

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RECALLING Article 5 of the Agreement which concerns the Advisory Committee.

RECOGNIZING that Meetings of the Parties are to be held at least once every three years and that the Parties and the Secretariat will require guidance between Meetings.

NOTING that the Advisory Committee, as required by the Agreement, will need scientific, management and administrative expertise.

DECIDES to:

Establish the Advisory Committee with the following terms of reference

- 1) The Committee shall, in full consultation with the Secretariat, drive forward the objectives of ASCOBANS between Meetings, following instructions from Meetings of the Parties.
- 2) The Committee shall provide advice and guidance to the Secretariat.
- 3) The Committee shall ensure, as far as possible, exchange of information with other international bodies, and encourage and promote joint international research and collaboration.
- 4) The Committee shall establish, set terms of reference for, assess results from and terminate working groups of experts on particular matters.
- 5) The Committee shall aim to meet at least once per year. The Chairperson of the Committee shall serve for the term between Meetings of the Parties.
- 6) The Committee shall assess National Reports and other relevant information and bring forward timely proposals, to guide the Parties in implementing the Agreement. These proposals could include draft Resolutions for the Meeting of the Parties.
- 7) The Committee shall establish or endorse common standards for research or analytical procedures and advise on interpretation of the Agreement, its aims and principles.
- 8) The Committee shall present a report on its activities to each Meeting of the Parties.

INVITES non-Party Range States to participate in the activities of the Advisory Committee.

INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to service the meetings of the Advisory Committee and to call the first meeting of the Advisory committee within 1 year, after consultation with the Coordinating Authorities.