

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK 2021-2022
FOR THE JOINT BYCATCH WORKING GROUP OF ACCOBAMS AND ASCOBANS**

TOR	Task description	Lead	Priority [High/Medium /Low]	Timeframe [deadline or x months?]	Report to [e.g. AC26, SC14]
1.	Collate and prepare an overview of scientific information ¹ relevant to bycatch of affected cetacean species.				
	1.1. [...]				
	1.2. [...]				
2.	Review available information on IUU (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated) fishing, recreational fishing, identification of bycatch risk areas, fishing techniques and gears applied in both agreement areas related to bycatch				
	2.1.				
	2.2.				
3.	Contribute to the assessment process of the EU-MSFD criteria and/or UNEP-MAP EcAp, and associated targets				
	3.1.				
	3.2.				

¹ Related to abundance and management units, including population dynamics.

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4.	Review and provide updates on bycatch mitigation measures currently available or under development and their effectiveness, using existing sources				
4.1.					
	4.2.				
5.	Prepare an overview of national and international legislation and other measures relevant to the monitoring and management of cetacean bycatch, and include an overview of actions taken to deliver on ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS obligations				
5.1.					
	5.2.				
6.	Prepare, as appropriate, and in coordination with ICES WGBYC, advice on: a. target setting including potential conservation and user objectives ² , in accordance with the policies of the two Agreements; b. monitoring cetacean bycatch and fishing operations				
6.1.					
6.2.					
7.	Provide technical support as required to facilitate dialogue with relevant bodies that have certification schemes, such as the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), by actively contributing to the assessment of relevant fisheries with respect to cetacean bycatch				
7.1.					

² See for example Hall, M.A. and Donovan, G.P. 2001. Environmentalists, Fishermen, Cetaceans and Fish: Is There a Balance and Can Science Help to Find it? Chapter 14, pp. 491-521 In: Marine mammals: biology and conservation Eds PGH Evans and J.A Raga. Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers, New York.

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	7.2.				
8.	Comment on requests for information or advice received through the Secretariats				
	8.1.				
	8.2.				
9.	Report back to ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee and ASCOBANS Advisory Committee meetings, and where appropriate provide input intersessionally to other relevant meetings or working groups under the two agreements				
	9.1.				
	9.2.				