



53rd Meeting of the Standing Committee

Bonn, Germany, 19 – 20 October 2022

UNEP/CMS/StC53/Outcome 2

**DECISION ON NEXT STEPS REGARDING FOLLOW UP TO THE
STRATEGIC PLAN FOR MIGRATORY SPECIES 2015-2023**

The Standing Committee:

Having considered the analysis and compilations prepared by the Secretariat pursuant to Decisions 13.4 (a) - (c), as included in documents UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.11, UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.12 and UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.12/Add.1;

1. *Agrees* to establish an Intersessional Working Group (IWG) tasked to develop, with support from the Secretariat, a draft concise Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, as a follow-up to the SPMS 2015-2023, for consideration by COP14. The Terms of Reference of the IWG are detailed in the attachment to this decision;
2. *Requests* the CMS Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to prepare a first draft of the Strategic Plan to support the work of the IWG, and any other materials as required;
3. *Encourages* Parties and stakeholders to provide financial and technical support for implementation this decision.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP ON A FOLLOW UP TO THE SPMS 2015-2023

Objectives

1. The main objective of the Intersessional Working Group (IWG) will be to develop, with support from the Secretariat, a draft concise Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, as a follow-up to the SPMS 2015-2023, for the consideration of COP14.
2. The draft Strategic Plan will:
 - Include core strategic goals, objectives and priority actions of the CMS that are clear, concrete and implementable;
 - Assist to elevate the profile of the Convention, assist Parties with its implementation and promote strategic synergies with other MEAs, and with the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;
 - Cover a time period of 2-3 triennia;
 - Be aligned with processes for progress reporting on Convention implementation;
 - Be prepared in time for consideration by COP14, but foreseeing the opportunity for being underpinned with further documents in future (on matters of expanded detail);
 - Allow for review and updating of various elements during the life of the plan as necessary.
3. In developing the proposal, the IWG may take into account, *inter alia*:
 - a. Challenges and threats facing migratory species which should be addressed by this Strategic Plan;
 - b. The relevant outcomes of the 53rd meeting of the Standing Committee, CMS decisions and resolutions, including the CMS Programme of Work, to identify key priorities and cross-cutting policy issues for achieving CMS objectives;
 - c. Elements of the SPMS 2015-2023 that continue to be relevant to CMS implementation and migratory species conservation more broadly, considering *inter alia* the analysis of implementation of the SPMS 2015-2023, as set forth in document UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.11;
 - d. Results of recent global scientific assessments relevant for CMS, including the IPBES Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the IPBES Assessment on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species, the IPBES Assessment of the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature, and the 5th edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook;
 - e. The post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, outcomes of other relevant global agreements including UNFCCC, UNCCD, the Sustainable Development Goals, other global initiatives such as the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration; and
 - f. Strategic planning approaches used by other biodiversity-related conventions.

Composition of the Intersessional Working Group

4. The IWG shall be open to all members of the Standing Committee, and it will be composed of at least one representative per region.
5. The Chair of the Scientific Council shall be invited to be an ex-officio member of the Working Group.

6. Representatives of Parties not members of the Standing Committee and stakeholder organizations will be invited to participate in meetings of the IWG as observers.

Modalities of work

7. The work of the IWG will be facilitated by the CMS Secretariat.
8. The IWG will elect two co-chairs from among its members.
9. The IWG will meet at least once prior to COP14, in person or virtually.
10. Members of the IWG shall consult with Parties in their regions, as appropriate, on the draft Strategic Plan prior to submission of the IWG's proposed draft Strategic Plan to the Standing Committee.
11. Insofar as practical and possible, the IWG will invite the views of the Secretariats of MEAs and of the whole CMS Family of instruments.
12. The draft Strategic Plan developed by the IWG will be submitted to the Standing Committee for review and endorsement prior to the relevant deadlines for publication of documents for COP14. The endorsed draft will be submitted by the Standing Committee to COP14 for consideration.
13. The IWG will only operate in English.