



**SECOND MEETING OF THE AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY LANDBIRDS
WORKING GROUP**

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 25-27 November 2015

UNEP/CMS/AEMLWG-2/Doc.3

Modus operandi of the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Working Group

Prepared by the Secretariat

Mandate

The Working Group was created by Resolution 10.27 at COP 10 in Bergen (Norway) which called on the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to support this initiative, including through the establishment, under the Scientific Council, of a working group to steer the production and implementation of an African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan.

At COP 11 in Quito (Ecuador), Resolution 11.17 adopted the Action Plan and requested the continuation of the Working Group until COP 12 (November 2017, the Philippines), extending its membership to incorporate expertise from geographical regions currently absent, to facilitate and monitor implementation of the Action Plan

Membership

The Working Group is open-ended and will comprise the Secretariats of the participating CMS instruments and MEAs, as well as academic institutions, NGOs and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

The following representatives will also be invited to contribute to the Working Group:

- Representatives of CMS Parties;
- Representatives of the Scientific Council;
- Independent experts on an ad hoc basis as necessary and appropriate.

Governance

The Working Group will elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair from amongst its members and will operate by seeking consensus among the Group. The Working Group will report to the Scientific Council on its actions, membership and other related issues.

Operation

Funding permitting, a Coordinator will be appointed with the following functions:

- Organize the meetings of the Working Group and prepare the background documents;
- Maintain and moderate the Working Group's communications;
- Facilitate fundraising and resource mobilization;

- Facilitate engagement with stakeholders within and beyond the Working Group;
- See document UNEP/CMS/AEMLWG-2/Doc.2 for a more detailed description of the Coordinator's Terms of Reference.

Meetings of the Working Group will be convened at appropriate intervals, as considered necessary and funding permitting. Ideally at least one meeting of the WG should take place in each inter-sessional period. Between meetings business will be conducted electronically which will provide the primary mode of communication. At each meeting, a rapporteur will be appointed with their main responsibility of drafting the report of the meeting.

The Working Group, in collaboration with Parties and relevant international organizations, subject to the availability of funds, will organize regional workshops to assist in developing appropriate local or regional solutions to promote the conservation of migratory landbirds.

The Working Group will create sub-groups to address regional or thematic issues to progress its work.

Financing

Funding for the operations of the WG, including the Coordinator post, meetings and implementation of identified priorities will be sought from various sources, including from CMS Parties and member organizations.

The African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Steering Group

The Steering Group is a subset of the Working Group that will provide advice between meetings of the Working Group. It will be integrated by the Chair of the Working Group, the Chair of the Scientific Council, a representative of the NGO's, a representative of the research community and the Secretariat. The Chair will invite additional members on an ad hoc basis depending on the specific topics to be discussed.

The Steering Group will function according to the same *modus operandi* of the WG. The Chair of the SG will be the Chair of the WG. Meetings will be convened when the need arises by the Chair or by the Secretariat. Normally meetings will be held electronically, except when members of the SG can meet physically in the sidelines of another meeting.

Action requested:

- i. The African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Working Group is requested to review and adopt its *modus operandi*.