

A Guide to the Role of Key Actors at the 11th Conference of the Parties



TIME FOR ACTION!



CMS COP 11
Quito, Ecuador
4-9 November 2014





How the Conference of the Parties Works

- The COP is the decision-making organ of the Convention
- Meets every three years
- Composed of governmental representatives, observers, and relevant organizations of Parties and Non-Parties.
- Obligations include:
 - the budget for each triennium
 - implementation of the Convention
 - review and assess the conservation status of migratory species and the progress made towards their conservation
- The success of the COP relies on thorough preparation by all actors such as the Secretariat and the Convention bodies, as well as Parties.

Standing Committee (StC)



- Responsible for carrying out interim activities on behalf of the
 - to ensure that its decisions are implemented
 - to monitor the budget
 - to make recommendations for consideration by the next COP
 - to provide advice and guidance to the Secretariat
 - to represent the COP in negotiations with the Host Government and UNEP with regard to the Secretariat
 - to act as a bureau at the COP and undertake any other ad hoc task assigned to it by the COP.
- Usually meets immediately before the COP
- Intersessionally, it also usually meets once a year to monitor progress

Standing Committee Members for the Triennium 2011-2014



<i>Region</i>	<i>Members</i>	<i>Alternate Members</i>
Africa	Ghana (Chair)	Congo (Brazaville)
	Tunisia	Mali
	Uganda	South Africa
Asia	India	Mongolia
	Pakistan	Syrian Arab Republic
South & Central America & Caribbean	Chile	Argentina
	Cuba	Costa Rica
Europe	Norway (Vice-Chair)	France
	Poland	Georgia
	Ukraine	Switzerland
North America	Vacant	Vacant
Oceania	New Zealand	Australia
Depositary	Germany	
Host of COP10	Norway (also Representative for Europe)	
Host of COP10	Ecuador	



Scientific Council (ScC)

- Provides scientific and technical advice to the COP and the Secretariat
- Ensures that all scientific and technical information presented at the COP, via proposals, recommendations etc., are produced on the basis of scientific data
- ScC 18 met in June in Bonn to discuss issues related to COP 11



Bureau of the COP

- a conference body to run the COP and where appropriate adjust the timetable and structure of the meeting
- Consists of
 - The Presiding Officer/Chairperson
 - Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole
 - Secretariat



Decision-making Procedure

- The COP usually takes decisions by consensus
- In the rare case of a vote, all countries that have submitted valid credentials have one vote
 - conducted by a show of hands
 - Representatives may also request a roll-call vote or secret ballot.
- Parties that are three or more years behind in arrears in paying their subscriptions are not eligible to vote, unless the delay in payment arises from justifiable reason
- The Presiding Officer is responsible for counting the votes and announcing the result



MAIN FOCUS OF COP₁₁:



Strategic Plan 2015-2023

- Assembled by the Strategic Plan Working Group with commentary from Parties
- Aim: to assess how the Strategic Plan 2015-2023 supports the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.
- It was concluded that the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets should be used as a framework for the SPMS
- The new plan provides a logical and effective way for migratory species targets to be integrated into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)



Restructuring the Scientific Council

- Resolution 10.9 identifies the need to restructure the Scientific Council in order to maximize its efficiency, expertise and suitability to the convention
- At COP 11, the parties will be asked to decide on a new structure
- 3 Scenarios have been proposed:
 - 11 elected regional representatives, 12 COP appointed councillors (6 Taxa, 6 theme)
 - 5 elected regional representatives, 12 COP appointed councillors (6 Taxa, 6 theme), 4 NGO reps
 - 15 elected regional representatives (3 Avian, 3 Marine, 3 Terrestrial), 6 COP appointed councillors (theme)



Species Proposal

Protection Proposed for 32 Species including Sharks, Rays, Sawfish, Polar Bears and Lions

- Proposals submitted by Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, The European Union, Kenya, Monaco, Mongolia, Niger, Norway, Paraguay, Phillipines and Senegal
- Species approved by the COP will be adopted into CMS Appendices



Additional Initiatives and Draft Resolutions for Discussion

- Program of work on Migratory Birds and Flyways
- Migratory Sharks and Rays
- Marine Debris
- Boat-Based Wildlife Watching Tourism
- Invasive Alien Species
- Live capture of Cetaceans
- Wildlife Crime
- Conservation of Landbirds in the African-Eurasian region
- Draft Action Plan for the Argali
- Saker Falcon