



## CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

UNEP/CMS/COP14/Report

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16 February 2024

14<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 12 - 17 February 2024

### DAILY MEETING REPORT – DAY 5 (16 February 2024)

590. The COW opened with the Secretariat providing a review of new CRPs that were available on the CMS website. The Chair asked that interventions focus on wording and further changes, noting an additional evening COW session would be added, given field trips were planned for the afternoon. The WGs then provided updates on their progress.

#### Item 33.1. Report of the Credentials Committee

591. The United Kingdom reported that 75 Parties had submitted their credentials of which 70 were acceptable. 67 Parties were eligible to vote as three Parties were in arrears.

#### Item 33.2. Report of the Working Groups

592. The Aquatic WG completed all its work except on 27.2.4 *Deep Sea Mining*, noting that a subgroup was still working on four Operational Paragraphs, which had to be taken back.

593. The Terrestrial WG noted it was close to concluding work on 29.3 *CAMI* and 29.6.1 and 29.6.2 on initiatives and measures for the Jaguar among range States.

594. The Avian WG completed a review of all issues pending, revisiting 27.8 and a proposal from Mongolia.

595. The Institutional and Crosscutting WG completed its work.

#### Conference Room Papers (CRPs)

##### CRPs Morning Session

596. CRP15.1 *Evaluation of ScC Restructuring* was recommended for adoption.

597. CRP18.2 *Cooperation with IPBES* was recommended for adoption.

598. CRP21 *Conservation Status of Migratory Species* was recommended for adoption and it was recommended that the COP noted the following: *State of the World's Migratory Species* (UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.21.1); *Assessment of the risk posed to CMS Appendix I-listed species by direct use and trade* (UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.21.2); and *In-depth review of the conservation status of individual CMS-listed species* (UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.21.3).

599. CRP27.1.1 *Bycatch* was recommended for adoption, and taking note of the report in Annex 1 and recommendations in Annex 2 were recommended.

600. CRP27.2.1 *Marine Pollution and Migratory Species* was recommended for adoption, and taking note of the associated report on the issue in Annex 1.
601. CRP27.3.1 *Recreational in-water Interactions* was recommended for adoption, and, with the associated Guidelines, was forwarded to the COP.
602. 27.7.3 *Oceanic Whitetip Shark* was recommended for adoption.
603. On CRP28.2 *AEMLAP*, BirdLife proposed including language on prioritizing action for the Yellow-breasted Bunting, supported by the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia.
604. CRP 28.6 *African-Eurasian Vultures* was recommended for adoption.
605. CRP28.7 *Saker Falcon Global Action Plan* would come back to the COW after the Avian WG discussions on Mongolia's proposal.
606. Following agreement to delete decisions from COP13, UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.30.1.3 *Terrestrial and Avian Wild Meat* was recommended for adoption, and taking note of the Executive Summary of the study contained in Annex.
607. The Chair noted CRP30.2.3/Rev.2 *Community participation and livelihoods* would be discussed later in the day, noting Israel's proposal for a new paragraph for the preamble.
608. On CRP30.3.2 *Renewable energy and migratory species*, the European Union indicated that it could not accept the United Kingdom's proposal to replace "requested" with "encouraged" with respect to a provision on integrating biodiversity and migratory species conservation needs into national energy and climate policy and action plans. As there was no agreement, the Chair asked the European Union and the United Kingdom to informally consult to find a resolution.
609. CRP30.4.3 *Wildlife Disease* was recommended for adoption.
610. CRP30.4.4 *Light Pollution* was recommended for adoption following Australia's proposal to change the name of the Guidelines to "International" Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species, to distinguish them from national guidelines.
611. CRP31.3 *Potential Avian Taxa for Listing* was recommended for adoption.
612. On CRP32.1 *Concerted Actions*, noting its proposal had not been incorporated into the new text, the United Kingdom, requested amending one paragraph and amending another. Australia was not comfortable with the proposals. The Chair noted that the UK's proposals would be integrated into the text for further consideration.

### **CRPs Afternoon Session**

613. CRP14.2 *Strategic Plan for Migratory Species* included new resolutions 25-32 and new decisions. The EU agreed with the majority of the text, but recommended three amendments, which were discussed:
- The EU proposed to add a footnote to the fifth preambular paragraph, in relation to areas beyond national jurisdiction, which it submitted in writing.
  - The EU was concerned about wording in the sixth preambular paragraph, which introduced the term "developing countries" as a new concept to CMS, and proposed its deletion. Noting that this term had been discussed in the Crosscutting WG, Brazil,

supported by Argentina, considered it important to acknowledge the specific circumstances of developing countries, and preferred to retain the term, which was widely accepted by other MEAs. New Zealand, Chair of the Crosscutting WG, confirmed that the WG had concluded as a compromise to include the term in a preambular paragraph. Brazil further noted that CMS Resolution 10.25 already included the term.

- In the text of Target 5.3., the EU recommended moving the term “Indigenous People and local communities” to the end of the last sentence.

The CRP would be brought back to the COW pending further discussions.

614. CRP23. *National Reports*. Following discussion between the UK and New Zealand, the Secretariat reported that New Zealand had proposed to delete preambular paragraphs 8, 9 and 10, while the UK had proposed amendment to Decision 14.AA b), and New Zealand had proposed a related amendment Decision 14.BB, which would align the timing of the work referenced with the review and new reporting format. The Secretariat summarized the resulting amendments, with which the CRP was recommended for adoption.
615. CRP27.7.2/Rev.1 *Freshwater fish and the European Eel* included deletion of Decisions 13.76 to 13.79. The Fisheries Secretariat looked forward to work with CMS on this urgent topic. The CRP was recommended for adoption.
616. CRP28.1 *Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds* included deletion of Decisions 13.27 to 13.33. Saudi Arabia recommended to add “the Southwest Asia region” in the footnote on page 4 of the CRP. With this minor amendment, the CRP was recommended for adoption.
617. CRP28.3 *Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds* included deletion of Decisions 13.39 and 13.40. The EU recommended removal of one repetitive preambular paragraph, which had already been agreed in the Avian WG. With this minor amendment, the CRP was recommended for adoption.
618. CRP28.7 *Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug) Global Action Plan (SAKERGAP)*. The COP-appointed Councillor for Birds indicated that some revised text had been agreed in the Avian WG, and the revised text was available for review. Noting the Saker Falcon’s significant decline and its distribution in transboundary areas of Asia with frequent movement between Range States, the Biodiversity Research and Conservation Centre added that any planned harvest of the species in one country should be conducted in full cognisance of other Range States.
619. CRP30.2.1.1. *Ecological Connectivity - Policy Aspects* included deletion of decisions 13.113-13.115. The EU, supported by the UK and Switzerland and with a contribution from the Centre for Large Landscape Conservation, raised an amendment in relation to preambular paragraph 3, while Switzerland also suggested to recognise the changed definition of the term “connectivity”. With these minor changes, the CRP was recommended for adoption.
620. On CRP30.2.3/Rev.3 *Community participation*, there was some discussion about language referring to traditional interactions by IPLCs with wildlife sometimes being harmful to wildlife, as had previously been proposed for inclusion by Israel. Australia, supported by the United Kingdom, Zimbabwe and Brazil did not support this inclusion, stating it was not appropriate to single out IPLCs. Australia pointed out that various human activities could have some harmful impacts. New Zealand explained that

community involvement was important and should be encouraged. Following various suggestions to replace IPLCs with “communities” or “people”, which were still not acceptable to all, Israel withdrew its proposal. The COW then recommended this document for adoption by the COP.

621. CRP30.3.1/Rev.1 *Infrastructure development* was recommended for adoption.
622. On CRP30.3.2 *Renewable energy and migratory species*, following consultations, the European Union and the United Kingdom agreed on “recommend” with respect to a provision on integrating biodiversity and migratory species conservation needs into national energy and climate policy action plans.
623. On CRP30.4.5/Rev.1 *Plastic pollution*, the United Kingdom did not agree to language on specific challenges faced by developing countries in 14.BB. Brazil favoured retaining it and the Chair noted this would be discussed in conjunction with CRP14.2 to find a solution.
624. CRP30.6 *Ecotourism and Migratory Species*, following an amendment by the United Kingdom, was recommended for adoption.

## **VI INTERPRETATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION (continued)**

### **ITEM 23. NATIONAL REPORTS**

625. The Secretariat introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.23, noting it contained, in Annex 3, an analysis of CMS National Reports to COP14, prepared by UNEP-WCMC, based on the information provided by Parties, and thanks to voluntary financial contributions by Germany and Switzerland. It assessed progress made towards implementing the Convention between COP13 and COP14 and was based on the 55 National Reports submitted by the reporting deadline, representing 41 per cent of Parties. Sixty National Reports were on the CMS website.
626. UNEP-WCMC explained that many Parties reported progress in, among others, strengthening governance arrangements and participating in cooperative international initiatives. National Reports highlighted some areas where implementation needed to be strengthened, such as efforts to tackle harmful incentives affecting migratory species, including subsidies. In addition, a small number of reporting Parties had yet to fully prohibit the taking of CMS Appendix I-listed species. Parties also cited the lack of financial resources and technical capacity as a barrier to the effective implementation of CMS. Key priorities included actions to strengthen legislation and policies, and increase research and monitoring.
627. New Zealand requested, in a reference to the SPMS, language on aligning with the goals and targets of the SPMS 2023-2032.
628. The United Kingdom noted the range of reports requested by the COP, and suggested language requesting that the StC undertake review of reporting requirements when it looked at the reporting format and advise COP15 on a strategic way forward.
629. The Chair noted further consultation would take place on this issue.

## ITEM 32. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCERTED ACTION PROCESS

### **Item 32.2.1. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Nut-Cracking populations of the Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) of West Africa**

630. The IUCN SSC PSG SGA WG on Chimpanzee Cultures (WGCC) introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.1 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Nut-Cracking populations of the Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) of West Africa*, prepared by the CMS Expert WG on Culture and Social Complexity and the IUCN WGCC. The document reported on coordination of implementation and progress in public engagement across Chimpanzee Range States in West Africa. Activities were integrated with the IUCN Regional AP for Conservation of Chimpanzees. The report identified a broader initiative on Chimpanzee cultures and behavioural diversity as an outcome. It was recommended to replace this CA with a broader document that embraced other cultural behaviours.
631. Noting that this CA had led to involvement of the IUCN WGCC, which engaged with further Chimpanzee Range States, BFF agreed with the outcome of the CA and to embrace a new CA that should cover all 21 Chimpanzee Range States.
632. Uganda welcomed the report, which provided important lessons and insights into possible actions that could be implemented across Range States. Uganda had undertaken long-term Chimpanzee research, identifying variations in traits and attributes, the findings of which had helped it to develop conservation strategies, including a national Chimpanzee Conservation Strategy, as well as ecotourism-based actions. Uganda welcomed the recommendations of the report, and supported the need to adopt a new CA on cultural diversity covering all 21 Chimpanzee Range States.
633. The Chair informed that a new CA for the following triennium would be proposed. The COW agreed to take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

### **Item 32.2.2. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)**

634. Niger introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.2 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)*, prepared by Niger. Activities planned during 2019-2023 were not achieved due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a lack of funding. Niger thus requested that the CA be renewed for a period of three years, following changes proposed in the timeline of the document. The ScC in the addendum to the document recommended its renewal.
635. Benin stated that although it was not a Giraffe Range State, it shared a transboundary national park with Niger, where there were plans to consider reintroduction of the Giraffe. Benin thus supported renewal and continuation of this CA.
636. BFF expressed disappointment that actions planned had not been implemented, and urged COP14 to endorse the adjusted timeline and encourage funders to support the activities proposed, with emphasis on target 4 in relation to national strategies and target 9 focused on awareness-raising.
637. The COW agreed to continue with the CA, noting the appropriate changes to the timeline outlined in the document, and to take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.2.3. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Humpback Whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) of the Arabian Sea**

638. The Secretariat introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.3 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Humpback Whales (Megaptera novaeangliae) of the Arabian Sea*, on behalf of the Arabian Sea Whale Network (ASWN), which had developed the document. The document, endorsed by the Aquatic WG, included a suite of actions for this unique population that remained in the Arabian Sea year-round. It aimed for a government-led regional Conservation Management Plan (CMP), which had not yet been achieved. A further extension was requested to enable wider consultation, noting improved enabling conditions for its adoption in the next triennium following a workshop in Oman in 2022.
639. Australia, as Chair of the IWC Standing WG on CMPs, noted that the IWC Executive Secretary had highlighted, to the High-Level Segment of CMS COP14, that CMPs were an excellent example of the way to protect cetaceans. Australia thus supported the proposal.
640. Noting that this whale had not been reported in Maldives since 2022, Maldives considered that extension of the CA was crucial for its proper establishment and implementation, and supported the report.
641. Argentina supported the extension of the CA, which it considered necessary.
642. India supported extension of the CA, noting that India included Humpback Whale in schedule 1 of its Wildlife Protection Act, and as one of the species under its Species Recovery Programme.
643. The COW agreed to take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.2.4. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Eastern Tropical Pacific Sperm Whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*)**

644. The Expert WG on Animal Culture and Social Complexity introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.4 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Eastern Tropical Pacific Sperm Whales (Physeter macrocephalus)*, authored by the WG in collaboration with Red de Cachalotes del Pacífico. Seven Sperm Whale clans were known from the region, defined by their coders (click patterns), and there was strong support for Sperm Whale clans having distinct behaviours. Research in low-income Range States and assessment of the potential of autonomous recording technologies were advised. The document was discussed in the Aquatic WG, and COP14 was recommended to approval its continuation.
645. Argentina supported the continuation of this work.
646. The COW agreed to continue with the CA and take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.2.5. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*)**

647. The Secretariat introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.5 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (Sousa teuszii)*, prepared by the Secretariat on behalf of the former COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals. A key outcome of the CA was the SSAP, introduced in document

UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.27.5.2, approved by the COW for adoption by COP14. The CA was now considered completed, and COP14 was recommended to note the report and close the CA.

648. The COW agreed to close the CA and take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.2.6. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the populations of Harbour Porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) in the Baltic Sea and Iberian Peninsula**

649. WDC introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.6, also on behalf of the Coalition Clean Baltic, the Humane Society International and ORCA. The document reported on implementation of activities, linked to document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.31.4.5, which proposed inclusion of the Baltic Proper population on CMS Appendix I. Activities included supporting the ASCOBANS Recovery Plan for the Baltic Sea Harbour Porpoise, conducting research and advising governments, with engagement with the IWC ScC and HELCOM. The Aquatic WG had discussed the document and agreed to close the CA, given reassurance that work to conserve Harbour Porpoise would be taken in other forms. WDC reminded Parties that the Iberian population was in poor conservation status.

650. ACCOBAMS stressed the need to address conservation of the Iberian Harbour Porpoise.

651. The Chair summarized that actions would carry on in other formats, and noted the need to address the situation of the Iberian population. The COW agreed to close the CA and take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.2.7. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*) in Asia**

652. Mongolia introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.7 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Great Bustard (Otis tarda) in Asia*, which it had prepared with the Eurasian Bustard Alliance and the Wildlife Science and Conservation Centre of Mongolia. The development of a revised Action Plan for the Great Bustard in Asia had been a central focus of the current CA, with its revision submitted to COP14. Noting that sustained action was necessary to secure Great Bustard status in Asia, Mongolia encouraged extension of the CA.

653. Acknowledging work done by Mongolia and the Eurasian Bustard Alliance, Belgium, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, supported continuation of the CA, encouraged Range States and all stakeholders to continue research and cooperation with the consideration of the CAF, and further encouraged Range States to join the CA in near future.

654. The COW agreed to continue with the CA and take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.2.8. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Antipodean Albatross (*Diomedea antipodensis*)**

655. New Zealand introduced document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.8 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Antipodean Albatross (Diomedea antipodensis)*, also on behalf of Australia and Chile, jointly prepared by these three countries. The report had been discussed in the Avian WG. Annex 1 contained details

of activities carried out to address the serious decline of the species, which only bred in New Zealand but ranged across southern oceans, and which was subject to threats, especially from long-line fisheries. New Zealand highlighted the value of working cooperatively to develop and improve mitigation use to reduce take, including improving observer networks and electronic monitoring, liaison with regional fisheries organisations and outreach, and recommended continuation of the CA.

656. The COW agreed to recommend continuation of the CA and take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.2.9. Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Common Guitarfish (*Rhinobatos rhinobatos*) and the Bottlenose Wedgefish (*Rhynchobatus australiae*)**

657. IUCN reported on document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.9 *Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Common Guitarfish (Rhinobatos rhinobatos) and the Bottlenose Wedgefish (Rhynchobatus australiae)*, prepared by the IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group. The term “Rhino Rays” was used collectively for five family-level groups comprising 69 species, which represented the most imperilled group of sharks and rays, 75 per cent of which were globally threatened. Due to overlapping distributions, identification difficulties and similar threats, all species of guitarfishes, wedgefishes and giant guitarfishes were included in this CMS CA. Noting efforts to regulate trade in their products through CITES, and given needs to build a knowledge base and to develop a global strategy and regional plans, steps were underway for a global review of fisheries interactions, and for a global Rhino Ray symposium and a global conservation strategy. IUCN recommended extension of the CA.
658. Senegal took note of the report and supported its adoption, including extension and revision of the CA, noting that some Rhino Rays were included in CMS Appendices. Thus, it was important to continue and revise the CA and take account of recently listed species.
659. Kenya reported that it was in the process of formulating a national sharks conservation strategy supported adoption of the report.
660. Considering that the CA was crucial for conservation of these threatened species, Maldives supported the document.
661. The COW agreed to recommend continuation of the CA and to take the paper forward for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.3. New proposals for Concerted Actions for the triennium 2024-2026**

**Item 32.3.1. Proposal for a Concerted Action for Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) behavioural diversity and cultures already listed in Appendix I and II of the Convention**

662. This proposal was submitted by the CMS Expert Working Group on Culture and Social Complexity and the IUCN WGCC.
663. IUCN introduced the proposal contained in in UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.3.1, noting insights gained from implementation of the CA for the Nut-cracking populations of Chimpanzees of West Africa, and stated that further efforts were needed to account for behavioural variation and culture in the species in a more comprehensive manner. They proposed that Nut-cracking populations (CA) be replaced by a broader CA for



Chimpanzee Behavioural Diversity and Cultures. The plan proposed: establishing a steering committee to define conservation targets and best approaches to implement the culture concept in conservation; conducting biodiversity research to identify and rectify data gaps, and set up a clearinghouse; and establishing a framework to embed local conservationists and researchers in conservation efforts. They urged stronger partnerships among Range States to implement activities to identify and preserve Chimpanzee behavioural diversity and cultures.

664. Pan African Sanctuary Alliance noted that the recognition of animal culture set CMS apart from other conventions, and that such a CA would help conserve other species in the same ecosystem.
665. Senegal supported the proposal, acknowledging the need for further research and studies on this issue.
666. The proposal was recommended for adoption.

**Item 32.3.2. Proposal for a Concerted Action for the Straw-coloured Fruit Bat (*Eidolon helvum*) already listed in Appendix II of the Convention**

667. The Governments of Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, and the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour (MPI-AB), the Rwanda Wildlife Conservation Association, and Ngaoundéré University in Cameroon submitted this proposal.
668. Kenya introduced this proposal as contained in Document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.3.2. Noting its wide distribution in Africa, they stated the species required enhanced efforts to conserve the populations and their habitats at local, national and subnational levels. The report detailed activities, goals and benefits of the proposed CA. They asked Parties to support the proposal and encouraged funding.
669. Bat Conservation International supported the CA, noting that bats had long distance migrations on all continents except Antarctica, and the identification of 1,460 bat species.
670. The proposed CA was recommended for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.3.3. Proposal for a Concerted Action for the Pallas's Cat (*Felis manul*) proposed for listing in Appendix II of the Convention**

671. The IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group, the Manul Working Group, and the Pallas's Cat International Conservation Alliance submitted this proposal.
672. Pallas's Cat International Conservation Alliance introduced this proposal contained in UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.3.3, noting this cat had received little conservation attention, and had an extensive but fragmented range across south-west Asia, Central Asia, to Russia and China. While widespread in Mongolia and China, populations in other parts of the range were small and isolated, and the species had declined or disappeared in several western parts of its distribution. Proposed activities of this CA included, among others, adding the Pallas's Cat to CAMI. Over 90 per cent of the cat's range lay within the CAMI region, and the species existed in all CAMI countries. The proposed CA directly linked to the proposed addition of Pallas's Cat to CMS Appendix II. They noted both proposals for listing and for the CA would increase the profile of the species.
673. Turkmenistan supported the proposal.

674. India, supporting the proposal, noted it was a Range State with a high level of protection, and highlighted transboundary cooperation with Bhutan and Nepal.
675. The proposal was recommended for adoption by the COP.

**Item 32.3.4 Proposal for a Concerted Action for the Eurasian Lynx (*Lynx lynx*) proposed for listing in Appendix II (and Appendix I for *Lynx lynx balcanicus*) of the Convention**

676. IUCN SSC (Cat Specialist Group) and the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, under UNEP, proposed this CA as contained in UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.3.4.
677. UNEP introduced this proposal on behalf of the Carpathian Convention. They noted the Eurasian Lynx had several subspecies across the region, which the document elaborated on. The document presented a Logical framework for the activities under the proposed CA aimed at improving the knowledge base and strengthening transboundary cooperation for the conservation of the four southern subspecies of the Eurasian Lynx in Europe and Asia.
678. Turkmenistan expressed support for increased transboundary cooperation and monitoring of the species.
679. This proposal was recommended for adoption.

**Item 32.3.5 Proposal for a Concerted Action for the Franciscana Dolphin (*Pontoporia blainvillei*) already listed in Appendix I and II of the Convention**

680. The governments of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay submitted the proposal for the CA for the Franciscana Dolphin (*Pontoporia blainvillei*).
681. Argentina introduced the proposal contained in UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.3.5 and reported that the species had been identified in 11 management areas. They explained that the proposed activities under the CA included: establishing a scientific committee with governments, NGOs, and the CMS and IWC Secretariats; convening a meeting at the beginning of 2024 to develop an action plan in line with the IWC, which would include undertaking an evaluation of the status of the Franciscana Dolphin in each Range State; and evaluating and assessing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). They underscored the importance of coordinating efforts with the IWC, on research, monitoring, mitigation and awareness raising.
682. Uruguay and Brazil intervened as the co-proponents of the proposed CA, with Brazil stating that, while it has a national plan, a joint initiative was critical for the recovery of the population, with many deaths due to bycatch.
683. Australia, as Chair of the IWG Standing WG on CMPs, supported this CA, in response to actions called for in the exiting IWC CMP, and considered that the CMS proposal would not compete with the CMP, but was intended to complement it.
684. IWC and IUCN supported the proposal.
685. The CA was recommended for adoption.

**Item 32.3.6 Proposal for a Concerted Action for the Oceanic Whitetip Shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) already listed in Appendix I of the Convention**

686. This proposal was withdrawn.

**Item 32.3.7/Rev.1 Proposal for a Concerted Action for the Blue Shark (*Prionace glauca*) already listed in Appendix II of the Convention**

687. The Marine Research and Conservation Foundation (MARECO) submitted this proposal contained in UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.3.7/Rev.1.

688. Law of the Wild introduced the proposal on behalf of MARECO, as amended by the Aquatics WG, noting the Blue Shark was wide ranging and one of the most heavily fished sharks. They explained that an estimated 10 million Blue Sharks were caught annually, frequently in target multi-species fisheries. The Blue Shark would benefit from improved management, strengthened political will, and the bridging of fisheries and conservation priorities. Activities of the CA would, among others, support an assessment of the impacts of fisheries, and address inconsistencies in efforts to conserve the Blue Shark among Range States.

689. Senegal supported the proposal.

690. Maldives, supporting the proposal, emphasized the need to identify critical habitats and increase understanding of migratory routes.

691. The CA was recommended for adoption by the COP.