



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

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

Summary

This report details the current state of cooperation between the Secretariat and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), as at 31 July 2013.

Pursuant to Resolution 10.8, the Secretariat participated in IPBES meetings and drafted requests to IPBES on scientific and technical matters that require the Platform's attention. The Secretariat also provided comments on the draft IPBES work programme 2014-2018.

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**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 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). 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>. 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.
6. 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.

7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. The IPBES work programme, and the relationship between IPBES and the Scientific Council, will also be discussed at the CMS Scientific Council Strategic and Planning meeting to be held in Gaeta, Italy, from 9 to 10 October 2013. The Chair of the Scientific Council will update the Standing Committee about the outcome of the Gaeta meeting.
12. 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.) The Standing Committee is requested to convey to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the IPBES Secretariat a request to financially support attendance at IPBES meetings of the Chair of the Scientific Council and the Secretariat.
- ii.) The Standing Committee is requested to invite IPBES to report to COP 11 on its activities related to migratory species;

- iii.) The Standing Committee is requested to support the submissions made by the CMS, ASCOBANS, AEWA and EUROBATS secretariats and to encourage IPBES to take these up as assessment themes;
- iv.) The Standing Committee is requested to encourage the CMS Secretariat to recommend capacity-building activities to IPBES and to encourage IPBES to actively pursue the recommended activities.