

**Threatened Species**

**Technical Working Group**

**Terms of Reference**

**Pool of Experts on Threatened Species**

1. **Background**

 The Threatened Species Experts Group is convened by the CTI-CFF Threatened Species Working Group as a technical adviser and resource persons to the conservation and management of the priority species in the region. The idea to create a Pool of Experts on Threatened Species came about during the first TSWG workshop on March 2017 in Putrajaya, Malaysia when some member countries acknowledged the absence of certain species experts in their country while other member states are benefitting from the knowledge, research works and experiences of several species experts in their country. The group agreed to create this pool of experts to provide technical assistance and advice to the working group.

**II. Objectives for the Creation of the Pool of Experts on TS**

 The objective of creating a Pool of Threatened Species experts under the TSWG is to gather the species experts from around the CT region as sources of knowledge, expertise, and information that will guide the working group as it develops and implements strategies and management programs, both at the regional and national levels, to protect and conserve these animals. The creation of the pool of experts will provide the member countries access to species experts where it is absent or lacking in their country.

**III. Responsibilities and Function of the Experts**

 The responsibilities of the CTI-CFF Threatened Species experts group are listed below in no particular order.

* + 1. Advise on and assist with the species identification, handling, response and management.
		2. Review and provide feedback on the reports as identified by the CT country.
		3. Recommend minimum set the standards of scientific quality for the CTI-CFF Threatened Species WG to follow.
		4. Promote adherence to the data standards of the scientific community including the associated documentation and develop guidelines on the application of these standards to the work of the CTI-CFF Threatened Species WG.
		5. Act as resource person/s for the CTI-CFF Threatened Species WG activities.
		6. Provide updates and reports to the Threatened Species WG, if necessary.

**IV. Composition and Membership**

 Each CT member state will nominate threatened species experts to be recognized by the Chair of the Threatened Species Working Group. The CTI-CFF Threatened Species Expert Group will be composed of the following:

* + - * + Up to two (2) individuals per CT6 country representing the Marine Turtle Group
				+ Up to two (2) individuals per CT6 country representing the Sharks and Rays Group
				+ Up to two (2) individuals per CT6 country representing the Marine Mammals and Dugong Group
				+ Up to two (2) individuals per CT6 country representing the Seabirds Group
				+ Up to two (2) individuals per CT6 country representing the Reef Fishes and Invertebrates Group
				+ Up to three (3) other members per CT6 country nominated because of their specific technical or organizational expertise

**V. Collaborative Mechanism**