



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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COOPERATION BETWEEN CMS AND CBD

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Background

1. In 1996, a Memorandum of Cooperation was concluded between the CMS and CBD Secretariats which continues to govern our cooperation to date.
2. In 2005, CMS Res.8.11 stressed the importance of and the need for enhanced collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions. In addition, Res.8.2 adopted the *CMS Strategic Plan 2006-2011* (which is expected to be extended to 2014, by CMS COP10 through draft Resolution 10.5/Rev.1). The Strategic Plan has four main objectives:
 - a) To ensure that the conservation and management of migratory species are based on the best available information;
 - b) To ensure that migratory species benefit from the best possible conservation measures;
 - c) To broaden awareness and enhance engagement in the conservation of migratory species amongst key actors; and
 - d) To reinforce CMS's overarching and unifying role in the conservation and management of migratory species.
3. In 2005, the joint CBD-CMS Joint Work Programme 2006-2008 was endorsed by CMS COP8 (Res.8.18). There has not been a standalone joint work programme since then. However, the Secretariats' cooperation has continued under the auspices of the Biodiversity Liaison Group (as reported in document UNEP/CMS/Conf 10.28: *Report on Synergies and Partnerships*).
4. In 2008, CMS Res.9.6 reaffirmed the interest and importance for CMS of continuing to develop effective and practical cooperation with other biodiversity instruments. In Res.9.6, the Parties recognized that the preferred instruments for such cooperation are renewable joint work plans with agreed and attainable targets included in a clear timetable, and the necessity to report on progress and to assess effectiveness of results regularly.
5. In September 2010, at a retreat of the Biodiversity Liaison Group, the Secretariats of CBD, CMS, CITES, Ramsar and the World Heritage Convention recommended that National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) should cover the full range of activities needed

to implement all the biodiversity-related conventions, which includes CMS; and this was subsequently confirmed in CBD COP10 decision X/20.

6. In October 2010, CBD COP10 decision X/20 recognized the importance of the coherent and synergistic implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions, and requested the CBD Executive Secretary to review and, where necessary, update working arrangements, such as the joint work plans, with the other biodiversity-related conventions.

7. CBD COP10 decision X/20 went on to recall that decision VI/20 recognizes the CMS as the lead partner in conserving and sustainably using migratory species over their entire range, and requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the CMS, to update the joint work programme between the two Conventions and to collaborate on providing support and guidance to Parties on the integration of migratory species considerations in NBSAPs.

Joint activities planned for the period 2012-2014

8. Accordingly, the proposed joint work plan for the CBD and CMS Secretariats for 2012-2014 is attached in **Annex 1**. It takes account of the CMS Strategic Plan 2006-2011 (expected to be extended to 2014, by CMS COP10) and importantly is set within the over-arching framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

9. Many of the activities will not incur significant extra cost, but for any that do, the Secretariats will jointly seek external funding. In addition, carrying out activities jointly should make it possible to optimize the utilization of the funds secured.

10. The CMS Secretariat will submit regular reports on the joint activities to the CMS Standing Committee and, if appropriate, to other stakeholders, including the other biodiversity-related conventions.

11. The 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in 2012 will be invited to approve the joint work plan for 2012-2014. If the document is approved by the two decision-making bodies, the two Secretariats will move forward with its implementation. Until then, existing and on-going cooperative activities that are not yet completed will continue to be pursued – one such example is the CBD Secretariat keeping the CMS Secretariat informed about regional and sub-regional capacity-building workshops on reviewing NBSAPs, inviting the CMS Secretariat to attend (which CMS will do, resources permitting), welcoming CMS Parties at such meetings, and disseminating the CMS “*Guidelines on the Integration of Migratory Species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)*” to meeting participants

Action requested:

- The Standing Committee is invited to approve the draft joint work plan for 2012-2014 in **Annex 1**.

Joint Work Plan for the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) for the period 2012-2014

Introduction:

The following table comprises a non-exhaustive list of joint activities which implement the mandates and decisions asking the CBD and CMS Secretariats (“the Secretariats”) to work together.

The secretariats of CMS Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) are invited by the Secretariats to participate in joint activities. Contact between CMS Agreements and MOUs and the CBD Secretariat would be coordinated by the CMS Secretariat.

In 1996, a Memorandum of Cooperation was concluded between the CBD and CMS Secretariats which continues to govern our cooperation to date.

The Joint Work Plan takes account of the shared objectives and targets of most relevance to both Secretariats. The *CMS Strategic Plan 2006-2011* (proposed to be extended to 2014) has four main objectives:

1. To ensure that the conservation and management of migratory species are based on the best available information;
2. To ensure that migratory species benefit from the best possible conservation measures;
3. To broaden awareness and enhance engagement in the conservation of migratory species amongst key actors; and
4. To reinforce CMS’s overarching and unifying role in the conservation and management of migratory species.

In this respect, the most relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 are:

Target 5: By 2020 the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.

Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.

Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes.

Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

Funding of activities: Many of the activities will not incur significant extra cost, but for those that do, the Secretariats will jointly continue to seek external funding. In addition, carrying out activities jointly should make it possible to optimize the utilization of the funds secured.

Review and reporting: The activities will be regularly reviewed and updated, and the Secretariats will submit regular reports on their activities to their respective governing bodies, such as Standing Committees and, if appropriate, to other stakeholders, including the other biodiversity-related conventions.

Focal Points: The focal points are as follows, for the:

- CBD Secretariat – the Principal Officer for Scientific, Technical and Technological Matters.
- CMS Secretariat – the Inter-Agency Liaison Officer.

Activities:

Activity	Timeframe
1. Strategic cooperation	
1.1 The Secretariats will participate in the meetings of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) and consult on ways to strengthen the effectiveness of the Group, its relevance to the needs of Parties, and its linkages to the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions (JLG).	2012-14
5.1 The Secretariats will support the chairs of the CMS Scientific Council and the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) in their work with the group called Chairs of Scientific Advisory Bodies of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (CSAB), for example when considering enhanced cooperation on cross-cutting issues.	2012-14
1.2 The Secretariats will invite each other to relevant meetings under each Convention, including the Conventions' Conferences of the Parties, subsidiary bodies and other relevant workshops on technical meetings of mutual interest.	2012-14
1.3 As the CBD Secretariat has recognized the CMS Secretariat as its lead partner in conserving and sustainably using migratory species, the CBD Secretariat will contribute to the implementation of the CMS Strategic Plan, through the activities listed in this Joint Work Plan.	2012-14
1.4 The CMS Secretariat will contribute to assessment of progress towards Aichi Targets, including the Global Biodiversity Outlook, and will provide details of activities undertaken that will contribute to achieving these targets.	2012-14
2. Joint activities to support achieving CMS Strategic Plan objectives and Aichi Biodiversity Targets of key shared interest	
<p><u>Natural Habitats:</u></p> <p>2.1 The Secretariats will, resources permitting, cooperate to further initiatives for ecological networks and protected areas, for example by supporting coordination and communication intended to strengthen synergies with global conventions, regional conventions and other international initiatives, as well as national policies and strategies, in particular in the implementation of the CBD Secretariat's Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) and the LifeWeb initiative.</p>	2012-14
<p><u>Invasive alien species:</u></p> <p>2.2 The Secretariats will collaborate through their joint membership of the Scientific Task Force on Wildlife Diseases.</p>	2012-14
<p><u>Protected areas:</u></p> <p>2.3 The Secretariats will share the results of their work, such as the CMS Secretariat's joint work with the Ramsar Convention Secretariat to identify key wetlands of significance, and to support the establishment of coherent networks of critical sites, for migratory species.</p> <p>2.4 The Secretariats will encourage their respective national focal points to collaborate effectively in the implementation of the CBD Secretariat's Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA).</p> <p>2.5 The CMS Secretariat will encourage its national focal points to use the PoWPA e-learning module, user-friendly comprehensive website and other capacity building measures including participation in training of trainers and regional workshops.</p> <p>2.6 The Secretariats will collaborate in their capacity building initiatives to avoid duplication.</p>	2012-14

<u>Threatened species:</u>		
2.7	In the event of a conservation crisis affecting migratory species, such as a mass die-off: (a) The CMS Secretariat will play a facilitative role if requested, by bringing together species management authorities, experts and other relevant stakeholders across national borders in order to help resolve such a crisis. (b) The CBD Secretariat will collaborate closely and make available their expertise to the CMS Secretariat in order to address such conservation emergencies effectively.	2012-14
2.8	The Secretariats will continue to collaborate on issues related to bush meat, pending related decisions of CBD COP 11.	2012-14
2.9	The Secretariats will seek the inputs from each other's relevant technical officers when preparing and publishing Action Plans and Technical Reports on threatened species and regions of mutual interest.	2012-14
3. Support the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020		
3.1	The Secretariats will encourage their Parties to support the UN Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020. For example, the CBD Secretariat is preparing a global strategy to celebrate the Decade, and the CMS Secretariat will participate and support where possible.	2012-14
3.2	Both Secretariats will participate in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force, and consider joint cooperation on Task Force activities where possible.	2012-14
4. Collaborate on providing support and guidance to Parties on the integration of migratory species considerations in National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAPs)		
4.1	The CMS Secretariat will promote its " <i>Guidelines on the Integration of Migratory Species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)</i> " and make them available to CBD and CMS National Focal Points to use in the revisions of NBSAPs.	2012
4.2	The CBD Secretariat will keep the CMS Secretariat informed about regional and sub-regional capacity-building workshops on reviewing NBSAPs, will invite the CMS Secretariat to attend, will welcome CMS Parties at such meetings, and will disseminate the CMS Guidelines at such meetings.	2012
5. Develop a coherent approach to cross-cutting issues		
5.2	The Secretariats will enhance cooperation, policy coherence and implementation with regard to work on cross-cutting issues, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate change; • scientific criteria for the identification of ecologically or biologically significant areas in need of protection; • human, animal and ecosystem health linkages; • community-based management of natural resources; and • invasive alien species. <p>This will occur in a manner consistent with their respective mandates, governance arrangements and agreed programmes of work. This will be achieved by such measures as joint participation at relevant meetings.</p>	2012-14
5.3	On climate change, the Secretariats will share the results of their work on: (a) The impact of climate change on migratory species in relation to how best the international community could assist migratory species in dealing with climate change, from monitoring, identification of most vulnerable species to the role of local people and adaptive management.	2012-14

(b) The CMS Scientific Council Working Group on Climate Change preparation of an Action Plan to guide CMS Parties' response to conserving migratory species in the light of climate change.	
6. Collaborative information, outreach and capacity-building	
6.1 The Secretariats will broaden awareness and enhance engagement in the conservation of biodiversity and migratory species amongst key actors (for example by working with partner NGOs, including through joint work plans).	2012-14
6.2 The Secretariats will cooperate to seek opportunities for presenting compatible policy positions and advisory materials in relevant fora, and in their relationships with relevant organizations.	2012-14
6.3 The Secretariats will each take appropriate opportunities, including in publications and on websites, to promote awareness of and support for the other.	2012-14
<p>6.4 The Secretariats will share information and the results of their work relevant to shared objectives and targets, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) CMS-led scientific review on freshwater fish to identify candidate species for listing on CMS Appendices. (b) Implementation of a shark conservation plan for range states of the CMS MoU on conservation of migratory sharks. (c) A CMS-led global study on the effects of by-catch on CMS marine species, specifically by-catch in gillnets and the effectiveness of mitigation measures. (d) Information on invasive alien species that impact on migratory species/habitats. (e) Development of policy and management approaches in furtherance of the most recent scientific knowledge and best practice concerning ecological networks in relation to migratory species. 	2012-14