



DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

Item 1	OPENING OF THE MEETING	Timetable 02/12/24
The Meeting will start at 8:30 (CET), on Monday 2 nd December 2024, at the Balmoral Hotel in Barcelona.		

Item 2	ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA		02/12/24
The draft Agenda and timetable will be proposed for adoption under this item.			
Working Documents		Information Documents	Reference Documents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Agenda ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc01 • Draft Annotated Agenda ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc02 • Draft Timetable ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc03 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of Documents ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf01 • Draft List of Participants ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf02 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text of the ACCOBAMS Agreement • Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Parties to ACCOBAMS ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Doc31
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to adopt the proposed agenda and timetable.			

Item 3	CONSERVATION ACTIONS	02, 03 & 04/12/24
3.1	Report by Regional Representatives	02/12/24
Pursuant to the Rules on the Scientific Committee, Regional Representatives will present a report on the conservation status of cetaceans and relevant activities in the respective regions.		
In relation to this reporting by the Regional Representatives, during the previous meeting of the Scientific Committee (SC 15, May 2023), some members highlighted the need to review and update procedures and guidelines for the preparation of their reports, including the associated template, which would be considered by the SC16 meeting.		
An intersessional Correspondence Group on Revision of Recommendation 12.1 on Regional Reports was created with this objective and their report will be presented.		
	Working Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on the conservation status of cetaceans and relevant activities in Western Mediterranean and contiguous Atlantic area ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc04 Report on the conservation status of cetaceans and relevant activities in Central Mediterranean ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc05 Report on the conservation status of cetaceans and relevant activities in Eastern Mediterranean ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc06 Report on the conservation status of cetaceans and relevant activities in Black Sea ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc07 	Information Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the intersessional Correspondence Group on Revision of Recommendation 12.1 on Regional Reports ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf03
		Reference Documents
Action		
The Scientific Committee will be invited to take note of the information presented and provide their comments on the reports.		

3.2	Knowledge about state of cetaceans	02 & 03/12/24
3.2.1	<i>Mediterranean modelling results</i>	<i>WP Ref: CA 1 a</i>
The Chair will invite Ms Ana Canadas, from Duke university, to present Maps of species density modelling.		
	Working Documents	Information Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maps of species density modelling - Modelling Results ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf04
		Reference Documents
Action		
The Scientific Committee will be invited to take note of the information presented and to provide comments and recommendations on this topic.		

3.2.2	<i>Cetacean population estimates and distribution</i>	WP Ref: CA 1 a	
The Chair of the Scientific Committee will:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - invite the co-chairs of the joint MSFD WG to present their report - Provide information on the ASI - give a state of play of the ASI2 project 			
Working Documents		Information Documents	Reference Documents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of play of the ASI2 project ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc08 • 2024 Report of the MSFD/ECAP Working Group ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc09 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the ICES Workshop on Cetacean Abundance Estimation Through Distance Sampling Methods (WKCETAB) 2024 ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf05 • Information on Frontiers Publications ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf06 • Summary on ASI 1 data requests and respective use ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf07 	
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consider the state of play of ASI 2 project • acknowledge the BU16 decisions and the LTMP Contact Group conclusions • discuss and agree next steps of the Scientific Committee • consider the different documents • provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue 			

3.2.3	<i>Population structure</i>	WP Ref: CA 1 b	
The Chair of the Scientific Committee will invite experts to present the report of the webinar organized in November 2023 with the objective of improving data collection on cetacean population genetics in the ACCOBAMS Area, and of developing the genetic identification of population structure (particularly in the Mediterranean Sea) through disseminating databases and guidelines amongst stakeholders			
Working Documents		Information Documents	Reference Documents
-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the ACCOBAMS webinar - regional training on genetic data collection and analysis ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf08 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 8.11: Cetacean Population Genetics ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.11
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to take note of the information presented and to provide comments and recommendations on this topic.			

3.2.4	<i>Monitoring cetacean's status</i>	WP Ref: CA 1 c	
The Chair of the Scientific Committee will invite Black Sea experts to present an update on the IUCN status of cetacean species in the Black Sea			
Working Documents		Information Documents	Reference Documents
-		-	
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to take note of the information presented and to provide comments and recommendations on this topic.			

3.2.5	<i>Conservation Management Plans</i>		WP Ref: CA 1 c
<p>To date, CMPs are being drafted in respect of four species - fin whales, Risso's dolphins, common dolphins and bottlenose dolphins. During the 15th Meeting of the Scientific Committee, the CMP leaders were requested to identify relevant stakeholders to organize a dedicated workshop(s).</p> <p>The Chair of the Scientific Committee will present Draft Terms of Reference for CMP Stakeholder Workshops.</p> <p>Moreover, during SC15, the Scientific Committee prioritized drafting additional CMPs on two other species - Ziphius and on Sperm whale – in relation to which both CMP leaders will present expected next steps.</p>			
<p>Working Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Terms of Reference for CMP stakeholder workshop(s) ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc10 Next steps towards Ziphius CMP ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc11 Next steps towards Sperm Whale CMP ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc12 		<p>Information Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the ECS Workshop on Advancing knowledge on fin whales in the Mediterranean Sea ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf09 	<p>Reference Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.14: Conservation Management Plans ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.14
<p>Action</p> <p>The Scientific Committee will be invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the draft Terms of Reference for the CMP Stakeholder Workshop(s) on the 4 species consider the draft CMP on Ziphius and on Sperm whale and discuss next steps to finalise them; provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue. 			

3.2.6	<i>Functional stranding networks and response to emergency situations</i>		WP Ref: CA 1 d
<p>The Chair of the Scientific Committee will invite:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Task Manager on “Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situations” to present the respective Progress report; both Co-chairs of the ACCOBAMS Emergency Task Force for Stranding events (AETFS) to present their report; experts to provide information regarding the ongoing tele-necropsy initiative. 			
<p>Working Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the ACCOBAMS Emergency Task Force for Strandings ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc13 Progress report from the Task Manager- Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situations ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc14 		<p>Information Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress report on the ongoing tele-necropsy initiative ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf10 	<p>Reference Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.15: Cetacean Stranding Networks ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.15
<p>Action</p> <p>The Scientific Committee will be invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the Progress report from the Task Manager on Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situations; consider the report of the ACCOBAMS Emergency Task Force for Strandings; provide recommendations to the Parties on the issue. 			

3.3	Reduce human pressure on cetaceans	03 & 04/12/24						
3.3.1	<i>Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture</i>	<i>WP Ref: CA 2 a</i>						
<p>The Chair of the Scientific Committee will invite:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Task Manager on “Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture” to present the progress report; the Co-Chair of the Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS By-Catch Working Group to present a progress report; experts to provide information regarding ongoing fisheries projects in the ACCOBAMS Area; the Black Sea SRCU representative to give information on the Proposed Network for harbour porpoise bycatch in the black sea between the European Commission (DG Mare), GFCM, ACCOBAMS and the Black Sea Commission 								
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Working Documents</th> <th>Information Documents</th> <th>Reference Documents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS By-Catch Working Group ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc15 Progress report from the Task Manager- Interactions with fisheries/aquaculture ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc16 </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the joint meeting ACCOBAMS / Black Sea Commission Secretariats in 2024 ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf11 Depredation by marine mammals in fishing gear: A review of the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and contiguous Atlantic area ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf12 Bottom trawling: direct and indirect impacts on cetaceans, with a focus on the Mediterranean Sea ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf16 Impact of interactions between common bottlenose dolphins and purse-seiners in the Moroccan Mediterranean region: case study in the Al Hoceima fishing grounds ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf17 </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.16: Interactions between Fisheries and Cetaceans ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.16 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS By-Catch Working Group ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc15 Progress report from the Task Manager- Interactions with fisheries/aquaculture ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the joint meeting ACCOBAMS / Black Sea Commission Secretariats in 2024 ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf11 Depredation by marine mammals in fishing gear: A review of the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and contiguous Atlantic area ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf12 Bottom trawling: direct and indirect impacts on cetaceans, with a focus on the Mediterranean Sea ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf16 Impact of interactions between common bottlenose dolphins and purse-seiners in the Moroccan Mediterranean region: case study in the Al Hoceima fishing grounds ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.16: Interactions between Fisheries and Cetaceans ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.16
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<p>Action</p> <p>The Scientific Committee will be invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the Progress report from the Task Manager on “Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture”; consider the report of Joint ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS By-Catch Working Group; consider the Network for harbour porpoise bycatch in the black sea between the European Commission (DG Mare), GFCM, ACCOBAMS and the Black Sea Commission; provide recommendations to the Parties on the issue. 								

3.3.2	<i>Anthropogenic underwater noise</i>	<i>WP Ref: CA 2 b</i>						
<p>The Chair of the Scientific Committee will invite the Co-Chair of the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS Noise Working Group to present their activities. Experts assisting the Secretariat will be invited to present developments regarding noise issues in the ACCOBAMS Area.</p>								
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Working Documents</th> <th>Information Documents</th> <th>Reference Documents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress report on noise issues ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc17 </td> <td>-</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.17: Anthropogenic noise ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.17 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress report on noise issues ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc17 	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.17: Anthropogenic noise ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.17
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress report on noise issues ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc17 	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.17: Anthropogenic noise ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.17 						
<p>Action</p> <p>The Scientific Committee will be invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider progress report on noise issues; provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue. 								

3.3.3	<i>Ship strikes</i>		WP Ref: CA 2 c
The Chair of the Scientific Committee will present developments regarding ship strike issues in the ACCOBAMS Area and will invite experts to present an analysis of maritime traffic speed in the NW Mediterranean PSSA and an update on the risk of ship strikes in the Hellenic Trench.			
Working Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of maritime traffic speed in 2023 in the NW Mediterranean PSSA: Establishing a baseline to monitor progress in complying with IMO recommendations for speed in the PSSA ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc18 Progress report on ship strikes issues, including steps towards a whale-safe certificate ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc19 		Information Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on reducing the risk of ship strikes of endangered sperm whales in the Hellenic Trench ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf18 	Reference document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.18: Ship strikes ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.18
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the analysis of maritime traffic speed in 2023 in the NW Mediterranean PSSA, consider the progress report on vessel strikes issues, including a whale-safe certificate, provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue. 			

3.3.4	<i>Cetacean watching</i>		WP Ref: CA 2 d
The Chair of the Scientific Committee will invite the Chair of the Working Group on Whale Watching (WWWG) to present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the state of play of whale watching activities in the ACCOBAMS area, updated draft Terms of Reference for the Group, draft Terms of Reference for an ECS Whale Watching Workshop. 			
Working Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the ACCOBAMS Whale Watching Working Group ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc20 		Information Documents <p style="text-align: center;">-</p>	Reference document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.19: Commercial cetacean-watching activities ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.19
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the state of play of whale watching activities in the ACCOBAMS area, consider the draft Terms of Reference for the WWWG, consider the draft Terms of Reference for the ECS Whale Watching Workshop, provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue. 			

3.3.5	<i>Marine debris & Chemical and biological pollution</i>		WP Ref: CA 2 e
Experts will be invited to present their reports and main conclusions regarding marine debris			
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents	
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the 2023 joint ASCOBANS-ACCOBAMS Workshop on marine debris ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf13 Conclusions of the 2024 ACCOBAMS Workshop on Marine Debris ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf14 An introduction to FADs as a source of marine debris ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.20: Marine Litter and Chemical Pollution ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.20 	
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to note developments and provide recommendations on the issue.			

3.3.6	<i>Climate change</i>		WP Ref: CA 2 g
The Chair of the Scientific Committee will invite the CMS expert to present an information document regarding climate change.			
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents	
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change and Cetaceans – information document ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf19 	-	
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to take note of the information presented.			

3.3.7	<i>Captivity related issues</i>		WP Ref: CA 2 i
Experts will be invited to present:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft guidelines for best practices during the installation and management of semi-enclosed facilities for cetacean species Genetic passport for cetaceans kept in captivity 			
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft guidelines for best practices during the installation and management of semi-enclosed facilities for cetacean species in the ACCOBAMS area ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc21 Genetic passport for cetaceans kept in captivity ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc22 	-	-	
Action			
The Scientific Committee will be invited to:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the draft Guidelines for best practices during the installation and management of semi-enclosed facilities for cetacean species in the ACCOBAMS area, consider the draft genetic passport for different cetacean species kept in captivity, provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue 			

3.4	Enhance effective conservation of Cetaceans Critical Habitats	04/12/24
3.4.1		WP Ref: CA 3 a
The Task Manager on 'Area-based measures for cetacean conservation' will present a progress report.		
	Working Documents	Information Documents
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on area-based measures for cetacean conservation by the Task Group ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the ACCOBAMS Workshop: "Mapping human activity data in the ACCOBAMS area" – 2024 ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf20
	Reference Documents	
	-	
Action		
The Scientific Committee will be invited to		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the report on area-based measures for cetacean conservation by the Task Group, provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue 		
3.4.2	<i>Place-based conservation effort: update on IMMAs</i>	WP Ref: CA 3 a
The Chair of the Scientific Committee will present an update on IMMAs developments in the ACCOBAMS Area.		
	Working Documents	Information Documents
	-	-
	Reference Documents	
	-	
Action		
The Scientific Committee will be invited to note and comment the information.		
3.5	NETCCOBAMS	04/12/24
The Chair of the NETCCOBAMS Working Group will report on the use of NETCCOBAMS and will invite the INFO/RAC representative to complement information regarding ongoing collaboration.		
	Working Documents	Information Documents
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on the use of NETCCOBAMS ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc24 	-
	Reference Documents	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 8.7: NETCCOBAMS ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Res8.7 	
Action		
The Scientific Committee will be invited to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the report on the use of NETCCOBAMS, provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue. 		
3.6	Cetacean culture	04/12/24
The CMS representative will explain how CMS has been leading ground-breaking work on the implications of animal cultures and social learning for conservation.		
	Working Documents	Information Documents
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cetacean culture ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Doc25 	-
	Reference Documents	
	-	
Action		
The Scientific Committee will be invited to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the establishment of a dedicated working group on cetacean culture, provide recommendations to the Parties on this issue 		

Item 4	COLLABORATION	04/12/24
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4.1	Collaboration with Sub Regional Coordination Units	<i>WP Ref: MA 1 a</i>
Representatives of the Mediterranean Sub Regional Coordination Unit (SPA/RAC) and of the Black Sea Sub Regional Coordination Unit (Black Sea Commission Permanent Secretariat) will update the Scientific Committee on relevant activities.		
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents
-	-	
Action		
The Scientific Committee will take note of the information presented.		

4.2	Collaboration with ACCOBAMS Partners	<i>WP Ref: MA 1 a</i>
ACCOBAMS Partners will present relevant activities aligned with ACCOBAMS objectives.		
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents
-	-	
Action		
The Scientific Committee will take note of the information presented.		

4.3	Collaboration with other Organizations	<i>WP Ref: MA 1 a</i>
Other Organizations representatives will present relevant activities aligned with ACCOBAMS objectives		
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents
-	-	
Action		
The Scientific Committee will take note of the information presented.		

Item 5	WORKING PROGRAMME OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR THE TRIENNIUM 2026-2028	04/12/2024
During the Sixth Meeting of ACCOBAMS National Representatives (RR6 - online, 24 th & 25 th June 2024), participants were invited to propose priority conservation actions for the 2026-2028 Work Programme, taking into account their national priorities. The draft Work Programme for 2026-2028 will include inputs from national representatives and advice from the Scientific Committee (SC16). A draft Work Programme for 2026-2028 will be presented, first to the Sixth Meeting of the Extended Bureau, planned April 2025, and then to the Ninth Meeting of the Parties in November 2025.		
Working Documents	Information Documents	Reference Documents
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up of SC15 conclusions ACCOBAMS-SC16/2024/Inf21 	-
Action		
The Scientific Committee will propose means of implementation of conservation actions to be considered in the next Work Programme (2026-2028)		

Item 6	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	04/12/2024
Any other relevant issue not covered in the agenda could be raised, if flagged to, and accepted by the Chair at the beginning of the Meeting.		
Item 7	ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS	05/12/2024
Recommendations prepared during the Meeting will be adopted and attached to the Meeting report.		
Item 8	CLOSURE OF THE MEETING	05/12/2024
The Meeting is to be closed at 16:30 pm on Thursday 5 th December 2024.		