

Advancing the development of a regional roadmap for the conservation and management of sharks and rays in the Southwest Indian Ocean.

Special session at the 10th WIOMSA Scientific Symposium, Dar es Salaam

Date: 2 November 2017

Venue name: Amboni

Time: 14:00–18:00

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and TRAFFIC, together with a number of other collaborators, are currently working on developing a Regional roadmap for the conservation and management of sharks and rays in the Southwest Indian Ocean. A Regional Technical Workshop on Sharks and Rays of the Southwest Indian Ocean: Status Review and Development of a Roadmap for Conservation and Management was held 5-7 April 2017 in Mauritius and hosted by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) Biodiversity Program, in collaboration with the Nairobi Convention, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and TRAFFIC. The workshop was attended by delegates from all ten of the Nairobi Convention Member States. During this workshop a draft regional roadmap for sharks and rays in the Nairobi Convention area was produced, highlighting objectives and proposed actions. WCS and TRAFFIC now aim to complete the shark and ray regional roadmap, in order to present this at the Ninth Conference of the Parties to the Nairobi Convention, scheduled for 2018. This will require consultation with and input from shark and ray experts from throughout the Western Indian Ocean region, and this special session at the upcoming 10th WIOMSA Symposium will provide such an opportunity. We therefore invite and encourage persons or parties interested or involved in the conservation and management of sharks and rays in the south West Indian Ocean to attend this special session, to provide input to the finalization of the roadmap. During the session, the draft version of the roadmap developed during the April workshop will be presented, discussed and advanced to a final stage. The draft version of the roadmap that will be discussed during the special session can found [here](#).