

ScC-SC6 CRP 12.4.2**SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**
(arising from ScC-SC6)**INSECT DECLINE AND ITS THREATS TO MIGRATORY INSECTIVOROUS ANIMAL POPULATIONS****UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC6/Doc.12.4.2****RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Sessional Committee welcomed the draft report on the main factors driving the established loss of insect biomass and the cascading effects on migratory insectivorous animal populations, and requests the Secretariat to undertake the following, taking into account, as appropriate, the comments made in the 6th meeting of the Sessional Committee and submitted in writing to the Secretariat by 4 August:

- a) finalize the report on “Insect Decline and its Threat to Migratory Insectivorous Animal Populations” contained as a draft in document UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC6/Doc.12.4.2/Annex 1
- b) prepare a document for consideration by COP14 including a proposal directed to the Scientific Council to continue aspects of Decision 13.129 on insect decline that may warrant additional work, subject to the availability of resources, including the following topics:
 - i. further identifying and prioritizing the main factors causing the established loss of insect biomass for species not covered by the current report, in particular fish;
 - ii. collecting additional relevant information regarding the current insect decline, and assessing its cascading effects on migratory insectivorous animal species;
 - iii. developing guidelines for the most urgent or prioritized actions identified;
 - iv. publishing any such guidelines following circulation to all Parties for approval.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

Comments were raised including on the following:

- Many large migratory insectivorous species of fish are in unfavourable conservation status and this group of species also needs to be addressed in a future study;
- Insect biomass plays an important role in providing connectivity for migratory insectivorous species.