



UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.13.3 10 October 2023 Original: English

14th MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 12 - 17 February 2024 Agenda Item 13.3

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document describes the resources mobilized for implementation of the Programme of Work 2020-2023 since the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP13, 2020), as of 31 July 2023.

The document also summarizes additional efforts made to raise support for the implementation of the Convention, and funding needs for the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15.

It proposes the amendments to Resolution 10.25 (Rev. COP12) Enhancing engagement with the Global Environment Facility.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Background

- 1. The 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP13, 2020), adopted a Budget and a <u>Programme of Work (POW) for 2020-2023</u> through <u>Resolution 13.2 Financial and Administrative Matters</u>. The triennial budget provides for staff, operational costs and meetings of governing bodies, while the POW covers programmatic activities, which rely on voluntary funding for their implementation. The POW details a list of activities to be carried out by the Secretariat, including activities to implement Decisions and Resoltiions adopted by the Conference of the Parties, as well as the role of the Secretariat in supporting implementation of a number of CMS daughter agreements, which have neither a core budget nor dedicated staff.
- Over the course of this triennial period, the Secretariat raised considerable resources that contributed to the implementation of many aspects of the POW, although there was insufficient funding to implement some elements of the POW. This document should be read in conjunction with <u>UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.22 Implementation of the POW 2020-2023</u>.
- 3. COP14 will be a key milestone for multilateral cooperation on biodiversity. It will be one of the first COPs of a global biodiversity agreement following the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) which reflects many key priorities for migratory species conservation. As part of its ambitious agenda, COP14 will adopt a new Strategic Plan for Migratory Species for 2024–2032 that will help prioritize the efforts of Parties and stakeholders to achieve the objectives of CMS, along with implementation of the GBF and other global priorities. COP14 will be an important opportunity to advance collective efforts to rise to these challenges. COP14 will also provide an opportunity for Parties to ensure that adequate core resources are securedas part of the Budget for 2024–2026 and contribute to the Programme of Work for the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15. Details of the Budget and Programme of Work are contained in document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.13.2.

Resources mobilized since COP13

4. Following COP13, a number of Parties informed the Secretariat of aspects of the POW for which they could offer funding. The POW 2020–2023 was sent to all CMS Parties in early and late 2021 through Notification 2021/002 and Notification 2021/013 respectively, together with calls for voluntary contributions. In November 2022, a specific call for financial support for the development of a new Strategic Plan for Migratory Species was issued through Notification 2022/020. In addition, Notification 2022/025 in December 2022, and Notification 2023/010 in March 2023, included requests to support the organization of COP14. These general appeals were coupled with tailored requests to individual Parties. The following paragraphs provide an overview of the financial and in-kind contributions obtained since COP13.

Funds received

5. The total voluntary contributions received or pledged since COP13 amounts to approximately €4,570,000 million (including 13 per cent UN Environment's Programme Support Cost (PSC)). A portion of these resources is allocated to activities that will continue in 2024 and beyond. These resources were provided by the Governments of Australia, Finland, France, Germany (including through its International Climate

- Initiative), India, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, the European Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the MAVA Foundation.
- 6. €950,000 was provided through the project, "Enhance the adaptive capacity of Central Asian migratory flagship species (e.g. Argali Sheep, Snow Leopard, Saiga Antelope and Goitered Gazelle) and associated ecosystems to climate change", funded by the International Climate Initative (IKI) of the German Government. This contribution is part of a grant application submitted by the UNEP Vienna Office in 2016. The final project approval was received in 2021.
- 7. €274,655 was provided through the second phase of the MAVA-funded multi-partner project, "Alcyon Programme: Minimising bycatch of seabirds and sea turtles in West African industrial fisheries", of which BirdLife International is the lead implementing organization. This second phase of the project started in 2020 and ended in October 2022.
- 8. The total amount includes €230,000 to support the CMS COP13 mandate on plastic pollution, specifically to address the lack of knowledge on the impact of plastic on migratory species in freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems, particularly in the Asia and Pacific region. This contribution was part of a larger intervention in the context of the second phase of the CounterMEASURE project, which was managed by the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. The project was funded by the Government of Japan.
- 9. The total budget also includes €1,466,273 in support of the project, "Addressing Illegal Killing And Disturbance Of Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna". The project is fully funded by the German Government and covers a four-year period to strengthen regional conservation efforts for Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna, with national activities to save the Addax in Niger.
- In addition to the total amount indicated above, the largest CMS Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) have raised significant funding for their operations. The CMS Office in Abu Dhabi received considerable support from the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi (EAD), which generously invested US\$19.2 million from 2009 to 2023, \$5.4 million of which was invested between 2020 and 2023 for hosting the CMS Dugong and Raptors MOUs in the United Arab Emirates. This funding facilitated the coordination of the two MOUs and the representation of CMS in the West Asian region. The Government of the United Arab Emirates, through EAD, provided this substantial grant, enabling the office to leverage an additional \$36 million in cash and in-kind contributions during the same period. Initially hosted at EAD's headquarters, the office relocated to new premises in 2019, which were secured and fitted out by EAD. The move was completed in March 2020. In addition to financial support, EAD has provided substantial in-kind contributions to the office. These include the provision of premises, parking facilities, telecommunication services, maintenance support, utilities, hospitality and cleaning services, IT equipment and services, and consumables. Furthermore, EAD has expressed its intent to extend this partnership until at least the end of 2027, demonstrating its strong commitment to collaboration and conservation efforts.
- 11. Additionally, between 2020 and 2023, voluntary contributions from signatories of the Raptors MOU France, Hungary, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia and Sweden provided a total of \$86,500 towards the activities associated with the MOU. The Dugong MOU also received a voluntary contribution of US\$33,000 from Australia in 2023. Such contributions from international partners demonstrate the global recognition and support for the conservation initiatives undertaken by the CMS Office in Abu Dhabi.

12. Further resources were raised by the MOU for Sharks and the MOU for Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA). The contributions obtained since 2020 in support of the Sharks MOU budget and its POW amount to \$1,073,660, and those received by the IOSEA MOU amount to \$562,516.

Indirect financial contributions and in-kind contributions

13. Further contributions were provided either in the form of financial support that was not provided to the Secretariat but which directly contributed to activities, or as in-kind support through the provision of personnel or services.

Activities and services

- 14. Besides hosting the CMS Secretariat and other CMS Family Secretariats based in Bonn, and bearing all costs relating to the premises, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) offered interpretation services for the following meetings that took place in Bonn:
 - 5th and 6th meetings of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council, 28 June–9 July 2021 (online) and 18–21 July 2023;
 - 52nd and 53rd meetings of the Standing Committee, 21–29 September 2021 (online) and 19–20 October 2022.
- 15. The Secretariat renewed its Joint Work Programme 2020–2023 with the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation of Germany (BfN), funded by BMUV, which provides support for the convening of various workshops.
- 16. The Spanish Government, the Region of Valencia and the Municipality of Valencia town jointly hosted the 4th joint meeting of the Bern Convention Network of Special Focal Points on Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds and the CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean between 7 and 9 June 2022.
- 17. In addition to financially supporting the establishment of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Task Force on Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Waterbirds, and securing a dedicated coordinator, the Government of Australia hosted the first meeting of the Task Force on 12 March 2023.
- 18. As host of the Third Regional Seminar on the Conservation and Restoration of Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna (Agadir, Morocco, 14-16 March 2023), the Government of Morocco provided in-kind support including meeting facilities and interpretation.
- 19. A two-day workshop of the Expert Working Group on Animal Culture and Social Complexity was held in Parma, Italy, between 3 and 4 April 2023, and was hosted by the Appennino Tosco-Emiliano National Park, the Ducato National Parks and Lipu BirdLife Italy.
- 20. The Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, hosted and financially supported the organization of a Range States meeting on the Institutional Framework and next steps for the Central Asian Flyway between 2 and 4 May 2023.
- 21. The 2nd meeting of the Range States of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative was hosted by the Government of Uganda in Entebbe, from 1 to 4 May 2023.

- 22. The Government of Kazakhstan hosted the consultative meeting, "Identifying solutions to human-wildlife conflict involving Saiga Antelopes in Kazakhstan", and UNDP Kazakhstan, the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK) provided in-kind support to help organize and conduct the meeting.
- 23. The German Development Agency (GIZ) and the Michael Succow Foundation provided their expertise and financial support for the workshops on the Asiatic Wild Ass and Transboundary Cooperation in Central Asia.
- 24. A historic series of meetings, the 'CMS Marine Megafauna Week: Atlantic Coast of Africa', was held in collaboration with the Regional Partnership for the Conservation of the Coastal and Marine Zone (PRCM), from 2 to 7 September 2023 in Saly, Senegal.
- 25. On 20 September 2023, the 5th Meeting of Signatories (MOS5) of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Middle-European Population of the Great Bustard was generously hosted and organized by the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic and the State Nature Conservancy of Slovakia, with support from both Government representatives and partner organizations from Austria, Hungary and Germany, as well as the LIFE Great Bustard Project and the LIFE Steppe on Border Project.
- 26. Partnerships with NGOs have also been critical in supporting a number of initiatives, including the coordination of the Energy Task Force and the Action Plan of the African Eurasian Migratory Landbirds; the development of the Single Species Action Plan for Angelshark in the Mediterranean Sea and the Shark and Ray Conservation Strategy for the Gulf of Guinea region; and the implementation of several CMS instruments such as the Central Asian Mammal Initiative.

Personnel

- 27. Through its internship programme, the Secretariat has benefited from the valuable support of university graduates or students, who have assisted CMS staff in their day-to-day work. They work, on average, for a period of three months without remuneration. Since 2020, 20 interns from various countries have assisted the Secretariat in carrying out tasks or projects that contribute to scientific, technical, policy, administrative and communication activities.
- 28. In addition, in-kind support was provided by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee of the UK Government to assist with a number of tasks deriving from COP13 Decisions and Resolutions, the results of which will be presented to COP14.
- 29. Synergies and mutual support among the CMS Family Secretariats, all of which are located in Bonn, have enhanced both programmatic and administrative efficiency. A number of CMS staff members supported the preparations for and running of the 8th session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP8) to the African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) from 26 to 30 September 2022.

Enabling support from other sources

30. In line with Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP13), the Secretariat continues to support other conservation work related to the CMS mandate by informing Parties and partner organizations of funding opportunities and by providing letters of endorsement for grant applications that contribute to the implementation of any plans, actions or initiatives under the CMS Family. In September 2020, the Secretariat issued Notification 2020/013 on various funding opportunities for the conservation of migratory species, including in

- response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In July 2022, the Secretariat issued Notification 2022/010 on a special grant competition focused on projects supporting the conservation of the Great Bustard in Central Asia.
- 31. In 2020, the Dugong MOU Secretariat supported a grant application to Fondation Segré, which generated €300,000 towards Dugong and seagrass conservation activities in the Bazaruto Archipelago, Mozambique.
- 32. In December 2021, the Secretariat circulated a compilation of funding opportunities for Jaguar work under CMS that could be accessed by Jaguar Range States or their partners. These opportunities encompass different multilateral funds, bilateral governmental cooperation funds, funds from international banks and private enterprises, and funds from non-governmental organizations and philanthropies. These were not limited to biodiversity conservation, but also included those focused on related fields such as climate change or human well-being, which could indirectly benefit Jaguar conservation.

Grant proposals

33. The CMS Secretariat, in cooperation with key implementing partners, submitted or contributed to a number of grant applications to further the implementation of its mandate and support actions on the ground.

Grant applications

- 34. In November 2021, the Secretariats of CMS and AEWA, in collaboration with several research institutes led by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, worked on the submission of a project concept, "Scenarios for protecting European avian redistribution (SPEAR)" in response to the Biodiversa+ 2021 Call for Proposals: "Supporting the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems across land and sea". The project, which was approved in mid-2023, will run for over three years. It aims to:
 - Identify priority areas and gaps in the pan-European network of protected areas on land and at sea to meet international targets for biodiversity conservation;
 - Manage protected areas for multiple benefits to facilitate avian responses to climate change and ensure sustainable harvest of waterbirds;
 - Increase biodiversity and develop multifunctional benefits for agricultural wetlands.

MAVA Foundation

35. In response to the call for the project, "Keeping nature at the heart of post-COVID recovery", issued by the MAVA Foundation in October 2020, the Secretariat prepared and submitted concept notes for (i) supporting animal-migration-friendly infrastructure through the development of a dedicated portal, and (ii) ensuring coordinated approaches and interventions within COVID-19 recovery efforts for the protection of Atlantic Humpback Dolphins and associated ecosystems. Unfortunately neither proposal was funded.

International Climate Initiative (IKI)

36. In March 2021, the Secretariat participated n an IKI grant application led by the IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia for a project entitled "One Health in Nature Conservation – Enhancing landscape resilience to zoonotic disease emergence by consolidating nature conservation systems in Central Asia". The project aims to support the implementation of conservation efforts in the context of the CMS

- Central Asian Mammal Initiative (CAMI), at a total cost of €445,400. Final confirmation of the approval of the project is pending.
- 37. In March 2021, the Secretariat also responded to the annual IKI Thematic Calls, submitting a concept note for a project on "Protecting vulnerable communities and migratory species in West Africa against zoonotic diseases through building connected landscapes and habitats". The large-scale project aims at conserving the largest remnant populations of western chimpanzee, forest elephants and vultures in West Africa, all of which are highly vulnerability to zoonotic diseases as evidenced by the current Ebola virus outbreak in Guinea. Unfortunately the project proposal was not accepted.
- 38. Additionally, the Dugong Secretariat proposed an expansion of the IKI-funded Seagrass Ecosystem Services project. The project aims to promote the sustainability, productivity and resilience of seagrass ecosystems, particularly in the context of climate change. These ecosystems provide critical habitats for threatened marine species like Dugongs. The proposed expansion will include India, in addition to the existing five countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Timor-Leste). To support this expansion, an estimated €500,000 is required, supplementing the original grant of €4.78 million.

Oxford Martin School

39. In January 2023, the Secretariat participated in the submission of a project proposal entitled "Addressing barriers to transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation" in response to a call for Expressions of Interest from the Oxford Martin School (University of Oxford, UK). The proposed project focuses on the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (Kaza), Caucasus and Middle East regions and is based on the experience and work of CMS and IUCN in these areas. Unfortunately the project proposal was not accepted.

Migratory Species Champion Programme

40. The Migratory Species Champion Programme, which was launched at COP11 in 2014, is a strategic approach to address the loss of migratory species by generating sustainable support for the work of the Convention and its agreements. Since the launch of the programme, 20 'Champions' have been recognized by CMS in the margins of the last three COPs for their generous support and commitment towards various initiatives, amounting to over €15 million. Parties and stakeholders are invited to consider making a pledge to support the implementation of the Convention, and to become a Champion. Any such pledges will receive recognition at the 'Champion Night' in the margins of COP14. Further information on the Champion Programme can be found on the dedicated website: www.migratoryspecies.org/en/champion.

Global Environment Facility

- 41. While the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is not a financial mechanism for CMS, advice on national priorities for the implementation of CMS in GEF replenishments can be provided through the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). CMS COP, through Resolution 10.25 (Rev.COP12) *Enhancing engagement with the Global Environment Facility*, delegates the authority to develop such advice to the CMS Standing Committee and requests the CMS Secretariat to convey it on its behalf to CBD.
- 42. Accordingly, in 2020, the Chair of the CMS Standing Committee invited inputs from Parties on their national priorities (through the respective regional representatives of the

- Standing Committee) to inform the development of strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF-8, 2022–2026). The Secretariat issued Notification 2020/009 to all Parties to support this process.
- 43. CMS advice was formulated at a strategic level, mindful of the GEF's mandate, the common objectives of CMS and CBD, and the leading role of CMS in addressing the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species of wild animals and their habitats.
- 44. The advice was transmitted to the CBD Secretariat and was included in the pre-session documentation for consideration at the 3rd meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI-3, 3 May–13 June 2021). CMS advice was also summarized in CBD/SBI/3/6/Add.3 and reproduced in full in CBD/SBI/3/INF/23.
- 45. SBI-3 did not address the GEF-8 four-year programmatic framework and requested the CBD Secretariat to carry out further work on it before submitting it for consideration by CBD COP15 in 2022. Subsequently, CBD Decision 15/15 highlighted that (i) the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) in the context of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) will contribute to the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF); and (ii) the important contributions of other biodiversity-related conventions and MEAs in the GBF implementation while promoting synergies, cooperation and complementarity (paragraph 12). It also reiterated the invitation to the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions, to develop strategic guidance for the ninth replenishment of the GEF in time for consideration by CBD COP16.
- 46. In addition to these efforts, the Secretariat also provided information to the GEF Secretariat and actively contributed in all the stages of the development of the GEF-8 Programming Directions.
- 47. GEF-8 commenced on 1 July 2022, following the GEF Assembly's endorsement of the Report on the Eighth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, which includes the GEF-8 Programming Directions and the Financing Framework.
- 48. The GEF-8 Programming Directions reflect many key CMS priorities and include an explicit reference to CMS in a number of areas.
- 49. For biodiversity, one of the primary objectives of GEF-8 is to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. CMS priorities embodied in the Framework can therefore benefit from GEF-8 support.
- 50. GEF-8 Integrated Programmes and Focal Areas provide multiple entry points for the implementation of numerous CMS mandates. Of note, GEF-8 programming includes:
 - An expanded Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program that includes a focus on overexploitation of wildlife, not only for internationally traded species but also for illegal and unsustainable uses domestically;
 - A focus on the importance of ecological connectivity in the establishment and implementation of area-based conservation measures, integrated into wider landscapes and seascapes;
 - Work on wildlife health, as well as on plastic pollution in both riverine and marine systems and sustainable infrastructure.
- 51. A detailed analysis of GEF-8 areas of work of particular relevance to CMS is contained in the annex of Notification 2022/005, which was issued in April 2022.

- 52. Under the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR), recipient countries are afforded full flexibility in determining priorities for the use of GEF-8 funding. To this end, the Secretariat encouraged CMS National Focal Points to liaise with their CBD and GEF counterparts to ensure that their allocations support projects and initiatives that conserve and sustainably use migratory wildlife and their habitats.
- 53. The Secretariat is also working with GEF agencies to establish collaborations in the implementation of the GEF-8 Programming Directions. The CMS Secretariat was invited to join the Steering Committee for the implementation of the GEF-8 Integrated Programme on Wildlife Conservation for Development (WCD IP) led by the World Bank. Through Notification 2023/003, the Secretariat promoted the WCD IP and related guidance sessions for the GEF-8 Expression of Interest process.
- 54. The CMS Secretariat continues to advise and support CMS Parties, as appropriate, on the process for participating in GEF-8 programming.

Funding needs

55. The Secretariat developed a Programme of Work for the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15 (see <a href="https://www.unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/unient.com/un

Discussion and analysis

Amendments to Resolution 10.25 (Rev.COP12) *Enhancing engagement with the Global Environment Facility*, which reflect necessary updates, are presented in Annex 1.

Recommended Actions

- 53. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
 - a) provide guidance to the Secretariat on resource mobilization and further engagement with the GEF;
 - b) adopt the draft amendments to Resolution 10.25 (Rev. COP12) contained in Annex 1 of this document.

ANNEX 1

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION 10.25 (REV. COP12)

ENHANCING ENGAGEMENT WITH THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

NB. Proposed new text to Resolutions originating from COP13 is <u>underlined</u>.

Text to be deleted is crossed out.

Aware of the crucial role played by migratory species in the delivery of ecosystem services for human well-being, and the need for coordinated international responses to the transboundary pressures that threaten their survival,

Noting that the updated version of the CMS-Strategic Plan for Migratory Species for the period 2024-2032 2012-2014 (UNEP/CMS/Conf.10.22) identifies future financing of the Convention's programmes to ensure the cost-effectiveness and long-term viability-of CMS activities and initatives and the need to diversify sources of income as principal challenges for the next three nine years, and that resources available for CMS small grants have decreased significantly,

[this might be updated at COP14 in light of the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species for the period 2024-2032]

Conscious that these resourcing limitations have a proportionately greater constraining effect in developing countries, *while* at the same time such countries are host to some of the world's richest and most vulnerable biodiversity, including migratory species,

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in its Decisions VI/20 and X/20 has recognized CMS as its lead partner in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, that a Joint Work Programme has been agreed between the two Conventions, and that many CMS priorities are species-based conservation is important elements of the Kunming-Montreal Gglobal Aichi Targets for Bbiodiversity Framework, including Target 12 which seeks the prevention by 2020 of the extinction of known threatened species and the improvement and sustaining of their conservation status.

Concerned that it has not been easy for the current structures, strategies, programmes, procedures and funding allocations of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to provide support for projects and programmes aimed at the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, both because of the strategic emphasis of decisions made within the Facility in general and because the Facility has so far not been designated as a financial mechanism for CMS.

<u>Expressing satisfaction</u> for the programming directions of the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF-8, July 2022 to June 2026) including its Integrated Programmes and Focal Areas, which provide multiple entry points for the implementation of numerous CMS mandates,

<u>Welcoming</u> the CMS Secretariat's participation in the Steering Committee for the implementation of the GEF-8 Integrated Programme on Wildlife Conservation for Development led by the World Bank,

Welcoming the decision by the 41st GEF Council to request the GEF Secretariat to organize a meeting of biodiversity-related conventions with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the coordination of their priorities for inclusion in the GEF-6 programming strategy,

Having regard to the review of past and potential future engagement with the GEF provided to the COP by the Secretariat in document UNEP/CMS/Conf.10.41,

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

- 1. Encourages CMS National Focal Points to seek opportunities for enhancing dialogue at national and regional levels with the National Focal Points of the CBD and the GEF, with a view to focusing attention on relevant prioritization and decision-making processes for GEF funding at the national and regional level to on the needs of migratory species and opportunities for their conservation and sustainable use, in line with the Strategic Plan for MIgratory Species 2024-2030;
- 2. Further encourages interested Parties CMS National Focal Points to enhance collaboration with National Focal Points for the CBD and GEF to implement the options available under the existing relevant GEF Focal Areas and Integrated Programmes structure, as laid out in document UNEP/CMS/Conf.10.41, and specifically to:
 - a) develop further habitat-based projects under existing GEF strategies;
 - b) develop further species-based projects under existing GEF strategies;
 - c) enhance collaboration at National Focal Point level, and
 - d) c) integrate relevant objectives into support for National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP)s);
- 3. Further encourages Parties to include support the priorities outlined in the for the implementation of the CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024-2030, and include them in their NBSAPs, in particular species-based projects and capacity-building activities, in order to benefit fully from the relevant GEF funding available for biodiversity;
- 4. Welcomes CBD COP12 Decision XII/30 15/15 on the Financial Mechanism Global Environment Facility to enhance programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions and, in this context, requests reiterates the invitation to the Standing Committee to develop elements of advice for the Global Environment Facility GEF concerning the funding of national priorities for CMS;
- 5. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide the elements of advice as developed by the Standing Committee in time to be considered at meetings of the CBD COP so that they may be referred on to the Global Environment Facility GEF through the CBD COP Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- 6. *Invites* the Secretariat of the GEF to participate in <u>the</u> follow-up to the present Resolution through discussions with the CMS Secretariat, and by other appropriate means, including exploration of all opportunities to enhance GEF support to countries for activities relevant to the implementation of CMS;
- 7. Requests the Secretariat to engage with the GEF <u>and its agencies</u> at all appropriate levels in pursuing the implementation of the present Resolution;
- 8. Requests UNEP <u>and other GEF agencies</u> to provide support and input, as appropriate, to the implementation of the present Resolution; and
- 9. *Instructs* the Secretariat to report on progress in implementing the present Resolution to meetings of the Standing Committee, and to submit proposals for further action to meetings of the Conference of the Parties.