EXTENSION OF THE SECRETARIAT PRO TEMPORE

BEARING IN MIND Resolution CIT-COP6-2013-R3 that asked the United States of America continue hosting the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat until a headquarters agreement is agreed and implemented and extend the contract of the current *Pro Tempore* Secretary for an additional two years;

NOTING that the Working Group on the Legal Framework of the Convention and Permanent Secretariat has been working with interested Parties in the process to establish a Permanent Secretariat as requested in Resolution CIT-COP6-2013-R3;

TAKING IN TO ACCOUNT we are in the process of negotiating a hosting arrangement for the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat;

CONSIDERING that the Government of the United States of America has offered to renew the arrangement for the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to continue to operate in the United States of America;

RECOGNIZING the need to provide the appropriate means for the functioning of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, as well as the quality of the work of the current Secretary;

CONSIDERING that this is an important matter that requires a decision to be adopted between sessions using Rule 5.5 of the Rules of Procedures for the Meetings of the Parties to the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles Resolution CIT-COP1-2003-R4-Rev.1.

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

RESOLVE:

1. To request that the United States of America continue hosting the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat until a headquarters arrangement is agreed and implemented, and extend the contract of the current *Pro Tempore* Secretary until December 31st 2017 or until COP8 as decided by the Parties.

2. Request the Working Group on the Legal Framework of the Convention and Permanent Secretariat to continue its functions to assist IAC Parties for the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat.