

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC2)

**PROPOSAL FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE CHINKARA (*Gazella bennettii*)
ON APPENDIX II OF THE CONVENTION
UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.25.1.9**

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

- The information provided in the proposal is not sufficient to assess whether the species would qualify for listing on CMS Appendix II.
- Before recommending it for adoption at COP, the proponent should provide additional information, in particular on the migrations of the species, the conservation status and the added value of the CMS listing.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

- Page 2, para. 3 (Migrations)
 - The information currently provided is not sufficient. The proponent should provide more detailed information about the migratory behavior and transboundary movements of the species.
- Page 3, para. 4.5 (Role of the taxon in its ecosystem)
 - Conservation of Chinkara is highly important, being a prey species of the Asiatic cheetah, which is already listed on CMS Appendix I and is on the verge of disappearance *inter alia* due to prey species depletion.
- Page 3, para 5. (Conservation status and threats)
 - The species is currently assessed under the IUCN Red List as “Least concern”. The proponent is therefore asked to provide more clarification and explanation as to why the species would still benefit from listing on CMS and what the added value of such listing would be.
- Page 3, para 7. (Effects of the proposed amendment)
 - The proponent should add text about the role CMS could play and why it is needed to improve the conservation status of and the knowledge about the species, in particular since it is already strictly nationally protected in its three range states.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP12

- The proposal in its current form is not being recommended for adoption at COP. A revised version would need to be reassessed by the COP.