

4th Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC4)

Bonn, Germany, 12-15 November 2019

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PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD BETWEEN COP12 AND COP13

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document is provided to assist the Sessional Committee in reviewing progress in the implementation of the Programme of Work for the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council for the intersessional period between COP12 and COP13.

The Sessional Committee is recommended to review the document and update it throughout the meeting as appropriate.

**PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK
FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
FOR THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD BETWEEN COP12 AND COP13**

1. At its third meeting held in Bonn in 2018, the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council developed a Programme of Work (POW) for the intersessional period between COP12 and COP13.
2. The present meeting provides an opportunity for an assessment of progress in the implementation of the POW, as well as for possible adjustments as appropriate. To this end, Annex 1 of this document includes the POW in table format, to enable the Sessional Committee to record progress in its implementation up to ScC-SC4, as well as to indicate possible further actions that might be undertaken after ScC-SC4 and before COP13 and ScC-SC5 for activities not yet completed. It is proposed that the table in Annex 1 be progressively updated throughout the meeting when relevant items are addressed.

Recommended Actions

3. The Sessional Committee is recommended to assess progress in the implementation of the POW and plan on further actions that might be undertaken after ScC-SC4 and before COP13 and ScC-SC5 using the table included in Annex 1.

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR 2018-2020

Thematic Work Area: **Institutional and Legal matters (Working Group 1)**

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<i>Resolution / Decision number</i>	<i>Text of Resolution / Decision</i> (The Scientific Council shall/should)	<i>Further short description of activity (if necessary)</i>	<i>List of outputs</i>	<i>Timeframe (year and/or meeting) (as per Res / Dec, if provided)</i>	<i>Names of people involved</i>	<i>Core, High, Medium, Low</i>	<i>Amounts already raised & required €</i>		
Scientific Council									
Dec. 12.2	With advice from the Secretariat, develop and establish a revision of its Rules of Procedure, as well as elements of its modus operandi in accordance with Res.12.4.	ScC-SC to submit revised RoP to StC48 for approval.	Approved revised RoP	2018	WG	Core	No funding needed		
Listing of Species in the Appendices of the Convention									
Dec. 12.10	Propose how to integrate the provisions of CMS/Res 3.1 (Rev.COP12) on <i>Listing of Species in the Appendices of the Convention</i> into CMS/Resolution 11.33 (Rev.COP12) on the <i>Revision of the Template and Guidelines for the Drafting of Proposals for the Amendments of the Appendices</i> so that these Resolutions can be streamlined into one at COP13	WG to develop proposal for the consolidation of Res.3.1 (Rev.COP12) and Res.11.33 (Rev.COP12) with support from the Secretariat. ScC-SC4 to consider proposal and make recommendation to COP13.	Recommendations on consolidation of Res.3.1(Rev.COP12) and Res.11.33 (Rev.COP12)	COP13	WG	High	No funding needed		
Guidelines for Assessing Listing Proposal to Appendix I and II of the Convention									
Dec.12.101	Trial the use of the guidelines as documented in the Annex to UNEP/CMS/Resolution 11.33 (Rev.COP12) on <i>Guidelines for Assessing Listing</i>	ScC-SC4 to consider the matter at its 4 th meeting, on the basis of document prepared by the Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice to COP13 on effectiveness of guidelines • Proposals for revision (if appropriate) 	COP13	COP-appointed councillors for taxa	Core	No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<p><i>Proposals to Appendices I and II of the Convention, as a guide in assessing proposals to list migratory species in Appendices I and II, and report back to the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on their effectiveness.</i></p>								

Thematic Work Area: **Strategic issues (Working Group 2)**

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<i>Resolution / Decision number</i>	<i>Text of Resolution / Decision</i> (The Scientific Council shall/should)	<i>Further short description of activity (if necessary)</i>	<i>List of outputs</i>	<i>Timeframe (year and/or meeting) (as per Res / Dec, if provided)</i>	<i>Names of people involved</i>	<i>Core, High, Medium, Low</i>	<i>Amounts already raised & required €</i>		
Cooperation between IPBES and CMS									
Res.10.8 (Rev.COP12) Para 4	Participate in relevant processes of IPBES, in collaboration with the scientific advisory bodies of other MEAs as appropriate;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ScC-SC members to give input to draft IPBES assessments (sustainable use; values of biodiversity) or nominate members of IPBESbodies. ScC-SC to give input to the process of development of IPBES future POW (2020-2030) (e.g. proposal for new assessments of interest to CMS) (Secretariat to send call for ideas; secretariat to compile comments; ScC-SC to review compilation and submit to StC48 for review and endorsement) 	ScC input to IPBES processes	2018-2020	ScC Chair (IPBES)	High (in CMS POW)	15,000		
Res.12.2	Prepare a report on the conservation status of migratory species	Depending on successful fundraising, ScC-SC to oversee production of the report, including review and endorsement in time for its submission to COP13.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Input to drafts of the report Endorsement of the report for transmission to COP13 	2018-2019		High (in CMS POW)	150,000		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Res.12.2	Develop African-Eurasian Bird Migration Atlas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ScC-SC members to participate in Steering Group; ScC-SC to peer review outputs of the project; ScC-Sc members to participate in Working Group to produce concept for the global atlas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to the steering of the project Review of project outputs Concept for global atlas 	2018-2020	ScC Chair/ COP-appointed councillors for taxa	High (in CMS POW)	1,000,000 (provided by Italy)		
	Contribute to CMS input to the post-2020 Biodiversity Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of an Intersessional Working Group Inform the StC of plans and invite its members to take part in this initiative (e.g. to create a joint Intersessional Working Group; Develop a scoping paper on the concrete inputs that the CMS community intends to put forward as a contribution to the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and the messaging around them; Develop a timeline of key events, within the CMS Family processes and beyond, and other milestones from now until 2020 to build the momentum and the political engagement on migratory wildlife conservation towards CBD COP15. 	Scoping paper	2018-2020		High	5,000 – 20,000 (depending on whether the meeting of the WG will be before or back-to-back the StC48)		

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a meeting of the Working Group, and raise the necessary resources, before and/or back-to-back to StC48 to agree on the scoping paper. 							

Thematic Work Area: **Aquatic species conservation issues (Working Group 3)**

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<i>Resolution / Decision number</i>	<i>Text of Resolution / Decision</i> (The Scientific Council shall/should)	<i>Further short description of activity (if necessary)</i>	<i>List of outputs</i>	<i>Timeframe (year and/or meeting) (as per Res / Dec, if provided)</i>	<i>Names of people involved</i>	<i>Core, High, Medium, Low</i>	<i>Amounts already raised & required €</i>		
Review of Resolutions									
Dec.12.11 a	<p>Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. UNEP/CMS/Resolution 7.18 (Rev.COP12) on the <i>Agreement for Dugong (Dugong dugon) Conservation</i>, ii. UNEP/CMS/Resolution 8.16 (Rev.COP12) on <i>Migratory Sharks</i>, and iii. UNEP/CMS/Resolution 6.3 (Rev.COP12) on <i>Southern Hemisphere Albatross Conservation</i> <p>to determine whether they should be revised in light of new scientific information and other developments and propose amendments if warranted</p>	Secretariat, in collaboration with Appointed Councillors and relevant instruments, to prepare proposal for consideration by ScC-SC4	Draft revised resolutions and/or decisions, or recommendation to repeal resolutions in full.	StC49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara AMWG ii. Zeb Hogan iii. Barry Baker Rob Clay Stephen Garnett <p>(Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Donna Kwan)</p>	Medium	No funding needed		
Dec.12.11 b	Submit proposed amendments or a new resolution, as appropriate, to the Standing Committee for consideration at its 49 th meeting.		Drafts/amendments	StC49	As above	Medium	No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Global Programme of Work for Cetaceans								
Res.10.15 (Rev.COP12) Para.7	Subject to the availability of resources, address the actions foreseen in the Global Programme of Work for Cetaceans;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the technical information and advice on the range of issues articulated in the Annex to the Resolution as progressed by the Aquatic Mammals WG for example on underwater noise, cetacean bycatch and entanglement, habitat and feeding ground degradation, climate change, ship strikes, pollution and aquatic wild meat, taking into account where these issues have developed independent work streams, including on cetacean species listed after COP10 As appropriate, approve the information to be shared with the regional and international bodies listed in the resolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperation and collaboration with FAO/COFI on by-catch Cooperation and collaboration with CITES Cooperation and collaboration with UNICPOLOS Cooperation and collaboration with IWC Enhanced cooperation and collaboration with Parties and key partners in regions to address priority threats to cetaceans 	2017-2024	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed	
Res.10.15 (Rev.COP12) Para.9	Continue and increase efforts to collaborate with other relevant international fora, with a view to avoiding duplication, increasing synergies and raising the profile of CMS and CMS cetacean-related agreements in these fora;	As appropriate, approve the information to be shared with the regional and international bodies articulated in the resolution, as well as CBD specifically concerning EBSA work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above Cooperation and collaboration with CBD 	2017-2024	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed	

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Res.10.15 (Rev.COP12) Para.10	Maintain and, where appropriate, seek to enhance cooperation and collaboration with the International Whaling Commission and its Scientific and Conservation Committees;	Provide technical briefings on issues of mutual interest, e.g. IMMAs, live captures, in-water interactions, whale watching, underwater noise, and relevant Concerted Actions to the Secretariat for transmission to IWC	Close cooperation and collaboration with IWC maintained and further enhanced	2017-2024	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra AMWG AWMWG (SecFP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed		
Dec.12.16	Subject to the availability of resources, review the regional threats for the CMS-listed aquatic mammals not included in the Global Programme of Work for Cetaceans and prepare for the CMS Conference of the Parties at its 13 th meeting a robust assessment of threats and regional priorities as well as similar work programmes for these other aquatic mammal species.	AMWG to do scoping exercise to assess need Consultancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs assessment Review of threats to CMS-listed aquatic mammals except cetaceans, per region Draft work programmes 	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium (in CMS POW)	No funding needed for first step 40,000 required		
Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes									
Res.11.22 (Rev.COP12) Para.4	Seek to enhance cooperation and collaboration with CITES and the IWC on small cetacean species targeted by live captures from the wild;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with ACCO-BAMS SC on this issue Gather relevant information on recent and ongoing captures Submission of information to relevant CITES and IWC meetings 	Report to ScC-SC4	Ongoing	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dialogue with Secretariats 							
Marine Turtles									
Dec.12.17 a	Review relevant scientific information on conservation and threats to marine turtles, such as climate change and sky glow, to develop new recommendations for the conservation of all species of marine turtles included in Appendix I or II of the Convention, for presentation at the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;	Workshop with experts for situation in the three ocean basins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of current threats Draft Resolution Draft Decisions 	ScC-SC4	Colin Limpus IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High (in CMS POW)	25,000 required		
Dec.12.17 b	Develop a draft Single Species Action Plan for the conservation of the Hawksbill Turtle to be presented at the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to address the trade, use and other threats to their conservation in South-East Asia, and the adjacent western Pacific. This Single Species Action Plan	Workshop to develop SSAP, if considered necessary after CITES report comes out (expected to focus on Indo-Pacific region)	Draft SSAP for Hawksbill Turtles	ScC-SC4, or ScC-SC5	Colin Limpus IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High (in CMS POW)	25,000 required		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	<p>should be developed in collaboration with the Indian Ocean South-East Asia Marine Turtle Memorandum of Understanding and with relevant non-governmental organizations, taking into account the outcome of CITES Decision 17.222, which mandates an assessment on marine turtle trade, that assessment scheduled for completion in time for discussion at the 70th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee in October 2018.</p>							
Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)								
Dec.12.40 a	<p>Collaborate with the IUCN Joint Species Survival Commission/World Commission on Protected Areas (SSC/WCPA) Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force to include data on CMS-listed pinnipeds, sirenians, otters, polar bears and cetaceans in the identification of Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs);</p>	<p>No further activity required</p>	<p>IMMAs fully relevant to CMS-listed species</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No funding needed</p>	

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec.12.40 b	Upon receiving information from the IUCN Joint SSC/WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force about newly identified IMMAs, review their relevance for CMS-listed species, consider any contributions received from Parties, and provide advice concerning conservation measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat to circulate Task Force report received by 30 June 2019 to Parties • ScC to consider Party responses • ScC to provide advice on conservation measures 	Conservation measures recommended for IMMAs relevant for CMS-listed species (Draft Resolution / Decisions)	Ongoing	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed		
Adverse Impacts of Anthropogenic Noise on Cetaceans and Other Migratory Species									
Res.12.14 Para. 23	Supported by the Joint Noise Working Group of CMS, ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS, continue monitoring new available information on the effects of underwater noise on marine species, as well as the effective assessment and management of this threat, and to make recommendations to Parties as appropriate;	Support, as appropriate, regional capacity-building workshops promoting the CMS Family Guidelines, as well as related training organized by daughter agreements, e.g. ACCOBAMS	Workshop reports and recommendations	Ongoing	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra JNWG (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	10,000 desirable		
Dec.12.43 a	Assess the need for, and if required develop, subject to the availability of resources, voluntary guidelines on	JNWG to advise on the need for development of noise mitigation guidelines	Recommendation on way forward / Draft Decisions	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra JNWG (Sec FP: Heidrun	Medium	No funding needed		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	activities of concern;				Frisch-Nwakanma)				
Dec.12.43 b	Assess the need for updating the CMS Family Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment for Marine Noise-generating Activities	Not required at this stage	n/a	ScC-SC6	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara JNWG (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Low	No funding needed		
Aquatic Wild Meat									
Res.12.15 Para.1	Establish a thematic Working Group dealing with aquatic wild meat, to provide expert advice to the CMS Parties, to collaborate with relevant organizations such as the International Whaling Commission (IWC), and to coordinate science and policy participation with the relevant Memoranda of Understanding concluded under CMS, and consulting with the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas (ASCOBANS) and the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the	Completed, no further action required	Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group established	ScC-SC3	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue)	Medium (in CMS POW)	No funding needed		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area (ACCOBAMS) as relevant;								
Dec.12.45 a	Invite participation of Councillors and external experts, including from across the CMS Family, into the thematic Working Group dealing with aquatic wild meat, to ensure that all affected CMS-listed species are considered;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat to invite Councillors and nominated external experts • Prepare Workspace discussion area 	Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group established	ScC-SC3	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue)	Medium (in CMS POW)	No funding needed		
Dec.12.45 b	Report on the activities of the Working Group to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group to report to each meeting of the Scientific Council, as articulated in Dec.12.46 • Council to report to COP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to COP • If required Draft Decisions / Draft revised Resolution 	COP13	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara AWMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue)	Medium	No funding needed		
Recreational In-Water Interactions with Aquatic Mammals [and other aquatic species]									
Dec.12.51 a	Consider combining work streams related to recreational in-water interactions and boat-based wildlife watching in the coming intersessional period, ensuring all CMS-listed species that are the target of swim- or dive-with activities are covered by any guidelines to	Decide to combine work streams, focusing on marine areas and, for aquatic mammals, river systems (see also Dec.12.79 a)	Guidance from ScC, if needed Draft Decisions	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara Zeb Hogan Colin Limpus AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Low	No funding needed		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	be developed;								
Dec.12.51 b	Review, subject to availability of resources, existing guidelines, good practice and underpinning scientific evidence of the issues of concern, and based on this review develop guidelines on recreational in-water interactions with CMS-listed species;	Conduct a review Develop appropriate guidelines (Consultancy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report • Draft Guidelines • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions 	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara Zeb Hogan Colin Limpus AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium (in CMS POW)	15,000 (provided by Monaco)		
Dec.12.51 c	Consult the International Whaling Commission (IWC) during the preparation of the guidelines and other documents;	Ongoing consultations	Opportunity for input given	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed		
Dec.12.51 d	Report to the Standing Committee at its 48 th and 49 th meetings on the progress in implementing this Decision;		Report	StC48 StC49	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara Zeb Hogan Colin Limpus AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec.12.51 e	Present the guidelines and recommended code of conduct for operators concerning recreational in-water interaction to the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties for formal consideration;	Review draft guidelines and code of conduct Make recommendation to COP13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Guidelines Draft Resolution Draft Decisions 	COP13	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara Zeb Hogan Colin Limpus AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed		
Dec.12.51 f	Consider, in the light of CMS Technical Series No. 33 Cetaceans of the Red Sea, launched at the 12 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, how best to take forward the conservation of cetaceans in the Red Sea region, taking into account all relevant threats, and report back on this to the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.	Collect available information on all relevant threats, synthesize it and make recommendations	Report Draft guidance to COP	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed		
Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region									
Res.12.17 Para.5	Work with the Scientific and Conservation Committees of the IWC to increase understanding of cetaceans' contribution to the functioning of marine	Await further advice from Brazil regarding funding and progression of the workshop	Workshop supported	2019-2027	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue)	Medium (in CMS POW)	Brazil seeking funds		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	ecosystems, including by co-hosting a workshop to review the existing data and research and identify opportunities to expand this work;								
Res.12.17 Para.6	Promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions to support the implementation of the Action Plan and other conservation measures in the South Atlantic area.	Scientific Councillors attending IWC to discuss as appropriate	Action Plan promoted at relevant meetings	2019-2027	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue)	High	No funding needed		
Concerted Actions									
CA 12.1-7	Keep under review Concerted Actions for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Eel • Sperm Whales of the Eastern Tropical Pacific • Atlantic Humpback Dolphin • Humpback Whales of the Arabian Sea • Angelshark • Mobulid Rays • Whale Shark 	Keep progress under review	Guidance given as required	ongoing	Zeb Hogan Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FPs: Melanie Virtue; Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma; Lyle Glowka)	High	No funding needed		
Res.12.28 Para.6	Assist Parties to take Concerted Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention, where possible through existing instruments of bilateral or multilateral cooperation (re Polar Bear)	AMWG to provide advice to the Secretariat and Government of Norway to feed into the range state discussion on the ToR for the larger conference on Polar Bear, and Norway's initiative	Advice on the ToR for the conference	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara AMWG (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue)	High	33,000 (provided by Norway)		

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Migratory Freshwater Fish									
Res.10.12 Para.4	Urges Parties to submit listing proposals for those species highlighted in the review as threatened, as well as other species that would benefit from international cooperation;	Upon request, support Parties in the development of listing proposals for species identified in document UNEP/CMS/Inf.10.33	Listing proposals for COP13	ScC-SC4	Zeb Hogan (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue)	Medium	No funding required		

Thematic Work Area: **Terrestrial species conservation issues (Working Group 4)**

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<i>Resolution / Decision number</i>	<i>Text of Resolution / Decision</i> (The Scientific Council shall/should)	<i>Further short description of activity (if necessary)</i>	<i>List of outputs</i>	<i>Timeframe (year and/or meeting) (as per Res / Dec, if provided)</i>	<i>Names of people involved</i>	<i>Core, High, Medium, Low</i>	<i>Amounts already raised & required €</i>		
Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivores Initiative									
Dec. 12.59	Consider the report of the Secretariat and determine at the meetings of its 3rd and 4th Sessional Committee whether further specific actions are required in relation to the conservation of the African Lion (<i>Panthera leo</i>), the Cheetah (<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>), the Leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) and the African Wild Dog (<i>Lycaon pictus</i>) through the African Carnivores Initiative and make recommendations to the Standing Committee at its 48 th and 49 th meetings, if appropriate.	Determine whether further actions are required in relation to the conservation of the 4 species under the ACI	Recommendations to StC48 and StC49 on further specific actions (if required)	By StC48 and StC49	Lead tbd at SC4	High	No funding needed		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretariat to request IUCN Cat Specialist Group for report on implementation of regional conservation strategies, and associated recommendations 	Report from IUCN Cat SG	Prior to Range State meeting	Urs and Christine Breitenmoser, Chairs of IUCN Cat Specialist Group Sarah Durant, ZSL				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretariat to report to SC4 on status of ACI implementation 	Report from Secretariat	By SC4	Secretariat				

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Conservation and Management of Cheetah and African Wild Dog								
Dec. 12.64	Make recommendations to the Standing Committee at its 48 th or 49 th meetings based on the reports submitted in accordance with Decision 12.62 and 12.63, including recommendations concerning possible amendments to the list of cheetah populations presently excluded from CMS Appendix 1 to reflect current conservation status and inform a Decision by the Conference of the Parties at its 13th meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Report submitted by Burkina Faso Consider adequacy of cheetah populations being excluded from Ap. I Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe contacted by the Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations to StC48 and StC49 Decision for COP13 Intersessional working group established electronically IUCN Cat SG solicited for input 	By StC48 and StC49	Secretariat, Sarah Durant, ZSL	High	No funding needed	
Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna								
Res. 9.21 (Rev. COP12), Para. 4.	<i>Encourages</i> the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to envisage, in consultation with the Range States concerned, an extension of the action area to the deserts of the Horn of Africa and associated biomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ScC recommends a Range State meeting Discussions initiated with the Horn of Africa Range States Prior to the meeting ScC to revisit the extension of the Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna Action Plan to the Horn of Africa after the meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range State meeting Extension of the action area addressed at Range State meeting (if convened) Clarification of the list of species falling under the Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna Recommendation to COP13 for implementing the Sahelo-Saharan AP in the future 	By StC48	Roseline Beudels-Jamar, Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna Species Focal Point	Medium	No funding needed	

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Tigers and Other Asian Big Cats								
Res. 9.22 (Rev. COP12), Para. 2.	Requests the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to ensure that all means that can effectively contribute to an improvement of the conservation status of Asian big cats and to awareness raising on the threats that they face are taken within the framework of Resolution 11.24, <i>The Central Asian Mammals Initiative</i> ;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ScC to consider adequacy of CAMI POW implementation and prioritization in relation to Asian big cats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persian leopard submitted for inclusion in the CAMI program (only the range within CAMI) to COP13 Explore the idea of an Asian Big Cat initiative 	By COP13	Secretariat, Parties, and Individual Scientific Councillors	High	No funding needed	
African Elephant Action Plan								
Res. 12.19, Para. 2.d)	At the request of the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee, invite the Scientific Council (subject to its terms of reference) to provide advice on specific activities relating to the African Elephant Action Plan.	<p>CMS to provide input for the project:</p> <p>Elephant Culture: Melding Science and Traditional Knowledge about Elephant Culture and Social Complexity to Increase Positive Conservation Outcomes for Elephants in West Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This topic is to be considered under Animal Culture Councilors wishing to comment will forward comments to the Secretariat 	Following ScC SC3	AEF Secretariat AEF Steering Committee Chair Secretariat	Medium	No funding needed	
Concerted Actions								
Res. 11.13, para. 5 (Carried over from document 4.1)	Scientific Council to identify candidate species for designation for Concerted or Cooperative Action, and action to take in response to Concerted or Cooperative Action listing, taking fully into account the recommendations summarized in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13.	ScC members to promote, and assist with the development of proposals for Concerted Actions following the guidance provided in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13, for species already designated or for candidate species for designation	This topic is to be considered during the cross-cutting section of the Work Program	Ongoing, synchronized with the COP cycle	Individual Scientific Councillors	High	tbd	

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action up to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
CAMI Initiative								
Res. 11.24 para. 7 (Carried over from document 4.1)	Scientific Council and the Secretariat to continue and strengthen efforts to collaborate with other relevant international fora with a view to strengthening synergies and implementation of CMS and the CAMI in these fora.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote conservation issues under CAMI, CMS, while attending relevant fora Scientific Council recommends that similar efforts are undertaken for Sahelo-Saharan megafauna and bats 	Reports at SC4 on promotion of CAMI in international fora	Ongoing	Individual Scientific Councillors	High	Yes	
	Recommending species for inclusion under CAMI	Discussion of which species are appropriate for inclusion	Parties submit the Gobi bear and Persian leopard (only the range within CAMI) for inclusion in the CAMI program to COP13	In accordance with COP13 deadlines	Secretariat and Parties	High	No funding needed	
12.7 para. 31	Ecological Networks	Include the issue of dryland fencing in Africa and Central Asia under the topic of Ecological Networks	Discuss during the cross-cutting section of the Work Program		Scientific Councillors	High	tbd	

Thematic Work Area: **Avian species conservation issues (Working Group 5)**

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<i>Resolution / Decision number</i>	<i>Text of Resolution / Decision</i> (The Scientific Council shall/should)	<i>Further short description of activity (if necessary)</i>	<i>List of outputs</i>	<i>Timeframe (year and/or meeting) (as per Res / Dec, if provided)</i>	<i>Names of people involved</i>	<i>Core, High, Medium, Low</i>	<i>Amounts already raised & required €</i>		
Res.11.17 (Rev.COP12)	8. Requests the Scientific Council and the Working Group, in liaison with the Migrant Landbirds Study Group (MLSG) to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets, the European Atlas of Bird Migration, the use of new and emerging tracking technologies, field studies of migrant birds in Africa, use of survey and demographic data from the Eurasian breeding grounds and use of remote sensing earth observation data of land cover change in Africa;	Development of the African-Eurasian Migratory Bird Atlas	African-Eurasian Migratory Bird Atlas	2018-2020	Fernando Spina (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	High (in CMS POW)	1,000,000 (provided by Italy)		
Res.11.17 (Rev.COP12)	9. Further requests the Scientific Council and the Working Group, in liaison with the Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan to promote and encourage increased public awareness of, and support for, migratory landbird conservation along the flyway among the general public and stakeholders, including about how individual birds are shared across countries and act as indicators of the overall health of the environment, of people and all biodiversity;	Promote and encourage the use of the FLAP initiative in networks	FLAP	Ongoing	Olivier Biber (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	Medium	No funding needed		
Res.11.17 (Rev.COP12)	13. Requests the Working Group and the CMS Scientific Council, in liaison with the MLSG and the Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan, with the support of the CMS Secretariat, to support	Encourage distribution of information materials; raise public awareness on the	Species Action Plans for the European Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i> and the	StC48/ ScC-SC4/ COP13 (Depending on	Olivier Biber (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	Core (in CMS POW)	No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	implementation of Action Plans for a first set of species including the European Roller <i>Coracias garrulus</i> adopted through Resolution 12.12, and to continue to develop Action Plans for the European Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i> and the Yellow-breasted Bunting <i>Emberiza aureola</i> ;	action plans to be implemented; review draft Action Plan on Yellow-breasted Bunting	Yellow-breasted Bunting <i>Emberiza aureola</i> ready for adoption by StC48/COP13 (depending on progress of the Action Plan's development)	progress of the Action Plan's development)				
Res.11.17 (Rev.COP12)	15. Calls on Parties and the Scientific Council to report progress in implementing the Action Plan, including monitoring and efficacy of measures taken, to COP13 in 2020	Review of the Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions • Report on progress 	ScC-SC4 / COP13	Olivier Biber (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	High	No funding needed	
ScC-SC3-Decision; Res. 11.17 (Rev.COP12)	Promoting the provisions under the Action Plan on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds with regard to pesticides	Raise the issue of poisoning from neonicotinoids and other pesticides as a cross-cutting issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions 	ScC-SC4 / COP13	Olivier Biber Members of Avian Terrestrial Species Working Groups (Sec FP: TilmanSchneider)	High	No funding needed	
Dec.12.23 a	Continue the Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds until the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, extending its membership to incorporate expertise from geographical regions currently absent, to facilitate and monitor the implementation of the Action Plan, and to develop indicators to assess the implementation of the Programme of Work 2016 – 2020;	Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds continues its activities Organize meeting of the Working Group	Indicators developed to assess the implementation of the POW 2016 – 2020	ScC-SC4	Olivier Biber (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	Core (in CMS POW)	25,000	
Dec.12.23 b	In the intersessional period between the 12 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and subject to the availability of resources, work with the Migratory Landbird Study Group, relevant academic institutions, research-funders and the Working Group, in order	Review the implementation of the Action Plan under consideration of synergies with the African-Eurasian Atlas on Bird	Draft Decisions	ScC-SC4	Olivier Biber (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	Core	No funding needed	

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<p>to actively promote research that addresses key knowledge gaps relating to migratory landbird conservation in African landscapes, inter alia, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Identify migratory pathways and strategies using tracking technologies to understand migratory connectivity so enabling field research to be targeted more effectively; ii. Undertake detailed field studies in sub-Saharan Africa and at staging sites, in conjunction with existing data where appropriate, to better understand species distribution patterns, habitat use and foraging ecology, and in particular identify and enhance conservation of the stop-over sites immediately to the north and south of the Sahara (including through data collection and seeking linkages with relevant stakeholders); iii. Synthesize data from European breeding grounds to explore spatial and temporal patterns in demographic Parameters in relation to migratory pathways and large-scale patterns of environmental change; iv. Use satellite image earth observation data to improve understanding where land cover is changing and how this impacts African-Eurasian migrant birds, and research the drivers of land use / land cover change; v. Seek better understanding of how to influence the economic and social policy drivers causing land use / land cover change at different scales; vi. Encourage research to determine for which declining European landbird migrants' declines cannot be explained by conditions in the breeding grounds; 	<p>Migration</p>							

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec.12.23 c	Report to the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the extent to which progress has been made on these and other priorities, and potential opportunities to promote these research areas including dialogue with national and international research-funding agencies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions • Report on progress 	ScC-SC4	Olivier Biber (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	tbd	No funding needed		
ScC-SC3-Decision; Res. 11.15 (Rev.COP12)	Review of the Report from the Preventing Poisoning Working Group; Lead Task Group to build on the experience from the ECHA process related to a ban of lead shot in wetlands	Review the progress particularly with regard to Lead TG	•	ScC-SC4; COP13	(Sec FP: Tilman Schneider)	Core	No funding needed		
ScC-SC3-Decision; Res. 11.15 (Rev.COP12)	Review the cross-taxa impacts of poisoning; Dialogue between terrestrial and avian working group with regard to the poisoning of carnivores and other mammals and the damage to vultures and raptors	Stimulate a scoping exercise of the Lead Task Group; Establish dialogue between Members of terrestrial and avian working group as a cross-cutting issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions • Report on progress 	ScC-SC4	Members of Avian and Terrestrial Species Working Groups (Sec FP: Tilman Schneider)	Core	No funding needed		
ScC-SC3-Decision; Res. 11.15 (Rev.COP12)	Contribute to knowledge and information on the impact of neonicotinoids and raise awareness	Engage in research on the impact of neonicotinoids, also particularly those one which are envisaged as alternatives for banned products; Investigate how CMS can engage and provide information for publishing statements; Compile the information for the Standing Committee, also considering the provisions of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions • Report on progress 	ScC-SC4	(Sec FP: Tilman Schneider)	Core	No funding needed		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
		African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan; Raising it as a cross-cutting issue							
Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds									
ScC-SC3-Decision; Res.11.16 (Rev.COP12)		Promoting synergies and dialogue with terrestrial and aquatic with regard to terrestrial wildmeat and the issue of illegal killing of birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions • Report on progress 	ScC-SC4	(Sec FP: Laura Aguado)	High	No funding needed		
Res.12.6	14. Requests the Executive Secretary working with the Scientific Council and in cooperation with the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds to approach urgently FAO, OIE and WHO in response to their call for further research into fully understanding the role of wild birds in spreading HPAI, and seek the necessary resources to perform this work;			Ongoing	Taej Mundkur Avian WG of the ScC-SC; Executive Secretary (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	Low	No funding needed		
Res.12.6	17. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure continued leadership of the Convention in the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds, through appropriate representatives of the Scientific Council and the Secretariat, and urges the Scientific Council, with and through the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds, to provide relevant input on practical measures to reduce the risk of disease transmission between wild, captive and domesticated birds, to those agencies developing contingency and wetland management plans related to HPAI;	Provide relevant input on practical measures to reduce the risk of disease transmission between wild, captive and domesticated birds, to those agencies developing contingency and wetland management plans related to HPAI		Ongoing	Taej Mundkur Avian WG of the ScC-SC; (Sec. FP: Tilman Schneider)	Medium	No funding needed		
Res.12.6	18. Requests the Executive Secretary, working with the Scientific Council and its Working Group on Migratory Species as Vectors of Diseases to make	Consider information existing under ACAP and available on bats and other taxa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resolution • Draft Decisions 	Ongoing	Taej Mundkur Avian WG of the ScC-SC; (Sec. FP: Borja	Low	No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	recommendations regarding the nature and extent of risks associated with other diseases in migratory species and possible areas of action to be taken by Contracting Parties in addressing this;			Heredia)				
Res.12.6	35. requests that the CMS Secretariat and FAO continue to act as co-convenors of the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds with the engagement of the CMS Scientific Council, building on international activities already undertaken, and responding to new developments related to the spread of HPAI H5N1 and other subtypes as they occur;	Engage with the CMS Secretariat and FAO in the activities of the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds, building on international activities already undertaken, and responding to new developments related to the spread of HPAI H5N1 and other subtypes as they occur	Contact with FAO updated and strengthened	Ongoing	Taej Mundkur Avian WG of the ScC-SC; (Sec. FP: Tilman Schneider)	medium	No funding needed	
Flyways								
Res.12.11	25. Produce guidelines and/or case studies on mechanisms to enhance the conservation of migratory birds through site networks;	Case studies production until ScC-SC4: R. Clay, T. Mundkur, Raptors MOU	Guidelines/case studies on mechanisms to enhance the conservation of migratory birds through site networks	Ongoing; ScC-SC4	Rob Clay, Taej Mundkur, Raptors MOU (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	High (in CMS POW)	No funding needed	
Res.12.11	Review of the Action Plan of the Americas Flyways Framework	Review the Action Plan of the Americas Flyways Framework; make recommendations for the Americas Flyways Task Force, especially with regard to coverage of Americas-relevant elements of the CMS POW in the Action Plan	Revised Action Plan	ScC-SC4	Rob Clay (Sec FP: Borja Heredia)	High	No funding needed	

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Res. 12.11 Para. 9	Proposes the continuation of the Flyways Working Group, ensuring that its membership incorporates expertise from geographical regions and relevant CMS bodies currently absent;	Organize meeting of the Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WG meeting organized and integrated with new members 	2019	Taej Mundkur Flyways Working Group (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	High (in CMS POW)	25,000		
Res.12.11 Dec 12.33	Review of the Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways: i) Review of current priorities; ii) Incorporation of information from National Reporting iii) Review on implementation and re-prioritization for COP13 iv) Revised list of priorities	<p>Provide inputs to the review on re-prioritization within the Flyways POW; advise on the use of information from National Reports summarized by the Secretariat; review and advise on all SSAP species improved (at least 50% of species have recovered and improved)</p> <p>Report progress to the Scientific Council. Report to the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the extent to which progress has been made on these priorities and on priorities for the 2021-2023 triennium.</p>	<p>Revised Flyways POW with re-prioritization and minimum set of actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Resolution Draft Decisions 	ScC-SC4	Taej Mundkur; Scientific Councillors who are Members of the Flyways Working Group (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	High	Partial funding needed (25,000 for meeting)		
Taxonomy and Nomenclature									
Res.12.27	6. Instructs the Scientific Council to review the updated online version of the bird reference for the species listed on the Appendices at its last meeting before each meeting of the Conference of Parties and make recommendations as to whether the name of any listed		Draft Decisions	Ongoing	Rob Clay, Stephen Garnett (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	High (in CMS POW)	No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	species should be updated;							
ScC-SC3-Decision; Res. 12.27	Review the outcomes of the analysis of migration status and apply to the disaggregated families under CMS Appendix II	Review and advise	Draft Decisions	Ongoing	Rob Clay, Stephen Garnett (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia)	High (in CMS POW)	No funding needed	
CA 12.8	Keep under review the Concerted Action for the Asian Great Bustard	Keep progress under review	Guidance given as required	COP13	Lkhagvasuren Badamjav (Sec FP: Borja Heredia)	High	No funding needed	

Thematic Work Area: **Cross-cutting conservation issues (Working Group 6)**

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
<i>Resolution / Decision number</i>	<i>Text of Resolution / Decision</i> (The Scientific Council shall/should)	<i>Further short description of activity (if necessary)</i>	<i>List of outputs</i>	<i>Timeframe (year and/or meeting) (as per Res / Dec, if provided)</i>	<i>Names of people involved</i>	<i>Core, High, Medium, Low</i>	<i>Amounts already raised & required €</i>		
Marine Migratory Species									
Res.9.9 (Rev.COP12) Para.1	Identify priority issues, species and habitats in the marine sphere requiring intervention by CMS in the next decade;	Work is ongoing in the respective taxonomic WGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New initiatives as appropriate • Proposal to re-peal resolution 	ScC-SC4	Relevant taxonomic Councillors	Low	No funding needed		
Res. 12.21 Para. 5	Requests the Scientific Council and the Working Group on Climate Change to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an inventory of large-scale relevant datasets. • Support development and submission to appropriate donors of a project proposal on the development of climate-resilient site networks along flyways. • Develop synergies with actors from other sectors, in particular the energy sector, through the Energy Task Force, with a view to identifying support to fill gaps in knowledge. 	Inventory of datasets. Project Proposal on development of climate-resilient site networks along flyways.	2018-2020	C. Galbraith/ C. Limpus; J. Diouck; T. Mundkur; Climate Change Working Group (Sec. FP: Marco Barbieri)	Medium (in CMS POW)	80,000 (for project on climate-resilient site network)		•
Res. 12.21 Para. 11	Proposes the continuation of the Climate Change Working Group, ensuring	Identify gaps in membership and invite appropriate experts to fill	WG meeting organized and integrated with new	2018	C. Galbraith/ Climate Change	High (in CMS	25,000 (for		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	that its membership incorporates expertise from geographical regions currently absent, and to prioritize, facilitate and monitor the implementation of the POW;	those gaps. Develop intersessional work through the Online Workspace Organize meeting of the Working Group	members	Working Group (Sec. FP: Marco Barbieri)	POW)	organization of CCWG meeting)		
Dec.12.72	Report on progress in implementing the <i>Programme of Work on Climate Change and Migratory Species</i> , including monitoring and the efficacy of measures taken, to the 13 th and 14 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, ensuring as far as possible integration into the national reports for CMS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile and review information submitted by Parties in National Reports to COP12 and COP13 • Provide input as appropriate to the process of revision of the template for National Reports 	Progress report Reporting template takes into account climate change aspects	2018-2019 C. Galbraith/ Climate Change Working Group (Sec. FP: Marco Barbieri)	High	No funding needed		
Dec.12.74	Provide advice on how the interpretation in Paragraph 9 of UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.21 on <i>Climate Change and Migratory Species</i> could be turned into pragmatic good practice	Initial WG made of members of CCWG and other interested Councillors to produce initial discussion paper. propose process and timelines for addressing this task	Advice provided	2018-2019 C. Galbraith/J. Williams (Sec. FP: Marco Barbieri)	High	No funding needed		
		Finalize development, review and publication of species and habitat fact sheets on climate change impacts	Fact Sheets published	2018-2019 M. Simmonds/ C. Galbraith; C. Limpus; R. Medellin (Sec. FP: Marco Barbieri)	Medium	No funding needed)
Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity								

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Res.11.23 (Rev.COP12) Para.7	Invites relevant CMS Scientific Councillors for taxa other than cetaceans to review the findings of the expert working group and engage in this expert group;	Councillors to join Expert WG	Taxonomic scope broadened	ScC-SC4	Co-Chairs of Expert Group Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara & Philippa Brakes (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed		
Dec.12.77	Subject to the availability of resources, consider the outputs of the Expert Group on Culture and Social Complexity and make recommendations to the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, based on its findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expert Working Group to report to each meeting of the Scientific Council Council to report to COP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to COP If required Draft Decisions / Draft revised Resolution 	COP13	Co-Chairs of Expert Group Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara & Philippa Brakes (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed		
Sustainable Boat-based Marine Wildlife Watching									
Res.11.29 (Rev.COP12) Para.10	Subject to availability of resources, conduct periodic reviews of the state of knowledge of the impacts of boat-based wildlife watching activities on migratory species and recommend refined and adjusted measures or guidelines as appropriate		Guidance from ScC, if needed Draft Decisions / Draft revised Resolution	ScC-SC6	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Low	No funding needed		
Dec.12.79 a	Subject to availability of resources, consider combining work streams related to boat-based wildlife watching and recreational in-water interactions with aquatic species in the coming intersessional period,	Decide to combine work streams, focusing on marine areas and, for aquatic mammals, river systems (see also Dec.12.51 a)	Guidance from ScC, if needed Draft Decisions	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Low	No funding needed		

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	collaborating with the International Whaling Commission (IWC) where appropriate, ensuring all CMS-listed species that are the target of recreational in-water interactions are covered by any guidelines to be developed;								
Dec.12.79 b	Subject to availability of resources, collaborate with ACCOBAMS and the Standing Working Group on Whale Watching established under the Conservation Committee of the IWC to develop a joint IWC-CMS Whale Watching Handbook providing guidance to the Parties on management of activities related to vessel-based cetacean watching;		IWC-CMS Whale Watching Handbook	ScC-SC4	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	40,000 (provided by Monaco) matching funding by IWC		
Dec.12.79 c	Report to the Standing Committee at its 48 th and 49 th meetings on the progress in implementing this Decision.		Report to the StC48 and StC49	StC48	Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed		
Energy and Migratory Species									

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec.12.82	<p>The Energy Task Force, with input from the Scientific Council as appropriate, is encouraged to:</p> <p>a) Investigate best practices in methods for cumulative assessment;</p> <p>b) Produce guidance based on that for assessing cumulative impacts of (renewable) energy and power line developments on migratory species, including beyond national borders;</p> <p>c) Make suggestions on improving collective understanding of such impacts;</p> <p>d) Undertake these activities in collaboration with the specialized organizations referred to in UNEP/CMS/Resolution 7.2 (Rev.COP12) on Impact Assessment and Migratory Species, building on the principles expressed in that Resolution;</p> <p>e) Report to the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the above activities.</p>	Inputs provided	COP13	ETF/ R. Medellin; J. Diouck; Specialized organizations mentioned in Res.7.2 (Rev. COP12) (Sec. FP: Borja Heredia; Tilmann Schneider)	Low	No funding needed		
Addressing Unsustainable Use of Terrestrial and Avian Wild Meat								

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec.12.86	The Scientific Council should consider the analysis on the direct and indirect effects of wild meat consumption on CMS-listed species submitted by the Secretariat and make appropriate recommendations to the 48 th or 49 th meeting of the Standing Committee	Pass information on where data is available to the Secretariat, members to volunteer to support Secretariat is undertaking analysis To be done in liaison with the Aquatic Wild Meat WG	Recommendations to StC48 or StC49	StC48 or StC49		High (in CMS POW)	25,000		
Sustainable Tourism and Migratory Species									
Dec.12.90	Subject to the availability of resources, the Scientific Council shall conduct periodic appraisals of the latest scientific evidence on the impacts of ecotourism activities on migratory species and to recommend refined guidelines. Produce and submit a draft report at the 13 th Meeting of the Conference of Parties		Appraisals and guidelines produced	2018-2020			20,000		
The role of ecological networks in the conservation of migratory species									
Res.12.7 Para. 29	Urges CMS National Focal Points and Scientific Councillors to work closely with relevant organizations such as the European Space Agency and its Focal Points to support new technology developments such as the ICARUS experiment to track the		Cooperation and support activities	tbd	(the European Space Agency and its Focal Points and other relevant organizations)				

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	movement and fate of migratory animals globally								
Res.12.7 Para. 31	Urges Parties, the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to address outstanding or recurring actions		Actions progressed	tbd					
Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species									
Dec.12.92 a	The Scientific Council, subject to the availability of resources, should undertake the following tasks for enhancing the scientific understanding of connectivity issues in relation to migratory species: Review the scope for existing major databases to support relevant analyses and syntheses of information on connectivity, and identify options <i>inter alia</i> for ensuring sustainability and enhanced operability and coordination of such databases for this purpose;	ScC-SC to consider relevant outcomes of the African Eurasian Bird Migration Atlas as regards EURING and MoveBank.	Review undertaken	tbd					
Dec. 12.92 b	Investigate options for creating relevant data and knowledge holding capabilities and for enhancing analysis capabilities under the auspices of the CMS, in collaboration with suitably qualified institutions and processes;		Options to enhance analysis capabilities investigated	tbd					

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec. 12.92 c	Investigate and report on the linkages between migratory species connectivity and ecosystem resilience;	Conduct analysis on linkages between migratory species connectivity and ecosystem resilience	Analysis conducted	2019	F. Spina/ (attendees of workshops on connectivity)	Medium (in CMS POW)	15,000		
Dec. 12.92 d	Having regard in particular to the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, assess the needs and develop focused objectives for new research on key connectivity issues, including but not limited to climate change, which affect the conservation status of each of the major taxonomic groups of migratory wild animals covered by CMS in each of the world's major land and oceanic regions, and produce a report on the findings of this assessment prior to the 13 th Meeting of the Conference of Parties;	Conduct desk study	Assessment and report completed	(Prior to COP13)	F. Spina/ (attendees of workshops on connectivity)	Medium (in CMS POW)	15,000		
Dec.12.92 e	Consider the need for additional guidance within the framework of the CMS on assessing threats to migratory species connectivity in particular priority situations identified by the work described in sub-Paragraph (d) above;	Hold workshop	Guidance provided	2018-2020					

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec.12.92 f	Make recommendations as appropriate arising from the work described in this Decision		Recommendations as appropriate	2018-2020			No funding needed		
Management of Marine Debris									
Res.12.20 Para 8	Promote the prioritization of research into the effects of microplastics on the species ingesting them, and support research on the significance of colour, shape or plastic type on the likelihood of causing harm;	Link to projects in framework of ACCOBAMS		Ongoing	tbd (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Low	No funding needed		
Res.12.20 Para 9	Promote harmonization or standardization of protocols for the analysis of marine litter, including microplastics, in stranded organisms	Consider ACAP guidelines and how these can be used as starting point for intersessional work Link to initiatives of CBD, IWC, World Seabird Union, FAO, ACCOBAMS, IUCN	Advice to other bodies where appropriate	ScC-SC4	tbd (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed		
Res.12.20 Para 11	Working groups established under the Scientific Council [should] address the issue of marine debris where relevant, drawing on the work already undertaken by the Convention;	Facilitate access to outside expertise	Issue of marine debris integrated into taxonomic working group tasks Recommendation to COP13 how to address this issue in coming triennium	ScC-SC3 ScC-SC4	tbd (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed		
Res.12.20 Para 37	With support from the Secretariat, further the Convention's work on the marine debris issue and investigate the feasibility of close cooperation with other biodiversity-related agreements by means of a multilateral working group;	Collaborate with CBD IWC FAO	Idea of a multilateral working group on marine debris discussed with other biodiversity-related agreements, WG possibly established	ScC-SC4 COP13	tbd (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Bycatch								
Res.12.22		Maintain a small informal group of interested parties and technical experts on the workspace to assist the Bycatch Councillor	Report on intersessional activities of Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch WG	ScC-SC4 COP13	Barry Baker Bycatch WG (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch- Nwakanma)	High	No funding needed	
Res.12.22 Para 16	Scientific Council and the Working Group on Bycatch to recommend to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate, concerted actions to be taken by Parties in respect of species listed in Appendices I and II that are affected by bycatch;	Continuously review information and determine where concerted actions are required.	Report on intersessional activities of Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch WG Recommendations to COP	ScC-SC4 COP13	Barry Baker Bycatch WG (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch- Nwakanma)	Medium	No funding needed	
Res.12.22 Para 17	Scientific Council and the Bycatch Working Group to identify for each particular bycatch situation (gear type, species, fishing area and season) the most effective mitigation techniques, which should build upon and complement existing initiatives within the fisheries sector;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of mitigation measures for each by-catch situation; in particular for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine mammals Seabirds Sharks Turtles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft guidance, resolutions and decisions, as necessary Technical Series issues and/or journal articles 	ScC-SC4 COP13	Barry Baker Bycatch WG AMWG ACAP Sharks MOU ACCOBAMS ASCOBANS IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch- Nwakanma)	High	tbd	
Res.12.22 Para 18	Consider any scientific and technical information submitted by Range States or other relevant bodies, relating to impacts on migratory species from	Continuously review and utilize available information on the at-sea distribution of migratory species to assess overlap with fishing operations and hence the	Report on intersessional activities of Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch WG	ScC-SC4 COP13	Barry Baker (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch- Nwakanma) Daughter	High	No funding needed	

Mandate		Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	bycatch, in particular CMS daughter agreements	risk of bycatch in fishing regions			agreements				
Res.12.22 Para 20	Continue and increase efforts to collaborate with other relevant international fora and where appropriate the RFMOs, with a view to avoiding duplication, increasing synergies and raising the profile of CMS and CMS agreements related to aquatic species in these fora;	Provide advice to daughter agreements, e.g. Sharks MOU, on their engagement strategies	Attendance at relevant RFMO meetings Coordination of activities and advice with daughter agreements	ScC-SC4 COP13	Barry Baker (Sec FP: Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma) Daughter agreements, IWC	High	30,000 desirable Joint funding with daughter agreements		
Concerted Actions									
Res. 12.28 Para.3	Instructs the Scientific Council to propose for each meeting of the Conference of the Parties a list of species for Concerted Actions;	Review proposals submitted to ScC-SC4	Concerted Actions proposed	2018-2020			No funding needed		
Res. 12.28 Para.4 a)	Nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for Concerted Action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned in accordance with the Guidelines to the Implementation of the	Taxonomic WGS to decide whether to request proponents to report on implementation	Expert nominated	2018-2020			No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	Concerted Actions Process contained in Annex 1 to this Resolution;							
Res.12.28 Para 4 b)	Confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary		Nominations confirmed	2018-2020		No funding needed		
Res. 12.28 Para 6	Instructs the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take Concerted Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention, where possible through existing instruments of bilateral or multilateral cooperation		Parties assisted	ongoing		No funding needed		
Dec.12.103 a	By the 13 th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Scientific Council should: Determine whether species previously listed for Cooperative Actions, but for which no activity has yet begun, should remain listed in the newly unified Concerted Actions list or be deleted;	Consider species for which a proposal is submitted for the coming triennium	Listed Species in the Concerted Actions Revised	2018-2020		No funding needed		

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
Dec.12.103 b	Review the projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, subject to the criteria included in Step 2, Paragraph 2 of the <i>Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process</i> contained in Annex 1 to UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.28 on <i>Concerted Actions</i> , along with any information about progress towards and impact of implementing those actions. Such review may conclude, inter alia, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be added to the list of species accordingly);	As above	Review endorsed	2018-2020		High (in CMS POW)	No funding needed	
Dec.12.103 c	Report to the Standing Committee at its 48 th and 49 th meeting on the progress in implementing this Decision		Progress in the implementation of this decision reported	StC48 and StC49		No funding needed		
Res.12.25		With assistance from Secretariat, gather information from across the CMS Family Develop recommendation	Recommendation	Vincent Hilomen (Sec FP: tbd)				

Mandate	Activity	Expected Output	Timeframe	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress up to ScC-SC4	Further action to COP13 and/or ScC-SC5
	on way forward Consult intersessionally in advance of Ramsar COP							