



**CONVENTION ON  
MIGRATORY  
SPECIES**

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STRATEGIC AND PLANNING MEETING  
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Formia (Italy), 9-11 October 2013

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY  
AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (IPBES)**

*(Prepared by the UNEP/CMS Secretariat)*

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP) at its tenth meeting, held in Bergen, Norway, from 20 to 25 November 2011, adopted Resolution 10.8 on Cooperation between the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and CMS. In this resolution the COP, *inter alia*:
  - a) recognizes *the need to strengthen and improve the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for human well-being through the establishment of a science-policy platform,*
  - b) requests *the Scientific Council to participate in relevant processes of IPBES, in collaboration with the scientific advisory bodies of the MEAs as appropriate; and*
  - c) instructs *the Secretariat to maintain cooperative working relationships with IPBES, to participate as appropriate in meetings of the Platform and to report on progress to the Standing Committee, resources permitting.*
2. Pursuant to Resolution 10.8, the Chair of the Scientific Council and members of the Secretariat represented CMS at the first meeting of the Platform's Plenary (IPBES-1), held in Bonn, Germany, from 21 to 26 January 2013. The final report of the meeting is contained in document IPBES/1/12 (available at [www.ipbes.net](http://www.ipbes.net)). Key outcomes of the meeting included the process for the preparation of the Platform's initial work programme and procedures for receiving and prioritizing requests put to the Platform.
3. Pursuant to IPBES-1, the IPBES Interim Secretariat called for the submission of requests to IPBES on scientific and technical matters that require the Platform's attention.
4. In response to this call for submissions, the CMS Secretariat drafted in close consultation with ASCOBANS, AEWA and EUROBATS Secretariat, and the Scientific Council through the CMS Scientific Council Workspace, six requests for scientific assessments on behalf of CMS, ASCOBANS, AEWA and EUROBATS. Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, Chair of CMS Standing Committee, submitted, on 5 May 2013, these six requests to IPBES. They were as follows:
  - a) The function of migratory species in ecosystems;
  - b) The economics of ecosystem services provided by migratory species;

- c) Protected areas systems and the needs of migratory species, in particular connectivity;
  - d) Marine migratory species in areas beyond national jurisdiction;
  - e) Migratory species and climate change;
  - f) Traditional knowledge and migratory birds;
5. The requests, as well as those submitted to the IPBES Interim Secretariat by other governments, MEAs and NGOs, are available online at <http://www.ipbes.net/intersessional-process/comments-received.html>
6. Assessments based on any of the six proposals made by CMS were considered to potentially have a significant impact on making the case for migratory species conservation. The six requests highlight, *inter alia*, the expertise that is available for addressing these issues through the CMS network of experts.
7. The Chair of the Scientific Council attended the first full Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) and Bureau meeting of IPBES, held from 1 to 6 June 2013, in Bergen, Norway (For the Chair's report, see document UNEP/CMS/StC41/7). The MEP and Bureau discussed the next steps for the development of an initial IPBES work programme, as requested by the IPBES Plenary at its first session.
8. Pursuant to the discussions at MEP-1, the IPBES Interim Secretariat posted for review the draft IPBES work programme 2014-2018. The draft contained, *inter alia*, six deliverables for thematic assessments, including two on the economic valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, which draw on CMS's original request of an assessment on the economics of ecosystem services provided by migratory species.
9. The full list of thematic assessments contained in the draft work programme include the following:
  - a) Thematic assessment of degradation and restoration of land and freshwater systems and/or biodiversity and agriculture by March 2016
  - b) Thematic fast-track assessment on pollination and its impact on food security by March 2015
  - c) Methodological fast-track assessment on scenarios of indirect drivers and models of the impact on global change by March 2015
  - d) Policy support tools on scenarios and models further elaborated and/or developed
  - e) Methodological fast-track assessment on values of biodiversity and ecosystem services by March 2015
  - f) Policy support tools on value, valuation and accounting further elaborated and/or developed.
10. In addition to these thematic assessments, a key output contained in the draft work programme is a global biodiversity and ecosystem services assessment on drivers and pressures; status and trends; the impacts on human well-being and the effectiveness of responses, including of the Aichi targets.
11. In response to the IPBES Interim Secretariat's call for review of the draft IPBES work programme (and other documents, including on the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and on Strategic Partnerships), the CMS Secretariat, based on consultations with the Scientific Council through the CMS Scientific Council Workspace, submitted comments on 28 July

2013. The comments highlighted, *inter alia*, the need for thematic and global assessments to include a focus on migratory species and to take into account marine biodiversity.

12. In addition, the CMS Secretariat was requested to elaborate a document on the scope of a potential fast track assessment on migratory species (see Annex). The document was submitted to Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, vice chair of the IPBES Bureau, on 13 September 2013.

13. Discussion on the IPBES work programme 2014-2018 will be finalized at the second meeting of the IPBES Plenary (IPBES-2), to be held in Antalya, Turkey, from 9 to 14 December 2013.

**Action requested:**

- i.) Participants to this meeting are invited to take note of this document and provide comments if appropriate;
- ii.) Participants are invited to discuss the option of establishing a working group on IPBES under the Scientific Council.

## Annex 1

### Scope of an IPBES Migratory Species Assessment

#### A: Broad scope, rationale and utility

**Scope:** Assess the state of knowledge of key concerns for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species.

**Rationale:** Migratory species of wild animals are essential components of the ecosystems that support all life on Earth. They are often keystone species that give structure to and connect ecosystems. They are also a source of significant value, providing a wide range of provisioning, supporting, regulating and cultural ecosystem services on which we all depend. These include the provision of food, seed and nutrient dispersal, pollination, and cultural, intellectual and spiritual inspiration. Migratory species play an important role in people's livelihoods and local, national and regional economies.

At the same time, migratory species are very vulnerable as a result of their long migrations, which involve many risks. They are, on average, subject to a greater number and variety of threats than non-migratory species. This is so because their requirements are greater: not only do they need good habitat for reproduction but also during their off-season and all along their migratory routes. In an ever-changing world, human pressure is high on some of those habitats, and also often on the animals themselves (unsustainable hunting, incidental catch, etc). As a result, many migratory species that were once common are becoming increasingly rare.

**Utility:** The assessment would support policy formulation and implementation under the CMS, its related instruments, and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements. It would contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 by providing the baseline science and information policy-makers need to consider and communicate more explicitly the impacts of migratory species as mobile links between ecosystems. It has to be taken into account that this work would not be starting from scratch and that CMS has already undertaken a number of reviews on different taxonomic groups, in particular terrestrial mammals, sharks, marine turtles and freshwater fish. However, an overall assessment of migratory species is still missing.

#### B: Annotated chapter outline

##### *Chapter 1: Introduction to migratory species*

- Definition of migratory species
- Types of migration
- Threats to migratory species

##### *Chapter 2: Assessment of the ecological function of migratory species in ecosystems*

- Linking resources (e.g. transporting organic material, nutrients, minerals etc.)
- Linking genetic pools (e.g. seed dispersal and pollination)

- Linking processes (e.g. grazing which structures the development of plant communities)

*Chapter 3: Assessment of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by migratory species*

- Value of select provisioning, supporting, regulating and cultural ecosystems services provided by migratory species
- Ways of integrating the value migratory species and their habitats into international, national, and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes

*Chapter 4: Assessment of climate change impacts on migratory species*

- Habitat loss/alterations
- Changing resource availability
- Changing phenology
- Stopping migration
- Policy responses

*Chapter 5: Assessment of traditional knowledge of migratory species*

- Importance of traditional knowledge of migratory species
- Case studies on select avian, marine and terrestrial migratory species

*Chapter 6: Assessment of migratory species in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJs)*

- Importance of ABNJs for migratory species
- Effectiveness of policies governing ABNJs in protecting and managing migratory species
- Recommendations for more effective policies for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species in ABNJs

*Chapter 7: Assessment of protected area systems in light of the needs of migratory species*

- Extent to which, and the manner in which, existing major protected area systems and initiatives aimed at promoting ecological networks address the needs of migratory species throughout their life cycles and migratory ranges
- Current use, and potential future use, of ecological network concepts and approaches
- Opportunities for enhancing the effectiveness of and synergies between relevant initiatives and programmes on protected areas and ecological networks in respect of the conservation needs of migratory species

*Chapter 8: Options for enhanced integration of migratory species concerns in appraisals, policy and decision-making processes.*

**C: Process and timetable**

2013	Q4	The MEP request nominations from Governments and other stakeholders for experts to prepare the Report
2014	Q1	The MEP selects the Report co-chairs, Coordinating Lead Authors (CLAs), Lead Authors (LAs) and Review Editors (REs)
	Q2	The Report co-chairs, CLAs and LAs meet to discuss the substance of the Report
	Q2-Q4	The Report co-chairs, CLAs and LAs prepare a draft report and summary for policy makers (SPM)
	Q4	The draft report and SPM are reviewed by experts and Governments and other stakeholders
2015	Q1	A second author meeting is held once the review comments are available.
	Q1-Q2	The Report co-chairs, CLAs and LAs revise the draft report and SPM under the guidance of REs and the MEP
	Q3	A second draft of the Report SPM are reviewed by experts, Governments and other stakeholders
	Q3-Q4	The Report co-chairs, CLAs and LAs prepare the final draft of the Report and SPM under the guidance of REs and the MEP
	Q4	The SPM is translated into all UN languages
2016	Q1	The final draft report and SPM are sent to Governments and other stakeholders for final review
	Q1	Plenary reviews and accepts the report and reviews and approves the SPM during IPBES-4 in March 2016.

**D: Cost estimate**

- 3 Meetings – 1 meeting for about 35 authors, 1 meeting for about 35 authors and 12 review editors, 1 meeting with policy-makers (venue, equipment, interpretation, etc.) [\$100,000]
- Travel of meeting participants (authors, review editors, support staff) – about 100 trips at an average cost of \$2,000 per trip (\$200,000)
- Technical support – 0.3 - 0.5 full-time equivalent of professional/technical staff (\$50,000)
- Publication – 150 page report and 10 page SPM (\$50,000)

**Total estimated cost: \$400,000**