



Synergies and Future Shape: COP11 “Time for Action”



CMS COP11
Regional Preparatory
and Negotiations
Workshop for Africa

Harare Zimbabwe
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Background – Why Synergies?

- Growth in the number of institutional bodies including MEAs for governing international environmental issues
- Hundreds of MEAs across the globe, many only loosely connected
- a need to bring coherence to this body of environmental institutions including MEAs
- Support to reduce overlap, create more efficiency and effectiveness by creating stronger cooperation and coherence among MEAs and other bodies.

Proposed Action

- Based on Future Shape Res 10.9 & AEWA res to 10th Standing Committee
- Proposal to establish CMS-AEWA common services and a common Executive Secretary
- Agreement for a pilot phase to better understand the implications of this synergy

Proposed Actions – Next Step

- ES, after consultation with Chairs of CMS and AEWA Standing Committees, presented a proposal that was accepted by the chairs to conduct a pilot between AEWA and CMS on a common Outreach and Communication unit
- Interim report of the pilot was submitted to the Standing Committee via the poste with positive feedback from Chairs and parties.
- COP will now consider next steps

Why Synergies in CMS

- Why?
 - There are major gains to be had by joining forces between the agreements and MOUs
 - Redirecting savings in time and resources towards supporting the implementation of the agreements
 - Creating greater resource efficiency
 - Creating specialization
 - Sharing costs
 - Reducing overlap
 - Improving common planning and sharing strategies

How can this be achieved?

- Administratively
 - Create Common units on shared functions
 - All agreements (even all MEAs) have common functions, for example, communication and outreach, partnerships, fundraising, conference services, capacity building etc
 - These services could be shared for example a shared conference service unit for all Bonn based CMS MEAs. There are many other examples.

How can this be achieved?

- Implementation
 - CMS Family Agreements share common objectives and techniques for supporting the implementing respective agreements for example:
 - Species actions plans
 - Enabling tools like focal point guidelines
 - Technical assistance
 - Awareness raising
 - Strategic plan

How can this be Achieved?

- CMS Family Agreement have a lot in common
 - All deal with migratory species
 - All derive from same mother agreement, so common history, language, approach
 - Migratory Species face common threats
 - Barriers to migration
 - Illegal taking
 - Climate change
 - Marine debris
 - By-catch etc

So why not cooperate?

- The questions that begs to be answered is if CMS family share so much in common (administratively and implementation-wise) why don't they work together and share resources?
- The answer is that parties are moving towards this goal. They have recognized the commonalities and potential for

Concerns

- Are there concerns? Yes but these can be overcome and there is experience to manage concerns. For example:
 - We have experience from ASCOBANs parties recognize that the common secretariat is functioning well
 - We have the Basel, Rotterdam Stockholm Agreements a positive example
 - CMS Family already share a common financial unit

Concerns

- What are we talking about and what are we **NOT** talking about?
 - We are talking about creating shared secretariat functions for services that CMS Family agreements have in common
 - We are talking of creating common implementation units along common themes and species. For example, avian, terrestrial and aquatic species

Concerns

- We are **NOT** talking about:
 - Merging agreements or their respective processes
 - Changing the governance processes or affecting the autonomy of agreements (i.e. COPs, MOPs)
 - Diminishing the identify and the visibility on any agreement

Expected Discussion at COP11

- Relevant documents for COP
 - Results of the pilot phase on Common Outreach and Communications Unit (Distributed July 1)
 - Overall Background document on further Common Services (due for distribution 31 August)
 - Other Existing relevant documents include:
 - UNEP/AEWA/StC 9.22 CMS Executive Secretary Proposal for Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination between AEWA and CMS,
 - Report 5th AEWA Standing Committee,
 - UNEP/CMS/StC41/14.a “Decision arising from the 9th Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee concerning Resolution 10.9 (Future Shape)
 - Report of 41st Standing Committee
 - Proposal to AEWA and CMS Standing Committee Chairs on Pilot phase on Common Outreach and Communication unit.
- Expected outcome:
 - Mandate to move forward on creating common service units with other CMS Family agreements
 - Mandate to create common implementation support units with other CMS Family agreements
 - Mandate to support synergies in the CMS Family that will result in redirecting resources towards better implementation support for the agreements

