



Joint Meeting of the Bern Convention Network of Special Focal Points on Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds and the UN-Environment/CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean

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NEXT ASSESSMENTS OF THE SCOREBOARD TO EVALUATE PROGRESS IN COMBATING ILLEGAL KILLING, TAKING AND TRADE OF WILD BIRDS: SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO TEMPLATE

(Prepared by the CMS and Bern Convention Secretariats)



The European Commission were recognized as Champion Plus for their generous support and commitment towards addressing Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean for the period 2019-2020. This activity has been funded with the contribution granted by the European Commission under the Migratory Species Champion Programme and through the Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC Programme) Cooperation Agreements with UNEP.



Background

1. In 2017 the Scoreboard to assess the progress in combatting illegal killing, taking and trade of wild birds (the Scoreboard) was discussed at the joint Meeting of the CMS CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT) and the Bern Convention Network of Special Focal Points on Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds (SPFs) in Malta on 22-23 June 2017. Later that year, it was adopted by the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to CMS, held in Manila in October 2017 as an Annex to Resolution 11.16 (Rev. COP12)¹: The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds. In December of the same year, the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention adopted Recommendation No. 196 (2017)² on the establishment of a Scoreboard.
2. The Secretariats of the Bern Convention and CMS jointly circulated the template to complete the Scoreboard in June 2018 using an online platform³ for the majority of the questions and an excel table sent by email for two questions that required compilation of data.
3. In the communications to MIKT Members and Observers and the SFPs, the Secretariats indicated that feedback from respondents would be very useful, as it was the first time the Scoreboard had been implemented.
4. In response, several respondents, including countries and other stakeholders, provided clarifications and feedback, for which the Secretariats are thankful as this information will help understanding the complexities of the process leading to the compilation of data. In turn this information will improve the template for future assessments.

Possible improvements to the Scoreboard template

5. The Scoreboard responses and comments received by the compilers provide useful inputs to develop a number of proposed changes to the Scoreboard template. When discussing the changes to the current template, consideration must be given to the fact that this first assessment has established a baseline. Consequently, the changes to the template should not modify the information collected and are to be kept to a minimum as the existing Scoreboard will act as a national benchmark for the next round.
6. Having the Scoreboard available online offered the opportunity to upload the reply and collect the answers through an easy and rapid process.
7. In response to the feedback received, it is proposed to use, for the next assessments of the Scoreboard, the CMS Online Reporting System (ORS), adapted to the template of the Scoreboard. The CMS ORS offers the double advantage of an increased adaptability that will allow the questions of the template to be better tailored and information to be provided to only one platform. In addition, countries are familiar with the system as it is used for national reporting, as the ORS system, maintained by the WCMC is also used by the Bern Convention and its Parties.
8. The following feedback was received and, unless different advice from the meeting, will be integrated in the assessment scheduled in 2020.
 - I. Provision of guidance also online

The Scoreboard includes an introduction (pages 13-15) which will be included in the online systems so that compilers will have access to it while providing the replies.

¹ https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/cms_cop12_res.11.16%28rev.cop12%29_e.pdf

² <https://rm.coe.int/recommendation-on-the-establishment-of-a-scoreboard-for-measuring-prog/1680722116>

³ Google forms

II. Collaborative processes

The Scoreboard encourages the compilation of data as a participative process, promoting cooperation and sharing of experience and know-how between governmental bodies and national stakeholders.

A question will be included to list the stakeholders involved and a brief description of the process involved and not only the actual compiler.

III. Functionalities

Some technical difficulties were reported, these are expected to be solved by using the CMS ORS to complete the Scoreboard. The following functionalities will be available under the ORS:

Save and retrieve: so that the compilations can be carried out in separate sessions.

Print: the scoreboard as PDF and/or MSWord so that a draft could be circulated among the stakeholders.

IV. Lay-out

The lay-out of the questionnaire seems to have led to some confusion as the score for each indicator is supposed to be defined by the selected components of each indicator as described on pages 13 and 14 of the Scoreboard. In a number of cases the compiler gave the rating without choosing the components, while in other cases the rating did not match the components selected. In this first assessment despite these inconsistencies, the rating given to each indicator was used.

The lay out of the scoreboard both printed and online can be slightly improved to highlight the differences between the components under different answer rating.

Recommended actions:

9. The Joint Meeting of the Bern Convention Network of Special Focal Point on Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds and the UN-Environment/CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean is recommended to review this document and make comments, as appropriate.