



# Using the IUCN Red List Categories in Assessing Listing Proposals



CMS COP11  
Regional Preparatory  
and Negotiations  
Workshop for Africa

Harare Zimbabwe  
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# INTRODUCTION

- COP9: discussion on the criteria for listing in relation to proposals for the inclusion of several species on Appendix II, and request to the ScC to review criteria.
- ScC17 & COP10: document UNEP/CMS/Conf.10.37, updated references to the IUCN Red List Criteria and proposing the adoption of a two-stage approach when considering nominations.
- COP10 requested the Scientific Council to develop a set of criteria to assist the Scientific Council and the Conference of Parties in assessing proposals for the listing of taxa to, and the delisting of taxa from, the appendices of the Convention.

# IUCN Red List System

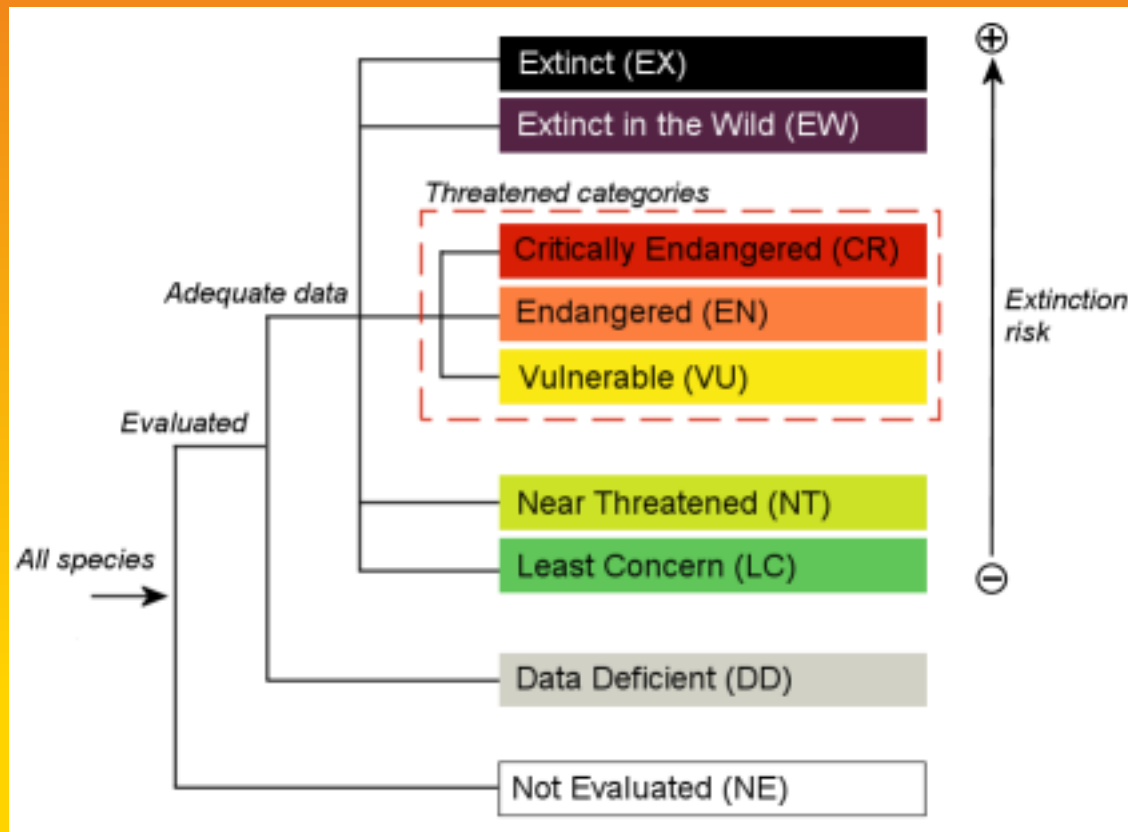
In the absence of specific quantitative criteria for listing CMS species, the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is a key reference on population status and trends



Proposal: Aligning the IUCN threat categories and the requirements for Appendix I and Appendix II established by the Convention

- The IUCN SSC completed an extensive review of the categories and criteria used to list species on the IUCN Red List in 2000
- Guidelines for using the IUCN Categories and Criteria were last revised in February 2014 (IUCN 2014).

# IUCN Red List Categories



# IUCN Red List Criteria

Listing to one of the categories requires that a taxon be assessed against five quantitative criteria – meeting any one of these criteria qualifies a taxon for listing at that level of threat.

- A. Reduction in population size;
- B. Restricted geographic range in the form of either in extent of occurrence or the area of occupancy;
- C. Small population size and decline;
- D. Very small or restricted population; and
- E. Quantitative analysis showing a high probability of extinction.

# Implications for CMS

## Appendix I

Appendix I requirements as set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article III:

*'Appendix I shall list migratory species which are endangered. A migratory species may be listed in Appendix I provided that reliable evidence, including the best scientific evidence available, indicates that the species is endangered.'*



Proposal: a taxon assessed as 'Extinct in the Wild', 'Critically Endangered', or 'Endangered'

# Implications for CMS

## Appendix II

CMS requirements as set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article IV:  
*'Appendix II shall list migratory species which have an unfavourable conservation status and which require international agreements for their conservation and management, as well as those which have a conservation status which would significantly benefit from the international cooperation that could be achieved by an international agreement'.*



Proposal: IUCN Listings 'Extinct in the Wild', 'Critically Endangered', 'Endangered', 'Vulnerable' or 'Near Threatened'

# Appendix II - Challenges

- Do species deemed to 'have an unfavourable conservation status' also 'require international agreements for their conservation and management'
- How do we determine they 'would significantly benefit from the international cooperation that could be achieved by an international agreement'
- This should be decided on a case by case basis



# Appendix II – Decision-making Factors

**Any proposal to include a species in Appendix II should include an assessment of whether:**

- existing legislation in the Range States is sufficient, or if further protection is needed;
- the majority of the population of the species concerned is migratory or sedentary;
- the factors that have led to an unfavourable conservation status are anthropogenic or natural;
- existing bilateral or multilateral measures/agreements need to be boosted or amended;
- all range states already protect the species or have management recovery plans in place;
- listing in a CMS Appendix would support measures in other multilateral fora.

# Appendix II – Decision-making Factors

## **And demonstrate the following:**

- how the inclusion on Appendix II will benefit the taxon; and
- A Party or Parties intention with respect to concluding an international agreement; and
- a Party or Parties willingness to adopt the role of Focal Point for the nominated taxon and lead the development of an international agreement.