

TITLE	Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
TYPE	Article IV (4)
LEGAL STATUS	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
LANGUAGE	Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish
SPONSOR	Monaco
DEPOSITARY	Government of Monaco Département des Relations Extérieures Ministère d'Etat 98000 Monaco
COVERAGE	All cetaceans that frequent the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous area of the Atlantic Ocean west of the Straits of Gibraltar
RANGE STATES/REIO	29: ALBANIA, ALGERIA, Bosnia and Herzegovina, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, EUROPEAN UNION, FRANCE, GEORGIA, GREECE, ISRAEL, ITALY, Lebanon, LIBYA, MALTA, MONACO, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, Russian Federation, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, TUNISIA, Turkey, UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM
FINAL ACT	Signed on 24 November 1996 by 15 States and 1 REIO: ALBANIA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, EUROPEAN UNION, FRANCE, GEORGIA, GREECE, ISRAEL, ITALY, MONACO, MOROCCO, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SPAIN, TUNISIA, UKRAINE
SIGNATURE	Open for signature at Monaco from 24 November 1996 until entry into force of the Agreement Signed by 15: ALBANIA (24.11.96), CROATIA (24.11.96), CYPRUS (24.11.96), FRANCE (24.11.96), GEORGIA (24.11.96), GREECE (24.11.96), ITALY (24.11.96), MONACO (24.11.96), PORTUGAL (24.11.96), SPAIN (24.11.96), TUNISIA (24.11.96), MOROCCO (28.03.97), ROMANIA (28.09.98), BULGARIA (16.09.99), MALTA (23.03.01)
IN FORCE	1 st day of the 3 rd month after at least 7 coastal states or REIOs (comprising at least two from the Black Sea and at least five from the Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area) have joined
ACTUALLY IN FORCE	1 June 2001
RAT/ACP/APP/ACC	22: GREECE (24.11.96), MONACO (30.04.97), SPAIN (02.02.99); MOROCCO (05.07.99), BULGARIA (10.11.99), CROATIA (10.07.00), ROMANIA (17.07.00), MALTA (23.03.01), GEORGIA (31.05.01), ALBANIA (03.07.01 acc), TUNISIA (15.01.02) SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC (07.02.02), LIBYA (01.09.02), UKRAINE (01.01.04), FRANCE (01.06.04), PORTUGAL (01.01.05), Lebanon (01.03.05), ITALY (01.09.05), CYPRUS (01.05.06); SLOVENIA (01.12.06); ALGERIA (01.12.07); MONTENEGRO (01.08.09); EGYPT (01.07.10)
MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES	1 st Meeting: 28 February-2 March 2002, Monaco; 2nd Meeting: 9 - 12 November 2004, Palma de Mallorca, Spain; 3rd Meeting: 22-25 October 2007, Dubrovnik, Croatia 4th Meeting: 9-12 November 2010, Monaco
SECRETARIAT	ACCOBAMS Secretariat, Jardins de l'UNESCO, Terrasses de Fontvieille, Monaco (Tel: +377 93 15 80 10; Fax: +377 93 15 81 48; e-mail: accobams@accobams.net , Web: www.accobams.org)
FINANCING	As provided in Article IX of the Agreement
RESERVATIONS	The Agreement is not subject to general reservations. However, a specific reservation may be entered by any State in respect of a specifically delimited part of its internal waters
DESCRIPTION	The taxonomic scope of the Agreement covers all cetaceans present in the Agreement Area. The Agreement Area comprises all maritime waters of the Black Sea and the Mediterranean and their gulfs and seas and internal waters connected to or interconnecting these maritime waters, together with the Atlantic area contiguous to the Mediterranean Sea west of the Strait of Gibraltar. The Agreement applies to riparian

States and equally to States whose vessels carry out activities likely to undermine the goals of the Agreement. The Agreement requires Parties to prohibit any deliberate taking of cetaceans, with few clearly-defined exceptions, and to create and maintain a network of specially protected areas to conserve cetaceans. A Conservation Plan specifies the actions, which Parties shall take in the following areas: adoption and enforcement of national legislation, habitat protection, research and monitoring, training and education, responses to emergency situations.

SPECIES EXAMPLES

Harbour porpoise, Bottlenose dolphin, Common dolphin, Long-finned pilot whale, Fin whale, Sperm whale