



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme



CMS/StC36/14 Annex I

Draft Terms of Reference

Review on CMS existing instruments and projects on [terrestrial mammals/marine species/birds]

Position: Independent Consultant
Branch: United Nations Environment Programme
Division: Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
Duration: 6 months

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENT

The incumbent is to undertake an evaluation of the operation of instruments and projects on species of [terrestrial mammals/marine species/birds] developed under the aegis of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS). The array of CMS initiatives consists of Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and concerted and cooperative actions.

BACKGROUND

The Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP9) requested, through Resolution 9.2 paragraph 6, that reviews be undertaken of existing agreements and related projects covering three taxonomic groups, these being terrestrial mammals, marine species and birds. These reviews are to be carried out "in the context of the inter-sessional process regarding the Future Shape of CMS initiated by Resolution 9.13".

While the ultimate objective of the Future Shape process is to identify options regarding the potential strategic evolution of CMS and its instruments (CMS Family), the first step of the process consists of an assessment of the current organisation of the CMS Family.

This evaluation, which has been undertaken by the Inter-Sessional Working Group on the Future Shape of CMS (ISWGoFS) with support by consultants and was submitted to the 36th Meeting CMS Standing Committee (2-3 December 2009), already provides an institutional, financial and organisational overview of the CMS Family and some elements of the analysis related to its capacity to carry out activities, its integration and cooperation with other international organisations highlighting strengths and weaknesses of the system.

The CMS Standing Committee has however decided, in consultation with the ISWGoFS and the CMS Secretariat, that the Future Shape process would benefit from a more in-depth assessment of the functioning of each CMS initiative as well as from an examination of the possibilities of implementing a more integrated conservation programme.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In the context of this evaluation, the following instruments are to be considered:
[See list of initiatives for terrestrial mammals/marine species/birds]

The objective of this exercise is to evaluate the effectiveness of CMS instruments and projects on species of [terrestrial mammals/marine species/birds], to the extent possible, in terms of conservation of the targeted species; institutional, legal, organisational and budgetary aspects; synergy with stakeholders with respect to the elements listed below. The results are expected to

identify significant advantages and drawbacks of the design and functioning of these initiatives, lessons to be learnt and options, as appropriate, for improvement in achieving their conservation objectives, including possibilities to apply different approaches such as the “Multispecies Initiatives” by grouping the existing initiatives and/or developing new ones under main migratory species groups, or addressing the conservation need via alternative mechanisms and instruments.

Specifically, the evaluation will take into account the analysis presented in the review of the first step of the Future Shape process and further develop, to the extent possible, the following issues for each initiative and identify possible strengths, synergies, gaps or overlaps:

- scope of these initiatives, specifically the geographical and species coverage;
- contribution to the conservation of target species/populations as well as the protection of their habitats;
- capacity to raise awareness and funds;
- cooperation with other international/regional organisations and with other interested partners, including business organisations;
- suitability of the institutional and organisational setting established under the different initiatives to achieve the goals/objectives defined by the same initiatives ;
- lessons to be learnt for existing and new initiatives, instruments and projects (including those already in the pipeline), , including possibilities for moving or merging of instruments/instruments into CMS or other regional or multilateral initiatives, change of coordination and name financial, administrative and institutional implications;

METHODS

This evaluation will be conducted using a participatory approach, including representatives of the CMS Family Secretariats; Parties; Ranges States; partner organisations (IGOs and NGOs) and other stakeholders who will be identified in consultation with the CMS Secretariat.

The findings of the evaluation will be based on the following:

- Review of the current organisation and activities of CMS and the CMS Family undertaken within the First Step of the Inter-Sessional Future Shape Process;
- Relevant literature, to the extent possible, on status of, and conservation action on target species;
- Institutional documents and outputs on activities (texts of the instruments; papers, resolutions, recommendations and reports of meetings; relevant websites), including existing assessments of performance or the development of indicators;
- Administrative and budgetary information related to the operation of these instruments and projects;
- Written inquiries and interviews, if necessary, to Parties; Ranges States; partner organisations (IGOs and NGOs) and other stakeholders to assess how the campaign was perceived.

OUTPUT

The incumbent shall provide a final report of a maximum of 30 pages, excluding annexes. This report is expected to be written in English with numbered paragraphs and can include charts and tables. The report should include an explanation of the purpose of the assessment, issues and documents evaluated and the methods used. The report should also underline any methodological limitations, identify major concerns and present evidence-based findings, consequent conclusions and recommendations.

For ease of comparison the report should have the same format as the reports on the operation of CMS instruments and projects on [terrestrial mammals/marine species/birds], required by Resolution 9.2, Art. 6a/6b/6c and therefore should consist of:

1. Scope, objective and methods presenting the evaluation's purpose, the evaluation criteria used and issues to be addressed;
2. Introduction and background giving a very brief overview of the instruments and projects and the functioning and current status of the related Secretariats **and their Scientific bodies or mechanisms**;
3. Analysis providing factual evidence relevant to the issues above-listed, interpretations of such evidence and related explanation;
4. Conclusions on the basis of the analysis;
5. Recommendations that take note of the strengths and potential opportunities for improvement, suggesting proposals to improve the current arrangements that would ensure better delivering of objectives;
6. Annexes include written inquiries and interviews and documents reviewed.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The incumbent will commence in February 2010 and initially focus on collecting all necessary information and data, assisted by the CMS Family Secretariats. Then, the information will be analysed and the outcome of this evaluation will be laid down in a draft report to be finalised by June 2010 (*tentative date*). Following the review of the draft by the CMS Secretariat as well as by the ISWGoFS, the incumbent will be expected to incorporate their views and comments and produce revised versions as required. The final version of the report should be submitted to the CMS Secretariat by August 2010 (*tentative date*).

ORGANISATIONAL SETTINGS

The Contract will be managed in accordance with the CMS "Standard Terms and Conditions for Research and Development Contracts".

The incumbent will work in close collaboration with the CMS Secretariat as well as the ISWGoFS.

The CMS Agreement Development and Servicing Officer and the CMS Scientific & Technical Officer will act as the principal points of contact for the incumbent to provide all information that has been identified as necessary basis for the assessment.

QUALIFICATIONS

Work experience

Minimum 5 years of relevant work experience in the international governance required, preferably within the UN System, especially in the preparation of official reports.

Languages

For this post excellent written English and good knowledge of other CMS languages (French and Spanish) is required.

The CMS Secretariat is looking forward to receiving offers, including fee, from interested candidates by**2009**. Please send your offer, together with a detailed Curriculum Vitae to:
Jeanybeth Mina jmina@cms.int