

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC)



Third Conference of the Contracting Parties - COP3IAC Mazatlán, Sinaloa, México Final Report 2006

PUBLISHED BY:

Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Inter-American Convention for the
Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC), San José, Costa Rica
<http://www.iacseaturtle.org>
contact@iacseaturtle.org

Marco A. Solano
Pro Tempore Secretary
secretario@iacseaturtle.org

**INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES (IAC)**

Mailing address:

Fundación de Parques Nacionales
Att: *Pro Tempore* Secretariat (IAC)
P.O. Box 1108-1002
San José, Costa Rica
Tel.: +506 257 2239
Fax: +506 222 4732

Presentation

The Third Conference of Contracting Parties of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles was held in the Mexican State of Sinaloa, Mazatlán from September 26th-28th, 2006, accepting the Government of Mexico's invitation presented during the COP2CIT. We greatly appreciate the support of the Foreign Relations Secretary, Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources and the National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries in helping us organize and carry out the COP3. We extend our gratitude to the numerous government personnel from Mexico that supported us throughout this process; however, we would like to give a special thanks to Mrs. Teresa Bandala (who Chaired the COP3), Rodolfo Godínes, Ricardo Belmontes, Aída Peña, Verónica Esquivel, Roberto Santos Hernández, Ana Aguilar and all those who in way or another made this event possible.

The Conference of the Parties (know as the COP) represents the periodic event where Contracting Parties come to evaluate compliance with existing dispositions, review reports, give recommendations to the Scientific

and Consultative Committees, adopt conservation and regulation measures, among other tasks, in order to facilitate the achievement of the Convention's objectives. It is the highest instance for analysis, decision-making and follow-up of the mandates given in the text of the Convention. Therefore, the meeting generates a number of documents in both working languages, many of which are prepared beforehand, some during and others following the meeting.

This report does not include all of the INF documents, since they can be found on our Internet website <http://www.iacseaturtle.org>, and also taking into consideration the cost and length of this publication. Copies of this report are available on compact disc.

We hope that this "Final Report for COP3CIT" is an easy to read, informative document as well as being useful for the general public.

Marco A Solano
Pro Tempore Secretariat

Index

COP3IAC MINUTES	5
COP3IAC Agenda	21
ANNEX I. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-1 Conservation of the hawksbill turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>).....	24
ANNEX II. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-2 Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles.....	26
ANNEX III. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-3 Consideration of a Permanent Secretariat of the IAC.	28
ANNEX IV. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-4 Complementing the terms of reference of the Consultative Committee of Experts of the IAC	29
ANNEX V. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-5 Establishment of a working group on financial aspects and related subjects	31
ANNEX VI. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-6 Memorandum of Cooperation between the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) and the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) and its Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW Protocol)	33
ANNEX VII. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-7 Memorandum of Understanding between the Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (OSPESCA) and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC)	35
ANNEX VIII. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-8 Establishment of a Work Group on the Terms of Reference for a Permanent Secretariat	38
ANNEX IX. CIT-COP2/2004/R-2 Terms of Reference for the Scientific Committee of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles	40
ANNEX X. CIT-COP3-2006-Doc.3-Rev.1. 2007-2008 Work Plan.....	45
ANNEX XI. CIT-COP3-2006-Inf. 7. Report of the Pro Tempore Secretariat on the 2005-2006 Workplan	68
ANNEX XII. CIT-COP3-2006-Doc.11. Report of the 1st. Meeting of the Consultative Committee	80
ANNEX XIII. CIT-COP3-2006-Inf. 4. Report of the 3rd Meeting of the Scientific Committee.....	88
ANNEX XIV. CIT-COP3-2006-Doc.16 General Guidelines for Classifying Documents of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles	95
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	98

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC)

COP3IAC Minutes

Meeting Place: Mazatlán, Sinaloa, México
Los Tapices Saloon, El Cid Castilla Resort Hotel
Date: September 26th – 28th, 2006

Tuesday, September 26th

1. Participant Registration
8:30-9:00a.m.

2. Opening ceremony by the Mexican authorities

Speakers:

- Marco A Solano, *Pro Tempore* Secretary
- Ernesto Enkerlin, Chairman of the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas
- Ramón Corral Ávila, National Commissioner of Aquaculture and Fisheries.

1. In response to the invitation from the Mexican Government, all of the Party States of the Convention were present at the meeting. The work began with the Opening Ceremony, where the following Mexican authorities were in attendance: Mr. Ramón Corral Ávila, National Commissioner of Aquaculture and Fisheries, and Mr. Ernesto Enkerlin, Chairman of the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas and representing the Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources.

2. The inaugural speeches began by welcoming the participants to México, in particular to the Port of Mazatlan, then continued on to point out the interest of the Parties in addressing the concerns of the authorities, scientific and productive communities and in general, the civil society, on establishing conservation measures that allow an integrated approach to managing sea turtles, including activities carried out in their nesting, feeding, reproduction and resting areas as well as to regulate their incidental capture.

3. The challenge presented in strengthening the Convention was also mentioned, for the purpose of addressing the responsibility represented in protecting, preserving and maintaining, in a sustainable manner, our natural ecosystems and their biological diversity. An emphasis was placed on the vital importance of coordinating efforts within the region because these resources know no territorial boundaries, and it was also pointed out that the goals can not be reached without the participation of all those involved.

4. The Chair of the Conference was granted to México at the Second Conference of the Parties, and was carried out by Mrs. María Teresa Bandala Medina, General Director of

International Relations of Mexico's Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources. In her opening remarks she welcomed everyone and expressed her gratitude to all the distinguished delegates that received the invitation.

5. The vice-chair was granted to Brazil at Isla Margarita and corresponded to Mr. Fabio A. Antibas, from the Brazilian Embassy in Mexico.

3. Election of the COP3CIT Rapporteur

6. The rapporteur for the event was not elected during the COP2 as is customary and, because of the difficulty in accepting the appointment of rapporteur, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and Mexico assumed the responsibility.

4. Approval of the Agenda

7. The Chair presented the draft Agenda to the plenary for their consideration and the delegate of the United States requested a merging of the two points "Review of the IAC 2007-2011 Strategic Plan" and "Review of the IAC 2007-2008 Work Plan." The agenda was approved by consensus and, in order to facilitate the work of the Chair, the creation of a Contact Group to analyze the documents produced during the 2nd Meeting of the Consultative Committee was requested.

5. Report of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the Nov. 2004-Sept. 2006 Period

8. The *Pro Tempore* Secretary, Mr. Marco Solano, presented the intercessional report to the plenary making the point that the Secretariat only has two full time staff members to carry

out all of the activities scheduled in the Work Plan approved by the Contracting Parties.

9. The Secretariat indicated that it carried out the logistical preparations necessary for the Third Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP3) together with the functionaries of the Mexican Government, the Secretary of Foreign Relations (SRE), the Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), and the National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries (CONAPESCA). In addition to this, it also arranged the logistics for the Second and Third Meetings of the Scientific Committee (Costa Rica, June 28th – 30th, 2005 and July 6th – 9th, 2006) and the First and Second Meetings of the Consultative Committee of Experts (San José, October 26th – 28th, 2005 and Mazatlán, September 21st – 23rd, 2006).

10. The Secretary informed the plenary of his attendance to several different informative and coordination meetings within the hemisphere. The Secretary represented the Convention, along with others, in the following international meetings: the Annual Sea Turtle Symposium, Meetings of the Ministers for OLDEPESCA and OSPESCA, Permanent Commission for the South Pacific's Sea Turtle Workshop, meetings of the Central American Sea Turtle Conservation Networks and meeting of the Board of Directors of the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative, and Cartagena Convention (SPAW Protocol). Likewise, he participated as an observer in the First Technical Workshop of the Eastern Pacific Regional Sea Turtle Program, held June 12th – 17th in Puntarenas, Costa Rica. This workshop was coordinated by WWF and IATTC.

11. The Secretariat attended the Sea Turtle Conservation Workshop aimed at strengthen the Exchange of Regional Experiences between

Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador (Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala, July 20th – 22nd, 2006) where it presented a talk on the importance of international cooperation in achieving an efficient management of sea turtles. Likewise, participating in the first Sea Turtle Conference in Nicaragua in March of 2006, with the objective of fortifying information Exchange, establishing contacts and to provide information about the IAC.

12. It provided follow-up on interest expressed by various Non-Party States, and reported on the advancements of the IAC, these actions included making contact with the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentinean Embassy in Costa Rica, the Direction of Maritime Authority of Panama (AMP) and the Vice-President of the Republic of Panama. In El Salvador meetings were held with the authorities from the Ministry of the Environment and personnel from the System for Central American Integration (SICA), the Central American Commission for the Environment and Development (CCAD) and OSPESCA.

13. The Secretary also informed the plenary on the updating of the Inter-American Convention's Website; indicating that the bilingual site (English/Spanish) of the Convention (<http://www.iacseaturtle.org/>), has been in constant development and provides information needed by the authorities of the Contracting Parties to keep them up to date on the happenings of the Convention as well as the decisions made by the subsidiary bodies. He mentioned furthermore, that it allows access to those interested in obtaining information on conservation efforts complied by the Parties, through divulging their Annual Reports. The Secretary stated that the site currently has, in each language: 23 pages of content; 49

documents to download; 10 publications; and, 28 links to various sites of interest.

14. Regarding the topic of membership, the COP3CIT Chair requested assistance from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, being the Depository State of the Convention, along with the Government of Costa Rica, the host country of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, to assist in the task of inviting other countries of the region to sign the Convention. Netherlands Antilles requested that the Secretariat increase their efforts on this work to reach the insular countries of the Caribbean. Likewise, the COP repeated its support of the Secretariat to continue organizing these efforts.

15. Mexico, taking advantage of the attendance of the General Secretary of OLDEPESCA, asked for a strengthening of efforts by approaching their own members and requested support for this process in its upcoming meeting. The Secretary of OLDEPESCA indicated that he has already placed the IAC as an item on the agenda.

16. Lastly, the Netherlands Antilles asked about the follow-up to the request made by the COP2CIT to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat responded that after the meeting, a written request was made to that Convention, but an answer has yet to be received. The Secretariat promised to resend this request, incorporating the considerations of the COP3CIT.

17. Peru acknowledged the efforts of the Secretariat, especially regarding their contact with the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS).

18. Honduras expressed the importance that each country carries out efforts to encourage

other countries to participate in the Convention. Pointing out that in their case they have made efforts to incorporate their neighbouring countries, El Salvador and Nicaragua, as well as within the Central American Commission on the Environment and Development (CCAD).

6. Report of the Scientific Committee

19. The Chairman of the Scientific Committee, Dr. Jack Frazier, presented the report on the work carried out by this subsidiary body.

20. The topics analyzed by the Scientific Committee incorporated documents produced during previous meetings of the Parties and its Subsidiary Bodies, as well as the 2005 and 2006 annual reports handed in by the Parties.

21. The topics included: Follow-up on the resolution on the conservation of *Dermochelys coriacea*; the Conservation status of *Eretmochelys imbricata*; Guidelines to evaluate and mitigate impacts of fisheries interactions with sea turtles; Recommendations regarding Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs); Incorporating the field of socio-economics in the Convention's work; and standardization of Annual Reports.

22. The Chairman of the Scientific Committee presented the following draft resolutions to the COP3 for their consideration: the conservation of the hawksbill turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata*; reduction of adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles; and, strengthening the capacity of the Scientific Committee to provide specialized advice on socio-economic issues.

23. As for the Scientific Committee's Work Plan, it was explained to the plenary that since the Committee receives unscheduled tasks from

the COP, Parties and Consultative Committee, they decided to keep their work plan focused on 11 fundamental responsibilities. These are: review and evaluate Annual Reports; prepare summaries of the Annual Reports; promote standardization; propose high priority projects for funding; provide follow-up on the advances made in applying resolutions and guidelines; strengthen the development of web based meta data bases as well as developing, over the long term, a web database of all information relevant to the area of the Convention; promote alliances and synergies; support the development of a virtual library on the web site; respond to any requests from the COP and Consultative Committee for specific information, technical advising and preparing draft resolutions; and include specialists from the social science background in meetings and deliberations of the Scientific Committee.

24. In addition to the main tasks identified in the work plan, he indicated that four specific tasks will be carried out by different working groups between sessions. The working groups will be: a) Annual Reports i) to continue discussions via e-mail to explore ways of including key information on fisheries interactions in the format, as well as their respective instructions ii) to explore the possibility of creating informative summaries from the biological content of the Annual Reports; b) *Eretmochelys imbricata* to continue working on and discussing, via e-mail, the development of a regional meeting; and, c) fisheries, to continue discussions via e-mail in response to those topics and questions that require additional work.

25. Lastly, he pointed out existing limitations for emitting criteria due to a lack of basic information from the Parties, especially in the Annual Reports, which presents an

important obstacle for the Committee as well as the Convention's application.

26. The Mexican delegation called attention to the fact that the majority of the draft resolutions and topics for discussion during the COP3CIT have been generated and processed by the Scientific Committee. This Committee submitted a draft resolution on the need to carry out studies on the Socio-cultural and Economic aspects of coastal communities involved in sea turtle protection.

7. Report of the Consultative Committee

27. The Chairman of the Consultative Committee, Dr. Alberto Abreu, presented the report on the work of this Committee, which included details of the recently concluded 2nd meeting. He called attention to the new emerging topics, pointing out that even though some of them could not be resolved at the COP3CIT because of the rules of procedures, they should still be considered at this time.

28. Dr. Abreu described the role of the Consultative Committee in the Convention, interactions with the Scientific Committee, receiving technical feedback from this subsidiary body through the participation of the Scientific Committee's Chairman in their meetings, and generating recommendations and draft resolutions for the Conference of the Parties.

29. He indicated that because the 2nd Meeting of the Consultative Committee was held only two days prior to the COP, there was not enough time to transmit and organize the information generated, as well as the agreements and proposals made. Some of these

were: the approval of the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan and incorporating the Committee's Work Plan into the Work Plan of the Convention; draft Resolutions on the "Reduction of adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles" and on the "Conservation of the hawksbill turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata*"; supporting the recommendations of the Scientific Committee, including holding an expert workshop to update regional information, diagnose trends and threats, and report on new methodologies; guidelines to follow-up on Resolution COP2CIT-001 on the *Dermochelys coriacea* turtle; and strengthen the capacity to consider social and economic aspects.

30. It was mentioned that the 2nd Meeting also touched on other aspects that, although they were not on the COP3 agenda, were important to consider, such as: Revision and recommendations for applying exceptions, because an agreement was not reached, it was necessary to continue working on the interpretation of the determining factors in Art. IV 3 (a); procedure to present exception cases; and, guidelines for the Management Plans; creation of or strengthening of working groups that support focal points at a national level to integrate national reports; broaden strategic alliances with countries, research institutions and NGOs to establish centers of regional activity or networks in areas of interest for the IAC objectives (INF-046-06); and, develop a system for initial listing of TEDs in use by the Contracting Parties.

8. Review of the IAC 2007-2011 Strategic Plan and 9. IAC 2007-2008 Work Plan

31. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat presented the draft Strategic Plan and its relation to the

Work Plan, at the same time making reference to the observations that came out of the 2nd Meeting of the Consultative Committee.

32. He indicated that throughout the process of creating the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan, any comments provided to the Secretariat from the Committee members and the Parties were included; and, this document was also circulated by way of the Focal Points for revision in the middle of November, 2005.

33. It was commented on that the making of the 2007-2008 Work Plan, which was also presented during the COP3, was based on that established in the Strategic Plan, and included operative actions for the Parties, as well as the subsidiary bodies and Secretariat.

34. The Secretariat mentioned that it has updated its database to contain the information provided in the 2005-2006 Annual Reports, even though it found that some details on the information relating to geographic location still needed to be completed along with the number of nests at some beaches. It was pointed out that the information presented in 2006 did show some advances when compared to the information available in 2005. A map of the nesting beaches of the Contracting Parties was then presented to the COP, mentioning that it was only the beginning and that they hope to complement it using additional information presented by the Parties.

35. Currently, an interactive map for the Convention's website is being developed in order to help promote and exchange information provided in the Annual Reports, as well as to disseminate the efforts carried out by the Parties. This will allow an increase in public awareness on the need to protect and conserve sea turtles and their habitat, as well as having a clearer and more realistic picture

of the state of sea turtles within the Convention's range of action, for the decision making process.

36. After exchanging different points of view, it was considered that the program for improving the implementation of activities related to establishing certification measures should be eliminated.

37. The delegates stressed the financial implications, considering that if this aspect of the Strategic Plan was solved, it could become operative. Given the importance of this topic, it was decided that a discussion of this issue will be continued through a Contact Group, which will be coordinated by the United States.

10. Review and proposals for agreements with other international organizations

38. The Secretariat presented CIT-032-06 Draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector in Central America (OSPESCA) and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC), placing its signing at the consideration of the Plenary.

39. The delegate of Costa Rica, in his position as *Pro Tempore* Chairman of OSPESCA, reiterated the importance of signing this agreement, also as a continuation of the efforts to integrate Central American fishing authorities. Honduras and México expressed their support in developing synergies and activities that help to improve the dissemination and exchange of information.

40. The United States agreed on collaborating with the OSPESCA, however, they indicated having specific comments

regarding the language used in the text of the memorandum. Therefore, the Chairman requested that it be turned in, in written form, to the Secretary and asked that if any other country had comments regarding any part of the text of the Memorandum of Understanding that they get them to the secretary as soon as possible. Finally, the signing of the agreement was approved by consensus.

41. The Secretariat presented CIT-029-06 Draft Memorandum of Cooperation between the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) and the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) and its protocol regarding Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW Protocol), placing it at the consideration of the plenary.

42. Venezuela and Netherlands Antilles, as members of both agreements, expressed the importance of the memorandum. Netherlands Antilles called for it to specifically mention the Secretariats of both agreements, due to the fact that they will be the ones to carry out specific activities. Requesting also that the paragraph regarding the transferring information to third parties be revised.

43. México mentioned that it was important to incorporate language that clarifies that the signing of the memorandum does not change the status of each one of the IAC Parties in regards to the SPAW Protocol; a corresponding text will be provided to clarify this.

44. Taking into consideration the comments made, the signing of the memorandum was approved by consensus.

45. Brazil suggested that the IAC approach

the Agreement on Albatross and Petrels, being hosted in Australia, where it can participate as an observer. In addition to this, the delegation informed that next December they will be participating in a meeting on incidental fishing in South America, where the topic of sea turtles will be presented. The United States supported Brazil's motion.

46. Ecuador requested that the Secretariat distribute the CPPS Report among the participants. The Secretariat agreed to include it in the CD along with all of the other documents handed in or created at the Meeting, which will be distributed on the last day of the meeting. Ecuador also suggested that an instrument of cooperation with CPPS be developed.

**Continuation of agenda items 8 and 9 on
Convention Work Plans:
Contact Group on the Strategic and Work
Plans**

47. The delegate of the United States acted as the coordinator of the Contact Group to analyze the Work and Strategic Plans. After reviewing and analyzing the documents, the Group concluded that it requires external help to design a report format for the data on sea turtle populations and that the Scientific Committee should decide what institution could provide these services.

48. Mexico commented on the extraordinary activities, that the amount assigned to them are generally approximates and that no decisions could be made until they knew exactly how many people they would need to hire and also, the activities they will be developing were not defined.

49. In general, it was agreed upon to approve those activities that did not require any

additional expenses, and opted to place all of those that did require expenditures in brackets, with the understanding that it was not the activities themselves that were pending, but the amount that can be designated to them. It was agreed upon that this situation could be resolved when decisions were made on the origin and amounts of financing that the Convention will have available. In this sense, it was made clear that the points in brackets will be responded to in future meetings.

50. On the other hand, the Contact Group decided that activities referring to Certification will be eliminated, in light of the fact that the majority of the Parties do not consider them relevant.

Wednesday, September 27th

Continuation of agenda items 8 and 9 on Convention Work Plans

51. The delegation of the United States prepared a summary of the work done by the Contact Group on the Operative Plan, indicating that the topic of the Strategic Plan will only be analyzed once the financial aspects are resolved.

11. Revision and approval of the Resolution on the “Conservation of the hawksbill turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata*”

52. The Chairman of the Consultative Committee presented the Draft Resolution CIT-30-06 Rev.1 “Conservation of the hawksbill turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata*”, including the revisions made by the subsidiary bodies.

53. The Chair asked the plenary for any comments, none were brought up; therefore, the resolution was unanimously approved.

12. Revision and approval of the Resolution on the “Reduction of adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles”

54. The Chairman of the Consultative Committee presented the Draft Resolution CIT-028-06 Rev.1 “Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles”; the document was analyzed and some paragraphs were modified. Its relationship with the guidelines established by FAO was examined and it was concluded that when preparing the technical guidelines of the Resolution, the FAO guidelines should be taken into consideration. It was decided that in the paragraphs to resolve, one paragraph would be added to mentioning that the IAC agrees to give all of their effort in complying with the FAO resolutions.

55. The importance of transferring information produced by other countries and organizations to the IAC Secretariat was pointed out and, would result in having a more complete vision of data related to sea turtles.

56. It was agreed upon that the “Guidelines to evaluate and mitigate fisheries interactions with sea turtles”, as prepared by the Scientific Committee, will be used from now on as a guide to implementing the Resolution. Costa Rica, México, the United States and other Party States presented different corrections to the text, which were discussed and incorporated. The Resolution was approved by consensus.

57. The Chair mentioned that three delegations had expressed concern regarding the procedure to be followed for documents produced by the Scientific Committee, especially when trying to identify those that had been previously modified by the Consultative Committee. Therefore, using a different classification system was suggested, so that through an independent document the

Consultative Committee would clearly identify the parts that it had modified on the Scientific Committee's original proposal, and provide an explanation for these changes. The proposal was accepted.

13. Analysis and Approval of Resolution COP2CIT-002, Terms of Reference of the IAC Scientific Committee (structure is pending)

58. The Chair requested that the Delegation of Mexico inform the plenary on the progress of this initiative; it was then pointed out that this topic has been on the table since the COP1CIT.

59. The Mexican representation made reference to the intercessional proposal presented by Guatemala, suggesting that the members making up the Scientific Committee represent regions; México indicated that this would result in a reduction of the number of members from 11 to 7. The proposal was appreciated, but they pointed out that this would not permit a sub-regional balance, but it would actually create an unbalance between sub-regions and the most affected would be North America – of which Mexico belongs - with the possibility of having only one scientist participating.

60. It was mentioned that in order to reach a consensus on the approval of the Terms of Reference, a proposal favoring the designation of scientists that have an Academic title and/or recognized experience in some of the relevant thematic areas for each one of the Parties, was put forward for consideration by the plenary. In addition to these designations, the Scientific Committee could accept having invited members elected by consensus. In this case, it was indicated the need to look for a formula that would allow for a balance to be found; for

example, the number of invited members by consensus in the Committee, should not be greater than one third of the members designated by each one of the Parties. Emphasis was placed on the fact that Mexico's proposal was considered to most closely resemble the spirit of the Convention and was said that the designation or invitation of other members to the Committee by the same members of this body is convenient, when considering the proportion previously mentioned.

61. Venezuela considered it to be important that there was a representative from each Contracting Party within the Scientific Committee, because the IAC participating countries have enough experts adequately prepared to express the point of view of the country they represent. This coincided with Mexico's proposal on the importance of having a representative for each Contracting Party, opening the possibility to invite relevant experts, as long as they do not represent a number larger than those already nominated by the Parties as members of this Committee.

62. Guatemala withdrew its proposal, in the spirit of supporting the adoption of a formula by consensus.

63. Netherlands Antilles objected to the first paragraph of the Mexican proposal on the structure of the Scientific Committee, regarding the designation of one representative for each Party. The United States supported this opinion and reiterated that the Committee should be independent of the Contracting Parties.

64. Costa Rica and Brazil pointed out the financial problem that maintaining a very large Scientific Committee implied and supported Mexico's proposal, indicating that the same proposal tried to solve the importance of having specialized technicians integrated into the

Committee while responding to the majority of the feelings that each country be represented.

65. Mexico's proposal did not reach consensus; however, it was decided that the Committee would operate for now under this proposal, although the corresponding text of its integration would stay within brackets (unapproved). Therefore, it was agreed that for the Committee's operation and in regards to the participation of invited members, the Scientific Committee would analyze what type of experts are needed and based on this analysis, present a proposal for their participation.

14. Revision and approval of the format and instructions for the elaboration of the Annual Reports.

66. The Chairman of the Committees described in detail the development of document INF-040-06, for consideration of the plenary, as well as the specific proposals for modifying the Annual Report.

67. Venezuela requested that the Report reflect sea turtle conservation efforts of the local communities. Likewise, indicating the financial aspects of these efforts, reporting on the amount invested at a national level in sea turtle conservation and protection programs.

68. Mexico pointed out that, in light of the extensive agenda of the Scientific Committee, the recommendation made on seeking the help of WIDECAS^T to hire a consultant to help carry out a comprehensive review of the Annual Report's format, should be considered.

69. The Chairman of the Scientific Committee stated that since this Committee meets only once a year, which is insufficient time to cover all of the aspects that need their

attention, including the topic of the Annual Report's format, it is therefore, desirable to accept the help of WIDECAS^T; he also mentioned that this Committee would be in constant communication with WIDECAS^T in order to fulfill its commitment relating to the information requested in the format and its analysis.

70. The delegate of the Netherlands Antilles stated that WIDECAS^T already collaborates with the SPAW Protocol on this subject, and therefore, considered this to be an excellent opportunity to develop synergies. The collaboration was approved, deciding that the Scientific Committee will be in charge of arranging this process, reporting to the Secretariat and identifying its financial implications. By not having any objections to the proposal of seeking the help of a consultant, the Parties approved it.

71. Analyzing the possibility of presenting the Annual Report biannually was suggested; it was made clear that this was not possible due to the fact that the period was established directly in the Text of the Convention, and that a change would imply an amendment, whose negotiation and entry into force could be prolonged.

72. After deliberations, it was agreed upon that the same format would be used for the next two years. Meanwhile, the Scientific Committee, by mandate of the COP, would analyze the topic together with WIDECAS^T to make a proposal on the content and structure of the revised format, taking into consideration scientific requirements, that requested by the Parties and the administrative difficulties presented.

15. Revision and approval of the Resolution on a Permanent Secretariat

73. The resolution regarding the consideration of a permanent Secretariat was presented, based on the discussions during the heads of delegation meeting. Because it did not comply with the time frame established for presenting resolutions, as indicated in the Rules of Procedure of the COP, it was agreed that the topic would be reintroduced at the next meeting, ordinary or extraordinary.

74. The importance of reaching an agreement on guaranteeing the continued operation of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was recognized, due to the fact that its mandate expired at the end of the COP3CIT.

75. The Third Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP3CIT) agreed by consensus to extend the term of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, established in Resolution COP1CIT-001 “Establishment of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat”, so that it will continue under the same terms until the Fourth Conference of the Parties (COP4CIT), ratifying Mr. Marco Solano as the *Pro Tempore* Secretary.

76. The COP expressed their gratitude to the government of Costa Rica for their offer to host the permanent Secretariat, stating their positive outlook on the proposal received.

77. The delegation of Costa Rica stated its intention to continue supporting the operation of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

78. A resolution titled “Consideration of a Permanent Secretariat of the IAC” was adopted where once again Costa Rica was thanked for their proposal and the intention to continue

working towards a Permanent Secretariat during future meetings was reiterated.

79. The Resolution titled “Establishment of a Working Group on the Terms of Reference for a Permanent Secretariat” was presented by the Table and adopted, suggesting the terms for the activities considered; calls for the delegations, through their focal points, to send their comments on the proposal. Furthermore, it establishes the makeup of the Working Group, that will be coordinated by the Government of Venezuela, with the objective of creating a new draft resolution including the legal status, structure, and functions of the Secretariat, as well as the characteristics of the Secretary, and the mechanisms for his/her selection and nomination.

80. When the resolution was approved, the Chair reminded the plenary of Costa Rica’s offer, so that it may be put down in writing, what its government will offer for hosting the permanent Secretariat.

81. In the afternoon, once the work of the day was concluded, the delegates listened to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) presentation by Dr. Martin Hall, regarding the advancement of research on circular hooks in longline fisheries.

Thursday, September 28th

Revision of pending agenda items from the previous day

16. Appointment of the 9 sectorial members of the Consultative Committee

82. The appointment of the sectorial members of the Consultative Committee was discussed, including the draft resolution for this

change to the Terms of Reference of this body, according to Resolution COP1CIT-005.

83. Using as the base document “Draft Resolution presented by the 2nd Meeting of the Consultative Committee, Resolution for the change in the terms of reference for the IAC Consultative Committee of Experts, approved at COP1CIT by Resolution COPCIT-005”, respecting that which the participants and the Chair made some clarifications, the nomination procedure was determined and reflected in the Resolution “Complementing the Terms of Reference of the Consultative Committee of Experts of the IAC”. This resolution was approved by consensus and it mentioned the re-election of the seven active members of the Committee in addition to establishing the nomination process for the two vacancies.

84. Therefore, it was decided that candidates for the vacant Consultative Committee member positions would be presented to the Secretariat, in a period of no more than 45 days; the relevant information will then be communicated to all of the Parties and be followed by an electronic vote, in a way that the Secretariat can keep a register. In the case of a tie, the Secretariat will have to inform the Parties of the need to vote again.

85. After extensive deliberation, the countries made it clear that the sectorial representatives of the Consultative Committee are nominated on a personal level and not as representing an organization. Therefore, it was considered that when one of them can not attend a meeting, the same sectorial representative is not in the position to designate their own replacement, because this would go against that established in the Rules of Procedure.

86. Comments were also made on the amount of time the members of the Consultative

Committee should maintain in their position, which could be for 4 or 2 years; the importance of receiving suggestions regarding under what circumstances and how a replacement could be designated; and, the fact that a member would have to leave the Committee when he/she was elected to represent a sector and no longer belonged to it.

87. The Chair of the COP requested that the members of the Consultative Committee sent their observations on how to improve the Terms of Reference of this Committee, with the idea that they can be taken into consideration at future meetings. It was also noted that it is important that NGO’s also give their ideas, through the Secretariat, so that they can be presented in a base document together with the Consultative Committee.

17. Analysis and discussion of financial aspects (financial contributions)

88. In the debates regarding the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat, the importance of the financial implications in all future tasks and operation of the Convention was discussed. For this purpose, the countries approved the resolution “Establishment of a Working Group on Financial Aspects and related subjects”, which will analyze, among other things, the monetary requirements necessary to establish a permanent Secretariat, to supply the Inter-American Convention’s Special Fund and possible economic contributions from the Parties. The Work Group was also assigned the task of considering the proposal presented to the COP3 in the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan and determining its economic viability. The COP3CIT designated Venezuela as the coordinating country of this Working Group. The resolution document must be circulated to the Parties 90 days before the next meeting of the Contracting Parties, be it ordinary or extraordinary.

89. This Group should analyze viable financial means of providing resources to the Convention's Special Fund, including what the Parties should give and resources secured from other sources; analyze the proposal and those resources needed to carry out the recommended activities; and to further examine the resources necessary for each type of activity.

90. It was agreed that since this Group is closely related to the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat, communication between the coordinators of both groups was determined to be opportune to consider the relevance of the tasks that each one of them has been assigned.

91. The Plenary noted and received the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan that will be analyzed at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in light of the work done by the Working Group on financial aspects.

18. Election of seat and date for the COP4CIT in 2008

92. In light of the importance of the topics discussed during the COP3, the Parties considered the need of having an extraordinary meeting, before the 2008 date that has been initially set for the COP4. Therefore, the place and exact date was not elected for the conference of the Parties.

93. The COP3 unanimously agreed on holding the First Extraordinary Meeting of the Convention, graciously accepting the offer of the Government of Peru to hold it in 2007; it was determined that the two main topics of this meeting will be on financial aspects and defining a permanent Secretariat. It was agreed that this extraordinary meeting would only be held if the work of the Groups created to attend

both of these topics conclude their work on time, in order to have the documents necessary for negotiation in the timeframe considered in the Rules of Procedure, that is to say at least 90 days before the scheduled meeting date.

94. The Chair commented that resources for extraordinary meetings were not anticipated, therefore, it was requested that the Parties make all efforts to finance the assistance of their representatives with their own resources, and keep the Secretariat informed on this issue.

19. Election of the Next Chair, Vice-chair and Rapporteur

95. Under the offer of Peru to host the extraordinary meeting, the Parties unanimously proposed this country to also be the Chair of the meeting. Likewise, it was agreed by consensus to nominate Ecuador as the Vice-Chair.

20. Other business Documents prepared by the Consultative Committee

96. The Consultative Committee produced various document for the COP3CIT, which were presented on behalf of their President. Mexico asked that the presentation of the topics be prioritized, due to what little time was available and the large number of documents.

97. The document "Report of the working group on Exceptions from the 2nd Meeting of the Consultative Committee" was presented. After listening to clarifications on some questions regarding the procedure suggested in this document, it was requested that the parties within the spirit of cooperation make their respective comments and hand them in to this Committee.

98. The 3rd Conference of the Parties took as their own, the proposal presented by the 2nd Meeting of the Consultative Committee regarding the list of TED's currently in use, under the terms indicated below:

“To comply with the requirements established in Annex III, paragraphs 3, 7 (a & b), and 8 of the Text of the Convention, the Parties will send to the Secretariat within a month after the end of the Third Conference of the Parties the TEDs in use according to the rules established in their national legislation. With the information provided, the Secretariat will make an initial list of the TEDs recommended by the Convention, which will be up-dated in the annual reports and evaluated by the Scientific and Consultative Committees.”

99. On the subject of strengthening and supporting the work of the IAC focal points, the COP3 recommended that the Parties establish structures with related functions, working groups to facilitate information flow and supporting administrative institutions in carrying out their tasks for the IAC.

100. It was mentioned to the Secretariat that they should invite countries, research institutions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities, to develop working relationships with the IAC, by gathering the suggestions on the topics assigned to the Consultative Committee, such as establishing networks and regional centers to compile regional information on the state of sea turtle populations.

101. The proposal for allowing entrance on a daily basis to observers during the Conference of the Parties was suggested; after various interventions, a consensus was not reached on

the topic. The Presidency recommended that the topic be analyzed in the Consultative Committee and be presented at the next COP.

Appointment of the Invited Members of the Scientific Committee

102. The Chairman of the Committee recommended that the proposal presented earlier by Mexico be used to nominate the “invited members by consensus”, indicating that the total number of specialists to be nominated would be 4 people and for this, the same Committee would create a list of candidates that would be given to the Parties by way of the Secretariat, so that they can make the corresponding decision. Brazil recommended to the plenary that the specialists required for the Scientific Committee be defined in the next meeting of the Scientific Committee; Netherlands Antilles also recommended that they choose the fields as well as the names of the members that would be invited. Venezuela suggested that the subject be cleared up within the Scientific Committee and that they inform the countries.

103. Guatemala offered to host the next meeting of the Scientific Committee, which was acknowledged and accepted by the plenary.

104. On the other hand, the Consultative Committee presented the Report on the Work on Exceptions, INF043-06, suggesting that this same document lays out guidelines that can be used to create a final version of the text.

Classification of Documents

105. The Chair made a proposal for classifying the various documents managed within the Convention, explaining to the plenary what system will be followed and that

the Parties considered a clear and precise classification system important; therefore, the proposal was approved by consensus. It was recommended that the Secretariat be responsible for changing the classification of all existing documents. An explanation on how to execute this new classification system is annexed to these Minutes. On the other hand, and with the purpose of making the management of the contents of the documents and the discussions much easier, it asked that the Secretariat number all of the paragraphs in the documents.

106. It was agreed upon that the Chair together with the Secretariat review the item of classifying the documents.

21. Closing of Event

6:00p.m.

107. Once the discussion of the agenda items came to a close, the Chair proceeded to close the Conference; the delegates acknowledged the work of the Chairwoman and the support of the Secretary and expressed their gratitude towards the Government of Mexico for the hospitality they received.

COP3IAC Agenda

Meeting place: Mazatlán, México

Date: Sept. 26th-28th, 2006

Tuesday, September 26

1. Inscription of participants

8:30 - 9:00am

2. Inauguration by the Mexican authorities

9:00 - 9:30 am

3. Election of the COP3IAC Rapporteur

9:30 - 9:40 am

4. Approval of the Agenda

9:40 - 9:45 am

Coffee break 9:45 - 10:00am

5. Report of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, Nov. 2004-Sept. 2006

10:00 - 10:30 am

6. Report of the Scientific Committee

10:30 - 11:00 am

7. Report of the Consultative Committee

11:00 - 11:30 am

8. Revision of IAC Strategic Plan 2007-2011

11:30 - 1:30 pm

Lunch 1:30 - 3:00 pm

9. Overview of IAC Work Plan 2007-2008

3:00 - 5:00 pm

Coffee Break 5:00 - 5:10 pm

10. Review and proposals for agreements with other international organisms

5:10 - 6:00 pm

Wednesday, September 27

Follow up of points 8 and 9 about working plans

9:00 - 10:30 am

Coffee Break 10:30 - 10:45 am

11. Revision and approval of Draft Resolution on the “Conservation of the hawksbill turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata*”

10:45 - 11:30 am

12. Revision and approval of Draft Resolution on the “Reduction of adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles”

11:30 - 12:30 pm

13. Analysis and approval of Resolution COP2CIT-002, Terms of Reference of the Scientific Committee of the IAC (structure is pending)

12:30 - 1:45 pm

Lunch 1:45 - 3:00 pm

14. Revision and approval of the format and instructions for the elaboration of Annual Reports

3:00 - 4:00 pm

15. Revision and approval of Draft Resolution on a permanent Secretariat

4:30 - 6:30 pm

Coffee Break 4:30 - 4:45pm

Thursday, September 28

Review the pending points in the agenda

9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Coffee Break 10:30 - 10:45 am

Lunch 1:30 - 3:00 pm

16. Appointment of the 9 sectorial members of the Consultative Committee

3:00 - 3:30 pm

17. Analysis and discussion of financial aspects (financial contributions)

3:30 - 4:30 pm

18. Election of seat and date for COP4IAC in 2008

4:30 - 4:45 pm

19. Election of next Chairman, Vice Chairman and Rapporteur

4:45 - 5:00 pm

20. Other business

5:00 - 6:00 pm

21. Closing of event

6:00 pm

ANNEX I

CIT-COP3-2006-R-1

Conservation of the hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

RECOGNIZING that the hawksbill turtle is or has been an important component of many marine tropical ecosystems and is valued culturally, socio-economically, ecologically, and scientifically;

CONSIDERING that the hawksbill turtle has a broad distribution within the range of action of the Convention;

RECOGNIZING that the hawksbill turtle has a complex life cycle that requires the protection of terrestrial, coastal and marine habitats, in some instances involving the jurisdictional waters of several countries;

CONSIDERING that although the species is classified globally as critically endangered by the World Conservation Union (IUCN), some populations in the Greater Caribbean and Western Atlantic are recovering after several decades of protective measures;

NOTICING that historically the main cause of the hawksbill turtle's decline has been due to over-exploitation to satisfy national and international markets principally for eggs, meat and carapaces in the former, and carapaces in the latter;

RECOGNIZING the persistence of several threats such as incidental capture in fisheries and increasing disturbance of critical feeding and nesting habitats by coastal development, erosion, seismic surveys, pollution, sponge diseases, coral bleaching, and eutrophication, among others;

CONSIDERING that it took many decades of intense conservation and management efforts to achieve a significant level of nesting in the hawksbill in the Yucatan Peninsula;

CONSIDERING that from 2000 to 2004 there was a decrease in hawksbill nesting activity in the main nesting areas of the Yucatan Peninsula, without a clear understanding of the causes of this phenomenon;

CONCERNED that the decline of the Yucatán population may be repeated in other localities in the region unless the causes are discovered and effective mitigation measures are identified;

THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES RESOLVES TO:

EXHORT the Parties to promote synergies between the IAC and CITES, the SPAW Protocol, CMS, WHMSI, FAO, other pertinent treaties and international organizations, and regional fisheries bodies in order to facilitate regional dialogue on management and conservation of the hawksbill turtle and its habitats;

URGE the Parties to strengthen monitoring of the use and illegal trade of hawksbill turtles and their products, to enforce pertinent legislation and to stop illegal trade;

EXHORT the Parties to support and strengthen the research and monitoring activities required to improve the scientific basis of conservation measures for the hawksbill turtle, particularly in genetics, migratory behavior, location and conservation status of foraging habitats and food prey, population dynamics in feeding sites, interactions with fisheries, social and economic impacts of conservation measures, and integrity of its nesting beaches;

URGE the Parties to evaluate and mitigate incidental capture of hawksbill turtles in their jurisdictional waters in accordance with recommendations emanating from FAO's Technical Meeting on the conservation of marine turtles held in Bangkok 2004 and adopted by the 26th Session of Fisheries Committee of FAO (COFI) ;

EXHORT the Parties to apply the Precautionary Approach until possible impacts can be evaluated and mitigated on seismic surveys near priority marine habitats of the hawksbill turtle;

URGE the Parties to strengthen protection of important hawksbill nesting and foraging habitats by declaration of protected areas and the regulation of anthropogenic activities adversely impacting these habitats;

SUPPORT a working group within the Scientific Committee to keep the Conference of the Parties informed on the status of the species and its habitats in the Area of the Convention;

PROMOTE the exchange of technical capacity and collaborative research on the hawksbill turtle on their habitats among Parties as well as non Parties and other involved organizations in the Area of the Convention, and;

SUPPORT the organization of a workshop with recognized experts to evaluate the current condition of hawksbill populations in the Greater Caribbean and Western Atlantic, and present the best available methods of research and conservation for the species in its marine habitats.

Mazatlan, Mexico September 2006

ANNEX II

Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-2 Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

Considering the possible impacts of fishing on sea turtle populations caused by incidental capture and mortality;

Taking into account that some Parties of the IAC Convention are also Parties to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), which have adopted measures to regulate the impact of tuna fisheries on sea turtles, such as Resolutions IATTC C-04-05 (Modified) of the year 2005 and C-04-07 of the year 2004, and Resolution ICCAT 03-11 of 2003.

Acknowledging that the Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the IATTC Incidental Capture Working Group reports incidental capture of sea turtles and their mortality in longline fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean basin;

Taking into account that the Fisheries Committee (COFI) of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) enforced the Technical Consultation on sea turtle conservation and fisheries during their 26th session held in Rome of 2005 and urged their members and the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO) to

immediately apply the recommendations outlined in the document Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality Caused by Fishing;

Taking into account the Resolution of the International Sea Turtle Society, adopted at the 26th Symposium on April 7th of 2006 in Greece, supporting the adoption and implementation of the guidelines of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to reduce the mortality of sea turtles induced by fisheries operations;

Considering that the Party states have established the mandatory use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) and other measures for shrimp trawling in their respective legislations and that the use of such devices and measures has been effective in reducing incidental capture of sea turtles in trawl fisheries;

Whereas some of the Parties are carrying out experiments with circular hooks and baits in longline fisheries that have shown to reduce incidental capture and mortality of sea turtles, and;

Considering that these actions are in agreement

with the objectives of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles;

The Conference of the Parties of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles resolve to:

Incorporate the “Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations”, of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), to reduce the mortality of sea turtles induced by fisheries operations, and consider, as appropriate, recommendations integrated by the Scientific and Consultative Committees of the Convention.

Urge the Party States to send the Secretariat of the Convention information and documents on sea turtles created, including those sent to other multilateral organizations.

Instruct the Convention Secretariat to contact non Party States, especially in the area of the Convention, so that in a cooperative spirit they provide the Secretariat with available data on incidental sea turtle catches in their fisheries.

Request the Secretariat to commence discussions with regional fishery management organizations in order to develop Memorandum of Understandings.

Mazatlan, Mexico September 2006

ANNEX III

Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-3

Consideration of a Permanent Secretariat of the IAC

CONSIDERING that article VI of the Convention agrees on the establishment of a Secretariat;

RECOGNIZING that one of the points of the agenda of the third Conference of the Contracting Parties includes the Establishment of a permanent Secretariat;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the offer from the Government of Costa Rica, on behalf of the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, to have the office of the permanent Secretariat in the city of San José.

CONSIDERING the expressions of the Parties and the fact that it was not possible to analyze the proposed resolution, due to the times established in the rules of procedure as well as to the financial implications of deciding on the establishment of a permanent Secretariat.

THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES RESOLVES TO:

THANK the Government of Costa Rica for the offer to host the office of the permanent Secretariat and express, in principle, its welcome of this initiative.

ANALYZE the issue in the next Conference of the Parties, either in ordinary or extraordinary session, in conjunction with the results of the Working Group on the terms of reference for the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat, as well as the Working Group on financial aspects and related topics.

Mazatlan, Mexico September 2006

ANNEX IV

Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R-4

Complementing the terms of reference of the Consultative Committee of Experts of the IAC

CONSIDERING that the Consultative Committee is a subsidiary body of the Convention that carries out important functions, such as, the revision and analysis of the annual reports submitted by the Parties; examination of the reports related to the environmental, socio-economical and cultural impacts in the communities, of the measures foreseen in this Convention, the evaluation of the effectiveness of the different measures to reduce the incidental capture and mortality of sea turtles, among others;

GIVEN the need of maintaining full representation of the sectorial members of the Consultative Committee;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that some sectorial members of the Consultative Committee have not been able to attend the periodical meetings or have expressed the impossibility of attending these meetings; and

AWARE of the need to consolidate and strengthen the Consultative Committee of the Convention;

THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES RESOLVES TO:

1- In conformity with numeral 8 of the Terms of Reference in use, renew the designation of 7 of the 9 members, for a period of two years, as follows:

Scientific Community:

Scott A. Eckert

Hedelvy J. Guada

Maria Angela Marcovaldi

Private and Productive Sector:

Les Hodgson

José Kowalski

Non-Governmental Organizations:

Juan Carlos Cantú

Carlos Drews

2- Name the two new representatives to the Consultative Committee, one corresponding to the Private and Productive Sector and the other corresponding to Non-Governmental

Organizations, according to the following procedure. The Secretariat will receive nominations within 45 days of the end of COP3IAC. Once this information is compiled, the Secretariat will inform Parties about the received nominations so they can indicate their

preferences back to the Secretariat within 30 days. The Secretariat will inform the Parties about the results within 8 days so they can ratify the designations to the Consultative Committee.

Mazatlán, México September 2006

ANNEX V

CIT-COP3-2006-R-5

Establishment of a working group on financial aspects and related subjects

CONSIDERING what is established in Article XIII of the Convention on “Financial Resources” in order that the Parties examine the needs and possibilities for having the financial resources for its operation;

RECALLING that Article VI 2. of the Convention establishes that “the Parties shall determine the means of financing necessary to carry out the functions of the Secretariat”;

RECALLING that Resolution COP1CIT-002 “Guidelines for the operation of the Inter-American Convention Special Fund” establishes that “all Parties, international organizations and non-governmental organizations interested in the work and the success of this Convention, are urged to contribute to the Fund and to seek funding from other sources”;

TAKING into consideration the importance of endowing the Convention with resources for its operation;

REAFFIRMING the ideas reflected in the minutes of COP1CIT where it was stated that “it is time now to establish a minimum voluntary contribution from each Party, which could have a basis of US\$2,000, and which

could be accounted for in the efforts each Party conducts to protect the sea turtles.”; and

RECOGNIZING the need for advancing the objectives of the Convention;

THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES RESOLVES TO:

ESTABLISH a working group on financial aspects and related subjects, taking into account the following considerations:

1. The Working Group will be constituted by a representative from each of the Parties, to be named through the focal point 30 calendar days from the adoption of this resolution at the latest;
2. The Working Group will operate between sessions of the Conference of the Parties through the available means of communication (email and/or teleconference).
3. For the purpose of adhering to the entrusted duties with respect to time and form the Working Group will be coordinated by a representative of the Government of

Venezuela, with the support of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

4. The Coordinator will be responsible for compiling documents and presenting them to the next COP, whether it is summoned as an ordinary or extraordinary session.
5. The objective of the Working Group is to formulate specific proposals on financial aspects and related subjects and present them to the COP, with the following considerations:
 - Developing viable financial mechanisms for endowing the Special Fund for the Inter-American Convention, considering both contributions from the Parties and fundraising from other sources.
 - Analyzing the budget and determining the required funding to carry out planned actions, while considering the available funds.
 - Providing specific analysis of required funds for each type of activity, among them on: the establishment of a permanent Secretariat, support to Party States, and requirements for specific actions contemplated in the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan and the 2007-2008 Work Plan.
6. To initiate the operation of the Working Group the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will prepare within 45 days a document reflecting the relevant aspects expressed by the Parties at COP3IAC. This document will be forwarded to the Coordinator, who will prepare a base analysis document.
7. The Working Group must start operating before the end of 2006, from the base analysis document to be circulated by the Coordinator.
8. The Working Group must give recommendations to the COP for the adoption of the required measures or resolutions.

Finally, the Conference of the Parties urges the Parties to make contributions according to their capabilities, in order to provide support for the operation of the Convention in the advancement of its objectives. Likewise, the COP exhorts the Parties to, within their possibilities, finance the participation of their representatives in the meetings of the Convention in order to lessen the impact of this item on the limited availability of resources and carry out specific actions for compliance with the objectives of the Convention.

ANNEX VI

CIT-COP3-2006-R-6

Memorandum of Cooperation between the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) and the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) and its Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW Protocol).

CONSIDERING that the objective of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (1990, hereinafter SPAW Protocol) of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (1981, hereinafter Cartagena Convention) is to protect, preserve and manage in a sustainable manner:

- 1) The areas and ecosystems which require protection to safeguard their special value;
- 2) threatened or endangered plant and animal species and their habitats; and
- 3) species, so that they do not become endangered or threatened with extinction;

CONSIDERING that the main objective of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (2001, hereinafter IAC), is to promote the protection, preservation and recovery of sea turtle populations and their habitats, based on the best available scientific evidence, and taking into account the environmental, socioeconomic and cultural characteristics of the Parties;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that cooperation between the Conventions and the active participation of the Contracting Parties is necessary in order to achieve the objectives of both agreements;

AWARE that it is necessary to make every effort to avoid sea turtles becoming further endangered or threatened with extinction, by protecting their feeding grounds, migration and reproductive habitats;

NOTING that the feeding, migration and nesting habitats of sea turtles fall within areas where industrial, commercial and artisanal fishing take place;

CONSIDERING that marine turtles play an important ecological role in the marine ecosystems and that the well-being of sea turtle populations is necessary for the sustainability of other species populations, some of which are economically important to the different sectors of society;

AWARE that the formal Agreement to be established through this Memorandum should

fall within and comply with the norms, rights and obligations established in the framework of each Convention;

THE PARTIES TO THE SPAW PROTOCOL AND THE IAC RESOLVE TO:

1. Establish cooperative linkages within the framework of their general objectives and work plans through specific activities to be agreed upon and executed through operational agreements between their administrative bodies.
2. Share information which will be mutually beneficial in identifying opportunities for cooperation between the Contracting Parties, Secretariats, and subsidiary bodies, focused on the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitats.
3. Recognize the importance of attending meetings organized by each organization in areas of common interest, including Conferences of the Parties and meetings of each Convention's subsidiary bodies.
4. Periodically examine each, the implementation of this Memorandum, taking the necessary measures to facilitate and expand their mechanisms for cooperation.
5. Respect the intellectual property created or

resulting from the activities carried out under this Memorandum.

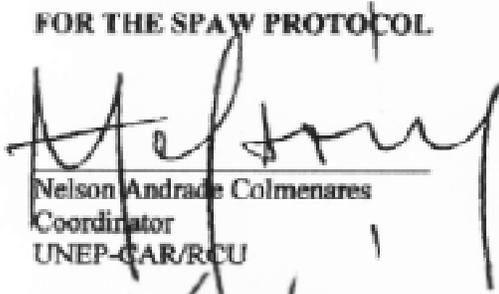
This Memorandum of Cooperation can be modified or amended by the Parties to the SPAW Protocol and the IAC by mutual agreement.

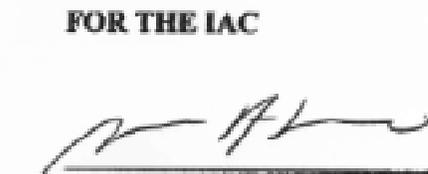
None of the clauses of this Memorandum of Cooperation can be considered a renunciation of the rights, privileges and immunities of the Contracting Parties of each Convention, or imply the modification of the rights and obligations of its Signatories, the SPAW Protocol or the IAC. Additionally, this Memorandum does not prejudice the position of Party States to the IAC or the SPAW Protocol with respect to their decision to adhere to the other instrument.

In the event of controversies on the interpretation or application of this Memorandum, they should be resolved by mutual agreement between the SPAW Protocol and the IAC.

The results of the joint collaborative activities carried out within the framework of this Agreement, may be published or used commercially only with the consent of the Secretariats of the SPAW Protocol and the IAC, by means of specific contracts and in conformity with existing relevant international agreements.

Mazatlán, Mexico September 2006

FOR THE SPAW PROTOCOL

Nelson Andrade Colmenares
Coordinator
UNEP-CAR/RCU
Date: 16 / NOV / 2006

FOR THE IAC

Marco Solano
Pro tempore Secretary
Date: 17-11-06

ANNEX VII

CIT-COP3-2006-R-7

Memorandum of Understanding between the Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (OSPESCA) and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (CIT)

The Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (OSPESCA), an integral part of the Central American Integration System (SICA), represented by Mr. Luís Paris Chaverri, *Pro Tempore* President of OSPESCA, hereinafter called OSPESCA and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, represented by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Convention and hereinafter called the IAC, have decided to sign the present Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with the following terms:

I. CONSIDERING:

That the main objective of the Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (OSPESCA) is to promote a coordinated development of fishing and aquaculture activities within the framework of Central American integration and particularly within the new policy for Integration of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

That the objective of the Inter-American

Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) is to promote the protection, conservation and recovery of sea turtle populations and the habitats on which they depend, based on the best available scientific evidence, taking into account the environmental, socio-economic and cultural characteristics of the Parties;

That it is highly desirable for the development of the Countries within the Central American Region to coordinate the projects and activities of their regional bodies with those of international organizations so that their results constitute a positive impact in achieving their respective objectives;

That the OSPESCA Board of Ministers has approved and enforced, since July 1st, 2005, the new Integration of Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy for the purpose of establishing a common regional system in order to increase the integrated participation of Central American countries and, therefore, contributing to the

appropriate and sustainable use of fisheries and aquaculture resources.

That it is necessary to make every effort to avoid sea turtles from becoming endangered or threatened with extinction;

That the feeding, migration and nesting habitats of some sea turtles may coincide with areas that carry out industrial and artisanal fishing; and that sea turtles play an important ecological role in marine ecosystems; and

That OSPESCA and the IAC want to achieve conservation and sustainable extractive and non-extractive uses of marine species and their habitats;

II. OSPESCA AND THE IAC AGREE TO:

1. Establish collaboration in identifying joint policies, strategies and projects, in regards the areas of their objectives, as well as to implement specific actions that will be agreed upon and implemented through operative agreements by their technical and administrative bodies.
2. Produce and share information that assists in identifying opportunities for inter-institutional cooperation, with special attention given to sea turtle protection and conservation activities.
3. Recognize the importance of attending meetings organized by each other, on topics of common interest, and the need to collaborate so that positive results may be achieved from them.
4. Create and develop joint projects, such as the organizing of events and creating a

regional database containing topics of interest for both Organizations.

5. Collaborate in the publication of books, maps, videos, posters or any other informative materials on issues that both Organizations consider should be public knowledge.

This Memorandum is subject to modification if both Parties so decide.

None of the clauses of this Memorandum can be considered a renunciation of the privileges and immunities of the Parties.

The formal agreement to be established should fall within the norms established in the framework of each of the Constitutive Agreements of OSPESCA and the IAC;

Both Organizations periodically examine the implementation of this Memorandum, taking the necessary measures to facilitate or expand their cooperation.

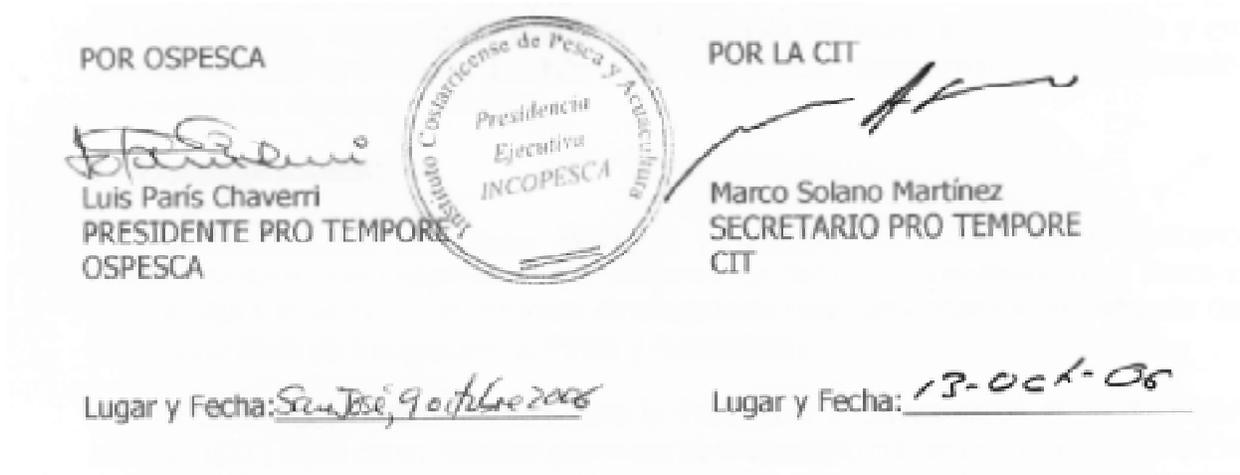
OSPESCA and the IAC guarantee the adequate and effective protection of the intellectual property created or resulting from the activities carried out in the framework of this Memorandum.

The results of the joint collaborative activities carried out within the framework of this Agreement may be published or used with the consent of the OSPESCA and the IAC, by means of specific contracts and in conformity with existing relevant international agreements.

Mazatlán, México September 2006

FOR OSPESCA

FOR THE IAC



ANNEX VIII

CIT-COP3/2006/R-8

Establishment of a Work Group on the Terms of Reference for a Permanent Secretariat

CONSIDERING that established in Article VI of the Convention, relative to the establishment of a Secretariat;

TAKING into account the exchange of points of view that took place during COP3CIT;

AWARE of the importance of defining with precision the terms of reference for the operation of a permanent Secretariat;

RECOGNISING the need to adopt the necessary mechanisms, at its own opportunity, to proceed to the nomination of a Secretariat

OBSERVING the need to advance in the consolidation of the Convention;

THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTERAMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES

RESOLVES TO:

ESTABLISH a work group about the terms of reference for the establishment of a permanent Secretariat, under the following considerations:

1. The work group will be formed by a

representative of each one of the Parties, to be nominated by the focal points no later than 30 natural days from the issuing of the actual resolution.

2. The Work group will operate intersessionally through available electronic means (emails and/or call conferences).
3. With the objective of fulfilling the requested tasks on time, the Work Group, with support from the Pro-Tempore Secretariat, will be coordinated by a representative of the Costa Rican Government.
4. The coordinator of the Work Group will be in charge of the integration of documents, and will be responsible of presenting them in the next COP, either ordinarily or extraordinarily.
5. The Work Group's mandate is to elaborate and present to the COP specific proposals about the terms of reference for the establishment of a permanent Secretariat, of which by listing, will consider:
 - Legal status of the Secretariat.
 - Secretariat's structure.
 - Secretariat's function.
 - Mechanisms for the selection and

nomination of the Secretariat, including aspects such as the length of the mandate.

6. For the start of the Work Group, the Pro-Tempore Secretariat will prepare, within 45 natural days, a document that contemplates the aspects mentioned before; this document will be emitted to the Coordinator, who will prepare a base document for analysis.
7. The Work Group should start its work before the end of 2006, using the base document that will be circulated by the Coordinator.

8. The Work Group should make recommendations to the COP, so that relevant measures and/or resolutions are adopted.

Given the interrelation between the mandate of the Work Group established by this resolution and the Work Group about financial aspects and related issues, the coordinators of both groups will maintain close communication in order to exchange relevant information.

ANNEX IX

CIT-COP2-2004-R-2*

*This version includes in brackets the section “Structure of the Scientific Committee”, which was not approved at COP2IAC, as well as modifications from COP3IAC to this section.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES

The mandate given to the Scientific Committee is established in Article VIII (2) of the Convention text.

OBJECTIVE

To provide technical and scientific advice to the Conference of the Parties to comply with the mandate of the Convention in order to promote the protection, conservation and recovery of sea turtle populations and of the habitats on which they depend, based on the best available scientific evidence, taking into account the environmental, socioeconomic and cultural characteristics of the Parties.

FUNCTIONS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The Scientific Committee will have, in addition to the duties established in Article VIII (2) of the Convention, the following functions:

1. Prepare and update its Work Plan, pursuant to the guidelines of the Convention, and the accords and

resolutions of the Conferences of the Parties (COPs), establishing the priority of the issues to be addressed. The Work Plan shall be presented to the Contracting Parties for its approval.

2. Elaborate, in collaboration with the Consultative Committee of Experts, the format of the Annual Report for the Parties, prior to the next Conference. This format shall include, in addition to the information required in Annex IV of the Convention, basic indicators for evaluating the status of sea turtle populations and their habitats, especially under those circumstances subject to the exceptions indicated in the Article IV (3) (b).
3. Periodically evaluate, in collaboration with the Consultative Committee of Experts, the format of the Annual Report for the Parties, and, if considered necessary, recommend modifications.
4. Support the Secretariat in the creation

and maintenance of an up-to-date directory of scientists, which will be available to the Parties and for whomever else requests. In this task it will, among other things, issue a public call for nominations, and should incorporate specialists who have a wide range of knowledge and experience in matters pertaining to the Convention, as well as in the geographic area that it covers.

5. Analyze the Annual Reports of the Parties, as well as the scientific investigations (including sociological and economic research), projects and initiatives conducted by Parties or other relevant organizations or entities.
6. Develop technical guidelines for the preparation of bilateral, multilateral and regional management plans.
7. Develop and improve methodologies for the evaluation of environmental, socioeconomic and cultural impacts resulting from the measures adopted within the frame of the Convention.
8. Support actions directed towards development, use, training and transfer of socially and ecologically sustainable technologies, taking into account the guidelines for international cooperation agreed by the Parties.
9. Present annually to the Parties, through the Secretariat, a report on its work, which reflects the different points of view and opinions of its members. This report shall include observations and recommendations on measures additional to those described in the Convention, to promote its objective.

STRUCTURE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE*

*This point was not approved during the COP2CIT

Procedure for representatives designated unilaterally by the Parties

1. *[Each Party may designate one representative to the Scientific Committee, who may be accompanied at each meeting by up to three advisors. The Party will notify the Secretariat, through diplomatic channels or via its designated focal point, the name of this representative. The Secretariat will circulate the list of these representatives to all the Parties.]*
2. *[The representatives who comprise the Scientific Committee should have an academic degree and/or proven experience in any of the relevant thematic areas.]*
3. *[The term for representatives designated by the Parties shall be 2 years, at the end of which the Party may renew the designation. In case the designated representative of a Party cannot complete this term, the Party shall immediately provide the Secretariat with the name of the representative who will complete it. The Secretariat shall inform all the Parties the name of the new representative.]*

[Procedure for representatives designated by consensus]

4. *[In addition to the unilateral designations made by the Parties, the Parties shall also appoint by consensus*

- invited representatives to the Scientific Committee with recognized scientific expertise in matters pertaining to the Convention.*
5. *The number of invited members appointed to the Scientific Committee shall not be greater than a third of the members designated unilaterally by the Parties.*
 6. *The representatives of the Scientific Committee designated unilaterally by the Parties shall recommend these designations taking into account the necessities of the Committee and its Work Plan; these recommendations shall be based on the Directory (referred to in para. 4 of the Functions of the Scientific Committee) or other appropriate means.]*
 7. *[The Secretariat, in coordination with the Parties, will issue a public call for nominations at least 120 days before the COP to receive nominations from the Parties, individuals or entities. The nominations shall include the following information, which will be provided in the working languages of the Conference of the Parties:*
 - a. *Name of candidate;*
 - b. *Affiliation; and*
 - c. *Curriculum vitae, profile or other documentation that shows his/her qualifications and/or recognized expertise.]*
 8. *[Nominations for the representatives to be designated by consensus shall be transmitted to the Parties, by the Secretariat, no later than 90 days before the Conference of the Parties in which new designations will be made.]*
 9. *[The Parties, when making their decision on designations, shall take the following factors, inter alia, into account:*
 - a. *Scientific, academic and/or practical expertise that reflects and complements the variety of disciplines and other matters pertaining to the Convention;*
 - b. *Relevance of the candidate's scientific discipline to the duties of the Scientific Committee, specifically with its Work Plan;*
 - c. *Capacity of the candidate to complement the expertise and knowledge base among the existent Committee members.]*
 10. *[The period of the representatives designated by consensus to the Scientific Committee shall be two years, and may be renewed with the accord of the Parties.]*

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

1. The meetings of the Scientific Committee will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of the Parties to the Convention (Resolution COP1CIT-004), except when an additional specific rule for better operation of the Committee has been approved by the Conference of the Parties, pursuant to Rules 14.1 and 14.2.
2. The meetings of the Scientific Committee will take place, preferably prior to the meetings of the Consultative Committee, at least once a year, taking into account, *inter alia*, financial resources available for this purpose in

- the Inter-American Convention Special Fund.
3. In general, members of the Scientific Committee shall conduct their work through electronic communication, tele/videoconferences, virtual fora and networks. The Secretariat shall facilitate these forms of communication, depending of the resources available for these purposes.
 4. The Conference of Parties may request that the Scientific Committee convene an extraordinary meeting.
 5. The Scientific Committee, to perform its tasks, may establish sub-committees or working groups, as appropriate.
 6. The Chairman and/or Rapporteur of the Consultative Committee of Experts shall be invited to participate in the meetings of the Scientific Committee, as well as in the Conferences of the Parties.
 7. The Scientific Committee may invite to its meetings any scientific institution or individual experts on matters pertaining to the objective of the Convention.
 8. Observers may participate in the meetings of the Scientific Committee, in accordance with Rule 11 of Rules of Procedure for Meetings of the Parties to the Convention (Resolution COP1CIT-004).

CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION

Members of the Scientific Committee of Experts shall maintain as reserved all information that they may have obtained or had access to during their tenure, which is categorized by the Parties as confidential. Likewise, they must abstain from using that information for objectives different or contrary to those established in the Convention.

Mazatlán, México, September, 2006

**INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION
AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES**

CIT-COP3-2006-Doc.3

2007 -2008 Work Plan

Mazatlán, September 27th, 2006

1 2007-2008 WORK PLAN.

WORK PLAN AT THE IAC.

One of the mechanisms that allow organizational development is work planning. It concerns the obligation of those in charge of management to indicate the way in which they shall perform their jobs during a budget period and to be responsible for their job, to submit to performance evaluations and to disclose the results of such evaluations.

The IAC's WP is conceptualized as the result of a strategic commitment consistent with the reality of the Convention and the role played by its subsidiary bodies, which through properly budgeted actions facilitate compliance with commitments related to the protection and conservation of sea turtles in the American continent.

The WP herein presented is directly linked to the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan already developed, that is, the operative goals, actions and activities established in the WP, address the solutions of the issues submitted in the Strategic Plan.

FIELDS OF ACTION.

The fields of action of the IAC WORK Plan are outlined by the different strategic programs established in the strategic planning of the organization, which are the following:

- ✓ PROGRAM OF ADHESION TO THE CONVENTION OF ALL AMERICAN COUNTRIES.
- ✓ INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAM
- ✓ PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
- ✓ PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
- ✓ PROGRAMA OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES
- ✓ PROGRAM OF TRAINING, COMMUNICATION AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION PROGRAM FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE EXECUTION ABILITIES

Derived from such programs, the projects, actions, goals and indicators that will allow the results to be measured during the time frame specified for the operative planning will be established and will guarantee in such a way the direction of the IAC actions according to the established plan

PROGRAMS DERIVED FROM THE STRATEGY.

The strategic programs will allow the IAC to establish actions and to generate specific and measurable results to be attained during the time established for the operative plans. A goal is defined for each objective, and for each goal, indicators facilitating the measuring of execution and the corresponding feedback for improving IAC's performance are defined as well.

IAC'S WORK PLAN MANAGEMENT MATRIXES.

The present paragraph incorporates charts of the programs and activities for the programs defined in the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan and the way in which these shall be developed operatively.

GENERAL INFORMATION

FACTOR	DESCRIPTION
LEGAL FRAMEWORK	<p>A group of countries of the American Continent agreed to a series of actions for the protection and conservation of sea turtles within the regional area. As a result from this initiative, in 1994 they started a collaborative effort in order to negotiate an agreement for the future of these populations.</p> <p>Such agreements became the basis for what would finally become the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC), effective since May of 2001.</p> <p>From a legal standpoint, the following international law instruments support such Convention, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> United Nations Convention on Maritime Law, December 10, 1982,<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration of Rio, 1992, on Environment and Development<input type="checkbox"/> Program 21, adopted in 1992 by the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development<input type="checkbox"/> Code of Behavior for Responsible Fishing, adopted by United Nations Conference for Food and Agriculture (FAO), on its 28th Session in 1995.
BASIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	<p>IAC currently has a basic, non-bureaucratic organizational structure that is duly harmonized in its duties with the strategic postulates and operative plans, so that such structure faithfully responds to the characteristics and requirements of the institutional commitments.</p> <p>The structure has the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Conference of the Parties (highest formal authority)<input type="checkbox"/> Consultative Committee<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific Committee

FACTOR	DESCRIPTION
	<input type="checkbox"/> Secretariat
INSTITUTIONAL DIAGNOSIS	The organization has the administrative and legal capacity to undertake the challenges demanded by the established Strategic Plan and Work Plan.
EXECUTING UNIT	Party States, Committees and Secretariat.
INSTITUTIONAL VALUES	ACTION SERVICE COMMITMENT RESPONSIBILITY
INSTITUTIONAL VISION	To be a consolidated international organization, recognized and respected for its leadership throughout the American continent, in actions concerning the protection and conservation of sea turtles.
INSTITUTIONAL MISSION	International organization committed to developing programs and actions for the protection, recuperation and conservation of sea turtles and their habitats in the American Continent.
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	<p>Objective 1. To inform and to create awareness in the countries of the region concerning migrations of sea turtles and the problems affecting them, for promoting their hemispheric conservation by means of the coordination between the Parties and the adherence to the Convention of all the states in the Americas.</p> <p>Objective 2. To establish strategic alliances with international conventions, regional fisheries regulation bodies, NGOs and other pertinent civil society organizations, for facilitating the search for solutions for the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitat.</p> <p>Objective 3. To strengthen the ability of the national and local institutions of the Party States for achieving the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitats by supporting national programs and fostering joint actions between national authorities responsible for the Convention, other governmental bodies and civil society.</p> <p>Objective 4. To consolidate the operative, technical and legal capacities of the Convention through actions that favors their financial strengthening, the efficient operation of their subsidiary bodies and the timely adoption of decisions between the Parties favoring the conservation and protection of sea turtles.</p> <p>Objective 5. To facilitate and support the exchange of information between the Parties concerning the legal aspects of conservation in each country, thus contributing to harmonize legal provisions at a regional level that support the achievement of the Convention's objectives.</p>

2-STRATEGIC PROGRAMS

Note: the underlined information corresponds to the activities that can be carried out with funds available within the approved budget for the 2007-2008 period

2.1 - STRATEGIC PROGRAM: ADHESION OF ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE AMERICAS TO THE CONVENTION

Strategic objectives that are accomplish

Objective 1: To inform and to create awareness in the countries of the region concerning migrations of sea turtles and the problems affecting them, for promoting their hemispheric conservation by means of the coordination between the Parties and the adherence to the Convention of all the states in the Americas.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS								
	Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
				I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
<u>2.1.1 To continue with the efforts to achieve the adherence of new countries.</u>	a. To send an annual notice to the non-Party countries in America with the official information on the scope of conservation and problems faced by sea turtles at a hemispheric level.	Submitted documentation		X		X	Secretariat		
	b. To inform and invite the non-Party countries to the Conference of the Parties.	Submitted documentation	X	X	X	X	Secretariat		
	c. To participate in meetings of regional organizations with the purpose of providing information about the IAC, and contacting non-Party country delegates in order to invite them to collaborate in achieving the IAC objectives.	Number of meetings	X	X	X	X	Secretariat		

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not
	Goals d. Visit to credited diplomatic representatives of non-Parties in Costa Rica.	Visits made	I semester X	ii semester X	I semester X	ii semester X	Secretariat	Financed

2.2- STRATEGIC INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAM

Strategic objectives that are accomplish

Objective 2: To establish strategic alliances with international conventions, regional fisheries regulation bodies, NGOs and other pertinent civil society organizations, for facilitating the search for solutions for the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitat.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
<u>2.2.1 Promote synergies with other global and regional related conventions and organizations</u>	a. To sign two cooperation agreements with inter-governmental organizations, both from the fishing and the environmental sectors.	Two Agreements in progress	X	X	X	X	Contracting Party, Committees, Secretariat and COP Chair	
<u>2.2.2 To promote the exchange of information, technical knowledge and lessons learned</u>	a. <u>Establishing and operating an interactive network of experts and administrators, linked to the conservation of sea turtles at a hemispheric level.</u>	Number of members of the Network	X	X	X	X	Secretariat, and other organisms; Committees Chairs	
	b. Implement workshops and meetings	Number of beneficiaries of workshops and meetings				X	Contracting Party and Secretariat	(\$10,000)
	c. Exchange of Scientific and technical personnel.	Number of exchanges and beneficiaries				X	Contracting Party and Secretariat	(\$6,000)

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
	d. Community exchange of experiences in sea turtle conservation matters	Number of exchanges and beneficiaries				X	Secretariat, Committees, countries. (Intercessional work group)	\$10,000
<u>2.2.3 To identify the entities and persons with the capacity to commitment to and/or support the IAC.</u>	a. Establish strategic alliances with entities able to commit to and/or support the IAC.	Established synergies	X	X	X	X	Contracting Party, Secretariat and Committees	

2.3- STRATEGIC PROGRAM: ACTIONS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Strategic objectives that are accomplish

Objective1: To inform and to create awareness throughout countries of the region concerning migrations of sea turtles and the problems affecting them, for promoting their hemispheric conservation by means of the coordination between the Parties and the adherence to the Convention of all the states in the Americas.

Objective 3: To strengthen the ability of the national and local institutions of the Party States for achieving the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitats by supporting national programs and fostering joint actions between national authorities responsible for the Convention, other governmental bodies and civil society.

Objective 4: To consolidate the operative, technical and legal capacities of the Convention through actions that favor their financial strengthening, the efficient operation of their subsidiary bodies and the timely adoption of decisions between the Parties favoring the conservation and protection of sea turtles.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
<u>2.3.1 To elaborate and update its Work Plan following the guidelines of the Convention and the agreements and resolutions of the Conference of the Parties (COP's).</u>	a. Bi-annual work plan of the committee with actions to be performed, chronogram and those responsible	COP3 Plan approved				X	Scientific Committee	
2.3.2 To evaluate the conservation status of the sea turtle populations of the region, based on the most trustworthy scientific data and considering the environmental, socioeconomic and cultural characteristics of the parties.	a. Yearly technical report on annual reports.	Report	X		X		Scientific Committee, Secretariat and regional partners (SPAW, Lima Convention, WIDECAS)	
	<u>b. Recommendations for the inclusion and handling of information in the IAC database. (Annual Reports and other sources)</u>	Report	X		X		Scientific Committee	
	c. Report of the progress in implementing the resolutions and applications of the technical guidelines by the	Report	X		X		Scientific Committee	

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
	Goals		I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
	Parties.(Annual Reports)							
	<u>d. Recommendations about high-priority projects in order to obtain financing and other types of support for achievement of goals.</u>	Report	X		X		Scientific Committee	
	e. Recommendations and technical guidelines for developing activities regarding the standardization of methods that determine the status and nesting trends of sea turtles.	Number of projects identified	X		X		Scientific Committee	
<u>2.3.3 To address requests from the Conference of the Parties and the Consultative Committee and to make the pertinent recommendations.</u>	a. Recommendations send to the Consultative Committee, as befitting.	Documents presented	X		X		Scientific Committee	
<u>2.3.4 To foster alliances and synergies with competent specialists and organizations that shall facilitate the achievement of the IAC objectives.</u>	a. Recommendations that promote synergies and coordination mechanisms with entities relating to the IAC objectives	Organizations and Specialists identified	X		X		Scientific Committee	

2.4- STRATEGIC PROGRAM: ACTIONS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Strategic objectives that are accomplish

Objective 1: To inform and to create awareness in the countries of the region concerning migrations of sea turtles and the problems affecting them, for promoting their hemispheric conservation by means of the coordination between the Parties and the adherence to the Convention of all the states in the Americas.

Objective 2: To establish strategic alliances with international conventions, regional fisheries regulating bodies, NGOs and other pertinent civil society organizations, for facilitating the search for solutions for the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitat

Objective 3: To strengthen the ability of the national and local institutions of the Party States for achieving the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitats by supporting national programs and fostering joint actions between national authorities responsible for the Convention, other governmental bodies and civil society.

Objective 4: To consolidate the operative, technical and legal capacities of the Convention through actions that favors their financial strengthening, the efficient operation of their subsidiary bodies and the timely adoption of decisions between the Parties favoring the conservation and protection of sea turtles.

Objective 5: To facilitate and support the exchange of information between the Parties concerning the legal aspects of conservation in each country, thus contributing to harmonize legal provisions at a regional level that support the achievement of the Convention's objectives.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
<u>2.4.1 To elaborate and update its Work Plan following the guidelines of the Convention and the agreements and resolutions of the Conference of the Parties (COP's).</u>	a. Bi-annual work plan of the committee with actions to be performed, chronogram and responsible entity.	Work plan for 2007-2008				X	Consultative Committee	
<u>2.4.2 To submit to the COP, through the Secretariat, opinions, recommendations resolutions and agreements promoting the Convention's objective.</u>	a. Report to Conference of the Contracting Parties	Recommendations given		X		X	Consultative Committee	
	b. Review Annual Reports	Documents Presented		X		X	Consultative Committee	
<u>2.4.3 To analyze the economic and social impact of the different proposals and measures adopted for reducing the incidental or direct capture and the mortality of sea turtles, in order to recommend the actions to the corresponding Parties.</u>	a. Recommendations for the COP4 based on the Annual Reports and/or the requests sent by the Contracting Parties.	Report to the COP4CIT		X		X	Consultative Committee	
<u>2.4.4 Supporting the Parties with specialized information regarding the Convention.</u>	a. Send relevant information to the Secretariat that will help in achieving the IAC objectives.	Number of informational requests attended	X	X	X	X	Consultative Committee	

2.5- STRATEGIC PROGRAM: FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Strategic objectives that are accomplish

Objective 4: To consolidate the operative, technical and legal capacities of the Convention through actions that favors their financial strengthening, the efficient operation of their subsidiary bodies and the timely adoption of decisions between the Parties favoring the conservation and protection of sea turtles

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
<u>2.5.1</u> To identify projects and activities subject to external financing.	a. List of high priority projects for obtaining financing.	Identified Projects.	X	X	X	X	Party States, Secretariat and Committees (Intercessional work group)	
<u>2.5.2</u> To identify sponsors for the different projects.	a. Identify donor organizations.	List of donors identified	X	X	X	X	Party States, Secretariat and Committees (Intercessional work group)	
	b. Create database.	Database available.	X	X	X	X	Party States, Secretariat and Committees (Intercessional work group)	
<u>2.5.3</u> Creation and negotiation of financial proposals	a. Creation and negotiation of financial proposals for at least 5 projects.	5 Proposals submitted to different sponsors.	X	X	X	X	Party States, Secretariat and Committees (Intercessional work group)	(\$6.000)

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
2.5.4 Develop projects financed	a. Finance for 5 projects	Projects in execution	X	X	X	X	Party States or Secretariat	
2.5.5 Rendition of accounts regarding implementation of the projects	a. Prepare technical and financial report	Timely submitted reports		X		X	Party States or Secretariat	

2.6- STRATEGIC PROGRAM: TRAINING, COMMUNICATION AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

Strategic objectives that are accomplish

Objective 1: To inform and to create awareness in the countries of the region concerning migrations of sea turtles and the problems affecting them, for promoting their hemispheric conservation by means of the coordination between the Parties and the adherence to the Convention of all the states in the Americas.

Objective 3: To strengthen the ability of the national and local institutions of the Party States for achieving the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitats by supporting national programs and fostering joint actions between national authorities responsible for the Convention, other governmental bodies and civil society.

Objective 5: To facilitate and support the exchange of information between the Parties concerning the legal aspects of conservation in each country, thus contributing to harmonize legal provisions at a regional level that support the achievement of the Convention's objectives.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
<u>2.6.1 To publish and disseminate the recommendations and decisions adopted at the meetings of the Parties</u>	a. Hard copy and electronic format (web site) of the COP3CIT report for its distribution.	Review report to Party States and committee members.	X	X	X	X	Secretariat	(\$3.000)
2.6.2 To divulge and promote the exchange of information and educational material on the efforts being made by the Parties in order to increase public awareness concerning the need to protect and conserve sea turtles and their habitats.	<u>a. Prepare a digital program to difuse information regarding the efforts related to the IAC objectives. where quarterly</u>	A quarterly bulletin on the IAC web site	X	X	X	X	Secretariat, Party States and Committees	
	b. Workshops and meetings on environmental education topics and lessons learned, among others.	An electronic list with the integrants of the directories				X	Secretariat, Party States and Committees	(\$ 20.000)
2.6.3 Promoting training, information dissemination and technological transfer consistent with the IAC.	a. Workshops and meetings on lessons learned, among others.	Amount of workshops and meetings held and number of beneficiaries.				X	Country Parties, Secretariat, in collaboration with the Committees	(\$ 20.000)
	b. Workshops and meetings for institutional capacity building	Amount of workshops held and number of beneficiaries.				X	Secretariat with collaboration from the Country Parties and the Committees	(\$ 20.000)

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
	c. To hold training workshops to incorporate local communities in sea turtle conservation.	Amount of workshops held and number of beneficiaries.				X	Secretariat with collaboration from the Country Parties and the Committees	(\$ 20.000)
<u>2.6.4. To create a database, where bibliographical references on research, handling experiences, training, community participation, social and cultural, aspects administrative reports, among others, concerning the protection and conservation of sea turtles, are included.</u>	a. IAC database	Data base available on IAC website	X	X	X	X	Secretariat with the support from the Parties	
<u>2.6.5 To create a geographical information system (SIG) available to the parties where nesting beaches, feeding areas, migratory routes, sightings and other aspects are included.</u>	a. Geographical information system operating	Availability on web site.	X	X	X	X	Secretariat	(\$5.000)

2.7- STRATEGIC PROGRAM: IMPROVEMENT OF EXECUTION ABILITY

Strategic objectives that are accomplish

Objective 3: To strengthen the ability of the national and local institutions of the Party States for achieving the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitats by supporting national programs and fostering joint actions between national authorities responsible for the Convention, other governmental bodies and civil society.

Objective 4: To consolidate the operative, technical and legal capacities of the Convention through actions that favors their financial strengthening, the efficient operation of their subsidiary bodies and the timely adoption of decisions between the Parties favoring the conservation and protection of sea turtles.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I	ii	I	ii		
			semester	semester	semester	semester		
<u>2.7.1 To provide follow up in complying with the “Strategic Plan”, by means of the IAC’s bi-annual operative plans, approved at the Conferences of the Parties.</u>	a. IAC’s AOP (2007-2008) approved at the COP3	Secretariat’s Annual Report	X	X	X	X	Secretariat and Committees	
<u>2.7.2 To perform the necessary actions for establishing a permanent Secretariat and defining its headquarters.</u>	a. To have a Resolution proposed for discussion and approved by the Conference of the Parties that includes the TOR for the Secretariat.	Approval and application of the Resolution				X	Conference of the Contracting Parties	

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
<u>2.7.3 Establishment of institutional mechanisms necessary for providing the IAC with the required financial resources.</u>	a. To count with fiduciary fees given by the Parties.	Agreement on the subject by the Conference of the Parties.				X	Conference of the Parties, Secretariat	
<u>2.7.4 Approval of the Scientific Committee structure.</u>	a. Agreement on the Scientific Committee structure.	Application of Resolution COP2CIT-002				X	Conference of the Contracting Parties	
2.7.5 Preparation of the Conferences of the Parties (COPs) and of the meetings of the Committees and established work groups.	a. Organization of COP4CIT b. One Consultative Committee Meeting c. One Scientific Committee Meeting	COP4CIT held, and C.Consult. and Scientific C.				X	Secretariat, COP president and Committee president's	(\$111.000)
2.7.6 To inform the Parties on the state of sea turtle conservation within a regional scenario to achieve an effective incorporation in an integrated way of the local and national actions for achieving the IAC objectives.	a. Report for the COP by the Scientific Committee on the state of Conservation of Sea Turtle Populations.(5 YEAR STATUS REVIEWS)	Document presented				X	Scientific Committee	(\$5.000)
	b. Report to the COP by the Consultative Committee with regard to compliance of the Parties with the IAC objectives, based on the Annual Reports.	Document presented				X	Consultative Committee and Secretariat	

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
	c. Report to the COP by the Consultative Committee concerning the compliance with agreements and resolutions taken at the COPs.	Document presented	I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester	Consultative Committee and Secretariat	
						X		
<u>2.7.7 To coordinate the implementation of the IAC mandates with other multilateral agreements for the development of synergies and the joint application of actions. (FAO,CITES, Ramsar, Cartagena Convention, CCAD, Convention on Territorial Seas, among others)</u>	d. Report to the COP by the Consultative Committee concerning the use of sea turtle products by the Parties. Exceptions	Document presented				X	Consultative Committee and Secretariat	
	a. To have a list of the different agreements signed by the countries, including a summary of the commitments made by such countries, both in the fishing and the environmental sectors.	Number of agreements transmitted					Secretariat and Party States.	
	b. Recommendation from the Consultative Committee to the COP4CIT concerning the handling of this information and its relevance for the achievement of the IAC objectives.	Report presented	X			X	Consultative Committee and Party States.	
c. To have information in the database and on the Web	Number of data				X	Secretariat, Party States and Committees		

STRATEGIC PLANNING:	WORK PLAN GOALS – SCOPE - REQUIREMENTS							
Strategic Activities	Verifiable Goals	Indicators	Program year 1		Program year 2		Responsible	Not Financed
			I semester	ii semester	I semester	ii semester		
2.7.8 To promote the distribution of information on new techniques and best practices of: fishing as well as training activities in research, laws, environmental education and community participation.	a. Local, national and regional workshops and training courses.	Number of experiences known	X			X	Secretariat, Party States and Committees	(\$20000)
	b. <u>Use of the network of experts for disseminating the information and implementing discussion forums.</u>	Number of workshops held and number of beneficiaries	X	X	X	X	Secretariat	
	c. Use of the methods indicated in the Information Management Program for disseminating this information.	Topic incorporated in the network of experts discussions Information placed in the web site and the quarterly bulletins.	X	X	X	X	Secretariat	

ANNEX XI

CIT-COP3-2006-Inf.7

Report of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat on the 2005-2006 Workplan

Introduction:

During the Second Conference of the Parties (COP2) of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, held in Venezuela from November 16 to 18, 2004, it was agreed that the commission of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was to be extended for two additional years. The work plan for such period was also approved.

The Secretariat's Office is physically located in the National Parks Foundation (Fundación de Parques Nacionales) building, and it has two full-time positions, held namely by Marco A Solano M., on one hand, and a second position, of a technical nature, which is shared by two persons: _ time by Julio Montes de Oca, and _ time by Belinda Dick.

According to the COP1CIT-001 Resolution concerning the Establishment of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat (the commission having been extended until the end of 2006), the Secretariat shall comply with the duties and responsibilities assigned by the Parties as follows:

- a) Support, organize and participate in the meetings of the Conference of the

Parties and Subsidiary Organs by working in conjunction with the Conference's host nation, as pertinent;

- b) Coordinate and facilitate communications between the Parties, and between the Parties and the observers;
- c) To provide the Parties with all the reports, recommendations and decisions, in the Convention's work languages, as well as any other documents necessary for the work of the Parties;
- d) To administrate the Inter-American Convention Special Fund (FECI), according to the guidelines agreed upon by the Parties (COP1CIT-002); and,
- e) Any other duties and responsibilities approved by the Parties.

The format of this report complies with the 2005-2006 work plan ordinance.

1. **To support, organize and participate in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and Subsidiary Organs by**

working in conjunction with the Conference's host nation, as pertinent

1.1 Carrying out the logistics for the Third Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP3)

Preparations for this meeting have been coordinated since 2005 with Mexico's Focal Point, Lic. Rodolfo Godínez, and with the COP3IAC Chair, Licda. María Teresa Bandala. At a local level, national authorities have established a Coordinating Committee with the state institutions involved, as well as a coordinating committee comprised by three persons from the Secretariat of Foreign Relations, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) and the National Commission on Aquaculture and Fishing (CONAPESCA)).

1.2 Carrying out logistics for the Second and Third meetings of the Scientific Committee

- Second Meeting of the Scientific Committee held in Costa Rica from June 28-30, 2005.
- Third Meeting of the Scientific Committee held in Costa Rica from July 6-9, 2006.

In order to comply with the tasks assigned by the COP2IAC, the work of this committee focused mainly on:

a. The status of *Eretmochelys imbricata*, hawksbill turtle

As a result from this, there is a technical report of the work group and a resolution draft on the subject being submitted to the COP3IAC.

b. Follow up for the resolution on the conservation of *Dermochelys coriacea*

Recommendations made were to declare an emergency situation in the Eastern Pacific and to create an operative plan directly oriented to the protection of this species, all in compliance with the existing resolution.

c. Interaction with Fisheries

There are different international agreements with concrete measures for eliminating, reducing or mitigating the adverse effects of some fishing gear on sea turtles. Since the majority of the Parties of the IAC are also contracting Parties in some of these instruments, it is fundamental that the agreed measures be implemented at earliest as possible. A resolution draft on this subject is submitted to the COP3, and a series of guidelines to be followed by the countries is provided.

d. Standardization

Despite the existing manuals concerning this matter, lack of standardization is sometimes due to lack of training and updating between the persons handling these programs and the project technicians, and also to resistance to change. It was recommended that a common data base be established containing the *minimum necessary information* for complying with the objectives of the Convention. With this purpose, a proposal was made as to requesting the Parties to send their field work protocols in order to compile and compare methodologies.

e. Annual Report Evaluation

Data submitted in Annual Reports is useful for creating regional maps (for instance, maps of nesting beaches), directories and data bases. However, there were several points noticed in which the submitted information is unclear, not uniform, incomplete or outdated. Concrete recommendations were made to the Consultative Committee of Experts with the purpose of improving the form and thus strengthening the implementation of the Convention and compliance with its objectives.

Documents on the subject may be found at the Internet web site: <http://www.iacseaturtle.org/iacseaturtle/english/com.asp> .

1.3 Carrying out logistics for the first and

Second meeting of the Consultative Committee of Experts

First meeting of the Consultative Committee of Experts held in San José, from October 26-28, 2005

Participating in the meeting are 18 of the 20 members of the Consultative Committee; two sector representatives did not attend. In addition, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee and Government and NGO representatives were present as observers.

The Chairman of the Scientific Committee showed the results obtained in the past two meetings of this committee. The document “Strategic Plan for the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, 2007-2012: final draft for discussion” was created. Another subject discussed was that of Exceptions; the Secretariat presented several definitions, including traditional practices and knowledge, taking the 169 Covenant of the ILO; concerning subsistence economic activities and concepts, among others. Three work groups are established for making progress in task analysis: the Committee’s Work Plan, Annual Reports and Exceptions (two groups, one in English and the other one in Spanish).

The Secretariat reports on the Convention’s mandate concerning the establishment of a list with the recommended TEDs established in annex 3.7.b), which has to be recommended by the Consultative Committee to the COP3. As part of this point, it is agreed that a list of the TEDs used in every country should be made, as well as a request to the Scientific Committee to make the pertinent recommendations.

The Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Abreu, submits a report on the conservation status of

the Leatherback turtle in the Gulf and Caribbean region of Mexico indicating that the nesting Mexican populations are among the main ones at a global level due to their size and population tendencies; populations are generally small and threatened, or else there is not enough information on them. Increasing populations were mainly in the Mexican Gulf (Campeche and Yucatan) and Cuba. More research has been developed for determining approximate migratory routes in the Caribbean that would at least justify regional cooperation. The apparent recuperation of the leatherback turtle in Yucatan cannot be fully explained: there were 4.500 nests per year at the Peninsula, which in 5 years decreased by 35%. Despite positive results observed, since 2000 there was a still unexplained decrease. At the Telchak meeting this situation was analyzed and it was questioned whether there is a need for refocusing conservation strategies or there was not enough information at the time.

In summary, there are information gaps in segments of the life cycles of the leatherback turtles, in particular in feeding habitats and concerning threats in such sites. Likewise, an indication is made as to having focused excessively on nesting beaches. Among the problems to be addressed immediately were the following: incidental fishing, degradation of feeding sites, possible capture of Mexican nesters in other sites, seismic exploration as a possible reproduction inhibitor or cause of death. Concerning long-term problems, mention was made of nest looting, contamination and fishing development. The need for incorporating the fishing sector was emphasized insistently in the discussion.

Such subjects and the pertinent recommendations from the meetings of the Scientific Committee shall be reviewed at the Second Meeting of such Committee intended

from September 21 to 23, 2006, in Mexico.

1.4 Coordination with the Party States in creating the agendas for the COP3IAC, First and Second meeting of the Consultative Committee of Experts and Second and Third meeting of the Scientific Committee

Aspects related to logistics for the Conference of the Parties (COP3IAC) were coordinated with Mexico's Focal Point, Lic. Rodolfo Godínez, with the COP3IAC Chairman, María Teresa Bandala, and with CONAPESCA officers. Likewise, a draft for the meeting's Agenda was prepared by consulting with the party states.

1.5 Report to the COP3IAC and subsidiary bodies on the 2005 and 2006 Annual Reports

These reports were submitted to the committee members, as established, for the Second and Third Meetings of the Scientific Committee, and for the first meeting of the Consultative Committee. For the third Conference of the Parties and the Second Meeting of the Consultative Committee, given the difficulty in handling these documents due to their size and volume, it was agreed with the COP3IAC Chairman that such documents would be made available to the delegates at the Convention's web site.

2. Coordinate and facilitate communications between the Parties, and between the Parties and the Observers.

2.1 Facilitate communications between the Parties

Communication with the Contracting Parties has been fluid during the 2005-2006 periods. Communication channels established by the Focal Points have been maintained. Much of the information generated by IAC can be found

at the Internet site. In 2006 we made a considerable effort in including the annual reports in English and Spanish in our web site, a process that somehow facilitates exchanging information between the countries. Lists of information have been obtained from the Annual Reports about the Focal Points, the experts from each Party working with sea turtles marinas, laws relating to sea turtles, and projects in progress, among others.

In July 2005, taking advantage of an invitation to observe sustainable development projects at the Ramsar La Mancha and el Llano sites in Mexico, a meeting was held in the SEMARNAT offices in the Distrito Federal with the participation of the COP3IAC Chairman, Licda. Maria Teresa Bandala, and representatives from the civil society, PROFEFA, Foreign Relations, SEMARNAT and CONAPESCA. The objective of such meeting was to talk about the IAC progress to the date and to learn something about possible points in the agenda concerning the meetings of the committees and the COP3.

In August 2005 there was coordination with the Guatemalan Focal Point, Licda. Ana Luisa Noguera, Director of the CONAP, with the purpose of informing the Guatemalan authorities of the progress achieved at the IAC y coordinating some communication and coordination aspects between the Pro Tempore Secretariat and the CONAP. While visiting, they organized an informative meeting about the IAC, with officers from the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture (fishing), universities, the army and NGOs, among others.

During 2005, we had information and coordination meetings in San Jose with the Focal Point of Ecuador, Ambassador Juan Leoro; with the Mexican Ambassador Ms. María del Carmen Oñate Muñoz; with Bernard Link of the Environmental Hub for Central

America and the Caribbean; with representatives from the embassies of Argentina, Canada, Chile, as well as with local authorities of the Ministry of the Environment and Energy (MINAE), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Costa Rican Institute of Fishing and Aquaculture (INCOPECA).

In April, 2006, Lic. Mario González, director of the Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (OSPESCA), invited us to participate in a presentation at the Meeting of the Central American Ministries of Agriculture and Fishing Directors held in Panama. A few days before the meeting, there was a presentation in El Salvador concerning sea turtle mortality, which prompted fishing authorities even more to establish a memorandum of cooperation between the OSPESCA and the IAC. Ever since that meeting, Central American fishing authorities have increased their participation on the subject of conservation and protection of sea turtles.

By mid July, a coordination and programming meeting was scheduled for the development of the COP3IAC and the Second Meeting of the Consultative Committee. There was a follow-up meeting held in Mexico with the local organizing committee, comprised by the Chancellery, the Secretariat for the Environment and Natural Resources, and the National Commission for Aquaculture and Fishing; the main Agreement was also signed at the Hotel el Cid, where the above events will take place.

By the end of July, an invitation from the Southeast Pacific Permanent Commission was accepted, with the purpose of participating in the revision workshop of the Regional Program for the Conservation of Sea Turtles, organized by the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the

Southeast Pacific. In this workshop, the programs of each one of the 5 countries for the protection of sea turtles were examined, and a draft of the action plan was made for the execution of joint integrated activities from Panama to Chile.

During the first week in August, by initiative from the Honduran government, there was a short visit to Tegucigalpa, where meetings were held with authorities from the Ministry of Foreign Relations, as well as with authorities from the Secretariat for the Environment and the Secretariat of Agriculture. At such meetings, progress made by IAC and commitments on behalf of the Party states were explained. The Chancellery organized an open meeting to which NGOs, local government representatives, representatives from the secretariats and the army, among others, were invited. The event was very important, since there was a lot of participation and dialogue on the subject of the conservation of sea turtles.

2.2 Facilitate communication between the parties, and between the parties and the observers, private enterprise, scientific community and local actors, among others.

During 2005, in addition to daily activities concerning this matter, other activities were carried out:

- β Sending over 100 letters to non-party countries, NGOs and international organisms related to conservation and fishing, informing them about the resolution for the Conservation of *Dermochelys coriacea*. In some cases the letter and the resolution were sent by E-mail, and in some other cases, they were sent by regular mail along with the leaflet “An introduction” and the IAC technical report “Synopsis on the leatherback turtle

- (*Dermochelys coriacea*)” written by biologist Didiher Chacón.
- β Participation in the annual meeting of the Latin American Network of Specialists on Sea Turtles and the Annual Symposium on the Biology of Sea Turtles, held in Savanna, Georgia, United States. The symposium is the specialist’s event with the largest participation worldwide.
 - β Communication and exchanging experiences with the program on incidental fishing of sea turtles made by the CIAT through Dr. Martin Hall, in conjunction with the regional WWF Fishing office. Two ports in the Costa Rican Pacific were visited with them in order to participate in meetings with local fishermen.
 - β Facilitating and coordinating meeting in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, with representatives from the Ministry of the Environment, the Executive Director of INCOPESCA, leaders from the Fishing and Exporter Chambers, representatives of the Secretariat and the Scientific Committee, and general public. The meeting’s main objective was for each sector to explain their position concerning the conservation of sea turtles, so that the adequate channels could be established for exchanging information in the future.
 - β Participation in the XVII Conference of Ministers of OLDEPESCA, held in the city of Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. Participating authorities (Ministers of Agriculture and Economy) were informed of the progress made to the date at the IAC and on conservation problems being faced the *Dermochelys* turtle in the American Pacific. Informative material was provided for the participants.
 - β Within the framework of the meeting with OLDEPESCA, there was also an opportunity to meet with Lic. Gonzalo Pereira, the Secretary of the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific. This organization is comprised by Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Chile. We also had the chance to meet with Lic. Mario González Recinos, regional OSPECA-SICA coordinator, who represents the entity in charge of surveillance of the fishing policies for the 7 Central American countries.
 - β Meeting in San Jose with Lic. Nelson Andrade, Secretary of the Cartagena Convention (SPAW Protocol) of the United Nations Caribbean Environmental Program. The objective of such meeting is to coordinate the terms of reference for the Memorandum of cooperation between both entities and to look for some activities of conservation of sea turtles that could be developed jointly.
 - β Initiative of Migrating Species in the Western Hemisphere. As we have previously indicated, from the beginning we were invited to participate in this initiative. In the first meeting we were asked to be a part of the “Directing A.I. Committee”. In this initiative, all the representatives of the wildlife administrations in the hemisphere participate, including the Caribbean islands. It is very important for the IAC to participate in such initiative, since conservation of sea turtles throughout all the countries of the hemisphere is easier to attain from such position, even without being a contracting party, which facilitates the achievement of our objectives. The second plenary meeting was held in January 2006 in Costa Rica, the Secretariat being part of the event’s organizing committee. In December 2005, we participated in a preparatory meeting en Washington (USA), for the meeting in Costa Rica, where, in addition, the proposal being made for the GEF for \$5

million U.S. Dollars was revised, with the purpose of strengthening regional training on topics related to migratory species in general, including sea turtles. These forums are also used for informing delegates from the non-party countries on the status of the conservation of sea turtles and about the Convention.

- β The Secretariat participated as observer in the First Technical Workshop of the Regional Sea Turtle Program of the Eastern Pacific, held from June 12 to 17 in Puntarenas, Costa Rica. The workshop was coordinated by the WWF and the CIAT. The objective of such workshop was to know the progress achieved through the use of circular fishing hooks concerning the incidental catch of sea turtles.
- β We also attended the Workshop on the Conservation of Sea Turtles, scheduled with the purpose of strengthening the exchange of Regional Experiences between Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, from July 20-22, 2006, in Puerto Quetzal, Escuintala, Guatemala. A lecture was offered on the importance of international cooperation for achieving an efficient handling of sea turtles.
- β Finally, the Secretariat participated in the first Conference on Sea Turtles in Nicaragua, in March, 2006. The purpose of the event was to strengthen the exchange of information and communication networks and to provide information on the IAC.

2.3 Continue the pro-active communication and information efforts with the non-party states, in order to obtain the affiliation of new members to the Inter-American Convention.

During the 2005-2006 periods, a series of

efforts have been made with the purpose of informing the non-party states about the existing problems of the conservation of sea turtles, the IAC objectives and the progress made to the present date.

- β Information was sent to the diplomatic representatives in Costa Rica and international organisms concerning the scope of the COP2 of 2004, and also about the COP2CIT-001 Resolution on the problems of the *Dermochelys* turtles; at the same time, collaboration for conservation activities was requested from the non-party states.
- β Communication with Mr. Francisco Devia from the Chilean Chancellery for a follow-up on the Chilean adhesion process. We have been informed that the process is already in the Congress for analysis and approval.
- β Meeting with the Ambassador of Argentina in Costa Rica, Mr. Juan José Arcuri, for informing him about the IAC and also to invite them to be a part of the Convention. As a result from this, the Argentinean Chancellery is analyzing the possibility of being part of the IAC, and is currently consulting with its government.
- β Meeting held in Panama City with Lic. Rubén Arosemena, General Administrator of the Panama Maritime Authority and Vice-president of the Republic of Panama, with the purpose of inviting them to become contracting parties. We also met with environmental authorities of that country. We have been informed by the Maritime Authority that internal processes to be part of the IAC have already started.
- β Meeting in San Salvador with authorities from the Ministry of the Environment, with the purpose of clarifying a series of doubts they had concerning the Convention and their commitment as parties. We were asked for a pertinent

official invitation, which has been already sent to the Minister of the Environment of El Salvador and it was signed by the Ministry of the Environment of Costa Rica as host country for the Convention.

- β When visiting El Salvador, we had the opportunity to meet with the authorities of the Central American Integration System (SICA), with personnel from the Central American Commission for the Environment and Development (CCAD) and from OSPESCA (ministries of agriculture and fisheries). There is a possibility that the Central American vice ministers of Agriculture issue a resolution at a regional level recommending the countries (that still have not done it) to be part of the IAC.
- β Through the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there has been contact with the Embassy of Canada in San Jose with the purpose of restating our invitation for them to become parties. There was a meeting held with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Embassy officers, where they were informed of the progress made by the IAC and the importance of having them as contracting parties, given the latest discoveries on the migration of Dermochelys towards the North Atlantic.
- β There has been communication with the officers of the Biodiversity Administration, who are in charge of the subject of sea turtles of the Nicaraguan Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, and they have even participated in the last Convention's meetings. As indicated for El Salvador, a notice signed by the Minister of the Environment of Costa Rica was sent, inviting the Nicaraguan government to become a contracting party of the IAC. As we were informed, they are currently analyzing the possibilities of becoming a Party and the new

commitments such action implies. They have also taken a series of legal steps internally for the protection of sea turtles.

- β Taking advantage of the presence of representatives from the Colombian government in several international events where we have participated, we have also invited them to participate in some of the meetings of the Convention. A similar situation has occurred with representatives from the Cuban government.

3. To provide the Parties with all the reports, recommendations, agreements and any other document necessary for the work of the Parties, in the corresponding work languages.

3.1 To write the COP3IAC reports and to support the making or the reports of the subsidiary organs in the corresponding work languages and to distribute them to the Parties and other participants.

Concerning the second meeting of the Scientific Committee, the meeting report can be found at the IAC Internet site. As to the information of the third meeting, it was distributed by email to the Focal Points and to the Consultative Committee members. The documents that will be required for the Consultative Committee and COP3IAC meetings have been distributed via electronic mail and are also available in the web site, as well as the Annual Reports from the countries.

Concerning the minute for the first meeting of the Consultative Committee, it has been delayed from the beginning. It is 24 pages in total, which makes it rather hard to handle. It was distributed in Spanish and English to the members of the Committee; however, there has not been an

agreement reached concerning its contents and its writing, specifically on the subject of exceptions.

Given such problems on the topic of minutes of the meetings, for which at first there was some kind of standardization, the Secretariat recommends that the COP3IAC issue a statement on the subject and indicate us a procedure to be followed in such events.

3.2 Updating the Inter-American Convention web site

Ever since the COP2IAC, development and promotion of the Convention's bilingual (Spanish/English) web site, <http://www.iacseaturtle.org/>, continued. The site is an important tool for divulging the agreement and creating awareness on the topic of sea turtles for a broader audience. As a first instance, the site provides the information required by the authorities of the Contracting Parties for keeping themselves informed about the Convention's activities and the decisions taken by the subsidiary organs. Likewise, it has also facilitated the socialization of the conservation information gathered by the Parties by divulging their Annual Reports.

Other contents added to the site include a section on sea turtles and fisheries, as well as a summary of legal instruments related to the species, and of experts, institutions and activities in progress in Party States. Finally, there has been a series of publications of general interest produced since the COP2:

- β Information sheet "Decline of the *Dermochelys coriacea* turtle" (2005)
- β Poster "The future of Sea Turtles is yours to decide" (2006)
- β Publication "Threats to Sea Turtles and Possible Solutions" (2006)
- β Publication "Sea Turtles and Fisheries" (2006)

Visits to the site show a slight, although constant, increase. After the site was launched in October 2004, 413 visits were recorded, which increased by December 2005 and reached 3287 visits in September 2006; last cut was made before the COP3.

The web site \t "_parent" www.iacseaturtle.org comprises, both in Spanish and English, the following:

- 23 pages of contents
- 49 documents (downloads)
- 10 publications
- 28 links to web sites of interest

3.3 Creation of proposals for financing environmental information and education programs on sea turtles within the geographical scope of the Inter-American Convention

By the end of 2004, the Embassy of Holland in Costa Rica collaborated for publishing "An Introduction, 2004". This informative material is being used for informing the public about the status of conservation of sea turtles and the progress made by the Convention. It could be said that this is a bi-annual publication. We have received favorable comments from the people who have read it, as to how it helps them understand the IAC's activities in an easy way. It was not possible for the COP3IAC to obtain the financing required for a third edition of this document.

Support for the Rainforest Alliance's Eco-index project has been obtained for distributing information with respect to the conservation status of the *Dermochelys* turtles at the web site, which is specialized in displaying aspects concerning the topic of Conservation throughout the American continent. There was a self-financed edition in English and Spanish

of the leaflet “Decline of the *Dermochelys coriacea* turtle in the American Pacific”. A second edition in Spanish was issued, sponsored by IFAW of Mexico. There was a poster, also self-financed, on the conservation of the *Dermochelys* in English and Spanish called “The future of sea turtles is up to you”.

3.4 Accreditation of Observers

There has been a follow up for the provisions of COP1CIT-004 Resolutions; in Rule 11, the Secretariat provides information about the meetings to be held for those persons that show some interest in participating, so that they can comply with the pertinent requirements; likewise, the list of new observers is sent to the parties for approval; the same procedure is used for the rest of the established process.

4. Administrate the Inter-American Convention Special Fund (IASF), in accordance to the guidelines agreed upon by the Parties (COP1CIT-002)

4.1 To seek financial and technical resources for promoting and supporting research and programs proposed as a priority by the subsidiary committees and approved by the Contracting Parties

Even though the need to perform a series of tasks in the field of research and training is evident, the procedures to be followed concerning this matter are still unclear; for example, for the subject of standardization, which is a priority, a clear proposal, with a procedure and persons in charge of things, still does not exist. The development of experiences in standardization programs on research methods and data collection is being coordinated with the Costa Rican government and local NGOs..

4.2 Creation of proposals to obtain

financing for the effective implementation of the Inter-American Convention

4.2.1 Strengthening of the conservation ability in sea turtle nesting beaches

The subject is linked to the standardization of the methodology required at the IAC for comparing the information and data from the different conservation projects. It is necessary to advance more in developing knowledge and research that will allow for the necessary conservation and handling measures. Permits for exploitation of eggs and other uses against the IAC provisions are still being granted. There seems to be a need for strengthening the local structures for establishing environmental education and information programs that will provide the proper knowledge for mitigating the possible adverse effects of these types of actions on sea turtle populations.

4.3 Establishment of a “Support Fund” for the Party States

This topic is closely related to the previous one. It has been discussed with institutions and organisms that may support this type of actions, but so far, there has not been much success.

5. Other activities

5.1 2007-2011 Strategic Plan

There was a draft made for the Strategic Plan for the Convention that includes the different comments obtained during such process, both from committee members and the Parties. The draft was sent for revision to the Focal Points by mid November, 2005, and it will be analyzed at COP3IAC.

As part of the plans made so far, and following the provisions of the Strategic Plan, the IAC's Operative 2007-2008 Plan was also created; this document includes both the Parties and the subsidiary organs, such as the Secretariat. The plan will be submitted to the COP3IAC for analysis and approval.

5.2 Annual Symposium for the Conservation of Sea Turtles

This event is held every year, and it gathers a large group of scientists from all over the world around the subject. In 2005, the event was held in February in the state of Georgia in the United States. The Secretariat's participation in this event is important, since many of the reports on research produced in said event pertain to the IAC scope of action. As in previous years, a meeting of the Latin American Network of Sea Turtle Specialists (RETOMALA), was also held, where specialists from the nations in the region participate. The main topic of the meeting was incidental fishing. Government representatives, NGOs, several observers and representatives from international organisms participated. Unfortunately, it is a pity that more delegates of the governments of the region do not participate with the purpose of profiting from the valuable information covered at such meetings, which provides a better perspective of the events in the American continent.

The 2006 meeting was held in Greece, but since participation costs were very high, we were unable to attend.

5.3 Representation of the Convention

As it was previously mentioned, at the international meetings the IAC was represented at the Annual Symposium on Sea Turtles, at the Meeting of OLDEPESCA ministers, at the workshop prepared by the Permanent Commission of the Southeast Pacific, at the meetings of the Central American Networks of

Conservation of Sea Turtles, at the Directing Committee of the Initiative of Migratory Species of the Western Hemisphere, etc.

5.4. Cooperation and coordination with other international organisms

As it was previously indicated, we have been informing the regional international organisms on the progress made by the Convention through the sending of written information. Likewise, the Cartagena Convention (SPAW Protocol) and the "IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU" were informed on the agreements reached at the COP2IAC, concerning signing an understanding memorandum with them.

As for the Cartagena Convention (SPAW Protocol), like with OSPESCA, the proposals for cooperation covenants to be signed in the COP3 will be submitted for approval from the parties.

Communications and coordination have also been maintained in some aspects with OLDESCA, OSPESCA, CPPS, CIAT, CCAD, OEA, RAMSAR, CMS, the Initiative of the Western Hemisphere on migratory species, etc..

5.5. Nesting beaches data base

There is an updated data base supported by information coming from the 2005-2006 Annual Reports. Some information details concerning geographical location and the number of nests still need to be refined; however, much progress has been made with the 2006 information in comparison with 2005. There was a map prepared, as an advance of this work, with the nesting beaches of the Party states which was distributed among the official representatives during the Consultative Committee meeting.

There is currently an interactive map being developed for the Convention's web site, for promoting the exchange of information provided in the annual reports, in an attempt to

divulge the efforts made by the Parties. This will allow us to increase public awareness on the need to protect and conserve sea turtles and their habitats, to have a clearer and more real vision of the status of sea turtles within the scope of the Convention for decision making.

Work has also been done for completing a data base with information on the *Dermochelys*

coriacea sea turtle in the American Pacific, since there is a list of their nesting beaches; however, we have found that there is still much work to be done concerning the conservation, protection and biological research in many of these beaches. Data available is preliminary and little comparable. Nevertheless, this is a good start for knowing where the problems lie and for trying to help the governments solve such problems.

ANNEX XII

CIT-COP3-2006-DOC 11.

REPORT OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Consultative Committee of Experts of the Convention carried out its 1st Meeting in San José, Costa Rica from October 26-28 of 2005. Previously, the Committee had been established in accordance with the text of the Convention, made up by an Official Representative from each Party and by three members from each sectorial group: the scientific community, the private and productive sector, and non-governmental organizations.

The meeting was attended by all the designated members, with the exception of the private and productive sectors representative from Mexico and one of the representatives of the scientific community (WIDECAS), which were unable to participate due to unforeseen circumstances.

This 1st Meeting elected the Committee's board, which will be in place for a period of no more than 2 years, until the next Conference of the Parties (COP3). The Meeting unanimously elected Dr. Alberto Abreu (representative of Mexico) as President, Ing. Jorge Vertiz (representative of Peru) as vice-president, and the delegate from Costa Rica as Rapporteur.

The operation of the Consultative Committee is specified by the text of the Convention and by the Terms of Reference adopted by the

Conference of the Parties in Resolution COP1CIT-005. Its general objective is to advise the Conference of the Parties for the pursuance of the objectives of the Convention, taking into consideration the opinions and recommendations of its multi-sector composition, as well as those of its sister committee, the Scientific Committee and any other group of experts invited to support this process.

Specifically, the tasks of the Consultative Committee are centered within the following guidelines, similar to those reflected in the main topics approached in its meeting reported here:

1. Revise and analyze the Annual Reports of the Parties
2. Elaborate and update its Work Plan
3. Present to the COP, through the Secretariat, opinions and recommendations that promote the objective of the Convention related to matters such as amendments and annexes to the Convention; actions by one or more Parties that in some way may affect the objective of the Convention; issues in the COP agenda; measures to promote the synergy and cooperation with international

- organizations or sectors, relevant to the Convention, among others.
4. Analyze the economic and social impacts of the proposals and measures adopted for reducing incidental capture and mortality of sea turtles, and provide recommendations of actions to the Parties.
 5. Evaluate periodically, and in collaboration with the Scientific Committee, the format of the Annual Reports of the Parties.
 6. Collaborate with the Secretary the elaboration and dissemination of information and educational materials.
 7. Support the Parties with specialized information relevant to the Convention.

1) Summary of the information received during this meeting, to direct the tasks of its Work Groups.

- The Pro-Tempore Secretary informed that although the Terms of Reference for the Scientific Committee were approved, its structure has yet to be approved
- The development of the Convention’s webpage was presented and praised, and recommendations were made for some improvements to better fit the needs of the Parties and the visitors of the general public.
- The advances on the database of the Convention were presented. Some critical issues were mentioned:
 - o Lack of standardization of the data reported by the Parties
 - o Pass to the Scientific Committee the task of revising the format and its standardization of the Annual Reports; improve the instructions for filling it in.
- The President of the Scientific Committee presented the report of the previous meetings. In the last meeting 5 work groups were established, the same that produced documents that were used in the actual Consultative Committee Meeting:
 - o Analysis of the Annual Reports
 - o Standardization of the data collection and presentation of information
 - o Interactions between sea turtles and fisheries (however, the report from this group was not finished in time for this meeting)
 - o Status of the Hawksbill sea turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata*, in México
 - o Follow-up to the Resolution of the Leatherback Sea Turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea*
- A presentation was made about a proposal for the IAC Strategic Plan, by Lic. José Pablo González, external advisor of IAC. This was followed by a wide discussion, reflecting a general consensus that this document must be carefully evaluated by the Parties, applying any mechanism that guarantees an adequate participation of the stakeholders in all countries that are included in the objectives of the IAC. It was agreed that the presented proposal was not mature enough to be presented to the COP3, for such a process was initiated, by which the Parties count with the opportunity of revising the document, analyze and systemize their reactions and recommendations at a national level. Further on, it would be sent to the

Secretariat for its consolidation. And finally, the Scientific and Consultative committee would discuss it in order to present a proposal to the COP3.

- To facilitate the discussion that would take place in each Work Group, some concept definitions and terminology were presented, related to the text of the Convention related to the matter “Exceptions”.
- The experience of the Sea Turtle Excluding Devices (TEDs) in Costa Rica was presented. The Secretariat clarified that there is a mandate by the Convention to establish a list of the recommended TEDs, however there is no list of those used by each country.

2) Results and Recommendations by the Work Groups

Based on the remaining discussions of the Committee and the documents presented by the Scientific Committee, four work groups were organized, to analyze three topics: (a) Exceptions, (b) Consultative Committee’s Strategic Plan and (c) Exceptions. For the third topic, two groups were formed, a Spanish-speaking and English speaking, due to the lack of simultaneous translations, and to facilitate discussions.

(a) Annual Reports

Taking into serious account that the annual reports from the Parties represent a link to (i) be able to determine advances in the compliance of the Convention, (ii) obtain the information to determine the status of the sea turtle populations in the range area of the Convention and (iii) since the Convention is still young and there is a great diversity in the level of technical knowledge in the advances of their conservation

programs, it is understandable that an interactive process is necessary for the development of an optimal format. In general, the proposals sent by the Scientific Committee were evaluated. The agreements and recommendations that are more relevant (Annex 3 of the minutes) are the following:

- It is necessary to simplify the contents of the Annual Reports.
- The instructions on how to fill in the reports must be improved.
- Include spaces in the form, for the informers to add comments if necessary
- Include the geographic references for the data reported.
- It is necessary to standardize the acronyms to be used, the formats for the reported variables and the methods used to refer to bibliographic sources.
- It is mandatory that the Reports be delivered by the specified dates, so that there is enough time for its translation and analysis by the subsidiary bodies of the Convention.
- Identify with more clarity a summary of the actions developed towards the compliance of the Convention.

Since some problems still persist, it was recommended to return this issue to the Scientific Committee so that, based on the new observations produced in this meeting, they continue working on a new format for the COP3.

(b) Work Plan

A proposal of the most relevant actions and tasks to be implemented during the 2005-2006 period. This proposal includes 10 actions (refer to Annex II of the minutes), of which the most relevant are:

- Recommend that the Secretariat continue to promote synergies and

mechanisms of communication with organizations, conventions and international bodies with objectives similar to those of the Convention. In particular, a reminder to consolidate agreements with both SPAW and CITES.

- Increase the number of countries joining the IAC.
- Urge that the Scientific Committee generate recommendations and guidelines for the application of mitigation measures for the impacts resulting from Fisheries-Sea Turtle interactions, according to the recent documents presented by FAO. This should result in a draft Resolution for the COP3.
- Evaluate and formulate recommendations on Exceptions that are presented in the Annual Reports by interested Parties, according Art. IV 3 a and b.
- Support the Secretariat in the conduction of a consultative process regarding the Strategic Plan, and formulate the respective Draft Resolution.
- Elaborate a Work Plan for the Consultative Committee for 2007-2008 in its next meeting.
- Evaluate and follow-up the actions related to Resolution COP2CIT-001 on the Leatherback sea turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea* and about the status of the Hawksbill sea turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata* in Mexico. In this last case, formulate a draft resolution for the Hawksbill to be presented at the COP3.
- Based in the documents produced by the Scientific Committee regarding incidental capture of sea turtles and the recommendations made by FAO, create a draft resolution for the COP3.

- Urge the Parties to send their Annual Reports on time, before the end of April each year.
- A procedure was made to facilitate the consulting between the Parties and the Strategic Plan, presented as a draft in the 1st Meeting of the Consultative Committee that facilitated the obtaining of the document that is now presented in the COP3.

(c) Exceptions

The two work groups elaborated interpretations and suggestions about how to better interpret the conditions expressed in the Article IV, 3 (a) and (b). There was a wide discussion about the issue, and it resolved to organize the recommendations in three points: (i) suggestions on how to interpret the conditions expressed in Art. IV 3 (a), (ii) what should be the procedure to present Exceptions and (iii) guidelines for the Management Plan that should exist according the Art. IV 3 (b) (i)

After deliberating, the two work groups produced different interpretations of point (i), which could not be agreed upon during the meeting. It was agreed that, in this case it was not possible to reach consensus in this matter, and it was recommended that the issue would be brought up again in the next meeting of the Scientific Committee.

3) Recommendations about the challenges of the Hawksbill sea turtle in the Gulf and Caribbean of Mexico.

In a review of the status of the knowledge and actions recently developed by Mexico, presented in the Meeting, it is pointed out that serious knowledge gaps still persist, especially in the marine habitats used by this species. Based on this information, the Consultative

Committee entirely supports the recommendations done by the Scientific Committee about this matter. Some of the most important are:

- Support the carrying out of a regional workshop of experts on this subject, with the objective of: (i) updating the information on the status of the populations in the Wider Caribbean, (ii) diagnose changes and population trends and main threats at a regional scale and, (iii) new methods that could support these efforts.
- Request the Scientific Committee, in its following meeting, to evaluate the available information, and write a draft Resolution on the Hawksbill issue.

4) Various Points

An urgent matter was presented, by Brazil, about the development of a tourist project at an important sea turtle nesting site in Bahia, Brazil. Concerned about the lack of mitigation measures in the critical habitat, it was agreed

that the Consultative Committee would send a letter to the Brazilian authorities in an appropriate, careful language, in the way that this delicate situation requests. It is agreed that Brazil, TAMAR, the Secretariat and the Presidency will write the letter together.

5) Ratification of the President, Vice-president and Rapporteur

The three designated were ratified in total by consensus. Thus, the designated are: Alberto Abreu (México) as President; Jorge Vertiz (Perú), as Vice-president; and Marvin Mora (Costa Rica), as Rapporteur. The Costa Rica representative clarifies that he will attend his mandate of maintaining in his governmental position; otherwise, Costa Rica will designate a representative.

Note: this report does not include the annexed documents, if you require more information please review the complete minute of the meeting, or request it by contacting the IAC: contact@iacseaturtle.org.

ANNEX XIII

CIT-COP3-006-Inf.4

Report of the Third Meeting of the Scientific Committee 6-9 June 2006, San José, Costa Rica

I) Summary of the meeting activities:

After adopting the agenda and program, the first morning was spent in plenary, reviewing the general responsibilities and mandates of the Committee, pending tasks from the Second Meeting of the Committee, and tasks recently assigned by COP 2 and the First Meeting of the Consultative Committee. Much of the remainder of the meeting was dedicated to specific working groups, which met individually, and reported back in plenary when their work was completed, then reassembling into subsequent working groups. Depending on composition, these groups worked in either English or Spanish.

Eight working groups met for periods varying from several hours to several days, and produced reports: 1) Follow-up to the resolution on conservation of *Dermochelys coriacea*, 2) the status of *Eretmochelys imbricata*, 3) Fisheries interactions with marine turtles, 4) Recommendations regarding Turtle Excluder Devices, 5) Including socio-economic dimensions in the work of the Convention, and 6) Annual Reports and standardization.

The meeting was attended by all 11 national representatives; the Chair of the Consultative Committee; a representative of the Permanent

Commission of the South Pacific; 2 representatives of INCOPECSA, of the Government of Costa Rica; 7 observers (2 of whom are members of the Consultative Committee), including 5 from Costa Rica, 1 from Mexico, and 1 from Australia; and 5 people working for the Secretariat.

II) Information documents consulted during the meeting:

Sources of information consulted during the meeting included 17 documents deriving from previous meetings of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, annual reports from 10 Parties for 2005, and annual reports from 6 Parties for 2006 (Inf-01). Two new reports on the situation of the hawksbill turtle in the Yucatán peninsula were also made available and consulted; and other web-based information was consulted, and NGO pamphlets and brochures were distributed to participants.

III) Documents and Recommendations produced by the meeting:

1) Follow-up to the resolution on conservation of *Dermochelys coriacea*

Revision of the annual reports revealed that no specific information is being provided that relates to concrete measures to implement resolution COP2CIT 001 on the conservation

of *Dermochelys coriacea*. The Scientific Committee recommends that COP 3, in accordance with Article IV (4) of the Convention, declare a state of emergency regarding *D. coriacea* in the east Pacific. Consistent with the policy that “every turtle counts” adopted by the IATTC and other organizations, it is further recommended that all interactions with and manipulation of this species, including conservation and research activities, comply with the Precautionary Principle, and employ known best practices that provide long-term benefits to recuperation of the species.

An operational plan, based on 4 action points of resolution COP2CIT 001, is presented: curb extractive uses of the species; protect nesting sites; reduce mortality from incidental capture; and strengthen alliances and synergies with other organizations. A mechanism for following-up is based on 6 types of indicators: compliance, scope of application, institutional involvement, civil society involvement, availability of resources, and reduction of mortality. The Committee recommends that these points be included within the Annual Report form so that each Party reports specifically on the measures that it has taken each year to implement the resolution.

2) Conservation status of *Eretmochelys imbricata*

A review of the status of information shows the urgent need to standardize methodologies and monitoring procedures. Despite decades of work on hawksbills in the Yucatán Peninsula, there are still many gaps in basic knowledge, which complicates the interpretation of apparent trends in nesting activity. While directed take, particularly for the tortoise-shell trade, seems to no longer be of major importance, incidental capture in small-scale coastal fisheries in Campeche may be

significant sources of mortality.

A comprehensive research program for the Yucatán Peninsula is proposed, including assessing impacts (on both hatchling recruitment and sex ratios) of egg management activities, past and present; studies of incidental capture in coastal fisheries; satellite tracking; long-term monitoring of foraging ecology at index sites; reproductive physiology; recruitment rates from neritic to benthic environments; ecology and pathology of key prey items (e.g., sponges); evaluation of oceanographic parameters over the past decade and their relationships with reported nesting trends; and establishment of stranding networks. As recommended earlier by the Scientific Committee, it is essential to comply with the Precautionary Principle with regard to anthropogenic activities that are likely to have negative impacts on hawksbills and their habitats: in particular, it recommended that seismic exploration in priority turtle habitats be stopped until adequate information on environmental impacts of these activities is available.

In lieu of the regional workshop recommended previously by the Second Meeting of the Scientific Committee, the working group proposed a mini-symposium, or a regional meeting with invited international specialists, to address a number of key issues in the development of research and monitoring activities for the Yucatán hawksbill. It is requested that the Secretariat and Chair of the COP provide support for the development of this initiative, and further recommended that the initiative be coordinated in collaboration with other organizations in the region to develop alliances and synergies.

As requested by the Consultative Committee, a draft resolution is provided.

3) Guidelines for evaluation and mitigation of the impact of sea turtle interactions with fisheries

Numerous international agreements include measures to eliminate, reduce, and mitigate negative effects of incidental capture of sea turtles in various fisheries. Because Parties to the IAC are also Parties to several organizations that have agreed on mitigation measures, major advances can be made by simply implementing the measures promoted by these other accords, which in many cases are binding. These include a variety of activities including onboard observer programs; training, capacity building, and sensitization of conservation priorities; promotion of research in key issues; standardization of procedures; regulation of marine pollution and habitat perturbation; use of time-area closures, gear modifications, and alternate practices to avoid interactions with turtles; and creation and sharing of data bases.

Key elements of the proposed guidelines include: characterization of fisheries and their impacts on marine turtles; development of onboard observer programs; research; standardization of fisheries data; compiling information from non-Parties as well as from Parties; application of mitigation measures; and training and capacity building. Standardization of procedures and data gathering is of the utmost importance for data interpretation and regional, collaborative activities. A major challenge is to obtain reliable information from non-Parties, and to this end the Committee recommends that each Party provide in its Annual Report information on the operation of fleets fishing in the waters under its jurisdiction as well as those that make use of its ports.

As requested by the Consultative Committee, a draft resolution is provided.

4) Recommendations regarding Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs)

An attempt, based on incomplete information, was made to provide an initial listing of types of TEDs used by the Parties. Evidently, the Super Shooter is the most commonly used device, known to be employed by at least six Parties. The Committee recommends that fisheries organizations in the Parties conduct research on the effectiveness of TEDs, with the possibility of adapting the devices to local conditions, and increasing sea turtle exclusion while increasing retention of target species. A major challenge in much of the Convention Area is to convince trawler crews to employ TEDs properly. Although the fisheries are formally categorized as “shrimp trawl”, in fact they are multi-species fisheries, for there is substantial economic dependence on landing and marketing non-shrimp species.

Without adequate information provided by each of the Parties, the Scientific Committee will be unable to advance much farther, and complete its work in reviewing and evaluating TED use. Hence, it is respectfully requested that each Focal Point provides information relevant to TED use in their country, as mandated by Annex III (7, b) of the Convention.

5) Incorporating the socio-economic dimension in the work of the Convention

The text of the Convention, Terms of Reference for both the Subsidiary Bodies, and various responsibilities and tasks involving the Scientific Committee call specifically, or implicitly, for information and evaluations directly relevant to the socio-economic arena. Yet, the Committee notes that there is a lack of basic information on socio-economic values of sea turtles, as well as on the costs and benefits of various activities promoting the conservation of turtles and their habitats. Complex socio-

economic interactions must be understood and dealt with adequately to resolve root issues.

The Scientific Committee recommends 6 steps needed to be taken by the Parties to initiate greater integration of socio-economic issues in the work of the Convention: document and evaluate the socio-economic impacts of conservation activities for sea turtles and their habitats; provide relevant information and references in the Annual Reports; identify where conservation measures cause negative socio-economic impacts, and implement mitigation measures; integrate socio-economic approaches into conservation initiatives and the evaluation of these activities; include experts in socio-economic issues in the Scientific Committee; and consider traditional knowledge of coastal communities in the design and implementation of conservation initiatives.

The level of concern among all members of the Scientific Committee about this issue resulted in drafting a proposed resolution.

6) Annual Reports and standardization

The first portion of the Annual Report format (parts 1 through 3) was revised by an English-speaking working group, and the second portion (parts 4 through 10), by a Spanish-speaking working group. Numerous suggestions were made for improving the clarity and completeness of both the format and relevant instructions. Of particular relevance is the need to provide more precise information for a number of subjects. Two detailed matrices were added to gather information on implementation of national legislation as well as implementation of measures called for in resolutions adopted by the Parties, beginning with the resolution on the conservation of *Dermochelys*. There is also a need to include in the Report systematic information relevant to incidental capture in various fishing activities, particularly those

identified as high priority by the fisheries working group.

Concomitantly, the instructions for completing the format were revised, with extensive changes to clarify and make more precise the information required. The section on threats will require additional work to provide better organized and prioritized criteria. In several places in the format it would be invaluable to link certain questions with specific sources of information on standardized procedures, such as handbooks and manuals.

Because of the length and complexity of both the format and the instructions, there needs to be a careful and meticulous homogenization between English and Spanish. It is proposed that an electronic format, with drop-down menus and options, be developed to simplify and standardize the work of filling in and evaluating the Annual Reports. Where open responses are possible it may be necessary to limit the size of the response. There is a continuing need for each Party to provide a glossary of acronyms that are used.

Although the Annual Report is the most important document for assessing and monitoring implementation of the treaty, these documents are not provided in a timely fashion. In this light it is strongly advised that each Party establish a multi-sectorial, multi-institutional working group and/or committee responsible for providing information and completing the format on time. Of particular importance is involving – with adequate advance notice – relevant representatives from the subsidiary bodies, as well as specialists from the involved sectors (academic, fisheries, management, scientific, etc.) in the completion of each Party's Annual Report. It was proposed that at some point in the near future an exemplary copy of the Annual Report be distributed to each Focal

Point, so that the different organizations and specialists in each Party can have a better idea of what sort of information is needed and in what form.

IV) Draft resolutions:

Draft resolutions for consideration at COP 3 were produced by three of the working groups.

1) Conservation of hawksbill turtles, *Eretmochelys imbricata*

The draft resolution on hawksbills identifies the need for the Parties to: develop alliances and synergies; strengthen monitoring of use and trade as well as stop illegal traffic; support and strengthen research and monitoring activities on a wide range of population, genetic, ecological, fisheries, environmental, and social aspects; mitigate incidental capture in fisheries; apply the Precautionary Principle and carry out environmental impact assessments, particularly with regard to seismic surveys; create protected areas and regulate anthropogenic activities that adversely impact habitats; promote the exchange technical information and capacity through collaborative activities; and support the organization of a specialist meeting on hawksbills in the Greater Caribbean and Western Atlantic. There is also a need for the constitution and support of an established (“permanent”) hawksbill sub-committee within the Scientific Committee.

2) Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

This draft resolution asks the Parties of the IAC to take five actions: adopt the Guidelines for evaluation and mitigation of the impact of sea turtle interactions with fisheries; sign MoUs with RFMOs; share with the IAC Secretariat any and all technical documents related to sea turtles that are provided to other organizations; instruct the IAC Secretariat to request Non-Parties to share information and technical

documents related sea turtles and their incidental capture, that have been provided to other organizations; and promote greater inter-sectorial collaboration to enhance the conservation of sea turtles and their habitats. It is important to point out that all of these actions are totally consistent with measures that the Parties have agreed to previously in other agreements, many of them binding.

3) Strengthen the capacity of the Scientific Committee to provide specialist counsel on socio-economic matters

After summarizing the basic lack in capacity to deal with complex socio-economic issues, the draft resolution calls for the Parties to undertake 4 actions: provide information and references on socio-economic values of marine turtles and their habitats, as well as socio-economic impacts of conservation actions; promote studies on socio-economic aspects of sea turtle conservation; task the Scientific Committee to give adequate attention to socio-economic issues; guarantee that at least one specialist in social sciences is an active member of the Scientific Committee.

V) Proposed work plan of the Scientific Committee:

In recognition of the fact that the Scientific Committee receives unprogrammed tasks from the COP, Parties, and the Consultative Committee, it was decided to keep the work plan focused on 11 fundamental responsibilities: review and evaluate of Annual Reports; prepare summaries of Annual Reports; promote standardization; propose high priority projects for support; follow up on advances in implementation of resolutions and guidelines; support development of web-based meta-databases; foster long-term development of a web-based database for all relevant information from the Convention Area; promote alliances and synergies; help the development of a digital

library on the website; respond to COP and Consultative Committee requests for specific information, technical advice, and preparation of draft resolutions; and include specialists in the social sciences in the meetings and deliberations of the Scientific Committee.

1) Inter-sessional working groups:

In addition to the primary responsibilities identified in the work plan, 4 discrete tasks will be dealt with between sessions by different working groups:

- 1) The working group on Annual Reports will continue discussions through e-mail to explore ways to include key information from fisheries interactions in the format, together with relevant instructions (this need derives from the recent results of the Fisheries working group).
- 2) This working group, or a component of it, will also explore the possibility of producing summaries of the biological information in the Annual Reports.
- 3) The Hawksbill working group agreed to continue work and discussions via e-mail to help the development of a regional workshop.
- 4) The fisheries working group agreed to continue discussions via e-mail, in response to topics or questions requiring further work.

5) General recommendations:

There is a pressing need to create and strengthen national and local committees and working groups.

6) Future meetings of the Scientific Committee:

Given the number of tasks that have been assigned to the Scientific Committee, it was agreed that two meetings a year would be appropriate. In some cases, it may be useful to convene a meeting of just one or more working

groups, and not necessarily the entire committee. A meeting of the Scientific Committee, or just some of the working groups, before COP 3 could be useful for preparations for the meeting of the Parties.

The benefits of convening a meeting of the Scientific Committee in a place other than Costa Rica were discussed. It was proposed that the Committee meet in a place where its activities could facilitate greater interest in additional States participating with the Convention, and/or promote greater implementation of the measures of the treaty.

7) General concerns:

Regardless of the frequency or venue of meetings, it was repeatedly remarked during the Third Meeting of the Scientific Committee that the lack of basic information from the Parties, particularly Annual Reports, presents a major handicap to the Committee and to the implementation of the treaty – some members remarked that to some extent the Committee meetings are a waste of time and money if all the Annual Reports are not received on time. This problem exists despite the terms of the Convention, as mandated in Article XI (1 & 2), which clearly charge each Party to submit an Annual Report in a timely fashion. It was also observed that only 2 of 11 Parties have provided even basic information on Turtle Excluder Devices, despite the fact that this is mandated by Annex III (7, b) of the Convention.

8) Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Rapporteur:

Although the section in Terms of Reference for the Scientific Committee concerning terms of the chair, vice-chair, and rapporteur are still under negotiation, it was decided to have a new election to select these three positions for the next two-year period. The Chair and Vice-chair,

Dr. J. Frazier and Dr. René Márquez, were reelected unanimously, and the rapporteur, Ing. José Alío, was reelected by a majority.

Note from the Secretariat: This report does not include the documents annexed in the original report. If you require more information please find the complete report at: www.iacseaturtle.org or request them to contact@iacseaturtle.org.

ANNEX XIV

CIT-COP3-2006-Doc.16

General Guidelines for Classifying Documents of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles

In order to assist in identifying documents, the plenary session of the Third Conference of the Parties approved by consensus the proposal to code the various documents that the Convention manages.

The Meetings of the Convention may produce 4 types of documents: Working documents; Informative documents; Resolutions and Minutes of the meetings.

1.1 Working documents

Working documents are documents that contain the agenda points of the COP, which will then serve as the basis for discussions or analysis to create some kind of agreement or resolution. They also include any documents that are analyzed and/or modified by the Scientific Committee and are later revised by the Consultative Committee of Experts.

1.2 Informative documents

Informative documents are as their name indicates, thus providing information to the Parties on certain topics of interest. These documents can also assist in the decision making process of the meeting.

1.3 Resolutions: Decision taken by the

Conference of the Parties on a specific topic.

1.4 Minutes: Steps to follow have been established in the “Rules of procedure for meetings of the Parties of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles”, below RULE 10 - DOCUMENTS, FILES AND REPORTS is presented:

“10.2 The minutes of each meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall be prepared by the Rapporteur, with support of the Secretariat and distributed to the Parties for their review no later than fifteen days after the end of the meeting. The Parties shall have thirty days to make comments. In the case there substantive comments or observations, the Secretariat shall forward these to the other Parties. After exhausting the exchange of communications, the minutes shall be deemed to be approved.”

The classification system for all documents created by the Convention should begin with the prefix CIT, immediately followed by the Meeting in which it was addressed and

subsequently including the corresponding number of that meeting. The acronyms to be

	Conference of the Parties (COP#)	Scientific Committee (CC#)	Consultative Committee of Experts (CCE#)
Minutes	CIT- Conference N° - year- Minutes Example: CIT-COP3-2006- Minutes	CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting N° -year- Minutes Example: CIT-CC3-2006-Minutes	CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting N° -year- Minutes Example: CIT-2CCE-2006- Minutes
Working document	CIT- Conference N° -year- Doc. + Consecutive No. Example: CIT-COP3-2006- Doc.01	CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting No. n - year - Doc. + Consecutive No. Example: CIT-CC3-2006-Doc.01	CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting No. n - year - Doc. + Consecutive No. Example: CIT-CCE2-2006- Doc.06
Revised and/or analyzed working document		CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting N° -year - Doc. + Consecutive No. -Rev Example: CIT-CC3-2006-Doc.01 Rev -(2007)	CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting N° -year - Doc. + Consecutive No. -Rev Example: CIT-CCE2-2006- Doc.06- Rev -(2007)
Informative Document	CIT- Conference N°-year - Inf. + Consecutive N° Example: CIT-COP3-2006-Inf. 01	CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting N° -year - Inf.+ Consecutive N° Example: CIT-CC3-2006-Inf.01	CIT- Committee acronym + Meeting N° -year - Inf.+ Consecutive N° Example: CIT-CCE2- 2006- Inf. 06
Draft Resolution to be presented to the Conference of the Parties or the Consultative Committee of Experts		CIT- Acronym of the meeting in which the draft was created - year- PR (corresponding consecutive number) Example: CIT-CC3-2006-PR.#	CIT- Acronym of the meeting in which the draft was created -year- PR (corresponding consecutive number) Example: CIT-CCE2-2006-PR.#
Resolution	CIT-Conference N°-year- R# Example: CIT-COP2-2004-R2		

In order to help manage the contents of the documents and their discussions, each paragraph of all the documents will be numbered.

Similarly in order to include information related to the documents origin and avoid any confusion caused by having extensive codes, the following information can be included in the documents: Name of the Meeting, its place, date and when necessary, any reference document(s).



Inter-American Convention for the
Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles

CIT-COP3-2006-PR#

Third Conference of the Parties
Mazatlan, Mexico
September 26th-28th, 2006
Reference CIT-CC2- 2006-PR#

Draft Resolution

Memorandum of Understanding between the Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (OSPESCA) and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (CIT)

The Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (OSPESCA), an integral part of the Central American Integration System (SICA), represented by Mr. Luís Paris Chaverri, *Pro Tempore* President of OSPESCA, hereinafter called....

Notes:

There are many important topics that both the Contracting Parties as well as their Committee members should be familiar with in order for the IAC to grow. Documents created under this condition are classified as informative documents, and they will retain this classification perpetually and it does not take into consideration under which COP or meeting it is used for, such is the case for the document “Global Status of Marine Turtles” created by Dr P. C.H. Pritchard in 2002.

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
 THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
 TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

Participant List/Lista de Participantes

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
Delegates/Delegados					
ANTILLAS HOLANDESAS	Paul C. Hoetjes Head of Delegation	Senior Policy Advisor, Dept. Of Environment & Nature Conservation, Ministry Of Public Health & Social Development	Santa Rosaweg 122 Curaçao Netherlands Antilles	paul@mina.vomil.an	(599-9) 736 3530 (599-9) 736 3505
BELIZE/ BELICE	Isaias Majil Head of Delegation	Belize Fisheries Department, Ministry of Fisheries, Cooperatives, Commerce and Industry	Princess Margaret Drive P.O.Box 148 Belize City	isaiasmajil@yahoo.com species@btl.net	(501) 224 4552 Fax: 223 2983
	Julio Maaz	Belize Fisheries Department, Ministry of Fisheries, Cooperatives, Commerce and Industry	Princess Margaret Drive P.O. Box 148 Belize City	julio.maaz@gmail.com species@btl.net	Tel:(501) 223- 2623, Fax: (501) 223 - 2983
BRAZIL/ BRASIL	Fabio A Antibas Jefe Delegación Vicepresidente COP3	Embajada de Brasil en México Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores E30 A de Brasil,	Lope de Armendáriz130. Lomas Virreyes. Ciudad de México, DF. 11000.	antibas@mre.gov.br	Tel. (55)52014531 ext 302 Fax. (55)55204929
	Andre Misi	Departamento de Medio Ambiente, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores	Palacio Do Itamaraty Anexo 1, Sala 439	misi@mre.gov.br	
	João Carlos Alciati Thomé	Analista Ambiental del Centro Tamar-IBAMA	Av. Paulino Muller 1111 Vitoria -ES Brasil CEP 29040715. Brasil	joca@tamar.org.br	27-32221417 27-32322345
	Ricardo José Soavinski	Instituto Brasileño del Medio Ambiente – IBAMA	Av. L-G Norte-IBAMA IBAMA, Sede-Bloco B Brasilia, Brasil -70.818- 900	ricardo.soavins@Ibama.Go v.br	55613161165 Fax: 55613161067
COSTA RICA	Marco V. Araya Jefe de la Delegación	Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación. Ministerio de Ambiente.	Apartado Postal 10104- 1000 San José, Costa Rica	maraya23@minae.go.cr	Tel/fax:506-283- 7812

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
	Luís Paris	Presidente Ejecutivo del Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura (INCOPECA)			Tel: (506) 248-1196, (506) 248-2387 Fax: (506) 248-1585
ECUADOR	Juan Leoro Almeida Jefe Delegación	Embajador en Costa Rica Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores	Apartado postal: 1374-1000 San José, Costa Rica	eecucostarica@mmrree.gov.ec	Tel: (506)2321503 Fax: (506)2321503 ext. 105
	Luís Torres	Asesor Técnico Subsecretaria de Recursos Pesqueros	Av. 9 de octubre 200 y Pichincha Edificio Banco Central del Ecuador, séptimo piso Guayaquil, Ecuador	ltorres@jupiter.espoltel.net subpesca@jupiter.espoltel.net	tel: (593) 4-2564300 (593) 4 - 2306144 fax: (593) 4 2306144
GUATEMALA	Hiram Ordoñez	Director del Departamento de Vida Silvestre y Autoridades Científicas CITES	5 Av. 6-06 zona 1 Guatemala, ciudad Guatemala	hiramvet@yahoo.com hordonez@conap.gob.gt	Tel: 2422-6700 ext 2005 Tel:2473-2621
HONDURAS	Juan Pablo Suazo Euceda Jefe Delegación	Director de Biodiversidad de la Secretaria de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente	100 metros al sur del Estadio Nacional Tegucigalpa, MDC, Honduras, C.A.	juanpablosauzo@yahoo.com dibio@serna.gob.hn jsauzo@serna.gob.hn	Tel:(504) 235-4895 (504) 235-3764
	Miguel Suazo	Dirección General de Pesca y Acuicultura y Ganadería(SAG)		mass200431@hotmail.com	Tel: (504) 239-1987 Fax: (504) 239-1987
MÉXICO	Ernesto Christian Enkerlin Hoeflich Jefe de Delegación	Presidente de la Comisión Nacional de Áreas Protegidas Presidente de la Comisión Nacional de Áreas Protegidas	Camino a Ajusco No. 200, Col, Jardines de la Montaña Delegación Tlalpan, México, D.F. 14210	enkerlin@conanp.gob.mx	Tel. (55) 54 49 70 01/ 54 49 63 92 Fax. (55) 54 49 70 25 Red. 17001/16392
	María Teresa Bandala Medina Presidenta COP3	Directora General de Cooperación Internacional SEMARNAT	Blvd. Adolfo Ruiz Cortinez No. 4209, 1er piso Ala "A", Col. Jardines en la Montaña, C.P. México DF	teresa.bandala@semarnat.gob.mx	Tel: (5255)5628-3904 Fax:(5255)5628-0694

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
	Luís Miguel López Moreno Jefe de Delegación Alterno	Director General de Planeación, Programación y Evaluación Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca.	Av. Camarón Sábalo S/N. Fracc. Sábalo Country Club Mazatlán, Sinaloa, C.P. 82100	llopezm@conapesca.sagarp a.gob.mx	Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 Fax. (669) 9 15 69 55
	Luís Fueyo McDonald	Director General de Inspección de Vida Silvestre, Recursos Marinos y Ecosistemas Costeros.	Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente Director General Camino al Ajusco #200, 6to Piso. Col. Jardines de la Montaña Delegación Tlalpan C.P. 14210	lfueyo@profepa.gob.mx	Tel. (55) 5449 6323
	Ignacio Méndez Gómez Humarán	Director General de Investigación Pesquera en el Pacífico Sur del Instituto Nacional de la Pesca.	Prolongación Playa Abierta S/N, Col. Miramar, C.P. 70680 Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, México Apartado Postal 274	dgips_inp@prodigy.net.mx	Tel. 971 71 450 03 Fax. 971 71 403 86
	Raúl Villaseñor Talavera	Director de Normatividad de CONAPESCA.	Av. Camarón Sábalo Esq. Tiburón No.S/N - Piso-5 A. Col. Fracc. Sábalo Country Club C.P.82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa	rvillasenort@conapesca.sag arpa.gob.mx	Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 ext. 1504 (669) 9 15 69 28 Fax.9 13 09 21
	Ricardo Belmontes Acosta	Director de Asuntos Pesqueros Internacionales. CONAPESCA Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca.	Av. Camarón Sábalo S/N. Fracc. Sábalo Country Club Mazatlán, Sinaloa, C.P. 82100	rbelmontesa@conapesca..sa garpa.gob.mx	Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 Fax. (669) 9 15 69 55
	Luís Armando López Fleisher	Coordinador de Asuntos Internacionales del Instituto Nacional de la Pesca.	KM. 1 Carretera a Pichilingue Co. Esterito C.P. 23020, La Paz, B.C.S. Mexico	Lfleischer21@yahoo.com Lfleischer21@hotmail.com	Tel (52)-612 122-13-67 Ext. 107 Fax. Ext. 124

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
	Aída Peña Jaramillo	Directora para la Agenda Azul, Unidad Coordinadora de Asuntos Internacionales, SEMARNAT	Ave. San Jerónimo 458 Piso 3 Col. Jardines del Pedregal. C.P. 01900, México	aida.pj@semarnat.gob.mx	Tel:(52 55) 54902150 Fax:(52 55) 54 90 21 94
	Roberto Santos Hernández López	Subdirector de Medio Ambiente de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores.	Plaza Juárez No. 20, Piso 14, Col. Centro, Delegación Cuauhtemoc, CP 06010, México, D.F.	shernandez@sre.gob.mx	Tel. (55) 5063 3000 ext. 7242 Fax. (55) 9159 5632
	Maria Antonieta Ricoy Polidura	Subdirectora para la Agenda Azul. Unidad Coordinadora de Asuntos Internacionales, SEMARNAT.	Ave. San Jerónimo 458 Piso 3 Col. Jardines del Pedregal. C.P. 01900, México, DF	antonieta.ricoy@semarnat.gob.mx	Tel. (55) 5628 0600 Fax. (55) 5628 0694
	Lilia Estrada González	Jefe de Departamento de Análisis para el Aprovechamiento Intensivo de la SEMARNAT.		lestrada@semarnat.gob.mx	Tel: 56-24-36-16 /23616 Fax: 56-24-35-88 56-24-36-42
	Verónica Esquivel Medina	Jefe de Departamento de Negociación Internacionales de CONAPESCA	Av. Camarón Sábalo Esq. Tiburón No. S/N - Piso-3 Col. Fracc. Sábalo Country Club C.P.82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa		Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 ext. 1421 Fax. (669) 9 15 69 55
	Martha Estrada Jiménez	Jefe de Departamento de Organismos Internacionales de CONAPESCA	Av. Camarón Sábalo Esq. Tiburón No. S/N - Piso-3 Col. Fracc. Sábalo Country Club C.P.82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa		Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 ext. 1420 Fax. (669) 9 15 69 55
	Gustavo López Rasine	Jefe de Departamento de Cooperación con América Latina y el Caribe	Av. Camarón Sábalo Esq. Tiburón No. S/N - Piso-3 Col. Fracc. Sábalo Country Club C.P.82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa		Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 ext. 1422 Fax. (669) 9 15 69 55
	Ana Virginia Aguilar Torres	Encargada de Seguimiento de las Recomendaciones Emanadas de los Foros de	Av. Camarón Sábalo Esq. Tiburón No. S/N - Piso-3 Col. Fracc. Sábalo		Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 Fax. (669) 9 15 69 55

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
		Conservación de la CONAPESCA.	Country Club C.P.82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa		
	María José Espinosa Romero	Encargada del Departamento de Supervisión, Evaluación y Seguimiento de Proyectos de la CONAPESCA.	Av. Camarón Sábalo Esq. Tiburón No.S/N - Piso-5 A Col. Fracc. Sábalo Country Club C.P.82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa	mespinosar@conapesca.sagarpa.gob.mx	Tel. (669) 9 15 69 00 ext. Fax. (669) 9 13 09 21
	Laura Sarti Martínez	Investigadora del Programa Nacional Tortugas Marinas, Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas. SEMARNAT	Camino al Ajusco 200, Jardines en la Montaña. Delegación Tlalpan C.P 14210	lsarti@conanp.gob.mx	Tel. (55) 5449 7071
	Ninel García Téllez	Asesora de Servicios Profesionales. Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas. SEMARNAT	Camino al Ajusco 200, Jardines en la Montaña. Delegación Tlalpan C.P 14210	ngarcia@conanp.gob.mx	Tel. 5449 7071
	Cristina Chávez	Directora de la Unidad del Centro de Investigación en Alimentación y Desarrollo AC (CIAD).	AP.711, Mazatlán, Sin., México 82000	marcris@ciad.mx	Tel: (669) 9898700 ext. 208 Fax: (669) 9898701
	Fernando Medrano	Vicepresidente de la Cámara Nacional de la Industria Pesquera y acuícola (CANAINPESCA)	Ave. Lic. Miguel Alemán Núm. 912 Col. Lázaro Cárdenas 82040 Mazatlán, Sin.		Tel. (01 669) 81 36 35 Fax (01 669) 81 31 53
	Daniel Ríos Olmeda	Investigador y Coordinador del Centro Tortuguero El Verde, Camacho			
	Manelik Olivera Martínez	Director del Centro Mexicano de la Tortuga	Carretera San Antonio, Puerto Ángel conocido Mazunte, Santa María Tonameca, a.p. 16 Puerto Ángel, Oaxaca C.P. 70902	molivera@conanp.gob.mx	Tel. 958 58 4 33 76 Fax. 958 58 4 33 76

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
PERÚ	Liliana Gómez De Weston Jefe Delegación	Dirección de Asuntos Marítimos y Antárticos, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores	Jirón Lampa 545. Lima Perú.	igomez@rree.gob.pe	Tel: (51-1) 311- 2661 Fax: (51-1) 311- 2659
	Jorge Zuzunaga	Asesor del Despacho Viceministerial de Pesquería	Calle Uno Oeste N°: 060 Urb. CORPAC, San Isidro. Lima, Perú	jzuzunaga@produce.gob.pe	Tel: (51-1) 616- 2222 (ext.720), (51- 1) 420-6103, (51- 1)616-2222 (ext. 703)
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/	Alexis Gutiérrez	Protected Resources Division U.S. National Marine Fisheries Services	1315 East –West Highway Silver Spring, MD USA 20910	alexis.gutierrez@noaa.gov	301-713-1401 x125
	Earl Possardt	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	University of West Georgia - Dept of Biology Carrollton, Ga 30108	Earl_Possardt@fws.gov	110-214-9293 110-836-6633
	Dennis Klemm	Protected Resources Division Southeast Region U.S. National Marine Fisheries Services	9721 Executive Center Dr. St. Peter Spetersburg, fl 33702	Dennis.klem@noaa.gov	727570-5777
	Kate Von Holle	Foreign Affair Officer. U.S. State Department	2201 C. St, NW-Room 2758 Washington, D.C. 20520	vonholleck@state.gov	Tel. 703 647 3264 Fax. 703 736 7350
	Melisaa Kehoe	Fisheries Officer. U.S. Embassy México	Paseo de la Reforma 305 México, D.F. 06500	kehoemj@state.gov	55 50 80 2167
VENEZUELA	Jesús Ramos Oropeza Jefe Delegación	Director General de la Oficina Nacional de Diversidad Biológica	Torre Sur Centro Simón Bolívar Piso n°: 6, ONDB. El Silencio Caracas	jramos@marn.gob.ve	
	Edis Solórzano	Directora de Fauna de la Oficina Nacional de Diversidad Biológica	Torre Sur Centro Simón Bolívar Piso n°: 18, ONDB. El Silencio Caracas	esolorzano@marn.gob.ve	Tel: 212-4082135 Fax: 212-4082109

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
 THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
 TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
CANADA	Andrew McMaster Observer	Fisheries Advisor, Fisheries and Oceans Canada	P.O. Box 1035, 176 Portland St. Darmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 1I3	hashr@clfo-mpo-gc.ca	Tel. (902) 426 4766 Fax.(613) 993 5995
International Organizations/Organismos Internacionales					
	Ángel Rivera	OLDEPESCA	Av. Petit Thovar 5115- 3 er piso. Lima 1- Peru	ldirec@oldepesca.org	511-3308741 511-3322480
	Martín Hall	Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical	8604 LA JOLLA SHORES DR. LA JOLLA, CA 92037 USA	mhal@iattc.org	Tel: 858-546-7044 Fax:858-546-7133
Committees/Comités					
	Jack Frazier Presidente Comité Científico	Research Associate, Conservation And Research Center, Smithsonian Institute	1500 Remount Rd. Front Royal, VA 22630 USA	kurma@shentel.net	Tel: 540 635 6564 Fax: 540 635 6551
	Didiher Chacón	Director de Investigación de ANAI, Red Regional de Tortugas de Costa Rica y Coordinador Nacional y Centro Americano de WIDECAST	Apartado Postal 170-2070. Sabanilla, Costa Rica	tortugas@racsa.co.cr	Tel: 506-224-3570 Fax: 506-253-7524
	Alberto Abreu Grobois Presidente Comité Consultivo	Investigador, Instituto de Ciencias del Mar y Limniología UNAM, Laboratorio de Genética	Unidad Académica Mazatlán. Apto. Postal 811, Mazatlán, Sinaloa 82000	alberto.abreu@ola.icmyl.unam.mx	Tel. (669)9 85 28 45 Fax. (669) 9 82 61 33
	Juan Carlos Cantú Guzmán	Defenders Of Wildlife De Mexico	Bosques de Cerezos 112 CP. 11700 México Dtto. Federal.	ccantu@defenders.org	Tel: 52 55 5596-2108 Fax: 52 55 5245-8300
Observers/Observadores					
	Gael Almeida	World Wide Fund For Nature	Av. México 51, Col.		Tel: +52 (55)

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
 THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
 TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
		(WWF)	Hipódromo México, DF 06100	galmeida@wwfmex.org	52865631 ext. 232 Fax: +52 (55) 52865637
	John Regnery	President Brighter Way Foundation	11149 yellow leaf way, Germantown, MD 20876 USA	jhonregnery@hotmail.com	301-258-3056
	Rebecca Regnery	Humane Society Of The United States/Humane Society International	2100 L Street, NW Germantown MD 20876. USA	rregnery@hsus.org	301-258-3105 Fax: 301-258-3082
	Luís Eduardo Girón Arana	Presidente de CALAS	Av. Aariscal No 13-59, zona 11 Colonial Mariscal, C.P.01011 Guatemala, Ciudad de Guatemala	presidencia@calas.org.gt	Tel: (502) 24744545 Fax: (502) 24730813
	Beatriz Bugada Bernal	Directora para México y América Latina Internacional Fund For Animal Welfare (IFAW)	Tecoyotitla 274 Col. Florida México DF	bbugada@ifaw.org	Tel: (52)556629205 Fax:(52) 5556628609
	Marcela Romero Pérez	Oficial de Campañas Departamento de Protección de vida silvestre y Habitats IFAW	Tecoyotitla 274 Col. Florida México DF	mrromero@ifaw.org	Tel: (52) 5556629205 Fax:(52) 5556628609
	Randall Arauz	Presidente de PRETOMA	1203-1100, Tibás San José, Costa Rica	rarauz@racsa.co.cr	Tel: (506) 241 5227 Fax:(506) 236 6017
Secretary/Secretaría					
	Marco A Solano	Secretaria	Apart. Postal 1108 – 1002. Paseo de los Estudiantes, San José, Costa Rica	secretario@iacseaturtle. Org. iacseaturtle@amnet.co.cr	Tel.506-2572239
	Belinda Dick	Secretaria	Apart. Postal 1108 – 1002. Paseo de los Estudiantes, San José, Costa Rica	belinda@iacseaturtle.org	Tel.506-2572239

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
 THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, September 26th – 28th, 2006, Mazatlán, Mexico
Convención Interamericana para la Protección y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
 TERCERA CONFERENCIA DE LAS PARTES celebrada del 26 al 28 de setiembre del 2006 en Mazatlán, México

COUNTRY/ PAIS	NAME/ NOMBRE	INSTITUTION/ INSTITUCION	POSTAL ADDRESS/ DIRECCION POSTAL	E-MAIL	TEL/FAX
	Julio Montes de Oca	Secretaria	Apart. Postal 1108 – 1002. Paseo de los Estudiantes, San José, Costa Rica	julio@iacseaturtle.org	Tel.506-2572239 506-2224732



Convención Interamericana para la Protección
y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas
26 al 28 de Septiembre Mazatlán México 2006