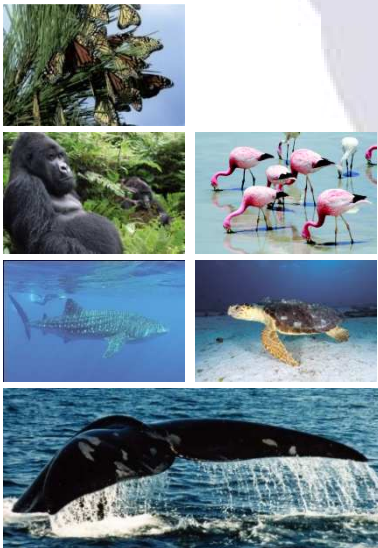




**Convention on Migratory Species
United Nations Environment Programme**

Report of the CMS Secretariat

37th Standing Committee



UNEP/CMS Secretariat

Monday, November 29, 2010

11/29/2010

Highlights since StC36

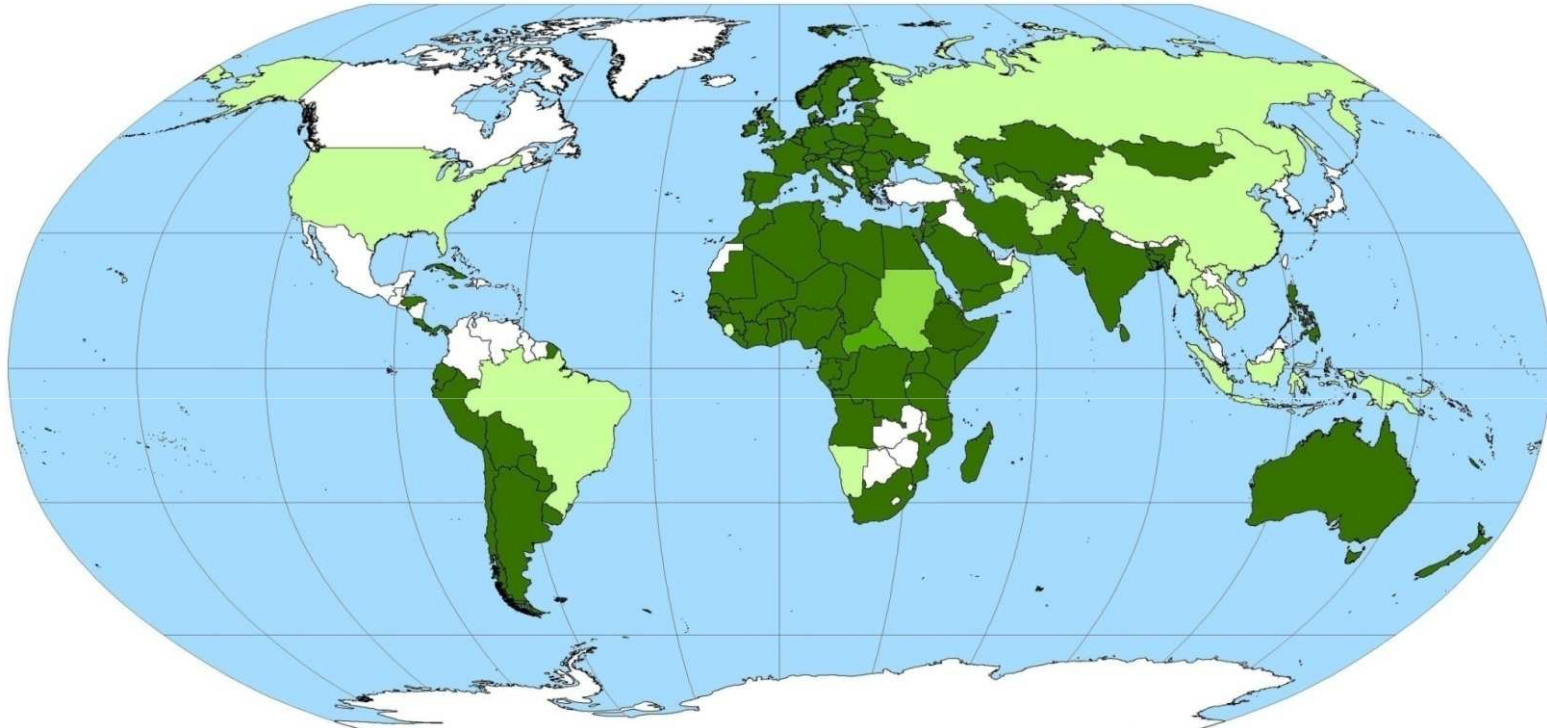
1. No of Parties up from 112 to 114 with more in the pipelines
2. Finalization of the Sharks MoU
3. Convening of 4 meetings of signatories to existing MoUs (Siberian Crane, Aquatic Warbler, Saiga, Grassland Birds)
4. 16th CMS Scientific Council Meeting
5. Year of the Bat
6. Resource Mobilization
7. Five new staff members
8. Norway to host the 10th Conference of the Parties
9. Partnership development
10. Capacity Building and Publications (“Survival” and Panama & Albania Workshops)
11. Active participation at the CBD CoP10 – Nagoya
12. Thesis Award 2010





Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Map of 114 Parties (as of 1 August 2010)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



	CMS Party
	CMS Signatory
	Agreement Party
	MoU Signatory
	Non-Party



Building membership

- 2 Non-Parties have joined CMS between 2009/10



Ethiopia



Equatorial Guinea

- Some are in the process of ratification/accession:



Swaziland



Botswana



Armenia



Colombia

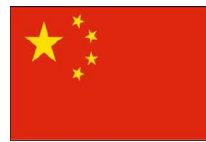


Dominican Republic

- Special efforts for recruitment of:



Brazil



China



Kyrgyzstan



Russian Federation



10th Conference of the Parties (StC 37 /14, 18)

- At the invitation of the Norwegian Government, COP10 will be held in Bergen from 20 to 25 November 2011.
- 4 meetings of regional instruments, amongst which the Gorilla Agreement MOP2, will be held before and after the COP.
- COP10 slogan and logo launched in consultation with the Host Country.
- Preparation and logistical arrangements are well advanced
- Extensive agenda and important issues to discuss e.g. ecological networks and climate change; Future Shape and new Strategic Plan.
- New institutional arrangements to be tested
- Contributions towards delegates participation are welcome



Future Shape process (StC 37/7)

2010 – Second step of the process: “..the WG shall propose different options on the organization and strategic activities that could improve current operations”

- ERIC, consultancy firm that undertook first step assessment was reappointed to pursue the work until COP10 with contribution from France;
- Several consultations took place on the elaboration of possible options on the basis of first step assessment and survey of Parties and partner organizations’ inputs.
- Second meeting of the Working Group, Bonn (1-2 July 2010) reviewed mandate outlined in Para. 3 of Res.9.13 and, in view of the 37StC meeting, requested ERIC to group activities identified by the meeting and develop scoring and weighting systems to assess impacts and benefits each activity





Sahelo Saharian Antelopes

- The project funded by the *Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial* (FFEM) comes to an end in December 2010. The project is considered to have been successful. An independent evaluation of the project is being undertaken at the moment.
- The project funded by the EU in Niger will be extended until 2012. Work is very advanced towards the designation of the Termit protected area, one of last strongholds for SSA in the world.

Implementation of Res. 9.09: Migratory Marine Species

Res.8.22 - Adverse Human Induced Impacts on Cetaceans

- CMS Secretariat and Scientific Council tasked to:
 1. Analyze threats to cetaceans & evaluate extent to which these are addressed;
 2. Analyze gaps and overlaps between MEA's;
 3. Propose programme of work on cetacean conservation for Parties;



Implementation of Res. 9.09: Migratory Marine Species (Cont. I)

Res.8.22 - Adverse Human Induced Impacts on Cetaceans

- Progress on the development of the document:
 1. Advanced draft completed and circulating for detailed expert input (IUCN Cetacean Specialist Group);
 2. Advanced draft analysis being finalized and ready for circulation and comments in Jan/Feb 2011;
 3. Will be developed with all comments in hand.
Expected to circulate for comments in Mar/Apr 2011
and to be completed for CMS COP10





REVIEW ON BYCATCH

- The review will focus on the impact of gillnets on non target species and mitigation measures.
- After a call for tenders and a very good response with 20 offers, the project has been awarded to the company Sextant Technology (New Zealand).
- This review has been possible thanks to the generous support from Australia and the United Kingdom.

7 Binding Agreements



18 Memoranda of Understanding / Action Plans

Siberian Crane 1993	Slender-billed Curlew 1995	Marine Turtles Atlantic Coast of Africa 1999	Marine Turtles Ind. Ocean / S-E Asia 2000	Great Bustard 2000	Bukhara Deer 2002
Aquatic Warbler 2003	Western African Elephant 2005	Pacific Island Region Cetaceans 2006	Saiga Antelope 2006	Western African Aquatic Mammals 2007	Monk Seal 2007
Dugong 2007	Ruddy H Goose 2007	Grasslands Birds 2008	Raptors 2008	Andean Flamingos 2008	Sharks 2010

Memorandum of Understanding on SHARKS

- The Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks was adopted on the 12th of February 2010 with 13 Signatories;
- The Annex adopted on 12th February 2010 includes: *Rhincodon typus*, *Cetorhinus maximus*, *Carcharodon carcharias*, *Isurus oxyrinchus*, *Isurus paucus*, *Lamna nasus*, and Northern hemisphere populations of *Squalus acanthias*
- Ongoing elaboration of Conservation Plan to be annexed to the MoU
- Efforts to solicit further countries to sign



Relevant MoU Meetings

Saiga Antelope

- The 2nd Meeting of the Signatories to the Saiga MoU was convened held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in September 2010;
- The Meeting of the Signatories was preceded by a Technical workshop on Saiga conservation
- The MoU was extended to include all Saiga taxa (*Saiga* spp.) and the territory of Mongolia
- A new Medium Term International Work Programme (MTIWP) for the period 2011-2015 was adopted



Relevant MoU Meetings (cont. I)

Siberian Crane

- 7th Meeting of the Signatories to the Siberian Crane MoU was held in June 2010 in Bonn;
- The Meeting developed Conservation Plans the Western, Central & Eastern Asian populations of *Grus leucogeranus*



Relevant MoU Meetings (cont. II)

Aquatic Warbler

- The 2nd Meeting of the Signatories to the Aquatic Warbler MoU was held in May 2010 in Poland;
- The meeting adopted a new Action Plan for the conservation of the Aquatic Warbler;
- The meeting extended the geographic scope of the MoU (from 22 to 29 Range States)
- The MoU was signed by France and Mali



Relevant MoU Meetings (cont. III)

Grassland Birds of Southern South America

- 1st Meeting of the Signatories to the Grassland Birds MoU convened in December 2010 in in Asuncion, Paraguay
- The meeting will be preceded by a Technical Workshop to progress the development of an Action Plan for Grassland Birds of Southern South America
- The Meetings are expected to finalize and adopt the Action Plan as an annex to the MoU





CMS / IOSEA Marine Turtle Memorandum of Understanding



- 32 Signatory States: “a model CMS agreement”
- ✓ CMS Major voluntary donors: Australia, South Africa, UK, USA+ increasing number of others (France, India, Oman etc)
- ✓ Main partners: FAO, IOTC, SEAFDEC, Nairobi Convention, WWF, IUCN
- ✓ Lean, efficient secretariat

- Strengths:
 - ✓ information management (state-of-art Online Reporting Facility)
 - ✓ innovative system for objective evaluation of Signatory State performance / MoU implementation
 - ✓ Awareness / education initiatives (e.g. organized first-ever CMS “Year of ...” campaign in 2006)
 - ✓ species assessments / contribution to 2010 Biodiversity Target



CMS/IOSEA Future Directions

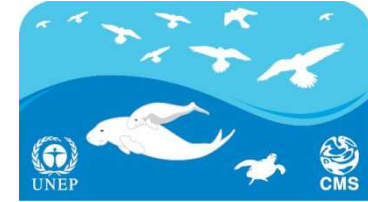


- IOSEA **Strategic Planning** process initiated in Feb. 2009
- Launch of **Technical support / Capacity-building** programme – September 2009
- Continued strengthening of **sub-regional coordination / cooperative mechanisms** (e.g. Western Indian Ocean Task Force; SEAFDEC (SE Asia); ROPME (Gulf region))
- Ongoing development of ‘IOSEA **Network of Sites** of Importance for Marine Turtles’
- Dynamic, content-rich **Website** < www.ioseaturtles.org >





PROGRESS REPORT OF UNEP/CMS Office Abu Dhabi



- Office is servicing the Secretariat of the Dugongs MoU, and the Interim Coordinating Unit (ICU) of the Migratory Birds of Prey MoU since June 2009;
- These MoUs became effective respectively on 31 October 2007 and 1 November 2008. Dugongs MoU counts 18 signatories and BoP MoU counts 31 signatories (incl. BLI);
- The Host Country Agreement text is under consideration by Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Most challenging tasks accomplished in the Office Work Plan as in Annex 2 of CMS/StC37/Inf.13. Executive Coordinator takes on urgent tasks of ICU until a new PO (Birds) is appointed;



PROGRESS REPORT OF UNEP/CMS Office – Abu Dhabi (Cont. I)



- Almost 67% Small Grants budget is used, incl. for various workshops organized by the Office in Thailand, India, Madagascar, and Abu Dhabi (c.f. Expenditures in Annex 1);
- First Official CMS Dugong MoU Signatory State Meeting in Abu Dhabi, October 2010. Excellent outcomes, incl. 5 new signatories; incidental catch survey tools, and incentives to protect dugong and its habitat;
- First Meeting of Signatories to BoP MoU envisaged for 2012 , and a workshop on conservation of migratory BOP in 2011;
- A side event by Emirates Wildlife Society and World Wildlife Fund (EWS-WWF) will be held at the 2nd Marine Conservation Forum in Abu Dhabi.



Progress of ASCOBANS

Recap:

- Joint Secretariat with CMS since 2007
- CMS Staff time dedicated to ASCOBANS:
3% Executive Secretary, 15% Scientific Officer, 75% Marine Mammals Officer

Meetings in 2010:

- 6th Meeting of the Jastarnia Group for the Recovery Plan for the Baltic Harbour Porpoise, February 2010, Hel, Poland
- ECS/ASCOBANS Workshop on Bycatch Mitigation, March 2010, Stralsund, Germany
- 17th Meeting of the Advisory Committee, October 2010, Bonn, Germany



Progress of ASCOBANS

Key Outcomes of AC17 as relevant to CMS:

- New working group on bycatch, foreseeing cooperation with CMS Appointed Councillor for Bycatch
- New working group on underwater noise – potential for CMS to join in with ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS and possibly OSPAR
- Informal working group on large cetaceans (most are on CMS Appendices) to make recommendations on addressing their conservation needs in the Agreement Area
- Adoption of a Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Plan for the Agreement, which contributes also to implementation of CMS Res.9.05



Gorilla Agreement

- 7th and most recent CMS legally binding Agreement
- Secretariat provided by CMS Secretariat
 - No dedicated staff
 - Annual budget from Party contributions: € 18,000 pa.
 - To date, no funds received from Parties
 - Currently running on volycons
- 1st MoP took place 2008 in Rome
- 2nd MoP planned for 2011 in Bergen



Gorilla Agreement (Cont. I)

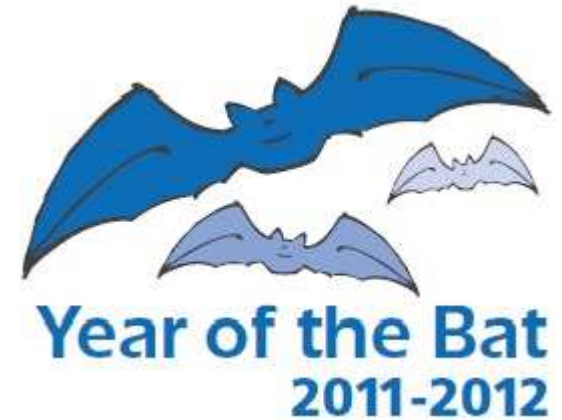
Despite constraints:

- The Year of the Gorilla campaign raised the visibility of the Agreement and supported selected projects (see also Summary of Evaluation, Doc StC37/20)
- The Agreement's 1st Technical Committee meeting is coming up, with a focus on how successful Mountain Gorilla conservation action can be emulated for the other gorilla species





Year of the Bat



- CMS and the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (EUROBATS), has successfully initiated and launched the “Year of the Bat” campaign
- Positive response at the EUROBATS meeting in Prague
- The first honorary Year of the Bat ambassador will be bat expert Dr. Merlin D. Tuttle, the founder of Bat Conservation International



Capacity Building & Workshops

- The 2nd workshop for policy makers of the Hispanic countries of Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC) was held on August in Panama City with participants of 17 LAC countries;
- Workshop was supported by the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNEP/ROLAC) & Audubon Society Panama;
 - Funds provided by the Spanish Ministry for Environment



New Staff

CMS is proud to announce and welcome five new members to the Secretariat:

- Scientific Officer (P4)
- Associate Technical Officer (P2)
- Associate Partnerships and Fundraising Officer (P2)
- Marine Mammal Officer/Coordinator for ASCOBANS (P2)
- Junior Professional Officer sponsored by Germany



Scientific Council

- Attended by over 60 delegates from all regions of the World;
- Discussions were undertaken on:
 - Conservation status of CMS Appendix I Species
 - Amendments on adding freshwater fish species, the tiger and two beaked whales to Appendices I and II



Scientific Council (Cont. I)

- Also discussed:
 - Threats such as climate change, habitat loss and artificial barriers to migration;
 - Response to emergency situations for CMS species; the critical sites and ecological networks for migratory species; the impact of marine debris;
 - Global bird flyways and other conservation priorities;
 - Taxonomy



Thesis Award 2010



- The Thesis Award, sponsored by Lufthansa, on Migratory Species Conservation with a value of €10,000 (c. US\$ 12,850) will be made at the 10th CMS COP;
- All theses accepted during the period May 2008 - April 2011 and by a licensed educational institution to be submitted by 15th April 2011;
- Twenty international experts form the advisory board where eight theses, covering different regions and animal groups, will be short-listed





Merci beaucoup

Thank you

Muchas gracias

For more information please visit

www.cms.int

