

## TERMS OF REFERENCE OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE TASK MANAGERS

### General scope

#### **1. Which members of the Scientific Committee can be designated as Task Manager?**

Pursuant to the Resolution 8.3 relative to the Scientific Committee, at its first Meeting, the Scientific Committee shall designate up to four "Task Managers" among the following experts:

- experts nominated by CIESM,
- experts nominated by IUCN,
- regional representatives,
- representative from IWC,
- representative from CMS.

As far as necessary, these appointments can be modified during the triennium upon decision of the Chair of the Scientific Committee in consultation with the Vice-Chair and the Bureau.

#### **2. Which topics will be assigned to Task Managers?**

Pursuant to the Resolution 8.3 on the Scientific Committee, at its first meeting after the Meeting of Parties, the Scientific Committee shall select specific topics to assign to each Task Manager, taking into account the priorities set up in the Work Programme for the triennium.

In the 2023/2025 ACCOBAMS Work Programme (Resolution 8.2), Actions are divided in 3 levels of priority:

- Main
- High
- Medium

All related information is provided in ACCOBAMS-SC15/2020/Doc06 (Work programme 2023-2025 with priorities identified by Parties at MOP8).

Six items in the Work Programme contain actions identified as "Main" priorities by the ACCOBAMS Parties:

- CA1a- Cetacean population estimates and distribution
- CA1c - Monitoring cetaceans' status
- CA1d - Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situations
- CA2a - Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture
- CA2b - Anthropogenic underwater noise
- CA3a - Area-based measures for cetacean conservation

Since there is already a joint ASCOBANS/ACCOBAMS Bycatch Working Group (JBWG), as well as a CMS/ASCOBANS/ACCOBAMS Noise Working Group (JNWG), the previous Chair and Vice Chair of the Scientific Committee proposed that, according to the priorities identified by MOP8, Task Managers should be assigned for the following topics:

- CA1a- **Cetacean population estimates and distribution**
- CA1c - **Monitoring cetaceans' status**
- CA1d - **Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situations**
- CA3a - **Area-based measures for cetacean conservation**

Furthermore, the Scientific Committee will be invited to:

- identify “Vice-Task Managers” to co-work with Task Managers in their tasks,
- create supporting groups for each Task Manager.

### **Terms of reference for the work of Task Managers**

In addition to their role as members of the Scientific Committee, Task Managers are expected:

1. to coordinate, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, the works of the Scientific Committee concerning the topics they have been assigned.
2. to contribute promoting the necessary actions to facilitate the implementation of the Work Program, considering the Resolutions adopted by the Meetings of the Parties, in collaboration with the other Scientific Committee members, the Secretariat, the Bureau, the Sub-Regional Coordinating Units, the ACCOBAMS Partners, and international and national non-governmental Organizations.
3. to conduct their work in close collaboration with the Chair of the Scientific Committee, with the ACCOBAMS Secretariat and, when actions are interconnected, with the other Task Managers or relevant ACCOBAMS working groups.
4. to mainly work by email, while trying to meet other relevant experts during other scheduled meetings (e.g. ECS, IWC, etc.).
5. If so requested, to attend meetings pertinent to their field of expertise, on behalf of the ACCOBAMS Secretariat.
6. to provide a report to the Scientific Committee meetings on the topics they have been assigned to.
7. to assist the ACCOBAMS Secretariat and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the SC by providing a summary of relevant discussions/conclusions for inclusion in the Scientific Committee meeting report.