



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme



IPBES Plenary Bonn, 12 January 2015: Statement of the CMS Family

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to have the opportunity of addressing this third plenary meeting of IPBES on behalf of the CMS – the Convention on Migratory Species also known as the “Bonn Convention” - and the entire CMS Family.

In November last year in Quito, CMS COP11 adopted a “Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (2015-2023)” mirroring closely the Aichi Targets adopted under CBD, a deliberate alignment intended to facilitate cooperation and synergies between the biodiversity-related MEAs. CMS is keen to explore options of how IPBES could help implement this Plan, notably in contributing to the assessment of the achievement of the targets and in providing information on policy options to achieve them.

This meeting’s agenda includes a number of issues of particular interest to the CMS Family, notably **Capacity-building**, an area that offers plentiful opportunities for cooperation and one on which CMS and AEWA have been working jointly over the past few years to carry out activities, especially but not exclusively in Africa.

CMS and its related instruments welcome developments concerning **deliverable 3 (d)** of the IPBES Work Programme 2014-2018 regarding the diverse conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature’s benefits to people.

We consider it crucial that migratory species and the benefits they bring to people should be appropriately recognized. Migratory species of wild animals provide a wide range of valuable ecosystem services including food, seed and nutrient dispersal, pollination, and cultural, intellectual and spiritual inspiration.

Based on this rationale, CMS AEWA and EUROBATS submitted proposals to the platform in 2013 to develop assessments of the economics of ecosystem services provided by migratory species. While these proposals could not be retained, deliverable 3(d) has the potential to significantly contribute to the valuation of migratory species, and we are ready to support its further development.

With regard to agenda item 5 (c) - Land degradation – CMS has a strong interest since migratory species could depend on different types of habitats at different part of the biological cycle; in this regard, CMS COP11 has recently adopted a resolution on Advancing Ecological Networks to Address the Needs of Migratory Species. It is therefore important that these species are taken into account in the thematic and regional assessments undertaken by IPBES and the Secretariat is prepared and willing to provide specific information where appropriate.

Thank you for your attention.