



**Sixth Conference on Cetacean Conservation in South
Mediterranean Countries
(CSMC6)**

Monastir, Tunisia, 13-15 November 2023

SAVE THE DATE



OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Conference is to assess the knowledge acquired on cetaceans in the South Mediterranean Sea, to identify potential gaps and to encourage the development of conservation actions in order to promote the implementation of ACCOBAMS decisions and recommendations. The Conference welcomes experts in cetacean-related science and knowledge, particularly from the South Mediterranean region, aiming at exchanging experiences and information and at discussing best approaches and priority actions towards a better knowledge on cetacean populations in the region. The Conference also aims at engaging students and academic community while raising awareness of future managers and stakeholders on these issues.

Previous conferences were organized as follows:

- CSMC1: 12-14 October 2009 in Tabarka, Tunisia;
- CSMC2: 12-14 October 2011 in El Jadida, Morocco;
- CSMC3: 21-23 October 2014 in Jounieh, Lebanon;
- CSMC4: 11-13 November 2017 in Oran, Algeria;
- CSMC5: 13-15 April 2021, hosted online by Lebanon.

DATE, VENUE AND REGISTRATION

This is the 1st announcement for the Sixth edition of the Conference (CSMC6) to be held from **13 to 15 November 2023 in Monastir, Tunisia**.

A [registration form](#) is to be completed and sent back to the Secretariat (secretariat@accobams.net) no later than **10th September 2023**.

PROGRAMME

The Programme of the Sixth edition of the Conference will address the following main topics:

- interactions between cetaceans and human activities, including fisheries and anthropogenic noise
- cetaceans' stranding
- monitoring of cetacean populations
- habitats protection

A training workshop regarding the implementation of a scientific photography protocol adapted to cetacean strandings for developing telenecropsy will be held on the last day of the Conference.

AGENDA

A detailed agenda will be circulated early October 2023, following the reception of abstracts of proposed articles and/or posters.

ORGANISERS

The Conference on Cetacean Conservation in South Mediterranean Countries follows an initiative launched by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat and has always been supported by the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC- UNEP/MAP) and by the Government of the Principality of Monaco.



PARTICIPANTS

Participation is open to scientists, experts and stakeholders involved in cetacean conservation related subjects. However, if technical limitations so oblige, priority will be given to participants (1) presenting posters or articles under the Conference topics and in relation to the Southern Mediterranean region or (2) working on cetacean conservation in the South Mediterranean Region or (3) collaborating with Southern Mediterranean organisations and/or experts.

HOW TO FURTHER CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONFERENCE

Interested participants are invited to propose abstracts in relation to posters or articles, in French or in English, no later than 10th September 2023, simultaneously with their registration form.

Abstracts for articles and/or posters are to be prepared in accordance with the “instructions for authors” presented hereunder. **Upon selection, participants will be invited to do a presentation during the Conference: either a short talk (<5min) to present a poster, or a long talk (< 15 min) to present an article.**

Prior to the Conference, and no later than 31st September 2023, the authors of selected article abstracts must provide their (complete) scientific articles in order to be published in the CSMC6 Publication.

Travel arrangement expenses

Participation of students (PhDs, Master and other) is strongly encouraged. Funds are available to support attendance of the Conference. Travel arrangement expenses will be covered regarding selected participants from Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Türkiye.

The payment of travel arrangement expenses to the selected participants is subjected to the reception of their scientific articles before the applicable deadline (31/09/2023) at the ACCOBAMS Secretariat.

WORKING LANGUAGES

The working languages of the Conference are English and French. Simultaneous translation will be available during sessions.

PUBLICATIONS

Two documents will be elaborated and published:

- A Report of the Sixth edition of the Conference: with conclusions and recommendations issued by the different thematic sessions.
- CSMC6 Publication: assembling all posters and articles presented during the Sixth edition of the Conference.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Abstracts for oral communications and posters (no later than 10th September 2023)

- 350 words maximum presented on A4 pages
- Margins: 3 cm (top, bottom and sides)
- Title: Calibri, size 12 bold, alignment: centred
- Author(s): Calibri, size 12, alignment: centred
- Affiliation and author email: Calibri, size 9
- Abstract text: Calibri, size 11, alignment: justified

Please indicate under which subject

- interactions between cetaceans and human activities, including fisheries and anthropogenic noise
- cetaceans' stranding
- monitoring of cetacean populations
- habitats protection

Oral Communications during CSMC6

- Each oral communication approved shall be presented by its author.
- If several authors, the speaker's name must be clearly indicated.
- Each speaker will have 15 min for a long talk (article) or 5 min for a short talk (poster).

Posters

- Poster dimensions shall be as follows:
 - maximum width: 80 cm
 - maximum height: 120 cm

Posters that do not follow the requested format will not be displayed.

- Written languages are French and English.