



 **Convention on the  
Conservation of Migratory  
Species of Wild Animals**

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SEVENTH MEETING OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
Bonn, 18-24 September 2002

## COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

1. The Strategic Plan for the Convention on Migratory Species 2000-2005 recognizes that the aims and objectives of CMS complement and reinforce those of other international conventions, and are shared by other international, governmental and non-governmental organizations. The plan stresses the need for co-operation in areas of mutual interest. Operational objective 4.4 (Linkages) calls for CMS to strengthen orderly institutional linkages with partner organizations, and to define the scope of their responsibility and the ways to improve, in the most efficient way, their tasks and to enhance their synergetic effect". The plan calls for this synergy to be developed within a global context, involving the main biodiversity related conventions, under the umbrella of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
2. To that end, the CMS Secretariat has endeavoured over the past two years to conclude memoranda of cooperation with a number of its counterparts and has been re-examining existing cooperative arrangements with a view to making them more substantial -- for instance, through the elaboration of joint work programmes. The work is very much an ongoing process, whose timetable depends on many factors that are not the exclusive domain of the Secretariat. The present paper summarizes the current state of development of these formal initiatives (without mentioning the day-to-day institutional collaboration that exists with or without a more structured framework).
3. Joint work programmes and memoranda of understanding (MoU) that have been recently finalized are either available as information documents or in the annexes attached to this report (as noted in the text that follows).
4. Besides the instruments mentioned below, the Secretariat has had contacts with counterparts from the Barcelona *Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution*, the Cartagena *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region*, BirdLife International, and IUCN - The World Conservation Union about the possibility of elaborating comparable cooperative agreements.

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**Action requested:**

5. The Conference of Parties may wish *inter alia* to:
- (i) reaffirm the interest of CMS to develop strong collaborative arrangements with other biodiversity-related instruments and international organisations;
  - (ii) With regard to the CBD:
    - (a) welcome and endorse the CBD-CMS Joint Work Programme;
    - (b) note that CMS Parties have the primary responsibility to implement the CBD-CMS Joint Work Programme, and urge those Parties to take the joint work programme fully into consideration in their work on migratory species conservation and sustainable use within CMS and CBD, including the provision of voluntary financial or in-kind contributions;
    - (c) request the CMS Scientific Council and the Executive Secretary to take the CBD-CMS Joint Work Programme fully into consideration in developing and implementing the CMS Strategic Plan and the CMS work programme;
    - (d) invite the decision-making and advisory bodies of the Agreements concluded under the auspices of CMS to expeditiously consider, endorse and implement the CBD-CMS Joint Work Programme, as appropriate;
    - (e) invite CMS Parties and international organisations to submit to the CMS Secretariat case studies on migratory species and their habitats, relevant to the thematic areas and cross-cutting issues under the CBD as specified in the CBD-CMS Joint Work Programme;
    - (f) invite the CMS Secretariat to collaborate with the CBD Secretariat in generating guidance to integrate migratory species into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and on-going and future work programmes of work under the CBD, and invite the CMS Scientific Council and Contracting Parties to actively contribute to this work;
    - (g) invite the CMS Secretariat and UNEP/WCMC to work closely with the CBD Secretariat in developing a format for CBD Parties to report through their national reports on the extent to which they address migratory species at the national level, and on cooperation with other Range States as part of on-going efforts to harmonise national reporting requirements of the biodiversity-related conventions;
  - (iii) With regard to UNESCO: welcome and endorse the Memorandum of Understanding between the CMS Secretariat and UNESCO;
  - (iv) With regard to CITES: welcome and endorse the Memorandum of Understanding between the CMS Secretariat and the CITES Secretariat;
  - (v) Take note of the progress made in the development of joint work programmes with Ramsar and Wetlands International, and urge their timely completion;
  - (vi) encourage the Secretariat to continue its endeavours to establish or intensify collaboration with other organisations, including the conclusion of memoranda of understanding and joint work programmes.
  - (vii) invite the Secretariats of Agreements concluded under the auspices of CMS to share relevant information and to contribute to the implementation of the memoranda of understanding between CMS and other organisations, as appropriate.

## **A. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**

6. Building upon previous CBD and CMS decisions and resolutions, decision V/21 of the CBD requested the development of a proposal on how migratory species could be integrated into the work programme of the CBD and the role CMS could play in the implementation of that proposal. Significant discussions on migratory species were held during the sixth meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body (SBSTTA) (Montreal, March 2001). SBSTTA recommendation VI/8 underscored strong support for further collaboration, co-operation and synergies with CMS.

7. In decision VI/20, CBD COP6 (The Hague, 8-19 April 2002):

(1) recognised migratory species as a unique globally important component of biodiversity and that conservation and sustainable use of migratory species needs to be undertaken in their migratory range and through cooperative actions;

(2) invited the CMS and CBD Secretariats to compile and disseminate through the CBD clearing-house mechanism case studies on migratory species and their habitats, relevant to the thematic areas and cross-cutting issues under the CBD;

(3) invited the CBD Executive Secretary to generate in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat guidance to integrate migratory species into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and on-going and future work programmes of work under the CBD;

(4) urged CBD Parties to report through their national reports on the extent to which they address migratory species at the national level, and on cooperation with other Range States; and

(5) recognised CMS as the lead partner in conserving and sustainably using migratory species over their entire range and recognised that CMS provides an international legal framework through which Range States can cooperate on migratory species issues.

8. In recommendation VI/20, SBSTTA also requested the CBD Executive Secretary, in close collaboration with the CMS Secretariat, to develop for the consideration of the CBD COP 6 a joint work programme for the conventions that would be implemented at all levels. A draft joint work programme (2002-2005) was submitted by the CMS Secretariat to the CBD Secretariat for review. It was revised and then submitted to CBD COP 6 for its consideration.

9. In decision VI/20, CBD COP 6 welcomed and endorsed the joint work programme. It also requested SBSTTA and the CBD Executive Secretary to take the actions proposed in the joint work programme fully into consideration in furthering the CBD work programmes addressing ecosystem themes and cross-cutting issues.

10. The CBD/CMS Joint Work Programme is reproduced in UNEP/CMS/Inf.7.13. Work was guided by the various CBD thematic and cross-cutting work programmes and the work programmes of the CMS Instruments<sup>1</sup>, as well as the four objectives of the CMS Strategic Plan (2000-2005) adopted by the CMS Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting (Cape Town, 1999) (CMS Res. 6.4).

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<sup>1</sup> AEWA (African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement), ACCOBAMS (Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area), ASCOBANS (Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas), EUROBATS (Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats), ACAP (Agreement on the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels); Agreement on the Conservation of Seals in the Wadden Sea, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning Conservation Measures for the Siberian Crane, MoU concerning Conservation Measures for the Slender-billed Curlew, MoU on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia, MoU on the Conservation of Marine Turtles of the Atlantic Coast of Africa, MoU on the Conservation of the Great Bustard.

11. The joint work programme addresses areas of common interest such as protected areas, indicators, monitoring and assessments, sustainable use, and public education and awareness. Institutional action points for CBD and CMS are also provided. For example closer collaboration between the instruments' scientific bodies is proposed. The joint work programme lists priority areas for action, time frames, as well as ways and means.

12. The joint work programme also identifies main actors responsible for undertaking the activities listed. It is important to emphasise that the joint work programme is not a work programme for the respective secretariats. CBD and CMS Contracting Parties have the primary responsibility to implement the joint work programme, with the active involvement of other actors, such as scientific bodies, the CMS and CBD secretariats and other international organizations.

13. The CBD COP did not take up SBSTTA's recommendation for an assessment of the financial resources needed to support capacity building and specific projects aimed at incorporating the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species and their habitats. The CMS and CBD Secretariats will contribute to the process of implementing the joint work programme, within the limits of available financial resources and subject to availability of voluntary financial contributions.

14. In its budget proposal to the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CMS/Conf.7.13.1), the CMS Secretariat has made provision, in line 2253, for projects concerning implementation measures, some of which are related to the joint work programme. In addition, document UNEP/CMS/Conf.7.13.2 describes projects related *inter alia* to the joint work programme's implementation for which voluntary contributions are sought. Finally, to help to coordinate the joint work programme's implementation, and to guide coordination and collaboration with other international organisations, the Secretariat has proposed the creation of a P-4 level post for inter-agency liaison.

15. CMS is to a major extent implemented through Agreements concluded under its aegis. For this reason, the joint work programme includes references to the "CMS Instruments" as main actors. The CMS Secretariat consulted with the Secretariats of the Wadden Sea Seals Agreement, EUROBATS, ASCOBANS, AEWA and ACCOBAMS during the joint work programme's development. The Agreement secretariats have been asked by the CMS Secretariat to bring the joint work programme to the attention of their respective decision-making bodies with a view to having them consider whether the Agreement bodies and Parties would commit themselves to its implementation.

16. The EUROBATS Advisory Committee took note of the CBD-CMS joint work programme with much interest. The existing EUROBATS Intersessional Working Group on Forest Practices was requested to include the relevant part of the joint work programme in their evaluations and recommendations. The Committee also decided to take this topic forward to the forthcoming 4th Session of the Meeting of the Parties to EUROBATS.

17. The ninth meeting of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee took note of the joint work programme and the ongoing process. It has not been confirmed whether the joint work programme will be on the agenda for the tenth Advisory Committee meeting in April 2003 or the fourth session of the ASCOBANS Meeting of Parties in August 2003.

18. The AEWA Secretariat forwarded the joint work programme as an information document to the Agreement's third Technical Committee meeting in May 2002. Although the Technical Committee did not discuss the joint work programme on that occasion, cooperation with other bodies is on the agenda of the second session of the AEWA Meeting of the Parties (Bonn, 25-27 September 2002).

19. The ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee will meet for the first time from 3-5 October 2002, and implementation of the joint work programme is expected to be discussed there.

20. As of yet proposals on how to implement the joint work programme have not been generated due to the outstanding endorsements from the CMS COP and the Meetings of Parties of the various Agreements. As of the date of this writing, it is anticipated that the CMS and Agreement Secretariats will meet in the margins of the CMS Scientific Council or Standing Committee to begin discussions on the joint work programme implementation.

21. Notwithstanding this, cooperative activities between the CMS and CBD Secretariats have already increased and keep with the spirit of the joint work programme. For example, CMS has formally invited the CBD SBSTTA chair to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CMS Scientific Council. Contact coordinates of the Agreement Secretariats have been provided to the CBD Secretariat to facilitate their inclusion in CBD mailings. In addition, the CBD Secretariat invited the CMS Secretariat to participate in a liaison group to discuss a revision of the CBD Work Programme on Inland Waters Biodiversity.

#### **B. International Whaling Commission (IWC)**

22. The IWC and CMS Secretariats finalised a on 25 July 2000. The text is found in Annex 1 of this report. The secretariats have yet to find a mutually convenient opportunity to meet to discuss the further elaboration of a more detailed joint work programme.

#### **C. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)**

23. The CMS and CITES Secretariats worked in the first half of 2002 to finalise a memorandum of understanding MoU, the text of which is found in Annex 2. The finalised MoU will be signed during COP7.

#### **D. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

24. A memorandum of understanding was finalised between the CMS Secretariat and the responsible branches of the World Heritage Convention and Man and Biosphere Programme of UNESCO in late 2001. The text was originally submitted for the endorsement of the CMS Standing Committee at its 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting in December 2001. The Standing Committee took note of the MoU, the text of which is found in Annex 3.

25. The UNESCO Executive Board endorsed the MoU at its meeting in Paris (May 2002) and authorised the UNESCO Director General to enter into cooperative arrangements with CMS. The MoU will be signed during COP7.

#### **E. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands**

26. A memorandum of understanding between the Ramsar Bureau and CMS Secretariat was signed in February 1997, identifying the following areas for active collaboration: joint promotion in the area of Party recruitment; institutional co-operation (e.g., information exchange and cross-representation at meetings); joint conservation action; mutually beneficial data collection, storage and analysis; and co-operation in development of new agreements on migratory species.

27. Recognizing a need to elaborate more explicitly the nature of such collaboration, and to include also activities pertaining to the work of the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), the respective secretariats have exchanged a number of working drafts of a Joint Work Programme 2002-2003. At the time of writing, this draft was being consulted within the Ramsar Bureau.

**F. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**

28. The Secretariats of both conventions have undertaken to develop some points of convergence, as a starting point for further deliberations in areas of collaboration. Two successful meetings were held and a technical meeting is planned as a precursor to the development of a memorandum of understanding and a joint work programme for the two convention secretariats.

**G. Wetlands International**

29. A memorandum of agreement was signed between Wetlands International and the CMS Secretariat in March 1997 outlining opportunities for mutually beneficial co-operation in the areas covered by the Wetlands International network of offices (in Africa, Europe and Middle East, in Asia-Pacific and in the Americas). This co-operation manifested itself, for example, in the form of Wetlands International contributions to the further development of the AEWA, efforts to promote accession to CMS of non-Party countries in Asia and, most recently, inputs to the Central Asian Indian Flyway initiative. It was considered important and useful to flesh out the memorandum of agreement by developing a more detailed joint work programme. A first draft, prepared by the secretariats of CMS and AEWA, is currently under review by Wetlands International.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**between**

the Secretariat of the

**INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION**

( IWC Secretariat )

**and**

the Secretariat of the

**CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES  
OF WILD ANIMALS (CMS)**

( UNEP/CMS Secretariat )

## **PREAMBLE**

The United Nations Environment Programme/Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (UNEP/CMS) Secretariat and the International Whaling Commission (IWC) Secretariat:

*Recalling* the Preamble to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW), which includes *inter alia* the following paragraphs:

*Recognising* the interest of the nations of the world in safeguarding for future generations the great natural resources represented by the whale stocks;

*Having* decided to conclude a convention to provide for the proper conservation of whale stocks and thus make possible the orderly development of the whaling industry;

*Recalling* the Preamble to CMS, which includes *inter alia* the following paragraphs:

*Conscious* of the ever-growing value of wild animals from environmental, ecological, genetic, scientific, aesthetic, recreational, cultural, educational, social and economic points of view;

*Convinced* that the conservation and effective management of migratory species of wild animals require the concerted action of all states within the national jurisdictional boundaries of which such species spend any part of their life cycle;

*Aware* that each generation of man holds the resources of the earth for future generations and has an obligation to ensure that this legacy is conserved and, where utilised, is used wisely;

*Noting further* that the listing in and, where applicable, de-listing from the CMS Appendices of migratory species require reliable evidence, including the best scientific evidence available;

*Recalling* CMS Article IX (4b) which states that the functions of the Secretariat shall be to maintain liaison with and promote liaison between the Parties, the standing bodies set up under AGREEMENTS and other international organisations concerned with migratory species;

*Recalling* Article IV of the ICRW which states that the Commission may either in collaboration with or through independent agencies of the Contracting Governments or other public or private agencies, establishments, or organisations, or independently encourage, recommend, or if necessary, organise studies and investigations relating to whales and whaling, collect and analyse statistical information concerning the current condition and trend of the whale stocks and the effects of whaling activities thereon, study, appraise, and disseminate information concerning methods of maintaining and increasing the population of whale stocks;

*Emphasising* their wish to achieve synergies in the conservation and management, including research and monitoring of cetaceans;

have agreed as follows:



## **Article I - Objective**

The purpose of this Memorandum is to establish a framework of information and consultation between UNEP/CMS and the IWC in the field of conserving migratory species and the world's natural heritage, with a view to identifying synergies and ensuring effective cooperation in joint activities by the relevant international bodies established under both conventions and national institutions of their Contracting Parties.

## **Article II - Institutional Aspects of Cooperation**

Aspects of institutional linkages include:

- C mutual participation as observers of the representatives of the UNEP/CMS Secretariat and IWC in meetings of respective, relevant bodies established under both conventions
- C joint notification of national focal points of the cooperative activity between the two organisations, seeking in general to promote the consultation and cooperation among focal points, in particular in those member states where the focal points for the two organisations are different.

## **Article III - Information - Access and Dissemination**

The Secretariats will institute procedures for regular exchange of information in their respective fields. In the case of the UNEP/CMS Secretariat this extends to the Secretariats of the Agreements concluded under its auspices if the decision-making bodies of those Agreements agree.

The Secretariats will develop a system for the exchange of relevant data and endeavour to cooperate on the preparation of documents where applicable.

## **Article IV - Coordination of Activities**

The UNEP/CMS and IWC Secretariats will to the extent possible, coordinate their programme of activities to ensure that their implementation is complementary and mutually supportive.

## **Article V - Reporting on the Effectiveness of this Memorandum**

The UNEP/CMS and IWC Secretariats will institute measures for consultations on the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding and will report accordingly to their respective governing as well as advisory bodies and seek further guidance on new areas of cooperation.

## **Article VI - Review, Amendment and Termination**

This Memorandum of Understanding may be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and may be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the Parties.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either Party giving notice in writing to the other not less than six months in advance of the effective date of termination.

**Done at** Bristol on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2000, in two original copies in the English language

For the IWC Secretariat

For the UNEP/CMS Secretariat

*(signed)*

Dr Ray Gambell OBE  
Secretary

*(signed)*

Arnulf Müller-Helmbrecht  
Executive Secretary

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**between**

**The Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES Secretariat)**

**and**

**The Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS Secretariat)**

The CITES Secretariat and CMS Secretariat,

*Recognizing* that wild fauna are important components of biological diversity that fulfil a variety of human and ecological needs, and that these valuable biological resources are increasingly threatened by human activities such as habitat destruction, unsustainable harvesting, trade and other threats;

*Recognizing also* that species of wild animals that migrate across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries are particularly vulnerable to conflicting conservation and use objectives for the same population, and that they require concerted and coordinated actions by all States across their migratory range in order to maintain or restore a favourable conservation status as a prerequisite to shared sustainable use;

*Noting* that one of the key goals of the CITES Strategic Vision Through 2005 is to increase cooperation and conclude strategic alliances with international stakeholders, especially relevant multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) such as CMS;

*Further noting* that Article IX of CMS requires the CMS Secretariat to maintain liaison with, *inter alia*, international organizations concerned with migratory species, that Resolution 6.4 had requested the CMS Secretariat to “actively foster synergy” between other global environmental conventions and CMS and that operational objective 4.4 of the CMS Strategic Plan (2002-2005) calls for the strengthening of operational linkages with partner organizations in particular the main biodiversity related conventions such as CITES;

*Acknowledging* the longstanding relationship between the CITES Secretariat and the CMS Secretariat;

*Recalling* that the Conference of the Parties to CITES and the Conference of the Parties to CMS have expressed a desire for the two Conventions to cooperate in order to maximize synergy and avoid duplication; and

*Realizing* that activities under CITES concern migratory species and issues that also are covered by CMS or Agreements concluded under its auspices

AGREE as follows:

**Article 1**  
**Policy Compatibility**

- a) The Secretariats will cooperate to the extent practicable in the preparation of mutually relevant documents for each others' Conference of the Parties and subsidiary bodies.
- b) The Secretariats will liaise on key issues to promote the compatibility of their respective policy decisions, particularly in relation to other MEAs, IGOs and NGOs.
- c) The Secretariats will coordinate on matters relevant to their administrative and programmatic relationships with relevant agencies of the United Nations.
- d) The Secretariats will liaise on how best to complement each other in promoting their Conventions' shared goals of supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use through their instruments' respective competences on international wildlife trade, and transboundary concerted and cooperative actions on migratory species and their habitats.

**Article 2**  
**Institutional Cooperation**

- a) Each Secretariat will invite the other to be represented regularly in meetings of the Conference of the Parties of the other Convention, and other meetings covering matters of mutual interest.
- b) Each Secretariat will identify the possibilities for the subsidiary bodies of its Convention to participate as observers at meetings of the other Convention.
- c) The Secretariats will inform the respective focal points for each Contracting Party of their cooperative activities. In cases where the Contracting Parties have different focal points for the Conventions, the Secretariats will seek to promote consultation and cooperation between them.

**Article 3**  
**Exchange of Experience and Information**

- a) The Secretariats will regularly exchange information of mutual interest. The CMS Secretariat will encourage the Secretariats of Agreements concluded under the auspices of CMS to regularly share information of mutual interest with the CITES Secretariat.
- b) The Secretariats will develop a data exchange system on species of common concern. This will draw on planned or existing platforms such as the CMS Information Management Plan and CITES databases, while involving partners such as UNEP-WCMC and IUCN as needed.

**Article 4**  
**Coordination of Programmes of Work**

- a) For purposes of this MOU, the focal point for the CITES Secretariat is the Secretary General and the focal point for the CMS Secretariat is the Executive Secretary.
- b) The Secretariats will meet annually to brief each other on their respective activities and plans. They will also decide on joint activities.

**Article 5**  
**General Provisions**

- a) This MOU shall take effect upon signature by both Secretariats. It shall remain in force unless terminated by 30 days' written notice served by one Secretariat upon the other, or replaced by another agreement.
- b) This MOU can be amended in writing by mutual consent of the Secretariats.
- c) Neither Secretariat shall be legally or financially liable in any way for activities carried out jointly or independently.

Done in the English language on the 18th day of September 2002.

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Willem Wijnstekers  
Secretary General  
*Convention on International Trade  
in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna  
and Flora*

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Arnulf Muller-Helmbrecht  
Executive Secretary  
*Convention on the  
Conservation of Migratory  
Species of Wild Animals*

**Memorandum of Understanding**  
**between**  
**the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization**  
**and**  
**the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species**  
**of Wild Animals**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, hereinafter referred to as 'UNESCO' and the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, hereinafter referred to as 'CMS', represented by the Head of its Secretariat and acting on its own and on behalf of Secretariats of Agreements concluded under its auspices

Recalling

1. the preamble to CMS which includes reference to the ever-growing value of wild animals from environmental, ecological, genetic, scientific, aesthetic, recreational, cultural, educational, social and economic points of view;
2. Article IX 4b of CMS which states that the functions of the CMS Secretariat shall be to maintain liaison with and promote liaison between the parties, the standing bodies set up under Agreements and other international organizations concerned with migratory species,
3. that the International Co-ordinating Council of the UNESCO Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) at its 16<sup>th</sup> session held in Paris in November 2000 acknowledged the importance of present co-operation between MAB and relevant international partners such as CMS, and decided to strengthen the Secretariat's mandate to intensify work with those partners,
4. that UNESCO's intergovernmental Committee for the Convention concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Committee) has recognized the collective interest that would be advanced by closer co-ordination of that Convention's work with other international conservation instruments, as specified in the Committee's Operational Guidelines, paragraph 139 (March 1999),
5. that UNESCO, in its fields of competence, and in the context of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) and the World Heritage Centre, has developed a number of scientific biodiversity programmes, activities and networks relevant to the implementation of CMS, and dealing in particular with research, monitoring, education, *in situ* conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity,

Emphasizing

Their wish to co-operate in order to both be more effective and benefit from existing and future synergies in the conservation and sustainable use of the world's natural and mixed World Heritage sites and biosphere reserves, including migratory species and their habitats;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article I - Purpose**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to establish a framework for co-operation between CMS and UNESCO's Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) as well as UNESCO's World Heritage Convention in the field of conserving migratory species and the world's natural heritage and biodiversity with a view to identifying synergies and ensuring effective co-operation in joint activities.

**Article II - Institutional Aspects of Co-operation**

Aspects of institutional co-operation include:

- mutual participation as observers of the representatives of CMS and UNESCO in respective, relevant meetings including Conferences of the Parties, MAB International Co-ordinating Council sessions, and Statutory Meetings of the World Heritage Convention;
- joint notification of national focal points of the co-operative activity between the two organizations, seeking in general to promote the consultation and co-operation among focal points, and in particular in those Member States and States Parties where the focal points are different.

**Article III - Access to and Dissemination of Information**

- a. UNESCO and CMS will institute procedures for regular exchange of information in their respective fields. In the case of CMS, this extends to the Secretariats of Agreements concluded under its auspices.
- b. UNESCO and CMS will develop a system for the exchange of relevant data and endeavour to co-operate on the preparation of documents which are relevant to both institutions.
- c. The CMS Secretariat and UNESCO will jointly encourage the use of their respective rosters of experts on migratory species of wild animals.

**Article IV – Co-ordination of Activities**

- a. The CMS Secretariat and UNESCO will, to the extent possible, co-ordinate their programme activities to ensure that their implementation is complementary and mutually supportive. The various branches of UNESCO and bodies of CMS and of Agreements concluded under its auspices may develop and implement joint work programmes under the aegis of this MoU.
- b. Joint activities will include:
  - elaboration of environmental education materials;
  - education and public awareness programmes on migratory species and their habitats;
  - capacity building - training courses and workshops;
  - inventories, assessments and monitoring of migratory species in biosphere reserves and natural world heritage sites;
  - *in situ* conservation and integrated ecosystem management in biosphere reserve and natural world heritage sites, in particular in transboundary areas.

**Article V – Focal Points**

The Executive Secretary of CMS and the Director of the Division of Ecological Sciences of UNESCO are focal points for the purposes of this MoU and, in particular, regarding official communication and exchange of information.

All matters related to specific activities of the World Heritage Convention including official communications and exchange of information, should be referred to the Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

**Article VI – Reporting on the Effectiveness of this Memorandum**

The Focal Points of CMS and UNESCO appointed in accordance with Article V above will arrange regular consultations as required for the implementation of this MoU. Reports on the measures taken under this MoU will be made to the respective governing bodies and further guidance will be sought on new areas of co-operation.

**Article VII – Review, Amendment and Termination**

a. This MoU may be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and may be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the parties.

b. This MoU may be terminated by either party giving notice in writing to the other not less than six months in advance of the effective date of termination.

Done in two original copies in the English language.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL  
ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE  
CONVENTION ON THE  
CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY  
SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS (CMS)

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