



Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
Eleventh Meeting of the Consultative Committee of Experts
March 21st, 2018

CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.5

Report of the 11th Meeting of the IAC Consultative Committee of Experts

Opening Remarks

1. The eleventh meeting of the IAC Consultative Committee of Experts (CCE11) took place on Wednesday, March 21st, 2018 by videoconference using the software Vidyo from the IAC *Pro Tempore* Secretariat office at US Fish and Wildlife Service headquarters in Falls Church, Virginia.
2. The meeting began at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time. The CCE Chair, Mr. Paul Hoetjes (Caribbean Netherlands) welcomed the participants and provided the meeting guidelines to facilitate delegates participation and the simultaneous translation.

Agenda Adoption and Participants Introduction

3. Delegates from thirteen (13) IAC Contracting Parties attended the meeting namely, Argentina, Brazil, Belize, Caribbean Netherlands, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and the United States. Representatives of the Scientific, Industry and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) sectors attended as well with a total of 43 participants. This was greater attendance than last year's meeting. (List of participants CIT-CCE11-2018-Inf.1 Annex I.A)
4. The CCE11 adopted the agenda without changes. (CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.1 Annex I.B)

Summary of the 10th Meeting of the Consultative Committee of Experts

5. Mr. Joao Thome (Brazil), CCE Vice Chair, presented a summary of the 10th CCE meeting in 2017, including the recommendations provided to last year Conference of the Parties (COP8).

Recommendations from the 14th IAC Scientific Committee (SC) Meeting

6. The Scientific Committee (SC) Chair, Mr. Diego Albareda (Argentina) presented the recommendations from last year's 14th SC meeting regarding:

-Changes to the IAC annual Report format: new table for compliance with the Loggerhead Turtle Resolution, and amendment to the compliance tables for the Resolution on Fisheries and the Resolution on Hawksbills.

-Strategy to work with Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO)

-Climate Change data collection: a recommendation to carry out a pilot study for collecting data on climate change and sea turtles in the IAC countries.

7. After discussions among the Consultative Committee delegates, it was agreed to change the fisheries compliance table to include a “species” column. Brazil presented a proposal for the new format. The proposal to add one more question to the Hawksbill compliance table was not adopted due to a lack of clarity from the Scientific Committee as to what exactly the IAC member countries have to answer. The United States delegation proposed to continue with the analysis of this question, and if necessary the Scientific Committee will prepare a clear and precise question that can be understood.

8. The Scientific Committee Chair requested the Consultative Committee to delegate one member to work with the Scientific Committee to implement the strategy with RFMO. Ms. Rebecca Regnery, CCE NGO Sector member offered her support in this regard.

The Consultative Committee of Experts agreed on the following:

a. Changes to the IAC Annual Report format.

- i. The change in the table of the Fisheries Resolution was adopted which is to include a “species” column to indicate the sea turtle species related to each question.
- ii. A new compliance table recommended by the Scientific Committee was adopted regarding the Resolution on Conservation of the Loggerhead Turtle.
- iii. The Secretariat *Pro Tempore* will send the changes to the IAC Annual Report format to IAC Focal Points for review and final adoption (3 weeks). Subsequently, the IAC Annual Report format 2018 will be sent to the Focal Points to be filled out. The submission date of this report will be July 30th, 2018.
- iv. New format for the Annual Report proposed— Annex II

b. Strategy to increase engagement in the technical work of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO).

- i. The CCE accepted the offer from Ms. Rebecca Regnery (Humane Society International), CCE Sectorial delegate, to represent the CCE on the implementation of the strategy to work with RFMOs along with the Scientific Committee.
- ii. It was agreed that the Scientific Committee Chair will identify the person of this committee that will be in charge of the technical implementation of the RFMOs strategy, together with the Consultative Committee delegate. While a focal point in the Scientific Committee is appointed, the Scientific Committee Chair will be in charge of this implementation.
- iii. It was agreed that the work and communication mechanisms will be as follows: 1) The Consultative Committee delegate will be in charge of

implementing the first part of the strategy such as identifying the meetings where the participation of the IAC is relevant, 2) the information will be communicated to her counterpart in the Scientific Committee, whom in consultation with the Chair will implement the steps of the strategy 2 – 5 related to technical matters (Annex III).

- iv. It was agreed that the Consultative Committee delegate will communicate the information regarding the RFMOs' strategy step 1 to the Scientific Committee Chair and will work with him until an SC delegate is appointed for the task.

c. Proposal for a pilot study to record environmental parameters on nesting beaches under the Resolution on Climate Change and Sea Turtles.

- i. The Scientific Committee proposal to invite IAC Parties to participate in a pilot study to gather environmental information on nesting beaches was adopted.
- ii. The Secretariat *Pro Tempore* will send the invitation and proposal for the study to the IAC Parties, and will inform the Scientific Committee which countries will participate, and the beaches they have selected to record environmental parameters.
- iii. It was agreed that any technical inquiries from the CCE regarding the pilot study should be sent to the Scientific Committee Chair who will coordinate with the climate change working group to provide an answer.
- iv. The pilot study proposal can be found in the report of the 14th Scientific Committee 2017 (Annex VII) link: http://www.iacseaturtle.org/eng-docs/comite-cientifico/SC14%20Meeting%20Report_CIT-CC14-2017-Doc.06_ENG_Final_07Feb18_Web.pdf

Report on the Implementation of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback Resolution and recommendations for future work

9. Dr. Bryan Wallace, the coordinator of the Leatherback Task Force, presented a report including relevant regional meetings in which members of this group have participated (Laud OPO Meetings). Dr. Wallace also spoke about the opportunity of the IAC Eastern Pacific Leatherback Task Force to provide recommendations at the IATTC 8th Meeting of the Bycatch Working Group in May 2018. Included in the task force work plan, the group will provide recommendations to IATTC on leatherbacks habitat use near nesting beaches using maps that can be overlapped with the fishing effort maps.

10. Dr. Wallace also reported on a presentation that he gave on behalf of IAC on “East Pacific Leatherbacks current status and conservation”, this took place at a meeting organized by State Department and IAC Secretary *Pro Tempore* held on March 20th at the U.S. State Department headquarters in Washington DC. The participants included

diplomats from the embassies of Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras, Brazil, Nicaragua, and Colombia, the Secretary *Pro Tempore*, the CCE Chair, as well as State Department and NOAA personnel.

11. Honduras added that in Miskito Cays a group from the army called the Ecosystems Protection Division collaborates with protection for the conservation of leatherbacks and other wildlife issues. Also, their Directorate of Biodiversity is studying potential strategies to improve this work involving the community.

12. Dr. Laura Sarti, delegate from Mexico, informed that two park rangers from the Government of Ecuador recently received training in Mexico on leatherback nesting and beach monitoring, given the recent nesting events without hatching success that took place in Continental Ecuador.

13. Mr. Humberto Becerra, delegate from the Industry Sector, congratulated Dr. Laura Sarti, Mexico delegate, on her support to the capacity building activities in Mexico and in other IAC countries. He also mentioned the agreement signed between Mexico's government and the fishing industry in 1990, to protect sea turtles. Mr. Becerra added that it has been a successful model and that there is an interest to continue with this exchange of experiences.

14. Peru reported on the capacity building and outreach activities carried out in 2017 with funding from Marine Turtle Conservation Fund and coordinated by the IAC Secretariat *pro tempore*, in which the Peruvian fishermen visited Mexico during leatherback nesting season, and received training with the help of Mexican Government agencies CONANP and INAPESCA. The fishermen then went back to Peru and organized a workshop to share their experience with their communities.

15. Panama shared the results of the second phase of the project on megafauna monitoring with a focus on leatherbacks. The monitoring is done with interviews at ports with fishermen where there have been interactions with leatherbacks and provides information on the distribution and fishing effort in several ports.

Costa Rica report on the progress on the National Strategy for Conservation of Sea Turtles / Rotney Piedra / SINAC and Marco Solano MINAET

16. Mr. Rotney Piedra, delegate from Costa Rica spoke about Costa Rica's process to develop the national strategy for the protection and conservation of sea turtles to comply with IAC commitments. Expert workshops including academic sector and civil society began in 2015 and provided input to develop the strategy. There has been a wide participation of key actors providing valuable information for the document expected to be released on April 3rd, 2018. Once approved, the National Program for the Conservation of Sea Turtles in Costa Rica will be created, to oversee the implementation of the strategy as well as the implementation of the IAC's leatherback Resolution. Costa Rica expects to share these results with the CCE once the document is adopted.

17. Mr. Marco Solano, Costa Rica's IAC Focal Point, talked about how they made a video "Leatherbacks from the Eastern Pacific", because while working on the sea turtle strategy they realized that sea turtles are well known at a scientific level, but the majority of the public in Costa Rica doesn't know details about the issues impacting them. Although sea turtles are charismatic and don't have public enemies, there is little awareness of the fact that they are endangered. To bring this information to the public Costa Rica's Ministry of Environment and Energy prepared a 30 seconds video. The video can be found in IAC Bulletin No 32. and in this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/q04typmj0jd0tmn/MV%20-%20Baulas%20Minae.mp4?dl=0>

Proposal of Resolutions for IAC COP9, and review of the Resolution on Guidelines for Financing the Operation of the IAC - CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.3

18. The Consultative Committee Chair explained the need to include new text in the 2007 Resolution on Guidelines for Financing de Operation of the IAC and to request COP9 to consider such an amendment. There is currently a lack of a clear mechanism to account for in-kind contributions by countries when they host the Convention meetings in the existing Resolution. This has been called to the attention of the IAC Secretariat *Pro Tempore* by IAC Parties, therefore, to facilitate discussion the CCE Chair proposed new text for the resolution (Annex IV) for consideration of the meeting.

19. The United States delegation considers that the proposed text requires further edition. They add that there is still time to work on the resolution before the next Conference of the Parties. This idea was supported by Argentina that suggested creating a working group to prepare a new text and offered to be a member of the working group, joined by the United States and the Caribbean Netherlands.

The Consultative Committee agreed regarding the Resolution on Guidelines for Financing the Operation of IAC:

20. The Consultative Committee considers it is appropriate to prepare new text to include in the Resolution on Guidelines for Financing the Operation of the IAC (CIT-COPE1-2007-R2) to address in-kind contributions to the Convention. A Resolution proposal will be presented for consideration to the Conference of the Parties (COP) in 2019. The inter-sessional working group formed by Argentina, the United States, and Caribbean Netherlands will prepare a proposal based on the text presented at this meeting, which will be discussed at the next CCE12 before the COP (Annex IV).

IAC Collaboration with International Organizations (RAMSAR, IATTC, ICCAT, ACAP, and CITES) and preparation for participation in 2018 meetings.

Pan-American and Advisory Committee Meeting, Ramsar 2018

21. Mr. Marco Solano, Costa Rica delegate, presented on behalf of IAC Parties at Ramsar Pan-American Meeting the edits from IAC countries to the Ramsar *Draft resolution on the enhanced protection and management of sea turtle breeding, feeding and nursery areas and the designation of key areas as Ramsar Sites* (Doc. SC54-21.10). Mr. Solano explained

the edits include a request to the Secretariats of both Conventions to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IAC and Ramsar that expired in 2017. Ramsar Sites important for sea turtles in Costa Rica and Mexico were added as they were not included in the annex of the Resolution. This document will be presented to the Ramsar Standing Committee Meeting on April 2018 for their consideration.

22. The delegations from the United States and Brazil thanked Costa Rica for their leadership.

The Consultative Committee recommends in regards to Ramsar:

23. Request the IAC Secretariat *Pro Tempore* to transmit IAC Parties recommendations to Ramsar Secretariat through the Ramsar Regional Advisor for the Americas, requesting that they are shared with the Chair of the Standing Committee. In addition to this, the IAC Secretariat *Pro Tempore* will send the recommendations to the IAC focal points and Ramsar Standing Committee Delegates from Honduras and United States requesting that these are shared with their local Ramsar representatives.

Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) Bycatch Working Group Meetings 2018

24. Dr. Alexis Gutierrez, The United States delegate, stated the importance of working along with the RFMOs in 2018. The process has been promoted since last year with the submission of proposals for changes in existing resolutions in both IATTC and ICCAT, to include specific measures to reduce sea turtle bycatch. Furthermore, important resolutions will be presented again in 2018 to IATTC Commission Meeting and the IAC should be ready to provide recommendations.

25. Dr. Yonat Swimmer, The United States delegate, stated that there are good opportunities this year for the IAC to participate in the process, as she is the IATTC co-chair of the bycatch working group and the leatherbacks have been included in this year meeting agenda, with the purpose of implementing conservation measures in the IATTC Commission.

26. Ms. Rebecca Regnery, NGO Sector delegate, added that it will be of great value to synchronize the positions of the IAC, IATTC and ICCAT Focal Points.

27. The CCE Chair noted that The Netherlands is advocating on ICCAT the use of circle hooks to reduce sea turtle bycatch in longline fisheries, though they may also affect shark capture rates. Support from the Netherlands will be important to promote sea turtle conservation, as well as to lobby with other European Union countries. Brazil comments that they are working on regulations to adopt the use of circular hooks for longline fisheries starting in 2019.

Update Consultative Committee Work Plan (2018-2019) CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.4

28. The CCE updated their work plan, thus activities that had been executed were removed. The drafting of new text for the resolution on Guidelines for the financial operation of IAC was included, as well as the work with organizations with which the IAC has MoU, among other activities. The CCE Work Plan 2018-2019 (CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.4) was adopted (Annex V).

Other Business and adoption of recommendations from the meeting

29. There was no other business to discuss and the recommendations were adopted throughout the meeting, those are included in this report in bold text.

30. At 05:00 p.m. United States Eastern Time the Consultative Committee of Experts Chair thanked the participants and the meeting was concluded.

Anexo I.A CIT-CCE11-2018-Inf. 1 – Participant List CCE11

Participant List CCE11

| Country | Name | Institution | E-mail |
|---------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Member Country Delegates | | | |
| Argentina | Débora Winter | Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable de la Nación | dwinter@ambiente.gob.ar fzl@mrecic.gov.ar |
| | Francisco López Achaval | Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto | |
| Belize | Vanessa Figueroa | Belize Fisheries Department | figuerov@gmail.com |
| Brazil | Joao Thomé Alexandro Santos | ICMBIO/Vicepresidente CCE TAMAR | joao.thome@icmbio.gov.br alex@tamar.org.br |
| Caribbean Netherlands | Paul Hoetjes | Policy Coordinator Nature EL&/ Presidente CCE | paul.hoetjes@rijksdienstcn.com |
| Costa Rica | Rotney Piedra Marcos Solano | SINAC | rotney.piedra@sinac.go.cr marco.solano@sinac.go.cr |
| Ecuador | Alberto Proaño | Ministerio de Ambiente –Galápagos | aproano@galapagos.gob.ec |
| United States | Earl Possardt Alexis Gutierrez Yonat Swimmer Joseph Fette | FWS NOAA NOAA State Department | Earl_Possardt@fws.gov Alexis.Gutierrez@noaa.gov yonat.swimmer@noaa.gov fetteja@state.gov |
| Guatemala | Airam López | CONAP | aroulet@conap.gov.gt |
| Honduras | Skarleth Pineda Rene Soto Durbin Quintero | Dirección de Biodiversidad | spineda@miambiente.gob.hn |

| Country | Name | Institution | E-mail |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Member Country Delegates | | | |
| México | Laura Sarti Vicente Guzmán | Comisión nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas CONANP CONANP | lsarti@conanp.gob.mx vgh81@hotmail.com |
| Perú | Elba Prieto Ríos Riter Vargas Rojas Eda Leonardo R. Percy Gallegos Alejos Maryuri Jiménez Mayo María de Fatima Do Nascimento Berrospi Javier Quiñones Dávila | Ministerio de la Producción, Delegada Comité Consultivo Ministerio de la Producción Instituto del Mar del Perú - Delegado ante el Comité Científico | epriotor@produce.gob.pe jquinones@imarpe.gob.pe |
| Panamá | Marino Abrego Carlos Hawkins | Departamento de Costas y Mares, Ministerio de Ambiente de Panamá | meabrego@miambiente.gob.pa |
| República Dominicana | Yolanda León Ydalia Acevedo | Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo Viceministerio de Recursos Costeros y Marinos | yolanda.leon@grupoJaragua.org.do Ydalia.Acevedo@ambiente.gob.do |
| Scientific Committee | | | |
| Argentina | Diego Albareda | Ecoparque Buenos Aires / PRICTMA/ IAC SC Chair | diego.albareda@gmail.com |

| Sectorial CCE | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| NGO | | | |
| United States | Rebecca Regnery | Humane Society International | rregnery@hsi.org |
| Uruguay | Alejandro Fallabrino | Karumbé | afalla7@gmail.com |
| Scientific | | | |
| United States | Bryan Wallace | Senior Scientist Abt Associates | bryanpwallace@gmail.com |
| México | Eduardo Cuevas | Departamento de Recursos del Mar del CINVESTAV-IPN | amir.cuevas@gmail.com |
| Brazil | Neca Marcovaldi | Presidente Fundación Tamar y Coordinadora Técnica Nacional | neca@tamar.org.br |
| Industry | | | |
| México | Humberto Becerra | Presidente de la Junta Directiva Nacional Cámara Nacional de las Industrias Pesquera y Acuícola de México/ CANAINPESCA | humbertob02@hotmail.com |
| Perú | Nina Pardo | Sociedad Nacional de Pesquería/H2Oceanos | ninapardoperu@gmail.com |
| IAC Secretariat | | | |
| | Verónica Cáceres | Secretaria <i>Pro Tempore</i> | secretario@iacseaturtle.org |
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***43 participants**

Annex I.B CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.1 – Agenda CCE11

March 21st, 2018 - 10:00 AM EST Time-Washington DC

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 10:00-11:00 | Connection of participants to videoconference (Vidyo) |
| 11:00-11:10 | 1. Opening Remarks Consultative Committee of Experts Chair, <i>Paul C. Hoetjes</i> |
| 11:10-11:30 | 2. Agenda adoption and introduction of participants - CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.1 |
| 11:30-12:00 | 3. Report on the 10 th Consultative Committee Meeting - CIT-CCE10-2017-Doc.4. Consultative Committee of Experts Vice Chair, <i>Joao Thome</i> |
| 12:00-13:20 | 4. Discussion on Recommendations from the 14 th IAC Scientific Committee Meeting CC14-2017-Doc.6. Scientific Committee Chair / <i>Diego Albareda</i> – CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.2 a) Review of additions to the IAC Annual Report Format -New Table for Resolution on <i>Caretta caretta</i> - New Table for Resolution on Fisheries - New question in Table for Resolution on Hawksbill b) Mechanism of the IAC Scientific Committee to increase engagement in the technical work of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations. c) Proposal for a pilot study to record environmental parameters on nesting beaches under the Resolution on Climate Change. |
| 13:20-14:00 | Break |
| 14:00-14:30 | 5. Report on the implementation of the Resolution on the East Pacific Leatherback and recommendations for future work -Leatherback Task Force coordinator report on Regional meetings relevant to the EP Leatherback and TF work plan for 2018. / <i>Bryan Wallace – East Pacific Leatherback Task Force Coordinator</i> -Costa Rica report on the implementation of the Resolution and progress on the National Strategy for Conservation of Sea Turtles – 3 min video presentation./ <i>Rotney Piedra/ SINAC</i> . |
| 14:30-15:00 | 6. Proposal of Resolutions for the IAC COP9, and review of the Resolution on Guidelines for Financing the Operation of the IAC - CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.3 |
| 15:00-15:30 | 7. IAC Collaboration with International Organizations (RAMSAR, IATTC, ICCAT, ACAP, and CITES) and preparation for participation in 2018 meetings. IATTC and ICCAT: Discussion of the proposal of Resolution on sea turtles presented to the Commissions in 2017. ICCAT Doc. No. PA4-809B/2017 (documents of reference A and B, below) |

RAMSAR: Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding IAC – RAMSAR ([document of reference C, below](#))

15:30-16:00 8. Updating of the Consultative Committee Work Plan (2017-2018) [CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.4](#)

16:00-16:30 9. Other Business and adoption of recommendations from the meeting

Documents of the Meeting

| Type of Document | Name | Number |
|---|--|----------------------|
| Work Documents (in blue on the agenda) | Agenda | CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.1 |
| | Recommendations from the Scientific Committee | CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.2 |
| | Proposal of amendment to the Resolution on guidelines for the IAC financial operation | CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.3 |
| | Consultative Committee of Experts Work Plan (2017 – 2018) | CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.4 |
| Reference Documents | Report 10 th CCE meeting CIT-CCE10-2017-Doc.4: http://www.iacseaturtle.org/eng-docs/comite-consultivo/10reunion/CIT-CCE10-2016-Doc.4_Final%20Report_ENG_Webv.pdf | CIT-CCE10-2017-Doc.4 |
| | Report of the 14 th Meeting IAC Scientific Committee CIT-CC14-2017-Doc.6: http://www.iacseaturtle.org/eng-docs/comite-cientifico/SC14%20Meeting%20Report_CIT-CC14-2017-Doc.06_ENG_Final_07Feb18_Web.pdf | CIT-CC14-2017-Doc.6 |
| | Resolution on Guidelines for Financing the Operation of the IAC http://www.iacseaturtle.org/eng-docs/resolucionesCOPE1CIT/CIT-COPE1-2007-R2-Eng.pdf | CIT-COPE1-2007-R2 |
| A | Explanatory Note ICCAT Doc. No. PA4-809 /2017 | |
| B | Proposal of Resolution ICCAT Doc. No. PA4-809B /2017 | |
| C | Project on RAMSAR Resolution about Sea Turtles | |

Annex II. CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.2 – New forms adopted for the IAC Annual Report

1. Table to report Compliance with Resolution on the Loggerhead Turtle

Resolution CIT-COP7-2015-R3: Conservation of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

ACCORDING TO RESOLUTION CIT-COP7-2015-R3, REPORT WHETHER YOUR COUNTRY:

| IS COMPLYING WITH THE FOLLOWING: | RESOLUTION DOES NOT APPLY | | | DOES NOT APPLY |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| | YES | NO | DESCRIBE ACTION (*) | |
| 1. Has your country created national action plans or monitoring programs to promote loggerhead sea turtle conservation? | | | | |
| 2. State if these are plans or recovery programs, or bilateral or regional cooperation. | | | | |
| 3. Are these action plans or monitoring programs being implemented? | | | | |
| 4. Is there protection of the species at a state or federal level? | | | | |
| 5. If your country has loggerhead turtles nesting beaches: | | | | |
| 5 a. Has your country taken conservation actions to protect nesting beaches and their associated habitats? | | | | |
| 5b. Are there laws on turtle-friendly lighting in areas impacted by coastal development? | | | | |
| 5c. Are there long-term (minimum 10 years) standardized data available for population trend studies? | | | | |
| 6. Is there exploitation or direct harvest of loggerhead sea turtles in your country? | | | | |

(*) Specify actions implemented, the name of the project or relevant document, location, objective(s), institutions responsible, contact, financial or other support (optional), results (both positive and negative) and duration

2. Modification of table to identify which species of sea turtle is impacted by particular fisheries

Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R2: Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

ACCORDING TO RESOLUTION CIT-COP3-2006-R2, REPORT WHETHER YOUR COUNTRY:

| IS COMPLYING WITH THE FOLLOWING | YES | NO | DESCRIBE ACTION (*) | SPECIES | DOES NOT APPLY |
|--|-----|----|---------------------|---------|----------------|
| Adopted the “Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality induced by fisheries operations”, of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), including: | | | | | |
| A. Research and monitoring of adverse impact of fisheries on sea turtles | | | | | |
| • Collect information by fishery | | | | | |
| • Observer programs | | | | | |
| • Research on sea turtle/fishery interactions | | | | | |
| • Information on non-Party vessels | | | | | |
| • Cooperation with non-Party states to obtain information | | | | | |
| B. Mitigation measures for the following fisheries: | | | | | |
| i. Long-line | | | | | |
| ii. Gillnets | | | | | |
| iii. Trawling (e.g., 1.TEDs: specify legally approved | | | | | |
| iv. TEDs, their dimensions, material, and target species for that fishery, 2. Time-area closures: specify geographical area, time of closure and target species for that fishery. 3. tow times and/or 4. other measures) | | | | | |
| v. Other fishing gear (indicate which one(s)) | | | | | |
| vi. Training programs for fishermen about best practices for safe handling and release of sea turtles incidentally caught. | | | | | |
| C. Socio-economic considerations | | | | | |
| • Support socio-economic activities that help mitigate adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles | | | | | |

(*) Specify actions implemented, the name of the project or relevant document, location, objective(s), institutions responsible, contact, financial or other support (optional), results (both positive and negative) and duration. In the column “Species” include the sea turtle species that apply as DC = *Dermochelys coriacea*, EI= *Eretmochelys imbricata*, LO = *Lepidochelys olivacea*, LK= *Lepidochelys kempii*, CM = *Chelonia mydas*, CC= *Caretta caretta*

Annex III. Strategy to Work with RFMOs

1. Identify meetings and review agenda priorities to assess relevance to the IAC
2. Identify priority topics relevant for the IAC
3. Evaluate feasibility and value of participation by IAC Secretariat *PT* (or a designate).
4. Clarify the product or outcome, such as letters of support, lobbying for MoU, etc. This involves support for signing a Memorandum of Understanding (e.g. ICCAT), preparation of technical documents with recommendations, or supporting the RFMO technical recommendations to be adopted.
5. Identify appropriate personnel to assist in the development of the products identified.

The IAC Consultative Committee appointed Ms. Rebecca Regnery, Humane Society Int. (Sectorial NGO) to support the IAC Scientific Committee Chair in the implementation of strategy item number 1: Identify meetings and review agenda priorities to assess relevance to the IAC.

Annex IV. CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.3. Draft Resolution Amendment of the Guidelines for Financing the IAC Operation

DRAFT_ Resolution Amendment of the Guidelines for Financing the Operation Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles

CONSIDERING that Resolution CIT-COPE1-2007-R2 on the Guidelines for Financing the Operation of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles ‘Urges the Contracting Parties to make financial, technical *and in-kind contributions* for the Convention’s operation, using as a reference the estimated operating costs for 2008 and the 2009-2010 period, considering as a reference the “Indicative Table of Voluntary Contributions to IAC for 2008” that appears as Annex II and taking into account each country’s ability to pay and their determination to contribute’;

CONSIDERING that no further specifications are provided regarding the mentioned ‘*in-kind contributions*’;

CONSIDERING that Parties have in fact provided in-kind contributions towards settling arrears in their voluntary contributions;

CONSIDERING that guidelines for in-kind contributions are necessary to avoid negatively impacting the operational capabilities of the Convention due to a shortfall in cash funding;

THE 9th MEETING OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES:

1. *Decides* to amend the Financial Rules for the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles as approved by the 1st Extra-ordinary Meeting of the Parties and appended as Annex I of this resolution, by inserting the following two new paragraphs after Rule 18 of the Financial Rules:

- 18a. arrears in the payment of a Party's contributions can be paid in cash or in-kind as agreed between a Contracting Party in consultation with the Chair of the Conference of the Parties and the Secretariat on a case-by-case basis. In-kind contributions may include, *inter alia*, the hosting of in-country workshops and meetings of the Convention, the provision of consulting services for projects carried out under the Convention, or the hiring of researchers and other qualified technical personnel for projects carried out under the Convention
 - 18b. In-kind contributions will not be allowed in lieu of current year payments, unless the Contracting Parties agree otherwise. The secretariat, through the authority given in the present paragraph shall ensure that the use of in-kind contributions does not undermine the Special Fund of the Inter-American Convention (SFIC) as the core cash resource of the Convention and shall report to the Contracting Parties on the use of this mechanism

NOTE: Resolution CIT-COPE1-2007-R2 “Guidelines for Financing the Operation of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles” to be amended is found in <http://www.iacseaturtle.org/eng-docs/resolucionesCOPE1CIT/CIT-COPE1-2007-R2-Eng.pdf>

Annex V. CIT-CCE11-2018-Doc.4 Consultative Committee of Experts Work Plan (2018-2019)

| Actor | Topic | Proposed Action | Expected Result | Timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------------|
| Consultative Committee of Experts | Exceptions | <p>1) Follow up on the progress of Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Panama exceptions, and other cases presented.</p> <p>2) The Consultative Committee of Experts will prepare a report to the COP on the use of sea turtles or their products by the Parties Exceptions (when new exceptions are presented).</p> | <p>1) Report to COP and the CCE on the progress of Costa Rica, Panama and Guatemala exceptions (if needed).</p> <p>2) Report on exceptions presented for COP consideration.</p> | 2018, 2019 Permanent |
| Consultative Committee of Experts, Secretariat <i>Pro Tempore</i> | IAC's Website and newsletter | 1) Parties will send to Secretariat <i>Pro Tempore</i> relevant news on a monthly basis for the IAC's Newsletter. | 1) IAC website updated with the IAC's Newsletter and other documents of interest. | Permanent |
| Eastern Pacific Leatherback Working Group | Eastern Pacific Leatherback Working Group | <p>1) Follow up on the implementation of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback Resolution (CIT-COP7-2015-R2).</p> <p>2) Carry out annual meetings of the Leatherback Task Force.</p> <p>3) Leatherback task force will prepare a report with recommendations on urgent conservation actions to be presented to COP.</p> | <p>1) Report presented at COP with recommendations on urgent conservation actions.</p> <p>2) National technical workshops with recommendations to mitigate the threats to the EP Leatherback population, carried out in priority countries within the range of the species.</p> | 2019 |
| Consultative Committee of Experts | IAC Annual Report | 1) CCE delegates from each country will provide support to the Focal Point to prepare the IAC Annual Report. | 1) IAC Annual Report submitted on July 30th | 2018 |
| Resolution Compliance Working Group | IAC Annual Report | 1) Assess current Annual Report format. | 1) Recommendations for changes to the format of the Annual Report as required. | 2018 |

| Actor | Topic | Proposed Action | Expected Result | Timeframe |
|---|---|--|--|------------------|
| Consultative Committee of Experts | Work plan | 1) Update CCE work plan following the recommendations of the Parties. | 1) CCE bi-annual work plan updated with activities, timetable and responsible. | Permanent |
| Consultative Committee of Experts – Working Group (USA) | Collaboration with International Organizations | 1) Create a working group to follow up on the implementation of existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). | 1) The United States will propose ideas to work with the organizations with which the IAC has MoU. | 2018 2019 |
| Consultative Committee of Experts | Collaboration with International Organizations | 1) Recommend and promote alliances and synergies with other international organizations to accomplish the IAC objectives. | 1) Identification of synergies with similar organizations to share information (RAMSAR, CIAT, CPPS, WIDECAST, ACAP, ICCAT, OSPESCA, OLDEPESCA, SPAW, SWOT, ICAPO, ASO, WWF, CBD, CMS). | 2018, 2019 |
| Consultative Committee of Experts | Collaboration with International Organizations | 1) Develop and review MoU drafts with relevant identified organizations. | 1) Documents presented to COP for consideration. | 2018, 2019 |
| Consultative Committee of Experts, Secretariat <i>Pro Tempore</i> | Drafting Resolutions and Recommendations to COP | 1) Address COP requests and draft Resolutions and recommendations accordingly. 2) Prepare text to include in draft the resolution on guidelines for financing the IAC to be presented at CCE12 and COP. Working Group: Argentina, USA, and Caribbean Netherlands. | 1) Resolutions and draft recommendations presented to COP as needed. 2) Draft of resolution on guidelines for financing the IAC presented at CCE 12 and COP9. | 2018, 2019 |
| Consultative Committee of Experts | IAC Technical Documents | 1) Develop technical documents as needed. | 1) Technical documents available on IAC website and shared with IAC Parties. | Permanent |
| Consultative Committee of Experts, Secretariat <i>PT</i> | IAC Experts Directory | 1) Review and update the IAC Experts Directory | 1) Updated directory available on IAC's Website | Permanent |

| Actor | Topic | Proposed Action | Expected Result | Timeframe |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Consultative Committee of Experts | Capacity Building | 1) Support from members of the Consultative Committee to workshops and training in topics identified by IAC Parties, and those with funding provided. | 1) Strengthening capacities on sea turtle matters in Member Countries | Permanent |
| Consultative Committee of Experts | Resolution compliance | 1) The Consultative Committee of Experts will prepare a report to the COP on the compliance of the Parties with the IAC resolutions and agreements made by the COPs, when necessary. | 1) Report on resolution compliance presented at COP when necessary. | Permanent |