



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

UNEP/CMS/COP14/Report

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14th MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 12 - 17 February 2024

DAILY MEETING REPORT – DAY 6 (17 February 2024)

Committee of the Whole

VII. FORMAL AND CONCLUDING BUSINESS

ITEM 33. REPORTS OF IN-SESSION COMMITTEES

Item 33.1. Report of the Credentials Committee

692. The United Kingdom reported that 77 Parties had submitted their credentials, of which 72 were acceptable. However, as three of these Parties were in arrears, 69 Parties had the right to vote. The report was approved.

Item 33.2. Report of the Committee of the Whole and Working Groups

693. The Budget Sub-Committee had completed its work after lengthy consultative sessions, and Document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.13.2/Rev.1 with six associated annexes was ready for consideration by the COP.

694. The Institutional and Crosscutting WG had considered and completed three documents remaining to discuss. Documents UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.17 CMS contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.30.1.1. priorities for addressing illegal and unsustainable taking of migratory species and UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.18.1 Synergies and Partnerships.

695. The Avian WG had completed all items.

696. The Terrestrial WG had completed all items.

697. The Aquatic WG had completed all items, including document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.27.2.4, which was outstanding since Day 5, for which a CRP had now been prepared, noting that this document still contained some square bracketed text for discussion in plenary.

698. The WG Chairs thanked the members of their groups and the Secretariat for their support.

Conference Room Papers (CRPs)

699. CRP13.2 *Budget 2024-2026*, including CRP13.2 *Annex 6 Programme of Work 2024-2026*, came from the Finance and Budget Sub-Committee. Kenya, as Chair of the Sub-Committee, presented a summary of discussions held, stating that the group had agreed

on a budget ready for consideration by the COP to enable the Convention to continue its mandate. The following areas of discussion were held:

- In relation to Parties eligible for funding to CMS meetings in paragraph 10, Samoa, on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Development States (SIDS), proposed the amendment “to accord first priority to funding for least developed countries and SIDS”. This was supported by Switzerland, Cook Islands, Belgium, Israel, the EU and its Member States, Maldives, New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Georgia, Norway and Senegal. Brazil said it could agree to the amendment, while reiterating that, in its view, all developing countries must be considered.
- Israel raised the issue of budget prioritization in relation to the implementation of the Programme of Work (POW). The Executive Secretary of CMS informed that the Secretariat had been able to prepare a POW with costing and proposed prioritization for COP12 and COP13, which was reported on in the implementation of the budgets. However, due to capacity issues in the Secretariat, this was not achieved prior to COP14 but appeared as an additional CRP as a provisional POW following the same approach. A draft with costs and proposed prioritization would be finalized immediately after the COP, and, in reference to paragraph 18 of the CRP, the StC was requested to hold an online meeting to consider the draft and adopt a final POW. The document would be published on the CMS website, and Parties would be alerted of its availability.
- In relation to contractual services, Australia expressed concern that no funding was allocated for servicing government bodies during 2024-2025, noting potential ramifications for intersessional meetings. Stating that the budget presented to COP13 had taken a similar approach, with this budget line used for COPs, the Executive Secretary of CMS indicated that CMS had generally received support from intersessional meeting hosts for translations. However, if no such funds were available, there was a need to shift funds to ensure the provision of translation.
- Brazil noted that the phrase ‘developing countries’ was being recognized in this CRP.

With the amendment in paragraph 10, the document was recommended for adoption.

700. CRP14.2 *New Strategic Plan for Migratory Species* included deletion of Decisions 13.4 and 13.5. The Chair summarized the changes already made and requested the EU or Brazil to report back on discussions in relation to the phrase ‘developing countries’, a phrase also used in CRP30.4.5. After a break in the COW, the EU read out the proposed amended text agreed by Brazil and the EU and its Member States, developed with the input of other Parties: “*Recognising the challenges faced by Parties and the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties, in particular least developed countries and SIDS*”. New Zealand, as Chair of the Institutional and Crosscutting WG, expressed gratitude to the WG members and to Parties for reaching this compromise. Cook Islands supported the amendment, in particular the inclusion of SIDS, and sought confirmation of changes proposed in the draft Resolution targets, especially Target 5.3 in relation to traditional knowledge. The EU and its Member States also sought confirmation that their comment in relation to this target was noted and reflected. The Chair confirmed that the textural changes previously agreed would be included. The document as amended was recommended for adoption.
701. CRP17/Rev.1 *CMS Contribution to the GBF* was recommended for adoption by the COP, without comment.

702. On CRP18.1/Rev.1 *Synergies and Partnerships*, BirdLife welcomed the amendments, underscoring the need to ensure synergies were not only for the Secretariat, stating the need to also deliver synergies on the ground, and its readiness to work with all relevant stakeholders to develop and implement projects. Brazil proposed several changes to make the text more consistent with the BBNJ Agreement. The draft Resolution and draft Decisions were recommended for adoption.
703. Following extensive discussions in an Aquatic sub WG, chaired by the United Kingdom, CRP27.2.4 *Deep-sea Mining*, was brought back to the COW for discussions on the remaining bracketed text. Many speakers emphasized the need for more robust scientific information on the impacts of deep-sea mining (DSM) on migratory species and their habitats and adopting a precautionary approach before engaging in deep-sea mineral extraction. The following areas were discussed:
- On a preambular paragraph referencing “CBD Decision 15/24” (on conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity), Norway, supported by Belgium and others, preferred “Recalling” the Decision rather than “Welcoming” or “Noting”. They commented that it would be discussed at the upcoming session of the UN Environment Assembly, and proposed reference to the same CBD Decision in an operative paragraph. They also asked that, in a provision directed to the ScC, the brackets be lifted around “collaborate” in reference to the International Seabed Authority (ISA).
 - Regarding an operative paragraph on urging Parties not to engage in [or support] deep-seabed mineral exploitation activities until sufficient and robust scientific information had been obtained to ensure that they did not cause harmful effects to migratory species, their prey and their ecosystems, Norway proposed replacing the bracketed text “or support” with “sponsor” and asked that the brackets be lifted. In response, Germany did not agree with Norway’s proposal to “sponsor” instead of “support” deep-seabed mineral exploitation activities, noting a long discussion had taken place in the subgroup on this paragraph. They also noted this would better ensure that applications under the ISA by non-CMS Parties would not be supported.
 - Ireland, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Seychelles, Argentina and the Netherlands supported Germany. Argentina, noting the potential for conflict with work undertaken under the ISA, commented that it would have been good if the ISA Secretary-General had been present at COP14. They noted the 1 February notification from the ISA to CMS, but considered that the information in the notification was insufficient. Sweden reiterated that any extraction of minerals must be preceded by scientific knowledge of the consequences and methods of extraction. Following this discussion, Norway withdrew its proposal, saying it could accept “supporting”.
 - Egypt highlighted that, in the Mediterranean, many migratory species had already been affected by DSM techniques.
 - Spain, noting that many threats to biodiversity and migratory species already existed, urged addressing this issue before the impacts on biodiversity and migratory species became irreversible.
 - Panama also highlighted other threats, including climate change and pollution, and called on governments to work with CBD and the BBNJ Agreement to ensure the safeguarding of migratory species and ecosystems.

- OceanCare, speaking on behalf of the Deep-Sea Conservation Coalition, which is comprised of more than 100 organizations, commented that safeguards could not be guaranteed without robust science. OceanCare highlighted little understanding of the deep-sea and speculative activities related to DSM.

With these amendments, the document was forwarded to the COP for adoption.

704. CRP28.4.1 *Flyways* included deletion of Draft Decisions 13.41 to 13.46. Australia proposed the deletion of some words agreed upon by the Avian WG but which still remained in the CRP under Decision 14.EE f). The EU and its Member States proposed to reinstate the words “*covering the entire life cycle of species*” in paragraph 18. Philippines proposed an additional preambular paragraph: “*Acknowledges the work of the ACB in collaborating with non-Parties in the ASEAN for the establishment of the ASEAN flyway networks, fostering regional cooperation for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and the wetlands that support them.*” With these amendments, the document was recommended for adoption.
705. CRP28.4.2 *The Initiative for Central Asian Flyway* included a Resolution and draft Decisions and deletion of one Decision. India noted its commitment to establish a Coordinating Unit for the CAF. The EAAFP noted that the CAF was an integral part of the Global Flyway Network and that it would continue to lend its support. The CRP was recommended for adoption.
706. CRP28.7 *Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug) Global Action Plan (SAKERGAP)* included amendments and new decisions and was recommended for adoption.
707. CRP29.3 *Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI)* included draft Decisions for the COW to consider. The CRP was recommended for adoption.
708. CRP29.6.2 *CMS Jaguar Initiative* was merged with CRP29.6.1 *Jaguar Conservation Measures* and included a draft Resolution and a draft Decision. Welcoming the Joint CITES-CMS Jaguar Initiative, IUCN noted that its published review on the Jaguar could help to inform the POW and offered its support. Panthera, on behalf of the Jaguar 2030 Road Map Committee, commended the Range State Parties for their commitment to this proposal, which was built upon years of cooperative work, and noted the need for transboundary conservation. Argentina further commended the work undertaken, and Brazil stressed the Jaguar’s conservation was a priority. Noting the Jaguar’s role as an indicator of ecosystem health, Costa Rica considered that the new Initiative would improve Jaguar conservation and further benefit other felines. This was supported by Peru. The document was recommended for adoption.
709. CRP30.1.1/Rev.1 *Priorities for Addressing Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Migratory Species* included amendments and several new decisions. Israel proposed in Decision 14.CC b) to replace the word “terrestrial” by “migratory”. After some discussion and inputs from Australia, WWF and WCS, in which gaps in addressing taking of both terrestrial and aquatic species were raised, the Executive Secretary of CMS read out the proposed amended paragraph: “*Establish a Working Group on the taking of migratory species for various uses, taking into account ongoing work under the Convention*”. With this proposed amendment, the CRP was recommended for adoption.
710. CRP30.4.1 *Climate Change and Migratory Species* included proposed amendments to Resolution 12.21, a recommendation to re-establish a WG under the ScC, to take note of Information Document 30.4.1 and to delete Decisions 13.126 and 13.128. The United Kingdom suggested two minor editorial corrections, supported by the EU and its Member

States, which also proposed addition of the word “external” in paragraph 14DD. With these proposed amendments, the CRP was recommended for adoption.

711. CRP30.4.5/Rev.2 *Plastic Pollution* included within it the phrase ‘developing countries’ in draft Decision 14.BB, for which the Chair proposed to transpose the same wording in relation to this phrase as used in CRP14.2. Antigua and Barbuda, as one of the first Caribbean countries to ban single use plastics, noted its commitment to address plastic pollution and its support for the plastics treaty being negotiated, and the need to continue to address abandoned gear. Further noting its input to developing the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) toolkit, they proposed amending the text to Decision 14.AA c) to read: “*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 ALDFG*”. With these additions to the document, the CRP was recommended for adoption.
712. In CRP32.1/Rev.1 *Concerted Actions*, some minor grammatical amendments were made, and the CRP was recommended for adoption.

Item 15.2 Scientific Council Membership

713. The Chair recommended to retain the current COP-Appointed Councillors for Birds, Bycatch, Connectivity/Network, Fish, Invasive Species, Marine Pollution and Terrestrial Mammals for the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15, and to appoint Ms Vanesa Tossenberger as Councillor for Aquatic Mammals and Mr Des Thompson as Councillor for Climate Change. Ms Tossenberger expressed gratitude to the outgoing COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals and her commitment to meet requirements of the post. Israel questioned if the outgoing COP-Appointed Councillor Mr Rodrigo Medellín for Terrestrial Mammals would be replaced. The Secretariat confirmed that there was no need for a replacement, as this position had been held by two Councillors. In thanking all COP-Appointed Councillors for their commitment to the Convention, the Chair recommended retention of existing COP-Appointed Councillors and approval of the new COP-Appointed Councillors for Aquatic Mammals and for Climate Change.

Closing of the Committee of the Whole

714. The Chair of the COW thanked the Government of Uzbekistan for hosting the meeting, all technical and interpretation services, delegates from Parties and observers for their input, and WG chairs and contact groups, as well as the ScC and its Chair and Councillors, who contributed their time voluntarily. The Chair thanked the Secretariat for its commitment and efficiency. The Chair also reflected on his time over 30 years in attending ten CMS COPs in a number of roles and thanked the United Kingdom for its support.
715. The Executive Secretary of CMS thanked Mr Collin Galbraith’s leadership as Chair of the COW.
716. The Chair formally closed the COW.

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| COP Plenary |
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VIII. FORMAL AND CONCLUDING BUSINESS (continued)

717. The Chair of COP, Minister Aziz Abdukhakimov, opened the final COP plenary on Saturday afternoon.

ITEM 33. REPORT OF IN-SESSION COMMITTEES

Item 33.1 Report of the Credentials Committee

718. The Chair of the Credentials Committee noted that, of 92 registered Parties, 77 credentials had been assessed and 72 were accepted. The report of the Credential Committee was approved.

Item 33.2 Report of Committee of the Whole and the WGs

719. As all WGs had reported to the COW, they did not report further to the COP Plenary.

720. The Chair of the COW, Mr Colin Galbraith, reported on the Committee's work.

REPORTS FROM PARTIES REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT AND ELECTIONS UNDER AGENDA ITEMS 15.2 (SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL) AND 16 (STANDING COMMITTEE)

ITEM 16. ELECTION OF PARTIES TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE

721. The Chair of the COP invited regions to present their nominations for members and alternates for the StC for the next triennium. The following nominations were made:

- Africa - Members: Algeria, Kenya, Zimbabwe; Alternates: Uganda, Morocco, Seychelles
- Asia - Members: Bahrain, India; Alternates: Maldives, Bangladesh
- Europe - Members: Italy, Monaco, United Kingdom; Alternates: France, Croatia, Montenegro
- Latin America and the Caribbean - Members: Panama, Uruguay; Alternates: Peru, Costa Rica
- Oceania - Member: New Zealand; Alternate: Cook Islands

722. The Chair of the COP noted that the StC Chair and Vice-Chair, as well as the Chair and members of the Sub-Committee on Finance and Budget, would be elected at StC55 immediately following the close of COP14.

723. The nominations were accepted.

ITEM 15. SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

Item 15.2 Scientific Council Membership

724. The Chair turned to the appointment of the ScC-SC for the next triennium. He noted that the COW had recommended the appointment of COP-appointed Councillors for the next intersessional period for the following subject areas:

- Birds

- Aquatic Mammals
 - Terrestrial Mammals
 - Fish
 - Climate Change
 - Connectivity/Networks
 - Marine Pollution
 - Bycatch
 - Invasive Species
725. The COP agreed to reappoint the current COP-appointed Councillors for birds, bycatch, connectivity/networks, fish, invasive species and disease, and marine pollution for the next intersessional period.
726. The COP also appointed Ms Vanessa Tossenberger as Councillor for Aquatic Mammals and Mr Des Thompson for Councillor for Climate Change.
727. The Chair then asked regions to nominate Party-appointed Councillors to the ScC-SC:
- Africa: Members: Dr Edson Gandiwa, Zimbabwe; Mr Stephen Okiror, Uganda; Alternates: Ms Kahsay Gebretensae Asgedom, Ethiopia; Mr Selby Remie, Ethiopia
 - Asia: Members: Dr Sathyakumar Sambandam, India; Mr Daniel Fernando, Sri Lanka; Mr Askar Davletbatkov, Kyrgyz Republic
 - Europe: Members: Mr João José de Bastos Loureiro, Portugal; Mr Ruben Moreno-Opo, Spain; Ms. Daliborka Stankovic, Serbia; Alternates: Mr Jean-Philippe Sibley, France; Mr James Williams, United Kingdom; Mr Simon Nemptzov, Israel
 - South and Central America and the Caribbean: Mr Carlos Mario Orrego Vásquez, Costa Rica; Mr Andrei Langeloh Ross, Brazil; Mr Héctor Samuel Vera Alcaraz, Paraguay
 - Oceania: Members: Ms Narelle Montgomery, Australia; Ms Senivasa Waqairamasi, Fiji; Mr Graeme Taylor, New Zealand
728. As part of Document 15.1, the COP also: took note of the analysis of the financial implications of an increase in the number of Party-appointed Councillors per region from three to four; adopted amendments to Resolution 12.4 and the Terms of Reference for the ScC; adopted amendments to the Rules of Procedure ScC and ScC-SC; and adopted Decisions contained in CRP15.1.

ITEM 34. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE APPENDICES

729. The COP Chair noted that the COW had examined 14 proposals to amend the CMS Appendices, recommending that the COP adopt them. The COP then adopted the proposals to include the following species for inclusion in the Appendices:

730. MAMMALIA

- Eurasian Lynx (*Lynx lynx*) included in Appendix II and Balkan Lynx (*Lynx lynx balcanicus*) in Appendix I
- Pallas's Cat (*Felis manul*) included in Appendix II
- Guanaco (*Lama guanicoe*) included in Appendix II
- Lahille's Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus*) in Appendix I and II

- Baltic Proper population of the Harbour Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) in Appendix I.

731. **AVES**

- Peruvian Pelican (*Pelecanus thagus*) included in Appendix I and II
- Magellanic Plover (*Pluvianellus socialis*) included in Appendix I
- Southern African population of the Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus meridionalis*) included in Appendix I.

732. **PISCES**

- Sand Tiger Shark (*Carcharias taurus*) included in Appendix I and II
- Blackchin Guitarfish (*Glaucostegus cemiculus*) included in Appendix II and the Mediterranean Sea population of this species included Appendix I
- Bull Ray (*Aetomylaeus bovinus*) included in Appendix II and the Mediterranean Sea population of this species included in Appendix I
- Lusitanian Cownose Ray (*Rhinoptera marginata*) included Appendix II and the Mediterranean Sea population of this species included in Appendix I
- Gilded Catfish (*Brachyplatystoma rousseauxii*) included in Appendix II
- Lualaba Catfish or Piraemuta (*Brachyplatystoma vaillantii*) included in Appendix II.

733. Israel, while applauding the adoption of the listing proposals, noted that it showed a failure in the conservation of migratory species, and that the goal should be to improve the status of species and take them off the list.

734. Document 13.1 *Execution of the CMS Budget 2021-2023*. The COP noted the report.

735. On Document 13.2/Rev.1 *Budget 2024-2026 and Programme of Work for the Intersessional Period between COP14 and COP15*, the Budget Sub-Committee made some changes, including prioritizing funding for participation in Convention meetings for least developed countries and Small Island Developing States. The COP then adopted these documents, endorsing, on an exceptional basis, the provisional Programme of Work (POW) for the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15, as contained in Annex 6, and requested the Secretariat to finalize the POW for final adoption by the StC, according to the proposed changes and its six annexes found in CRP13.2/Rev.2 and CRP13.2/Rev.2/Annex.6.

736. Document 13.3 *Resource Mobilization*. The COP adopted amendments to Resolution 10.25 (Rev.COP12) as contained in CRP13.3/Rev.1, which incorporated comments made in the COW.

737. Document 14.1 *Implementation of the SPMS 2015-2023*. The COP took note of the assessment of progress towards achieving the strategic plan's targets and deleted Decisions 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3.

738. Document 14.2 *Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species*. The COP adopted the new SPMS draft Resolution and draft Decisions, as modified by the Institutional and Crosscutting WG and contained in CRP 14.2/Rev.2, and deleted Decisions 13.4 and 13.5.

739. Document 15.1 *Evaluation of the Results of the Restructuring of the Scientific Council* contained proposed amendments to Resolution 12.4. A small contact group had

- proposed additional changes to the draft Resolution and draft Decisions contained in CRP15.1, which the COP adopted.
740. Document 17 *CMS Contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*. The Committee referred the issue to the Institutional and Crosscutting Issues WG, which prepared CRP17/Rev.1. The COP adopted the new resolution and several decisions contained in this CRP, and deleted Decisions 13.7 and 13.8.
 741. Document 18.1 *Synergies and Partnerships* was modified by the COW. The COP adopted CRP18.1/Rev.2 and deleted Decisions 13.9 and 13.10.
 742. Document 18.2/Rev.1 *Cooperation with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)*. The COW forwarded CRP18.2 to the COP, which adopted amendments to Resolution 10.8 (Rev.COP13), adopted new decisions contained in Annex 2, and deleted Decisions 13.11 to 13.13.
 743. Document 19 *Communication and Information Management* and the *Strategic Communications Assessment*. The COW adopted two new decisions found in Annex 1 of Document 19 and took note of the documents.
 744. Document 20 *Atlas of Animal Migration*. The COP took note of the report concerning the Atlas, and adopted new decisions in CRP20/Rev.1, which incorporated a small amendment.
 745. Document 21/Rev.1 *Conservation Status of Migratory Species*. The COP noted three reports: *State of the World's Migratory Species*; *Assessment of the Risk Posed to CMS Appendix I-Listed Species by Direct Use and Trade*; and *In-Depth Review of the Conservation Status of Individual CMS-Listed Species*. The COP adopted the draft resolution and new decisions contained in CRP 21, and deleted Decisions 13.17 and 13.18, and Decisions 13.24 to 13.26.
 746. Document 22 *Implementation of the Programme of Work 2020-2023*. The COP took note of the report.
 747. Document 23 *National Reports*. The COP adopted amendments to Resolution 12.5 and decisions contained in Document 23, with the modifications made in the COW, as reflected in CRP 23. The COP also took note of the *Analysis of CMS National Reports to COP14* contained in Annex 3, and deleted Decisions 13.14 and 13.15.
 748. Document 24 *Review Mechanism and National Legislation Programme*. The COW recommended additional text for the document, and the COP adopted the operational guidelines and draft decisions contained in CRP24/Rev1 and deleted Decisions 13.20 to 13.23.
 749. Document 25 *Review of Decisions*. The COP deleted Decisions 13.6, 13.71(b), 13.72, 13.73, 13.74, 13.75 and 13.137 and renewed 13.16 and 13.71(a).
 750. Regarding Document 26/Rev.1 *Implementation of Decision 13.140: Guidance on the Use of the Term "Vagrant"*, as recommended by the COW, the COP appreciated the work undertaken by the Scientific Council on implementation of Decision 13.140 and noted the report contained in Document UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.26/Rev.1 *Implementation of Decision 13.140: Guidance on the Use of the Term "Vagrant."*
 751. Document 27.1.1/Rev.1 *Bycatch*. The COP took note of the report "*Technical mitigation techniques to reduce bycatch of sharks-there is no silver bullet*" and recommendations

- on the technical mitigation techniques to reduce bycatch of sharks. The Chair explained that COW had also considered the draft new decisions found in Annex 3 of Document 27.1.1/Rev.1, and that the Aquatic Working Group had proposed additional changes, reflected in CRP 27.1.1, which the COP adopted along with deleting Decisions 13.61 to 13.63.
752. Document 27.1.2/Rev.1 *Fish aggregating devices*. The COP noted the report “*An introduction to FADs as a source of marine debris*” and adopted new decisions, as modified by the Aquatic WG and reflected in CRP27.1.2.
753. Document 27.1.3/Rev1 *Maltreatment and mutilation of seabirds in fisheries*. The Aquatic WG had proposed changes reflected in CRP27.1.3, which the COP adopted.
754. Document 27.2.1./Rev.2 *Effects of marine pollution on migratory species*, included a report on “*Migratory species and marine pollution: a brief overview of issues*” in Annex 1, which the COP took note. The Aquatic Working Group proposed additional changes to the draft decisions reflected in CRP27.2.1, which the COP adopted.
755. Document 27.2.2/Rev.2 *Marine Noise*. The COP noted the report of the Joint CMS/ACCOBAMS/ASCOBANS Noise WG contained in Annex 1, deleted Decisions 13.58, 13.59 and 13.60 and adopted new draft Decisions found in CRP27.2.2/Rev.1.
756. Document 27.2.3/Rev.1 *Vessel Strikes* included the report provided as Information Document 27.2.3. The COP adopted a new draft Resolution including guidance in Annex 2 of Document 27.2.3, and new draft decisions, as modified by the Aquatic WG and contained in CRP27.2.3.
757. Document 27.2.4/Rev.1 *Deep-Sea Mining*. The Aquatic WG made additional changes to this document and received modifications made in the COW as reflected in CRP27.2.4/Rev.1, which was adopted by the COP.
758. Document 27.3.1/Rev1 *Recreational in-water interactions*. The COP adopted the draft amendments to Resolution 12.16 and new draft Decisions as contained in CRP 27.3.1/Rev.1, as modified by the Aquatic Working Group. The COP also endorsed, as part of the draft amendment to Resolution 12.16 of the *Guidelines for Recreational In-Water Interactions with Marine Wildlife*, contained in CRP 27.3.1/Annex 2 and deleted Decisions 13.66 to 13.68.
759. Document 27.4.1 *Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)*. The Aquatic WG proposed additional changes to this document, and the COP took note of the report of the Joint IUCN SSC/WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force, deleted Decisions 13.54 to 13.57, and adopted new decisions found in CRP27.4.1.
760. Document 27.4.2/Rev.1. *Important Shark and Ray Areas (ISRAs)*. The Aquatic WG proposed additional changes, which were forwarded by the COW to the COP, which adopted a new draft Resolution and new Decisions and noted the criteria and process for identifying ISRAs, as found in CRP27.4.2.
761. Document 27.4.3 *Seagrass ecosystems*. The Aquatic WG proposed additional changes, and the Committee recommended that the COP adopt the new resolutions and new decisions included in CRP27.4.3/Rev1 with an additional revision made in session which would be reflected in the post-session final outcome. The COP adopted the recommendations.

762. Document 27.5.1/Rev.1 *Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans*. The Aquatic WG proposed additional changes, which the COW forward to the COP. The COP took note of the reports and recommendations included in Information Documents 27.5.1 a) and b) and noted the conservation recommendations for Range States of specific cetacean species in Annex 1 of the document. The COP also adopted the new draft Resolution and new draft Decisions included in CRP27.5.1, deleted Decisions 13.80 to 13.85 and Resolution 10.15 (Rev.COP12).
763. Document 27.5.2/Rev.2 on the *SSAP for the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (Sousa teuszii)*. The COP adopted the draft Resolution, including the SSAP included in Annex 2 of Document 27.5.2/Rev.2, and adopted new draft Decisions 27.5.2/Rev.2.
764. Document 27.5.3/Rev.1 *Sirenians, Pinnipeds and Otters*. After referral to the Aquatic WG, the COW forwarded this document to the COP, which adopted new draft Decisions and deleted Decisions 13.55, 13.56(c), 13.81(a) and (b), and 13.82(a), as contained in CRP27.5.3.
765. Document 27.6.1/Rev.1 *Marine Turtles*. The COP adopted new draft Resolutions found in CRP27.6.1 and deleted Decisions 13.69 and 13.70.
766. Document 27.6.2/Rev.1 *SSAP for the Hawksbill Turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata) in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Ocean Region*. This was discussed in the Aquatic WG and, as recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the new draft Resolution, including the SSAP in Document 27.6.2/Rev.1, and new draft Decisions as found in CRP27.6.2.
767. Document 27.7.1 *SSAP for the Angelshark in the Mediterranean Sea*. The COP adopted the draft Resolution, including the SSAP in Annex 2 of Document 27.7.1 and the draft Decisions in CRP27.7.1.
768. Document 27.7.2/Rev.1 *Freshwater fish including the European Eel*. The COP adopted the draft Decisions contained in CRP27.7.2/Rev.1 and deleted Decisions 13.76 to 13.79.
769. Document 27.7.3 *Implementation of the CMS Appendix-I listing for the Oceanic Whitetip Shark (Carcharhinus longimanus)*. The COP adopted the draft Decisions contained in CRP27.7.3.
770. Document 28.1/Rev.1 *Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds*. The COP amended Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP13), adopted the draft Decisions contained in CRP28.1/Rev.1 and deleted Decisions 13.27 to 13.33.
771. Document 28.2 *Action Plan for Migratory Land Birds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP)*. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the draft amendments to Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP13), adopted new draft Decisions found in CRP28.2/Rev.1 and deleted Decisions 13.34 to 13.38.
772. Document 28.3 *Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds*. As recommended by the COW, the COP amended Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP13), adopted new draft Decisions found in CRP28.3/Rev.1 and deleted Decisions 13.39 and 3.40.
773. Document 28.4.1/Rev.1 *Flyways*. As recommended by the COW, the COP amended Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP13), adopted the draft Decisions in CRP28.4.1/Rev.1 and deleted Decisions 13.41 to 13.46.

774. Document 28.4.2 *Initiative for Central Asian Flyway*. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the draft Resolution and draft Decisions, found in CRP 28.4.2/Rev.1, and deleted Decision 13.46.
775. Document 28.5.1./Rev.2 *Action Plans for Birds*. As recommended by the COW, the COP amended Resolution 12.12 (Rev.COP13) and draft Decisions contained in CRP 28.5.1/Rev.1.
776. Document 28.5.2/Rev.1 *Christmas Island Frigatebird SSAP*. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the draft amendments to Resolution 12.12 (Rev.COP13), including the International SSAP for the Conservation of the Christmas Island Frigatebird (*Fregata andrewsi*).
777. Document 28.5.3/Rev.1 *Action Plan for the Great Bustard in Asia*. The COP adopted the draft amendments to Resolution 12.12 (Rev.COP13), including the Action Plan for the Great Bustard in Asia.
778. Document 28.6/Rev.1 *Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures*. This document was referred to the Avian WG and, as recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the draft amendments to Resolution 12.10 and the new draft Decisions, found in CRP 28.6.
779. Document 28.7/Rev.1 *Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug) Global Action Plan (SAKERGAP)*. The COP adopted the draft amendments to Resolution 11.18 (Rev.COP12) and new draft Decisions found in CRP28.7/Rev.2.
780. Document 29.1/Rev.1 *African Carnivores Initiative*. This document had been referred to the Terrestrial WG, which proposed additional changes and, as recommended by the COW, the COP adopted CRP 29.1.
781. Document 29.2.1/Rev.1 *Report on the Implementation of the Concerted Action for Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna*. The COW recommended closing this CA, which the COP agreed to.
782. Document 29.2.2 *Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna*. This issue was discussed in the Terrestrial Working Group. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted amendments to Resolution 9.21 (Rev.COP13) contained in CRP29.2.2/Rev.1 and adopted the POW contained in Annex 2 of Document 29.2.2.
783. Document 29.3/Rev.2 *Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI)*. The Terrestrial WG proposed additional changes to the draft decisions, which the COW adopted, as found in CRP 29.3.
784. Document 29.4.1 *Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan* was referred to the Terrestrial WG, which proposed additional changes as contained in CRP29.4.1/Rev.1. As per the COW recommendations, the COP adopted the amendments to Resolution 12.19 and endorsed, as part of these amendments, the African Elephant Action Plan as contained in Document 29.4.1.
785. Document 29.4.2 *The African Elephant*. As recommended by the COW, the COP deleted Decisions 13.99 and 13.100.
786. Document 29.5/Rev.2 *The Conservation of the African Wild Ass*. The COP adopted the Decisions found in the Annex of the document and deleted Decision 13.98.

787. Document 29.6.2 *Jaguar Conservation Measures* was discussed in the Terrestrial WG, which recommended to merge this document with Document 29.6.2 *CMS Jaguar Initiative* and proposed a Resolution and draft Decisions contained in CRP29.6.2, which was adopted by the COP.
788. Document 29.7 *Pastoralism*. After referral to the Terrestrial WG, and recommendation by the COW, the COP adopted draft Decisions found in CRP 29.7.
789. Document 30.1.1/Rev.1 *Priorities for Addressing Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Migratory Species*. After further modifications by the COW, the COP adopted the amendments to Resolution 11.31 and draft Decisions contained in CRP30.1.1/Rev.2.
790. Document 30.1.2/Rev.3 *Aquatic Wild Meat and Action Plan to Address Aquatic Wild Meat Harvests in West Africa*. The COP took note of the report found in Annex 1 of the document, adopted a new Resolution, including an action plan, found in Annexes 2 and 3, adopted draft Decisions contained in CRP30.1.2, and deleted Decisions 13.64 and 13.65.
791. Document 30.1.3 *Addressing Unsustainable Use of Terrestrial and Avian Wild Meat of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*. The COP took note of the Executive Summary found in the Annex to the document, and deleted Decisions 13.109 to 13.112, as recommended by the COW.
792. Document 30.2.1.1 *Ecological Connectivity: Policy Aspects*. The COP adopted the consolidated resolution, as well as the decisions found in CRP 30.2.1.1/Rev.1, and deleted Decisions 13.113 to 13.115.
793. Document 30.2.1.2 *Ecological Connectivity: Technical Aspects*. The COP took note of the four reports found in Annexes 1 to 4 of the document.
794. Document 30.2.2/Rev.2 *Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory*. The COP adopted new decisions found in CRP 30.2.2 and deleted Decisions 13.116 to 13.118.
795. Document 30.2.3 *Community Participation and Livelihoods* was referred to the WG on Institutional and Crosscutting Issues. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted a new resolution which included “*Key Guiding Principles on the involvement of Communities in the Conservation of Migratory Species*”, and a Decision found in CRP30.2.3/Rev.4. The COP also deleted Decisions 13.119 to 13.121.
796. Document 30.3.1/Rev.1 *Infrastructure Development and Migratory Species*. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the amendments to Resolution 7.2 (Rev.COP12) and the draft Decisions contained in CRP 30.3.1 and deleted Decisions 13.130 to 13.134.
797. Document 30.3.2 *Renewable Energy and Migratory Species*. Following discussions in the Institutional and Crosscutting Issues WG and as recommended by the COW, the COP took note of a list of activities carried out by the Energy Task Force included in Document 30.3.2, adopted draft decisions contained in CRP30.3.2/Rev.1 and deleted Decisions 13.106 to 13.108.
798. Document 30.4.1/Rev.3 *Climate Change and Migratory Species*. Following modifications made in the COW, the COP took note of Information Document 30.4.1, adopted the amendments to Resolution 12.21 and the draft Decisions contained in CRP30.4.1/Rev.1, and deleted Decisions 13.126 to 13.128.

799. Document 30.4.2/Rev.1 *Insect Decline and Its Threat to Migratory Insectivorous Animal Populations*. As recommended by the COW, the COP took note of the summary of the report contained in Annex 1, adopted the decisions in CRP30.4.2, and deleted Decision 13.129.
800. Document 30.4.3 *Wildlife Disease* was referred to the Institutional and Crosscutting WG. As recommended by the COW, the COP took note of the summary of the report *Migratory Species and Health: A Review of Migration and Wildlife Disease Dynamics, and the Health of Migratory Species, within the Context of One Health*. The COP also adopted the amendments to Resolution 12.6 *Wildlife Disease*, a new Resolution on *Avian Influenza*, and the Decisions contained in CRP30.4.3.
801. Document 30.4.4 *Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife*. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted amendments to Resolution 13.5, the draft decisions contained in CRP30.4.4/Rev.1, and the *CMS International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species* contained in CRP30.4.4/Rev.1/Annex3. It also deleted Decisions 13.138 and 13.139.
802. Document 30.4.5/Rev.1 *Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species* was further modified in the COW. The COP took note of the Executive Summary and Conclusions of the report *Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Freshwater Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Migratory Species in the Asia and Pacific Region*, contained in Annex 1, adopted the Decisions contained in CRP30.4.5/Rev.2, and deleted Decisions 13.123 to 13.125.
803. Document 30.5/Rev.1 *Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity*. As recommended by the COW, the COP took note of the reports referenced in the document and the recommendations of the Culture Expert Working Group workshops, adopted Decisions contained in CRP 30.5, and deleted Decisions 13.101 to 13.105.
804. Document 30.6/Rev.1 *Ecotourism and Migratory Species*. As recommended by the COW, the COP took note of Information Document 30.6, adopted amendments to Resolution 12.23 contained in CRP30.6/Rev.1, endorsed the guidelines annexed to the Resolution, and deleted Decisions 13.135 and 13.136.
805. Document 31.1/Rev.1 *Taxonomy and Nomenclature*. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the recommendations on the taxonomy of aquatic mammals, as included in Annex 1 of the document; adopted the amendments to Resolution 12.27 contained in Annex 2 of the document, including its List of Standard References included in Annex 3; and adopted the new draft Decisions contained in Annex 4.
806. Document 31.2/Rev.1 *Guidance on the Disaggregation of Families and genera Listed in Appendix II*. The COP adopted the draft Resolution contained in Annex 1 of the document and the draft Decisions contained in Annex 2.
807. Document 31.3 *The Potential Avian Taxa for Listing*. As recommended by the COW, the COP adopted the Resolution and Decisions contained in CRP31.3.
808. Document 32.1/Rev.1 *Concerted Actions* was modified by the COW. The COP adopted amendments to Resolution 12.28 (Rev.COP14) as contained in CRP32.1/Rev.1, with further revisions. The document was adopted.
809. Document 32.2 *Assessment of Progress in the Implementation of Concerted Actions and Possible Proposals for their Extension*. Under Agenda item 32.2, the COW

considered reports on the implementation of CAs for nine species or groups of species and took note of the reports contained in Documents 32.2.1 through 32.2.9. The COW recommended closing three CAs under items 32.2.1, 32.2.5 and 32.2.6 and extending six CAs under items 32.2.2, 32.2.3, 32.2.4, 32.2.7, 32.2.8 and 32.2.9, as Parties favoured their continuation. The COP adopted these recommendations.

810. The COW considered the six new proposals for CAs listed below for specific species or groups of species under the *New Proposals for Concerted Actions for the triennium 2024-2026*, found in Documents 32.3.1 to 32.3.5 and 32.3.7/Rev.1:

- Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*)
- Straw-coloured Fruit Bat (*Eidolon helvum*)
- Pallas's Cat (*Felis manul*)
- Eurasian Lynx (*Lynx lynx* and *Lynx lynx balcanicus*)
- Franciscana Dolphin (*Pontoporia blainvillei*)
- Blue Shark (*Prionace glauca*)

The COP adopted these proposed CAs, without objection.

ITEM 35. DATE AND VENUE OF THE 15TH MEETING OF THE COP

811. The Chair gave the floor to the Secretariat.

812. The Executive Secretary of CMS noted several discussions and a serious proposal concerning hosting of CMS COP15, but was not in a position to announce the host of the next COP. She requested any Parties interested in hosting COP15 to inform the Secretariat of their interest as soon as possible. The Executive Secretary anticipated that an announcement would be made soon to confirm the COP15 host.

ITEM 36. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

813. The Chair gave the floor to the Secretariat to raise any other business.

814. No other matters were raised.

CLOSING STATEMENTS

815. Delegates making closing statements all sincerely thanked the Government of Uzbekistan, the Chair of the COP, the Chair of the COW, the ScC-SC and WGs, the interpreters, translators, Secretariat and all support personnel involved in hosting and/or contributing to the professional organization of the COP. Additional remarks made were:

816. The United Kingdom, Monaco, Georgia, Norway and Switzerland expressed the need for adequate resources for the Secretariat to meet the objectives set by the COP, and were disappointed that COP14 could not go further to meet these needs, especially to support COP-appointed Councillors increasing from three to four per region. They requested that this be reconsidered by COP15, and strongly urged Parties and non-Parties to consider providing of voluntary support.

817. The United Kingdom announced its intention to provide £50,000 to an in-person workshop on migratory species and climate change, and £50,000 for enabling delegates to attend meetings over the next triennium.

818. Panama, on behalf of Central and South America and the Caribbean, noted the significant number of species listed from this region and the need for their conservation, as well as for habitats and other smaller species, and stressed their commitment to connectivity.
819. New Zealand, on behalf of the six Parties of Oceania at the COP, highlighted the many successes of importance to Oceania, and commended the spirit of compromise during some difficult decisions. They implored all Parties to pay their contributions in a timely manner and underscored their support in increasing COP-appointed Councillors from three to four per region. They thanked those NGOs that are actively supporting conservation Oceania.
820. Saudi Arabia, on behalf of the Asia region, mentioned the significant milestone of the first *State of the World's Migratory Species* report, and its achievements. They looked forward to working with all Parties and partners over the next intersessional period.
821. Belgium, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, highlighted the major challenges ahead and the importance of taking on board the GBF in the CMS community. They anticipated that efforts to conserve listed species would lead to their recovery. They called upon all Parties in arrears to regularize their situations and to make voluntary contributions. They urged implementation of COP14 decisions at the national level.
822. Zimbabwe, on behalf of the Africa region, highlighted the role of local people and Indigenous Peoples. They expressed the need to emphasize implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species as a collective process. They noted the many challenges that Africa faced, for which innovative resource mobilization mechanisms were welcomed.
823. WWF, on behalf of BEES, BirdLife International, BFF, Defenders of Wildlife, IFAW, OceanCare, Pan-African Sanctuary Alliance, Panthera and WDC considered that COP14 gave partners hope through, for example, adoption of the DSM Decision, the strong link to the GBF and the increased focus on building migratory species into NBSAPs.
824. Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) informed that it would encourage partners to consider the role of migratory species to strengthen ecological connectivity within the frameworks that it was involved in.
825. IUCN noted the positive outcomes of COP14, expressed pride that its tools, knowledge and experts had been deeply involved, and looked forward to strengthening partnerships in the future.

ITEM 37. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

826. The Chair informed that delegates would have a period of one month from the date of the posting of the meeting report to submit their amendments. There were no objections to the report submitted in the form of daily reports, and the report was adopted.

ITEM 38. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

827. The Chair of the COP delivered closure words highlighting Samarkand's role as a place of knowledge transfer and dialogue, the success of the COP, and the work of delegates and the extensive media outreach. The Chair of the COP reiterated the importance of the COP to Uzbekistan and its relevance to the government's conservation ambitions, with the COP theme "Nature knows no borders". serving as a necessary responsibility.

He further reiterated important collaborations within Central Asia for migratory species and transboundary conservation, and the urgency of addressing climate change. In assuming the COP presidency, Uzbekistan would, amongst other targets, focus on tangible and results-oriented actions, strengthening connectivity and awareness, combating illegal wildlife trade and promoting robust climate change mitigation measures. He highlighted the importance of nature conservation in the culture of Uzbekistan.

828. The Executive Secretary of CMS, Ms Amy Fraenkel, extended thanks to Uzbekistan's people and Government and Minister Aziz Abdukhakimov for chairing the COP. She highlighted some key outcomes of the COP, including adoption of the Samarkand SPMS, the launch of the Central Asian Flyway Initiative, and important resolutions on deep-sea mining, infrastructure, light pollution and wildlife health. She urged all delegates to carry forward the spirit of collaboration and determination forged during COP14.
829. The Chair thanked the Executive Secretary for her closing remarks, and declared the meeting closed at 17:42.