

**Recommendation on Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries  
Managed by the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission**

The Commission hereby adopts the following Recommendation pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention:

1. Contracting Parties shall report data for catches of sharks on an annual basis, in accordance with NEAFC data reporting procedures, estimates of discards (dead and alive) and size frequencies.
2. Contracting Parties shall take the necessary measures to require that the entire catches of sharks are landed. This means retention of all parts of the shark excepting head, guts and skins, to the point of first landing.
3. Contracting Parties shall prohibit the removal of shark fins at sea and the retention on board, transshipment and landing of shark fins.
4. Without prejudice to paragraph 3 of this Recommendation, in order to facilitate on-board storage, shark fins may be partially sliced through and folded against the carcass, but shall not be removed from the carcass before the first landing.
5. In fisheries that are not directed at sharks, Contracting Parties shall encourage the release of live sharks to the extent possible, that are caught incidentally and are not used for food and/or subsistence.
6. Contracting Parties shall, where possible, undertake research to identify ways to make fishing gears more selective with the aim to reducing by-catches of sharks.
7. Contracting Parties shall, where possible, conduct research to on key biological/ecological parameters, life history and behavioural traits, migration patterns, as well as on the identification of potential mating, pupping and nursery grounds of key sharks species.