network that operates under "circular directives" issued by competent maritime authorities. The Ministry of Environment and Energy is now formulating a Joint Ministerial Decision (JMC) that will formally introduce the country's stranding network. The first step was the publication of national law 4964/2022 that authorizes the Ministry of Environment and other competent Ministries to issue the necessary JMC. By the time of submission of this report, the JMC has been drafted in consultation with all competent authorities and non-governmental organizations involved in the stranding network and its publication is expected within 2022.

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- The transmission of data to MEDACES in included as a provision in the afore-mentioned JMC draft.

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

*2.2.3. **Anthropogenic noise** (such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

*2.2.4. **Whale watching** and other commercial tourism activities*

*2.2.5. **Marine pollution**, including **marine debris***

*2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, **strandings** and **rescue centres***

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

*2.2.8. **Marine protected areas** (MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- The Ministry of Environment and Energy is currently running a project for the preparation of Special Environmental Studies for all the Natura 2000 areas of the country, including MPAs. The project has a total budget of €14.978.516,29 and is expected to contribute to the integrated management and protection of the natural environment in Greece, as it includes the drafting of Presidential Decrees with all necessary measures for the protected areas of the Network, as well as the implementation of Management Plans for all areas of the Greek Natura 2000 network. The Presidential Decrees are expected to be issued in 2023.

2.2.9. Others, please specify

- In May 2022 the Joint Ministerial Decision 50714/1767 was published under the title "Approval of an Action Plan to improve the policy for the management of Protected Areas (PA), in accordance with article 42 of Law 4685/2020(A'92) ". It earmarks funds inter alia for the following : National Wildlife Care Network : 1.500.000 Euro. Support and operation of a National Stranding Network : 1.500.000 Euro
- Drougas A & Komnenou A 2021. National Action Plan for the harbour porpoise (Phocoena phocoena) and the bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus). LIFE-IP 4 NATURA Project: Integrated actions for theconservation and management of Natura 2000 sites, species, habitats and ecosystems in Greece (LIFE16IPE/GR/000002). Deliverable Action A.1. ARION. Chalkidiki, p. 109 + IV Annexes. Final version. The Action Plans are to be legislated in the form of Ministerial Decisions.

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

ITALY

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : ITALY

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Oliviero MONTANARO
Email: montanaro.oliviero@mite.gov.it
Tel:+39 (0)6/57 22 34 01
Address: General Directorate for the Natural Heritage and Sea (DG PNM) Ministry for Ecological Transition, Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44 00147 Rome, Italy

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- Since early 2022, the National Focal Point is Mr. Oliviero MONTANARO
- In 2020 and 2021, the National Focal Point was Mrs. Paolina PEPE
- From 2005 to 2020, the National Focal Point was Mr. Oliviero MONTANARO

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2007 - 2010 - 2013 - 2017 - 2019

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

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 know 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 broaden vision and understanding of the complexity of migratory species. Moreover, it will provide more updated data.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)
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.

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. *Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.*

- Date entry into force : 01/05/2005
- Competent authority : Ministero della Transazione Ecologica

1.2. *Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement*

- None

1.3. *Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s)*; *if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.*

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Driftnet are forbidden in the European Union, Italy would underline that current legislation foresees that not all the drift nets are forbidden but only those with a length superior to 2,5 KM, used to catch the large pelagics.

  Transposition at National Level: No

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS
  Ratification status: Ratified with National Law Number 90 of 1st June 2021

  Competent authority: Ministero della Transazione Ecologica

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*
None

1.5. *Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.*

- In addition to the internal waters and territorial waters, Italy, by the national law 91 of 14th June 2021, has approved the extension of the EEZ and notified to the neighboring countries (France, Malta, Tunisia, Greece, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia).

- The National Law 61/2006 (Official Gazette no 52 of the 03-03-2006), establishing the Ecological Protection Zone according to the principles of UNCLOS, entered into force in March 2006. Through the implementation of this Law, Italy is extending his jurisdiction beyond the limits of its territorial sea on matters like: a) protection of marine mammals, b) protection of marineenvironment against pollution, c) regulation of maritime traffic, d) exploration and exploitation marine resources and e)archaeological and cultural heritage. The Ecological Protection Zone does not apply to fishery

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:
  Italy is member of several international organization's with interests, competences, responsibility for cetaceans conservation, such as European Union,Unep/CMS,IUCN,IWC…

- National authorities / administrations:
  - Ministry for Ecological Transition (MiTE)

  - General Board for Nature and Sea Protection, Italian Ministry for Ecological Transition (MiTE)

  - Land and Sea General Board of Fishery and Aquaculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

  - Harbour Masters and Coast Guards

  Comando Generale del Corpo delle Capitanerie di Porto - Guardia Costiera, Viale dell'Arte, 16, 00144 Roma, Tel. 06.5908.1, cgcp@pec.mit.gov.it

  Italy has several harbours and ports with interests, competences, responsibility for cetaceans conservation

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  Italy has several Non Governmental Organizations with interests, competences, responsibility for cetaceans conservation.

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  Italy has several Research Institutes / Universities with interests, competences, responsibility for cetaceans conservation

- Rescue centres:
  Since 2010, in Italy is active the Cetacean strandings Emergency Response Team (CERT), as an emergency response team founded to face any kind of emergencies related to marine mammals strandings including large whales, mass and alive strandings, epidemics and diseases. It operates mainly in the Mediterranean Sea. Thanks to CERT, many stakeholders are involved in the protection of cetaceans, among the most relevant ones, there are, University of Pavia, and the Italian Costal guards.

- Dolphinaria:

Acquario di Genova ;

Parco Zoomarine ;

Parco Oltremare.

- Whale-watching operators:
  Italy has several Whale-watching operators with interests, competences, responsibility for cetaceans conservation.

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Decreti Ministero della Marina Mercantile 21.05.1980, 3.05.89: "Disciplina della cattura di cetacei, testuggine e storioni".
- Law157 of 11/02/1992 - Norme per la protezione della fauna selvatica omeoterma e per il prelievo venatorio (Corpo forestale dello Stato, guardia)
- Adoption of the EU Council Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora 92/43/CEE on21/05/1992 (Ministry in charge of Environment) and amendment by DPR 357 of 08/09/1997, with DM 03/04/2000 and DPR 120 of12/03/2003
- Law n.391 of 11/10/2001 Ratifica ed esecuzione dell'Accordo relativo alla creazione nel Mediterraneo di un santuario per i mammiferi marini (Ministry in charge of Environment)
- Regolamento DM 469 de 06/12/2001 recante disposizioni in materia di mantenimento in cattività di esemplari appartenenti alla specie Tursiops truncatus, in applicazione dell'articolo 17, comma 6 della legge 23/03/2001, n. 93 (Autorità di gestione CITEStramite)
- Decree of Ministry dell'Ambiente e della turala del Territorio e del mare 3 settembre 2002 "Linee Guida per la Gestione dei siti natura 2000 in attuazione della direttiva 92/43/CEE Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del territorio e del mare
- European Council Regulation n. 812/2004 laying down measures concerning incidental catches of cetaceans in fisheries and amending Regulation (EC) No 88/98 of 26/04/2004 Ministry of Agriculture, Food and forest policy.
- Law 41/82 (Fishery rationalisation and development plan) and following amendments, introduced the possibility to carry out, activities of "pesca-turismo" (fishery-tourism), under specific circumstances. This measure was introduced as a way to encouragealternatives to small-fishery activities and mitigate the human-impact on the environment.
- Law 61/2006 (Official Gazette no 52 of the 03-03-2006), establishing the Ecological Protection Zone
- Law n. 394 of 06/12/1991 Protected areas
- D lgs 116/92 on scientific research
- On February 8, 2022, the Chamber of Deputies definitively approved a bill aimed at including environmental protection among the fundamental principles of the Constitution. As foresee by art. 9 of the Italian Constitution

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- Italy is currently subsidising several projects and research on the management of cetaceans, within the Accobams Agreement and the Pelagos one. Indeed, in the past years Italy has subscribed several voluntary contributional funds with these two agreements.

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR					

Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)		21/01/1979			
Protocol concerning specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean			14/12/1999		
1999/800/EC: Council Decision of 22 October 1999 on concluding the Protocol concerning specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean, and on accepting the annexes to that Protocol (Barcelona Convention)			14/12/1999		
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)				14/07/1994	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		31/12/1979			
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)		05/08/1981		11/09/1981	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)		01/11/1983		18/02/1983	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean				29/05/1950	
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean				17/11/1919	
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)				06/02/1998	
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)				19/09/1994	

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
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Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise			X	
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin			X	
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin	X			
Tursiops truncatus	Common Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin	X			
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale		X		
Orcinus orca	Killer whale		X		
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale	X			
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale		X	X	
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale	X			
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale	X			
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale		X	X	
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale			X	
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale		X		
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale	X			
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale			X	

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- Monitoring activities under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive – MSFD - Implementation of monitoring related to the second cycle of the MSFD. Criteria D1C1, D1C2, D1C4, D1C5. Line transect distance sampling form aerial platform in the seas around Italian peninsula: 2020 whole Tyrrhenian Sea (western Mediterranean MSFD subregion); 2021 – Sicily strait, Gulf of Taranto and Ionian sea (Ionian and Central Mediterranean Sea subregion), Adriatic Sea (Adriatic subregion); 2022 – Adriatic Sea (Adriatic subregion). A replica is expected in the 2023. Fishery On-board observations and interviews on bycatch of protected species and species of conservation concern: GSA 9, 10, 16, 17, 18.

- LIFE CONCEPTU Maris "CONservation of CEtaceans and Pelagic sea TUrtles in Med: Managing Actions for their Recovery In Sustainability"

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- Plastic buster Initiative is an international project aimed to effectively tackle the issue of marine litter in the Mediterranean; the project started in the 2013 and is still ongoing
- Proposal to develop and evaluate mitigation strategies to reduce the risk of ship strikes to Fin and Sperm Whales in the Pelagos Sanctuary – Coordinated international project funded by the three Pelagos Sanctuary Parties
- Pelagos Plastic Free - Integrated actions to reduce plastic debris in the Pelagos Sanctuary - Coordinated international project funded by the three Pelagos Sanctuary Parties
- The SICOMAR plus project, started on 1st June 2018 and ended on 31st May 2021; it is a strategic project with 16 partners, intends to contribute to the improvement of the safety of navigation in the cross-border maritime space.

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

- The EcoSTRIM project aims to build a cross-border territorial strategy for the development and promotion of sustainable tourism and sports activities, dedicated to the marine and coastal environment. The partnership is led by CIMA Foundation, the presence of ANCI Toscana, Regione Toscana, Mairie d'Ajaccio, Parc national de Port Cros, and National Park dell'Asinara and Confindustria Center North Sardinia. The general objective of the project is to improve the competitiveness of companies in the blue tourism supply chain on national and international markets, the direct involvement of Public Administrations and tour operators, within this frame was organized a course for the to obtain the High Quality Whale Watching.

Please list any other relevant projects

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- No

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- The establishment of a stranding network is ongoing. The process has been jointly launched by the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Ministry of Health.
- A stranding database is hosted by CIBRA - Dipartimento di Scienze della terra e dell'Ambiente - Università di Pavia and by the Museo di Storia Naturale di Milano - ITALY - Contact Names: Gianni Pavan (CIBRA); Michela Podestà (Museo di Storia Naturale di Milano) - Contact E-mail : gianni.pavan@unipv.it; michela_podesta@hotmail.com

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?
No

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the

regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- An update of the Italian IUCN red list assessment has been completed in 2022 -
- Italian researchers participated to the IUCN red list of the Mediterranean cetacean subpopulation in 2021 .

*2.5. Existence or preparation of **conservation management plan** for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

*2.2.1. **Interaction with fisheries**. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

*2.2.2. **Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

- Italy, Monaco and France will present to IMO the documents for the creation of a PSSA in the northwest Tyrrhenian Sea

*2.2.3. **Anthropogenic noise** (such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- Italy has adopted the ACCOBAMS guidelines as a prescriptive tool within the EIA process for the authorization to carry out anthropogenic activities. In addition, Italy is developing further mitigation measures in the framework of marine strategy directive. Finally, Italy has developed new instruments for the noise monitoring of anthropogenic origin for both continuous and impulsive noise, and mitigation measures are being studied.

*2.2.4. **Whale watching** and other commercial tourism activities*

*2.2.5. **Marine pollution**, including **marine debris***

- Implementation of the Directive 2008/56/EC on Marine litter and the Regional Plan on the Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean in the Framework of Article 15 on the Land Based Sources Protocol. According to the art. 11 of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, every 6 years, Italy plans and reports to the European Commission the assessment status of the marine environment related to the Descriptor 10 (Marine litter) and Descriptor 1 (Biodiversity).

*2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, **strandings** and **rescue centres***

- Italy has funded since 2014 an Emergency intervention Task Force (C.E.R.T. Padua University), including a mobile laboratory unit able to intervene in case of large cetaceans stranding (more than five meters of length), mass strandings and stranded alive specimens. Its Coordinator, Dr S. Mazzariol, is also the chair of IWC stranding panel.

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

*2.2.8. **Marine protected areas** (MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

- During the MoP of the Pelagos Agreement, Italy organized a workshop, called “A Particularly Sensitive Sea Area for the north-western Mediterranean ", on possible collision between boats an cetaceans, with the aim to sensibilize all the stakeholders

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

LEBANON

FORMAT DES RAPPORTS NATIONAUX 2020-2022

Pays : LIBAN

POINT FOCAL NATIONAL, RAPPORTS NATIONAUX, PRINCIPAUX ENJEUX ET BESOINS

A. Détails du point focal national (email, téléphone, adresse)

Prénom Nom : Milad FAKHRI

Courriel : milosman@cnrs.edu.lb

Tel : +961 349 6680

Adresse : Centre National des Sciences Marines189 Jounieh - LIBAN

B. Énumérez les points focaux nationaux (PFN) successifs et la période couverte

- Depuis 2020 le Point Focal National est M. Milad FAKHRI
- *Depuis le début, jusqu'en 2020, le Point Focal National était Gaby KHALAF*

C. Date de soumission des rapports nationaux (indiquez les années où le rapport a été fourni):

2007- 2010 – 2013 – 2016 - 2019

D. Questions spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties. Problème(s) majeur(s), besoins spécifiques ou sujets d'actualité : veuillez fournir des détails sur les problèmes émergents, les menaces ou les difficultés rencontrées et indiquer ce qui devrait être mis en œuvre pour répondre aux problèmes soulevés.

1/ Besoins spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité Scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties :

2/ Recommandations/suggestions pour améliorer l'état de conservation depuis les rapports régionaux du comité scientifique

3/ Principaux problèmes ou menaces ou thématiques importantes :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Sujet qui est ou était important pour les cétacés dans la région, et que nécessiterait la considération et une action par le Comité Scientifique. Exemple de sujets : nombre d'échouages exceptionnellement élevé, ou nombre important de prospection sismiques planifiés, ou augmentation des ferry haute vitesse dans la région impliquant des risques accrus de collision, etc.).

SECTION MA - GESTION DE L'ACCORD (MA)

1.1. Dates de signature (S), de ratification (R), d'acceptation (AC), d'approbation (AP) ou d'adhésion (AD) à l'ACCOBAMS et autorité compétente..

- *Date entrée en vigueur:*
- *Autorité compétente:*

1.2. Réserves exprimées conformément à l'article XV ou à l'article X de l'Accord

1.3. Date d'acceptation, signature, ratification des amendements; si en cours de traitement, veuillez indiquer l'autorité compétente, la procédure et les mesures prises.

- Amendement à l'annexe 2 de l'Accord sur l'utilisation des filets maillants

  Date d'entrée en vigueur: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition en loi nationale: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension de la zone geographique de l'ACCOBAMS

  Etat du processus de ratification: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Authorité compétente: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dérogations autorisées conformément à l'art. II, paragraphe 2 de l'Accord et paragraphe 6 de l'annexe 2*

1.5. Définition de la zone marine sous juridiction nationale incluse dans le champ d'application de l'Accord. Veuillez indiquer si des négociations sont en cours avec les pays voisins pour les limites.

1.6. Lister les entités ayant compétence, responsabilité ou intérêt pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez examiner et compléter la liste fournie et décrire leurs activités. Veuillez préciser les mécanismes d'information / communication / coordination avec d'autres entités nationales.

- Organizations intergouvernementales :

- Autorités nationales/services de l'Etat
  - Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
  - Ministère de l'Environnement
  - Ministère de l'Agriculture
  - Ministère des Travaux Publics et des Transports
  - Ministère de la Défense

- Organizations non gouvernementales:

- Instituts de recherche/Universités:
  - Centre de Recherches Marines (CRM)
  - Centre National des Sciences Marines
  - Institut de l'Environnement
  - American University of Beirut
  - Université de Balamand
  - Université Saint Joseph

- Services de secours animalier:
- Dolphinaria:
- Société ou opérateurs Whale-watching:
- Autre:

1.7. Principaux textes législatifs et réglementaires nationaux concernant les cétacés.
Les textes peuvent concerner l'environnement (espèces ou zones protégées, biodiversité et pollution), la pêche, le transport maritime (collision), le tourisme, l'énergie, la pollution, l'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement ou d'autres sujets dans la mesure où ils peuvent concerner les cétacés. Indiquez la date, le titre, l'autorité responsable et le lien. Ajoutez une brève description ou citez les articles ou sections pertinents relatifs aux cétacés.

- Loi 571 du 11/02/2004, portant ratification à l'ACCOBAMS
- Décision du Premier Ministre no. 69/2004 du 02/07/2004 portant création d'un comité interministériel permanent pour l'application de l'Accord ACCOBAMS
- Décision Ministérielle 1/125 du 23/09/1999 portant "Interdiction de la pêche et de la vente de sous produits relatifs aux cétacés et aux tortues
- Law no. 690 dated 26/8/2005 organising the Ministry of Environment and defining its mandate, states that the MoE is responsible for the establishment, protection and management of protected areas
- Law no. 214 dated 2/4/1993 (Establishment of the Ministry of Transport) and its amendments (law no. 247 dated 7/8/2000) state that the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MoPWT) is mandated to control the implementation of the legislation and rules related to transport and marine public properties.
- Decree no. 31 dated 18/1/1955, defining the mandate of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), states that the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for implementing the legislation related to fisheries and fishing activities
- Decree no. 22 dated 22/1/1981 (Organization of the Army) stating that the Marine Forces in the Army are responsible for coast defence (patrolling the sea)
- Law no. 444/02 (Code of Environment) specifies, under Chapter VIII, the protection, conservation and management of nature and biodiversity
- Law no. 708/98 declaring the Tyre Coast Nature Reserve on November 5, 1998
- Law no. 121/92 declaring the Palm Islands Nature Reserve on March 9, 1992
- Decree no. 8633 dated 7/8/2012 relating to the "Fundamentals of Environmental Impact Assessment" or EIA decree
- Decision of the Minister of Agriculture no. 125/1 dated 23/9/1999 banning the fishing of marine turtles, monk seals and whales as well as selling, use or trade of any derivatives from the mentioned species
- Decision of the Minister of Agriculture no. 346/1 dated 15/7/2010 regulating and identifying fishing types and equipment and banning the use of small mesh sizes and trawling nets and fishing using scuba diving equipment

1.8. Fonds réservés ou affectés à la recherche, au suivi et à la gestion des cétacés (y compris financement national, projets internationaux, régionaux ou sous-régionaux)

1.9. Conventions, commissions et accords internationaux ou régionaux pertinents auxquels le pays est Partie.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptation**	**Entrée en vigueur**	**Commentaires**
Accord des Nations Unies sur les stocks de poissons (1995)					
Accord sur la conservation des petits cétacés de la mer Baltique et de la mer du Nord (ASCOBANS)					
Annexe V concernant la protection et la conservation des écosystèmes et de la diversité biologique de l'espace maritime Convention OSPAR)					
Convention de Barcelone (1976)					
Convention sur la diversité biologique (Rio, 1992)	*11/08/1994*				
La Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction (CITES - Washington, 1973)					
Convention relative à la conservation de la vie sauvage et du milieu naturel de l'Europe (Berne, 1979)					
Convention de Bonn (CMS, Bonn, 1979)					
Convention sur la protection de la mer Noire (Bucharest Convention)					
Commission Général des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM)					
Commission internationale pour l'exploration scientifique de la Méditerranée (CIESM)					
Convention internationale pour la règlementation de la chasse à la baleine (Washington, 1946)					
Convention OSPAR pour la protection de l’environnement marin de l’Atlantique nord-est					
Convention des Nations unies sur le droit de la mer (Montego Bay, 1982)					

1.10. Accords de pêche bilatéraux ou multilatéraux concernant le domaine de l'Accord (tels que CGPM, ICCAT, accords de pêche spécifiques avec l'Union européenne; fournissez les informations pertinentes comme la date de signature, la durée, la zone concernée, les mesures)

SECTION CA : ACTIONS DE CONSERVATION POUR LES CETACES (CA)

2.1: CA-1 - RECHERCHE ET SURVEILLANCE

2.1. Liste des cétacés signalés dans la zone de l'Accord sous la juridiction du pays (telle que définie à l'article I, paragraphe 3 f de l'Accord).
Légende: "C": Commun, "R": Rare, "O": Occasionnel

Nom scientifique	Nom français	C	R	O	Commentaires
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Marsouin commun				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	dauphin à bec étroit				
Grampus griseus	dauphin de Risso				
Tursiops truncatus	Grand dauphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Dauphin bleu et blanc				
Delphinus delphis	Dauphin commun				
Pseudorca crassidens	Pseudorque				
Orcinus orca	Orque				
Globicephala melas	Globicephale noir				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Baleine à bec de Blainville				
Ziphius cavirostris	Baleine à bec de Cuvier				
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Cachalot				
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Cachalot nain				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Baleine franche de l'Atlantique nord				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Petit rorqual				
Balaenoptera borealis	Rorqual boreal				
Balaenoptera physalus	Rorqual commun				
Megaptera novaeangliae	Baleine à bosse				

2.2. Liste et description des programmes et des projets de recherche concernant les cétacés, en tenant compte des activités nationales, bilatérales et multilatérales.
Veuillez fournir des informations sur les programmes et projets couvrant notamment les thèmes suivants :

<u>Amélioration des connaissances sur l'état des cétacés</u> (estimations et répartition des populations de cétacés, structure de la population, surveillance de l'état des cétacés, réseaux d'échouage fonctionnels et réponses aux situations d'urgence, etc.)

Réduction des pressions humaines sur les cétacés (Interactions avec la pêche / aquaculture, Bruit anthropique sous-marin, Collisions avec les navires, Observation des cétacés, Débris marins, Pollution chimique et biologique, Changement climatique, Problèmes liés à la captivité)

Conservation des habitats des cétacés

Sensibilisation du public aux cétacés (Information /Communication / Sensibilisation aux cétacés)
Tout autre projet pertinent

2.3. ***Échouage de cétacés***
Le pays a-t-il mis en place un réseau de suivi des échouages?

Si non, s'il vous plaît précisez pourquoi? Si oui, veuillez indiquer le nom, les contacts et un lien vers la base de données.

Envoyez-vous des données à la base de données MEDACES? Pour les rapports et les publications, veuillez fournir des références et des liens dans l'Annexe 1.

2.4. Liste rouge des cétacés au niveau national ou régional utilisant la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN. Votre pays a-t-il développé ou participé à l'évaluation des cétacés dans vos eaux nationales ou au niveau régional? Si oui, veuillez décrire et fournir un résumé des résultats ou des liens vers des rapports et des publications. Si la loi exige l'utilisation de la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN, veuillez citer le texte juridique ou les articles pertinents.

2.5. Existence ou préparation de plans de gestion pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez fournir toute information pertinente

2.2: CA-2: MESURES DE GESTION POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CETACÉS
Mesures de gestion ou de conservation introduites *pour atteindre et maintenir un état de conservation favorable pour les cétacés et réduire les menaces potentielles, conformément aux résolutions d'ACCOBAMS.*

2.2.1. Interaction avec les pêcheries. Veuillez fournir des informations sur les interactions existantes ou potentielles entre pêcheries et cétacés ou cétacés et pêcheries (texte et / ou tableau). En particulier, précisez les interactions avec les techniques suivantes: filets maillants, filets à senne coulissante, filets dérivants, palangres de surface ou autres, en indiquant les espèces et le nombre d'animaux capturés ou qui se prennent dans les filets et en précisant les mesures de gestion existantes ou prévues

2.2.2. Réglementation de la navigation et collision avec des navires

2.2.3. Bruits anthropiques (tels que l'exploration ou l'exploitation des ressources minières ou des exercices militaires) et procédures d'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement (EIE)

2.2.4. Observation des baleines et autres activités commerciales de tourisme

2.2.5. Pollution marine, y compris les débris marins

2.2.6. Plans d'urgence pour la pollution, les échouages et les centres de sauvetage

2.2.7. Problèmes relatifs à la captivité des dauphins et aux delphinariums

2.2.8. Aires marines protégées (AMP), zones de pêche, réserves de pêche ou autres mesures spatiales de conservation efficaces (OECM-CDB). Énumérez-les et indiquez si elles sont pertinentes pour développer des activités pour la conservation et la gestion des cétacés.

2.2.9. Autres, s'il vous plaît spécifiez

2.3: CA-3: COMMUNICATION ET SENSIBILISATION SUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de communication et de sensibilisation pertinentes

2.3.1. Principaux événements (réunion, symposium, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) organisés ou planifiés dans le pays,.

2.3.2. Principaux événements à l'étranger (réunions, colloques, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) auxquels ont participé des experts nationaux

2.4: CA-4: RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de renforcement des capacités pertinentes

2.4.1. Besoins nationaux en termes de renforcement des capacités, en référence à la stratégie et au programme de travail ACCOBAMS

2.4.2. Formations / ateliers réalisés (nationaux et internationaux) ou planifiés

2.4.3. Conférences, programmes éducatifs sur les cétacés (universités, écoles)

LIBYA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020 - 2022

Name of country: LIBYA

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Al Mokhtar SAIED

Email: mok405@yahoo.com

Tel: +218 214 870 266 / Tel/Fax: +218 214 870 266

Address: Head of Marine and Wildlife Conservation Section Environment General Authority (EGA) Tripoli PO Box 83618 STATE OF LIBYA

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

In 2004, the National focal point was Dr. Omar Mohammed Sudani

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2019, 2013 and 2004

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

- *To help countries that don't have a national stranding network to put it in place with necropsy training for veterinarians*
- *Evaluate the functioning of the stranding network for improvement*
- *To help countries to set up a tissue bank*
- *Passive acoustic training, MMO-PAM*

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

There has been no major special problem for cetaceans during the last two years in the region

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

(R) August 2001 - Date entry into force 01/09/2002

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

none

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Not yet processed

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

none

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

Libyan national territorial waters and neighbour countries (Egypt, Malta, Italy and Tunisia)

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

  Environmental General Authority (EGA), Secretariat of Marine Wealth (SMW), National Authority for Fishery Investment

- Non Govermental Organizations:

  Libyan Environmental Society (LES)

- Research Institutes / Universities:

  Marine Resources Department, Faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental Science, Omar Mukhtar University; Marine Biology Research Centre (MBRC) in Tajoura

- Rescue centres:
- Dolphinaria:
- Whale-watching operators:
- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- *Law No. 14 of 1989 on the use and conservation of marine wealth*
- *Law 14 of 1998 on Nature Protection (amending 1984)*
- *Law 15 of 2003 on Protection of Environment (amending and replacing Law 7 of 1982);*
- *Secretariat of Marine Wealth (SMW) Decision No. 71 of 1990, which elaborates the provisions of Law No. 14 and the procedures governing its application, SMW*
- *SMW Decision No. 80 of 1991, which provides technical explanations and specifications for the implementation of Law No. 14.*
- *General People's Committee Decision No. 37 of 2005, declaring a protected fishing zone along the Libyan coastline (fishing subject to permit)*
- *SMW Decision No. 97 of 1993, prohibitions on trawling in specific areas at specific times*
- *General People's Committee Decision No. 271 of 2004 defining areas in which trawl fishing is banned*
- *SMW Decision No. 98 of 1993 regarding the staff of fishery administrations in municipalities and regions and authorizing them to act as legal officers*
- *SMW Decision No. 95 of 1993, which prohibits the use of monofilament nets and No. 11 hooks for fishing*

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					

Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)					
Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (Barcelona, 1995)	10/06/1995				
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	29/06/1992			12/07/2001	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		28/01/2003		28/04/2003	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)					
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)				01/09/2002	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean					
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)					
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)					
Commission Internationale pour l'Exploration Scientifique de la Méditerranée CIESM	13/05/1963				

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

- Libya is member of the GFCM

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin		X		
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin	X			
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale				
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale				
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale				
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- Reduce human pressures on cetaceans ACCOBAMS SURVEY INITIATIVE
- *CSMC4, 11-13 nov 2017*
- *Cetacean Research and Conservation in the Ionian Sea*
- *Monitoring and studying bottlenose dolphin population (Tursiops truncatus) in Cyrenaica survey on the historical stranding cases and accidental catch of cetaceans along the Cyrenaican coast (using questionnaires and interviews*
- *Monitoring and studying bottlenose dolphin population (Tursiops truncatus) in Cyrenaica*

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?
If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.
Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

*2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, **strandings** and **rescue centres***

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

*2.2.8. **Marine protected areas** (MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

According to RAC/SPA and MedPAN, in 2016, the database on marine protected areas MAPAMED includes for Libya 4 sites. 1- Hisha nature reserve (Ministry of Agriculture) 2- El Kouf National Park3- Farwa lagoon and island (MBRC) 4- Aïn Ghazalah (EGA and MBRC) Marine coverage is 313,25 km2 or 0.09% of waters under national jurisdiction

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

MALTA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020 - 2022

Name of country : MALTA

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Mr Darrin T Stevens

Email: accobams.malta@era.org.mt, darrin.stevens@era.org.mt

Tel: (+356) 2292 3665; (+356) 2292 3500

Address: Environment and Resources Authority, Hexagon House, Spencer Hill, Marsa, MRS 1441, MALTA

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- Until 2005, Alfred E. Baldacchino, Assistant Director Nature Protection Unit, Environment Protection Directorate, Malta Environment & Planning Authority
- 2006-2017, Carmen Mifsud, Senior Environment Protection Officer Marine Ecosystems Team, Nature Protection Unit, Environment Protection Directorate Malta Environment & Planning Authority
- As of 2017, Darrin T. Stevens, Deputy Director Environment and Resources, Director's Office, Environment & Resources Authority

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2019 - 2016 – 2013 – 2010 – 2007 – 2004

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

N/A

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

(1) To continue providing capacity building in terms of national stranding networks and including necropsy training for veterinarians; (2) To further evaluate the functioning of the stranding networks; (3) To further help countries to set up a tissue bank; (4) To organise passive acoustic training.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of

ship-strikes, etc.)

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.

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- Malta has signed and ratified ACCOBAMS on 23rd March 2001
- Entry into force : 1st June 2001
- Competent Authority : Environment & Resources Authority (ERA).

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

N/A

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: in process

  Transposition at National Level: in process

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Accepted on: 10th January 2022; Deposit of tool: 26th January 2022

  Competent authority: Environment & Resources Authority

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

Nature Trust – FEE Malta is regularly granted a permit by the Environment and Resources Authority to handle cetacean stranding, rescue and rehabilitation in Malta.

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

Malta's application of the Agreement in relation to pelagic species reflects the water column boundary as reported for the purposes of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive, which is the boundary extending to 25 nautical miles, without prejudice to Malta's jurisdiction beyond this limit. In terms of marine protected areas designated so far, these cover approximately 4,100km2, which is about 35% of the Maltese marine waters within the 25 nautical-mile boundary. These include areas designated for the bottlenose dolphin Tursiops truncatus, amongst others. More information can be found here: https://era.org.mt/topic/marine-protected-areas-2/.

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms

with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:
  - Malta is a Member State of the European Union, and a party of various multilateral environmental agreements and commitments linked with cetacean conservation, fisheries and environmental management.

- National authorities / administrations:
  - Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Enterprise (MEEE)
  - Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade (MFET)
  - Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights (MAFA)
  - Ministry for Finance and Employment (MFE)
  - Environment and Resources Authority (ERA)
  - Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (DFA)
  - Continental Shelf Department (CSD

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Nature Trust - FEE Malta
  - The Biological Conservation Research Foundation (BICREF)

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  - Department of Biology, University of Malta
  - International Ocean Institute (IOI), University of Malta
  - Department of Geosciences, Faculty of Science, University of Malta

- Rescue centres:
  - Xrobb l-Għaġin Nature Park and Sustainable Development Centre

- Dolphinaria:
  - Mediterraneo Marine Park Malta
  - Mediterraneo Marine Park

- Whale-watching operators:
  - Eco Marine Malta

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- 2003 Marine Mammals Protection Regulations (S.L. 549.35)
- 2006 Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations (S.L. 549.44)
- 2004 Regulation of Trade in Species of Fauna and Flora (S.L. 549.38)

- 2011 Marine Policy Framework Regulations (S.L. 549.63)
- 2017 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (SL 549.46)
- 1999 National Code of Practice for Cetacean Stranding (1999)
- All the above legislation (and CoP) are remit of the Environment and Resources Authority, and stem from the Environment Protection Act (Cap. 549); these are available at the following link: https://era.org.mt/legislation-policy/subsidiary-legislation/.

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- Knowledge gaps identified in earlier surveillance, monitoring studies and reporting cycles have been addressed, with research studies and projects being carried out in order to collect relevant data and information.
- A number of important steps have been taken to address knowledge gaps and research needs relating to the marine and coastal Natura 2000 network in Malta. These have included the implementation of four major EU funded LIFE projects, and additional projects under EMFF and Interreg Funding Programmes, so as to fill major knowledge gaps related to the marine environment, some specifically taking into consideration cetaceans.
- As part of the EMFF 8.3.1 (through EU funds as part of Malta's EMFF Operational Programme 2014-2020), ERA has embarked on a project to establish and implement a monitoring strategy for marine reptiles and marine mammals in Maltese waters, satisfying the monitoring and surveillance requirements of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC), the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the Barcelona Convention, with a view to develop long-term cost-effective monitoring processes that will enable the continuous assessment of the status of these species.
- The LIFE+ MIGRATE Project (2012-2016) implemented both data-collecting activities and marine surveys to understand the conservation status of, and to identify the best areas in Maltese waters to establish Natura 2000 network sites for, the loggerhead turtle (Caretta caretta) and the common bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus). The project created baseline data and provide the first data generated from scientific studies.
- The LIFE BaħAR for N2K (2013-2018) addressed the dearth of marine habitat data – specifically location, range, conservation status for reef and marine caves – by collecting existing information, surveying marine areas and analysing the data collected. This helped establishing the distribution of marine habitats on which data gaps existed, with the aim of extending existing sites and identifying new sites to be included in the Natura 2000 network.
- The LIFE Malta Seabird Project addressed monitoring surveys for Yelkouan shearwater (Puffinus yelkouan), Scopoli's shearwater (Calonectris diomedea) and the Mediterranean subspecies of the European storm petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis) breeding in Malta. This enabled the Maltese government to identify marine Special Protection Areas (SPAs), in line with its obligations as a Member State under the EU Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) to designate SPAs for Annex I species. This project, besides adding to existing monitoring data, also provided new baseline research data on rafting zones in Maltese and surrounding waters as well as the migratory route of the species assessed
- These three LIFE projects have also gathered scientific data on other marine fauna, including all marine mammals; those encountered were reported. This also added to our baseline data, for future monitoring efforts.
- The ongoing LIFE-IP RBMP Malta will also seek to address the key horizontal challenges identified during the gap analysis undertaken. These include assessments of contaminants of emerging concern in the water environment, focus on the further development of the monitoring programme and issues linked with hydrographical modelling systems.

- Efforts are being undertaken to improve knowledge and data collection about the fisheries sector through the implementation of Malta's Work Plan for Data Collection (https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/wps).
- Additional research work that is being carried out relates to marine litter and plastics. This is being addressed through studies carried out by the University of Malta (UOM) with the financial support of ERA, and other actions implemented with NGOs, such as Nature Trust Malta through an agreement and financial support from ERA aimed at targeting impact of plastics as ingested litter in marine reptiles and mammals, and with No To Plastic and Żibel in relation to clean-ups on land and sea, also with financial support from ERA and the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Enterprise).
- *As part of various funding programmes, namely: Interreg Med, Interreg Italia Malta and Interreg Med Horizontal, Malta has embarked on a number of projects which consider research, monitoring and management of cetaceans. These projects are indicated in more detail further below in Section 2.1.2.*
- Following the call for voluntary contributions for the implementation of the ACCOBAMS Work Programme 2020-2022 sent in July 2020, Malta had provided the Secretariat with a voluntary contribution of €10,000. This amount was split as follows: Activity CA2b - Anthropogenic noise: Organizing trainings for national entities on noise monitoring: €5,000; and Activity CA2e - Marine litter: Monitor the impacts of marine litter (ingested marine litter/ microplastics/ entanglements in ghost nets) on cetaceans: €5,000

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/ Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)		*11th November 2001 (acceded)*		*11th December 2001*	*More information can be found: https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_fish_stocks.htm#:~:text=The%20Agreement%20was%20adopted%20on,by%2059%20States%20and%20entities*
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*Malta is not a range state for this Convention/Agreement.*
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*Malta is not a range state for this Convention/Agreement.*

the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)	*16th February 1976*	*30th December 1977*	*30th December 1977*	*12th February 1978*	*In addition, Malta accepted the Barcelona Convention Amendments on 28th October 1999, which came into force on 9th July 2004.* *More information can be found: https://www.unep.org/unepmap/who-we-are/contracting-parties/malta*
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	*12th June 1992*	*29th December 2000*	*29th March 2001*	*12th December 2001*	*Malta became a party to the Convention on 29th March 2001.* *More information can be found:* *https://www.cbd.int/information/parties.shtml;* *https://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=mt*
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		*17th April 1989 (acceded)*		*16th July 1989*	*Malta did not ratify the said Convention but acceded it.* *Malta became a party to the said Convention on 17th April 1989.* *Mare information can be found:* *https://cites.org/eng/disc/parties/chronolo.php ;* *https://cites.org/eng/parties/country-profiles/mt*
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	*26th November 1993*	*26th November 1993*		*1st March 1994*	*More information can be found:* *https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list?module=signatures-by-treaty&treatynum=104;* *https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list?module=treaties-full-list-signature&CodePays=MAL*
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)	*13th February 2001*	*13th February 2001*		*1st June 2001*	*More information can be found here:* *https://www.cms.int/en/country/malta* *https://www.cms.int/en/parties-range-states*
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*Malta is not a range state for this Convention/Agreement.*

(Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean		*29th April 1965 (acceded)*	*23rd December 1999*		*Malta acceded to the Agreement on the 29th April 1965. Amendments to this agreement were made in 1997. Malta accepted the amendments on 23 December 1999.* *More information can be found here: https://www.fao.org/gfcm/about/membership/en/*
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean				*1990*	
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*Malta is not a range state for this Convention/Agreement.*
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*Malta is not a range state for this Convention/Agreement.*
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)	*10th December 1982*	*20th May 1993*		*16th November 1994*	*Declaration by the Government of Malta upon Ratification:* *"The ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is a reflection of Malta's recognition of the many positive elements it contains, including its comprehensiveness, and its role in the application of the concept of the common heritage of mankind.* *At the same time, it is realised that the effectiveness of the regime established by the Convention depends to a great extent on the attainment of its universal acceptance, not least by major maritime States and those with technology which are most affected by the regime.* *The effectiveness of the provisions of Part IX on `enclosed or semi-enclosed seas', which provide for cooperation of States bordering such seas,*

					like the Mediterranean, depends on the acceptance of the Convention by the States concerned. To this end, the Government of Malta encourages and actively supports all efforts at achieving this universality. *The Government of Malta interprets articles 69 and 70 of the Convention as meaning that access to fishing in the exclusive economic zone of third States by vessels of developed land-locked and geographically disadvantaged States is dependent upon the prior granting of access by the coastal States in question to the nationals of other States which have habitually fished in the said zone.* *The baselines as established by Maltese legislation for the delimitation of the territorial sea, and related areas, for the archipelago of the islands of Malta and which incorporate the island of Filfla as one of the points from which baselines are drawn, are fully in line with the relevant provisions of the Convention.* *The Government of Malta interprets article 74 and article 83 to the effect that in the absence of agreement on the delimitation of the exclusive economic zone or the continental shelf or other maritime zones, for an equitable solution to be achieved, the boundary shall be the median line, namely a line every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points of the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial waters of Malta and of such other States is measured.* *The exercise of the right of innocent passage of warships through the territorial sea of other States, should also be perceived to be a peaceful one. Effective and speedy means of communication are easily available and make the prior notification of the exercise of the right of innocent passage of warships, reasonable and not incompatible with the Convention. Such notification is already required by some States. Malta reserves the right to legislate on this point.* *Malta is also of the view that such a notification requirement is needed in respect of nuclear-powered ships or ships carrying nuclear or other inherently dangerous or noxious substances. Furthermore, no such ships shall be allowed within Maltese internal waters without the necessary authorisation.*

					Malta is of the view that the sovereign immunity contemplated in article 236, does not exonerate a State from such obligation, moral or otherwise, in accepting responsibility and liability for compensation and relief in respect of damage caused by pollution of the marine environment by any warship, naval auxiliary, other vessels or aircraft owned or operated by the State and used on government non-commercial service. *Legislation and regulations concerning the passage of ships through Malta's territorial sea are compatible with the provisions of the Convention. At the same time, the right is reserved to develop further this legislation in conformity with the Convention as may be required.* *Malta declares itself in favour of establishing sea-lanes and special regimes for foreign fishing vessels transversing [sic] its territorial sea.* *Note is taken of the statement by the European Community made at the time of signature of the Convention regarding the fact that its Member States have transferred competence to it with regard to certain aspects of the Convention. In view of Malta's application to join the European Community, it is understood that this will also become applicable to Malta on membership.* *The Government of Malta does not consider itself bound by any of the declarations which other States may have made, or will make, upon signing or ratifying the Convention, reserving the right, as necessary, to determine its position with regard to each of them at the appropriate time. In particular, ratification of the Convention does not imply automatic recognition of maritime or territorial claims by any signatory or ratifying State."* *More information can be found here: https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetailsIII.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXI-6&chapter=21&Temp=mtdsg3&clang=_en*

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

- *The main fishery agreement relevant for the entire ACCOBAMS area is the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM). This and other relevant treaties are included below:*

- Agreement for the Establishment of a General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean. Malta acceded to the Agreement on the 29th April 1965. Amendments to this agreement were made in 1997. Malta accepted the amendments on 23 December 1999.
- Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. Malta acceded to this agreement on 11th November 2001. The Agreement entered into force on the 11th December 2001. On accession Malta entered a declaration to this agreement.
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICAAT) - Malta as part of the EU is a party of ICCAT and all the ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions are locally enforced.

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				Only historical records; not currently known in Maltese waters.
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin			X	*Steno bredanensis* is known from a single record whereby a herd of approximately 160 individuals was sighted off Malta in 1985. No recent sighting or reports on the said species are available despite the opportunistic surveys of LIFE+ Malta Seabirds (in 2012 and 2013) and LIFE BaĦAR for N2K (in 2015 & 2016) projects, as well as targeted surveys carried out in 2013 and 2014 through the LIFE+ MIGRATE project. This has confirmed that the species is an occasional one for Malta.
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin			X	Despite the large areas surveyed through the various LIFE projects, only three sightings with a total of six specimens were observed in the opportunistic surveys of LIFE+ Malta Seabirds in 2012, and five sightings with a total of nine specimens were observed in the opportunistic surveys of the LIFE BaĦAR for N2K in 2016. Conversely, no specimens were reported

					through the targeted surveys carried out in 2013 and 2014 through the LIFE+ MIGRATE project. This has confirmed that the species is an occasional one for Malta.
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin		X		This species is confirmed in Maltese waters.
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin		X		This species is confirmed in Maltese waters.
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin		X		This species is confirmed in Maltese waters.
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale			X	*Pseudorca crassidens* is known to occur occasionally in the Mediterranean. There is only one historical record in Malta.
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				Only historical records exist of this species. No recent records from Maltese waters.
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale			X	*Globicephala melas* is known from Maltese waters. However, despite the large areas surveyed through the opportunistic surveys of LIFE+ Malta Seabirds (in 2012 and 2013) and LIFE BaĦAR for N2K (in 2015 and 2016) projects, as well as targeted surveys carried out in 2013 and 2014 through the LIFE+ MIGRATE project, there have been no recent sightings or reports of this occasional species within such waters. This has confirmed that the species is an occasional one for Malta.
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				Not known in Maltese waters.
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale			X	The only specimen of *Ziphius cavirostris* recorded in Maltese waters, in recent decades, was one stranded individual in 2011 through a survey on seabirds conducted by BirdLife Malta in 2012, as part of the LIFE+ Malta Seabird project. Targeted surveys in 2013 and 2014 through the LIFE+ MIGRATE project could not confirm the presence of this species, neither could opportunistic records of cetaceans through the LIFE BaĦAR for N2K project in 2015 and 2016. It is hence most likely that the species is an occasional one in Maltese waters.
PHYSETERIDAE					

Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale			X	There was one encounter of the species, made in the 2013 boat-based surveys of the LIFE+ MIGRATE project, using acoustic triangulation and visual contact. This encounter consisted of at least four individuals, identified from the maximum number of whales clicking simultaneously. Other than this encounter, this species was never spotted or encountered in Maltese waters. It is hence most likely that the species is an occasional one in Maltese waters.
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				Not known in Maltese waters.
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				Not known in Maltese waters.
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				Not known in Maltese waters.
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				Not known in Maltese waters.
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale			X	This species is known in Maltese waters, but status is unknown. There are some records of coastal sightings in December 2013, April 2014 and April 2021. It is hence most likely that the species is an occasional one in Maltese waters.
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				Not known in Maltese waters.

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- LIFE+ MIGRATE Project (LIFE 11 NAT/MT/1070): Conservation Status and potential Sites of Community Interest for *Tursiops truncatus* and *Caretta caretta* in Malta. Details on the project available at: https://lifeprojectmigrate.com/; https://era.org.mt/projects/life-project-migrate/.s/life-project-migrate/.
- EMFF 8.3.1: Service tender for the establishment and pilot implementation of a long term strategy for Marine Mammals and Marine Reptiles in Maltese Waters. Details on the project will be available on ERA's website in due course.

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate

change, Captivity related issues)

- QuietMED Project. Details on the project available at: http://www.quietmed-project.eu/
- QuietMED2 Project. Details on the project available at: https://quietmed2.eu/
- Interreg Med: Actions for Marine Protected Areas (AMAre). Details on the project available at: https://amare.interreg-med.eu/; https://era.org.mt/projects/amare/.
- Interreg Med (Axis 4 governance project PANORAMED): Sharing and enhancing capabilities to address environmental threats in Mediterranean Sea (SHAREMED). Details on the project available at: https://sharemed.interreg-med.eu/.

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

- LIFE+ MIGRATE Project (LIFE 11 NAT/MT/1070): Conservation Status and potential Sites of Community Interest for *Tursiops truncatus* and *Caretta caretta* in Malta. Details on the project available at: https://lifeprojectmigrate.com/; https://era.org.mt/projects/life-project-migrate/.
- LIFE BaHAR for N2K (LIFE12 NAT/MT/000845): Life+ Benthic Habitat Research for Marine Natura 2000 Site Designation. Details on the project available at: https://lifebahar.org.mt/; https://era.org.mt/projects/life-bahar/.
- Interreg Med Horizontal: Assessing Drivers to Improve Effectiveness of Mediterranean Protected Areas (ADvIcE Med MPAs). Details on the project available at: https://interreg-med.eu/.
- Interreg Med: Improving methods for the protection and conservation of marine biodiversity in MPAs (GET MOVING). Details on the project available at: https://interreg-med.eu/ .

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

- LIFE+ MIGRATE Project (LIFE 11 NAT/MT/1070): Conservation Status and potential Sites of Community Interest for *Tursiops truncatus* and *Caretta caretta* in Malta. Details on the project available at: https://lifeprojectmigrate.com/; https://era.org.mt/projects/life-project-migrate/.
- Interreg Italia-Malta: Correct Enjoyment and Awareness Raising of Natura 2000 Locations (CORALLO). Details on the project: https://era.org.mt/projects/corallo-correct-enjoyment-and-awareness-raising-of-natura-2000-locations/; https://corallo-italiamalta.eu/.

Please list any other relevant projects

- Kindly refer to Section 1.8 of this report.

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***

Does the country have a stranding network?

- Yes

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- Co-ordinating System: The Environment and Resources Authority (ERA) coordinates the activities related to the stranding of cetaceans and is the competent authority designated for the protection and management of cetacean species. Moreover, ERA is responsible for the issuance of any necessary permits related to the keeping, killing, pursuing, capturing, transport, sale, exchange, import and disturbance of cetaceans; this takes the previously-mentioned National Code of Practice for Cetacean Stranding of 1999 into consideration.
- Agents involved: Apart from ERA, other entities are involved in the local cetacean stranding network, as specified in the Code of Practice for Cetacean Stranding. These include the Director responsible for Veterinary Services, local NGOs, the University of Malta, the Commissioner of Police and the Armed Forces of Malta. ERA also has a contract with NTM to attend to and follow-up rescue and rehabilitation operations (linked with both terrestrial and marine species), through which ERA provides permits (and associated monitoring) and finances equipment, veterinary care, feed, medicines and other requirements, as well as awareness material events,

with NTM coordinating training and rescue, rehabilitation and release operations, with the additional assistance from a network of volunteers.

- Means available: In case of cetacean standing, Malta utilises the equipment specified in the guidelines for a coordinated Cetaceans Stranding Response by Dr Marie-Francoise Van Bressen (https://www.accobams.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/GL_coordinated_cetacean_stranding_response.pdf). Such equipment, available at ERA, includes basic first aid rescue equipment, identification guides and data sheets, towels, tape measures, disposable gloves, clipboards, cameras, ropes and soft foam and other basic equipment for potential sampling and collection of tissues, when and as necessary.
- Databases & Publishing of Results: Records on stranded cetaceans are kept at ERA as well as other entities involved in the local cetacean standings network. Such stranding partners, which require specific permits in terms of the Marine Mammal Protection Regulations, (S.L. 549.35) and the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, (S.L. 549.44), also submit reports in accordance with permit conditions and inform on the relevant stranding episodes

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- Yes. Data was sent to RAC/SPA for onward transmission to MEDACES on stranding data covering 2008 to 2015 and uploaded to MEDACES data base. During the period 2016 to 2018, only two striped dolphins were found in 2018. An autopsy was conducted on one of the specimens found. The data sheets/set for MEDACES are being prepared for submission.

*2.4. **Red List of cetaceans** at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- The latest Red List is available at this link: https://era.org.mt/en/Documents/RedDataBook-MalteseIslands-1989.pdf. This is currently being revised on the basis of the latest datasets, although it is difficult to establish relevant national Red List status other than Data Deficient for migratory and occasional species for which only few (often less than a handful of) national sightings are known. In the meantime, the conservation status of cetacean species in Malta has been updated in 2019 in line with the provisions of the EU Habitats Directive. The conservation status assessment and result conclusions for cetacean species are available for 2007, 2013 and 2019 at the following link: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/mt/eu/art17/.

*2.5. Existence or preparation of **conservation management plan** for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Maltese waters for the conservation of cetacean species are designated under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), to form part of the EU Natura 2000 Network. Malta has drafted the Conservation Objectives and Conservation Measures for all of its marine Natura 2000 sites. These were issued for public consultation, revised and discussed further, and are expected to be adopted at a national scale in the coming weeks.
- In accordance with the EU Habitats Directive, three sites for the conservation of *Tursiops truncatus* have been established (MT0000113, MT0000115 and MT0000116), although scientific evidence suggests dolphins are using the entire Maltese Fisheries Management Zone (FMZ). More information is found at the following link: https://era.org.mt/topic/marine-protected-areas-2/.

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

***Please list all management / conservation measures introduced** to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.*

Management measures for the conservation of cetaceans were formally introduced through the Programme of Measures (PoMs) adopted in 2017 pursuant to the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC). Such measures primarily target knowledge improvement on the interactions between fisheries and cetaceans and reduction of disturbance from sea-farers. The PoMs are currently subject to an update and in parallel, conservation measures for Marine Protected Areas are being finalised for adoption at National scale.

These measures implement requirements of multilateral and regional environmental agreements, including ACCOBAMS, the CMS, the Bern Convention, the Barcelona Convention and its SPA/BD Protocol.

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

- No bycatch of cetaceans has been reported in Maltese waters.

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

- No ship strikes on cetaceans are reported in Maltese waters.

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- The introduction of energy, including underwater noise is a pressure on the marine environment that needs to be monitored as part of the requirements of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC. Relevant issues are also considered as part of current environment impact assessments and appropriate assessments in line with provisions of relevant subsidiary legislation under the Environment Protection Act (refer to section 1.7 of this report).

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

- Whale-watching permits have been granted by ERA through the Environment Protection Act (Cap. 549), with the obligation that such activity follows the whale-watching guidelines produced by ACCOBAMS, which it does

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

- Any data on stranding and necropsies of cetaceans would be captured by the reports submitted by Nature Trust Malta as part of the Agreement for the rehabilitation of fauna & related aspects.

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

- *A Code of Practice for the stranding of cetacean species was introduced in 1999. This protocol sets out various procedures to be followed in the case of such an event. The Protocol aims at providing effective and timely assistance to any live animals, the collection of scientific data and the acceptable method for the disposal of carcasses. The leading entity in such events is ERA, who may request assistance from local or international organisations. In addition, throughout the reporting interim, a number of applicants applied with ERA to aid with the rescue of live/dead stranded dolphins. Such entities were subsequently issued with a relevant permit that laid down the necessary conditions and restrictions for the carrying out of such rescue operations or actions, as necessary. The University of Malta is also notified and involved as necessary as per*

the conditions stipulated in the Code of Practice.

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

- *The Mediterraneo Marine Park operates in line with provisions of the Environment Protection Act (Cap. 549).*
- The Mediterraneo Marine Park Malta operates in line with the laws of Malta

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- *All marine waters are subject to the provisions of S.L. 549.44 and S.L. 549.63, with related management and monitoring programmes (refer to section 1.7 and this section of the report). MPAs are indicated in Section 1.5 of this report; of these, three MPAs are specifically designated for the conservation management of Tursiops truncatus, also addressing other cetaceans in the area. The associated conservation objectives and measures for these sites are currently being finalised and will aim to facilitate the conservation of all cetacean species within MPAs and beyond.*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

- *Additional information on activities carried out by the Environment & Resources Authority are available on the ERA website: https://era.org.mt.*

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

- The public consultation process on the conservation objectives and measures for MPAs
- Awareness raising at exhibition 'Malta's Blue Wonders' at the National Aquarium between Thursday 18th February and 16th May 2021
- Awareness-raising boat trip on 19th June 2022
- TV spots on protected areas/species
- Media releases linked with rescue operations and/or MPAs
- A number of activities/materials linked with EMFF Marine Monitoring and CORALLO projects

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

- The 7th Meeting of the Parties to ACCOBAMS (MOP7) in Istanbul, Turkey (5-8 November2019).
- Malta forms part of the ACCOBAMS Bureau and has attended all pertinent meetings (physically or online).
- The 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP13) in Gandhinagar, India (15-22 February 2020).
- The 22nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (COP 22) in Antalya, Türkiye (7-10 December 2021).
- The 18th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (COP18) in Geneva, Switzerland (17 - 28 August 2019).

- RAC/SPA 8th Meeting of National correspondence of SAPBIO & 15th Meeting of SPA/BD Focal Points (22-25 June 2021, online, chaired by Malta)
- Annual Bern Convention Standing Committee Meeting
- Various EU meetings related to the marine environment, especially those linked with the MSFD (physically and online).

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

- Various posts related to cetacean awareness on ERA's social media platforms: www.facebook.com/era.org.mt.
- Published video as part of LIFE BaHAR Project): https://youtu.be/T69WlKgre50.
- Media article under the name of: 'Marine Protected Areas' on Il-Ħuttafa Magazine published in January/February 2021.
- Media article under the name of: 'Malta's Blue Wonders' on First Magazine published in February 2021: https://www.independent.com.mt/archive/magazine-first
- Media article under the name of: 'Dolphins & Turtles' on Il-Ħuttafa Magazine published in July/August 2021
- Media article under the name of: 'Marine Protected Areas' on First Magazine published in August 2021: https://www.independent.com.mt/archive/magazine-first
- Media article under the name of: 'Protecting Our Marine Environment' on the Sunday Circle Magazine published in September 2021: https://www.tom-mag.com/sundaycircle
- Press Release by ERA: 'Strong presence of cetaceans confirmed around the Maltese Islands' published on 24.10.2021: https://era.org.mt/press-releases/strong-presence-of-cetaceans-confirmed-around-the-maltese-islands/
- Media article under the name of: 'Whales, dolphins and plastic don't mix' on First Magazine published in November 2021: https://www.independent.com.mt/archive/magazine-first
- Media article under the name of: 'Whales, Dolphins... and Healthy Waters' on the Sunday Circle Magazine published in November 2021: https://www.tom-mag.com/sundaycircle
- TV Interview about GES & Marine status on TVM (program: Illum ma' Steph) which was aired on 04.11.2021.
- EMFF 8.3.1: Service tender for the establishment and pilot implementation of a long term strategy for Marine Mammals and Marine Reptiles in Maltese Waters. Poster: 'Preliminary Results from Vessel-Based and Aerial Surveys on Cetaceans for the Establishment of a Long-Term Monitoring Strategy in Malta' - presented at the 33rd European Cetacean Society Conference, Ashdod, Israel (2022).

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

- Selected issues are addressed through the MSFD process/reporting: https://era.org.mt/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/MSFD-Art.-17-Update-Malta_FINAL.pdf (pg.345-374).
- The general needs relate to additional scientific surveys at regional scale; further training of fishers and sea-users; as well training to new officials operating within relevant institutions, like ERA, Department of Fisheries and Agriculture (DFA), Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Enterprise (MEEE), and the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM); as well as veterinarians and NGOs assisting in stranding and rescue operations; the setting up of genetic data banks; and the need for appropriate assessment tools and approaches and data analysis for cetacean sightings and overall population assessments.

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

- Marine Mammal post-mortem investigation – organised by ACCOBAMS.
- ABIOMMED Task 4.1 Working Group on cetacean monitoring under MSFD, 1st online meeting held on 5

May 2022.

- Dolphin Depredation in the Mediterranean (Workshop), Sicily 8-10 June 2022, organised by ACCOBAMS in collaboration with Marecam.

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

- The Eko-Skola project, implemented by Nature Trust (Malta) under the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) targets children and young adults, and also includes awareness on cetaceans and related issues. For more information: https://www.ekoskola.org.mt/.
- In relation to tertiary education, these are addressed through Bachelor and Master courses organised by the University of Malta. Such courses also include environmental policy and multilateral environmental agreements in the syllabus. These lectures are carried out by both University of Malta, and Environment & Resources Authority staff.

MONACO

FORMAT DES RAPPORTS NATIONAUX 2020 - 2022

Pays : MONACO

POINT FOCAL NATIONAL, RAPPORTS NATIONAUX, PRINCIPAUX ENJEUX ET BESOINS

A. Détails du point focal national (email, téléphone, adresse)

Prénom Nom : Céline IMPAGLIAZZO

Courriel : cimpagliazzo@gouv.mc

Tel : +377 98.98.44.70

Adresse : Département des Relations Extérieures et de la Coopération, MINISTERE D'ETAT, Place de la Visitation, MC 98015 - MONACO Cedex

B. Énumérez les points focaux nationaux (PFN) successifs et la période couverte

Patrick VAN KLAVEREN jusqu'en 2010

C. Date de soumission des rapports nationaux (indiquez les années où le rapport a été fourni):

2004 – 2007 - 2010 - 2013 – 2016 - 2019

D. Questions spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties. Problème(s) majeur(s), besoins spécifiques ou sujets d'actualité : veuillez fournir des détails sur les problèmes émergents, les menaces ou les difficultés rencontrées et indiquer ce qui devrait être mis en œuvre pour répondre aux problèmes soulevés.

1/ Besoins spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité Scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties :

2/ Recommandations/suggestions pour améliorer l'état de conservation depuis les rapports régionaux du comité scientifique

3/ Principaux problèmes ou menaces ou thématiques importantes :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Sujet qui est ou était important pour les cétacés dans la région, et que nécessiterait la considération et une action par le Comité Scientifique. Exemple de sujets : nombre d'échouages exceptionnellement élevé, ou nombre important de prospection sismiques planifiés, ou augmentation des ferry haute vitesse dans la région impliquant des risques accrus de collision, etc.).

Aucun événement à signaler

SECTION MA - GESTION DE L'ACCORD (MA)

1.1. Dates de signature (S), de ratification (R), d'acceptation (AC), d'approbation (AP) ou d'adhésion (AD) à l'ACCOBAMS et autorité compétente..

01/06/2001

1.2. Réserves exprimées conformément à l'article XV ou à l'article X de l'Accord

1.3. Date d'acceptation, signature, ratification des amendements; si en cours de traitement, veuillez indiquer l'autorité compétente, la procédure et les mesures prises.

- Amendement à l'annexe 2 de l'Accord sur l'utilisation des filets maillants

  Date d'entrée en vigueur: 25/10/2007

  Transposition en loi nationale: Direction des Affaires Maritimes

- Extension de la zone geographique de l'ACCOBAMS

  Etat du processus de ratification: Ratifié le 02/03/2011

  Authorité compétente: Département des Relations Extérieures et de la Coopération

1.4. *Dérogations autorisées conformément à l'art. II, paragraphe 2 de l'Accord et paragraphe 6 de l'annexe 2*

Aucune dérogation n'a été accordée

1.5. Définition de la zone marine sous juridiction nationale incluse dans le champ d'application de l'Accord. Veuillez indiquer si des négociations sont en cours avec les pays voisins pour les limites.

L'Accord s'applique aux eaux territoriales de la Principauté, tels que définis par la Convention de délimitation maritime franco-monégasque du 16 février 1984 et par le Code de la Mer Articles L 210 - 1, L 210-2 et L 210-3.

1.6. Lister les entités ayant compétence, responsabilité ou intérêt pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez examiner et compléter la liste fournie et décrire leurs activités. Veuillez préciser les mécanismes d'information / communication / coordination avec d'autres entités nationales.

- Organizations intergouvernementales :

  Accord Pelagos créant le santuaire pour les mammifères marins en Méditerranée dont le secrétariat permanent est acceuilli en Principauté. Accord RAMOGE relatif à la protection de l'environnement marin et côtier d'une zone de la mer méditerranée dont le Secrétariat est asuré par les services du Gouvernement monégasque.

- Autorités nationales/services de l'Etat
  - Département de l'Equipment, l'Environnement et le Développement Urbain - Direction de l'Environnement
  - Département de l'Equipment, l'Environnement et le Développement Urbain - Direction des Affaires Maritimes
  - Département des Relations Extérieures et de la Coopération

- Organizations non gouvernementales:

  Fondation Prince Albert II, Institut Océanographique, Fondation Prince Albert Ier, Association Monegasque de protection de la Nature, Association monégasque Live Together, The Animal Fund

- Instituts de recherche/Universités:

  Collaboration avec la France, Centre Scientifique de Monaco

- Services de secours animalier:

- Dolphinaria:

- Société ou opérateurs Whale-watching:
  Sustainable Whale Watching Monaco (SWWM)
- Autre:

1.7. Principaux textes législatifs et réglementaires nationaux concernant les cétacés.
Les textes peuvent concerner l'environnement (espèces ou zones protégées, biodiversité et pollution), la pêche, le transport maritime (collision), le tourisme, l'énergie, la pollution, l'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement ou d'autres sujets dans la mesure où ils peuvent concerner les cétacés. Indiquez la date, le titre, l'autorité responsable et le lien. Ajoutez une brève description ou citez les articles ou sections pertinents relatifs aux cétacés.

- Loi n.1.456 du 12/12/2017 portant Code de l'Environnement : https://journaldemonaco.gouv.mc/Journaux/2017/Journal-8361/Loi-n-1.456-du-12-decembre-2017-portant-Code-de-l-environnement. Texte central posant un cadre juridique contraignant aux différents engagements et principes en matière d'environnement de la Principauté. Divisé en six livres, il reprend ainsi les principes de la Convention sur la Diversité Biologique notamment dans les domaines de l'établissement des dispositions communes, de la protection de la nature et des milieux, de la pollution, et des risques et nuisances. En matière d'aménagement, le Code de l'Environnement encadre désormais tout nouveau projet sur le territoire de la Principauté pour prévenir d'éventuelles atteintes à la biodiversité en imposant notamment une évaluation environnementale et la mise en place de mesures de protection des milieux et des espèces. Le Livre III est dédié à la protection de la nature et des milieux. - Loi n° 1.198 du 27 mars 1998 portant Code de la Mer : https://journaldemonaco.gouv.mc/Journaux/1998/Journal-7334/Loi-n-1.198-du-27-mars-1998-portant-Code-de-la-Mer. Titre III, La protection du milieu marin, Titre IV L'exploration et l'exploitation du milieu marin, du fond de la mer et de son sous-sol-CHAPITRE IV L'exploitation des ressources vivantes.

1.8. Fonds réservés ou affectés à la recherche, au suivi et à la gestion des cétacés (y compris financement national, projets internationaux, régionaux ou sous régionaux)

Le Gouvernement octroi une contribution volontaire annuelle au Secrétariat permanent de l'ACCOBAMS depuis 2009. Lors du dernier triennium (2020-2022), une contribution globale de 120 000 euros a été versée au travers d'un accord de financement. En parallèle, la Principauté contribue également aux travaux de la Convention sur les espèces migratrices (CMS) et particulièrement les espèces marines : depuis 2018, le Gouvernement verse une contribution annuelle de 50 000 euros en faveur du développement des connaissance sur la espèces migratrices marines et sur le développement de mesures de protection de ces dernières, notamment pour atténuer certaines menaces comme le bruit sous-marin.

1.9. Conventions, commissions et accords internationaux ou régionaux pertinents auxquels le pays est Partie.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptation**	**Entrée en vigueur**	**Commentaires**
Accord des Nations Unies sur les stocks de poissons (1995)	16/04/1999	09/06/1999		11/12/2001	
Accord sur la conservation des petits cétacés de la mer Baltique et de la mer du Nord (ASCOBANS)					
Annexe V concernant la protection et la conservation des écosystèmes et de la diversité biologique de l'espace maritime Convention OSPAR)					
Convention de Barcelone (1976)	16/02/1976	19/09/1977		12/02/1978	
Protocole sur les aires		10/06/1195		12/12/1999	

spécialement protégées et la diversité biologique en Méditerranée (dit Protocole ASPIM)					
Convention sur la diversité biologique (Rio, 1992)	11/06/1992	20/11/1992		29/12/1993	
La Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction (CITES - Washington, 1973)		19/04/1978		19/07/1978	
Convention relative à la conservation de la vie sauvage et du milieu naturel de l'Europe (Berne, 1979)	28/12/1993	07/02/1994		01/06/1994	
Convention de Bonn (CMS, Bonn, 1979)	10/02/1993	01/03/1993		01/06/1993	
Convention sur la protection de la mer Noire (Bucharest Convention)					
Commission Général des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM)	01/05/2001	12/06/2001		21/04/2004	
Commission internationale pour l'exploration scientifique de la Méditerranée (CIESM)				30/03/1910	*Monaco est le Pays Hôte*
Convention internationale pour la règlementation de la chasse à la baleine (Washington, 1946)		15/03/1982		15/03/1982	
Convention OSPAR pour la protection de l'environnement marin de l'Atlantique nord-est					
Convention des Nations unies sur le droit de la mer (Montego Bay, 1982)	10/12/1982	20/03/1996		10/04/1996	
Accord relatif à la création en Méditerranée d'un sanctuaire pour les mammifères marins (Accord Pelagos)		25/11/1999		21/02/2002	*Monaco est le Pays Hôte*
Accord relatif à la protection de l'environnement marin et côtier d'une zone de la Mer Méditerranée (Accord RAMOGE)	27/11/2003			27/11/2003	*Monaco assure le Secrétariat de l'Accord*

1.10. Accords de pêche bilatéraux ou multilatéraux concernant le domaine de l'Accord (tels que CGPM, ICCAT, accords de pêche spécifiques avec l'Union européenne; fournissez les informations pertinentes comme la date de signature, la durée, la zone concernée, les mesures)

SECTION CA : ACTIONS DE CONSERVATION POUR LES CETACES (CA)

2.1: CA-1 - RECHERCHE ET SURVEILLANCE

2.1. Liste des cétacés signalés dans la zone de l'Accord sous la juridiction du pays (telle que définie à l'article I, paragraphe 3 f de l'Accord).

Légende: "C": Commun, "R": Rare, "O": Occasionnel

Nom scientifique	Nom français	C	R	O	Commentaires
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Marsouin commun				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	dauphin à bec étroit				
Grampus griseus	dauphin de Risso				
Tursiops truncatus	Grand dauphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Dauphin bleu et blanc	X			
Delphinus delphis	Dauphin commun		X		
Pseudorca crassidens	Pseudorque				
Orcinus orca	Orque		x		Un groupe de 5 orques a été observé Décembre 2019
Globicephala melas	Globicephale noir	X			
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Baleine à bec de Blainville				
Ziphius cavirostris	Baleine à bec de Cuvier				
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Cachalot	X			
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Cachalot nain				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Baleine franche de l'Atlantique nord				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Petit rorqual				
Balaenoptera borealis	Rorqual boreal				
Balaenoptera physalus	Rorqual commun	X			
Megaptera novaeangliae	Baleine à bosse				

2.2. Liste et description des programmes et des projets de recherche concernant les cétacés, en tenant compte des activités nationales, bilatérales et multilatérales.
Veuillez fournir des informations sur les programmes et projets couvrant notamment les thèmes suivants :

<u>Amélioration des connaissances sur l'état des cétacés</u> (estimations et répartition des populations de cétacés, structure de la population, surveillance de l'état des cétacés, réseaux d'échouage fonctionnels et réponses aux situations d'urgence, etc.)

- *Contribution à l'ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative,*
- *Contribution financière à l'organisation d'ateliers d'experts ACCOBAMS-CBI-UICN pour développer les Plans de Gestion de Conservation des espèces de cétacés, en tenant compte de tous les plans de conservation nationaux*
- *Contribution financière à l'organisation de formations sur les nécropsies, les échouages vivants et les réponses aux situations d'urgence dans la zone de l'ACCOBAMS, suivant les bonnes pratiques pour déterminer les causes*

de mortalité, y compris les déchets marins, et sur l'usage des bases de données pertinentes (CB)

Réduction des pressions humaines sur les cétacés (Interactions avec la pêche / aquaculture, Bruit anthropique sous-marin, Collisions avec les navires, Observation des cétacés, Débris marins, Pollution chimique et biologique, Changement climatique, Problèmes liés à la captivité)

- *Participation financière pourle au recueil d'informations sur les activités d'observation des cétacés et les problèmes potentiels afin d'identifier les points chauds des activités de Whale Watching dans la zone de l'ACCOBAMS*
- *Contribution à l'évaluation de la situation de la semi-captivité dans la zone de l'ACCOBAMS et production des Lignes Directrices ou d'un document de référence*

Conservation des habitats des cétacés

- *Monaco participe, aux côté de la France, de l'Italie et de l'Espagne, a un projet de désignation d'une Zone Maritime Specialement vulnérable (ZMPV) avec des mesures de protection associées qui contribueront à protéger les cétacés, à réduire le bruit sous-marin rayonnant (URN), à minimiser le risque de collision avec les navires et à soutenir la recherche scientifique sur la question.*

Sensibilisation du public aux cétacés (Information /Communication / Sensibilisation aux cétacés)

- *Contribution au projet "Souffle de vie" de l'association monégasque Live Together*
- *Soutien à l'organisation de la Cinquième session de la Conférence pour les Pays du Sud de la Méditerranée (permettant de dresser un bilan sur l'état des connaissances disponibles sur les cétacés dans le Sud de la Méditerranée, d'identifier les lacunes et de stimuler le développement de travaux de conservation et de collecte de données en vue de promouvoir la mise en œuvre de l'ACCOBAMS)*
- *Contribution à la production de matériel de sensibilisation pour aider les Pays à mettre en œuvre la journée ACCOBAMS des cétacés*
- *Contribution à la célébration des 25 ans de l'Accord.*

Tout autre projet pertinent

2.3. ***Échouage de cétacés***

Le pays a-t-il mis en place un réseau de suivi des échouages? Si non, s'il vous plaît précisez pourquoi? Si oui, veuillez indiquer le nom, les contacts et un lien vers la base de données. Envoyez-vous des données à la base de données MEDACES? Pour les rapports et les publications, veuillez fournir des références et des liens dans l'Annexe 1.

- *Un réseau d'échouage a été mis en place, les contacts sont les suivants Le Département de l'Equipement de l'Environnement et de l'Urbanisme : 98 98 85 67, La Direction des Affaires Maritimes : 98 98 22 80, La Division de la Police Maritime et Aéroportuaire : 93 15 30 16, La Direction de l'Environnement 98 98 83 41.*
- *Il n'y a pas eu d'échouage ces 4 dernières années, mais le cas échéant il sera possible de transmettre les données à Medaces*

2.4. Liste rouge des cétacés au niveau national ou régional utilisant la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN. Votre pays a-t-il développé ou participé à l'évaluation des cétacés dans vos eaux nationales ou au niveau régional? Si oui, veuillez décrire et fournir un résumé des résultats ou des liens vers des rapports et des publications. Si la loi exige l'utilisation de la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN, veuillez citer le texte juridique ou les articles pertinents.

- *Aucun suivi ces deux dernières années*

2.5. Existence ou préparation de plans de gestion pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez fournir toute information pertinente

- *Plan de gestion de l'Accord Pelagos*

2.2: CA-2: MESURES DE GESTION POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CETACÉS

Mesures de gestion ou de conservation introduites pour atteindre et maintenir un état de conservation favorable pour les cétacés et réduire les menaces potentielles, conformément aux résolutions d'ACCOBAMS.

2.2.1. Interaction avec les pêcheries. Veuillez fournir des informations sur les interactions existantes ou potentielles entre pêcheries et cétacés ou cétacés et pêcheries (texte et / ou tableau). En particulier, précisez les interactions avec les techniques suivantes: filets maillants, filets à senne coulissante, filets dérivants, palangres de surface ou autres, en indiquant les espèces et le nombre d'animaux capturés ou qui se prennent dans les filets et en précisant les mesures de gestion existantes ou prévues

- *Du point de vue légal cet aspect est couvert par l'application de l'Ordonnance Souveraine n°3.131 relative à l'exploitation des ressources vivantes. De plus cela est considéré dans le cadre du Sanctuaire Pelagos.*

2.2.2. Réglementation de la navigation et collision avec des navires

2.2.3. Bruits anthropiques (tels que l'exploration ou l'exploitation des ressources minières ou des exercices militaires) et procédures d'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement (EIE)

- *Tout projet de construction ou autre pouvant avoir un impact sur l'environnement marin fait l'objet d'une Etude d'Impacte Environnementale.*

2.2.4. Observation des baleines et autres activités commerciales de tourisme

2.2.5. Pollution marine, y compris les débris marins

- *Sur le plan législatif, la Principauté a pris de nouvelles mesures d'application du Code de l'Environnement, et notamment la partie relative aux déchets. Ordonnance Souveraine n° 8.633 du 29 avril 2021 portant modification et codification de la règlementation relative aux déchets et l' Arrêté Ministériel n° 2021-317 du 29 avril 2021 précisant le contenu des registres mentionnés à l'article O.431-3-1 et modifiant certaines dispositions relatives aux déchets.*

2.2.6. Plans d'urgence pour la pollution, les échouages et les centres de sauvetage

- *La Principauté, en tant que Partie à l'Accord RAMOGE, est également signataire du PLAN d'intervention Franco-Italo-Monégasque pour la prévention et la lutte contre les pollutions en mer, dit "RAMOGEPOL" dont l'objectif est de renforcer la coopération en cas d'accident grave de pollution et partager les navires et aéronefs disponibles des trois États.*

2.2.7. Problèmes relatifs à la captivité des dauphins et aux delphinariums

2.2.8. Aires marines protégées (AMP), zones de pêche, réserves de pêche ou autres mesures spatiales de conservation efficaces (OECM-CDB). Énumérez-les et indiquez si elles sont pertinentes pour développer des activités pour la conservation et la gestion des cétacés.

- *En 1978, la Principauté a créé la réserve du Larvotto, d'une superficie de 33 ha, afin de préserver les herbiers de posidonie (Ordonnance Souveraine n°6256 publiée au Journal deMonaco du 25 avril 1978). Dasn cette zone la pêche et l'évolution de bateux à moteur ainsi que le mouillage d'ances y sont interdits.*
- *Plus tard, en 1999, l'intégralité des eaux territoriales monégasque ont été intégrées dans la zone du Sanctuaire pour les mammifères marins "dit le Sanctuaire Pelagos", qui a également le statut d' Aire Spécialement Protégée d'Importance Méditerranéenne (ASPIM). Cette ASPIM a pour objectif premier d'instaurer des actions concertées et harmonisées entre les trois pays pour la protection des cétacés et de leurs habitats.*

2.2.9. Autres, s'il vous plaît spécifiez

2.3: CA-3: COMMUNICATION ET SENSIBILISATION SUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de communication et de sensibilisation pertinentes

2.3.1. Principaux événements (réunion, symposium, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) organisés ou planifiés dans le pays,

- *De nombreux évènements se sont tenus ou ont été organisés par des entités Monégasque lors de la période 2020 à 2022 lesquels ont pu apporter un intérêt à la conservation des cétacés et de leurs habitats: on peut y mentionner: - la Monaco Blue Initiative et la Monaco Ocean Week; - l'organisation de la première édition du "SPAMI Day"*

2.3.2. Principaux événements à l'étranger (réunions, colloques, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) auxquels ont participé des experts nationaux

- *Entre 2020 et 2022, Monaco a participé aux réunions institutionnelles des conventions et traités environnementaux auxquels elle est Partie.*

2.3.3. Principaux produits (lettre d'information, brochure, dépliant, affiche, vidéo, autocollant, etc.)

2.4: CA-4: RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de renforcement des capacités pertinentes

2.4.1. Besoins nationaux en termes de renforcement des capacités, en référence à la stratégie et au programme de travail ACCOBAMS

2.4.2. Formations / ateliers réalisés (nationaux et internationaux) ou planifiés

2.4.3. Conférences, programmes éducatifs sur les cétacés (universités, écoles)

MONTENEGRO

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020 - 2022

Name of country : MONTENEGRO

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: *Milena BATAKOVIC*
Email: milena.batakovic@epa.org.me
Tel: +381 20 446531
Address: Environmental Protection Agency of Montenegro (EPA) IV Proleterske no.19 -Podgorica 81000 - Montenegro

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

In 2013, the national focal point was Mr Novak Cadjenovic (MSPEP)
In 2010 and 2007, the national focal point was Mrs Ana Pajevic (Ministry of Tourism)

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2007- 2010 - 2013 – 2016 - 2019

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

There is no specific issue nor requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee.

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

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.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of

ship-strikes, etc.)

Strategy on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Adriatic Sea for the period 2016 - 2025 - recognize a threats 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 it expected this is an important issue to tackle in the future.

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

01/08/2009

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

/

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: 26/09/2019

  Transposition at National Level: yes

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Text is transpose in the Law Confirming the Amendment of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area-Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS ("Official Gazette Montenegro - International Agreements ", no. 004/ 14 from 26.03.2014) http://www.sluzbenilist.me/pregled-dokumenta-2/?id={985AB625-21E3-4E41-8FEB-ED28FFF2EAD2}

  Competent authority: Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

/

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms

with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

  Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism is in charge for: setting nature conservation policies, developing regulations, compliance with EU policies and legislation on nature protection, including coordination of the establishment of the Natura 2000 procedures, reporting to the European Commission, involvement of stakeholders, education and communication activities. The Ministry plays a central role in the supervision of the spatial planning and tourism development in Montenegro.

  Environmental Protection Agency EPA has numerous competences related to nature protection, such as: monitoring of the state of habitats and species, development of Nature Protection Studies in the process of establishment of protected areas, preparation and realization of monitoring programs, preparation and maintenance of the database on the environment (including biodiversity); review and issuance of consents for strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and the EIA (the Environmental Impact Assessment) studies; approvals for the collection, use, breeding, keeping and trafficking of wild animal species; approvals for the picking, collection, use, cultivation, keeping and movement of protected wild herbs and fungi; approvals for scientific and educational research on protected natural resources as well as for speleological activities; defining measures of protection of strictly protected and protected species of plants, animals and fungi, and measures to protect their habitats; issuance of consents for nature appropriate assessment, assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest, and compensatory measures; education activities; and providing free access to information regarding nature protection.

  Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management has a goal to ensure fishery practice and fishery regulation and resources.

  Ministry of Capital Investments Ministry of Capital Investments is responsible for maritime traffic, security protection of merchant ships and ports open to international traffic, prevention and taking emergency measures in case of sea pollution from vessels, transport of dangerous goods via sea in accordance with the specific law, maritime economy, safety of maritime navigation, monitoring, and study of economic conditions and economic position of entities in these areas. Ministry is also in charge for different type of concessions, energy policy, strategies regarding regional development and similar.

  Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management responsible for MPAs Management according to amendment to the Law on Nature Protection

- Non Govermental Organizations:

  Eko Centar "Delfin"

  NVO Zeleni Korak

  Marine Mammals Research Association

- Research Institutes / Universities:

  Institute of Marine Biology (IMB)The Marine Biology Institute in Kotor operates as a research institute within the University of Montenegro. Its main areas of work include: research of marine plants and animals; researching and examining sea water chemistry; and occasional monitoring of the sea water quality.

- Rescue centres:
- Dolphinaria:
- Whale-watching operators:
- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

The Law on Nature Protection ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", no. 54/16) is major legislative act for the protection of Species, Articles 89-90 refer to the establishment of the list of strictly protected and protected wild species of plants, animals and fungi or which the Law prescribes specific management measures and procedures including cetaceans.

Decree on protection of rare, declining, endemic and endangered plant and animal species ("Off. Gazette of MNE", no. 76/06) is act which put species under protection at national level and following species are protected by the Decree: MAMMALIA Fam.: Delphinidae Delphinus delphis Linneaus 1758 - Uskonosni delfin Stenella coeruleoalba Meyen, 1833 - Prugasti delfin Stenella frontalis Cuvier, 1829 – Delfin Tursiops truncatus Montagu, 1821 – Delfin Grampus griseus Cuvier, 1812 – Delfin -Beluga Fam.: Balaenopteridae Balaenoptera physalus Linneaus, 1758 – Kit

Law on Nature protection 51/08, and amendments 21/09, 40/11, 62/13, replaced by new law 54/16 adopted in 2016

The Law on Environment ("OG of MNE", 52/16) is the umbrella law in the area of environment and it lays down the principles of environmental protection and sustainable development, entities, environmental protection instruments and measures, access to information, public participation, access to justice in environmental matters, environmental financing and other issues relevant for the environment.

Law on National Parks (Official Gazette of Montenegro, no. 28/14) prescribes rules within national parks, management measures, protection measures, control of activities

Law on Marine Fishery and Mariculture (Official Gazette of Montenegro, no. 56/09 and 47/15) prescribe measures in relation to fishery rules and procedures. Also COMAND ON HUNTING OF AGE CLASSES OF FISH AND OTHER MARINE ORGANISMS (Official Gazette of Montenegro, no. 56/09) forbids hunting of all marinne mammals

Law on SEA

Law on EIA

Law on Public Maritime Domain ("Off. Gazette of Montenegro", no. 14/92),

Law on Water

Law on the Sea

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

During reporting period regarding research, monitoring and management of cetaceans the most important projects in the region and Montenegro are: Accobams Survey Initiative, GEF Adriatic Project and IPA Project " "Support implementation and monitoring of water management in Montenegro". Accobams Survey Initiative that supported cetaceans researches in the Adriatic Sea was conducted during 2018 as areal survey, IPA Project "

"Support implementation and monitoring of water management in Montenegro" were conducted during 2020 as boat survey. During, 2022. Monitoring of cetaceans has been supported by national budget in the amount of 22000 Eur and will be conducted by boat survey along coast of Montenegro.

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance	Entry into force	Comments
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)		22/10/2007			
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)		06/03/2006			
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		04/02/2003			
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)		08/12/2008			
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)		01/03/2009			
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean		31/01/2008			
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)					
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)		23/10/2006			

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

Montenegro is a party of GFCM from 31/01/2008.

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin		X		
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin		X		
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin		X		
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin		X		
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale		X		
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale		X		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale		X		
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

- *Accobams Survey Initiative*

The "ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative" (ASI) is a several-million euros project, developed and implemented by the Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and

contiguous Atlantic area (ACCOBAMS), The "ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative" (ASI) is a several-million euros project, developed and implemented by the Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area (ACCOBAMS). The "ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative" (ASI) will allow improving the understanding of the conservation status of cetaceans at the Mediterranean/Black Sea macroregional level. Conducted over three and a half years, the ASI aims at establishing an integrated and coordinated monitoring system for cetaceans, by establishing a baseline framework to assess cetacean's abundance and distribution in the whole ACCOBAMS area.

- *IPA Project "Support implementation and monitoring of water management in Montenegro"*

This project aims to strengthen the institutional, administrative and monitoring capacities of Montenegrin institutions dealing with water management so as to improve environmental protection, enhance the conservation and sustainable management of water resources and align national policies with the EU environmental acquis. One of the components of the project is support to the implementation of Marine Strategy Framework Directive under which monitoring of cetaceans as a boat survey was conducted during 2020.

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- *Accobams Survey Initiative*
- *IPA Project "Support implementation and monitoring of water management in Montenegro"*

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

- *UNEP GEF "Promoting Protected Areas Management through* Integrated Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Protection in Coastal Area of Montenegro"

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

- *UNEP GEF "Promoting Protected Areas Management through* Integrated Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Protection in Coastal Area of Montenegro"
- The GEF project "Promoting Protected Areas Management through Integrated Marine and Coastal Ecosystems is a national project which aims to improve the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biodiversity through effective management of the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (hereinafter referred to as C/MPAs) subsystem by addressing institutional and financial sustainability. Project supported proclamation of 3 first MPAs in Montenegro as well as managament establishment.

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***

Does the country have a stranding network?
If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.
Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- *Montenegro doesnt have stranding network established due to the reason that there is no adeqvat capacities (equpment) for obduction of dead casys as well as rescue conditions. Also, there is a need to train more vetterenians for such casis although improvment were made in last 3 years with the support of Accobams in this regard.*

*2.4. **Red List of cetaceans** at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- IUCN status and conservation status according to the Habitats Directive were estimated at the Mediterranean level. No red listings were given for species regular in the Adriatic, foremostly the common bottlenose dolphin. It is assumed that the species could probably be assessed as Near threatened (NT). The Short-beaked common dolphin is the most threatened species in the Mediterranean.
- *Red list methodology is reqvested by the Law on Nature Protection in following articles:*

Protected wild species of plants, animals and fungi

Article 89

- The list of protected wild species of plants, animals and fungi shall be determined by the Ministry, on the basis of vulnerability assessment of individual species and obligations from ratified international treaties, as well as on the basis of national and international red lists and other expert documentation, on a proposal of the administration body and with the prior obtained opinion of the state administration body competent for agriculture, forestry and game.
- The list referred to in paragraph 6 hereof shall be published in the "Official Gazette of Montenegro".

Red lists of wild species of plants, animals and fungi

Article 90

- Red lists of wild species of plants, animals and fungi shall be determined by the administration body on the basis of international red lists and scientific data, according to the degree of endangerment, distribution, population number and other characteristics of individual species of wild plants, animals and fungi.
- Based on the red lists referred to in paragraph 1 hereof, the administration body may create the red book containing protection measures and measures to improve the status of endangered species, the method of treatment and the area of distribution of protected wild species of plants, animals and fungi and protection measures of their habitats.

*2.5. Existence or preparation of **conservation management plan** for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- *The only Action plan for cetacean species are introduced in* Strategy on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Adriatic Sea for the period 2016 – 2025.

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

*2.2.1. **Interaction with fisheries**. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

- *According to the* Law on Sea Fisheries and Mariculture (the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management brought Order of forbidding of hunting of some FISH species AND OTHER MARINE ORGANISMS what includes Cetacea species. Also, cetacea species and marine turtle are on the Decree on protection of rare, declining, endemic and endangered plant and animal species ("Off. Gazette of MNE", no. 76/06)
- Montenegro from April 1, 2017 implements the National Program of Data Collection in the Maritime

system that is fully compliant with DCF (Data Collection Framework - program of the European <Commission) and DCRF (Data Collection Reference Framework - GFCMA program). As part of this monitoring, data on bycatch of marine mammals are recorded. The program is implemented by the Institute of Marine Biology through observers on vessels, that record and measure the entire catch in trawling nets, seine nets, demersal trawl nets, purse seines, gillnets and trammel nets and longlines).

- There were two cases of by catch in the reporting period both in 2021 and in both casies it was *Tursiops truncatus* , and they were caught with gillnets. Both were in the Bay of Kotor and both dolphins were released from the net.
-

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- *Regarding Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA) according to the Regulation on projects for which an environmental impact assessment is performed EIA procedure is obligatory for exploration/exploitation of mineral resources.*

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

- Wildlife Response Plan covers sea mammals, sea turtles and sea birds. The Plan is developed by Sea Alarm (Belgium) in cooperation with Gorton Consultancy (UK), the company in charge of revision and development of operational part of the National Contingency Plan for response to marine pollution from ships and offshore installations. The Wildlife Response Plan is linked to the National Contingency Plan for response to marine pollution from ships and offshore installations.
- The activity started a month ago, and the first stakeholder meeting with site visit has been finished in June and beginning of July. The next steps are drafting of the Wild life Response Plan and two more workshops regarding the management level training for stakeholders and rescue teams training. After the Plan is drafted it will be delivered to all national stakeholders/Montenegrin's institution for comments. It is expected that the Plan will be operational in late October 2022.
-

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

- *There is no dolphinaria or captivity in Montenegro.*

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- *Goverment of Montenero proclaimed of 3 MPAs: (i) Nature Park "Platamuni" (April 22, 2021), (ii) Nature Park "Katič" (September 16, 2021) and (iii) Nature Park "Stari Ulcinj" (December 30, 2021). Thus, total cover of the Protected Areas in the Country has been increased for additional 4,764.7 ha. In all 3 areas cetacean species*

are recorded. Boat speed limitations is introduced in II zone of all 3 MPAs as well as restriction for fishery.

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

- *Capacity building regarding standing network establishment (veterinarians, coordination mehanizms)*
- *General protection meassures*
- *Analises of dana on population trends and statuse*

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

- *"Best Practices on cetacean postmortem investigation and tissue sampling resulted from the harmonization process in ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS".*
- Marine mammal necropsy workshop, internationally recognized, is organized annually by the Department of Veterinary Pathology in the University of Liege (Belgium)
- *Cetacean Monitoring workshop - Montenegro, 16-20th of September 2019*

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

MOROCCO

FORMAT DES RAPPORTS NATIONAUX 2020 - 2022

Pays : MAROC

POINT FOCAL NATIONAL, RAPPORTS NATIONAUX, PRINCIPAUX ENJEUX ET BESOINS

A. Détails du point focal national (email, téléphone, adresse)

Prénom Nom : **Abdelali LOUDRHIRI**
Courriel : loudrhiri@mpm.gov.ma
Tel :+212 537 688 277
Adresse : Département de la Pêche Maritime. Direction de la Stratégie et de la Coopération (DSC) BP 476, Agdal. Rabat. Maroc

B. Énumérez les points focaux nationaux (PFN) successifs et la période couverte

De 2014 à 2020 Monsieur Younes AYOUCH
De 2011 à 2014 Madame Zahra ROCHDI
De 2006 à 2011 Monsieur Benabbou Abdelouahed

C. Date de soumission des rapports nationaux (indiquez les années où le rapport a été fourni):

2022

D. Questions spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties. Problème(s) majeur(s), besoins spécifiques ou sujets d'actualité : veuillez fournir des détails sur les problèmes émergents, les menaces ou les difficultés rencontrées et indiquer ce qui devrait être mis en œuvre pour répondre aux problèmes soulevés.

1/ Besoins spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité Scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties :

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. Grace 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.

2/ Recommandations/suggestions pour améliorer l'état de conservation depuis les rapports régionaux du comité scientifique

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 resident 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).

3/ Principaux problèmes ou menaces ou thématiques importantes :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):

(Sujet qui est ou était important pour les cétacés dans la région, et que nécessiterait la considération et une action par le Comité Scientifique. Exemple de sujets : nombre d'échouages exceptionnellement élevé, ou nombre important de prospection sismiques planifiés, ou augmentation des ferry haute vitesse dans la région impliquant des risques accrus de collision, etc.).
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.

SECTION MA - GESTION DE L'ACCORD (MA)

1. *Dates de signature (S), de ratification (R), d'acceptation (AC), d'approbation (AP) ou d'adhésion (AD) à l'ACCOBAMS et autorité compétente..*
   - *01/06/2001, Département de la Pêche Maritime_Direction de la Stratégie et de la Coopération*
2. *Réserves exprimées conformément à l'article XV ou à l'article X de l'Accord*
   - Le Royaume du Maroc a émis sa réserve à la résolution A4.1, concernant l'extension de l'aire géographique d'ACCOBAMS. Cette réserve est mentionnée dans le rapport final de la MOP4.Lors de la MOP 6 tenue à Monaco, le représentant du Maroc a rappelé et confirmé la réserve exprimée par son pays pendant la Quatrième Réunion des Parties en 2010 quant à l'extension de l'aire de l'Accord.

3. *Date d'acceptation, signature, ratification des amendements; si en cours de traitement, veuillez indiquer l'autorité compétente, la procédure et les mesures prises.*

- <u>Amendement à l'annexe 2 de l'Accord sur l'utilisation des filets maillants</u>

Date d'entrée en vigueur: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

Transposition en loi nationale:
- Loi n°19-07 (2010) modifiant et complétant le dahir n°1-73-255 du 23 novembre 1973 formant règlement sur la pêche maritime navire, qui interdit aux navires de la pêche de conserver à bord ou d'utiliser les filets maillants dérivants ;
- Décret n° 2-10-341 du 7 joumada I 1432 (11 avril 2011) pris pour l'application de la loi n° 19-07 modifiant et complétant le dahir portant loi n° 1-73-255 du 27 chaoual 1393 (23 novembre 1973) formant règlement sur la pêche maritime

-

- <u>Extension de la zone geographique de l'ACCOBAMS</u>

Etat du processus de ratification:
Lors de la MOP 6 tenue à Monaco, le représentant du Maroc a rappelé et confirmé la réserve exprimée par son pays pendant la Quatrième Réunion des Parties en 2010 quant à l'extension de l'aire de l'Accord.
Authorité compétente: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

4. *Dérogations autorisées conformément à l'art. II, paragraphe 2 de l'Accord et paragraphe 6 de l'annexe 2*

5. *Définition de la zone marine sous juridiction nationale incluse dans le champ d'application de l'Accord. Veuillez indiquer si des négociations sont en cours avec les pays voisins pour les limites.*

Les eaux marocaines couvertes par l'ACCOBAMS concernent une partie de la Méditerranée et une partie de l'Océan Atlantique adjacent. Le Maroc et l'Espagne ont entamé, en juin 2022, un processus de concertations préalables dans la perspective d'initier des négociations sur la délimitation maritime du côté atlantique entre les deux pays.

1.6. Lister les entités ayant compétence, responsabilité ou intérêt pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez examiner et compléter la liste fournie et décrire leurs activités. Veuillez préciser les mécanismes d'information / communication / coordination avec d'autres entités nationales.

- Organizations intergouvernementales :

- Autorités nationales/services de l'Etat

Ministère des Affaires étrangères, de la coopération africaine et des Marocains résidant à l'étranger (MAECAMRE)
Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche Maritime, du Développement Rural, et des Eaux et Forêts (MAPMDREF)
Ministre de la Transition énergétique et du Développement durable (MTEDD)
Administration de la Défense Nationale (Gendarmerie Royale, Marine Royale..

- Organizations non gouvernementales:

AGIR (Al Hoceima)
GREPOM/BirdLife. Rabat, Maroc

- Instituts de recherche/Universités:

Institut Scientifique de Rabat (IS)
Institut National de la Recherche Halieutique (INRH
Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire
Institut Pasteur de Casablanca
Université Mohamed V
Université Caddi Ayyad
Université Hassan I d'Oujada
Université Hassan II de Casablanca: Facultés des sciences de Ain Chok et de Ben M'sick
Université Abdelmalek Essaidi
Université Chouhaib Doukkali d'Al Jedida
Université Ibn Zohr d'Agadir
Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle de l'Université Mohamed V Agdal-Rabat
Musée d'Histoire Naturelle de Marrakech
Musée d'Histoire Naturelle et Géologique

- Services de secours animalier:

- Dolphinaria:

- Société ou opérateurs Whale-watching:

- Autre:

1.7. Principaux textes législatifs et réglementaires nationaux concernant les cétacés.

Les textes peuvent concerner l'environnement (espèces ou zones protégées, biodiversité et pollution), la pêche, le transport maritime (collision), le tourisme, l'énergie, la pollution, l'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement ou d'autres sujets dans la mesure où ils peuvent concerner les cétacés. Indiquez la date, le titre, l'autorité responsable et le lien. Ajoutez une brève description ou citez les articles ou sections pertinents relatifs aux cétacés.

Date 12/05/2003 Titre Loi n°11-03 relative à la protection et la mise en valeur de l'environnement Autorité Département du Développement Durable

Date 19 août 2010 Titre Dahir portant promulgation de la loi n° 22-07 relative aux aires protégées. Autorité. Département du Développement Durable
Date 12/10/2010 Titre Loi N° 19-07 qui interdit l'utilisation du filet maillant dérivant Autorité Département de la Pêche Maritime
Date 06/03/2014 Titre Loi-cadre n° 99-12 portant Charte Nationale de l'Environnement Autorité Département du Développement Durable
Date 16/08/2015 Titre Loi n° 81-12 relative au littoral Autorité Département du Développent Durable
Date 13 mars 2019 Titre Arrêté du Ministre de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche Maritime, du développement Rural et des Eaux et Forêts relatif à l'interdiction temporaire de pêche dans certaines zones maritimes de la méditerranée Autorité Département de la Pêche Maritime Date 13 mars 2019 Titre Arrêté du Ministre de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche Maritime, du développement Rural et des Eaux et Forêts… relatif à l'interdiction temporaire de pêche des phoques moines et autres mammifères marins ainsi que de certaines autres espèces marines Autorité Département de la Pêche Maritime

- Date 15 juillet 2019 Arrêté n° 2271-19 relatif à l'interdiction temporaire de pêche des mammifères marins et des tortues marines Autorité Département de la Pêche Maritime .

Date 27 avril 2020 Décret n° 2-19-721 portant création de la commission nationale de changements climatiques et de la diversité biologique Autorité Ministre de la Transition énergétique et du Développement durable.
Date 27 octobre 2020 Décret n°2-20-710 fixant les conditions et les modalités de délivrance des autorisations de recherche scientifique marine dans les eaux sous juridiction nationale Autorité Département de la Pêche Maritime
Date 2 novembre 2020 Décret n°2-20-582 interdisant, dans certaines zones maritimes de la Méditerranée, l'emploi du chalut de fond aux navires de pêche dont la jauge brute est supérieure à quinze (15) unités de jauge Autorité Département de la Pêche Maritime

1.8. Fonds réservés ou affectés à la recherche, au suivi et à la gestion des cétacés (y compris financement national, projets internationaux, régionaux ou sous-régionaux)

Développement en cours par l'INRH d'un programme de suivi scientifique sur les interactions entre le Grand dauphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) et les senneurs de la Méditerranée. Ce programme tente de comprendre le comportement de ce Dauphin et par conséquent essayer de limiter l'impact négatif des attaques de ce Cétacé sur l'activité de pêche tout en préservant ce cétacé marin. Dans ce cadre le Maroc a affecté un budget de 2,5 millions de dirham pour la fabrication et l'expérimentation d'une senne renforcée pouvant résister aux attaques du Grand Dauphin.

1.9. Conventions, commissions et accords internationaux ou régionaux pertinents auxquels le pays est Partie.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptation**	**Entrée en vigueur**	**Commentaires**
Accord des Nations Unies sur les stocks de poissons (1995)	04/12/1995	19/09/2012		19/10/2012	
Accord sur la conservation des petits cétacés de la mer Baltique et de la mer du Nord (ASCOBANS)					
Annexe V concernant la protection et la conservation des écosystèmes et de la diversité biologique de l'espace maritime Convention OSPAR)					
Convention de Barcelone (1976)	16/02/1976	15/01/1980		06/01/2005	

Convention sur la diversité biologique (Rio, 1992)	13/06/1992	21/08/1995		19/11/1995	
La Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction (CITES - Washington, 1973)		16/10/1975		14/01/1976	
Convention relative à la conservation de la vie sauvage et du milieu naturel de l'Europe (Berne, 1979)					
Convention de Bonn (CMS, Bonn, 1979)		28/05/1993		01/11/1993	
Convention sur la protection de la mer Noire (Bucharest Convention)					
Commission Général des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM)	17/09/1956	12/09/2012		20/05/2014	
Commission internationale pour l'exploration scientifique de la Méditerranée (CIESM)		12/07/2006			
Convention internationale pour la règlementation de la chasse à la baleine (Washington, 1946)		02/02/2001		12/02/2001	
Convention OSPAR pour la protection de l'environnement marin de l'Atlantique nord-est					
Convention des Nations unies sur le droit de la mer (Montego Bay, 1982)	12/12/1982		31/05/2007	30/06/2007	

1.10. Accords de pêche bilatéraux ou multilatéraux concernant le domaine de l'Accord (tels que CGPM, ICCAT, accords de pêche spécifiques avec l'Union européenne ; fournissez les informations pertinentes comme la date de signature, la durée, la zone concernée, les mesures)

- **Coopération Bilatérale :**

- **Accords avec possibilités d'accès à la ressource**

Dans cette catégorie, deux accords sont actuellement en vigueur avec le Japon et avec la Fédération de Russie. Les anciens accords de pêche avec l'Union Européenne comptaient dans cette catégorie.
Ces accords qui offrent des possibilités de pêche aux bateaux des pays concernés dans les eaux marocaines le long de la côte Atlantique depuis le détroit de Gibraltar jusqu'à la frontière avec la Mauritanie (la Méditerranée est de plus en plus exclut des cadres de coopération en raison de la nature d'exploitation artisanale au profit des populations locales et de la fragilité de son éco-système), font bénéficier le Maroc d'une contrepartie financière pour l'Etat, des financements consistants pour le développement du secteur de la pêche, d'actions diverses de coopération technique, ainsi que des possibilités d'emploi – encadrement pour les marins marocains.

Les accords actuellement en vigueur accordent des possibilités de pêche des thonidés pour une flotte palangrière japonaise et de pêche des petits pélagiques aux chalutiers russes.

- **Accords sans possibilités d'accès à la ressource**

En vue de faire rayonner l'image de marque du secteur halieutique du Maroc et partager ses expériences et savoir-faire acquis, le Maroc a établi plusieurs conventions (accords, de protocoles et de mémorandums d'entente) avec des pays amis. La mise en œuvre de ces instruments de coopération permet de promouvoir la coopération dans les domaines de la recherche scientifique et technique, la formation maritime, la valorisation et la commercialisation des produits de la mer, la gestion et le contrôle des activités de pêche. De même, ces Conventions encouragent le partenariat entre les professionnels de la pêche et la concertation au niveau des instances internationales et régionales chargées des questions de la pêche et des ressources marines. Ces accords sont répartis géographiquement comme suit :

  - **Avec les pays africains**

    Le Maroc accorde une grande importance à la coopération halieutique avec l'Afrique notamment celle de l'ouest. Dans ce sens, des conventions de coopération sont établies avec les pays africains suivants : le Sénégal, le Gabon, la Guinée, la Guinée équatoriale, le Congo, le Congo Démocratique, la Côte d'ivoire, le Nigeria, le Ghana, l'Angola et le Cap Vert. Dans le cadre de ces Conventions, les pays africains bénéficient de plusieurs opportunités de coopération halieutique. Aussi, le Maroc est la destination la plus prisée pour la formation maritime pour la qualité de l'enseignement maritime dispensée dans les établissements marocains spécialisés et l'adaptation de la formation au contexte local.

    Les pays signataires de ces Accords et Conventions bénéficient également de l'expertise marocaine dans les domaines de la recherche scientifique et technique, la valorisation des produits de la mer, la normalisation et le contrôle de qualité, la surveillance et le contrôle des activités de pêche.

  - **Avec les pays arabes et islamiques**

    Le Maroc a établi huit conventions de coopération bilatérale en matière de pêches maritimes avec des pays arabes et islamiques, à savoir la Mauritanie, la Tunisie, l'Egypte, le Yémen, la Libye, l'Iran, le Qatar, les Emirates Arabes Unies et le Koweit.

    La coopération halieutique avec ces pays permet à notre pays de partager son savoir faire et son expérience dans le domaine des pêches maritimes avec ces pays.

  - **Avec les pays de l'Asie et de l'Amérique latine**

    Malgré les contraintes géographique et linguistique, le Maroc a pu établir des accords de coopération avec des pays amis en Asie et en Amérique latine ayant une vocation maritime confirmée, à savoir, le Vietnam, l'Argentine, le Pérou, le Chili, la Croatie et l'Ukraine. Ces accords permettent au secteur national des pêches maritimes de s'ouvrir sur d'autres horizons et être mieux informé sur des technologies et des pratiques nouvelles en matière d'aquaculture, d'exploitation, de commercialisation et de valorisation des produits de la mer.

- **UE :** Le Maroc et l'Union européenne (UE) sont liés par un accord d'association signé en 1996 et entré en vigueur en 2000. En octobre 2008, sous présidence française de l'UE, le Maroc s'est vu reconnaître un « statut avancé ». Ce statut, qui s'inscrit dans le cadre établi par l'accord d'association de 2000, vise à un approfondissement des relations politiques, une intégration au marché intérieur par un rapprochement réglementaire, une coopération sectorielle et une dimension humaine. Entré en vigueur le 28 février 2007 pour une période de quatre ans, cet accord a été tacitement reconduit du 28 février 2011 au 27 février 2015. Il prévoit un programme de coopération visant à soutenir la politique de pêche sectorielle mise en œuvre par le Royaume Maroc afin de promouvoir l'exploitation durable de ses ressources halieutiques. Cet accord a été reconduit en 2019 en vertu duquel, les deux parties s'engagent à développer la pêche durable dans la zone de pêche sur la base du principe de la non-discrimination entre les différentes flottes présentes dans ces eaux. La troisième Commission mixte de l'Accord de partenariat dans le domaine de la pêche durable entre l'Union européenne et le Royaume du Maroc s'est réunie les 11 et 12 novembre 2021. Au cours de cette Commission mixte, les parties ont passé en revue l'activité et l'utilisation des possibilités de pêche au terme de la deuxième année du protocole. Les parties ont également examiné l'état d'avancement des projets mis en œuvre dans le cadre de l'appui de l'Union européenne au

développement et à la mise en œuvre de la stratégie marocaine de développement du secteur de la pêche.

- **Russie :** adopté par le gouvernement marocain en 2016, c'est un accord qui prévoit des programmes de coopération dans différents domaines, notamment la planification et l'organisation de campagnes de recherches scientifiques nécessaires pour la conservation et l'exploitation rationnelle des ressources halieutiques, ainsi que la coopération dans le domaine des techniques et technologies de pêche, des technologies de traitement du poisson et du développement de l'aquaculture. Pour sa part, la partie russe s'engage, en vertu de cet accord, à accueillir à bord des navires de pêche russes des observateurs scientifiques, ainsi qu'à embarquer des marins marocains en vue de les employer.

Le Royaume du Maroc et la Fédération de Russie ont signé un nouvel accord de coopération en matière des pêches maritimes. Ce nouvel accord remplace celui de 2016 qui a expiré en mars 2020. Ce nouvel accord, d'une durée de 4 ans, est le 8e du genre depuis 1992. Il établit le cadre juridique permettant à une flotte de 10 navires russes de pêcher des espèces de petits pélagiques dans les eaux marocaines au-delà de 15 miles nautiques. Il prévoit également une coopération scientifique et technique pour le suivi de l'écosystème pélagique dans les eaux marocaines entre l'institut national de recherche halieutique et son homologue russe. De même, il permet à des étudiants marocains de bénéficier de bourses de formation dans les établissements russes spécialisés dans la pêche maritime.

- En plus de ces accords, d'autres accords ont été conclus entre le Maroc et plusieurs pays africains et autres, notamment. -Tunisie : 1992 - Egypte : 1995 - Turquie : 2002.

- Convention signée le 11 mars 2021 entre le Maroc et la Mauritanie. Elle intéresse la pêche maritime et l'aquaculture. Elle vise à instaurer les bases et dispositions régissant la coopération entre les deux parties dans ce domaine, ainsi que la formation maritime, la recherche scientifique, l'industrie de valorisation, de transformation et de commercialisation des produits de pêche et la lutte contre la pêche INN.

- **Coopération Multilatérale :**

- Sur le plan multilatéral, le Maroc via le Département de la Pêche Maritime participe aux travaux et aux réunions des différents organismes régionaux et organisations internationales et assure régulièrement le suivi des consultations techniques, négociations d'accords multilatéraux et des questions pertinentes liées à l'application des accords et conventions qui y sont débattues.
Il s'agit de :
    - Convention Internationale de 1982 sur le droit de la mer (UNCLOS) : Le DPM prend part aux réunions qui concernent les thèmes mentionnés ci-dessous :
    - Convention des Nations Unies sur le Droit de la Mer et les Accords y relatifs
    - Convention sur le Droit de la Mer,
    - Accord de 1995 sur les stocks de poisson,
    - Réunions des Etats Parties
    - Organismes établis par la Convention
    - Commission des limites du plateau continental,
    - L'autorité internationale des fonds marins,
    - Le tribunal international du droit de la Mer

- **FAO :**

Le Département de la pêche maritime prend part aux différentes réunions du :

- Comité des Pêches (COFI) et ses organes subsidiaires : Sous- Comité de l'Aquaculture, Sous-comité du Commerce du poisson,
- Consultations techniques (Pêche Artisanale, Régime foncier appliqué aux pêches, INN, Sécurité alimentaire……)
- Commission Générale des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM),
- Comité des Pêches pour l'Atlantique Centre-Est (COPACE)

- Centre d'Information et de Conseil sur la Commercialisation des Produits de la pêche dans la Région Arabe (INFOSAMAK) qui regroupe les pays arabes signataires, dont le siège se trouve à Casablanca), et ;
- Organisation Intergouvernementale d'Information et de Coopération pour la Commercialisation des Produits de la Pêche en Afrique (Infopêche) qui regroupe 11 pays africains dont le siège est à Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire).
- Ces deux organisations (INFOSAMAK et INFOPECHE) font partie du réseau mondial d'information GLOBFISH mis en place par la FAO pour permettre principalement l'échange des informations sur le commerce des produits de la mer.

- **OMI**

En tant qu'institution spécialisée des Nations Unies, l'Organisation Maritime Internationale dont le siège est à Londres, est une organisation technique qui compte actuellement 166 Etats membres.
L'OMI a pour mandat de garantir la sécurité, la sûreté et le respect de l'environnement. Pour ce faire, l'OMI poursuit ce mandat en adoptant des règles et normes maritimes, assurant l'efficacité de la navigation ainsi que la prévention et le contrôle de la pollution imputable aux navires. L'OMI étudie les questions de droit qui s'y rattachent et donne effet aux instruments y afférents, en vue de leur application universelle et uniforme.
La plupart de ses travaux sont effectués à travers l'Assemblée, le Conseil et un certain nombre de comités et sous-comités, dont notamment le Comité de la Sécurité Maritime (MSC), le Comité de la Protection du Milieu Marin (MEPC), le Comité Juridique, le Comité de la Coopération Technique et le Comité de la Simplification des Formalités.

- **Mission de sauvetage maritime dans la région Nord et Ouest africaine confiée au Maroc (Accord multilatéral)** *

Les pays de la région Nord et Ouest africaine ont convenu de lancer les activités de la Mission de recherche et de sauvetage maritime dans la région allant du Maroc à la Guinée-Bissau, en vertu d'un accord multilatéral signé, le 03 mars 2011, à Rabat, en présence des chefs des délégations des pays concernés.
Cet accord qui donne effectivité à la Convention internationale de 1979 sur la recherche et le sauvetage maritimes et à la résolution N1 de la Conférence de Florence de 2000 confiant au Maroc la Mission de coordination du sauvetage des vies humaines en mer dans la région Ouest africaine, a été signé par le Ministre de l'Agriculture et de la pêche maritime et les représentants de Gambie, de Guinée Bissau, du Cap Vert et de Mauritanie.

- **Organisation Internationale du Travail (OIT)**

Créée en 1919, pour contribuer à la restructuration et le rétablissement de la société internationale fragilisée par les effets dévastateurs de la Première Guerre Mondiale, l'Organisation Internationale du Travail est devenue la première institution spécialisée des Nations Unies.
Outre son rôle de premier ordre dans l'édification d'un environnement socio-économique prospère, juste, non discriminatoire et adaptable aux mutations internationales, l'OIT a la particularité d'être dotée d'un mécanisme de prise de décision collectif et démocratique, qui implique les trois principaux acteurs du marché de travail, en l'occurrence le Gouvernement, les employeurs et les syndicats.
L'OIT a également l'atout d'être parmi les rares organisations internationales dotées d'un système de vérification d'application des normes de travail rigoureux et transparent. En effet, les Etats membres sont invités à rendre compte, régulièrement, sur les mesures prises en matière d'adaptation de leurs lois internes aux Conventions internationales de travail, et le cas échéant fournir des explications sur les causes qui les empêchent de se conformer aux règles de ces Conventions.
Au cours de la dernière décennie, l'OIT a activement œuvré en faveur d'un « travail décent » axé, en particulier, sur la protection des travailleurs contre les effets pervers de la mondialisation et l'amélioration de leur qualité de vie, tout en faisant siennes les Objectifs du Développement du Millénaire.

- **ICCAT :** le Département de la Pêche Maritime prend part aux réunions de la Commission Internationale pour la Conservation des Thonidés de l'Atlantique, qui regroupe 47 pays et dont le siège est à Madrid.

- **CBI :** La Commission Baleinière Internationale (CBI) a été créée par la Convention de Washington pour la réglementation de la Chasse à la Baleine en 1946, dans un contexte de surexploitation des grands cétacés. La CBI s'est donnée progressivement pour mission la conservation des baleines. La CBI compte actuellement 78 pays contractants.

- **ACCOBAMS** : L'objectif de cette organisation est la conservation des Cétacés et des baleines en Mer noire, en Méditerranée et en Zone Atlantique Adjacente. Le Maroc a assuré la présidence de cette organisation pour la période allant de 2013 à 2016.

- **OMC :** Le DPM participe aux consultations relatives aux subventions aux pêcheries et groupe de travail sur les mesures compensatoire et de sauvegarde.
L'Organisation Mondiale du Commerce (OMC) a été créée le 1er janvier 1995, suite à l'entrée en vigueur de l'Accord de Marrakech conclu le 15 avril 1994. Elle a succédé à l'Accord Général sur les tarifs douaniers et le commerce (GATT), survenu au lendemain de la seconde guerre mondiale. L'OMC est la seule Organisation Internationale, qui s'occupe des règles régissant le commerce entre les pays. Elle sert de cadre institutionnel commun pour la conduite des relations commerciales entre ses Membres, par le biais des Accords et instruments juridiques repris dans les Annexes de l'Accord de Marrakech, conclu à l'issue du Cycle d'Uruguay (1986-1994), le plus important des huit cycles de négociation.

- **CITES :** La Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction, dite CITES, ou Convention de Washington a pour objectif de garantir que le commerce international des espèces inscrites dans ses annexes, ainsi que des parties et produits qui en sont issus, ne nuit pas à la conservation de la biodiversité et repose sur une utilisation durable des espèces sauvages. Le DPM participe aux réunions du comité des animaux qui traite des espèces marines.

- **COMHAFAT :** La Conférence ministérielle sur la Coopération halieutique entre les Etats africains riverains de l'océan Atlantique, a tenu sa première session à Rabat en Mai 1989. Elle a permis de réunir, pour la première fois sur le continent africain, 22 Ministres chargés des pêches des Etats situés sur la côte atlantique s'étendant du Maroc à la Namibie. La Conférence a pour base juridique la Convention régionale adoptée à Dakar en 1991 et qui est entrée en vigueur en 1995. Le Directeur Général de la FAO est le dépositaire de cette Convention. Il convient de signaler que le Maroc qui a été à l'origine de la création de la Conférence a signé et ratifié cette Convention. La convention régionale relative à la coopération halieutique entre les Etats africains riverains de l'océan Atlantique a pour objectifs généraux de promouvoir une coopération active et structurée en matière d'aménagement et de développement des pêches dans la région, relever le défi de l'autosuffisance alimentaire par une utilisation rationnelle des ressources halieutiques.

- **UMA :** Dans le cadre de l'UMA un groupe de travail sur les ressources halieutiques et la pêche maritime a été institué conformément aux recommandations de la Commission Ministérielle chargée de la Sécurité Alimentaire. Ce groupe de travail a pour objectif d'examiner l'état d'avancement des recommandations formulées par les sessions ministérielles et d'actualiser les projets et dynamiser les actions qui visent le renforcement de la coopération halieutique entre les pays de l'UMA.

- **MEDPAN :** L'objectif du réseau est d'améliorer l'efficacité de gestion des Aires Marines Protégées en Méditerranée. Le réseau MedPAN regroupe à ce jour plus de 50 membres, principalement des organismes de gestion d'Aires Marines Protégées de tout le bassin méditerranéen, et 27 partenaires désireux de contribuer à la création et au renforcement du réseau. Ces acteurs gèrent plus de 80 Aires Marines Protégées dans 18 pays méditerranéens. Le réseau existe depuis 1990. Il est animé depuis 2010 par l'association MedPAN, une structure pérenne avec des financements propres créée à la fin 2008.

- **Convention de Barcelone** : le Maroc est membre de cette convention qui regroupe les pays de la Méditerranée. La convention de Barcelone de 1976, amendée en 1995, et les protocoles élaborés dans le cadre de cette convention visent à protéger l'environnement marin et côtier de la Méditerranée tout en encourageant des plans régionaux et nationaux contribuant au développement durable. Les 22 Parties

contractantes à la convention prennent, individuellement ou conjointement, toutes les mesures nécessaires pour protéger et améliorer le milieu marin dans la zone de la mer Méditerranée en vue de contribuer à son développement durable. Pour atteindre cet objectif, les Parties s'engagent à réduire, à combattre et, dans toute la mesure du possible, à éliminer la pollution dans cette zone.

SECTION CA : ACTIONS DE CONSERVATION POUR LES CETACES (CA)

2.1: CA-1 - RECHERCHE ET SURVEILLANCE

2.1. Liste des cétacés signalés dans la zone de l'Accord sous la juridiction du pays : Méditerranée marocaine et zone atlantique adjacente (telle que définie à l'article I, paragraphe 3 f de l'Accord).
Légende: "C": Commun, "R": Rare, "O": Occasionnel

Nom scientifique	Nom français	C	R	O	Commentaires
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Marsouin commun		X		
DELPHINIDAE					
Grampus griseus	Dauphin de Risso		X		
Tursiops truncatus	Grand dauphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Dauphin bleu et blanc	X			
Delphinus delphis	Dauphin commun	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	Pseudorque			X	
Orcinus orca	Orque	X			
Globicephala melas	Globicéphale noir		X		
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris *Mesoplodon europaeus*	Baleine à bec de Blainville Baleine à bec de Gervais			X X	
Ziphius cavirostris	Baleine à bec de Cuvier	X			
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Cachalot		X		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus *Kogia breviceps*	Cachalot nain Cachalot pygmée			X x	
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Baleine franche de l'Atlantique nord				Localement éteinte
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Petit rorqual	X			
Balaenoptera borealis *Balaenoptera edeni* *Balaenoptera musculus*	Rorqual boreal Rorqual de Bryde Rorqual bleu			X X x	
Balaenoptera physalus	Rorqual commun	X			
Megaptera novaeangliae	Baleine à bosse			X	

2.2. Liste et description des programmes et des projets de recherche concernant les cétacés, en tenant compte des activités nationales, bilatérales et multilatérales.
Veuillez fournir des informations sur les programmes et projets couvrant notamment les thèmes suivants :

Amélioration des connaissances sur l'état des cétacés (estimations et répartition des populations de cétacés, structure de la population, surveillance de l'état des cétacés, réseaux d'échouage fonctionnels et réponses aux situations d'urgence, etc.)

- *Les populations du grand dauphin de certaines zones de la Méditerranée sont actuellement suivies et étudiées*

Réduction des pressions humaines sur les cétacés (Interactions avec la pêche / aquaculture, Bruit anthropique sous-marin, Collisions avec les navires, Observation des cétacés, Débris marins, Pollution chimique et biologique, Changement climatique, Problèmes liés à la captivité)

- Le projet Med Bycatch, « Comprendre les «prises accessoires» de multiples taxons d'espèces vulnérables en Méditerranée et essai de méthodes d'atténuation - une approche collaborative qui vise à combler les lacunes existantes en matière de connaissances relatives aux captures accidentelles d'espèces vulnérables lors d'opérations de pêche en Méditerranée, à soutenir les essais de mesures de réduction de ces captures et fournir des éléments pour la formulation de stratégies nationales/régionales visant à réduire les captures accidentelles et à soutenir la durabilité des pêcheries.

- Un projet intitulé : « Suivi des rejets en mer et des prises accidentelles des espèces vulnérables » a été lancé officiellement au Maroc en fin 2018, pour une durée de 2 ans. Il est mené par l'INRH en collaboration avec des partenaires internationaux à savoir : CGPM, ACCOBAMS, BirdLife International, l'ONG GREPOM, MEDASSET, UNEP/MAP-RAC/SPA et UICN et des partenaires nationaux (Associations des pêcheurs, Délégations des Pêches, Chambres Maritimes…).

- **Projet MedBycatch phase 1 (2019-2020), les résultats sont en cours de publication fin 2022 :** La mise en œuvre du projet a impliqué un programme d'observation scientifique à bord des navires de pêche au niveau de 4 ports de la Méditerranée (Tanger, M'diq, Hoceima et Nador), selon une méthodologie harmonisée à l'échelle régionale « Monitoring incidental catch of vulnerable species in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea : methodology for data collection » 1 , ainsi que des activités de formation, de sensibilisation, d'identification et de test de mesures de réduction de ces captures accidentelles.

- **Projet MedBycatch phase 2 :** Le projet MedBycatch phase 2 étalé sur une période de deux ans (2020-2022) et s'appuyant sur les complémentarités des mandats respectifs des partenaires, le projet vise à combler les lacunes existantes en matière de connaissances relatives aux captures accidentelles d'espèces vulnérables lors d'opérations de pêche en Méditerranée, à soutenir les essais de mesures de réduction de ces captures et fournir des éléments pour la formulation de stratégies nationales/régionales visant à réduire les captures accidentelles et à soutenir la durabilité des pêcheries.
- P**our le Maroc ,** la préparation de la stratégie nationale pour limiter les impacts de la pêche sur les espèces vulnérables progresse. En effet, un premier draft a été préparé par le consultant de l'ACCOBAMS. Il comprent le diagnostic détaillé de la situation et la partie plus opérationnelle de la stratégie.
- La phase relative à la consultation avec les parties prenantes a été achevée et la planification de l'atelier national de présentation de la stratégie est en cours de programmation.
- Depuis janvier 2022, une nouvelle approche de déclaration des observations des espèces vulnérable (mammiféres marins, tortues marines et requins protègés) a été instaurée, impliquant deux actions :

1. Intégration du système d'observation des espèces vulnérables dans tous les programmes scientifiques de surveillance et de suivi de l'INRH (campagnes en mer, échantillonnage biologique, embarquements à bord des bateaux de pêche, campagnes littorales, suivi zoosanitaire, suivi des activités aquacoles).
2. Suivi et évaluation des captures accidentelles des groupes d'espèces concernées par l'ensemble des pêcheries à travers un système d'enquêtes, les marins pêcheurs remplissent des questionnaires

régulièrement pour déclarer les captures accidentelles en espèces vulnérables (tortues marines inclus) ou même leur présence autour de la zone de pêche.

Conservation des habitats des cétacés

Sensibilisation du public aux cétacés (Information /Communication / Sensibilisation aux cétacés)

-
- L'INRH et le Département des pêches ont organisé des réunions d'information et de sensiblisation sur les espèces vulnèrables au profit des intervenants dans le secteur de la pêche
- L'INRH élabore un constat d'échouage relatif à chaque événement qui est transmis aux acteurs étatiques concernés. Ce constat comporte les informations essentielles relatives à l'échouage et complète les procès verbaux ou documents assimilé établis par les différents intervenants.
- L'INRH diffuse l'information sur les différents échouages signalés à travers son site web https://observatoire-halieutique.ma/
- L'exécusion de ce projet MedBycatch au Maroc consiste en des programmes d'observation sur le terrain ainsi que des activités de formation, de sensibilisation et d'identification et test des mesures de réduction de ces captures accidentelles.
- Il est mis en œuvre par l'INRH et par l'ONG GREPOM (Groupe de recherche pour la protection des Oiseaux du Maroc- Birdlife Maroc).
- ale cadre du plan d'action de ce projet, l'ONG GREPOM et l'INRH ont organisé en 2020 une exposition de posters illustrant la vie marine et la biodiversité au Maroc , notamment celle relative aux cétacés et ce au sein des délégations des pêches maritimes de Tanger, M'Diq, Al Hoceima et Nador.

Tout autre projet pertinent

2.3. **Échouage de cétacés**

Le pays a-t-il mis en place un réseau de suivi des échouages ? Si non, s'il vous plaît précisez pourquoi? Si oui, veuillez indiquer le nom, les contacts et un lien vers la base de données. Envoyez-vous des données à la base de données MEDACES? Pour les rapports et les publications, veuillez fournir des références et des liens dans l'Annexe 1.

Au Maroc, le suivi des échouages est une activité régalienne de l'INRH qui apporte appui et savoir-faire aux autorités publiques pour la gestion des échouages. Conscients des déficiences, l'INRH s'est engagé dans un processus d'amélioration de cette activité.

En 2015 une impulsion a été donnée pour une meilleure structuration des activités de suivi des échouages. Différentes actions ont été menées depuis afin de clarifier le rôle des intervenants étatiques dans la gestion des échouages. L'organisation de cette activité au sein de l'INRH a été revue, et une procédure INRH dédiée à la gestion des échouages a été mise en place. Un effort particulier a été fait pour l'information des parties prenantes sur l'intérêt que représentent les échouages pour la science d'une part, et sur la gestion des risques sanitaires qui y sont associés. Ladite procédure prévoit l'intervention à distance en collaboration avec des partenaires étatiques.

Dans ce cadre, un processus de concertation a été lancé avec les institutions étatiques impliquées dans la gestion des échouages et l'absence de cadre juridique qui puisse prendre en compte les spécificités des échouages a été identifiée comme une déficience majeure.

L'approche de concertation choisie pour mener à bien les débats sur ce sujet a reçu l'approbation des parties prenantes qui se sont déclarées prêtes à s'engager dans la poursuite de ces concertations afin de statuer de manière concertée sur le choix des instruments juridiques pouvant encadrer formellement la gestion des échouages.

La période connue par l'expansion de la pandémie du COVID a retardé cette réflexion sur la formalisation et donc l'élaboration d'un instrument juridique cadrant des activités relatives aux échouages

Mais toujours est-il que l'INRH en concertation avec les différentes institutions étatiques concernées par les échouages des cétacés travaillent conjointement moyennent des méthodes procédurales et arrivent à intervenir en temps opportun et à constituer une base statistique fiable quant aux espèces échouées.

En effet, le suivi des échouages des espèces marines protégées le long des côtes marocaines fait partie des activités des équipes de l'Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH), qui interviennent en collaboration avec les représentants des autorités publiques et des forces de l'ordre à chaque fois que l'information leur est transmise.
Cette activité est structurée au sein de l'INRH en un Réseau de Suivi des Echouages (RSE), composé d'équipes de scientifiques des six Centres Régionaux de l'INRH, avec des points focaux régionaux. La coordination des actions est assurée à partir Centre Régional de l'INRH à Casablanca.
Grace cette concertation en plus du partenariat avec l'ACCOBAMS, l'idée du réseau de suivi des échouages de l'INRH a pu progresser sur de nombreux points :
- Mise en place de procédures normalisées dans la gestion des échouages et la gestion des risques associés,
- Vulgarisation et diffusion aux partenaires institutionnels,
- formation des scientifiques impliqués dans la gestion des échouages,
- mise en place des fondamentaux pour la création d'une banque de tissus,

Dans un souci d'amélioration de la qualité des interventions et en vue de mettre en place un Réseau National des Echouages (RNE), une analyse critique du processus de gestion des échouages des espèces marines protégées au Maroc a été menée par l'INRH en 2018 .
Aussi, un guide d a été élaboré sur la base de retour d'expérience des intervenants sur le terrain, il décrit les règles de gestion des échouages des espèces marines protégées sur les côtes marocaines, depuis l'alerte jusqu'au retour de l'information. Le guide en question contient des procédures de gestion des échouages qui s'adressent aux institutions étatiques dont les représentants se retrouvent sur le théâtre des échouages.
Enfin et en vue de transmettre l'information et constituer une base de données notamment sur les échouages, l'Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH), a mis en place un Observatoire Halieutique Marocain (observatoire-halieutique.ma) basé sur l'exploitation et la valorisation des données issues des réseaux de surveillance scientifique des ressources dont le réseau de suivi des échouages.
Des informations sur l'espèce échouée, le sexe, les mensurations ainsi que d'autres observations sur le lieu de l'échouage, l'intégrité de l'animal…sont mentionnées dans la rubrique « alerte environnementale » de l'Observatoire.

2.4. Liste rouge des cétacés au niveau national ou régional utilisant la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN. Votre pays a-t-il développé ou participé à l'évaluation des cétacés dans vos eaux nationales ou au niveau régional? Si oui, veuillez décrire et fournir un résumé des résultats ou des liens vers des rapports et des publications. Si la loi exige l'utilisation de la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN, veuillez citer le texte juridique ou les articles pertinents.

- Participation à l'ACCOBAMS SURVEY INITIATIVE (ASI)
- Memorandum Cadre de Cooperation UICN-Med- Le Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification (HCEFLCD) pour la conservation de la nature.

2.5. Existence ou préparation de plans de gestion pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez fournir toute information pertinente

- Le Plan National de conservation des cétacés est en cours d'actualisation

2.2: CA-2: MESURES DE GESTION POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CETACÉS

Mesures de gestion ou de conservation introduites pour atteindre et maintenir un état de conservation favorable pour les cétacés et réduire les menaces potentielles, conformément aux résolutions d'ACCOBAMS.

2.2.1. Interaction avec les pêcheries. Veuillez fournir des informations sur les interactions existantes ou potentielles entre pêcheries et cétacés ou cétacés et pêcheries (texte et / ou tableau). En particulier, précisez les interactions avec les techniques suivantes: filets maillants, filets à senne coulissante, filets dérivants, palangres de surface ou autres, en indiquant les espèces et le nombre d'animaux capturés ou qui se prennent dans les filets et en précisant les mesures de gestion existantes ou prévues

- Les interactions entre les cétacés et l'activité de la pêche sardinière, constituent un vrai fléau à l'encontre du développement de ce secteur de pêche au Maroc. Ces interactions qui se manifestent par les attaques causées par le grand dauphin «Tursiops truncatus» entraînent d'une part, de lourdes pertes économiques en captures, et/ou en réparation d'engins de pêche et d'autre part, expose les populations de cette espèce vulnérable de cétacés à des dangers majeurs, notamment leur prise accidentelle dans la

senne tournante. C'est pour cette raison que le Maroc œuvre activement à accentuer davantage le travail conjoint avec l'ACCOBAMS afin de concilier la protection des cétacés avec la préservation des intérêts socio-économiques de la communauté des pêcheurs.

- Dans ce cadre, le Maroc a lancé conjointement avec l'ACCOBAMS, plusieurs projets visant à atténuer les interactions négatives entre les espèces marines menacées et les activités de pêche notamment le projet conjoint ACCOBAMS-CGPM .
- Dans ce cadre, plusieurs solutions d'atténuation des effets négatifs de la déprédation ont été discutées notamment (i) une adaptation du filet de pêche et (ii) l'éloignement des dauphins par des répulsifs acoustiques.
- L'utilisation des différents dispositifs acoustiques n'a pas donné satisfaction et un projet de renforcement de la senne pour atténuer les attaques du grand dauphin a été lancé.
- En effet, l'INRH a expérimenté un nouveau prototype de senne plus résistante aux attaques du Grand Dauphin.
- La performance de cette senne renforcée a été évaluée selon deux critères : l'efficacité de pêche et la résistance aux attaques du grand dauphin (par le nombre moyen de déchirures par marée et leur taille).
- Ces deux paramètres sont calculés pour le senne renforcée, et sont comparés avec les données collectées pour les senneurs opérant avec des sennes ordinaires au cours de la même période. Les résultats de l'expérimentation de la senne renforcée testée à bord de senneurs opérant à partir des ports d'Al Hoceima et de M'diq de juillet 2018 à décembre 2020 indiquent que la senne renforcée présente une meilleure efficacité de pêche, une meilleure résistance aux attaques par le grand dauphin et un coût de réparation moins élevé que la senne ordinaire.
- En plus de l'expérimentation de la senne renforcée, l'INRH a initié un projet de recherche visant la compréhension et l'analyse du comportement du grand dauphin en Méditerranée marocaine, avec l'appui de l'ACCOBAMS, dont l'activité phare est la photo identification. Ce projet s'effectue entre 2020 et 2022.
- En conclusion sur ce point, les résultats de l'expérimentation de la senne renforcée montrent que cette senne pourrait présenter une bonne solution technique face au problème de l'interaction entre les senneurs et le grand dauphin. Cette senne est plus rigide aux attaques et son coût de réparation est moins élevé que la senne ordinaire utilisée par les senneurs de la Méditerranée marocaine. En plus, cette senne renforcée présente une meilleure efficacité de pêche ce qui la rend économiquement plus rentable que la senne ordinaire.
- Le Maroc vise à élargir l'utilisation de cette scène renforcée pour acceuillir plus de résultats pouvant reconforter l'efficacité et l'efficience de ladite scène.

- Le programme d'observation scientifique à bord des navires de pêche (chalutiers , palangriers et senneurs) au niveau de 4 ports de la Méditerranée (Tanger, M'diq, Hoceima et Nador) entre mars 2019 et mars 2020 fait ressortir ce qui suit : l'observation a concerné 909 jours en mer et 1890 questionnaires remplis auprès des pêcheurs. Bien que les taux de captures des élasmobranches soient faibles (0.18 %, pour les chalutiers et 0.11 pour les palangriers), ils représentent le taxa vulnérables le plus capturé (95 %) pour l'ensemble des techniques de pêche, viennent après les cétacés avec 0.16 % (12 dauphins communs) et les tortues marines avec 0.01 % (6 tortues caouannes) par rapport aux autres taxa vulnérables. Tous les individus de mammifère marins (Delphinus delphus) ont été relâchés vivants par les pêcheurs.

2.2.2. Réglementation de la navigation et collision avec des navires

- Dahir du 28 joumada II 1337 (31 mars 1919) portant Code de Commerce Maritime (CCM) tel que complété et modifié ainsi que sur ses textes d'application.

2.2.3. Bruits anthropiques (tels que l'exploration ou l'exploitation des ressources minières ou des exercices militaires) et procédures d'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement (EIE)

2.2.4. Observation des baleines et autres activités commerciales de tourisme

- la composante 2 du projet : « **Réduire la pression sur les espèces marines à travers la diversification des activités des pêcheurs artisanaux en favorisant le développement d'activités d'écotourisme »** a pour finalité d'améliorer la conservation d'espèces marines menacées, comme les cétacés, les tortues marines,

les oiseaux marins et de promouvoir les pratiques de pêche responsable en Méditerranée, et de viser notamment à promouvoir, au Maroc et en collaboration avec l'ACCOBAMS, le développement d'activités écotouristiques permettant de concilier conservation d'espèces marines menacées et pratique de l'activité de pêche. Des activités qui concernent le pescatourisme et le whale-watchnig (découverte du milieu marin et d'observation de la faune marine suivant des principes et pratiques responsables).

- l'élaboration d'un texte juridique conjoint qui impliquerait les différents départements concernés par l'évolution des activités écotouristiques au Maroc progresse. En effet, il a été convenu de cadrer les activités du Pescatourisme/WW par une loi, étant donné que ce sont de nouvelles activités qui nécessitent des dispositions fixant les responsabilités et les sanctions, ce qui permettra de gérer lesdites activités efficacement et durablement. Le texte de loi en question est en cours d'être mis dans le circuit juridique d'approbation

2.2.5. Pollution marine, y compris les débris marins

2.2.6. Plans d'urgence pour la pollution, les échouages et les centres de sauvetage

Le Maroc a mis en place son Plan d'Urgence National de Lutte contre les Pollutions Marines Accidentelles (PUN). Des exercices de simulation du PUN, baptisé SIMULEX, s'effectuent chaque deux ans afin d'entraîner les intervenants à lutter contre la pollution marine accidentelle.

Les objectifs de l'exercice de simulation sont :
. Tester les procédures prévues par le PUN
. Déployer les équipes d'intervention en mer et à terre en conduisant le dispositif de lutte
. Spécifier les moyens techniques et logistiques à mettre en œuvre
. Renforcer la coordination interdépartementale
. Eviter un éventuel dysfonctionnement en cas de pollution réelle
. Identifier et combler les lacunes du PUN
. Mettre à jour le PUN
Le Coordonateur National du Plan d'Urgence National est le Ministère délégué chargé de l'Environnement.

2.2.7. Problèmes relatifs à la captivité des dauphins et aux delphinariums

2.2.8. Aires marines protégées (AMP), zones de pêche, réserves de pêche ou autres mesures spatiales de conservation efficaces (OECM-CDB). Énumérez-les et indiquez si elles sont pertinentes pour développer des activités pour la conservation et la gestion des cétacés.

- Les AMPs mises en place au Maroc sont de la catégorie VI "Aires Protégées pour la gestion des ressources naturelles" de l'UICN. Ce sont des aires marines protégées gérées principalement à des fins d'utilisation durable des écosystèmes naturels
  Le projet « Aires Marines protégées (AMP) aux fins de pêche au Maroc » et la création des Aires Marines protégées (AMP) dans des sites pilotes» s'inscrit dans l'axe de durabilité de la stratégie Halieutis et initié au Maroc par le Millenium Challenge Corporation (MCC). Trois AMP-pilotes ont été mises en place par le Département des Pêches Maritimes en collaboration avec l'Agence du Partenariat pour le Progrès (APP), conformément à la stratégie nationale des AMP.
- Les Principaux partenaires institutionnels de ce projet sont:
  - Ministère de l'Enérgie, des Mines, de l'Eau et de l'Environnement
  - Ministère de l'Equipement et de Transport.
  - Ministère du Tourisme
  - Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte contre la Désertification
  - Provinces de (Chefchaouen, Tetouan, Safi, Essaouira, Tiznit et Sidi Ifni)
  - Office National des Pêches
  - Institut National de Recherche Halieutique
  - Chambres des Pêches Maritimes et les autres organisations professionnelles de la pêche artisanale

- Gendarmerie Royale
- Marine Royale

2.2.9. Autres, s'il vous plaît spécifiez

2.3: CA-3: COMMUNICATION ET SENSIBILISATION SUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de communication et de sensibilisation pertinentes

2.3.1. Principaux événements (réunion, symposium, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) organisés ou planifiés dans le pays.

Réunion de sensibilisation sur l'importance de la protection des espèces vulnérables et leur identification au profit des chercheurs de l'INRH et des délégués de pêches ainsi que les partenaires de secteur de la pêche

- Atelier national d'information/sensibilisation sur les captures accidentelles d'espèces vulnerables au Maroc, en ligne, 17 novembre 2020

2.3.2. Principaux événements à l'étranger (réunions, colloques, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) auxquels ont participé des experts nationaux

2.3.3. Principaux produits (lettre d'information, brochure, dépliant, affiche, vidéo, autocollant, etc.)

- Guides d'identification éléborés par l'INRH
- Fiches d'espèces produits par l'INRH
- Partage des informations sur les échouages dans la rubrique « Alertes environnementales» sur le portail de l'observatoire Halieutique de l'INRH : https://observatoire-halieutique.ma/
- Action de communication dans le cadre de l'Alelier régional (Jeunes Reporters pour l'Environnement) de la Fondation Mohammed VI pour la protection de l'environnement. Biodiversité marine-Mammifères marins des côtes marocaines. mars 2021.
- Video sur les actions pilotes relatives aux sorties en mer qui ont permis d'examiner la faisabilité technique de l'opération de pescatourisme - whalewatching et d'observer les contraintes et les améliorations nécessaires au développement de cette activité au Maroc.

2.4: CA-4: RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS
Veuillez lister toutes les activités de renforcement des capacités pertinentes

2.4.1. Besoins nationaux en termes de renforcement des capacités, en référence à la stratégie et au programme de travail ACCOBAMS

- Renforcement des réseaux de suivi des échouages par des formations continus des intervenants (télénécropsies, identification des pathologies, identifications des causes de mortalités...)
- Renforcement des capacités des scientifiques en observation et identification des espèces de cétacés en mer
- Renforcement des capacités en analyse et traitement des données d'observation
- Acoustique passive pour l'étude et le suivi du comportement des cétacés, plus particulièrement le Grand Dauphin
- Obtention du label "High Quality, whale whatching"
- Collisions entre navires de commerce et cétacés en mediterannée, quelle réalité? quelles mesures d'attenuation?
- Bruits sous-marins anthropiques et cétacés.

2.4.2. Formations / ateliers réalisés (nationaux et internationaux) ou planifiés

- Atelier sur le bruit sous-marin, organisé par l'ACCOBAMS dans le cadre du projet QUIETMED 2, les 7 et 8 décembre 2019, Barcelone, Espagne

- Atelier de présentation des résultats de la première année de suivi des captures accidentelles d'espèces vulnérables en décembre 2020 : dans le cadre du projet Bycatch mené par l'Accobams en collaboration avec l'INRH, GREPOM, coordonné par le Département de la Pêche Maritime
- Atelier/formation sur le bruit sous-marin pour les autorités compétentes des pays méditerranéens francophones sans le cadre du QUIETMED – Programme conjoint sur le bruit (Descripteur 11) pour la mise en œuvre du deuxième cycle de la DCSMM en Méditerranée. 14 et 15 décembre 2020, Réunion en ligne
- Atelier international hybride, visant à échanger les informations et les expériences entre les équipes nationales impliquées dans le projet de déprédation en Méditerranée du 8 au 10 juin 2022 en Sicile, Italie. le Maroc a présenté un exposé intitulé « Interactions entre les grands dauphins et les pêcheries de petits pélagiques à senne coulissante dans les eaux méditerranéennes du Maroc ». .
- Participation en ligne à la 5ème Réuinon des Représentants Natinaux de l'ACCOBAMS. Cette réunion a pour objectif d'aider à la préparation du programme de travail du triennat à venir, en permettant d'identifier les priorités de chaque sous-région à partir des priorités nationales et ainsi améliorer le statut de conservation actuel des cétacés et de leurs habitats dans la zone couverte par l'Accord. Suite à cette réunion, des questionnaires ont été renseignés en collaboration avec le point focal National ;
- Participation en ligne aux réunions techniques du projet Accobams Survey Initiative : Revue des différentes méthodes de collecte et analyse des données, discussion des résultats préliminaires d'abondance des cétacés et comment la campagne ASI pourrait informer sur les les impacts antropiques (pollution, bycatch…) ;
- Participation à la formation ACCOBAMS en Nécropsie en ligne juin 2021
- Formation en nécropsie des cétacés à Liège en Belgique Du 22 au 24 mars 2022
- Atelier d'analyse des données d'observation des cétacés, Projer Accobams survey Initiative Du 13 au 18 février 2022, Monaco/Cap d'Ail

2.4.3. Conférences, programmes éducatifs sur les cétacés (universités, écoles)

- Participation à la 5ème Conférence des Parties de l'ACCOBAMS sur la Conservation des Cétacés dans les Pays du Sud de la Méditerranée (CSM5) : Présentation et soumission de deux articles scientifiques En Ligne, 13-15 avril 2021 Pays Hôte : Liban

PORTUGAL

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020 - 2022

Name of country : PORTUGAL

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Marina SEQUEIRA

Email: marina.sequeira@icnf.pt

Tel: +351 21 350 79 00

Address: Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas, Av. da República, 16-16 B –Lisboa, 1050-191 - Portugal

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

2019 - 2016 – 2013 – 2010 - 2007

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

Recommendations expressed by the different partners include two fairly specific topics. 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.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):

(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

01/01/2005

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

Portuguese EEZ between Cape St. Vincent and the border with Spain (Vila Real de Santo Antonio).

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

  Instituto de Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas (ICNF)

  Environmental Portuguese Agency EPA General Directorate for Marine Resources (DGRM)

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Sociedade Portuguesa de Vida Selvagem (Portuguese Wildlife Society
  - Associação para as Ciências do Mar (Association for Sea Sciences)

- AIMM - Associação para a Investigação do Meio Marinho (Marine Environment Research Association)

Research

- Institutes / Universities:
  - Escola de Mar (Sea School)
  - Sociedade Portuguesa de Vida Selvagem (Portuguese Wildlife Society)
  - Projecto Delfimm - Centro Português de Estudos dos Mamíferos Marinhos (Portuguese Center for the Study of Marine Mammals)
  - Associação para as Ciências do Mar (Association for the Sea Sciences)
  - University of Lisbon
  - University of Porto
  - University of Coimbra
  - University Nova de Lisboa
  - Algarve University
  - University of Évora
  - National Museum of Natural History
  - Centre of Marine Sciences, Algarve

- Rescue centres:

  CRAM - ECOMARE Rehabilitation Center for Marine Species, ÍlhavoPorto de Abrigo – Zoomarine, Albufeira

- Dolphinaria:

  Zoomarine,Albufeira

- Whale-watching operators:

  50 operators licensed with a total of 119 boats

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans

Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Decree-Law nr.114/90, 05/04/1990 regulates the CITES Convention into national legislation (Ministry of the Environment)
- Decree-Law nr. 263/81, of 03/09/1981 for protection of marine mammals in the coastal zone and Portuguese EEZ (Ministry of the Environment)
- Decree-Law nr. 140/99, of 24/04/1999 reviews the adaptation of EU Directives (92/43/EEC - Habitats Directive and 79/409/EEC -Birds Directive) into national legislation, with the new reading by Decree-Law nr. 49/2005, 24th February (Ministry of the Environment)

- Council Regulation (EC) nr.812/2004, of 26/04/2004, laying down measures concerning incidental catches of cetaceans in fisheries and amending Regulation (EC) nr. 88/98 (Fisheries General Directorate)
- Decree-Law nr. 9/2006, of 06/01/2006, regulates whale watching in mainland Portugal (Ministry of the Environment)
- Council Regulation nr. 1037/2007, of 29/08/2007, establishing restrictions to the introduction of certain specimen of wild fauna and flora (Ministry of the Environment)
- Portaria nr. 1226/2009, of 12/10/2009, regulating the possession of certain specimen of wild fauna considered as potential harmful to humans. In the case of Cetacea, it clearly prohibits the possession of wild caught cetaceans (Ministry of the Environment)
- Decree-Law nr 38/2021 of 31st May, Approves the legal framework applicable to the protection and conservation of and natural habitats of species listed in the Berne and the Bonn Conventions

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

Since 2020 funding from the "Environmental Fund" (Ministry of the Environment) has been used to implement / enhance the national stranding network, the acquisition of pingers to be used on the beach purse seines in Central Portugal and more recently to implement the SCANS IV cetacean survey in national waters

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)				19/12/2003	
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)		23/02/2006		25/03/2006	
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)					
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)		25/03/2006			
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		11/12/1980			
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)		03/02/1982			
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)				01/11/1983	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution					

(Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean					
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)				14/05/2002	
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic		22/09/1992		25/03/1998	
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)				*1976*	

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise	X			
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				not present
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin			X	
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin	X			
Stenella frontalis	Atlantic Spotted dolphin		X		
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale		X		
Orcinus orca	Killer whale	X			
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale			X	
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale		X		
Mesoplodon europaeus	Gervais' beaked whale		X		
Mesoplodon mirus	True' beaked whale		X		

Mesoplodom bidens	Sowerby' beaked whale		X		
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale			X	
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale		X		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale		X		
Kogia breviceps			X		
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale		X		
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale	X			
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale		X		
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale			X	
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale		X		

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- Project iNOVPESCA (2017-2021). Main objectives: 1. To evaluate the level of interactions of coastal artisanal fisheries and cetaceans along the Algarve coast and detect problematic gears and areas; 2. to reduce the conflicts between Algarve artisanal fisheries and cetacean species by implementing solutions (e.g. promoting pilot trials using acoustic alarms) concerning by-catch and fish depredation, especially in purse seining (PS) and bottom set nets (GNS+GTR); 3. to promote "cooperative research" and strengthen relationships among stakeholders or resource users (fishers, associations, scientists, governmental authorities) through participatory. Please refer to Alexandre et al. 2022
- Project CetAMBICion (2021-2023). Main objectives: 1. Propose coordinated measures to address cetacean bycatch and depredation through work package 4, which includes several pilot projects along the Algarve coast to assess the efficacy of bycatch reduction devices and procedures, including the use of pingers in purse seining (PS) and bottom set nets (GNS+GTR) 2. Collect information and share experience from previous pilot projects and relevant projects, and propose common measures including space-time management measures
- Algarve Stranding Network – Main objectives: 1. Collect samples from stranded cetaceans for several studies regarding their ecology, biology, disease and anthropogenic impacts; 2. Detect causes of mortality

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- iNOVPESCA (2017-2021)
- CetAMBICion (2021-2023)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

- iNOVPESCA (2017-2021)
- CetAMBICion (2021-2023)

Please list any other relevant projects

- Algarve Regional Stranding Network

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network? YES
If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.
Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database? NO

- *Contact person: Marina Sequeira (marina.sequeira@icnf.pt)*

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- *The Portuguese Red List of Mammals is been revised and the final results will be available in December 2022*

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- *A conservation plan for the harbour porpoise, Phocoena phocoena, is been planned*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

- Off the Portuguese southern coast (Algarve), the gears of most concern for interactions with cetaceans are gillnets and purse seine nets (Alexandre et al. 2022). The gillnets have a problem dealing with occasional depredation from bottlenose dolphins, *Tursiops truncatus*, that may lead to substantial gear damage and catch loss. On the other hand, the common dolphin, *Delphinus delphis*, is the cetacean species interacting the most with the Portuguese purse seine fishery, with annual incidental bycatch casualties. Trials with DDD´s have been carried under the framework of projects iNOVPESCA (2018-2021) and the ongoing CetAMBICion (2021-2023) to reduce these conflicts. Mitigation has been successful in both fisheries. Depredation by bottlenose dolphins was significantly reduced in tested gillnets targeting European hake, *Merluccius merluccius* ($P< 0.001$; DiD) and red mullet, *Mullus surmuletus* ($P=0.036$; DDD), but is area/depth and season dependent. In purse seining, more than 200 fishing sets were observed for control (set with no alarms) and treatment (sets with alarms). Bycatch for 2020 and 2021 has been 100 % reduced in sets using alarms compared with sets with no alarms (controls) (38 common dolphins captured in control sets and zero common dolphins captured in sets using alarms). CPUE was not significantly different between controls and tests for all gears

- The gillnets targeting monkfish which have the longer soaking times are indicated as having the highest rate of incidental capture of common dolphins and bottlenose dolphins as also other marine megafauna species (please also refer to Alexandre et al. 2022)

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

- A carrying capacity analysis for whale watching activities in the Algarve region will be conducted in 2023

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

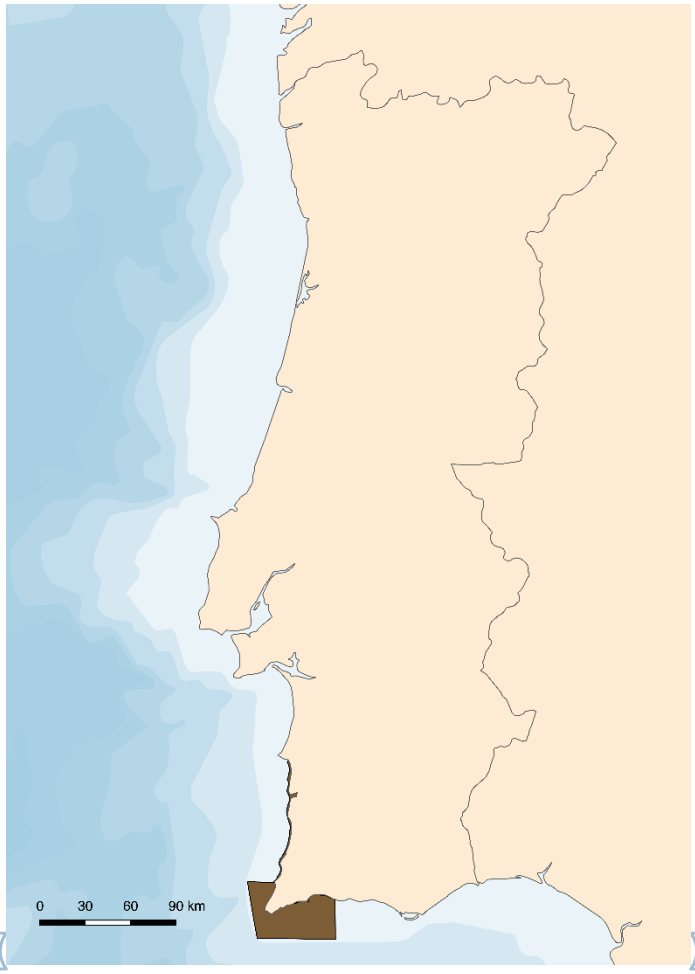
2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

- A regional stranding network covering the entire Algarve region was implemented in 2011 and is funded through the Environmental Fund (Ministry of the Environment) since 2020

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- As a result of the LIFE funded project MarPro the extension of the area of the Southwest Coast Site (PTCON0012) included in the national list of Natura 2000 Network sites was approved (Council of Ministers Resolution No. 18/2019). This extension will contribute to the conservation of the harbour porpoise and the bottlenose dolphin in mainland Portugal

- 

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

- 2021 – CetAMBICion WK1 – Workshop Stakeholder engagement (presentation of the project and objectives of the mitigation trials), Online, February 2021
- 2022 – CetAMBICion WK2 – Workshop Sttakeholder engagement in the Southern coast (Presentation of first results of mitigation trials), Faro, April 2022
- 2022 – CetAMBICion WK3 – Workshop Sttakeholder engagement in the western coast (Presentation of first results of mitigation trials), Matosinhos, June 2022

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

- 2020 WGBYC, Ana Marçalo as the Portuguese participant – Den Helder, The Netherlands, hibrid
- 2020 – ACCOBAMS/MAVA Depredation Phase 2 Workshop, Communication on "Cetacean interaction with Algarve (Southern Portugal) coastal fisheries and mitigation approaches", online November 2020
- 2021 WGBYC, Ana Marçalo as the Portuguese participant – Online, September 28th-1 October
- 2021 - ACCOBAMS-ASCOBANS Joint Bycatch WG: 1st Meeting, communication 2020 - MAVA Depredation Phase 2 Workshop, Communication on "Cetacean interaction with Algarve (Southern Portugal) coastal

fisheries and mitigation approaches", online February 2021

- 2022 - 33rd Conference of the European Cetacean Society, April 5-7, Ashdod, Israel, 2022. Communication Testing deterrent devices to reduce depredation and bycatch of cetaceans in Southerhn Portuguese coastal fisheries
- 2022 – ACCOBAMS/MAVA Depredation Phase 2/ Second exchange Workshop, communication, Catania, Sicily, 8-10 June 2022

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

- 2022 – CetAMBICion Stakeholder engagement video from WK2 to be promoted in other participatory meetings

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

- 2021 – Workshop: ”RAALg – Rede de Arrojamentos do Algarve (Algarve Stranding Network): cetacean ecology, behaviour and stranding patterns“, Online, November 20th 2021
- 2021 – Lecture in the master course ”Ecology and behaviour of marine mammals“ on anthropogenic impacts on cetaceans and mitigation measures in course, University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal
- 2021 – Lectures on the ecology, behaviour and anthropogenic impacts on cetaceans – high schools and elementary schools; several levels
- 2022 – Lecture in the master course ”Ecology and behaviour of marine mammals“ on anthropogenic impacts on cetaceans and mitigation measures in course, University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal

ROMANIA

THE NATIONAL REPORT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS IN THE BLACK SEA, MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND CONTIGUOUS ATLANTIC AREA* (ACCOBAMS) DURING THE PERIOD 2019-2022

The PARTY: **ROMANIA**
Date of the last modification of the report: 10/10/ 2022
Year of Start: 2019
Year of End: 2022

A. Focal Point details:

Dr. Nela MIAUTĂ – ACCOBAMS National Focal Point
Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests
Address: 12 Libertății Avenue, 5 District, Bucharest - ROMANIA
Telephone: +40754231517
Email: nela.miauta@mmediu.ro

Dr. Adrian FILIMON – Scientific ACCOBAMS National Focal Point
National Institute for Marine Research and Development (NIMRD) "Grigore Antipa"
Address: 300 Mamaia Avenue, Constanta, 8700 – ROMANIA
Telephone: +40767522953
Email: afilimon@alpha.rmri.ro

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered:

During the period 2004-2007, the Scientific NFP was Mrs. Maria MOLDOVEANU from the National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa"
During the period 2007-2019, the Scientific NFP was Mrs. Camelia DUMITRACHE from the National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa"
During the period 2020 - present, the governmental CMS/ACCOBAMS NFP is Dr. Nela MIAUTA from the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests
During the period 2020 – present, the Scientific NFP is Dr. Adrian FILIMON from the National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa"

C. Date of submission of national reports:

2004-2007-2010-2013-2016-2019-2022

Major issues or main threats

- 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

The hot topics are the following:

- 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

SECTION 1 – MANAGEMENT OF THE ACCOBAMS

Date entry into force 10/05/2000
Competent authority: Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests

List the entities with competence, responsibilities or interest for cetaceans' conservation

The authorities with responsibilities in the marine field are the following:

- Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests (MEWF) is the central public authority responsible for elaborating the policies and the strategies regarding the environment water and forests protection; It promotes a unitary, coherent environmental policy. The quantitative and qualitative management activity of waters aims to improve the natural water potential, the rational use and protection of the resources and aquatic ecosystems, as well as the protection against floods and dangerous meteorological phenomena. This activity involves knowledge, planning and regulation of water resources, the achievement of the water infrastructure investments, the coordination of work exploitation, control and international cooperation in this field.

- Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration manages, together with other relevant ministries, the Romanian government policy in the following areas: regional development, territorial cohesion and territorial development, cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation, spatial planning, urbanism and architecture, housing, urban management and real-estate development, public works, construction, central and local public administration: decentralization reform and administrative-territorial reorganization, tax and regional and local public finance, dialogue with the associations, the development of public services, state aid, industrial, civil service management etc.
- National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) is the main regulatory permit authority, which implements environmental rules and policies;
- Environmental Protection Agency Constanta is the authority involved in the implementation of conservation measures for species and habitats at the local level;
- Romanian National Water Administration - Dobrogea Littoral (ABADL) with importance for Stranding Network dispatch;
- National Company "Maritime Ports Administration" SA Constanta (MPAC) is a joint stock company assigned by the Romanian Ministry of Transport to develop activities of national public interest in its capacity of a port administration. The company fulfils the port authority function for Constanta, Midia,

Mangalia ports and Tomis Marina. The port of Constanța, ports-Midia and Mangalia and the Tomis Marina are public-private maritime ports responsible for their regulation and function through the tasks entrusted and discharged by the National Company "Maritime Ports Administration" Constanta (MPAC) and Romanian Naval Authority (RNA), both being subordinated to the Ministry of Transport;

❖ National Agency for Fishery and Aquaculture is responsible for the implementation of the fisheries and aquaculture;

❖ Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Administration has been monitoring the cetaceans in the marine area; it has a part in the application of rules for activities carried out within or in the vicinity of the relevant natural protection areas.

❖ Romanian Space Agency (ROSA);

❖ **The Romanian Border Police** is part of the Ministry Internal Affairs and is the specialized state institution which carries out the tasks appertaining to it and referring to the surveillance and control of the crossing of the state border, the prevention and fight against illegal migration and against acts specific to cross border criminality carried out in its area of competence;

❖ National Environmental Guard (NEG) is the main enforcement authority which verify compliance with environmental laws and regulations; NEG has been more active in the verification of companies' general compliance with environmental obligations.

❖ National Agency for the Natural Protected Areas (NANPA) aims to improve the institutional capacity for protected areas and provides management coordination in unmanaged protected areas. It supports the development of professional skills among protected area staff members.

The **specialized institutes/universities** are:

❖ National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" (NIMRD);
❖ National Research and Development Institute for Marine Geology and Geoecology – GeoEcoMar;
❖ National Institute for Danube Delta Research and Development (INCDDD);
❖ National Institute for Research and Development in Tourism;
❖ National Institute of Statistics;
❖ National Institute for Environmental Protection;
❖ The University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca has been collaborating with NIMRD on the cetacean diseases.

The Dolphinarium Constanța has been working on the ethology and ecology of the cetaceans in captivity.
NGO Mare Nostrum Constanța has been implemented activities for public awareness.
The effective enforcement of environmental legislation has progressed as compared with the previous years.
The Marine Protected Areas were designated to extend the European ecological network Natura 2000 in Romania, under the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive.
There is a progress in designation Natura 2000 sites in the Black Sea region.

Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans:

- Decree No. 187/1990 - ratifying the Paris Convention on Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- Law No. 5/1991 ratifying the Convention on wetlands of international importance especially as waterfowl habitats (Ramsar Convention, 1971)
- Law No. 98/1992 for the ratification of the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution
- Law No. 13/1993 - ratifying the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention, 1979)

- Law No. 82/1993 on setting up the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve modified through Emergency Government Ordinance No. 112/2000 and Law No. 454/2001
- Law No. 58/1994 ratifying the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro Convention, 1992)
- Environmental Protection Law No. 137/1995, republished amended by Emergency Government Ordinance No. 91/2002 approval by Law No. 294/2003
- Law No. 107/1996 on water protection as further amended by Emergency Government Ordinance No. 3/2010 regarding the medium - and long-term National Strategy for the flood risk management and by *Law No. 122/2020;*
- Law No. 13/1998 for Romania's accession to the *Convention* on *Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (Bonn Convention, 1979)*;*
- Law No. 5/2000 on the territorial planning use - section III protected areas*;*
- Law No. 91/2000 for *ratifying the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS);*
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 78/2000 on waste regime*;*
- Law No. 22/2001 for ratification of the Espoo Convention*;*
- *Law No. 192/2001 on fisheries resources on fishing and aquaculture, amended and supplemented (article 56, line g – punishing with penal fine the fishing and deliberate killing of marine mammals);*
- Government Decision No. 573/2002 on the approval of the authorization procedures for corporate entities operation*;*
- Minister's Order No. 863/2002 on approval of the methodological guidelines applicable to the stages of the environmental assessment procedure*;*
- Minister's Order No. 864/2002 on the environmental impact assessment procedure in a transboundary context and for public participation to environmental decision-making in case of projects with transboundary impact projects*;*
- Law No. 45/2002 on the ratification of the Landscape European Convention, Florence 20.10.2002*;*
- Government Decision No. 230/2003 on the delimitation of the biosphere reserves, national parks and natural parks and the setting up of their administrations*;*
- Minister's Order No. 850/2003 on procedure of entrustment of administration and custody of the protected natural areas*;*
- Minister's Order No. 552/2003 on approval of the internal zoning of natural and national park from biological diversity conservation point of view*;*
- Minister's Order No. 374/2004 on the approval of the Action Plan regarding Cetaceans Conservation from Romanian waters of the Black Sea*;*
- Government Decision No. 2151/2004 on setting up the protected natural area regime for new zones*;*
- Government Decision No. 1076/2004 concerning the procedure for environment assessment or plans and programs*;*
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 195/2005 on environmental protection, as modified and completed with Emergency Government Ordinance No. 164/2008;
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 152/2005, concerning the integrated pollution prevention and control, as further modified;
- Government Decision No. 1213/2006 on establishing the framework procedure regarding the environmental impact assessment pertaining to certain public and private projects repealed by Government Decision No. 445/2009 on environmental impact assessment pertaining to certain public and private projects;
- Government Decision No. 1586/2006 regarding the including of some protected areas into the category of wetlands of international importance*;*
- Minister's Order No. 1964/2007 for the constitution of natural protected areas regime of community interest sites, as integrated part of Natura 2000 network in Romania, modified with Minister's Order No. 2387/2011*;*

- Government Decision No. 1284/2007 regarding the declaration of avifaunistic special protected areas as part of the Natura 2000 network in Romania*;*
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 23/2008 on fishing and aquaculture as subsequently amended*;*
- Government Decision No. 1679/2008 regarding the procedure of Framework Directive for the Marine Environment Strategy (2008/56/CE) transposed through the Law No. 6/2011 for the approval of Emergency Government Ordinance No. 71/2010 regarding the establishes of marine environment strategy*;*
- Minister's Order No. 342/2008 on minimal size of the aquatic living resources*;*
- Minister's Order No. 449/2008 on technical characteristics and practice conditions for fishing gears used in the commercial fishing*;*
- Law No. 317/2009 for the approval of the Emergency Government Ordinance No. 23/2008 regarding fishing and aquaculture*;*
- Order No. 135/2010 for the approval of Methodology of application of EIA for the public and private projects*;*
- Order No. 19/2010 for the approval of Methodology for Appropriate Assessment of potential effects of plans and projects on the community interest natural protected areas
- Law No. 218/2011 for the ratification of the Protocol for the biodiversity conservation and natural landscape of the Black Sea (Bucharest Convention)*;*
- Law No. 253/2011 amending paragraph (3) of art. 67 of Emergency Government Ordinance No. 23/2008 on fishing and aquaculture*;*
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 18/2016 on maritime spatial planning*;*
- Law No. 95/2016 regarding the establishment of the National Agency for Protected Natural Areas*;*
- Law No. 88/2017 related to the approval of the Emergency Government Ordinance No. 18/2016 on maritime spatial planning*;*
- Government Decision No. 406/2017 for the approval of the Regulation on the organisation, functioning and nominal composition of the Maritime Spatial Planning Committee*;*
- Law No. 52/2003 on transparency of decision-making in public administration, with subsequent amendments;
- Government Decision No. 432/2020 on approval the Program of measures for achieving good environmental status of the Black Sea - marine region*;*
- Minister's Order No. 488/2020 on the approval of the List of endangered marine species in the Romanian Black Sea coast to protect and conserve them includes three cetaceans species: the Short-beaked Common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis ponticus),* the Harbour Porpoise *(Phocoena phocoena relicta)* and the Common Bottlenose Dolphin *(Tursiops truncatus ponticus);*
- **Law No. 157/2022** for amending Law No. 256/2018 *on certain measures necessary for the implementation of oil operations by offshore oil perimeter owners* ("**Offshore Law**");
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 25/2022 on Environmental Fund for amending and completion the Emergency Government Ordinance No. 196/2005;
- Emergency Government Ordinance No. 133/2022 for the amending and completion of the Emergency Government Ordinance No. 92/2021 regarding the waste regime, as well as the Law No. 101/2006 on Locality Sanitation Service;
- Government Decision No. 685/2022 on the establishment of the natural protected area regime and the declaration of Special Conservation Areas as an integral part of the Natura 2000 European ecological network in Romania.

Relevant international or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which Romania is Party

- Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio Convention)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention)
- Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol
- Convention on the Law of the Sea
- Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships and its Protocol
- Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Convention)
- Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution or the Barcelona Convention (Barcelona Convention)
- Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)
- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington Convention)
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay)
- *Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (*ACCOBAMS)
- Aarhus Convention and Law No. 52/2003 on transparency of decision-making in public administration, with subsequent amendments
- The Black Sea Commission is charged with implementing the Convention for the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution, an agreement among the six countries bordering on the Black Sea. This Convention was signed in Bucharest in April 1992 and ratified by the legislative assemblies of its signatories, Romania, Bulgaria, Georgia, the Russian Federation, Türkiye and Ukraine. Known as the Bucharest Convention, the document includes a basic framework of agreement and protocols addressing control of land-based sources of pollution, dumping of waste and joint action in case of accidents (such as oil spills).
- The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) is a regional fisheries management organization. Its main objective is to ensure the conservation and the sustainable use of living marine resources as well as the sustainable development of aquaculture in the Mediterranean and in the Black Sea.

Regarding the ACCOBAMS implementation, the activities have undertaken for continuous data acquisition for three species of cetaceans which are inhabiting in the Black Sea: Short-beaked Common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis ponticus),* Harbour Porpoise *(Phocoena phocoena relicta)* and Bottlenose dolphin *(Tursiops truncatus ponticus).*

Marine Protected Areas which are included in Natura 2000 network

Nr. crt.	Natura 2000 Sites
1.	ROSCI0066 Danube Delta - marine zone
2.	ROSCI0094 **Underwater sulphide seeps from Mangalia**
3.	ROSCI0197 Submerged beach from Eforie North - Eforie South
4.	ROSCI0269 Vama Veche - 2 May
5.	ROSCI0273 Cape Tuzla - marine area
6.	ROSCI0281 Cape Aurora
7.	ROSCI0293 Costineşti - 23 August
8.	ROSCI0311 Canionul Viteaz

9.	ROSCI0413 Lobul sudic al Câmpului de Phyllophora al lui Zernov
10.	ROSCI0065 Delta Dunării
11.	ROSPA0076 Black Sea

Funds for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans

- the European Commission (DG MARE), Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) of the European Union;
- The Black Sea Basin Programme 2014-2020 - *part of European Union's Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC*);
- the Large Infrastructure Operational Program, Priority Axis 4 - Environmental protection through biodiversity conservation measures, monitoring of air quality and decontamination of historically polluted sites; Specific Objective 4.1 - "Increasing the degree of protection, biodiversity conservation and the restoration of degraded ecosystems;"
- Regional Development Fund – The Large Infrastructure Operational Programme 2014-2020;
- Administrative Capacity Operational Program
- The Romanian Operational Programme "Administrative Capacity" in the period 2014-2020

The programme had the goal of improving the efficiency, the transparency and the accessibility of Romania's public administration and judicial system. To attain this goal, investment addressed the following priorities: strengthening the key functions of public administration and improving the administrative capacity to perform such functions, enhancing the decision-making in local public administration, by introducing common standards and practices and quality management systems.

- Co-finance by the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests budget.

❖ **MARSPLAN – BS II Project**

Implementation period 2019-2021

The main activities were related to the elaboration of the maritime spatial plans for Romania and Bulgaria with an updated GIS model and database, based on the results of the first MARSPLAN-BS Project; the development of the MSP common strategy for the cross-border area of Romania and Bulgaria provided effective stakeholder participation in the design of the national and cross-border MSP process and sharing of good practices for the Black Sea.

❖ **ANEMONE Project - "Assessing the vulnerability of the Black Sea marine ecosystem to human pressures" involving the National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" (NIMRD**)

Implementation period 2018-2020

The Project's **results**:

- enhancing the cross-border contacts within the Black Sea Basin: scientists and stakeholders networking;
- establish the partnerships;
- enhancing the knowledge and skills: experience and good practices, joint research.
- improving the understanding of the knowledge gap and further needs;
- common agreed methodologies for monitoring, new tools and indicators for integrative assessment of the ecological status based on Harmonized Black Sea Monitoring and Assessment Guidance (BSMAG);
- quality controlled and comparable data sets for the Black Sea environmental status assessment, collected in the framework of specific pilot monitoring studies in selected study areas;
- updated list of Black Sea Hot Spots following testing of the methodology for identification and prioritization of Hot Spots;
- developing a Guideline tool on the adaptive criteria for monitoring the maritime activities impact;
- report on the state of Black Sea environment/thematic assessments;
- collecting new data on chemical contamination of aquatic organisms and potential risks, thus filling knowledge gaps identified for Black Sea region.

❖ The Project **"Completing the biodiversity knowledge level by implementing the conservation status monitoring system for the species and the habitats of Community interest from Romania and reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive 92/43 / EEC"**

Implementation period: 2019 - 2022

Partnership: Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests – General Directorate for Biodiversity (Coordinator), the National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" (NIMRD) – Partner for marine species and habitats and other institutes

- updating, and improving species and habitats monitoring methodologies
- collecting, analyzing and verifying the previously reported data on the distribution of species and habitats and the data reported in studies developed under non-reimbursable projects in order to improve the accuracy of future result
- collecting field data for the development of inventories and maps (including GIS databases) for species and habitats of Community interest.
- analyzing, verifying and validating the collected field data in order to assess the conservation status of species and habitats of Community interest.
- adding the data to the national monitoring system SIMSHAB and achieving the country report based on the provisions of Article 17 of the Habitats Directive 92/43 / EEC.
- setting-up a database with the available information on the current conservation status of species and habitats of Community interest based on field data.
- distribution maps using GIS for all the species and habitats of Community interest listed in the Habitats Directive.
- maps using GIS for all the species and habitats of Community interest.
- The National Report of Romania for species and habitats of Community interest was elaborated, validated and delivered to the European Commission according to the provisions of Article 17 of the Habitats Directive 92/43 / EEC.

Assessment of species according to art. 17 of Habitats Directive

Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive list 58 habitat types, 79 species of animals and 6 species of plants in the Black Sea.

State of cetaceans – Species assessment 2019-2022

- 1350 *Delphinus delphis* ponticus - Inadequate
- 1351 *Phocoena phocoena relicta* - Unfavourable
- 1349 *Tursiops truncatus* ponticus - Inadequate

❖ **The Project "Invasive species management in Romania according to the Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species**"

Implementation period: 2018-2022

Partnership: Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests – General Directorate for Biodiversity (Coordinator) and the University of Bucharest (Partner)

- scientific and administrative tools were created for an efficient management of invasive alien species
- the Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species was implemented.
- inventory, mapping and a national list of invasive alien species was elaborated
- the Action Plan on the pathways of invasive alien species was elaborated (56 invasive marine species)
- raising awareness of local people and stakeholders

❖ **The Project "Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests and subordinated units to improve the policies in the field of biodiversity"**
Implementation period: 2019-2022
- Partnership: Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests – General Directorate for Biodiversity (Coordinator) and NIMRD (Partner)
- Study on the analysis of community and national legislation regarding the appropriate assessment
- Methodological guidance on the appropriate assessment of potential effects of plans or projects on the natural protected areas of community interest

❖ **CeNoBS Project – Support MSFD implementation in the Black Sea through establishing a regional monitoring system of cetacean (D1) and noise monitoring for achieving GES**
Implementation period: 2019-2021
- Partnership: all riparian countries of the Black Sea, ACCOBAMS Secretariat, NIMRD, NGO Mare Nostrum
- it was the first basin-wide aerial survey for cetacean, conducted over the Black Sea, in Romania, Bulgaria, Georgia, Türkiye and Ukraine
- more than *7000 km were surveyed*
- baseline data on the distribution and abundance of the Black Sea cetacean populations
- assessing D1 (Biological Diversity) cetacean related criteria and establishment of threshold values
- assessing and support the development of D11 (Energy and Noise) monitoring in the Black Sea; an effective noise monitoring was implemented in the region
- new data and results in cetacean bycatch situation in the Black Sea
- marine litter (MSFD Descriptor 10), descriptors found in defining the Good Environment Status
- setting up of reference values and proposed thresholds values for the cetaceans according to the criteria of Commission Decision 2017/848/CE

There were also projects related to maritime spatial planning, implemented by Ovidius University of Constanța, University of Bucharest, NIMRD, the National Institute for Research and Development in Construction, Urban Planning and Sustainable Development.
Scientific studies have been done as base for the Management Plans of the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): mapping of habitats distribution, mapping of species distribution, inventories etc.

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS:

2.1 RESEARCH AND MONITORING

The experts of NIMRD have managed the development of the basic Romanian cetacean monitoring and conservation program, with land and sea monitoring of stranding, live individuals, by-catches, a monitoring network, educational and awareness campaigns etc.

Under the Large Infrastructure Operational Programme is implementing the Project: *Completion the level of biodiversity knowledge by implementing the monitoring system of the state of conservation of species and habitats of community interest in Romania and reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive 92/43 / EEC* (2019-2022) coordinated by the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests, General Directorate for Biodiversity.

- a guide for monitoring the species of European conservative interest was published in 2019.
- monitoring the cetacean species from the Black Sea - Romanian waters
- evaluate the conservation status of cetacean, according to the Habitats Directive

GeoEcoMar is leading the European DANUBIUS-RI efforts as ESFRI Project and was involved, together with the European Commission in the elaboration and launch of the Strategic Research Agenda for Innovation in the Black Sea.

NIMRD has been involving in basic research and applied technology, crucial for the protection and management of coastal and marine environment in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Romania at the Black Sea coast. NIMRD is responsible of the national network of physical, chemical and biological marine monitoring and coastal erosion surveillance, MSFD implementation, Secretariat of the Romanian National Oceanography Committee/RNC-UNESCO, the Permanent Technical Secretariat of the National Coastal Zone Committee, Coordinator and International Secretariat for the South-Eastern Europe of the Balkan Environmental Association, Coordinator and Secretariat of the Regional Activity Center for Environmental Aspects Fisheries and Other Marine Living Resources Management, scientific representation of Romania in international bodies (UNESCO/COI, CIESM, FAO, CGPM, CECAF, ICES, NATO, GEF/ Black Sea, ACCOBAMS).

The experts from Constanța Dolphinarium continued their researches on biology, ecology and ethology of the cetaceans. The results are necessary for the establishment of a Rescue Center dedicated for enjuries species.

2.2. MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Conservation measures

- monitoring of dolphins stranding and by-catches from the Romanian littoral;
- improving the conservation status of marine biodiversity in the Romanian coastal zone, particularly dolphins", funded by Sectoral Operational Programme Environment was carried out in Danube Delta, the marine area coordinated by NGO Mare Nostrum in partnership with NIMRD;
- implementation the water legislation related to ACCOBAMS;
- protection of the Black Sea coast against erosion and beach rehabilitation;
- In 2021 was designated one Important Marine Mammals Area covering the western Black Sea, including Romanian waters;
- implementing the conservation measures from the Management Plans of Marine Protected Areas;
- promote regional cooperation on conservation of cetaceans by establishing partnerships and joint initiatives with other relevant partners;
- improving the communication and education in the field of biodiversity;
- development the research and scientific partnerships in the fields of monitoring, protection and management of the Black Sea ecosystem;
- implement the National Programme for Fisheries Data Collection, according to the relevant European legislation (Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Habitats Directive);
- develop cooperation on noise issue with other international organizations (CMS Family, EC, OSPAR, ICES, the Barcelona Convention, Black Sea Commission, CBD, others);
- improve the cooperation between authorities, institutions, universities, NGO, IGO etc;
- recovery and monitoring of marine ecosystems and coastal area;
- integrating the considerations concerning the conservation of cetacean in the policies, strategies, and development plans;
- updating the Government Emergency Ordinance No. 57/2007 on the regime of protected natural areas, conservation of natural habitats, wild flora and fauna, approved with its amendments and supplements by Law No. 49/2011, as subsequently amended.

The measures on the marine habitats and cetacean protection which are under development:

- **RO-MN-001** Creating the necessary capacities regarding rescue operations for injured or diseased cetaceans, and supporting intervention activities for dead cetaceans. Drawing up a good practice code for rescue centres and laboratories involved in these activities;

- **RO-MN-002** Setting up and management of protected area for cetaceans depending on areas that are their habitats or food habitats;
- **RO-MN-004** Drawing up/revision of the Management Plan of the Marine Protected Area according to relevant EU directives;
- **RO-MN-005** Creating a coherent and representative network of marine protected areas that include MPA's, including management plans; Enhancing the control of regulation activities in MPA;
- **RO-MN-007** Drawing up of risk maps on the habitat of the marine protected areas NATURA 2000;
- **RO-MN-008** Harmonization between Maritime Spatial Planning and Zonal Urban Plan to support the protection and preservation measures of species and habitats;
- **RO-MN-009** Drawing up the distribution maps of predominant habitats on national level according to MSFD, and harmonization of their classification at European and regional level according to EUNIS and submission to EMODnet and the Black Sea Commission.

2.3. COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

There is an increasing of the public's awareness regarding the environmental issues.

- **The Dolphinarium** is included in the Natural Sciences Museum Complex of Constanța, and has 6 individuals of the Common Bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) - 1 male and 5 females. There is a Plan to extent its facility.
- The Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forest organized the 1st workshop with NIMRD, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Environmental Guard, and the NGO Mare Nostrum for updating the National Action Plan for the conservation of cetaceans in the Black Sea - Romanian waters.
- Other actions have been taken by the NGO "Mare Nostrum" in collaboration with the NIMRD "Grigore Antipa" on the reducing the human impact on the conservation status of dolphins.
- The Black Sea Young Ambassadors Programme is an ongoing programme developed in September 2020, to unite youth for the future of the Black Sea, for a healthy, resilient and the sustainable Black Sea. The first cohort of young ambassadors has played an important role in advocating marine sciences and a sustainable blue economy in the Black Sea and in promoting the goals of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda.
- Every year public events were organised to celebrate the "Dolphin Week", Green Week, the International Black Sea Day, "The International Day of Biological Diversity" for public awareness **on environmental issues** (Black Sea Dolphins Facebook page and www.delfini.ro) and the development of informative materials (videos, leaflets etc.);
- International Conference "Science Evidence-Based Decision-Making Approaches for the Implementation of SDGs in the Black Sea;
- Raising awareness on environmental issues and a better communication between scientists and citizen;
- The environmental activities have increased in the last years: press releases, press conferences, leaflets, newsletters, website, posters, audio-visual productions, public events, information campaigns, social media etc;
- NIMRD – Celebrated of 50 years of its establishment;
- Online event "*Research and Innovation in the Black Sea: Empowering the next generation for a healthy, resilient and productive Black Sea*";
- Black Sea Universities Network – EU4OCEAN NETWORK OF EUROPEAN BLUE SCHOOLS;
- Regional training workshop and pilot activities on noise monitoring were implemented in Romania, Bulgaria, Türkiye and Ukraine under the CeNoBS project.
- Organization by GeoEcoMar in partnership with the Ministry of Research and Innovation, of the Conference "Sustainable Development at the Black Sea - SUST-BLACK".

- Meetings between the Black Sea riparian countries for knowing and rationally managing the marine ecosystem and its resources, as well as advice on management strategies, regional meeting on the implementation of ACCOBAMS resolutions in the Black Sea region;
- Exchange scientific data between Romania and others ACCOBAMS Parties;
- The Dolphinarium collaborated with the zoos and aquariums from the country, with the Natural Science Museums, research institutes (NIMRD "Grigore Antipa" Constanța, GeoEcoMar Constanța, the National Research and Development Institute for the Danube Delta), as well as with the Romanian Border Police, the Environmental Guard Constanța, the Environmental Protection Agency Constanța, Dobrogea Littoral Water Directorate, Non-Governmental Organizations, universities, the Beijing Aquarium, Association of Zoos and Aquariums in Europe through the Federation of Zoos and Aquariums Romania, the Dolphinarium in Varna/Bulgaria, Dolphinarium from Istanbul/Türkiye, International Chain of Dolphinariums "NEMO" Ukraine, Attica Zoological Park, Athens.
- A close collaboration with academic and scientific bodies, decision makers Black Sea Commission and Black Sea Advisory Council increased the research capacities and threat assessment, which enable us to correctly target the needed conservation efforts.
- The Dolphinarium has been organized in collaboration with the inspectorates, NIMRD "Grigore Antipa" Constanța, Environmental Protection Agency Constanța, education activities and public awareness: itinerary exhibitions dedicated to the “World Water Day”, “Environment Day”, “International Black Sea Day”, “International Biodiversity Day“, “European Maritime Day“, “World Oceans Day“,"Dolphin Week”, online conferences and workshops for raising awareness of local people, students, pupils and stakeholders.
- Posters, scientific papers were presented in workshops and on the website (www.delfini.cier.ro).
- Biology and ecology courses were organized for students of "Ovidius University" Constanța - Faculty of Natural Sciences and Agricultural Sciences.

2.4. CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

- developing inter-institutional partnerships
- organizing workshops for teaching key skills to a wide range of stakeholders
- increasing the research capacities
- NIMRD “Grigore Antipa” as member of the Cetacean Black Sea Medicine Network (composed of the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, NGO Mare Nostrum, Ovidius University, Constanța Dolphinarium, the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Czech Republic) created a collaborative framework of the Black Sea cetacean diseases studies.
- Under the auspice of ACCOBAMS, two experts from NIMRD were trained and certified in ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS “Best Practices on cetacean post-mortem investigation and tissue sampling
- four experts from NIMRD participated to the “*Virtual training course on the identification and handling of Marine mammals bycaught in the Med & Black Sea*” organised by ACCOBAMS and GFCM
- Interactive maps developed by the MARSPLAN BS-II project were published. The main objective of the project was to support coherent, cross-sectoral Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) in Romania and Bulgaria under the framework of MSP Directive 2014/89/EU and to establish a long-lasting mechanism for Black Sea basin cross-border cooperation on MSP. The project helps capacity building and supporting Competent Authorities in Romania and Bulgaria for MSP implementation, as well the development of national marine spatial plans based of the first MARSPLAN-BS Project (2015-2018) results. The map shows different layers for Romania and Bulgaria that can be displayed either together or separately: settlements, transportation, economy, biodiversity, protected areas, administrative features and natural features
- Maritime spatial planning - GIS geodatabase
- Common spatial database for maritime areas in Romania and Bulgaria

2.5. ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN THE FUTURE

- systematic surveys of cetaceans
- monitoring the strandings to reduce the mortality induced by fishing activity
- updating the National Action Plan for the conservation of cetaceans in the Black Sea - Romanian waters
- monitoring the impacts of climate change and pollutants effects on cetaceans
- avoid or minimize producing noise in the Marine Protected Areas, as well as in areas containing critical habitat of cetaceans
- monitoring bycatch and using on-board observers
- develop a specialized laboratory for post-mortem investigations on stranded marine mammals
- establishing the functionality of the national cetacean stranding monitoring network involving authorities, institutes, NGOs etc
- strengthening the control on the implementation of the legal framework concerning the cetacean conservation
- identify funds for implementing the Work Programme 2023-2025 and the National Action Plan for the conservation of cetaceans in the Black Sea.

SLOVENIA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : SLOVENIA

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Andrej BIBIC

Email: andrej.bibic@gov.si

Tel: +386 14787471

Address: Sector for Nature Conservation, Directorate for the Environment, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Dunajska 47, SI-1000 Ljubljana - SLOVENIA

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- *Since 2008, the National Focal Point is Mr Andrej BIBIC*
- *In 2006 and 2007, the National Focal Point was Mr Andrej ARIH*

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

- *2007- 2010 - 2013 – 2016- 2019*

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- *Date entry into force : 17/08/2006*
- *Competent authority : Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning*

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Driftnets are forbidden as Slovenia is an EU Member State

  Transposition at National Level: yes

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Deposit of the tool: 09/06/2016

  Competent authority: Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

- *The land border and maritime boundary between the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Croatia was determined by the Final Award of the Arbitral Tribunal in the matter of an Arbitration under the Arbitration Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Croatia, signed on 4 November 2009.*

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:
  - Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning / Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor
  - *Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia / Agencija Republike Slovenije za okolje*
  - Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation / Zavod Republike Slovenije za varstvo narave

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Morigenos - Slovenian Marine Mammal Society / Morigenos - slovensko društvo za morske sesalce

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  - National Biology Institute, Marine Biology Station

- Rescue centres:
- Dolphinaria:
- Whale-watching operators:
- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

Ratifications of Conventions, agreements and protocols:

- *Act of 24/09/ 1998 Ratifying the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Act of 14/07/2006, ratifying the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Act of 21.12.1999, Ratifying the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, Amendment to the Convention and Amendments I, II, III, and IV to the Convention (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Act of 15.06.1999, on Ratification of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Act of 25.10.2002 Ratifying the Protocol on Special Protected Areas and Mediterranean Biodiversity (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Act of 16.05.1996, Ratifying the Convention on Biological Diversity (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Act of 23.06.2006, ratifying the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling and the Protocol to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, signed at Washington under date December 2, 1946 (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Act of 29.09.2003, Ratifying the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)*
- *Act of 04/03/2016 Ratifying the Amendments to the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (Parliament)*
- *Nature conservation Act 23/15 amended 46/14*
- *Decree on important ecological areas 33/13 amended 99/13*
- *Decree determining Special Protection Areas (Natura 2000) 8/12 amended 33/13, 3345/13 and 3/14*
- *Rules on designation and protection of natural assets 23/15*

Transfer of European Union Council Directives and regulations

- *Enacting on 12/02/1982 the Council Regulation (EEC) No 348/81 of 20 January 1981 on common rules for imports of whales or other cetacean products (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Enacting on 22/07/1992 the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural*

habitats and of wildfauna and flora (Ministry in charge of Environment)

- *Enacting on 03/03/1997 the Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade there in (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Enacting on 09/04/1999 the Council Directive 1999/22/EC of 29 March 1999 relating to the keeping of wild animals in zoos (Ministry in charge of Environment)*
- *Enacting on 31/12/2002 the Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 of 20 December 2002 on the conservation and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources under the Common Fisheries Policy Authority (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)*
- *Enacting on 12/07/2007 the Council Regulation (EC) No 809/2007 of 28 June 2007 amending Regulations (EC) No 894/97, (EC) No812/2004 and (EC) No 2187/2005 as concerns drift nets Authority. (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)*
- *Enacting on 12/05/2007 the Council Regulation (EC) No 520/2007 of 7 May 2007 laying down technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species and repealing Regulation (EC) No 973/2001 Authority: (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)*
- *Enacting on 08/02/2007 the Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006 of 21 December 2006 concerning management measures for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea, amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1626/94 Authority: (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)*

National legislation

- *Nature Conservation Act, (Official Gazette of RS No 96/04 – UPB, 61/06 – ZDru-1, 8/10 – ZSKZ-B, 46/14, 21/18 – ZNOrg, 31/18, 82/20, 3/22 – ZDeb in 105/22 – ZZNŠPP) (Ministry of Environmentand Physical Planning)*
- *Decree on Protected Wild Animal Species (Official Gazette of RS No 46/04, 109/04, 84/05) (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning)*
- *Decree on the Course of Conduct and Protection Measures in the Trade in Animal and Plant Species Official Gazette of RS No52/04) (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning)*
- *Order on the Living Conditions for and care of Wild Animals in Captivity (Official Gazette of RS No 90/01) (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning)*
- *Rules on the Assessment of Risk to Nature and on the Authorization Official Gazette of RS No 43/02) (Ministry of Environment andPhysical Planning)*
- *Decree on the Rescue Centre for Animals of Wild Species (Official Gazette of RS No 98/02) (Official Gazette of RS No 98/02)(Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning)*
- *Decree on Zoos and Similar Facilities (Official Gazette of RS No, 98/02 (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning)*
- *Rules on the Marking of Animals of Wild Species Kept in Captivity (Official Gazette of RS No 58/04) (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning)*
- *Rules on the Inclusion of Endangered Plant and Animal Species in the Red List Official Gazette of RS No 82/02) (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning)*
- *Marine Fisheries Act (Official Gazette of RS No 115/06) (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)*
- *Decree on designation of the sea fishing area of the Republic of Slovenia (Official Gazette of RS No 2/06)*

(Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)

- *Rules concerning marine sports fishing and submarine sports and recreational fishing Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food)*
- *27/10/2012 Decree on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Official Gazette of RS No 69/03) (Ministry responsible for fisheries)*
- *The Nature Conservation Act is the framework act regulating nature protection in Slovenia. According to its provisions, animals and plants are under special state protection and extermination of any species or reducing their populations, reducing or intentionally damaging habitats or worsen their living conditions is prohibited. It is mandatory to notify the captive keeping of large mammals, birds and reptiles of all species listed in the ratified international treaties, including cetaceans. An authorisation is required for keeping non-indigenous or indigenous species in captivity for the purposes of public exhibition or breeding. The import, export and transit of species to which ratified international treaties or EU regulations apply are also subject to the authorisation of the Ministry. Since 1 May 2004, international trade in wildlife species and their trade within EU territory have been directly regulated by Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 and Commission Regulations adopted on its basis. The implementation of the provisions of the Act and regulations issued pursuant to it is supervised by customs and the nature conservation inspectors and inspectors of other sectors, sanctions are laid down in Articles 161 and 162.*
- *The Decree on the course of conduct and protection measures in the trade in animal and plant species fully implements CR (EC)No 338/97 in Slovenia. This Decree also lays down the course of conduct and protection measures in the trade in specimens of animal and plant species protected under regulations governing the protection of wild animal and plant species, and the conditions for breeding specimens of wild animal species and artificially propagating specimens of wild plant species. Furthermore, the Decree governs the registration of scientists and scientific institutions (transposition of CITES Res. Conf. 11.15),the disposal of seized and confiscated specimens (transposition of CITES Res. Conf. 9.10), the competencies of authorities (CITES Management, Scientific and Enforcement Authorities), and lays down penalties.*
- *In Slovenia, main objectives of Bird and Habitat Directives relating to the animals of wildlife species are transposed into domestic legislation with The Decree on Protected Wild Animal Species. It protects wild animal species listed in corresponding Annexes and it lays down protection regimes and measures to maintain their favourable conservation status. All cetacean species are under strict protection of the Decree. The provisions of the Decree apply to live and dead animals, parts and derivatives and also different animal structures (e.g. nests). The Decree prohibits harming, poisoning, killing, taking from the wild, hunting, capturing or disturbing animals of protected species or deliberate destructing their structures. It also prohibits wild taken animals to be kept in captivity and their parts or derivatives or structures to be possessed. According to the Decree, it is not allowed to transport, move, sell, exchange or offer for sale live or dead animals taken from the wild. The ministry can also temporarily prohibit activities that threaten the existence of protected animal species, their lives or habitats.*
- *The Order on the living conditions for and care of wild animals kept in captivity prescribes minimal standards of proper living conditions and care for keeping animals of wild species in captivity. Article 8 also requires that anyone who possesses an animal of species listed in Annex 2 must notify the ministry in 30 days after the specimen has been acquired.*
- *The Rules on the assessment of risk to nature and on the authorisation prescribe conditions and methods for the assessment of risk to nature prior to the introduction or repopulation of non-native wild species in the wild or the breeding of non-native wild animal species. Also the conditions for legal or natural persons to obtain an authorization for carrying out such assessments arelaid down in the Rules.*
- *Rescue centres for wild animals are established in accordance with provisions of the Decree on the rescue centre for animals of wild species. The Decree prescribes the duties of such facilities, procedure for the selection of qualified persons and the conditions, the method of financing animal protection and supervision. A rescue centre is intended only for temporary care or treatment of sick or injured animals, abandoned young animals and seized animals due to violations of nature conservation legislation. Temporary care should not exceed 3 months after*

admittance in the rescue centre, except for the seized animals, where temporary care is assured until final decision by the competent authority.

- *Slovenia fully transposed the provisions of the Council Directive 1999/22/EC of 29 March 1999 relating to the keeping of wild animals in zoos into domestic legislation with the Decree on zoos and similar facilities. The Decree lays down rules for the keeping of wild animals in captivity for exhibition to the public. If the animals are kept during public gatherings, for the purpose of breeding or décor, or are kept in pet shops, they are not considered to be exhibited to the public.*
- *The Rules on the Marking of Animals of Wild Species Kept in Captivity regulates unique and permanent marking of all live mammals, birds and reptiles kept in captivity belonging to species strictly protected by the Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 orby domestic legislation. The Rules also lay down the exact methods of marking, the types of marks, the manner of supplying and ordering marks and the control of animal marking.*
- *The Rules on the inclusion of endangered plant and animal species in the Red List define if the animals or plants of wild species are considered to be endangered and assign them one of the IUCN threat categories. According to Rules, all cetacean species native to Slovenia are listed in the Red List as endangered (E).*

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- *25.000-50.000 EUR yearly*

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (1995)		*04/04/2006*		*15/06/2006*	
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)				*15/3/1994*	
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)		*16/05/1996*		*09/10/1996*	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		*21/12/1999*		*23/04/2000*	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)			*24/10/1998*	*01/02/1999*	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)		*15/06/1999*		*01/01/2000*	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution					

(Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean	*25/05/2000*	*27/02/2004*		*27/03/2004*	
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean	*01/05/1992*				
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)		*23/6/2006*		*14/7/2006*	
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)		*18/05/1995*	*06/06/1995*	*04/04/2006*	

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

- *Act Ratifying the Treaty on Marine Fisheries Between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Croatia (Official Gazette of RS-MP, No 3/1996) - Date of acceptance by the Parliament: 30.01.1996 - Date of publishing in OJ: 16.02.1996 - Date when Act entered into force: 17.02.1996 - Countries concerned: Slovenia, Croatia - Responsible authorities: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food*

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin				
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin			X	
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin				
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale				

PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale		X		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale			X	
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale		X		

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- **Slovenian Dolphin Project -** An ongoing long-term project encompassing all aspects of dolphin biology, ecology and conservation, utilising boat-based and land-based surveying, focal follows, photo-identification, behavioural sampling, acoustic monitoring, biopsy sampling, aerial photogrammetry to study abundance, social structure, reproductive ecology, feeding ecology, behaviour, population structure, health, threats and status of bottlenose dolphins in the Gulf of Trieste. Slovenian Dolphin Project is an overall umbrella project under which specific projects (listed below) are implemented. Contact: Tilen Genov, Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society
- **Monitoring of dolphins in Slovenian waters for the period 2021–2022** Estimating the abundance, distribution and conservation status of common bottlenose dolphins in Slovenian waters via boat surveys, photo-identification and mark-recapture techniques. Contact: Tilen Genov, Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society
- **Monitoring of dolphins in Slovenian waters for the period 2021–2022** Estimating the abundance, distribution and conservation status of common bottlenose dolphins in Slovenian waters via boat surveys, photo-identification and mark-recapture techniques. Contact: Tilen Genov, Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- **Assessment of bycatch of marine mammals in fishing gear in Slovenia and proposal for future monitoring of bycatch and marine litter impacts -** Assessment of bycatch of marine mammals in fishing gear and proposal for future monitoring of marine mammal bycatch and marine litter impacts. Contact: Tilen Genov, Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society
- **Pilot monitoring for the assessment of impacts of underwater noise from maritime traffic on marine mammals in Slovenia -** Acoustic monitoring of common bottlenose dolphins and underwater noise via acoustic loggers, visual monitoring of vessel traffic and visual monitoring of common bottlenose dolphins. Contact: Tilen Genov, Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

- **Preparation of guidelines for monitoring and management of mobile species in Landscape park Strunjan, carried out in the framework of Interreg project MPA Networks** - Development of long-term guidelines and strategies for monitoring and management of (marine mammals, sea turtles and sea birds) in the marine protected area of the Landscape park Strunjan. Contact: Tilen Genov, Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

- **Dolphin education centre -** Development of a science and education centre in Piran, Slovenia, aimed at education, improving awareness, building capacity and disseminate information. Infrastructure and funding has been obtained, works are currently in place to open the centre in early 2023. The dolphin education centre will be open to the public and used as a hub for international exchange, workshops, scientific research and education activities. Contact: Tilen Genov, Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society

Please list any other relevant projects

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- *Yes*

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- *Slovenia has unformal stranding network, as there was no case of a stranding of a cetacean in Slovenia in last 10 years. Establishing a formal national stranding network requires formal inclusion in working programmes of public institutions or contracts with non-public institutions (NGOs included), all having budgetary consequences. With no cases of stranding all this effort would not be rational and cost efficient.*

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- *Yes*

*2.4. **Red List of cetaceans** at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- *There is a SSC at IUCN - Cetacean Specialist Group with members from the Adriatic region and a member from Slovenia. Sea under Slovenian jurisdiction is to small for a meaning full national Red List of cetaceans, there are regional efforts for an updated regional Red List.*

*2.5. Existence or preparation of **conservation management plan** for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

*2.2.1. **Interaction with fisheries**. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following*

techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.

- Interactions between bottlenose dolphins and fisheries in Slovenia are common and well-documented (Genov et al. 2008, Kotnjek 2016, Genov et al. 2019, Genov 2020). While most common interactions are with bottom trawlers, bottom-set gill and trammel nets are the main bycatch risk (Genov 2020, Morigenos, unpublished data). Mortality related to ingestion of fishing gear resulting from depredation has been documented (Genov 2020).

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

- There is no commercial whale- or dolphin-watching in Slovenia. ACCOBAMS Partner Morigenos carries out dolphin research courses, in which citizen scientists participate in non-commercial research activities, carried out under a scientific permit.

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- Landscape park Strunjan (managing body of the largest MPA in Slovenia) and Morigenos are jointly developing activities related to the study, monitoring and conservation of cetaceans within and around the MPA.

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

- Morigenos carries out a range of public awareness activities, including annual summer Dolphin Day in Piran, annual winter Dolphin Night in Ljubljana, annual Dolphin Research Courses in summer, “Adopt a dolphin” campaign, morigenos.org website, social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), mainstream media, popular articles and interviews, and various events and lectures. Morigenos regularly attends various types of events, presenting lectures on the conservation of cetaceans in the northern Adriatic and the Mediterranean, working with universities, secondary and primary schools, kindergartens, other NGOs, MPA managers, divers, etc. In relation to recreational boat traffic and the associated underwater noise, Morigenos actively promotes a code of

conduct for responsible behaviour at sea and around cetaceans, in order to minimise the effects of noise disturbance. For this reason, Morigenos produced and regularly distributes dedicated leaflets for boat owners. Space and funding for a new education centre in Piran was procured during 2021-2022. The education centre is scheduled to be open for public in early 2023.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

Organisation of student practice, internships, Erasmus exchange programme, dissertations and field courses by Morigenos in collaboration with Universities of Ljubljana, Maribor, Primorska and Bologna.

SPAIN

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : SPAIN

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Elvira GARCÍA-BELLIDO CAPDEVILA

Email: EMGBellido@miteco.es

Tel: +34 91 597 65 79

Address: SG de Biodiversidad Terrestre y MarinaDG de Biodiversidad, Bosques y Desertificación Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica y el Reto Demográfico Pl. San Juan de la Cruz, 10E-28071-Madrid, Spain

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- From 2015 to 2018 the National focal point was Mr. Jorge Alonso Rodriguez
- From 2009 to 2011, the National focal point was Mr. José Luis Buceta Miller
- From the begining to 2008, the National focal point was Sr. D. Miguel Aymerich Huyghues

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

November 2004, MOP2
November 2004, BU2

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

Underwater noise

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- Date entry into force: 01/06/2001
- Competent authority:

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Order of 22/10/1990 banning the use of drift nets (National and Regional Governments)

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Deposit of the tool: 10/01/2013

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

- Spanish Mediterranean and Iberian Atlantic waters, including the external limit of marine waters covered by Spanish sovereignty or jurisdiction (including the Exclusive Economic Zone y Atlantic and Mediterranean) established by Spain
- Territorial waters of the Mediterranean Sea, from the French boundary to Punta Negra - Cape of Gata (SE Spain). Twelve-mile width in territorial waters measured with reference to the base lines.- Territorial waters from Punta Negra - Cape of Gata to Gibraltar Straits. Width measured from the low tide level (12 miles).
- Spanish territorial waters of the Gibraltar Straits. An equidistant line marks the width of territorial waters for each country from the base lines, if they had been established, otherwise from the low tide level
- Spanish territorial waters of the Contiguous Atlantic Area, both South and North of the Portuguese boundaries

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:

- Regional Governments (Environment and Fisheries authorities)
- Directorate General of Sustainability of the Coast and the Sea (Ministry for Ecological Transition)
- Directorate General of Fisheries Resources and Aquaculture (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food)

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - ALNITAK (Marine Environment Research and Education Centre)
  - SEC Sociedad española de cetáceos (Spanish Cetacean Society)
  - GREENPEACE Spain
  - WWF Spain
  - CRAM Fundación para la Conservación y Recuperación de Animales Marinos (CRAM Foundation, Conservation and Recovery of Marine Animals Foundation)
  - AULA DEL MAR Málaga –Andalucia (The voice of the sea, Sea Lecture Room)
  - OCEANA (Regional Office for Europe)
  - MUSEO DEL MAR DE CEUTA (Sea Museum of Ceuta)
  - SOC Cádiz (Oceanic Cetacean Society)
  - SUBMON (Conservation, study and awareness of the marine environment)
  - ESPARTE Sociedad Andaluza para la Conservación y el Estudio de los Cetáceos (Andalusian Society for the Study of Cetaceans)
  - ANSE Asociación de Naturalistas de Sureste (Association of Southeastern Naturalists, Región de Murcia)
  - ECOLOGISTAS EN ACCIÓN (Ecologists into Action)
  - BALAENA (Association for the study, conservation and research)
  - CIRCE Conservación, Información y Estudio sobre Cetáceos (Conservation, Information and Research on Cetaceans)
  - LA ISLA DE LOS DELFINES, Comunidad Valenciana (The Isle of Dolphins)
  - CEPESMA Coordinadora para el Estudio y la Protección de las Especies Marinas (Coordinating Committee for the Study and Protection of Marine Species)
  - ALNILAM (Research and Conservation Ltd.)
  -AMBAR Sociedad para el Estudio y la Conservación de la Fauna Marina (Society for the Study and Conservation of Marine Fauna)
  - EIBE Euskal Izurde eta Balezaleen Elkartea- Asociación Vasca de Amigos de los Del?nes y Ballenas (Basque Assosiation of Friends of Dolphins and Whales)
  - CEMMA Coordinadora para o Estudo dos Mamíferos Mariños (Coordinating Committee for the Study of Marine Mammals)

- SECAC Sociedad para el Estudio de los Cetáceos en el Archipiélago Canario (Society for the Study of Cetaceans in the Canary Archipelago)
- Asociacion Tursiops
- Asociacion EDMAKTUB

- Research Institutes / Universities:
  - CSIC-EBD - Doñana Biological Estation, Spanish National Research Council (Ministry of Economy andCompetitiveness
  - IEO - Spanish Institute of Oceanography (Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness)
  - University of Vigo
  - University of Valencia. Cavanilles Institute of Biodiversity and Evolutionary Biology
  - University of Barcelona. Department of Biology
  - University Autónoma of Madrid
  - University of Cádiz
  - University of Islas Baleares
  - University of Sevilla
  - University Complutense of Madrid. Group for the Study of Animal and Human Behaviour (GECAH)
  - University of Oviedo
  - University of País Vasco
  - University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. Animal Health and Food Safety R+D+i Institute
  - Azti Foundation

- Rescue centres:
  - VALENCIA: Recovery Centres of Santa Faz (Alicante), La Granja (Valencia) and Forn del Vidre (Castellón) (Environmental Department of the Government of Valencia)
  - VALENCIA: ARCA del Mar, Oceanogrà_c (Rehabilitation and Conservation Area of Marine Species, City of Arts and Sciences)
  - ALMERIA: Asociación para la protección y rescate de fauna Equinac
  - ANDALUCIA: CEGMA del Estrecho (Centre for the Management of the Andalusian Marine Environment of the Strait of Gibraltar)
  - ANDALUCIA: CREA-CEGMA del Odiel (Centre for the Management of the Andalusian Marine Environment of Odiel)
  - ISLAS BALEARES: Fundación Aspro Natura (Aspro Natura Foundation)
  - CANTABRIA: Centro de Recuperación de Fauna Silvestre de Cantabria - Recovery Centre for Wildlife of Cantabria (Regional Government of Cantabria)

- CATALUÑA: Fundación CRAM, Fundación para la Conservación y Recuperación de Animales Marinos – CRAM Foundation, Foundation for the Conservation and Recovery of Marine Animals
- MURCIA: Centro de Recuperación de Fauna Silvestre "El Valle" - Recovery Centre for Wildlife "El Valle"

- Dolphinaria:
- Whale-watching operators:
- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- *Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. All cetacean species are included in,and protected by, the Royal Decree. Article 10 of the Royal Decree 1997/1995 provides that, all species included in Annex IV(i.e., all species of cetaceans) should be granted the measures of protection set forth in the Law 4/1989 and in the Royal Decree439/1990.*
- *Royal Decree 1997/1995 of 07/12/1995, concerning the conservation of natural habitats and of the wild Fauna and Flora.(National and Regional Governments)*
- *Law 42/2007 of 13/12/2007on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity (National and Regional Governments) https://boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2007-21490*
- *- Law 33/2015 of 22/09/2015 amending Law 42/2007 of 13/12/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity (National Government) https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2015-10142*
- *Royal Decree 139/2011 of 04/02/2011for the development of the List of Wildlife Species under a Special Protection Regime and the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species (National and Regional Governments) https://www.boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-2011-3582*
- *Law 21/2013 of 11/12/2013, on Environmental Assessment (National Government) https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2013-12913*
- *Royal Decree 1727/2007 of 21/12/2007, for the conservation of cetaceans (National Governments) https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2008/01/12/pdfs/A02292-02296.pdf*
- *Order APM / 427/2017, of 4/5/2017, that approves the protection measures, and the Conservation Plan of the Killer Whale of the Strait and Gulf of Cádiz*
- *Law 41/2010 of 29/12/2010, on the protection of the marine environment (National and Regional Government*
- *Law 31/2003 of 27/10/2003, on the conservation of wild fauna in zoological parks (National Government)*
- *Royal Decree 1599/2011 of 04/11/2011, establishing the criteria for inclusion of marine protected areas in the Marine Protected Areas Network in Spain (National and Regional Governments)*
- *Royal Decree 1620/2012 of 30/11/2012, on the declaration of the Site of Community Importance Estrecho Oriental ES6120032of the Mediterranean Biogeographical Region of the Natura 2000 Network as Special Area*

of Conservation, and on the adoption of its correspondent conservation measures (National and Regional Governments)

- *Order AAA/1299/2014 of 21/07/2014, that approved the proposal of inclusion in the List of Sites of Community Importance of the Natura 2000 Network the marine areas (ESZZ16001 Sistema de cañones submarinos occidentales del Golfo de León,ESZZ16002 Canal de Menorca, ESZZ12002 Volcanes de fango del Golfo de Cádiz and ESZZ12001 Banco de Galicia) (National Government)*
- *Order AAA/2280/2014 of 4/12/2014, that approved the proposal of inclusion in the List of Sites of Community Importance of the Natura 2000 Network the marine areas (ESZZ12003 Sistema de Cañones Submarinos de Avilés, ESZZ16003 Sur de Almería-Secode los Olivos, ESZZ16005 Espacio Marino de Alborán, ESZZ16004 Espacio Marino de Illes Columbretes y ESZZ) (National Government)*
- *Royal Decree 699/2018, of June 29, declaring the Cetacean Migration Corridor as a Marine Protected Area, a preventive protection regime is approved and it is proposed to be included in the List of Specially Protected Areas of Importance for the Mediterranean (ZEPIM List) under the Barcelona Convention.*
- *Order of 22/10/1990 banning the use of drift nets (National and Regional Governments)*

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- *National General Budget from the Ministry for Ecological Transition*
- *Project funding from the Life and FEMP through the Biodiversity Foundation*

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)		*19/12/2003*			
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)	23/07/1998	08/12/1999		30/08/1999	
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)	*16/02/1976*	*17/12/1976*			
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	*13/06/1992*	*21/12/1993*		*29/12/1993*	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)	*16/05/1986*			*28/08/1986*	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	*19/09/1979*	*13/05/1986*		*01/10/1986*	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)		*22/01/1985*		*01/05/1985*	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest					

Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean		*19/10/1953*			
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)	*06/07/1979*				
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic	*22/09/1992*	*25/01/1994*		*25/03/1998*	*25/03/1998*
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)	*04/12/1984*	*15/01/1997*			

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

- *GFCM: 19/10/1953*
- *ICCAT: 21/03/1969*

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise			x	It is common on the North-Atlantic Demarcation. It is genetically different from the harbour porpoise of the rest of Europe. The 60% Stranded animals have no get the sexual maturation. Its principal threat is the by catch.
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin	X			
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin	X			
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale	X			It is Common to be seen in spring and summer in the Strait of Gibraltar
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale	X			
ZIPHIIDAE					

Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale	X		X	It is considered "Common" in Alboran Sea In the rest of Spanish waters it would be "occasional
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale	X			The deep-water shelf and slope areas of the eastern Balearic archipelago contain a high density of Mediterranean sperm whales (Physeter macrocephalus). Both social units and mature males are consistently observed here. It's considered a reproductive area.
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale	X			It is known to be present along the Spanish coast in the called Migration Corridor of cetaceans
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)
Please list any other relevant projects

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- *Spain evaluates the conservation state of the cetaceans present in its waters following the evaluation criteria establish in the Resolución de 6 de marzo de 2017, de la Dirección General de Calidad y Evaluación Ambiental y Medio Natural, por la que se publica el Acuerdo del Consejo de Ministros de 24 de febrero de 2017, por el que se aprueban los criterios orientadores para la inclusión de taxones y poblaciones en el Catálogo Español de Especies Amenazadas (https://www.boe.es/eli/es/res/2017/03/06)*
- *Now, we are processing the change of category from Vulnerable to Endangered for the Harbour Porpoise in the Spanish own Catalogue of Endangered Spec*

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- *Order APM / 427/2017, of 4/5/2017, that approves the protection measures, and the Conservation Plan of the Killer Whale ofthe Strait and Gulf of Cádiz.*
- *The Harbour Porpoise Conservation Plan is being elaborated.*
- *Spanish Ministry will develop three conservation plans: for misticetes, deep water cetaceans and small cetaceans in the framework of the Integrated Project LIFE INTEMARES (by 2023)*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, ***strandings*** *and* ***rescue centres***

2.2.7. ***Captivity*** *related issues and Dolphinaria*

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- *According to RAC/SPA and MedPAN, in 2016, the Database on marine protected areas MAPAMED includes*

for Spain 190 sites, some of them with multiple denominations. The marine coverage represents 30,459.03 km2 or 11.66% of waters under national jurisdiction

- *MPA Corredor de Migración de Cetáceos del Mediterráneo Cabo de Gata-Níjar.Marine Reserve for Fisheries Cabo de Palos-Islas Hormigas.Marine Reserve for Fisheries Cala Ratjada-Levante de Mallorca.Marine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de Alborán.Marine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de la Graciosa e Islotes del Norte de Lanzarote Marine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de la PalmaMarine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de Tabarca.Marine Reserve for Fisheries Islas Columbretes.Marine Reserve for Fisheries Masía Blanca.Marine Reserve for Fisheries Punta de la Restinga - Mar de las Calmas*
- *MPA/SAC ES90ATL01 El Cachucho*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Cabo de Gata-Níjar.*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Cabo de Palos-Islas Hormigas*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Cala Ratjada-Levante de Mallorca.*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de Alborán.*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de la Graciosa e Islotes del Norte de Lanzarote*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de la Palma*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Isla de Tabarca.*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Islas Columbretes.*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Masía Blanca.*
- *Marine Reserve for Fisheries Punta de la Restinga - Mar de las Calmas*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

SYRIA

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : SYRIA

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: Ruba AL KRNJI

Email: int.coop@mola.gov.sy

Tel: +(963-11) 2318682

Address: Biodiversity, Land and Natural Reserves Directorate Ministry of local Administration and Environment Damascus, Syria P.O.Box: 3773

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- *Since 20222, the National Focal Point is Eng. Ruba AL KENJ*
- *From 2015 to 20222, the National Focal Point was Eng. Angie ALSHLLI*
- *In 2013 and 2010, the National Focal Point was Mr.Mhmmad MHMMAD I*
- *In 2007, the National Focal Point was Eng. Buthayana JRAI*
- *In 2004, the National Focal Point was Dr.Akram Issa DARWISH*

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

- *2004 - 2007 - 2010 - 2013 - 2016 - 2019*

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties:

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- *Date entry into force :01/06/2002*
- *Competent authority : Ministry of Local Administration and Environment*

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

- *It includes the Syrian marine waters from the Turkish Boarder down to the Lebanese boarder.*

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:
  - Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (General Commission for Fish)
  - Ministry of Local Administration and Environment – (Directorate of Biodiversity, Land and Natural reserves)
  - Ministry of Transportation (General Directorate of Ports)

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - The Syrian Society for Conservation of Wildlife (SSCW)

- Research Institutes / Universities:

- Rescue centres:

- Dolphinaria:

- Whale-watching operators:

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- *There is no special law for conservation of Cetacean but there is an old law (conservation of Aquatic Organisms Law 1964).*

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)	*25/05/1978*	*26/12/1978*		*12/12/1978*	
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)				*29/12/1993*	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)					
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)					
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)					
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)					
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean					
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the					

Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)	*22/12/2002*				
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)					

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise				
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin				
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			Jul 2006 (Jableh), Oct. 2006 (Ibn Hani), April 2007 (Banias), April, 2007 (Tartous), and May 2007 (Ibn Hani)
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin		X		Striped dolphins and short-beaked common dolphins were reported by local fishermen. As identification of small dolphins at sea is sometimes difficult even for the specialist, and these two species may be mistaken, undocumented reports should be taken with caution.
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X	X		Short-beaked common dolphins and striped dolphins were reported by local fishermen. As identification of small dolphins at sea is sometimes difficult even for the specialist, and these two species may be mistaken, undocumented reports should be taken with caution.
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale			X	Jun, 1991 (south of latakia)

Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale				March,2005 (Al-Basit), April, 2005 (Borj Islam), and March, 2008 (Rmielah)
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale			X	April, 2005(Tartous Beach)
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale			X	April, 2005 (Tartous), and several Reports of occasional sightings of large whales close to shore fishermen were not sure about the species involved - possibly sperm whales).
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale				
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale			X	March, 2003 (Tartous (Hosin Al Baher)

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?
2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

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Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of

work

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TUNISIA

FORMAT DES RAPPORTS NATIONAUX 2020-2022

Pays : TUNISIE

POINT FOCAL NATIONAL, RAPPORTS NATIONAUX, PRINCIPAUX ENJEUX ET BESOINS

A. Détails du point focal national (email, téléphone, adresse)

Prénom Nom : Dhekra HAYOUNI EP HABBASSI
Courriel : hayouni.dhekra@gmail.com
Tel :+216 71 786833
*Adresse :*Direction de la préservation des ressources halieutiques - Direction Générale de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture Ministère d'Agriculture, des Ressources hydrauliques et de la Pêche30 rue Alain Savary1002 Tunis – TUNISIA

B. Énumérez les points focaux nationaux (PFN) successifs et la période couverte

Depuis 2014, le PFN est Dhekra HAYOUNI EP HABBASSI

- De 2008 à 2014, le PFN était M. Mohammed HAMANI
- De 2002 à 2008 et 2007, le PFN était M. Ahmed CHOUAYAKH
-

C. Date de soumission des rapports nationaux (indiquez les années où le rapport a été fourni):

2007- 2010 – 2013 – 2016 - 2019

D. Questions spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties. Problème(s) majeur(s), besoins spécifiques ou sujets d'actualité : veuillez fournir des détails sur les problèmes émergents, les menaces ou les difficultés rencontrées et indiquer ce qui devrait être mis en œuvre pour répondre aux problèmes soulevés.

1/ Besoins spécifiques et demandes à examiner par le Secrétariat, le Bureau, le Comité de suivi, le Comité Scientifique ou lors de la prochaine réunion des Parties :
Les données existantes sur l'abondance et la densité sont très anciennes (campagne INSTM-2005) et aussi limitées géographiquement (ASI-2018)

2/ Recommandations/suggestions pour améliorer l'état de conservation depuis les rapports régionaux du comité scientifique
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.

3/ Principaux problèmes ou menaces ou thématiques importantes :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Sujet qui est ou était important pour les cétacés dans la région, et que nécessiterait la considération et une action par le Comité Scientifique. Exemple de sujets : nombre d'échouages exceptionnellement élevé, ou nombre important de prospection sismiques planifiés, ou augmentation des ferry haute vitesse dans la région impliquant des risques accrus de collision, etc.).
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'ou les problèmes de la dépredation le bycatch et l'échouage.

SECTION MA - GESTION DE L'ACCORD (MA)

1. *Dates de signature (S), de ratification (R), d'acceptation (AC), d'approbation (AP) ou d'adhésion (AD) à l'ACCOBAMS et autorité compétente..*

- *Date de signature : 24/11/1996*
- *Date de ratification : 11/07/2001*
- *Date d'entrée en vigueur : 01/04/2002*
- Autorité compétente :

2. *Réserves exprimées conformément à l'article XV ou à l'article X de l'Accord*

3. *Date d'acceptation, signature, ratification des amendements; si en cours de traitement, veuillez indiquer l'autorité compétente, la procédure et les mesures prises.*

- Amendement à l'annexe 2 de l'Accord sur l'utilisation des filets maillants

Date d'entrée en vigueur: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
Transposition en loi nationale: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension de la zone geographique de l'ACCOBAMS

Etat du processus de ratification: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
Authorité compétente: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

4. *Dérogations autorisées conformément à l'art. II, paragraphe 2 de l'Accord et paragraphe 6 de l'annexe 2*

5. *Définition de la zone marine sous juridiction nationale incluse dans le d'application de l'Accord. Veuillez indiquer si des négociations sont en cours avec les pays voisin champ s pour les limites.*

- Eaux intérieures (Golfe de Tunis et Golfe de Gabès)
- Mer territoriale 12 milles marins à partir des lignes de base
- Zone de Pêche réservée couvrant les profondeurs allant jusqu'au 50 mètres dans le golfe de Gabès
- Deux accords sur l'extension du plateau continental ont été signés :
- Accord entre la Tunisie et l'Italie relatif à la délimitation du plateau continental entre les 2 pays (loi n° 72-16 du 10 mars 1972)
- Accord entre la Tunisie et la Libye concernant le plateau continental (loi n° 89-10 du 1er février 1989)

1.6. Lister les entités ayant compétence, responsabilité ou intérêt pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez examiner et compléter la liste fournie et décrire leurs activités. Veuillez préciser les mécanismes d'information / communication / coordination avec d'autres entités nationales.

- Organizations intergouvernementales :
- Rac/spa

- Autorités nationales/services de l'Etat
- Direction générale de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture, Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Hydrauliques et de la Pêche
- Commissariats Régionaux du Développement Agricole des gouvernorats côtiers (Ministère de l'Agriculture des Ressources Hydrauliques et de la Pêche)
- l'Agence de la Vulgarisation et de la Formation Agricole (AVFA)

- Marine Nationale (Ministère de la Défense Nationale)
- Garde Nationale (Ministère de l'intérieur)
- Agence pour la Protection et l'Aménagement du Littoral (APAL)
- Agence Nationale pour la Protection de l'Environnement (ANPE)
- Observatoire Tunisien pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable
- Conseil national des Aires Marines et Côtières Protégées

- Organizations non gouvernementales:
- Association Nationale du Développement Durable et de la Conservation de la Vie Sauvage (ANDDCVS)
- Association Tunisienne d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Cétacés (HOUTIYET)
- Association Tunisienne de Taxonomie (ATUTAX)
- Union Tunisienne de l'Agriculture et de la Pêche
- Association Notre Grand Bleu
- Association Jeunes Science Kerkennah

- Instituts de recherche/Universités:
- Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer (INSTM)
- Ecole Nationale de Médecine Vétérinaire (ENMV). Sidi Thabet

- Services de secours animalier:

- Dolphinaria:

- Société ou opérateurs Whale-watching:

- Autre:

1.7. Principaux textes législatifs et réglementaires nationaux concernant les cétacés.
Les textes peuvent concerner l'environnement (espèces ou zones protégées, biodiversité et pollution), la pêche, le transport maritime (collision), le tourisme, l'énergie, la pollution, l'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement ou d'autres sujets dans la mesure où ils peuvent concerner les cétacés. Indiquez la date, le titre, l'autorité responsable et le lien. Ajoutez une brève description ou citez les articles ou sections pertinents relatifs aux cétacés.

- Loi 94-13 sur l'exercice de la pêche de 1994, Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Hydrauliques et de la Pêche – MARHP)
- Arrêté règlementant l'exercice de la pêche en Tunisie du 28/11/1995 qui dans l'article 9 interdit strictement la pêche des cétacés.
- Arrêté du ministre de l'agriculture du 10 aout 1999 modifiant l'arrêté du 28 septembre 1995 règlementant l'exercice de la pêche qui interdit l'utilisation des filets dérivants, responsables d'une forte mortalité chez les cétacés, depuis le 01 janvier 2002 (article 15 – tiret 6).
- Des inspections aux ports sont assurées par les services de la pêche chargés de contrôle des débarquements et des engins de pêche à bord conformément aux dispositions de la Loi 94-13 sur l'exercice de la pêche de 1994, Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Hydrauliques et de la Pêche – MARHP)
- Loi 2009-17 du 16 mars 2009 relative au régime de repos biologique dans le secteur de la pêche et à son financement (MARHP)
- Loi 2009-49 relative aux aires marines et côtières protégées (Ministère de l'Environnement
- Loi 2001-68 du 11 juillet 2001 ratifiant ACCOBAMS
- Décret 2005-1991 de 2005, sur les Etudes d'Impact sur l'Environnement
- Loi n° 94-13 amendé par les lois 97-34, 99-74, 2009-17, 2009-59 et 2010-21 sur les activités de pêche et d'aquaculture

- Decret n° 97-1836 du 15 Septembre 1997, relatif a l'exercice des activites de recherche scientifique, d'exploration,de leve et de forage par des navires dans les eaux et le plateau continental tunisiens, ce texte indique que L'exercice des activités de recherche scientifique, d'exploration, de levé et de forage ainsi que l'utilisation à ces fins de tout navire ou tout autre engin marin, dans les eaux ou le plateau continental tunisiens sont soumis à une autorisation préalable délivrée par le ministre compétent. L'autorisation est accordée aux établissements ou organismes exerçant l'une des activités sus-mentionnées soit dans le cadre d'un accord avec le gouvernement de la République tunisienne soit dans un but scientifique.
- la loi n° 96-29 du 3 avril 1996, instituant un plan national d'intervention urgente pour lutter contre les évenements de pollution marine,
- *****On note que quatre decrets de création de 4 aires marines et cotières protégées sont en cours, à savoir : * la galite, zembra, les iles kneiss et les iles Kuriats**
- Loi n° 96-29 du 3 avril 1996, instituant un plan national d'intervention urgente pour lutter contre la pollution marine

1.8. Fonds réservés ou affectés à la recherche, au suivi et à la gestion des cétacés (y compris financement national, projets internationaux, régionaux ou sous-régionaux)

- 1- MAVA Foundation + ACCOBAMS + CAR/ASP + INSTM : Projet atténuation des interactions négatives entre les espèces marines menacées et les activités de pêche
- 2- ACCOBAMS : Échouage
- 3- MAVA Foundation + IUCN + ACCOBAMS + CAR/ASP + Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco + Agence Francaise pour la biodiversité : ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative (ASI)
- 4- MAVA Foundation + ACCOBAMS + CAR/ASP : Pescatourisme
- 5- MAVA Foundation + ACCOBAMS + CGPM + Birdlife + INSTM + AAO + CAR/ASP- Projet Bycatch
- 6 - MAVA Foundation + ACCOBAMS + CGPM + CAR/ASP + INAT + INSTM - Projet MAVA Déprédation (phase 1 & 2)
- 7- MAVA Foundation + ACCOBAMS + Birdlife International + MEDASSET + IUCN med + SPA/RAC + INSTM Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
- 8- Direction Générale de l'Environnement de la Commission Européenne : QUIETMED2
- 9. MEDPOL + CAR/ASP + Plan Bleu + PAP/RAC + Info RAC : EcAp Med (I, II, III)
- 10. UE + INSTM (partenaire 9) : le projet INDECIT (I & II) ”impacts of marine litter on seaturtles and biota in RSC and MSFD area

1.9. Conventions, commissions et accords internationaux ou régionaux pertinents auxquels le pays est Partie.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptation**	**Entrée en vigueur**	**Commentaires**
Accord des Nations Unies sur les stocks de poissons (1995)					
Accord sur la conservation des petits cétacés de la mer Baltique et de la mer du Nord (ASCOBANS)					
Annexe V concernant la protection et la conservation des écosystèmes et de la diversité biologique de l'espace maritime Convention OSPAR)					

Convention de Barcelone (1976)		*25/05/1997*			
Convention sur la diversité biologique (Rio, 1992)	*05/05/1992*	*03/05/1993*			
La Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction (CITES - Washington, 1973)	*21/03/1973*	*11/05/1974*			
Convention relative à la conservation de la vie sauvage et du milieu naturel de l'Europe (Berne, 1979)		*07/08/1995*			
Convention de Bonn (CMS, Bonn, 1979)	*23/06/1979*	*19/07/1986*			
Convention sur la protection de la mer Noire (Bucharest Convention)					
Commission Général des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM)	*25/09/1949*				
Commission internationale pour l'exploration scientifique de la Méditerranée (CIESM)					
Convention internationale pour la règlementation de la chasse à la baleine (Washington, 1946)					
Convention OSPAR pour la protection de l'environnement marin de l'Atlantique nord-est					
Convention des Nations unies sur le droit de la mer (Montego Bay, 1982)					

1.10. Accords de pêche bilatéraux ou multilatéraux concernant le domaine de l'Accord (tels que CGPM, ICCAT, accords de pêche écifiques avec l'Union européenne; fournissez les informations pertinentes comme la date de signature, la durée, la zone concernée, les mesures)

- La Commission Internationale pour la Conservation des Thonidés de l'Atlantique (ICCAT) . Cet organe est compétent en matière de conservation des thonidés de l'Atlantique et de la Méditerranée. La majorité des pays méditerranéens sont membres de cette commission. La Tunisie a ratifié l'accord créant l'ICCAT en vertu de la loi n° 97-66 du 27-10-1997·
- La commission Générale de la Pêche pour la Méditerranée (CGPM) : organe compétent en matière de conservation et d'aménagement des ressources halieutiques méditerranéennes. Tous les pays

méditerranéens sont membres de cette commission. La Tunisie a ratifié l'amendement au statut de la CGPM en vertu de la loi n° 202-35 du 1-4-2002

SECTION CA : ACTIONS DE CONSERVATION POUR LES CETACES (CA)

2.1: CA-1 - RECHERCHE ET SURVEILLANCE

2.1. Liste des cétacés signalés dans la zone de l'Accord sous la juridiction du pays (telle que définie à l'article I, paragraphe 3 f de l'Accord).

Légende: "C": Commun, "R": Rare, "O": Occasionnel

Nom scientifique	Nom français	C	R	O	Commentaires
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Marsouin commun			X	
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	dauphin à bec étroit				
Grampus griseus	dauphin de Risso			X	
Tursiops truncatus	Grand dauphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Dauphin bleu et blanc	X			
Delphinus delphis	Dauphin commun	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	Pseudorque				
Orcinus orca	Orque			X	
Globicephala melas	Globicephale noir			X	
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Baleine à bec de Blainville				
Ziphius cavirostris	Baleine à bec de Cuvier				
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Cachalot		X		
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Cachalot nain				
BALAENIDAE					

Eubalaena glacialis	Baleine franche de l'Atlantique nord				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Petit rorqual			X	
Balaenoptera borealis	Rorqual boreal				
Balaenoptera physalus	Rorqual commun	X			
Megaptera novaeangliae	Baleine à bosse				

2.2. Liste et description des programmes et des projets de recherche concernant les cétacés, en tenant compte des activités nationales, bilatérales et multilatérales.
Veuillez fournir des informations sur les programmes et projets couvrant notamment les thèmes suivants :

Amélioration des connaissances sur l'état des cétacés (estimations et répartition des populations de cétacés, structure de la population, surveillance de l'état des cétacés, réseaux d'échouage fonctionnels et réponses aux situations d'urgence, etc.)

- " ACCOBAMS SURVEY INITIATIVE est un projet développé et mis en œuvre par le Secrétariat Permanent de l'Accord sur la Conservation des Cétacés de la Mer Noire, de la Méditerranée et de l'Atlantique (ACCOBAMS). ASI bénéficie du soutien de la Fondation MAVA, de la Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco, du Fonds international pour la protection des animaux, du Ministère de la transition écologique de l'Espagne, de l'Agence Française pour la Biodiversité, du Ministère pour la Protection de l'Environnement, du Territoire et de la Mer d'Italie et du Gouvernement de la Principauté de Monaco mais aussi de tous les pays riverains de par la mobilisation de tous leurs scientifiques. il vise à mettre en place un système de suivi intégré et coordonné des cétacés, en établissant un cadre de référence pour évaluer l'abondance et la répartition des cétacés dans l'ensemble de la zone de l'ACCOBAMS. la Tunisie à participé a la mise en oeuvre de ce projet.

- Le projet espèces intitulé : "Support mechanism for filling key knowledge gaps for vulnerable species (marine mammals, seabirds, sea turtles and elasmobranchs) impacted by fisheries in selected areas of the Mediterranean" . Le projet est réalisé par le RAC/SPA en coordination AVEC ACCOBAMS, Birdlife International, MEDASSET, IUCN med. Il vise à améliorer les connaissances sur les espèces vulérables en Méditerranée et completer les bases de données excisantes afin de determiner des nouvelles zones d'importance pour la biodiversité. Ce projet est financé par la Fondation MAVA

Réduction des pressions humaines sur les cétacés (Interactions avec la pêche / aquaculture, Bruit anthropique sous-marin, Collisions avec les navires, Observation des cétacés, Débris marins, Pollution chimique et biologique, Changement climatique, Problèmes liés à la captivité)

- Le projet « Vers des solutions aux interactions entre les pêcheries et les cétacés dans les eaux marocaines et tunisiennes » (le projet MAVA Déprédation) vise à réduire la déprédation par les grands dauphins (Tursiops truncatus) dans les pêcheries de petits pélagiques à la senne coulissante au Maroc et en Tunisie. Ce projet est financé par la Fondation MAVA. La coordination générale du projet est assurée par les Secrétariats de l'ACCOBAMS et de la CGPM, en collaboration avec le CAR/ASP.

- le projet MedBycatch est un projet conjoint qui vise a Comprendre les prises accidentelles d'espèces vulnérables en Méditerranée (le projet est mis en œuvre dans trois pays Maroc, Tunisie et Turquie) et à tester les mesures d'atténuation. les espèces étudiées sont : élasmobranches, tortues de mer, mammifères marins, oiseaux de mer et invertébrés macrobenthiques. Il s'agit d'une partenariat entre l'ACCOBAMS, la Commission

Générale des Pêches pour la Méditerranée (CGPM) de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture (FAO), le Centre d'Activités Régionales pour les Aires Spécialement Protégées (CAR/ASP) du Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement / Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée (PNUE/PAM), l'Union Internationale pour la Conservation de la Nature – Centre de coopération pour la Méditerranée (UICN-Med), BirdLife International (BLI) et MEDASSET – Association méditerranéenne pour la sauvegarde des tortues marines. Financé par la Fondation MAVA .

- le projet INDECIT II « Indicator Impact Turtles - Implementation of the indicator "Impacts of marine litter on seaturtles and biota" in RSC and MSFD areas» est un projet collaboratif financé par la Commission Européenne, DG Environnement. La durée de l'exécution s'est étendue de l'année 2017 jusqu'à 2021. Il regroupe 12 partenaires scientifiques de huit pays de la Méditerranée et de la région est-atlantique (Espagne, Portugal, France, Italie, Tunisie, Turquie, Chypre et Grèce). L'INSTM est le partenaire scientifique qui représente la Tunisie. L'objectif principal de ce projet est l'étude des interactions des débris marins avec la faune marine (tortues marines, cétacés, oiseaux marins) pour l'évaluation de l'impact des déchets sur ces populations, en danger. Les activités entreprises ont contribué à établir des indicateurs de monitoring du bon état de l'environnement marin (BEE)
- le projet pilote "Pescatourisme" : il s'inscrit dans le cadre du projet "diminution des interactions négatives avec l'activité de la pêche " . Deux actions pilotes ont été réalisées : la première dans la région de Bizerte en 2019 et la deuxième au mois de juin 2022 dans la région de Monastir .

Conservation des habitats des cétacés

- Le projet EcAp-MEDIII : Support to efficient implementation of the Ecosystem Approach-based Integrated Monitoring and Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea and Coasts and to delivery of data-based 2023 Quality Status Report in synergy with the EU MSFD. L'objectif global du projet EcAp MED III est de contribuer à l'évaluation de l'état de la mer et des côtes méditerranéennes et à la fourniture d'un rapport sur l'état de la qualité 2023 basé sur des données afin de mesurer les progrès vers la réalisation du bon état écologique (GES). Le projet EcAp-MEDIII est financé par l'Union européenne (UE) – Direction générale de l'environnement (DG ENV).

Sensibilisation du public aux cétacés (Information /Communication / Sensibilisation aux cétacés)

***Musée JERBI** : Musée d'anatomie des animauxd'Afrique du nord. il est organisé en quatre sections thématiques, il présente une collection constituée de plus de 200 pièces de squelettes d'animaux terrestres et marins.*

***Ces derniers constituants la plus grande collection de cétacés d'Afrique du Nord,** des moulages en plâtre, des préparations angiologiques, des pièces séchées d'arthrologie et de myologie. Le musée d'anatomie est **un support pédagogique** qui permet aux étudiants et au public scolaire d'appréhender l'anatomie des animaux et leurs pathologies.*

Le musée est réalisé par le veterinare monsieur Hassen Jerbi

Tout autre projet pertinent

*2.3. **Échouage de cétacés***

Le pays a-t-il mis en place un réseau de suivi des échouages ?

- Oui

Si non, s'il vous plaît précisez pourquoi ? Si oui, veuillez indiquer le nom, les contacts et un lien vers la base de données.

- Officialisation du réseau national d'échouage par une décision ministérielle n° 327 du 29 janvier 2016
- Création d'un comité présidé par le Directeur Général de l'INSTM et composé des représentants des administrations et des organismes opérant dans le secteur de préservation du milieu marins et des ressources marines

Envoyez-vous des données à la base de données MEDACES? Pour les rapports et les publications, veuillez fournir des références et des liens dans l'Annexe 1.

- Oui

2.4. Liste rouge des cétacés au niveau national ou régional utilisant la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN.

Votre pays a-t-il développé ou participé à l'évaluation des cétacés dans vos eaux nationales ou au niveau régional? Si oui, veuillez décrire et fournir un résumé des résultats ou des liens vers des rapports et des publications. Si la loi exige l'utilisation de la méthodologie de la liste rouge de l'UICN, veuillez citer le texte juridique ou les articles pertinents.

2.5. Existence ou préparation de plans de gestion pour la conservation des cétacés. Veuillez fournir toute information pertinente

- Plan d'action pour la conservation des Cetaces de la Mer Mediterranée

2.2: CA-2: MESURES DE GESTION POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CETACÉS

Mesures de gestion ou de conservation introduites *pour atteindre et maintenir un état de conservation favorable pour les cétacés et réduire les menaces potentielles, conformément aux résolutions d'ACCOBAMS.*

2.2.1. Interaction avec les pêcheries. Veuillez fournir des informations sur les interactions existantes ou potentielles entre pêcheries et cétacés ou cétacés et pêcheries (texte et / ou tableau). En particulier, précisez les interactions avec les techniques suivantes: filets maillants, filets à senne coulissante, filets dérivants, palangres de surface ou autres, en indiquant les espèces et le nombre d'animaux capturés ou qui se prennent dans les filets et en précisant les mesures de gestion existantes ou prévues

- Les résultats **provisoires** des *enquêtes* de la première phase du projet MedBycatch montrent qu'aucune espèce de cétacé n'a été capturée le long des côtes Tunisiennes.

2.2.2. Réglementation de la navigation et collision avec des navires

2.2.3. Bruits anthropiques (tels que l'exploration ou l'exploitation des ressources minières ou des exercices militaires) et procédures d'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement (EIE)

- En Tunisie, toutes activités d'exploration ou activités existantes dans l'annexe 1 du Décret 2005-1991 de 2005, sur les Etudes d'Impact sur l'Environnement, sont soumises obligatoirement à l'étude d'impact sur l'environnement qui doit être validé par les autorités compétentes. Cette étude doit refléter l'incidence prévisible de l'unité sur l'environnement et aussi une analyse des conséquences sur les ressources naturelles, les espèces de faunes et de flores et le milieu naturel en général.
- En plus selon le Décret n° 97-1836 du 15 Septembre 1997, relatif à l'exercice des activités de recherche scientifique, d'exploration, de levé et de forage par des navires dans les eaux et le plateau continental tunisiens, L'exercice des activités de recherche scientifique, d'exploration, de levé et de forage ainsi que l'utilisation à ces fins de tout navire ou tout autre engin marin, dans les eaux ou le plateau continental tunisiens **sont soumis à une autorisation préalable délivrée par le ministre compétent et ceci après avoir l'avis d'une commission consultative des activités maritimes**. Cette commission regroupe des représentants des différents ministères en relation avec la mer.

2.2.4. Observation des baleines et autres activités commerciales de tourisme

2.2.5. Pollution marine, y compris les débris marins

2.2.6. Plans d'urgence pour la pollution, les échouages et les centres de sauvetage

- La Tunisie dispose conformément à la loi n° 96-29 du 3 avril 1996 d' un Plan National d'Intervention Urgente fixant le cadre et les mécanismes d'action rapide, efficace et coordonnée permettant aux pouvoirs publics de se prémunir et de lutter dans les meilleures conditions, contre les pollutions marines massives par les hydrocarbures et autres produits nocifs menaçant l'environnement marin et le littoral national.
  Le Plan National d'Intervention Urgente est mis en œuvre en cas d'un évènement de pollution massive affectant ou susceptible d'affecter les eaux marines soumises à la souveraineté ou à la juridiction nationale et

toute zone de la haute mer touchée par un évènement de pollution constituant une menace certaine de pollution pour l'environnement marin et le littoral national.

- Un réseau national d'échouage officialisé par une décision ministérielle n° 327 du 29 janvier 2016 . le réseau est coordonné par un comité présidé par le Directeur Général de l'INSTM et composé des représentants des administrations et des organismes opérant dans le secteur de préservation du milieu marins et des ressources marines

2.2.7. Problèmes relatifs à la captivité des dauphins et aux delphinariums

2.2.8. Aires marines protégées (AMP), zones de pêche, réserves de pêche ou autres mesures spatiales de conservation efficaces (OECM-CDB). Énumérez-les et indiquez si elles sont pertinentes pour développer des activités pour la conservation et la gestion des cétacés.

- According to RAC/SPA and MedPAN, in 2016, the Database on marine protected areas MAPAMED includes for Tunisia 17 sites, someof them with multiple denominations
- 1-Zembra biological protection zone, 1973
- 1-Zembra-Zembretta SPAMI, 2003
- 2-Galiton Nature reserve, 1980
- 2-Archipel de la Galite, SPAMI, 2001
- 3-Iles Kneiss Nature reserve, 1988
- 3-Iles Kneiss SPAMI, 2001
- 3-Iles Kneiss Ramsar site, 2007
- 4-Bahiret El Biban, Ramsar site, 2007
- 5-Djerba Bin El Ouedian, Ramsar site, 2007
- 6-Djerba Guellala, Ramsar site, 2007
- 7-Djerba Ras Rmel, Ramsar site, 2007
- 8-Ghar el Melh, Delta Madjerda, Ramsar site, 2007
- 9-Cap Bon Oriental, Ramsar site, 2007
- 10-Salines Thyna, Ramsar site, 2007
- 11-Sebkhet Soliman, Ramsar site, 2007
- 12-El Guetayate-Dhreia-Akarit-Rekhama-Meleh, Ramsar site, 2012
- 13-Golfe de Boughrara, Ramsar site, 2012
- 14-Archipel des Kerkennah, Ramsar site, 2012
- 15- Sebkhet Halk Elmanzel – Oued Essed, Ramsar site, 2012
- 16-Sebkhet Oum Ez-Zessar – El Grine, Ramsar site, 2013
- 17-Lac de Tunis, Ramsar site, 2013

2.2.9. Autres, s'il vous plaît spécifiez

2.3: CA-3: COMMUNICATION ET SENSIBILISATION SUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS

Veuillez lister toutes les activités de communication et de sensibilisation pertinentes

2.3.1. Principaux événements (réunion, symposium, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) organisés ou planifiés dans le pays,.

- La semaine de la Mégafaune Marine (20-25 mars 2022) à Monastir, l'action a été réalisée par WWF Tunsie , la faculté des sciences et INSTM en partenariat avec le CAR/ASP et association les amis des oiseauxTunisie et NASTNET. Au cours de la semaine, des formations en relation avec la conservation de la biodiversité marine ont été effectuées (cetacés/ tortues/elasmobranches).
- Journée de sensibilisation le 09 mars 2022 à l'institut Supérieur de l'Education Spécialisée sur les espèces marines vulnérables en Tunisie (cetacés/ tortues/elasmobranches).

2.3.2. Principaux événements à l'étranger (réunions, colloques, activités de sensibilisation, etc.) auxquels ont participé des experts nationaux

- La 5ème Conférence sur la Conservation des Cétacés dans les Pays du sud de la Méditerranée (CSMC5), accueillie par le Centre National des Sciences Marines du Liban (CNRS-L), s'est tenue en ligne du 13 au 15 avril 2021. Cette Conférence a été organisée par le Secrétariat de l'ACCOBAMS.
- Plan de Conservation Tursiops truncaatus & Delphinus delphis – Mars 2022-Monaco
- Analyse des données ASI, Fevrier 2022- Monaco
- Deuxième atelier d'échange sur la déprédation , catania du 08 au 10 juin 2022

2.3.3. Principaux produits (lettre d'information, brochure, dépliant, affiche, vidéo, autocollant, etc.)

- Guides d'identification des espèces vulnérables et protocole bycatch : https://bit.ly/3eUhcUh

2.4: CA-4: RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS POUR LA CONSERVATION DES CÉTACÉS

Veuillez lister toutes les activités de renforcement des capacités pertinentes

2.4.1. Besoins nationaux en termes de renforcement des capacités, en référence à la stratégie et au programme de travail ACCOBAMS

- MMO
- PAM
- Régime alimentaire des cétacés
- les techniques de génétique des cétacés
- Bruit marin

2.4.2. Formations / ateliers réalisés (nationaux et internationaux) ou planifiés

- Participation des experts Tunisiens en Santé animale et en biologie à une formation sur la NECROPSIE qui a été réalisé en deux phases (en ligne et en présentiel à liège et Padova
- Participation au "Virtual training course on the identification and handling of Seabirds bycaught in the Med & Black Sea "- CGPM, février 2022.
- Réalisation d'une formation en Technique d'observation et de photo-id, collecte des données relatives à la déprédation, mesures d'atténuation, Mars 2022- MAVA-déprédation Tunisie.
- Formation en ligne du 03 au 06 mai 2021 organisée par UNEP/MAP-SPA/RAC, l' Association "Les Amis des Oiseaux" (AAO), avec l'appui et la participation de l' Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer, la DGPA, le WWF Tunisie, les CRDAs littorales, les arrondissements de la pêche, de l'AVFA et des associations environnementales et de la pêche. Cette formation est principalement destinée aux observateurs du projet MedBycatch ainsi qu'aux Gardes pêche qui opèrent au niveau des 3 GSA 12, 13 et 14 en Tunisie. Environ 80 personnes ont participé à la première journée consacrée à :
- La présentation des résultats des observations de la phase 1 du projet et rappel des objectifs des observations de la phase 2
- L'identification des principales espèces de tortues, cétacés et oiseaux marins vulnérables présentes en Tunisie et la collecte des données bycatch.

2.4.3. Conférences, programmes éducatifs sur les cétacés (universités, écoles)

- Journée informative sur le bycatch – INAT Juillet 2022

TÜRKIYE

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : TÜRKİYE

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: **Hatice ŞAHIN**
Email: haticesahin@tarimorman.gov.tr
Tel: +90 312 207 6139
Address: Department of Sensitive Areas General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry Beştepe District Alparslan Türkeş Avenue No:71 Yenimahalle Ankara/TÜRKIYE

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

- *2018-2022- İrfan UYSAL*

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

- *2019*

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties :

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

Main issues: stranding dolphins, population of dolphins, toxic contamination Main threats: sound pollution, fishing facilities, pollution, deficient food, habitat degradation, toxic contamination, climate change hot topics: reasons of stranding cetaceans, impacts of climate change on cetaceans, habitat degradation

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- *Entry into force: 01/02/2018*

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

- *Reservation: The Republic of Türkiye dissociates itself from the reference made in the Preamble of the "Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area", to the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea, 1982. Accession to the said Agreement by Türkiye cannot not be construed as a change in the legal position of Türkiye with regard to the said instrument.*
- *Declaration: The use of the term "Turkish Straits" has historical, political and legal justification, such as; respect for past and present general practice, due regard to Türkiye's sovereign rights over this particular area and to its jurisdiction according to the established principles of international law. There is also a considerable accumulation of agreements and principles developed by the UN concerning the standardization of geographical names which states inter alia that when a geographical feature is completely within sovereignty of a country then official name given by the authorized national organization should be used in international documents.In fact, the term "Turkish Straits" or "Strait of Istanbul" and "Strait of Çanakkale" have been continously used in many international documents, including IMO and NATO resolutions and documents. A case in point is the Turkish Straits Regulations registered within IMO in 1994 and again in 1998.Therefore, the Republic of Türkiye reemphasizes that the correct terminology for "the Straits of Dardanelles" used in the Article 1 of the "Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area" is "the Strait of Çanakkale".*

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- <u>Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets</u>

  Date entry into force: 01/02/2018 The amendment was made before the date Türkiye was already a party to ACCOBAMS. Therefore Türkiye has approved the document in which the amendment accepted. For this reason, the date of entry into force of the agreement is written in this section.

  Transposition at National Level: the drift nets are completely prohibited.

- <u>Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS</u>

  Ratification status: 01/02/2018 The amendment was made before the date Türkiye was already a party to ACCOBAMS. Therefore Türkiye has approved the document in which the amendment accepted. For this reason, the date of entry into force of the agreement is written in this section.

  Competent authority: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

- ***<u>Turkish Straits and Marmara Sea:</u>***

Turkish Straits – connecting the Aegean Sea and the Black Sea – is comprised of Marmara Sea, İstanbul and Çanakkale Straits. The passages and navigation in Turkish Straits have been regulated by the 1936 Montreux Convention. While being part of Turkish Straits, Marmara Sea is also defined as Turkish internal waters.

Aegean Sea :

The maritime boundaries between Türkiye and Greece have yet to be delimited by agreement.

At present, the breadth of territorial sea of both Türkiye and Greece in the Aegean is 6 nautical miles.

There has been no maritime jurisdiction area established by valid agreements between Türkiye and Greece in the Aegean Sea in accordance with international law and the principle of equitability.

Türkiye believes that all interrelated Aegean issues should be addressed as a whole and stands ready to continue to work towards settlement of the Aegean issues through peaceful means in accordance with international law.

Türkiye does not rule out from the outset any peaceful settlement method contained in the UN Charter Article 33, including having recourse, if necessary, to International Court of Justice or other third party solutions based on the mutual consent of the both countries. There are dialogue mechanisms with Greece to this end.

Black Sea

Türkiye established a 12 nm territorial sea in the Black Sea.

Türkiye delimited the outer limits of her continental shelf and exclusive economic zone in the Black Sea by valid bilateral agreements signed with Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, and Bulgaria[1].

Eastern Mediterranean

Türkiye established a 12 nm territorial sea in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Türkiye has already submitted to the United Nations her ipso facto and ab initio legal and sovereign rights in the maritime areas of the Eastern Mediterranean, in particular through Türkiye's UN Permanent Mission's notes Nos. 2004/Turkuno DT/4739, dated 2 March 2004; 2005/Turkuno DT/16390, dated 4 October 2005; and 2013/14136816/ 22273, dated 12 March 2013; and its letters dated 25 April 2014 (A/68/857), 18 March 2019 (A/73/804), 13 November 2019 (A/74/550) and 27 February 2020 (A/74/727).

Lastly, through Türkiye's UN Permanent Mission's letter dated 18 March 2020 (A/74/757), the outer limits of the Turkish continental shelf in the Eastern Mediterranean were submitted to the United Nations, a section of which was delimited through the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Türkiye and the Government of National Accord-State of Libya on the Delimitation of Maritime Jurisdiction Areas in the Mediterranean of 27 November 2019. This Memorandum of Understanding has entered into force upon ratification by both countries as of 8 December 2019.

On 27 October 2019, Türkiye signed a delimitation agreement with Libya, which entered into force on 8 December 2019. Hence Türkiye delivered the coordinates of her continental shelf's the outer limits to the UN Secreterary General by the letter dated 18 March 2020

[1] Further information can be found on the web site of UN Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea (https://www.un.org/depts/los/LEGISLATIONANDTREATIES/STATEFILES/TUR.htm).

As was clearly underscored within Türkiye's letters and Notes registered with the United Nations (available to public), Türkiye reserves all its legal rights over the superjacent waters over her continental shelf in the Eastern Mediterranean stemming from the international law.

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:

- National authorities / administrations:
  - General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks
  - *General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture*
  - General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets
- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Marine Mammals Research Association
  - Turkish Marine Research Foundation TUDAV

- Research Institutes / Universities:

- Rescue centres:

- Dolphinaria:

- Whale-watching operators:

- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- Environmental Law No: 2872-1983
- National Parks Law No: 2873 -1983
- Natural & Cultural Heritage Law 2863-1983
- Animals Protection Law No: 5199-2004
- Fisheries Law No: 1380- 1971
- Fisheries Regulation No. 22223-1995
- *Decree Law 383 for the establishment of the Environment Protection Agency for Special Areas SEPASA-1989*

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	**Signature**	**Ratification**	**Acceptance**	**Entry into force**	**Comments**
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)					
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution (1976)				06/04/1981	
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)				21/11/1996	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)				20/06/1996	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)				20/02/1984	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)					
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)				29/03/1994	
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean				06/04/1954	
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean					
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)					
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)					

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

- *GFCM-1954*
- *ICCAT-2003*

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise	X			
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				Absent
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin	X			
Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin	X			
Delphinus delphis	Common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale			X	
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				Absent
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale			X	
Sousa plumbea	*Indian Ocean humpback dolphin*			X	
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				Absent
Mesoplodon europaeus	*Gervais beaked whale*			X	
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale	X			
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale	X			
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				Absent
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				Absent
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale			X	
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				Absent
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale		X		
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				Absent

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses

to emergency situation, etc.)

- *BlackCeTrends – Large coverage initiative for acoustic survey of cetaceans in the Black Sea. The international project has been launched in 2020, in which six institutions from all around the Black Sea (except Russia), with the objective of assessing the trends in the occurrence of Black Sea cetaceans, especially harbour porpoises, using a passive acoustic monitoring device, F-POD.*
- *Assessment and monitoring of distribution and abundance of bottlenose and common dolphins (Delphinidae) along the coast of Zonguldak region, the southwestern Black Sea. The project's aim is estimate abundance of Delphinidae and their connectivity to the Zonguldak region by using boat-based surveys and photo-identification. Contact: Zonguldak Bulent Ecevit University, Türkiye*
- *Giant Guardians of The Deep Seas II "Visual surveys combined with passive acoustic monitoring between Marmaris and Anamur". Designed around the need to fill the vast data gaps in the Eastern Mediterranean and decrease the disparity between research levels in the Eastern and Western basins. The expedition spans a huge area (~22,000 sqkm) between Marmaris and Anamur in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. Contact: DMAD - Marine Mammals Research Association Project of Cetacean Diversity in the Finike Seamounts Special Environment Protected Area. In May and September 2021, two scientific expeditions were organized in Finike (Anaximander) Seamounts Special Environmental Protectedion Area (SEPA), within the scope of protection and monitoring activities for Cetacea diversity by T.R. Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets. Contact: Faculty of Aquatic Sciences, Istanbul University, Türkiye*
- *Conservation of Top Predators through Monitoring and Capacity Building in the Gökçeada Island (North Aegean Sea). The aim of the project is to establish the very first seasonal monitoring project around the Gökçeada Island for top predators, such as; sharks, teleosts and cetaceans. MAPCON, Türkiye*
- *From Local Ecological Knowledge to Drone-based Monitoring Surveys: Addressing the Importance of Marine Top Predators_Aegean Sea. The aim of the project to conduct visual and aerial surveys, supported with Local Ecological Knowledge to gain a clearer understanding of marine top predators around Gökçeada Island waters. Contact: MAPCON, Türkiye*
- *Integrated Marine Pollution Monitoring Programme , owned by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate change , is carried out by TUBITAK MAM. Within the monitoring programme, dedicated line transect survey was conducted in the south eastern Black Sea in the summer of 2021. In the following winter and summer seasons, opportunistic cetacean sighting surveys were made in the region that cover the entire Turkish coastline of the Black Sea to estimate cetacean density and distribution using density surface modelling.*

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- *Conceta Project " Strengthening the EU-Türkiye Civil Society Cooperation for the Con servation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea" Promote a strong deep and sustainable civil society dialogue between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for the management of marine mammal species (fisheries) in accordance with EU policies and legislation in Türkiye, Romania and Germany. PAL pingers in gillnets were also tested in Türkiye. Contact: Limited Liability Abalı Village Fisheries Cooperative, Sinop, Türkiye*

Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

Please list any other relevant projects

*2.3. **Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- *There is a network which was establish by TUDAV and Istanbul University Faculty of Aquatic Sciences since 1995, but it is not covering all the Turkish coasts. This network is quite efficient in the Black Sea.*

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

- *Istanbul University, Faculty of Aquatic Sciences, Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV)*

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- *No*

*2.4. **Red List of cetaceans** at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- *RED DATA BOOK BLACK SEA has been published by TUDAV in 2013.*

*2.5. Existence or preparation of **conservation management plan** for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

*2.2.1. **Interaction with fisheries**. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

*2.2.2. **Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

*2.2.3. **Anthropogenic noise** (such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

*2.2.4. **Whale watching** and other commercial tourism activities*

*2.2.5. **Marine pollution**, including **marine debris***

- *Provincial action plans have been prepared within the scope of the Circular No. 2019/9 on the Preparation and Implementation of Marine Litter Provincial Action Plans.*

*2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, **strandings** and **rescue centres***

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

- *According to the amendment made in the Animals Protection Law no. 5199, the establishment of dolphin parks (opening new ones) and replacements for the dead individuals are prohibited (Animals Protection Law No: 5199-2004 amendment 9/7/2021). Closure of existing dolphinarias within 10 years after law entry into force.*

2.2.8. ***Marine protected areas*** *(MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- *Dilek peninsula, National Park, 1966*
- *Akyatan lagoon, Wildlife refuge, 1987*
- *Akyatan lagoon, Ramsar site, 1998*
- *Fethiye – Gocek, SEPA, 1988*
- *Gokova, SEPA, 1988*
- *Koycegiz-Dalyan, SEPA, 1988*
- *Foca, SEPA, 1990*
- *Goksu delta, SEPA, 1990*
- *Goksu delta, Ramsar site, 1994*
- *Datca Bozburum, SEPA, 1990*
- *Patara, SEPA, 1990*
- *Kas Kekova, SEPA, 1990*
- *Ayvalik Island, Nature park, 1995*
- *Marmaris National park, 1996*
- *Gediz Delta, Ramsar site, 1998*
- *Yumurtalik lagoons, Ramsar site, 2005*
- *Yumurtalik lagoons, Nature conservation area, 2008*
- *Saros Korfezi, SEPA, 2010*
- *Finike Seamounts, SEPA, 2013*
- *Troya National Park, 1996*
- *Karaburun-Ildır Bay SEPA, 2019*

2.2.9. Others, please specify

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

- *Marine Mammals lecture in Faculty of Aquatic Sciences, Istanbul University*
- *Ecology of Cetaceans MSc lecture, Institute of Science, Istanbul University*

UKRAINE

FORMAT OF NATIONAL REPORTS 2020-2022

Name of country : UKRAINE

NATIONAL FOCAL POINT, NATIONAL REPORTS, MAIN ISSUES AND NEEDS

A. Focal Point details

Name and Surname: *Volodymyr DOMASHLINETS*

Email: vdomashlinets@yahoo.com, domashlinets@mepr.gov.ua

Tel: +380 44 206 31 27

Address: Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, Mytropolyta Vasylya Lypkivskogo str., 35, Kyiv, 03035

B. List the successive national focal points (NFP) and period covered

C. Date of submission of national reports (list the years when report was provided):

- *2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019*

D. Specific questions and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow up Committee, the Scientific Committee or during the next MOP. Major issue(s), specific needs or "hot" topics: please provide details on emerging issues, threats or difficulties encountered and indicate what should be implemented to answer of fix the points raised.

1/ Specific issues and requests to be considered by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Follow-up Committee, the Scientific Committee or at the next meeting of the Parties:

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.

2/ Recommendations / suggestions for Improvement of the conservation from the regional report(s) of the scientific committee

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.

3/ Major issue(s) or main threats or "hot" topics :
(1/2 page, max 1 page):
(Subjects that is/was important for cetaceans in the region, and probably need that the Scientific Committee take into account and address. Example of subjects: Exceptional high level of strandings, or high seismic activities planned, or new high-speed ferries operating in the region raising the threat of ship-strikes, etc.)

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 dolphinaria 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 m2. 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 for2020-2025", "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 dolphinaria 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 dolphinaria 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.

SECTION 1 - MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

1.1. Dates when signed (S), ratified (R), accepted (AC), approved (AP) or joined (J) the ACCOBAMS and competent authority.

- *09/07/2003*
- *Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine*

1.2. Reservations expressed in accordance with Article XV or Article X of the Agreement

1.3. Date of acceptance, signature, ratification of amendment(s); if under process, please in indicate the competent authority, the procedure and the steps taken.

- Amendment to Annex 2 of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Adjacent Atlantic Area on the use of driftnets

  Date entry into force: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

  Transposition at National Level: Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

- Extension of the geographical area of ACCOBAMS

  Ratification status: 19/10/2012

  Competent authority: Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine

1.4. *Dispensations allowed in accordance with Art. II, par. 2 of the Agreement and par. 6 of Annex 2*

1.5. Definition of the marine areas under national jurisdiction included in the Agreement's field of application. Please indicate if negotiations are under way for limits with neighbouring countries.

- *Economic zone of Ukraine in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov*

1.6. List the entities with competence, responsibility or interest for cetaceans conservation. Please review and complete the list provided and describe their activities. Please precise the information/communication/coordination mechanisms with other national entities.

- Intergovernmental Organizations:
  - Black Sea Council for Marine Mammals (BSCMM; international NGO) Office 600, Kirov Avenue 1, Simferopol, 95015, Ukraine Phone: (380-652) 522792 and (380-652) 253503 Fax: (380) 652 522792 E-mail: AlexeiBirkun@home.cris.net Chairman: Alexei BIRKUN

- National authorities / administrations:
  - Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, Department of Biodiversity Protection, Fauna Protection Division. Mytropolyta Vasylya Lypkivskogo str., 35, Tel.: +380 44 206 31 27 / 34; e-mail: vdomashlinets@yahoo.com

- Non Govermental Organizations:
  - Ukrainian Nature Conservation Group, vul. Hoholya 40, Vasylkiv, Kiev Oblast, 08600, Ukraine Phone: 380971000473Email: vasyliuk@gmail.com Contact person: Oleksiy VASYLIUK
  - *Environment-People-Law, vul. I. Franka 9/1A, Lviv, 79005, Ukraine Phone: +38 032 2433888 Email: kateryna.polyanska@gmail.com Contact person: Kateryna POLYANSKA*
  - *NGO "BioEcoLinks", vul. Zhemchuzhna 192/2, Lymanka, Ovidiopolsky District, Odesa Oblast, 65497, Ukraine Phone:380955486553 Email: bioecolinks@gmail.com Director: Karina VISHNYAKOVA*

- Research Institutes / Universities:
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  - *Priazovsky National Nature Park; 6, Vosmogo bereznia Str., Melitopol, 72319, Ukraine; Phone: 38-099-057-11-19; E-mail: priazovpark@gmail.com; Director: Dmitro VOLOVIK*
  - *"Meotida" National Nature Park; 53-b, Centralna Str., Urzuf village, Donetsk region, 87455, Ukraine; Phone: 38-067-727-54-48; E-mail: meotida_npp@ukr.net; Director: Nadiya DOLGOVA*
  - *"Azovo-Sivaskiy" National Nature Park; 54, Petrovskogo Str., Genichensk 75500, Khersonska region, Ukraine; Phone: +38-097-451-72-18; E-mail: as.nacpark@gmail.com; Director: Evgen POPOVCHUK*
  - *Ivan Franko Lviv National University, Universytetska 1, Lviv, 79000, Ukraine Phone: (38 032) 274-03-72 E-mail: i.dykyy@gmail.com Contact person: Ihor DYKYY*
  - *Mechnikov Odesa National University; 2, Dvoryanska Str., Odesa 65082, Ukraine; Phone: +38-067-483-06-11; E-mail: science@onu.ed.ua; Contact person: Volodymyr IVANITSA; Rector: Igor KOVAL*
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  - *Dunayskiy (Danube) Biosphere Reserve; 132a, Tatarbunarskoho Povstannia Str., Vylkove 68355, Odesa Region, Ukraine; Phone: +380-4843- 311-95; E-mail: reserve@it.odessa.ua; Director: Alexandr VOLOSHKEVICH*
  - *State Enterprise "Odessa Center of the Southern Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography»; Shevchenko Avenue 12, Odesa 65058, Ukraine; Phone: +38-048-731-04-24; E-mail: jugniro@meta.ua; Contact person: Serhii BUSHUEV; Director: Denys SMYRNOV*
  - *Scientific research organization "Ukrainian Scientific Centre of Ecology of the Sea", Frantsuzsky Blvd 89, Odesa, 65009, Ukraine, Phone (380-482) 63-66-22 E-mail: karinavishnyakova@gmail.com*

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- Rescue centres:
- Dolphinaria:
- Whale-watching operators:
- Others:

1.7. Main national legislative and regulatory texts pertinent to cetaceans
Texts may concern environment (protected species or areas, biodiversity and pollution), fisheries, maritime transport (collision), tourism, energy, pollution, environmental impact assessment or other topics as far as they can concern cetaceans. Provide date, title, responsible authority and link. Add a short description or quote the relevant articles or sections related to cetaceans

- 16/10/2012 - Law of Ukraine "On Adoption of Amendments to the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area" (Parliament of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/5433-17#Text
- 22/02/2007 - Black Sea Biodiversity and Landscape Conservation Protocol to the Bucharest Convention (Parliament of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/685-16#Text
- 21/02/2006 - Law of Ukraine on the Protection of Animals Against Cruelty (Parliament of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main/3447-15#Text
- 24/06/2004 - Law of Ukraine "On Ecological Network of Ukraine" (Parliament of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main/1864-15#Text
- 07/02/2002 - Law of Ukraine "On the Red Data Book of Ukraine" (Parliament of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main/3055-14#Text 13/12/2001 - Law of Ukraine "On Fauna"(Parliament of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2894-14#Text
- 16/06/1992 - Law of Ukraine "On Nature Reserve Fund" (Parliament of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main/2456-12#Text
- 25/06/1991 – Law on Environnemental Protection https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main/1264-12#Text
- 08/07/2011 - Law of Ukraine "On Fishery, Industrial Fishing and Protection of Water Bioresources" https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/3677-17#Text
- 20/03/2018 - Law of Ukraine "On Strategic Environmental Assessment" https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2354-19#Text
- 23/05/2017 - Law of Ukraine "On Environmental Impact Assessment" https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main/2059-19#Text
- 07/11/2012 - Decree No 1030 "On the compensation scale for illegal taking from the wild, destruction or injuring of animal and plant species listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine as well as for destruction or worsening of their habitats" (Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1030-2012-%D0%BF

- 16/11/2011 - Decree No. 1402 "On Adoption of Rules for Transportation of Animals (Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1402-2011-%D0%BF#Text
- 06/12/2012 - Order No. 622 "On Adoption of Rules and Norms for Keeping Dolphins in Captivity" (Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0278-13#Text
- 20/09/2011 - Order No. 328 "On Temporary Ban of Special Use of Cetacean of the Black Sea and Sea of Azov" (Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources) (extension of previous one, in 2014 became termless) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z1142-11#Text
- 31/03/2008 - Order No. 165 "On Temporary Ban of Special Use of Cetacean of the Black Sea and Sea of Azov" (Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0377-08#Text
- 19/01/2021 - Order No. 29 "On adoption of animal species list included in the Red Data Book of Ukraine (animal kingdom) and animal species excluded from the Red Data Book of Ukraine (animal kingdom)" (Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine) https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0260-21#Text
- 28/12/2020 - Order No. 393 "On Adoption of the National Action Plan on Research and Conservation of Marine Mammals of the Black and Azov Seas in Ukraine" (Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources) https://mepr.gov.ua/files/docs/nakazy/2020_1/%D0%9D%D0%B0%D0%BA%D0%B0%D0%B7_393_28.12.2020_%D0%9F%D0%94_%D0%BC%D0%BE%D1%80%D1%81%D1%8C%D0%BA%D1%96%20%D1%81%D1%81%D0%B0%D0%B2%D1%86%D1%96.pdf
https://mepr.gov.ua/files/docs/nakazy/2020_1/393%D0%B41%20(1).doc
https://mepr.gov.ua/files/docs/nakazy/2020_1/393%D0%B42.doc

1.8. Funds earmarked for research, monitoring and management of cetaceans (including national funding, international, regional or sub regional projects)

- CeNoBS: Support MSFD implementation in the Black Sea through establishing a regional monitoring system of cetaceans (D1) and noise monitoring (D11) for achieving GES (funded by DG ENV, European Commission)
- Establishing the bank of cetacean tissue samples in Ukraine (funded by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat)
- Protection of cetaceans in Ukraine (implemented by the Environment-People-Law)
- SeaChanges: Thresholds in human exploitation of marine vertebrates (ITN, Maria Sklodowska-Curie Actions)

1.9. Relevant International or Regional Conventions, Commissions and Agreements to which the country is Party.

Convention/Agreement	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance	Entry into force	Comments
Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks(1995)		27/02/2003			
Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)					
Annex V concerning the protection and conservation of ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area (OSPAR Convention)					
Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean					

sea against pollution (1976)					
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	06/11/1992	24/11/1994		02/07/1995	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES - Washington, 1973)		14/05/1999		29/03/2000	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne, 1979)	17/08/1998	29/10/1998		01/05/1999	
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979)		19/03/1999		01/11/1999	
Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention)	21/04/1992	04/04/1994		14/04/1994	
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean					
International Commission for Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean		12/10/1995			
International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (Washington, 1946)					
OSPAR Convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic					
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982)	10/12/1982	03/06/1999			

1.10. Bilateral or multilateral fishing agreements with regard to the area of the Agreement (such as GFCM, ICCAT, specific fisheries agreements with the European Union, provide relevant information on the date of signature, duration, area concerned, measures)

- Ukraine is a cooperating non-contracting party of the GFCM since 2015

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR CETACEANS

2.1: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

2.1. List of cetaceans reported in the area under the jurisdiction of the country included in the distribution area (as defined in Article I, paragraph 3 f of the Agreement).
Legend: "C": Common, "R": Rare, "O": Occasional

Scientific name	English name	C	R	O	Comments
PHOCOENIDAE					
Phocoena phocoena	Harbour porpoise	X			
DELPHINIDAE					
Steno bredanensis	Rough-toothed dolphin				
Grampus griseus	Risso's dolphin				

Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	X			
Stenella coeruleoalba	Striped dolphin				
Delphinus delphis	Short-beaked common dolphin	X			
Pseudorca crassidens	False killer whale				
Orcinus orca	Killer whale				
Globicephala melas	Long-finned pilot whale				
ZIPHIIDAE					
Mesoplodon densirostris	Blainville's beaked whale				
Ziphius cavirostris	Cuvier's beaked whale				
PHYSETERIDAE					
Physeter macrocephalus	Sperm whale				
KOGIIDAE					
Kogia simus	Dwarf sperm whale				
BALAENIDAE					
Eubalaena glacialis	Northern right whale				
BALAENOPTERIDAE					
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Minke whale				
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei whale				
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin whale				
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback whale				

*2.2. List and description of **research programs** and **research projects** related to cetaceans taking into account national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral activities,*
Please provide information on programs and projects regarding cetacean conservation (name of the project, contact details and short description).

Please list the projects regarding improvement of knowledge about status of cetaceans (Cetacean population estimates and distribution, Population Structure, Monitoring cetacean's status, Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation, etc.)

- CeNoBS: Support MSFD implementation in the Black Sea through establishing a regional monitoring system of cetaceans (D1) and noise monitoring (D11) for achieving GES (funded by DG ENV, European Commission). The multi-task project was implemented in 2019-21. The basin-wide aerial survey was a historical event in obtaining contemporary baseline information on abundance of cetaceans in the Black Sea. The successful completion of the Black Sea Survey was a major step for this project, but also for the regional improvement of knowledge on cetaceans, macrofauna and human activities. It represented an excellent model of cooperation, and of leverage effect. The activities developed around the survey also allowed to strongly improve the expertise and capacity of scientists across the Black Sea. This led to the creation of a regional task force and a regional expert team spirit that can be mobilized again in the future for similar effort.
- Establishing the bank of cetacean tissue samples in Ukraine (funded by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat). The National Bank of Cetacean Samples was created which is the first institution for storing samples from marine mammals in the Black Sea Basin. The main place for storing samples is an Arctiko ULUF 750-2M freezer (750 l, temperature -80°C) and an additional -20°C freezer, as well as places for storing dry and wet materials were established in the Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology. The good practices in the sample acquisition, storage, use, reporting, sustainability, publication and sample exchange were developed and introduced, and contact with the existing Mediterranean Marine Mammals tissue bank (Padua, Italy) established. An agreement was signed on the transfer of samples from the UkrSCES. Currently, samples from Black Sea cetaceans and historical collections from other

regions are stored in the sample bank.

- SeaChanges: Thresholds in human exploitation of marine vertebrates (ITN, Maria Sklodowska-Curie Actions). The project is reviewing the Black Sea zooarchaeological record and modern ecological data, tracking changes in Black Sea cetaceans and their prey fish objects in response to major shifts in environment and in human cultural and economic practices. This will serve to identify past and present pressures on marine species, understand their past and present cultural and economic role, and provide recommendations for their conservation and management.
- BlackCeTrends: an ongoing project which has been launched in 2020, in which six institutions from all around the Black Sea (except Russia), together with a British acoustic device manufacturer, Chelonia Ltd., with the objective of assessing the trends in the occurrence of Black Sea cetaceans, especially harbour porpoises, using a passive acoustic monitoring device, F-POD. All partners have deployed the F-PODS in their coastal waters and started collecting data. Passive acoustic monitoring is crucially important for detecting the harbour porpoises, shy and cryptic animals, which spend most of time under water. In Ukraine data were obtained from five stations in the north-western Black Sea. The analysis is in progress.
- Bioindicators of animal origin: prospects of application in forecasting and warning of negative influence of changes in climate conditions on biotics systems of Ukraine: in the frames of this major project, a methodological and applied study of cetacean photo identification was conducted and several local populations of bottlenose and common dolphins were identified in the north-western Black Sea.

Please list the projects regarding reduction of human pressures on cetaceans (Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture, Anthropogenic underwater noise, Ship strikes, Cetacean watching, Marine debris, Chemical & biological pollution, Climate change, Captivity related issues)

- CeNoBS: Support MSFD implementation in the Black Sea through establishing a regional monitoring system of cetaceans (D1) and noise monitoring (D11) for achieving GES (funded by DG ENV, European Commission). Bycatch monitoring pilot studies were finished in the CeNoBS project. The study during the CeNoBS project in Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine in 2019-20 was focused on developing monitoring and common methodology for bycatch assessment in the Black Sea (action coordinated by the UkrSCES, Ukraine). The annual harbour porpoise bycatch was estimated between 11,826 and 16,200 individuals in turbot nets. Bycatch of the harbour porpoise in the Black Sea exceeds thresholds for sustainable levels and poses a significant threat for this subspecies. The main tasks for the future activities are updating fleet and effort assessments, enhancing the bycatch reporting and observation coverage, mortality analysis, validation of data, elaborating background for time-space closure measures, and, the most important, developing techniques for bycatch mitigation, with consideration of local specific features.
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Please list the projects regarding conservation of cetaceans habitats

- Important Marine Mammal Areas. These discrete portions of habitat, important for marine mammal species, aim to have the potential to be delineated and managed for conservation. The 11 new IMMAs (Important Marine Mammal Area) are part of 14 new IMMAs for the marine mammals of the Black Sea, Turkish Straits System, and Caspian Sea, which were elaborated at the IMMA online regional workshop organized in February 2021 by the IUCN SSC-WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force. The workshop resulted in the identification of 23 new candidate Important Marine Mammal Areas (cIMMAs). Following independent review, 14 IMMAs, one candidate IMMA (cIMMA) and 11 areas of interest (AoI) were approved. Among them there are six IMMAs which are entirely or partially situated in the waters of Ukraine: Kaliakra to Danube Delta; Karkinit and Dzharylhach Gulfs; The Balaklava and the Southern Crimea; The Karadag and Opuk; The Kerch Strait and Taman Peninsula; and The Sea of Azov, the largest IMMA in the region.

Please list the projects on public awareness about cetaceans (Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans)

- Protection of cetaceans in Ukraine (implemented by the Environment-People-Law). Causes and threats of decline in the number of cetaceans in the Black and Azov Seas were analyzed though several workshops involving

stakeholders and the results were communicated to general public.

Please list any other relevant projects

2.3. ***Cetacean stranding***
Does the country have a stranding network?

- A stranding network system is supported by the Ukrainian Centre for Ecology of the Sea (UkrSCES, Odesa), in cooperation with the Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology, and listed in the Global Stranding Network (https://globalstrandingnetwork.com/our-network). It is linked with voluntary institutional and individual correspondents across the country, including research institutes (Institute of Marine Biology), Mechnikov Odesa National University (ONU), offices of reserve areas and local governmental bodies.

If not, please precise why? If yes, please provide name, contacts and link to database.

-

Are you transmitting data to MEDACES database?

- Partial data were submitted by the BREMA Lab and the Ukrainian Centre for Ecology of the Sea (UkrSCES, Odesa).

2.4. ***Red List of cetaceans*** *at the national or regional level using the IUCN Red List methodology.*
Has your country developed or participated in the evaluation of the cetaceans in your national waters or at the regional level? If yes please describe and provide a summary of the results or links to reports and publications. If the use of the IUCN Red List methodology is required by Law, please quote the legal text or relevant articles.

- All the cetacean species living in the Azov and Black Seas are listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine; the latest national assessment was approved by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, 19/01/2021, Order No. 29, using the IUCN Red List complement methodology (not required by Law) (https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0260-21#n19). The assessment was based on data from the vessel coastal surveys, basin-wide aeral survey and hsitoral data. The IUCN Red List regional evaluation using the national data is in progress.

2.5. Existence or preparation of ***conservation management plan*** *for cetacean species. Please provide any relevant information.*

- Ukraine adopted the National Action Plan on Research and Conservation of Marine Mammals of the Black and Azov Seas in Ukraine in 2020 by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, 28/12/2020, Order No. 393 https://mepr.gov.ua/documents/3183.html.

2.2: MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS
Please list all management / conservation measures introduced to attain and maintain a favourable state of conservation to cetaceans, and reduce the potential threats, in accordance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions.

2.2.1. ***Interaction with fisheries****. Please provide information on existing or potential interaction between fisheries and cetaceans or cetaceans and fisheries (text and/or table). Particularly, the interactions between the following techniques: gill-nets, purse seine nets, drift nets, surface long-lines or others could be documented, indicating the species and number of animals by-caught or depredating in the nets and indicating the existing or planned management measures.*

- Current management measures are based on understanding deriving from the results of the CeNoBS project.

Turbot gillnets are identified as a specific threat for harbour porpoises, and the potential solutions should be based on minimizing conflict with fisheries and be inclusive for coastal communities. Mitigation measures under testing in Black Sea countries are considered as options. The results, needs and prospects were reported to the National Fisheries Agency which identified suggestions for future technical support. Also the issue was dscussed at the floor of the GFCM and the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee which produced strong recommendations for the bycatch management. There is a need in urgent and continuous actions to develop and implement measures to reduce bycatch levels, improve mandatory monitoring schemes (e.g., those run under the EU Data Collection Framework) and make available official fishing effort data of turbot fishery. This would allow robust estimates of the fleet size and the total length of nets involved, enabling the refinement of estimates of total bycatch in the Black Sea. Cooperation with fishers and fisheries controlling authorities for enhancing the bycatch reporting is crucial in this effort, as well as the overall bycatch monitoring by on-board observers and at port questionnaires and/or with other available technical means, such as Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM). Strong enforcement of existing laws and regulations is needed in the region to minimize IUU fishing. Retrieval of bycaught animals from vessels should be encouraged by the relevant authorities in order to obtain biological data, including tissue samples, for a wide range of analyses to understand the status and demographic characteristics of the affected populations. Further testing and development of bycatch mitigation measures is needed in the Black Sea, accounting for specific local features (e.g., assessment of effectiveness of pingers specifically for the Black Sea porpoises). One of the most common mitigation measures implemented worldwide for bycatch is using Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADD), namely pingers. ADDs are very effective on reduction of harbour porpoise in many different areas globally. The most effective model should be considered according to results of ongoing trials. For a long-term use of such devices, potential negative effects of pingers, such as habituation and habitat exclusion, should be carefully considered before widespread use, and an ecological and economical cost/benefit analysis should be carried out. Other potential mitigation measures should also be identified and tested together with fishers. In addition, spatio-temporal closure of fishing should be considered where other mitigation measures are not possible. Creating a regional Emergency Task Force with the full participation of the European Commission, GFCM and the Black Sea Commission is important to identify and implement the best fishery management measures.

- Deaths of dolphins due to entering into the trawl during fishing are widely known but the data have been scarce. Moreover, it is known that some dolphins become specialized in feeding on fish escaping from the nets during fishing operations. One of the monitoring tasks is the photo ID of dolphins during the trawl fishery to determine the number of animals that have adapted to such way of feeding. 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 harbour porpoise) killed in nets.

2.2.2. ***Navigation regulations and ship strikes***

- Provisioned by the National Action Plan to be developed by 2025.

2.2.3. ***Anthropogenic noise*** *(such as exploration/exploitation of mineral resources or military exercises) and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures (EIA)*

- Provisioned by the National Action Plan to be developed by 2025.

2.2.4. ***Whale watching*** *and other commercial tourism activities*

- Provisioned by the National Action Plan to be developed by 2025.

2.2.5. ***Marine pollution****, including* ***marine debris***

*2.2.6. Emergency plans for pollution, **strandings** and **rescue centres***

- The plan is currently under development by the stranding network system supported by the Ukrainian Centre for Ecology of the Sea (UkrSCES, Odesa).

*2.2.7. **Captivity** related issues and Dolphinaria*

- Order No. 622 "On Adoption of Rules and Norms for Keeping Dolphins in Captivity" and Order No. 328 "On Temporary Ban of Special Use of Cetacean of the Black Sea and Sea of Azov" are in action. Also, elaboration of management and implementation measures is provisioned by the National Action Plan to be developed by 2025.

*2.2.8. **Marine protected areas** (MPA), fishery zones, fisheries reserves, or other effective area based conservation measures (OECM-CBD). List and indicate if they are relevant or develop activities for conservation and management of cetaceans.*

- Several institutional and civic initiatives are under development at various stages, to be revised in light of the newest research data and recommendations produced by IMMA delineation and GFCM reports.

2.2.9. Others, please specify

- Operational Headquarters at the State Environmental Inspectorate of Ukraine has been working since April 2022 on developing methodology of identification, assessing evidence of and preventing adverse impact of the military aggression by the Russian Federation on environment and biota of Ukraine and the Black Sea.

2.3: COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant communication and awareness activities

2.3.1. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) organized or planned in the Country.

- A series of public lectures was delivered during the project Protection of cetaceans in Ukraine (implemented by the Environment-People-Law).

2.3.2. Main events (meeting, symposium, awareness activities, etc.) attended by national abroad

- World Marine Mammal Conference (Barcelona, December 2019)
- Ukrainian researchers gave numerous interviews to media concerning the status of cetaceans in the northern Black Sea (incl. New York Times, NBC, Guardian, Le Monde, etc)

2.3.3. Main Products (newsletter, brochure, leaflet, poster, video, sticker, etc.)

- Infographics*:* https://emblasproject.org/visibility
- Specific Infographics*:* https://emblasproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/1.Dolphins.jpg
- Book: https://emblasproject.org/secrets-of-the-black-sea-eng
- Brochure: http://epl.org.ua/en/eco-analytics/zahyst-morskyh-ssavtsiv-na-terytoriyi-ukrayiny/
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.
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2.4: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

Please list all relevant capacity building activities

2.4.1. National needs in terms of capacity building, in reference to the ACCOBAMS strategy and programme of work

- Networking and creating international task force groups
- Spatiotemporal data analysis
- Further development of necropsies and lab analyses of death causes
- Acoustic monitoring and acoustic data processing
- Lab techniques in genetics
-

2.4.2. Training / workshop sessions realised (national and international) or planned

- A dedicated workshop on activites concerning marine mammals for representatives of the National Police was held in Odesa on 18/05/2021.
- Trainings on stranding response and marine mammal observations are planned for representatives of reserve areas and environmental inspectorates on 2022 (postponed).
- Cliquez ou appuyez ici pour entrer du texte.

2.4.3. Lectures, syllabus on cetaceans (universities, schools)

- Ad hoc and guest lectures in universities and research institutions
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-