



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

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#### SUMMARY OF PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR WHICH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SOUGHT

1. In recent years the number of projects conducted in co-operation with or under the auspices of CMS has been increasing steadily, in particular making use of the USD500,000 set aside for this purpose from the Trust Fund by the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (cf. Resolution 4.6). It was stipulated that the funds were to be used to finance additional initiatives in support of the Convention in the form of consultancies for particular tasks, including the development of agreements, particularly in developing countries and areas where coverage was inadequate. Following further advice from the Standing Committee and the Scientific Council, the Secretariat developed various projects for implementation by other organizations which have contributed to the conservation of migratory species and have significantly increased CMS's visibility, particularly in developing countries. Most if not all of the available funds are expected to be committed by the end of 1997.

2. During the 15th meeting of the Standing Committee, the idea of developing special projects and asking potential donors for support through voluntary contributions was discussed. The Secretariat has since identified various projects for which external funds would be required in the next triennium. A short summary of each project concept is given in the annex to this paper; full proposals can be provided in due course if requested by any interested potential donor. The attached list should be considered provisional, and it will be continually updated by the Secretariat. Each of the projects is intended to address one or more of the strategic objectives proposed for implementation in the 1998-2000 triennium (UNEP/CMS/Conf. 5.12), namely:

1. Enhance membership in CMS through targeted promotion of the Convention's aims
2. Intensify conservation initiatives, especially in regions under-represented in CMS
3. Facilitate and improve implementation of the Convention
4. Develop agreements according to regional priorities
5. Prioritize conservation actions for migratory species
6. Mobilize financial resources for conservation initiatives
7. Rationalize institutional arrangements
8. Strengthen institutional linkages.

## Summary of project proposals identified by the Secretariat

### 1. Follow up actions for the conservation of the Ruddy-headed goose in South America

**Description:** CMS is presently financing a project to develop an integrated conservation plan for the Ruddy-headed goose in Chile and Argentina. This CMS Appendix I species is in a critical state. The reason for its sudden decline by the middle of this century is unknown. The project is expected to be concluded in 1997 and necessary follow-up activities have already been identified. Studies of the habitat in both breeding and non-breeding sites will help to better understand the requirements of the species and to identify how to work towards the recovery of the population. Preliminary contact has been made with researchers from the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands where a healthy, but disjointed population is present. Genetic comparisons between the two populations have never been done, and this will help to clarify the status of the species. Eventually it may be possible to bring individuals from the islands to help the mainland population to recover.

**Geographic Coverage:** Southern South America (Chile, Argentina and eventually the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands)

**Main objectives:** 2, 3

**Expected results:** Better knowledge of the species' needs with a view to implementing a recovery plan.

**Implementation:** CONAF and Wetlands International

**Duration of the Project:** One year

**Estimated budget:** \$30,000

### 2. Coordinated strategy for the management of high-Andean lakes, including the conservation of flamingos and other associated fauna

**Description:** The high Andean lakes of northern Argentina, Chile, southern Bolivia and Peru have many endemic species that regularly cross international borders. These very fragile, shallow lakes are exposed to many threats because of unregulated development. Global warming is perceived also as a serious threat. Two species of flamingos, which have been proposed for inclusion in CMS Appendix I, are endemic to these lakes. During a recent meeting organized by CMS in Valdivia, Chile, participants of the four countries mentioned above developed a concept proposal that is summarized here. The main aim is to develop a co-ordinated strategy among them for the proper management of the Andean lakes and associated fauna. Main activities planned are: a) data collection; b) development of the strategy and c) a public awareness campaign through the media.

**Geographic Coverage:** Puna region (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru).

**Main objectives:** 2, 3, 4

**Expected results:** Safeguard the Andean lakes and associated fauna.

**Implementation:** Governmental and/or non governmental organizations of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru.

**Duration of Project:** One and a half years.

**Estimated budget:** \$90,000

### 3. Standardization of census, ringing and other techniques for the study of migratory waterbirds in the southern neotropics

**Description:** Important movements of migratory waterbirds are known in southern South America, but there are still significant gaps in basic information about these movements, as well as a shortage of trained personnel. CEMAVE (Brazilian Centre for the Study of Migratory Birds) has extensive

experience in bird studies, and Wetland International has been running a waterbird census program with volunteers at the continental level since 1990. The collection of better and standardized information is needed, at the regional level. To achieve this goal, three workshops will be organized by CEMAVE and Wetlands International. During the workshops, techniques for censusing, ringing and studying migratory birds will be taught. A manual will be produced for wide distribution in the region.

**Geographic Coverage:** Southern South America

**Main objectives:** 2, 3

**Expected results:** Three workshops and around 30 participants from seven different countries to be trained. 500 copies of a manual to be produced and distributed regionally.

**Implementation:** CEMAVE and Wetlands International

**Duration of Project:** One to one and a half years

**Estimated budget:** \$65,000

#### **4. GIS database on Marine Turtles nesting sites**

**Description:** Marine turtles are an endangered and charismatic group of migratory animals. Their reproductive success depends on the regular, repeated use of particular nesting beaches. Once a local nesting population has been depleted, it is not replaced by migrants from other populations. Therefore the spatial location of nesting beaches is of key significance. The literature on marine turtles is extensive but data on nest site location are not collated and often are not in the most appropriate format. Maps and the use of GIS is the most efficient way to summarize this information. WCMC has the expertise and much of the data available in their extensive database. Through this project, information will be collated and updated and will be made available to specialists and decision-makers in published form (e.g. as an atlas and/or on the World Wide Web) for wide distribution.

**Geographic Coverage:** Tropical and subtropical areas of the world with marine turtle nesting beaches

**Main objectives:** 2,3

**Expected results:** An information resource that makes available the highest quality and most comprehensive data on marine turtle nesting beaches worldwide.

**Implementation:** World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Marine Turtle Specialist Group

**Duration of Project:** 9 months

**Estimated budget:** \$70,000 (or co-funding of this amount)

#### **5a. Meeting of experts and representatives of the Range States of the MoU for the Siberian Crane**

**Description:** CMS has been helping to co-ordinate efforts of Range States and international organizations to conserve the critically endangered Siberian Crane. These activities are starting to bear fruit. Seven countries have signed the MoU, and a revised Conservation Plan for each of the Range States and participating organizations will be circulated soon. Regular meetings of experts from the Range States are a critical part of continuing this progress. Held every 1 1/2 to 2 years, they are essential for co-ordinating conservation activities and building personal contacts between the various Range States. Two successful strategy workshops have been conducted so far, with modest funding, and another is proposed during the 1998-2000 triennium.

**Geographic Coverage:** Western/Central Asia

**Main objective:** 2, 3, 4

**Expected results:** Development of coherent strategies for the recovery of the endangered Siberian crane

**Implementation:** CMS Secretariat, governmental institution and/or NGO in host country

**Duration of Project:** The meeting itself will require 4-5 days. Preparation and follow up estimated at four months (part-time) by the CMS Secretariat, covered in its normal work programme.

**Estimated budget:** \$20,000 for travel and lodging of participants from developing countries; other meeting costs

## **5b. Development and implementation of specific project proposals for activities within the Range States of the Siberian Crane**

**Description:** CMS has been helping to co-ordinate efforts of Range States and international organizations to conserve the critically endangered Siberian Crane. Seven countries have signed the MoU, and a revised Conservation Plan identifying actions to be undertaken by each of the Range States and participating organizations will be circulated soon. Out of this plan, it is necessary to develop detailed project proposals and to seek funding for their collective implementation through the species' range.

**Geographic Coverage:** Western/Central Asia

**Main objective:** 3,6

**Expected results:** Detailed project proposals suitable for presentation to donor agencies, as well as implementation of key actions on the ground.

**Implementation:** International Crane Foundation

**Duration of Project:** Phase I: preparation of detailed project proposals (2 months); implementation of essential conservation measures (2-3 years)

**Estimated budget:** Phase I: \$10,000; Phase II: \$100,000-150,000

## **6a. Meeting of experts and representatives of key Range States of the Slender Billed Curlew MoU**

**Description:** The Slender-billed curlew, one of the most endangered migratory birds in Europe, migrates from western Siberia through the Middle East to the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. An MoU under the auspices of CMS was concluded in 1994, in order to devise co-ordinated and concerted actions to provide for recovery of the species. This will be the first meeting of the MoU Range States and will elaborate the coordinated conservation and management priorities. Around 35 participants are expected.

**Geographic Coverage:** Asia, Europe, North Africa

**Main objectives:** 2, 3, 4

**Expected results:** Effective conservation measures for the Slender -billed curlew

**Implementation:** CMS Secretariat, governmental institution and/or NGO in host country

**Duration of Project:** The meeting will last 6 days. Preparation and follow up estimated at six months (part-time) by the CMS Secretariat, covered in its normal work programme.

**Estimated budget:** \$50,000 for travel and lodging of the participants from 15 developing countries, simultaneous interpretation and other meeting costs.

## **6b. Development and implementation of specific project proposals for activities within the Range States of the Slender-billed curlew**

**Description:** The Slender-billed curlew, one of the most endangered migratory birds in Europe, migrates from western Siberia through the Middle East to the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. An MoU under the auspices of CMS was concluded in 1994, in order to devise co-ordinated and concerted actions to provide for recovery of the species. Following the first Range State meeting, it will be necessary to develop detailed project proposals and to seek funding for their collective implementation through the species' range.

**Geographic Coverage:** Asia, Europe, North Africa

**Main objective:** 3,6

**Expected results:** Detailed project proposals suitable for presentation to donor agencies, as well as implementation of key actions on the ground.

**Implementation:** to be identified

**Duration of Project:** Phase I: preparation of detailed project proposals (2 months); implementation of essential conservation measures (2-3 years)

**Estimated budget:** Phase I: \$10,000; Phase II: \$100,000-150,000

## **7. Preparation of a comprehensive project proposal for the implementation of ACCOBAMS**

**Description:** The Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS) was concluded in November 1996 and is expected to enter into force by the end of 1997. The Agreement provides for a comprehensive set of conservation measures to be undertaken by the contracting Parties within the framework of agreed plan. Many of the countries which are potential Parties to the Agreement are developing countries or countries with economies in transition, and full implementation of the Agreement will certainly require support from the international community (e.g. the European Union and GEF). An important first task will be to transform the obligations of the conservation plan into a package of project proposals suitable for presentation to funding agencies

**Geographic Coverage:** Mediterranean and Black Sea coastal States

**Main objectives:** 3, 6

**Expected results:** A comprehensive project proposal worthy of international funding.

**Implementation:** consultant to be identified

**Duration of Project:** six months

**Estimated budget:** \$50,000

## **8. Organization of an expert meeting on endangered Sahelo-Saharan ungulates**

**Description:** The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Science (IRSNB) is already engaged in a project to develop an action plan for Sahelo-Saharan ungulates. As part of this project, a workshop should be organized in which Range States discuss and approve a revised status report on the species concerned, as well as the individual species action plans that are in preparation. Funds for the organization of the workshop are still needed: the total cost is estimated by IRSNB at \$87,000. Input of \$20,000-30,000 would enable the meeting to take place in 1997.

**Geographic Coverage:** Northwest Africa

**Main objectives:** 2, 3, 4

**Expected results:** Strategy for co-ordinated actions for the recovery of Sahelo Saharan ungulates

**Implementation:** Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Science (IRSNB)

**Duration of Project:** Four months of part time work, including preparation of the workshop.

**Estimated budget:** \$20,000-30,000

## **9. CMS South American regional meeting**

**Description:** There are only three CMS Parties in South America, but the continent is very important in terms of biodiversity and migratory species. A meeting organized by CMS and local partners in December 1996 covering the southern part of the continent attracted regional attention to CMS. Participants requested follow-up meetings to be organized on regular basis. Six countries participated in the previous meeting, and it is planned to extend the second meeting to all 13 South American countries. The expected inclusion of a number of neotropical species in the CMS Appendices at COP5 will require regional consultations on future conservation measures.

**Geographic Coverage:** South America

**Main objectives:** 1, 2, 3, 4

**Expected results:** A strategy for the development of CMS in the region, including concrete project proposals for conservation measures.

**Implementation:** CMS Secretariat, governmental institution and/or NGO in host country

**Duration of Project:** The workshop will last four days. Preparation and follow up estimated at six months part time by the CMS Secretariat, covered in the Secretariat's normal work programme.

**Estimated budget:** \$35,000 for travel and lodging of 26 participants, rental of conference facilities and other meeting costs.

## **10. Production of CMS information materials**

**Description:** In order to reach a wider audience, to inform the public and special interest groups of the importance of conserving migratory species and of the activities already taking place, a range of new information materials is required. These include a series of thematic posters, a video, a new brochure, all highlighting the value of migratory species and role played by CMS in their conservation.

**Geographic Coverage:** Global, with some target areas to be identified for special attention.

**Main objectives:** 1

**Expected results:** More effective communication of the CMS message

**Implementation:** one or more agencies to be identified

**Duration of Project:** 8 months for the preparation of materials.

**Estimated budget:** \$90,000 including the fees for a consultant and the production of the materials.

## **11. Publication of CMS country profiles**

**Description:** WCMC has prepared 18 profiles of countries which are not yet Parties to CMS, highlighting the conservation situation in each of them, as well as their importance for migratory species. Countries from all continents are included. The individual profiles, each of which is accompanied by a map, will be used as tools to encourage these countries to join CMS. To maximize the investment made in their development, they should be published for wider circulation in mid-1997 (after approval by the Standing Committee).

**Geographic Coverage:** Global

**Main objectives:** 1

**Expected results:** Extend the membership of CMS

**Implementation:** to be identified

**Duration of Project:** 6-8 weeks

**Estimated budget:** \$15,000, including the publication of 1000 copies and consultant fees for their preparation.

## **12. Publication of the Proceedings of the Symposium of Animal Migration**

**Description:** During the COP5, a Symposium on Animal Migration will take place, with speakers from around the world addressing conservation issues related to many different taxonomic groups. The speakers will provide to the CMS Secretariat their presentations in computerized form. It is intended to produce an attractive publication, including colour photographs, that can be used as publicity material for CMS as well as being an informative reference on the phenomenon of animal migration.

**Geographic Coverage:** Global

**Main objectives:** 1

**Expected results:** A quality publication on animal migration

**Implementation:** To be identified

**Duration of Project:** 3 months part-time for editing and formatting, from the realization of the symposium until final product is ready.

**Estimated budget:** \$15,000 to publish and distribute 1,000 copies.

## **13. Updating of the CMS Appendices in all languages**

**Description:** Following the inclusion of additional species in the CMS Appendices, updated versions must be published in all official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Russian, Spanish). For the forthcoming meeting of the Conference of the Parties, 41 species have been proposed for listing and it is expected that major work will be needed to update the Appendices. In the absence of official versions from the Depositary, the Secretariat has prepared unofficial texts in English, French and

Spanish for a number of years. However, it lacks the capacity to update the Appendices in all of the above-mentioned languages. It was agreed by the Standing Committee that the Secretariat should seek funds to have this done externally. It is essential that the Convention have updated Appendices (and Convention texts) in all of the official languages for recruitment purposes.

**Geographic Coverage:** Global

**Main objectives:** 1

**Expected results:** Speedy publication of the updated 1997 Appendices.

**Implementation:** to be identified

**Duration of Project:** One month

**Estimated budget:** \$2,000

#### **14. Secondment of regional officers for Africa and Asia**

**Description:** CMS has been steadily expanding its activities in recent years, and there is a strong potential for rapid growth, particularly in developing countries. Programme Officers with knowledge of the regions from which they come would help the Secretariat to better serve the Parties. First-hand knowledge of local practices and language is invaluable when developing contacts, organizing workshops and identifying potential conservation projects for follow-up. This approach has already proved successful in the case of the Secretariat's Technical Officer from Latin America, and is also used effectively by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. CMS activities in Africa and Asia, especially, would benefit if regional officers were to be seconded to the Secretariat.

**Geographic Coverage:** Africa and Asia

**Main objectives:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8

**Expected results:** Increased activities and extended membership in Africa and Asia

**Implementation:** CMS Parties

**Duration of Project:** Three years

**Estimated budget:** \$75,000 per year, depending on the arrangements

#### **15. Participation of delegates from developing countries in the COP6**

**Description:** Participation of delegates from all Parties and key non-Parties is a prerequisite for the successful outcome of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Delegates from many developing countries and countries in economic transition do not have the financial means to attend the meeting, unless support is provided. Funding is required for participation of approximately 40 delegates from Parties and non-Parties to CMS from developing countries and countries in economic transition.

**Geographic Coverage:** Global

**Main objectives:** 1, 3

**Expected results:** Full participation of the Convention's membership (and some non-Parties) at COP6

**Duration of Project:** n/a

**Estimated budget:** minimum of \$100,000

#### **16. Review of CMS relationships with other biodiversity-related conventions**

**Description:** CMS has concluded memoranda of understanding with the CBD and Ramsar Conventions aimed at strengthening inter-agency cooperation and avoiding duplication of effort. A clear understanding is needed of the fields of overlap and complementarity both in the aims and instruments between CMS and other relevant conventions (global, regional), multilateral agreements and programmes.

**Geographic Coverage:** Global

**Main objectives:** 8

**Expected results:** A clear understanding of the complementarity and overlap between relevant conventions.

**Implementation:** IUCN Environmental Law Centre

**Duration of Project:** One year

**Estimated budget:** \$25,000

### **17. Alternative venue for Scientific Council meeting in 1998**

**Description:** The CMS Scientific Council is expected to meet in 1998, at least one year before the sixth meeting of the COP. In recent years the Council has met in Bonn, which facilitates the Secretariat's servicing of the meeting. However, Councillors have noted the desirability of holding the meeting in one of the regions, as a way of focussing attention on regional conservation issues. To do so, however, would require additional funds, to provide for the additional costs incurred by the Secretariat and for the additional costs of moving the venue from Bonn to another city (i.e., possibly higher costs for sponsored delegates, and interpretation costs).

**Geographic Coverage:** Global

**Main objectives:** 8

**Expected results:** Enhanced profile for CMS in the host country

**Implementation:** CMS Party

**Duration of Project:** n/a

**Estimated budget:** \$25,000-35,000 depending on the venue

### **Additional project concepts for possible consideration in the future:**

- strengthening co-ordination and concerted actions for CMS Appendix I species, such as the Mediterranean monk seal and Mountain gorillas.
- common project activities with institutions based in Asia, for example, for the conservation of migratory waterbirds (e.g. with Wetlands International Asia-Pacific); marine turtles, small cetaceans, central Asian ungulates etc.
- co-operation with regional Agreements/programmes such as CAFF, Inter-State Ecological Council, various organizations based in Africa.
- other proposals emanating from the Scientific Council.