



**SPECIES** 

Distribution: General

UNEP/CMS/StC42/Doc.6.1 29 September 2014

Original: English

42<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE Quito, Ecuador, 2 November 2014 Agenda Item 6.1

## COOPERATION BETWEEN CMS AND CITES

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

## **Background**

- 1. In 2002, a Memorandum of Cooperation was concluded between the CMS and CITES Secretariats.
- 2. In July 2008, the first joint CITES/CMS Action Plan for 2008–2010 (and later extended to 2011<sup>1)</sup> was approved by the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing Committee. In November 2008, the 34<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee also approved the joint Action Plan (document UNEP/CMS/StC34/3).
- 3. The second CMS and CITES Joint Work Programme for 2012-2014 was adopted, first at the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee in November 2011, and subsequently at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee in July 2012.
- 4. The activities undertaken in accordance with the 2012-2014 workplan are described in detail in Annex 1 to the present document.

## Joint activities planned for the period 2015-2020

- 5. In order to further maximise synergies between CMS and CITES and to build on the established partnership, a third CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme for 2015-2020 has been drafted and is presented **in Annex 2** to this document. The timespan of the proposed joint work programme has been aligned with the timing of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and Aichi Targets, the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020 and the proposed CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023.
- 6. Most of the activities will not incur significant extra cost, but for any that do, the secretariats will continue to seek external funding. In addition, carrying out activities jointly should make it possible to optimize the utilization of the funds secured.



In March 2011, at its 59<sup>th</sup> meeting, the CITES Standing Committee endorsed the joint proposal from the CITES and CMS Secretariats to extend the 2008-2010 plan of joint activities until the end of 2011.

- 7. The CMS and CITES Secretariats will submit regular reports on their activities to their respective Standing Committees and, if appropriate, to other stakeholders, including the other biodiversity-related conventions.
- 8. The 65<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing Committee endorsed the Joint Work Programme for 2015-2020. If the document is approved by the CMS Standing Committee too, both secretariats will move forward with its implementation.

## Action requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a. take note of the activities carried out between 2012-2014 in Annex 1; and
- b. approve the draft Joint Work Programme for 2015-2020 in Annex 2.

Annex 1

# PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CMS CITES JOINT WORK PROGRAMME 2012-2014

## (A) Harmonization of taxonomy and nomenclature activities

Description of joint activities	Results
Concordance List of Species and Common  Database  A1. Ongoing update of the concordance list of species in the Appendices of the two Conventions.  A2. Work with UNEP-WCMC on establishing a single database accessible from the two websites, taking into account the respective requirements of the two Conventions, regardless of whether the species are shared or not.	The Species+ website ( <a href="www.speciesplus.net">www.speciesplus.net</a> ) was launched in late 2013. This website provides comprehensive information on globally protected species, including all species covered by CITES and CMS.
Harmonize Nomenclature and Taxonomy  A3. Pursue efforts to harmonize the nomenclature and taxonomy in the Appendices of the two Conventions. Consider in particular the harmonization of the CITES and CMS references relating to marine turtles.  A4. Raise the possibility of creating a nomenclature and taxonomy committee under the guidance of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions (CSAB), taking into account any work carried out in the future by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).  A5. Critically assess the taxonomic differences between the final joint CMS-CITES species list and the IUCN Red List, and make recommendations for reconciling these.	As instructed by the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS, the Chair of the CMS Scientific Council convened an <i>ad hoc</i> meeting with CSAB and others with the aim of evaluating the possible adoption by CMS Parties of a single nomenclature and taxonomy for birds for adoption at CMS CoP11 in late 2014. The Secretariat participated in a meeting held in Formia (Italy) on 8 October 2013. The report of the meeting is available at the following website: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/po9gyov">http://tinyurl.com/po9gyov</a> . Further deliberations are required on this matter by both CMS and CITES.  At the 27 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Animals Committee (AC27, Veracruz, 2014), the Committee agreed that the nomenclature specialist should meet the CITES and CMS Secretariats to discuss the nomenclature and taxonomy of the argali sheep <i>Ovis ammon</i> .

## (B) Joint actions for the conservation and sustainable use of shared species

Description of joint activities	Results
African elephant B1. Follow up on the outcomes of the second joint meeting of the parties to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the West African elephant (CMS MoU) and the CITES Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme for West Africa, held on 22 June 2011, by:	Wildlife crime has been high on the agendas of both CITES and CMS Secretariats, including joint discussions with range states at the African Elephant Summit (2-4 December 2013, Gaborone, Botswana), meetings of the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund, joint newspaper articles and contributions to the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW).
<ul> <li>In the context of the African Elephant Action Plan, assisting countries to progress trans-boundary projects benefitting elephants in West Africa;</li> <li>Providing support to secure funding for these projects;</li> </ul>	Due to staffing changes in the MIKE programme it was not feasible to support the coordination of the West African Elephant MOU. A lack of voluntary contributions and a lack of capacity at the Secretariats meant that the trans-boundary

## **Description of joint activities**

- Following-up on the implementation of the projects, and submitting progress reports on these projects to the Standing Committees by December 2014;
- Organize at least one further joint meeting between the CMS MoU and MIKE by December 2014 (subject to external funding).
- B2. Maximize the synergies between the CMS MoU and MIKE in West Africa.
- B3. Ensure synergies with the African Elephant Action Plan.
- B4. Continue to seek further options for collaboration in West Africa to improve coherence between the two Conventions, particularly in areas such as elephant management, management of human-elephant conflicts, illegal trade in specimens and capacity-building.
- B5. Follow up on any decisions adopted at CMS CoP10 regarding the feasibility of a CMS instrument for Central African Elephants. This will be informed by the results of a study entitled "Analyzing gaps and options for enhancing elephant conservation in Central Africa". The decision could lead to closer collaboration between CMS and the CITES MIKE programme in the region (subject to external funding).

## Results

projects remained in draft format and have not been implemented to date. In December 2013 a questionnaire survey was sent to CMS MOU Signatories to finalize several project drafts and to assess the current situation and needs of implementation of specific parts of the MOU's Action Plan. CITES MIKE has provided technical input to the CMS Secretariat regarding implementation needs, not least at MIKE sites in West Africa.

Following the guidance of a gap analysis on central African elephants (UNEP/CMS/ Conf.10.46 and UNEP/CMS/ Inf.10.27) CMS CoP10 did not take any decision regarding a new instrument for central African elephants.

#### Sharks

- B6. CITES will participate in finalizing the Conservation Management Plan that will be annexed to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (CMS Sharks MOU).
- B7. CITES will participate in the first meeting of the signatories to the Sharks MOU (MOS1).
- B.8 CMS/CITES Secretariats to organize trilateral meetings with FAO in order to optimize the implementation of the Conservation Management Plan and to enable the organizations to test, in their respective fields, its application to the three species currently shared between the two instruments and FAO, namely, the whale shark, white shark and basking shark (subject to external funding).
- B9. CMS and CITES will use the CMS Sharks MOU meeting to further discussions on turtles and other shared marine species.

CITES participated in the finalization of the Conservation Plan, which was annexed to the CMS MoU on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks where signatories agreed to put emphasis on the implementation of CITES regulation with regard to the international trade in sharks and shark products, and on cooperation with CITES on the conservation of sharks.

CITES also participated at the 1st meeting of the signatories to the CMS MoU on the conservation of migratory sharks. Results can be found at: <a href="https://www.cms.int/sharks">www.cms.int/sharks</a>

## Saiga antelope

- B10. CMS and CITES will collaborate to identify a host country, and jointly fundraise for the third meeting of the signatories of the Saiga MoU to be held in 2014/2015, including for expert participation at the meeting (subject to external funding).
- B11. The CITES Secretariat will participate in the implementation of the Medium-Term International

The Secretariats collaborated at a CMS Workshop on "Enhancing Implementation and Coordination of the Saiga Antelope Memorandum of Understanding" in June 2013 (Astana, Kazakhstan). The Saiga Resource Centre was finalized at the meeting and the Secretariats are pursuing options for expanding it.

The CITES Secretariat was informed by China that

## **Description of joint activities**

Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope (2011-2015), and in particular in the implementation of measures pertaining to transboundary antipoaching and law enforcement activities, and the sustainable use of and trade in the saiga antelope. CMS and CITES will investigate the possibility of making use of the experience of the CITES MIKE programme on monitoring poaching.

B12. CITES will explore, as per CITES decision 14.97 (Rev. CoP15), possibilities to establish a mechanism to use funds from the traditional Asian medicine industry for *in situ* conservation of the saiga antelope. The aim being that consumer countries will contribute to improving the conservation status of the saiga. For example, follow up on the priorities for population-specific action that were proposed by the Urumqi workshop on the conservation and sustainable use of the saiga antelope (27-29 September 2010).

## Results

it is continuing to explore the feasibility of organizing site visits to range States to help build bridges between the Traditional Chinese Medicine industry's interests and *in situ* conservation needs and that the Chinese Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine was still in the process of designing an overall endangered species strategy that would provide the guidance for the establishment of the fund or an enabling mechanism for *in situ* conservation.

#### Marine turtles

B13. CITES and CMS will explore the possibility of organizing a meeting of the secretariats of conventions and other governmental bodies (FAO, RFMOs) dealing with marine turtles, in order to make an overall assessment of the obligations of each one towards their contracting Parties, to compare experiences and improve efficiency through cooperation and synergy (subject to external funding).

No action took place in relation to this activity.

## Snow leopard

- B14. CITES and CMS will consult the IUCN Cat Specialist Group in order to assess how the two Conventions can contribute to improving the situation of this species.
- B15. CMS and CITES will investigate options for their attendance at the Snow Leopard Summit in Kyrgyzstan, currently planned for 2012, to be hosted by the President of Kyrgyzstan, with the assistance of the German NGO Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.

The two Secretariats participated in the Global Snow Leopard Conservation Forum held on 22-23 October 2013 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. CMS led, and CITES participated in, developing the transboundary conservation and management component of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Programme. CITES discussed the possibility of establishing a Central Asian Wildlife Enforcement Network. Both Secretariats contributed to the Bishkek Declaration on the Conservation of Snow Leopards and remain engaged with ongoing implementation of the Programme.

## Gorillas

- B16. CMS and CITES will cooperate on enforcement issues relating to gorillas. CITES is a partner in the International Consortium for Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) a cooperation of CITES, INTERPOL, World Bank and the World Customs Organization which will seek relevant gorilla-specific information from CMS for the ICCWC work plan.
- B17. CMS will discuss with CITES and INTERPOL the implementation of the database collecting and consolidating information on wildlife crime globally. Investigate making the database available for the use of focal points and the technical committee of the CMS Agreement on

CITES and CMS Secretariats are members of the Executive Committee of the GRASP Partnership and have coordinated their inputs to GRASP. Both Secretariats have promoted the ICCWC toolkit, which provides range and other states with assistance in dealing with the illegal trade in gorillas. CMS and CITES have jointly monitored the development of a database on illegal trade in apes.

Description of joint activities	Results
the Conservation of Gorillas and Their Habitats.	
Other species B18. For other species, such as sturgeons, the South American fur seal and the dugong: continue discussions in order to assess how CMS and CITES could best add value to the conservation status of the species, through for example: community management of resources, non-detrimental trade and sustainable use, and monitoring emerging threats such as climate change.	The CITES Secretariat made a written input to a CMS/AEWA workshop on the International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Shoebill Balaeniceps rex held on 9-12 October 2012 in Entebbe, Uganda.  The Secretariats worked closely on the CMS Saker Falcon Task Force (STF), including two STF meetings and a Stakeholders' Action Planning Workshop. Key results were: the establishment of a two-year (2012–2014) STF work plan and the preparation of the draft Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP) which is to be presented at CMS CoP11. CITES is funding CMS to work on 'Strengthening capacity to identify possibilities of sustainable management and non-detrimental trade of the Saker Falcon, and thereby contribute to the development and implementation of the SakerGAP', to: (a) develop a framework document for controlled sustainable use of the Saker Falcon under an Adaptive Management Framework that conforms to the needs of CITES and incorporates robust monitoring and feedback mechanisms; and (b) review relevant international policies and legislation relating to sustainable use of the Saker Falcon for falconry and trade.
B19. Prepare a critical assessment of the differences in the criteria for inclusion of shared species and the reasons for which they are listed in the Appendices of the two Conventions.	The Secretariats exchanged experiences as CMS moves towards considering the adoption of detailed listing criteria at its CoP11 in November 2014.

## (C) Administrative and fund-raising cooperation

Description of joint activities	Results
Secretariat coordination meetings C1. An annual secretariat coordination meeting, and regular teleconference calls as required will be held to update this Joint Work Programme and for continued cooperation and organization of joint activities.	Following the appointment of a new Executive Secretary at CMS, the two Secretariats held a teleconference on 25 June 2013 to ensure better coordination of activities jointly undertaken by the two secretariats. Regular exchanges took place in the run-up to CITES CoP16 and CMS CoP11.
Exchange information C2. Information exchange, such as:  - Calendars of meetings; - Meeting invitations; - Lists of administrative and scientific focal points in Parties; - Pertinent draft documents in advance of Convention meetings, including strategic plans; - Details of procedural and administrative developments; and	Regular exchange of information took place.

- Guidelines whose joint adoption is mutually supportive.	
Fundraising C3. Raise funds for joint projects already planned and those that will be proposed during the term of this Joint Work Programme.	Following a joint approach, the German government has agreed to fund a position to support joint work on African elephants and other mammals. Administrative arrangements to fill this position are being finalized by UNEP.

# (D) Outreach and capacity building activities (strengthening existing cooperation between secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions)

Description of joint activities	Results
D1. Investigate possibilities for coordinated outreach and capacity building activities and representation of one secretariat by the other at events of mutual interest to reduce costs and promote synergies. This may include joint presentations and/or joint statements.  A good example of this would be joint participation in relevant regional capacity building workshops on updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and thereby also helping to facilitate national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the development of national biodiversity targets in the framework of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.	CITES represented CMS Secretariat at two CBD-led regional capacity-building workshops on updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) to press for the inclusion of the obligations of both Conventions in the NBSAPs of their respective Parties.
<ul> <li>D2. Jointly attend or represent the other secretariat, at meetings of inter-agency groups, including those listed below, collaborate with follow-up to such meetings and actions as required, and encourage such groups to assist in the implementation of CMS and CITES: <ul> <li>Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG);</li> <li>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) processes;</li> <li>Environment Management Group (EMG) and the Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (IMG4);</li> <li>2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	After the successful secondment of an experienced staff member from CITES to CMS CoP10, CMS reciprocated at CITES CoP16, by lending a staff member. This brought extra support for the Secretariat, cross-fertilization of good practices and ideas and learning benefits for the staff involved.  CITES Secretariat represented CMS at the Second Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management held on 30 September 2013 in Windhoek, Namibia. Other meetings of this Partnership have been attended by both Secretariats.  At all preparatory and plenary meetings of IPBES, CITES and CMS Secretariats and/or the Scientific Bodies, together with other MEAs, have made joint approaches and statements.

D3. Share experience about the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA).

Using the framework provided by the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative, the CITES and CMS Secretariats have benefitted from a number of activities, including sharing development of databases. In this regard, CMS made use of the CITES meetings database in the development of a similar database and the CITES Secretariat made use of the CMS online reporting system in the development of a similar system. The CITES, CMS and Ramsar Convention Secretariats drafted a joint proposal for a shared post in information and communication technologies and informal discussions have been held between the Secretariats regarding the possibility of sharing servers and other information technologies infrastructure.

Annex 2

#### DRAFT CMS CITES JOINT WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2020

**Introduction:** The CMS/CITES Joint Work Programme 2015–2020 comprises a non-exhaustive list of joint activities. They are organized around four main themes:

- (A) Harmonization of species-specific information;
- (B) Joint activities addressing shared species and issues of common interest;
- (C) Implementation and fundraising;
- (D) Outreach and capacity building.

## (A) Harmonization of species-specific information

Joint activities in this area relate to updating the species-specific information for species listed in the respective Appendices and relevant databases of the two Conventions and aligning nomenclature in the Appendices to ensure compatibility.

## Description of envisaged joint activities

Harmonization of species-specific information contained in related databases

A1. Harmonize and link databases containing species-specific information (such as taxonomy, nomenclature, species common names, range states, conservation and legal status), taking into account the respective requirements of the two Conventions.

## Harmonize Nomenclature

A2. Pursue efforts to harmonize the nomenclature in the Appendices of the two Conventions with the long-term aim of complete alignment across all taxa.

## (B) Joint activities addressing shared species and issues of common interest

The Secretariats will jointly address overarching species conservation and management issues of common interest, such as promoting regional management of species, community-based management of resources, non-detrimental trade and sustainable use, encouraging best conservation and sustainable use practices for shared species, and monitoring emerging threats such as climate change.

Shared species of particular attention include:

- Argali sheep (Ovis ammon);
- Saiga antelope (Saiga spp.);
- Big cats, such as Snow leopard (Uncia uncia) and Cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus);
- Great apes (Hominidae);
- African elephant (Loxodonta spp.);
- Saker falcon (Falco cherrug);
- Marine turtles (Cheloniidae and Dermochelyidae); and
- Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii)

The Secretariats will also respond to any relevant recommendations, resolutions and decisions agreed by Parties or Signatories and that pertain to joint CITES/CMS work, including those resulting from the implementation of CMS instruments (e.g. MoUs). Activities shall not be limited to those envisaged below.

## Description of envisaged joint activities

## <u>Argali</u>

B1 - Coordinate the development and, once adopted, joint implementation of the Argali Action Plan, focusing on species management and sustainable trade components.

## Saiga antelope

## Description of envisaged joint activities

- B2 Ensure collaboration on the implementation of the Medium-Term International Work Programme under the Saiga MoU and its revisions; including regular exchange of technical and other relevant information, coordinated reporting, capacity building, fundraising efforts, outreach activities aimed at range States where appropriate, dialogue between consumer and range States, and population restoration and conservation efforts. Activities which both Secretariats shall facilitate include strengthening anti-poaching efforts and implementing trade measures.
- B3 Collaborate on and jointly fundraise for the organization of meetings of the signatories of the Saiga MoU, including for expert participation at these meetings.
- B4 Collaborate with regional, national and local Saiga antelope conservation initiatives.

#### Big cats

- B5 Ensure collaboration on the conservation and management of big cats, including regular exchange of technical and other relevant information, attendance of each other's meetings, capacity building, joint fundraising and collective reach-out to range States where appropriate.
- B6 Maximize the synergies between CMS and the CITES MIKES programme in Africa, as appropriate

#### Great apes

- B7 Maximize synergies between CMS, CMS Gorilla Agreement and the CITES MIKES programme on Great Apes in Africa.
- B8 Coordinate contributions to great ape policy mechanisms, such as GRASP.
- B9 Cooperate on trade and enforcement issues relating to Great Apes, including through the sharing of relevant information and cooperation with the International Consortium for Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC).

## African elephant

- B10 Ensure collaboration on the conservation and management of African elephants, including regular exchange of technical and other relevant information, attendance of each other's meetings, capacity building, joint fundraising and collective outreach activities aimed at elephant range States where appropriate. Activities which both Secretariats shall facilitate include management of human-elephant conflicts and addressing the illegal trade in specimens.
- B11 Collaborate on the coordination and implementation of the CMS MoU on the West African elephant, with a focus on MIKE sites and facilitation of transboundary connectivity amongst elephant populations in West Africa.
- B12 Maximize synergies between CMS and the CITES MIKES programme on elephant conservation in Africa, recognizing the particular role that CMS can play with regard to managing transboundary populations.
- B13 Ensure connectivity with the African Elephant Action Plan and the associated African Elephant Fund.

## Saker falcon

B14 Collaborate closely on the implementation of the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP), specifically on activities relating to the management and sustainable use of the species, including application of the Non-detriment Finding protocol and by exchanging information concerning legal

## Description of envisaged joint activities

and, where known, illegal trade in Saker Falcons.

B15 Collaborate to review implementation of the SakerGAP in 2017, and in the case of a sudden major change liable to affect one or more Saker Falcon populations.

## Marine turtles

B16 Maximize the synergies between the CMS and the CITES MIKES programme concerning marine turtles, including within the framework of the CMS turtle instruments, as appropriate.

## Sharks and Rays

- B17 Optimize the effectiveness of actions taken by Parties to both CMS and CITES concerning sharks and rays, and strengthen synergies with FAO, RFMOs and other relevant bodies.
- B18 Cooperate on capacity building regarding the implementation of regulations of both Conventions related to sharks and rays.

#### Other species issues

- B19 Collaborate closely on the implementation of the Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI), initiated by CMS Parties.
- B20 Exchange information on the differences in the criteria for inclusion of species in respective Appendices and the reasons/justifications for which they are listed in order to improve alignment of policies under both treaties.
- B21 Develop a formal process within CMS for providing comments to CITES on proposals to amend the latter's Appendices and to seek comments from CITES on proposals to amend the CMS Appendices.

## (C) Implementation and fundraising cooperation

Joint activities in this area relate to implementing, coordinating and updating this work programme and matters of mutual interest, such as by exchanging experience and information. The Secretariats will cooperate in seeking opportunities for the development and funding where applicable of joint projects of mutual interest.

## Description of envisaged joint activities

## Secretariat coordination meetings

C1. Organize an annual coordination meeting between the two secretariats, as well as regular teleconference calls as required, to discuss the implementation of the Joint Work Programme, and for ensuring continued cooperation and organization of joint activities.

## **Exchange information**

- C2. Facilitate the exchange of information among the Secretariats, such as:
  - Calendars of meetings:
  - Meeting invitations;
  - Lists of administrative and scientific focal points and Authorities in Parties;
  - Pertinent draft documents in advance of Convention meetings, including strategic plans:
  - Details of procedural and administrative developments; and
  - Guidelines whose joint adoption is mutually supportive.

#### Staffing

- C3 Engage inter-Secretariat staff loans at key moments to optimize support to respective Parties and build skills of staff complement.
- C4 Jointly explore possibilities for secondments and loans from Parties in order to support shared work.

#### Fundraising

C5 Raise funds for joint projects already planned and those that will be proposed during the term of this Joint Work Programme.

# (D) Outreach and capacity building activities (strengthening existing cooperation between secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions)

Joint activities in this area relate for example to: representation of one Secretariat by the other at events of mutual interest to save participation costs and promote synergy; jointly undertaking activities on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs); following up on work undertaken by inter-agency liaison groups; and improved harmonization and synergies through complementary internet-based initiatives and capacity building tools.

## Description of envisaged joint activities

- D1 Investigate possibilities for coordinated outreach and joint capacity-building activities.
- D2 Jointly attend, or represent the other Secretariat, at meetings of inter-agency groups, including those listed below; collaborate with the follow-up to such meetings and actions as required; and encourage such groups to support the implementation of CMS and CITES:
  - Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG);
  - Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) processes;
  - Environment Management Group (EMG) and the Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (IMG4);
  - Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW); and
  - 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- D3 Encourage representation of one secretariat by the other at events of mutual interest to reduce costs and promote synergies. This may include joint presentations and/or jointly approved statements and press releases.
- D4 Promote the dissemination and use of relevant information and CMS and CITES capacity building tools amongst CITES Authorities and CMS Focal Points, such as the CMS Family Manual, CMS E-Community, Guidelines for NBSAPs, the CITES Virtual College, the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA).
- D5 Encourage the organization of regional and subregional meetings or workshops for CMS Focal Points and CITES Authorities in order to exchange experiences on issues such as the conservation and sustainable use of shared species, the integration of Action Plans and protected areas into relevant sectorial and spatial plans.