

**REVISED DRAFT 5 MARCH 2009**

**AGENDA FOR PLANNING WORKSHOP OF SOUTHERN OCEAN**

**NON-LETHAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP (SORP)**

Maritime Museum, Sydney, Australia, 23-26 March 2009

OPEN SESSION (DELEGATES, OFFICIALS, MEDIA, INVITED PARTICIPANTS (IPs))

---

**OPEN SESSION**

(DELEGATES, OFFICIALS, MEDIA, INVITED PARTICIPANTS (IPs))

1. Arrival and Registration [8:30am - 9:00am]
2. Introductory items [9:00am to 9:45am]
  - a. Welcome and opening remarks
  - b. Keynote address by Australian Environment Minister Peter Garrett

*Break For Morning Tea [9:45am - 10:15am]*

3. [10:15am - 12:00pm]
  - a. The Southern Ocean ecosystem
  - b. Importance of non-lethal cetacean research in the Southern Ocean
  - c. Recent developments in non-lethal cetacean research

*Lunch [12:00-1:00 pm]*

---

**CLOSED SESSION**

(DELEGATES, OFFICIALS, IPs) [1:00pm onwards]

4. General introduction
  - a. Workshop objectives
  - b. Workshop procedures and time schedule
  - c. Logistic arrangements
5. Appointment of Chair and Rapporteurs

6. Adoption of Agenda
7. Review of Workshop documents and reports
8. Existing non-lethal cetacean research in the Southern Ocean
  - a. Summary of existing research efforts
    - i. National
    - ii. International
  - b. Summary of available data
9. Research priorities
  - a. National
  - b. International
    - i. IWC
    - ii. Other
10. SORP Research Plan
  - a. Research priorities
    - i. Whale abundance, stock structure, and population dynamics
    - ii. Whale habitats
    - iii. Feeding ecology
    - iv. Life history
    - v. Environmental variability and climate change
    - vi. Community structure: past and present
    - vii. Lesser known species
  - b. Scientific methods
11. Available resources and links for future research
  - a. Tentative research plan schedule
    - i. 2009/10
      1. Location
      2. Timing
      3. Participation
    - ii. Future
12. Partnership linkages

- a. Partnership coordination
    - i. Documenting and reporting of participating projects
    - ii. Standardised protocols
    - iii. Shared analyses
    - iv. Data and sample sharing
    - v. Data and sample archiving
  - b. Funding available for SORP research programmes
  - c. SORP Steering Group
13. SORP Review
- a. Annual Reporting and review
  - b. Interim review
  - c. Final review
14. Summary of links with IWC, national and other programmes
15. Adoption of Report

**Notes:**

- 
- a) The following provisional timetable is suggested for the Agenda but this will vary depending on the final Agenda and the amount of material to be covered under each item:
- a. Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March ó Items 1-6
  - b. Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March ó Items 7-8
  - c. Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March ó Items 9-10
  - d. Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March ó Items 11-13
- b) The Workshop will start at 09:00am on the first day and 9:00am on subsequent days and end at 6:00pm each day.

**Annotations:**

---

Below are some annotations to selected agenda items to provide some background for each item and the material that they intend to cover. Please note that this is only a draft agenda and the final agenda may be modified or amended prior to final agreement by participants at the workshop. The numbers below correspond to the agenda items listed above.

1. The first morning session is open to delegates and officials from IWC member countries, media and invited participants. The morning will provide an overview of the SORP and where it fits into southern ocean research and the IWC science and management framework. The key note address will be by the Australian Environment Minister Peter Garrett. There will be opportunities for media interviews with the morning speakers. For the purposes of SORP, we propose to use southern ocean in the broadest possible terms, essentially the Southern Hemisphere. While it is likely that the focus of the Partnership research programme will be on the circumpolar regions (although this has yet to be determined and will be an important subject for discussion at this workshop), we expect it to have broad regional and latitudinal coverage.
4. At 1:00pm the formal SORP workshop will begin and will cover discussions about the objectives of SORP and the development of a draft research plan to meet these objectives. A set of terms of reference for the SORP workshop are attached [SC/SORP/2]. This part of the workshop is only open to delegates and officials from IWC member countries and invited participants
6. The agenda and any amendments will be discussed and agreed by the workshop participants.

7. All documents available to the workshop are listed and will be allocated to appropriate agenda items. A draft list of documents is attached [SC/SORP/3]. There will also be a brief discussion of previous workshops relevant to the SORP e.g. IWC/CCAMLR Ecosystems, SOWER Planning Meeting
8. This item will summarise non-lethal cetacean research in the Southern Ocean. It will provide a context for discussions about objectives and research methodologies. 8a is where national and international non-lethal research programmes will be briefly explained and described. 6b will summarise existing data sets from non-lethal programmes that are available. We will ask national delegates to provide short summaries from their national programmes. This item will draw on recent summary papers presented to previous IWC workshops (e.g. Leaper *et al.* 2008, Zerbini *et al.* 2008, Report of joint IWC/CCAMLR workshop 2008) plus any other relevant material.
9. This is a discussion of existing research priorities from member countries or other organisations. In particular, national delegates from IWC member countries will provide summaries of any national or regional priorities. International priorities will include already agreed priorities and recommendations from the IWC for research in the region [SC/SORP/4].
10. 10a will work to develop and agree objectives broken down by category for the SORP. These objectives are likely to be consistent with IWC priorities but may also include regionally important objectives. The plan is for the workshop to break up into small groups and each group to develop priorities for one item and report back to the whole workshop for discussion. Each item will be further broken down into smaller categories for consideration: (i) overall, (ii) species priorities, and (iii) region priorities. 10b will provide an initial exploration of non-lethal research methods that can be used to address the previously agreed objectives.
11. Based on the agreed priorities and methodologies, we will develop tentative schedules for research plans for the coming season and for the future.
12. 12a will cover coordination of the partnership programme and work towards agreement on data sharing and collaborations. One suggestion is for central coordination of the reporting for the project. 12b will cover opportunities for funding and 12c setting up of a Steering Group to oversee the SORP.
13. This item will agree a process for annual reporting and reviewing the ongoing and final outcomes of the SORP.

14. This is an opportunity for national delegates and other researchers to provide indications of any potentially or confirmed resources available to the SORP.
15. The report will be adopted at the meeting by consensus.

## References

---

Leaper *et al.* 2008 [INSERT FULL REF]

Zerbini *et al.* 2008 [INSERT FULL REF]

CCAMLR (2008). Report of the joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop, Hobart, Australia, 11 To 15 August 2008.

IWC (2006). Report of the IWC Workshop on Future SOWER Cruises, 1-4 October 2004. *Journal of Cetacean Research and Management* 8 (Supplement): 303-312.