

Draft Agenda
Conservation Committee Planning Group
5 Oct 2023, 10:00- 12:00 BST

1. Welcome and aims of the meeting

- a) Appointment of Chair [Cat Bell is proposed]
- b) Appointment of Rapporteur [The Secretariat will offer to act as rapporteur]
- c) Terms of Reference and aims of the meeting.

At IWC66, the Commission endorsed Terms of Reference (see Annex 1) for annual Conservation Committee Planning Group meetings which would help set the agenda for the biennial Conservation Committee meeting and ensure progression of the Conservation Committee work plan in the intersessional period.

- d) Review of documents available to the meeting

Documents available on the meeting SharePoint those who are registered have access.

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. Progress Updates from Intersessional Working Groups since IWC68

Progress reports are available for each topic

- a) Reports from SWGs
 - i. Bycatch Mitigation Initiative
 - ii. Conservation Management Plans
 - iii. Ship Strikes
 - iv. Whale watching
- b) Reports from ICGs
 - i. Anthropogenic Underwater Noise
 - ii. Marine Debris
 - iii. Socio-economic value of the roles of cetaceans
 - iv. Chemical pollution
 - v. Climate change
- c) Joint Conservation Committee-Scientific Committee Working Group

4. Preparation for IWC69

- a) Draft Conservation Committee agenda
 - i. Sanctuary review
 - ii. International treaty on Sustainable use of Marine Biological diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ treaty)
- b) Conservation Committee Strategic Plan and workplan
 - i. Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Conservation Committee
 - ii. Standardising CC topic Terms of Reference
- c) Database of recommendations
- d) Conservation Database update

5. Finance

- a) Finance Updates
- b) Upcoming funding proposals

6. Engagement with other organisations

7. Conservation Committee positions

8. Any other business

Annex 1. Terms of Reference for annual Conservation Committee Planning Group meeting

The Conservation Committee Planning Group is tasked with helping set the agenda for the biennial Conservation Committee meeting and progression of the Conservation Committees work plan in the intersessional period.

It will:

- Consider the Committee's progress since the last meeting of the Committee, in particular with regards to intersessional work, and support continued effective delivery of its work.
- Identify key discussions, priorities and deliverables for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting of the Committee.
- Support the Chair in preparing for Conservation Committee meetings.
- Provide an additional opportunity for discussing the strategic development of the Conservation Committee, particularly with regards its outward facing strategic plan, strategic development of priorities, engagement with other organisations, and funding.

Membership

The group is intended to be small and focused and does not replace a full meeting of the Conservation Committee. Attendance is not restricted but may be limited by available space. It will primarily be composed of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Conservation Committee, Chairs of the Committee's standing working groups, and nominees from contracted governments. Additional expertise will be invited as appropriate to the agenda by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Conservation Committee. The meeting will be Chaired by the Chair of the Conservation Committee.

Timings

The Conservation Committee planning meeting should meet at least annually and where possible in conjunction with meetings of the Scientific and/or Conservation Committee to ensure best use of resources.