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Doc.24.2.3 Aquatic Wild Meat

CMS COP12 Regional Preparatory Workshop for Africa

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- Aquatic wild meat – a new topic – is dealt with separately at COP12 from terrestrial and avian bushmeat/wild meat (see Doc.24.4.7), which are well recognized issues already in focus of international policy efforts
- At ScC-SC1, the Aquatic Mammals Working Group (AMWG) brought the issue of “aquatic bushmeat” to the attention of the Council
- Doc.24.2.3 Rev.1 includes:
 - An expanded report on the state of knowledge regarding the harvest of aquatic wild meat prepared under the lead of the Aquatic Mammals Working Group of the Scientific Council
 - a draft resolution
 - draft decisions



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- The report (Annex 1) concludes that:
 - Increased demand for aquatic wild meat is a significant and immediate threat to aquatic wildlife in many regions around the world
 - The harvest of cetaceans, sirenians, turtles, and crocodiles listed on CMS Appendix I and II is an issue of direct and fundamental relevance for CMS Strategic Plan targets 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13 and 14
 - International policy effort is currently focused on terrestrial bushmeat and international trade; local aquatic wild meat harvests are pervasive and largely unregulated
 - The increased demand for aquatic wild meat is a significant and immediate threat to aquatic wildlife in many regions around the world



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- Draft Resolution (Annex 2):
 - Gives recognition to this threat to migratory species
 - Requests the Council to establish a cross-taxa, thematic working group on Aquatic Wild Meat
 - Calls for international attention to the issue
- Draft Decisions (Annex 3):
 - Collaboration with other relevant fora
 - Tasks for the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group under the Scientific Council



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