**IMPACTS OF PLASTIC POLLUTION ON AQUATIC,**

**TERRESTRIAL AND AVIAN SPECIES**

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*(Prepared by the COW)*

DRAFT DECISIONS

**IMPACTS OF PLASTIC POLLUTION ON AQUATIC, TERRESTRIAL AND AVIAN SPECIES**

***Directed to Parties***

14.AA Parties are encouraged to:

1. Fully support the negotiations for a legally binding treaty to end plastic pollution currently ongoing in response to UNEP/EA.5/Res.14 *End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument,* with the ambition to complete them by the end of 2024, by raising issues associated with plastic pollution of importance to migratory species and identify locally appropriate solutions, striving to ensure that communities actively participate, taking into account relevant provisions of CMS Resolution 12.20 *Management of Marine Debris* and the recommendations of the report, *Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Freshwater Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Migratory Species in the Asia and Pacific Region*;
2. Disseminate the findings of the report, *Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Freshwater Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Migratory Species in the Asia and Pacific Region,* within their Governments and among other stakeholders, and take steps to address the conclusions;
3. Engage with the Global Ghost Gear Initiative, in line with the recommendation contained in Resolution 12.20, implement strategies to increase gear traceability through the implementation of fishing gear marking schemes in line with the FAO voluntary guidelines and participate in the ongoing FAO global assessment of Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG);
4. Encourage further research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders on the impact of plastic pollution, including plastics of all sizes and materials, on marine, freshwater and terrestrial CMS-listed species with a view to providing clear recommendations;
5. Develop, in collaboration with relevant agencies, a harmonised standard and guidance relating to the circular design of fishing gears in order to prepare for their re-use, repair or recycling, and sharing best practices, including in relation to the collection of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gears.

***Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations***

14.BB Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to identify and mobilize resources to support activities and initiatives to prevent and mitigate plastic pollution, including actions towards combating and removing accumulated marine debris and supporting upstream activities towards prevention of plastic pollution in areas of high importance for migratory species on the basis of the precautionary principle, recognizing the challenges faced by Parties and the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties including least developed and small island developing states.

***Directed to the Scientific Council***

14.CC The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of external resources, to:

* + 1. Noting the work undertaken already with respect to the Asia Pacific region, develop a concise report summarizing the status of knowledge on the impact of plastic pollution on CMS-listed species that inhabit terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems in other regions taking into account plastics of all sizes and materials, along with recommendations to address such threats, and submit the report to the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting;
    2. Taking into account decision COP14/XX on Effects of marine pollution on migratory species, collaborate with other scientific mechanisms such as those under the International Whaling Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme and other multilateral environmental agreements to exchange available scientific and other relevant data and information related to the prevention and reduction of the impact of plastics on migratory species, including the report developed under paragraph a).

***Directed to the Secretariat***

14.DD The Secretariat shall:

1. Subject to the availability of resources, support implementation of Decisions 14.AA – 14.CC;
2. Report to the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting on progress of the implementation of Decisions 14.AA - 14.CC.