

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC3)

*Bonn, Germany, 29 May – 1 June 2018*

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### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR 2016-2017**

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

**Summary:**

This document includes a version of the Programme of Work for the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council for 2016-2017 including an assessment of progress in its implementation.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR 2016-2017**

### Background

1. At its first meeting held in Bonn on 18-21 April 2016, the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council developed a Programme of Work (POW) for the period 2016-2017.
2. At its second meeting held in Bonn on 10-13 July 2017, the Sessional Committee assessed progress towards the implementation of the POW, and considered possible further action at the COP12 and ScC-SC3 horizons for activities not yet completed. A version of the POW including a summary of progress as at July 2017 and further action until COP12 and/or ScC-SC3 was annexed to the report of the meeting.
3. The present meeting provides an opportunity for an assessment of further progress towards the implementation of the POW. To this purpose, Annex 1 to this document includes a version of the POW including a summary of progress in the implementation of the individual activities foreseen by the POW, as well as considerations on the possible continuation of individual activities not yet completed in the POW for 2018-2020.

### Recommended actions

4. The Sessional Committee is recommended to:
  - a) Review progress in the implementation of the POW for the period 2016-2017;
  - b) Consider the possible continuation of individual activities not yet completed in the POW for 2018-2020.

## PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR 2016-2017

Progress in implementation as at April 2018

Thematic Work Area: **Institutional and Legal matters (Working Group 1)**

WG1 lead(s) and participants: Alfred Oteng-Yeboah / Fernando Spina, Malta Qwathekana, James Williams, Olivier Biber

Secretariat Focal Point: Marco Barbieri

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
Scientific Council, with advice from the Secretariat, to develop and establish a revision of its Rules of Procedure, as well as elements of its <i>modus operandi</i> in accordance with Res. 11.4 ( <a href="#">Res. 11.4</a> , para. 12)	Sessional Committee to produce a revised version of the Rules of Procedure. Secretariat to develop options for key points to be reviewed by chairs of Standing Committee and Scientific Council before review by the working group. Working Group to create draft consolidated RoP by end of June. Sessional Committee and Scientific Council to respond to consultation by end of July.	Revised RoP	<b>Secretariat / WG</b>	Core	No	Option paper prepared by the Secretariat discussed by the WG during ScC-SC2. Proposals for revision of the RoP submitted by the WG to ScC-SC3 for consideration.	Revised RoP to be submitted to StC for approval.
Scientific Council to submit a report on the implementation of Res. 11.4 to COP12 ( <a href="#">Res. 11.4</a> , para. 12)	Sessional Committee to produce a report on the implementation of Res.11.4 provisions relevant to the establishment and operationalization of the Sessional Committee, to be submitted to COP12	Report	<b>ScC Chair / Secretariat</b>	Core	No	Completed	COP12 informed on progress through the report of the chair and document UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.16.2
Scientific Council and Secretariat to update Res.1.5 by developing a new template and guidelines for the drafting of listing proposals in line with the Annex of this Resolution, for adoption by the Standing Committee in time for its use for proposals to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its 12 <sup>th</sup> Meeting ( <a href="#">Res.11.33</a> para.5)	Template revised by SC, reviewed following SCSC1. Revised template and guidelines for proposals to amend CMS Appendices submitted to StC45 for review and approval	Revised template	<b>Secretariat / WG</b>	Core	No	Completed	New template and guidelines approved by StC45 and adopted by COP12.

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
	Sessional Committee to develop a couple of model proposals for amendment, using the revised template to be adopted by StC45, with a view to assisting Parties in developing sound proposals for amendment	Model proposals		High	No	Not pursued as described.	Possibly outdated now that proposals have been submitted to COP12 using the revised template. SC could recommend a few proposals of good quality as models.
Scientific Council to clarify the meaning of the phrase “significant proportion” in Article I, paragraph 1 (a) of the Convention Text, and report back to the COP <a href="#">(Res.11.33</a> para.6)	Needs consideration of practicality of making definition. May need to have a part in the listing template that asks for why this is a significant proportion. Possible checklist of issues to be considered.	Output of SC to explain complexity of the matter. Aim for amendment to template for listing proposals.	<b>ScC Chair / WG</b> Initial approach to SC, may thereafter place out as request for help to scientific community.	Core	No	Completed	ScC advice incorporated in revised template for listing proposals

Thematic Work Area: **Strategic issues (Working Group 2)**

WG2 lead(s) and participants: Fernando Spina / Malta Qwatekana, Zeb Hogan, Vincent Hilomen, James Williams, Olivier Biber, Sergey Dereliev, Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Marco Barbieri

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
Preparation of a report on the conservation status of species included in CMS Appendices ( <a href="#">Res. 11.1</a> , Annex V, Activity 30)	SC Chair to participate in scoping workshop. SC to review and approve a costed concept for the report, to be prepared by the Secretariat. Depending on successful fundraising, SC to oversee production of the report, including review and endorsement in time for its submission to COP12. SC to provide focus on questions to be addressed by the workshop.	Concept initially followed by plan for report.	<b>Secretariat</b> /Chair / input from IUCN SSC-SGs / WCMC (Species+)	High	Yes	Concept developed and endorsed by ScC-SC2, and submitted to COP12 as Inf.29. Production of the report could not be undertaken due to lack of funding.	Activity included in PoW for 2018-2020
Development of Atlas on Animal Migration - Starting with the African Eurasian region migratory bird atlas and taking into consideration already existent ones ( <a href="#">Res. 11.1</a> , Annex V, Activity 32)	SC to consider proposal based on presentation by Franz Bairlein at ScC-SC1. SC to oversee preparation of the Atlas when work will start subject to successful fundraising.	Progress in the implementation of the preparation of the atlas to be submitted to COP12	<b>Franz Bairlein</b> / Chair SC. EURING input w.r.t. birds part. World Fish Migration Platform for fish poster. Need to identify other input for other taxa.	High <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Pledge for the development of the African-Eurasian migratory bird atlas obtained from Italy.	Module on terrestrial mammals in Central Asia developed within CAMI and presented at COP12.
CMS Strategic Plan Working Group (SPWG) to consult the Scientific Council as appropriate, including on the scientific evidence underpinning relevant indicators ( <a href="#">Res. 11.2</a> , Annex 2, para. 8)	Input individually to drafts of indicator factsheets and Companion volume Review at Sessional Committee in mid-2017.	Comment provided to consultant in advance of deadlines set by SPWG.	All members of SC to contribute to SPWG	Core	No	Completed	

<sup>1</sup> Need to avoid fundraising competition with status assessment work above

Thematic Work Area: **Aquatic species conservation issues (Working Group 3)**

WG3 lead(s) and participants: Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara / Barry Baker, Zeb Hogan, Graeme Taylor, Malta Qwathakana, Saras Sharma, Vincent Hilomen, Simone Panigada (ACCOBAMS), Heidrun Frisch (ASCOBANS), Mark Simmonds (H.S.I.), Alison Wood (WDC), Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Melanie Virtue

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Scientific Council to nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for concerted or cooperative action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. Confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary.</p> <p><a href="#">(Res. 10.23, para. 6)</a></p>	<p>Confirm availability of already identified focal points and identify focal points for remaining species.</p>	<p>Focal points identified</p>	<p><b>Secretariat</b></p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	
<p>Scientific Council to identify candidate species for designation for Concerted Action, and action to take in response to Concerted Action listing, taking fully into account the recommendations summarized in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13.</p> <p><a href="#">(Res. 11.13, para. 5)</a></p>	<p>ScC members to promote, and assist with the development of proposals for Concerted Actions following the guidance provided in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13, for species already designated or for candidate species for designation</p>	<p>Proposals for designation of species for concerted Actions</p>	<p><b>Individual members</b></p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Seven proposals submitted to COP12</p>	
<p>Species previously listed for cooperative action, but for which no activity has yet begun, would be automatically transferred into a new unified Concerted Actions list. The list would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP, to determine whether each such species should remain listed or be deleted.</p> <p><a href="#">(Res. 11.13, Annex 3, para. 3)</a></p>	<p>Secretariat to produce unified concerted Actions list for ScC-SC2 review</p> <p>Secretariat to compile information on implementation of Concerted and Cooperative Actions from national reports to assist ScC review</p>	<p>Recommendation to COP on species designated for Cooperative Actions to be maintained in the unified Concerted Actions mechanism</p>	<p><b>Secretariat</b></p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>To be completed by COP13</p>	

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
Projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier COP decisions would continue unaffected. These too would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP. Such reviews may conclude, <i>inter alia</i> , that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be re-named accordingly). ( <a href="#">Res. 11.13</a> , Annex 3, para. 4)							
Scientific Council to seek to enhance cooperation and collaboration with CITES and the IWC on small cetacean species targeted by live captures from the wild ( <a href="#">Res. 11.22</a> para. 3)	Develop cooperation, e.g. through ScC Members or observers present in relevant CITES or IWC fora to provide link. Mutual observers IWC-ASCOBANS to assist	Options for cooperation identified	<b>Mark Simmonds/</b> (Sec FP: Frisch)	High	No	Regular communication established, information submitted to IWC SC	
Resolution on live captures of cetaceans from the wild for commercial purposes ( <a href="#">Res. 11.22</a> )	Perform further analysis of survey responses, including possible legal inconsistencies, and consider the situation in non-Parties	Gaps and inconsistencies identified	<b>Alison Wood /</b> (Sec FP: Frisch)	High	No	Analysis available as COP12/Inf.24 Updated resolution 11.22 (Rev.COP12)	
Action to address the impact on CMS-listed species that are likely to be subject to utilization as aquatic bushmeat ( <a href="#">Res. 10.15</a> )	Develop cooperation with CPW and IWC, e.g. through ScC Members or observers present in these fora, assisted by IWC-ASCOBANS observers Further develop briefing paper Develop draft resolution for COP12	Enhanced version of briefing paper; Draft resolution	<b>Sigrid Lueber /</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	No	Report available as COP12/Inf.12, developed in cooperation with IWC SC members Res.12.15 adopted	
Development of CMS Family Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines for Noise-generating Offshore Industries ( <a href="#">Res. 9.19</a> para. 3)	Participate in consultation process on draft guidelines to be concluded by 5 July 2016 Develop draft resolution for COP12	Agreed guidelines Draft resolution	<b>Notarbartolo di Sciarra /</b> (Sec FP: Frisch)	High	No further funding required	Res.12.14 adopted, contains Guidelines as Annex. Complemented by detailed Technical Support Information (COP12/Inf.11 Rev.1)	

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
Scientific Council to identify candidate species for listing on, or delisting from the CMS Appendices, and assist in the preparation of proposals for amendment as appropriate (Art.VIII para. 5.c of the Convention)	Consult ScC taxonomic WGs and CMS Family advisory bodies on species to be considered for listing Assist in development of listing proposals Consider: whale shark, golden dorado, Danube salmon, Japanese eel	Draft listing proposals	<b>COP-App. Councillors for Aquatic Mammals, Turtles and Fish WGs /</b> (Sec FP: Virtue)	High	No	Ten listing proposals concerning aquatic species submitted to COP12	
Scientific Council to assess the potential impact of dolphin swim-with programmes on CMS-listed species and advise CMS COP accordingly (Art. VIII para. 5.e of the Convention)	Provide briefing paper to ScC-SC2 Develop draft resolution and guidelines	Briefing paper Draft guidelines Draft resolution	<b>Notarbartolo di Sciara /</b> (Sec FP: Frisch)	High	No	Report available as COP12/Inf.13 Res.12.16 adopted	



Thematic Work Area: **Terrestrial species conservation issues (Working Group 4)**

WG4 lead(s) and participants: Lkhagvasuren Badamjav / Rodrigo Medellin, Samuel Kasiki, Jean-Christophe Vié, Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Bert Lenten

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Scientific Council to nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for concerted or cooperative action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. Confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary.</p> <p><a href="#">(Res. 10.23, para. 6)</a></p>	<p>Confirm availability of already identified focal points</p> <p>Wild Yak –Lkhagva to suggest expert</p>	Focal points identified	<b>Secretariat</b>	Medium	No	Ongoing	
<p>Scientific Council to identify candidate species for designation for Concerted or Cooperative Action, and action to take in response to Concerted or Cooperative Action listing, taking fully into account the recommendations summarized in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13.</p> <p><a href="#">(Res. 11.13, para. 5)</a></p>	<p>ScC members to promote, and assist with the development of proposals for Concerted Actions following the guidance provided in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13, for species already designated or for candidate species for designation</p>	Proposals for designation of species for Concerted Actions	<b>Individual members</b>	high	No	Although not submitted in the required format, the Governments of Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger submitted a decision on the conservation of Cheetah and African Wild Dog, which was adopted by COP12 and is now contained in Decisions 12.61-12.66.	

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Species previously listed for cooperative action, but for which no activity has yet begun, would be automatically transferred into a new unified Concerted Actions list. The list would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP, to determine whether each such species should remain listed or be deleted.</p> <p>(<a href="#">Res. 11.13</a>, Annex 3, para. 3)</p> <p>Projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier COP decisions would continue unaffected. These too would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP. Such reviews may conclude, <i>inter alia</i>, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be re-named accordingly).</p> <p>(<a href="#">Res. 11.13</a>, Annex 3, para. 4)</p>	See point above	Recommendation to COP on species designated for Cooperative Actions to be maintained in the unified Concerted Actions mechanism	<b>Secretariat</b>	High	No	To be completed by COP13	
<p>Scientific Council and the Secretariat to continue and strengthen efforts to collaborate with other relevant international fora with a view to strengthening synergies and implementation of CMS and the CAMI in these fora.</p> <p>(<a href="#">Res. 11.24</a> para. 7)</p>	<p>Similar reports should be done on progress under CAMI, Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes, Bats and other species groups</p> <p>Effort should be made to promote the abovementioned species initiatives at relevant international fora,</p>	Reports at next meeting on progress made and on promotion of the initiatives in international fora	Scientific Councillors	high	No	Progress report on Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna to be delivered during ScC-SC3.	Scientific Council to make recommendations for implementing the AP in the future.

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
Scientific Council to identify candidate species for listing on, or delisting from the CMS Appendices, and assist in the preparation of proposals for amendment as appropriate (Art.VIII para. 5.c of the Convention)	Verify interest of Parties in submitting listing proposals for species such as Chinkara and Lion, and assist them in the development of the proposals as appropriate. Consider the case of species which are not migrating anymore (e.g. Oryx, Przewalski's horse), listing lions at next COP (a review may be coming out of the upcoming Range states meeting (organized by CITES/CMS	Listing proposals submitted to COP12 for consideration	Scientific Councillors	high	No	Lion was listed by COP12  Chinkara proposal was withdrawn by proposing Party during COP12, but guidance can be offered for a proposal to COP13.	
Establishing Central Asian Scientific Initiative (Resolution 11.24 CAMI)	Approach scientists in Central Asia with the help of the Secretariat to coordinate research efforts, collect data, use uniform methodology and cooperate with each other First task to compile distribution/migration data for CAMI species. To incorporate migratory species and threats into university curricula	Start the activity by next meeting, contact scientists	<b>Lkhagva</b> /CMS Secretariat (CAMI)	high	No, at a later stage to conduct meetings	CMS accomplished compiling distribution and migration data, ongoing with regards to other activities	
Dry land fencing problems	Include this issue for drylands in Africa and Central Asia under the topic of Ecological networks	Address this issue in next meeting	Scientific Councillors	high	Yes?	COP12 did not address this in Resolution 12.7	
African carnivores	Develop a regional initiative to conserve African carnivores, consider including wild dog, lions, cheetah, leopards	Report on the next meeting	Scientific Councillors/ Secretariat	high	Yes, meeting to discuss and set up the initiative	Decision 12.55-12.60 was adopted by COP12, establishing a Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivores Initiative.	

Thematic Work Area: **Avian species conservation issues (Working Group 5)**

WG5 lead(s) and participants: Rob Clay, Stephen Garnett / Barry Baker, Graeme Taylor, Samuel Kasiki, Roman Baigún, Sergey Dereliev (AEWA), Alex Ngari (BirdLife Int.), Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Borja Heredia

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Scientific Council to nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for concerted or cooperative action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. Confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary.</p> <p>(<a href="#">Res. 10.23</a>, para. 6)</p>	<p>Confirm availability of already identified focal points and identify focal points for remaining species.</p>	<p>Reports for each species. Identify actions required.</p>	<p><b>Secretariat</b></p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>No</p>		
<p>Scientific Council to identify candidate species for designation for Concerted or Cooperative Action, and action to take in response to Concerted or Cooperative Action listing, taking fully into account the recommendations summarized in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13.</p> <p>(<a href="#">Res. 11.13</a>, para. 5)</p>	<p>ScC members to promote, and assist with the development of proposals for Concerted Actions following the guidance provided in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13, for species already designated or for candidate species for designation</p>	<p>Proposals for designation of species for Concerted Actions</p>	<p><b>Individual members</b></p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Concerted Action 12.8. Concerted Action for the Asian Population of the Great Bustard (<i>Otis tarda</i>) adopted by COP12; implementation ongoing</p>	

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Species previously listed for cooperative action, but for which no activity has yet begun, would be automatically transferred into a new unified Concerted Actions list. The list would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP, to determine whether each such species should remain listed or be deleted. (<a href="#">Res. 11.13</a>, Annex 3, para. 3)</p> <p>Projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier COP decisions would continue unaffected. These too would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP. Such reviews may conclude, <i>inter alia</i>, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be re-named accordingly). (<a href="#">Res. 11.13</a>, Annex 3, para. 4)</p>	<p>Secretariat to produce unified concerted Actions list for ScC-SC2 review</p> <p>Secretariat to compile information on implementation of Concerted and Cooperative Actions from national reports to assist ScC review</p>	<p>Recommendation to COP on species designated for Cooperative Actions to be maintained in the unified Concerted Actions mechanism</p>	<p><b>Secretariat</b></p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>To be completed by COP13</p>	
<p>Continuation of the open-ended Flyways Working Group to (a) monitor the implementation of the POW and the Americas Flyways Framework, (b) review relevant scientific and technical issues, international initiatives and processes, (c) provide guidance on and input into the conservation and management of flyways at global and flyway level during the intersessional period until COP12 and (d) review and update the POW, as a basis for the continued prioritization of the CMS activities on flyways (<a href="#">Res. 11.14</a> para. 7)</p>	<p>The Flyways Programme of work will be analyzed to check specific mandates for the scientific council.</p>	<p>A specific list of actions will be identified.</p>	<p>Avian Working Group</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Res.12.11 on Flyways was adopted by COP12, requesting the Scientific Council to produce guidelines and/or case studies on mechanisms to enhance the conservation of migratory birds through site networks;</p>	

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Flyways Working Group to support the establishment of a Task Force, in conjunction with WHMSI, to coordinate the development and implementation of an action plan to achieve the global Programme of Work and Americas Flyways Framework including provisions for concerted conservation action for priority species, and to report to COP12 onwards and WHMSI (<a href="#">Res. 11.14</a> para. 3)</p>	<p>Provide technical support and review draft of the action plan.</p>	<p>Action plan endorsed.</p>	<p>Avian Working Group</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Action Plan for the Americas Flyways 2018 – 2023 adopted through Res.12.11</p>	
<p>Development and adoption of a Species Action Plan (SAP) for Baer's Pochard in Asia (<a href="#">Res. 11.14</a>, Annex 1)</p>	<p>Provide technical support and review draft of the action plan.</p>	<p>Action plan endorsed.</p>	<p>WWT/ EAAFP</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Action Plan (SAP) for the Baer's Pochard adopted through Res.12.12</p>	
<p>Development and adoption of a multi-species action plan for all African-Eurasian Vultures (except Palm-nut Vulture (<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>)) via the CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey (Raptors MOU) (<a href="#">Res. 11.14</a>, Annex 1)</p>	<p>Review and provide guidance as it develops. Offering a review and endorsement by the Council before the COP. Evaluate any proposals for listing resulting from the draft action plan.</p> <p>Evaluate the action plan and evaluate documents submitted by respective parties prior to COP.</p>	<p>Action plan endorsed.</p>	<p><b>Raptors MOU</b> / IUCN SSC Vulture SG; BirdLife Int.</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Action Plan adopted by COP12 through Res.12.10</p>	

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Continuation of the open-ended Preventing Poisoning Working Group until COP12 under the Terms of Reference annexed to Res. 11.15, renewing its membership to incorporate expertise from geographical regions currently absent as well as representatives of industry and governments, to address the impact of other sources of poisoning, and geographic gaps, and to monitor the implementation of the Guidelines (<a href="#">Res.11.15</a> para.15)</p>	<p>Providing recommendations as requested regarding working group membership.</p> <p>Reviewing the outputs from working group prior to COP.</p>	<p>Recommendations for the next COP.</p>	<p>Avian working group.</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Res. 11.15 (Rev.COP12) was adopted at COP12. It establishes a Lead Task Group as a sub-group under the Preventing Poisoning Working Group (PPWG), as included in the Terms of Reference of the PPWG, annexed to Res. 11.15 (Rev.COP12). The Programme of Work 2017-2020 was developed, and noted by COP12 (available as UNEP/CMS/COP12/Inf.9). The membership of the PPWG has been extended, especially recruiting members from Latin America. Report from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the PPWG available as UNEP/CMS/COP12/Inf.8.</p>	
<p>Scientific Council and the Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds, in liaison with the Migrant Landbirds Study Group to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets, the European Atlas of Bird Migration, the use of new and emerging tracking technologies, field studies of migrant birds in Sub-Saharan Africa, use of survey and demographic data from the Eurasian breeding grounds and use of remote sensing earth observation data of land cover change in sub-Saharan Africa (<a href="#">Res. 11.17</a> para. 6)</p>	<p>Providing guidance as requested and reviewing any outputs from the working group.</p>	<p>Recommendations for the next COP.</p>	<p>Avian working group</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Ongoing, as provided through Res. 11.17 (Rev.COP12)</p>	

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds and the CMS Scientific Council, in liaison with the Migrant Landbirds Study Group and the Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan, with the support of the CMS Secretariat, to develop as an emerging issue Action Plans for a first set of species including the Yellow-breasted Bunting <i>Emberiza aureola</i> , Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i> and European Roller <i>Coracias garrulous</i> (Res. 11.17 para. 11)	Reviewing the action plans. Offer guidance and advice if requested.	Recommendations for the next COP.	Avian working group	Core	No	The Action Plan for the European Roller <i>Coracias garrulous</i> was adopted at COP12 through Res. 12.12 – Action Plans for Birds; the Standing Committee is authorized to adopt the European Turtle Dove, Yellow-breasted Bunting, White-headed Duck and Dalmatian Pelican Action Plans, once finalized, in the intersessional period between the 12 <sup>th</sup> and 13 <sup>th</sup> meetings of the Conference of the Parties (Dec.12.21)	
Saker Falcon Task Force to report on progress in the implementation of its mandate to the intersessional meeting of the Scientific Council (Res. 11.18 para. 6)	Take note of the report and offer advice where appropriate.	Endorse the report.	Scientific sessional committee avian working group	Core	No	Progress report submitted to ScC-SC3	
Scientific Council to consider the implications of adopting in future as a standard reference for Passerine bird taxonomy and nomenclature the Handbook of the Birds of the World/BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World, Volume 2: Passerines (Res. 11.19 para.3)	Provide a review and consult with partners.	A technical review document and a recommendation to COP.	<b>Robert Clay</b> and <b>Stephen Garnett.</b>	Core	No	Handbook of the Birds of the World/BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World, Volume 2: Passerines adopted through Res. 12.27	
Scientific Council to identify candidate species for listing on, or delisting from the CMS Appendices, and assist in the preparation of proposals for amendment as appropriate (Art.VIII para. 5.c of the Convention)	Provide a review aligned with the taxonomic review. To continuously review any proposals that Parties submit.	Recommendations regarding species to be added based on the proposals that are received. Recommendation of species that parties could consider.	Avian working group	Core	No	11 listing proposals concerning bird species submitted to COP12 for consideration	



Thematic Work Area: **Cross-cutting conservation issues (Working Group 6)**

WG6 lead(s) and participants: Barry Baker, Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara, Zeb Hogan, Colin Galbraith, Fernando Spina / Rodrigo Medellin, Graeme Taylor, Malta Qwathekana, Saras Sharma, Vincent Hilomen, Simone Panigada (ACCOBAMS), Heidrun Frisch (ASCOBANS), Mark Simmonds (H.S.I.), Alison Wood (WDC), Kelly Malsch (WCMC), Alex Ngari (BirdLife Int.)

Secretariat Focal Points: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch, Borja Heredia, Marco Barbieri

Mandate	Description of SC actions	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding	Progress	Comments
<p>Scientific Council to establish an intersessional expert working group dealing with the conservation implications of culture and social complexity, with a focus on, but not limited to cetaceans (<a href="#">Res.11.23</a> para. 6)</p>	<p>Convene second workshop Develop draft resolution for COP12?</p>	<p>Draft resolution</p>	<p><b>Notarbartolo di Sciara</b> (Sec FP: Virtue &amp; Frisch)  Culture Expert Group</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>€50,000</p>	<p>Updated Res.11.23 (Rev.COP12) Progress report in COP12/Inf.14 CMS Workshop on Animal Culture and Social Complexity to be convened in Parma Italy, 12-14 April 2018</p>	
<p>Encourage Parties and other stakeholders to gather and publish pertinent data for advancing the conservation management of these populations and discrete social groups (<a href="#">Res.11.23</a> para. 5)</p>	<p>Development and compilation of papers</p>	<p>Completion of papers  Draft resolution</p>	<p><b>Notarbartolo di Sciara / Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue &amp; Frisch)  Culture Expert Group</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>none</p>	<p>See COP12/Inf.14</p>	
<p>Invite relevant CMS Scientific Councillors for taxa other than cetaceans to review the findings of the workshop and engage in this expert group. (<a href="#">Res.11.23</a> para. 7)</p>	<p>SC Councillors invited to contribute toward the work of the Expert Group, particularly with respect to other taxa.</p>	<p>Comments in relation to other taxa considered and incorporated in relevant paper and draft resolution</p>	<p><b>Notarbartolo di Sciara / Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue &amp; Frisch)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>none</p>	<p>Done Progress report (COP12/Inf.14) includes cross-taxa perspective Cross taxa workshop in April 2018 (see above)</p>	

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Scientific Council to support Parties, as appropriate, to promote ecological networks and connectivity through, for example, the development of further site networks within the CMS Family or other fora and processes, that use scientifically robust criteria to describe and identify important sites for migratory species and promote their internationally coordinated conservation and management ( <a href="#">Res.11.25</a> para.7)	2 <sup>nd</sup> technical workshop on connectivity mediated by migratory species organized under the auspices of the Scientific Council (Feb/March 2017)	Draft resolution for COP12	<b>Fernando Spina /</b> (Sec FP: Barbieri)	High	€10,000 (other funds likely to be provided locally)	Doc.24.4.11 including a draft Resolution and draft decisions submitted to COP12.	Res.12.26 and Dec.12.91-12.93 adopted by COP12
Scientific Council to assess the relevance of the concept of Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) to CMS and advise CMS COP accordingly ( <a href="#">Res.11.25</a> )	Review process, criteria and toolkit and make recommendation to COP12	Recommendation to COP12	<b>Notarbartolo di Sciara</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	none	Doc.24.2.1 including a draft Resolution and draft decisions submitted to COP12.	Res.12.13 and Dec.12.40-12.41 adopted by COP12
Scientific Council and the Working Group on Climate Change to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets ( <a href="#">Res. 11.26</a> para.3)	Assess survival needs of migratory species impacted by climate change Identify gaps in knowledge Develop a list of successful examples of action taken to improve resilience of species impacted by climate change	Report to MOP12 Draft resolution focusing on adaptation to assist the resilience of migratory species to climate change	<b>Colin Galbraith</b> (Sec FP: Barbieri)  Climate Change WG	High	None (for now)	Doc.24.4.2 including a draft resolution and draft decisions submitted to COP12	Res.12.21 and Dec.12.72-12.74 adopted by COP12
Parties and the Scientific Council to report progress in implementing the POW on Climate Change and Migratory Species, including monitoring and the efficacy of measures taken, to COP12 in 2017 ( <a href="#">Res. 11.26</a> para.11; Res.11.1, Annex V, Activity 33)	Convene a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group	Report to COP12 Draft resolution focusing on adaptation to assist the resilience of migratory species to climate change.	<b>Colin Galbraith</b> (Sec FP: Barbieri) Climate Change WG	High	US\$ 30,000	Meeting of the CCWG convened in February 2017. Report of the meeting submitted to COP12 as Inf.23. Follow up action ongoing.	

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Scientific Council and the Working Group on Climate Change to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets ( <a href="#">Res. 11.26</a> para.3)	Start process to revise and update the review of climate change vulnerability of migratory species Taxonomic WGs to review whether updates are required	Updated review	<b>Colin Galbraith</b> (Sec FP: Barbieri) Climate Change WG		None (for now)	Project concept developed	
Scientific Council, subject to availability of resources, to review existing agreed guidelines, existing good practice and underpinning scientific evidence of the issues of concern, and based on this review develop guidelines as appropriate on marine boat-based wildlife watching for different taxonomic groups, differentiated if necessary by geographic areas ( <a href="#">Res.11.29</a> para.9)	Development of guidelines for first taxonomic group (cetaceans) and simultaneously a template for the further modules (to follow later)	Guidelines developed and adopted by COP12 for cetaceans  Draft guidelines developed for sharks/rays; seabirds/ turtles prepared	<b>Notarbartolo di Sciara</b> (Sec FP: Frisch)  <b>Barry Baker</b> (Sec FP: Frisch)		Provided by Monaco  Yes \$10,000	Change of plans: Initial work focused on sirenians, marine turtles, pinnipeds, elasmobranchs and seabirds, Res.11.29 updated, endorsing: Species-specific Guidelines for Boat-based Wildlife Watching Guidelines for cetacean watching under development as joint project with IWC (Online Whale Watching Handbook), due Sept 2018.	
Scientific Council, with support from the Secretariat, to further the Convention's work on the marine debris issue and investigate the feasibility of close cooperation with other biodiversity-related agreements by means of a multilateral working group ( <a href="#">Res. 11.30</a> para.11)	Develop cooperation with CBD and IWC, as well as ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS	??	<b>To be identified</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	None	Liaison with other MEAs ongoing	

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Working groups established under the Scientific Council incorporate the issue of marine debris where relevant, drawing on the work already undertaken by the Convention (Res. 11.30 para.11)	Remind WG Chairs of this requirement	??	<b>To be identified</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	None		
Scientific Council, with support from the Secretariat, to promote the prioritization of research into the effects of microplastics on the species ingesting them, and support research on the significance of colour, shape or plastic type on the likelihood of causing harm, in order to be able to focus management strategies in future; (Res. 11.30)	Produce a review of the micro plastics threat to migratory species	Document for SC2	<b>Simmonds</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	None	No progress made.	
Scientific Council to assess the progress made in addressing bycatch of migratory species and advise CMS COP accordingly (Res.10.14, Res.9.18, Res.8.14; 7.2, 6.2)	Review existing bycatch resolutions and develop a draft revised resolution for COP12, that reaffirms necessary actions relevant to the conservation of migratory species	Draft resolution	<b>Barry Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)  Bycatch WG	High	No	Doc.24.4.4 including a draft consolidated resolution submitted to COP12. Report on cetacean bycatch mitigation measures available as COP12/Inf.15	Res.12.22 adopted
Work Program 2014-2017 for Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch Working Group	Maintain a small informal group of interested parties and technical experts on the workspace to assist the Scientific Councillor, Bycatch	Review of relevant bycatch issues, as required	<b>Barry Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	ongoing	No		

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As above	Work closely with other international competent bodies such as FAO and relevant RFMOs, to ensure bycatch management approaches are promulgated in working fisheries	Attendance at RFMO meetings Coordination of activities with daughter agreements	<b>Barry Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Bycatch Working Group, relevant taxonomic WGs ACAP, ACCOBAMS, ASCOBANS, Wadden sea Seals, Marine Turtles Africa, Marine Turtles IOSEA, Pacific Islands Cetaceans, Sharks, IWC Bycatch Group		US\$ 30,000 pa	No funds available to attend RFMO meetings on behalf of CMS. However, daughter agreements have attended some, and interacted with respect to their relevant species.	
As above	Continuously review and utilize available information on the at-sea distribution of migratory species to assess overlap with fishing operations and hence the risk of bycatch in fishing regions	Advice to Scientific Council on emerging issues, as appropriate	<b>Barry Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Bycatch Working Group	ongoing	None	Ongoing	

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<p>Encourage Parties to implement the best practice approach and procedures outlined in FAO International Plans of Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IPOA-Seabirds &amp; Best Practices Technical Guidelines;</li> <li>- IPOA-Sharks</li> <li>- FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations; and</li> <li>- FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards</li> </ul> <p>(Res.10.14 para 3) Work Program 2014-2017 for Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch Working Group</p>	<p>Review effectiveness of IPOA-Seabirds and their implementation</p> <p>Assist Parties in the preparation, adoption &amp; implementation of FAO NPOA-Seabirds and FAO NPOA-Sharks, as requested</p>	<p>Report to ScC-SC2 Potential input into revised Resolution for COP12</p> <p>Advice to Scientific Council on emerging issues, as appropriate</p>	<p><b>Barry Baker</b> ACAP colleagues</p> <p><b>Barry Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue &amp; Frisch) Bycatch Working Group</p>	High	No	All resolutions on bycatch consolidated and updated into Res 12.22.	
<p>Encourages Parties to conduct research to identify and improve mitigation measures, including use of alternative fishing gear and methods, to avoid or reduce bycatch where feasible, and subsequently promote their use and implementation</p> <p>(Res.10.14 para 5) Scientific Council to identify and provide advice on best practice mitigation techniques. (Res.10.14 para 9) Work Programme 2014-2017 for Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch Working Group</p>	<p>Review information on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact migratory species</p>	<p>Advice to Scientific Council on emerging issues, as appropriate</p>	<p><b>Barry Baker</b> (Sec FP: Virtue &amp; Frisch) Bycatch Working Group</p>			Report on cetacean bycatch mitigation measures available as COP12/Inf.15	