



# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*)  
Accra, Ghana, 30-31 March 2009

## REPORT ON THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES

1. The First Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the West African populations of the African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) took place in the conference room at the Crystal Palm Hotel in Accra, Ghana on 30-31 March 2009. The meeting was completely financed by the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). Representatives of the thirteen (13) Range States of elephants in West Africa, representatives of the management of the programme for the Monitoring of the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE), representatives of the African Elephant Specialist Group under the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Species Survival Commission, representatives from the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) attended the meeting. The CMS Secretariat acted as Secretariat for the meeting. The list of participants appears at Annex 1 to this report.

### Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

2. Two addresses were given by the Executive Director of Ghana's Wildlife Division (Forestry Commission) and by the Executive Secretary of CMS respectively. Mr. Nana Kofi Adu-Nsiah, Executive Director of the Wildlife Division (Forestry Commission), was the first person to take the floor during this ceremony and welcomed the participants to the First Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on behalf of the government of Ghana. He emphasised that West Africa has lost 90% of its elephant populations during the last twenty years due to poaching and the loss/fragmentation of habitat. He also stated that elephants are extremely threatened in the sub-region and that Ghana is currently strengthening the protection of national parks by emphasising community-based management of natural resources and the strengthening of the management of trans-boundary resources in collaboration with neighbouring countries.

3. With respect to collaboration on the trans-boundary management of natural resources, Mr. Adu-Nsiah mentioned various initiatives developed with other countries. Notably, he highlighted that Ghana and Burkina Faso organised a series of meetings which led to the development and signing of an agreement between those two countries on the management of shared resources, with the elephant being one of the species particularly targeted. Likewise, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire have jointly developed project proposals awaiting financing. With Togo, Ghana has developed action plans for the management of trans-boundary resources.

4. In closing, he stated that Ghana has encouraged communities to integrate the conservation of elephant migration corridors into their daily activities and asked for CMS's support in mobilising financing for the conservation of elephants in West Africa.

5. Mr. Robert Hepworth, Executive Secretary of CMS, then duly took the floor and welcomed the participants and thanked the Ghanaian authorities for their assistance in organising the meeting. He highlighted that having 100% membership to the agreement in such a short time was a unique achievement. He also emphasised the contribution of the African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG), notably Ms. Holly Dublin and Mr. Lamine Sebogo, towards the development and signing of the agreement, which took place in November 2005. He then stated that an amount of \$US 25,000 had been provided by CMS for the coordination of the implementation of the MoU for two years from 2006 to 2008. He mentioned that additional financing was also obtained by the AfESG in the context of coordination and emphasised the necessity of mobilising additional financing for the activities carried out under the MoU.

6. Mr. Hepworth then provided information on CMS and indicated that CMS has 110 parties of which 38 are in Africa. Three agreements have been developed in West Africa, namely regarding marine turtles, cetaceans and elephants. He then explained the different types of agreements and stated that the number of agreements has increased over the past three years. He mentioned that there are 24 agreements in total that have “treaty” status.

7. He explained the importance of the MoU on elephants in West Africa by stating that the elephants in West Africa are the most threatened on the continent. He also emphasised the likelihood that those elephants make up a unique taxon and stressed the tourist and cultural value of elephants in the sub-region. He pointed out the direct role of elephants in the maintenance of ecosystems and that, in conserving the elephant as a flagship species, we are not only conserving other species but also humans. He closed his address with the presentation of a series of photos and statements about elephants and the agreement.

#### **Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Rules of Procedure**

8. Mr. Hepworth referred to meeting document UNEP/CMS/WAE1/Doc.5 stating that it contained the standard rules of procedure and invited the participants to move on to the following item in the agenda provided the document was agreeable to the meeting. The rules of procedure were then adopted by the meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 3: Election of officers**

9. Niger suggested that the host country Ghana take on the role of Chairperson. That motion was supported by Mali and Togo. Mr. Hepworth thanked Mali, Niger and Togo for their suggestion, which was accepted by the other participants. Mr. Adu-Nsiah (Ghana) accepted the role of Chairperson on behalf of Ghana.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Adoption of the agenda and the meeting schedule**

10. The Chairperson of the meeting opened the discussions on the adoption of the meeting agenda. Mr. Hepworth suggested inverting the order of consideration of items 7 and 8 of the provisional agenda. Togo suggested adding an item on the presentation of the overview of national reports. The CMS Secretariat indicated that, as only 8 out of 13 reports had been received on time, the overview report could not be prepared. However, the countries would have time to present their report. With this, the agenda was adopted. The agenda is attached as Annex 2 to this report.

## **Agenda Item 5: Secretariat's report**

### **Agenda Item 5.1: Relevant results from CMS COP9**

11. Ms. Véronique Herrenschmidt provided a report on the proceedings at CMS's Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP9). She indicated that Central Africa had requested the support of the CMS Secretariat for the development of an instrument on the conservation of elephants in Central Africa. She requested West African States to reflect on what could be done to assist countries in Central Africa with the development of that instrument. She also presented the collaboration between CMS and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) occurring since 2005. She then explained the status of the implementation of the CMS/CITES 2005-2008 joint work programme and highlighted that the Standing Committees of the two conventions have approved the work carried out under that programme. She then presented the other results of CMS COP9, notably the resolution on the implementation of existing agreements. She closed her report by noting that the meeting needed to approve the list of contact points, define their tasks and discuss the coordination of the implementation of the MoU, which requires financing.

### **Agenda Item 5.2: Actions taken under the Memorandum since 2005**

12. Mr. Lamine Sebogo, Programme Coordinator of IUCN's SSC's AfESG, presented the actions carried out for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding since 2006. Those activities were initiated in the context of a Letter of Agreement (LoA) signed between IUCN and CMS. Through the LoA, CMS provided the AfESG, in its capacity as a technical advisor for the implementation of the agreement, with the amount of \$US 25,000 to coordinate implementation activities. The principal objectives provided for under the LoA were focussed around the 6 following main lines:

- *Promotion of the MoU/strategy;*
- *Support to the development of initiatives for the management of trans-boundary elephants;*
- *Support to the development and implementation of national strategies for the management of elephants;*
- *Promotion of technical and scientific exchanges on the conservation of elephants;*
- *Designation of national focal points; and*
- *Development of a template for national reports on the implementation of the MoU/strategy.*

13. For each of the above objectives defined in the LoA, Mr. Sebogo provided a status report on the activities carried out, pointed out insufficiencies and provided an outlook. He highlighted that these activities were implemented with the collaboration of the States concerned as well as numerous other partners on the ground. He focussed his efforts on six principal transboundary areas in West Africa in supporting initiatives regarding the management of elephant migration corridors between the countries. He also assisted the countries to obtain financing through the preparation of project proposals for the implementation of national strategies for the conservation of elephants and for the implementation of existing strategies. He also supplied the list of the national focal points responsible for the MoU and the strategy with respect to which the development of terms of reference is contained in the agenda for the meeting. He added that the implementation of these activities required additional financing, which he obtained from numerous other donors, including France, Japan, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Netherlands and Germany through KFW.

## Agenda Item 6: National reports

### *Consideration of the national report format*

14. The Chairperson of the meeting opened the session concerning the consideration of the national report format. That document was prepared by the CMS Secretariat and aimed to provide guidance to the Signatory States to the MoU in the preparation of national reports on the implementation of the MoU/strategy to be submitted to CMS.

15. Opening the discussions on the report format, the delegate from Ghana stated that the format proposed was very long with sections that were not compatible with the realities. He promised to provide written amendments to the Secretariat.

16. **Mali** suggested that the document be made lighter by deleting those points that are ambiguous or not necessary. **Burkina Faso** thanked Mali for its suggestions and stated that the columns in the annex to the document should be deleted. He also suggested that a section describing general difficulties be added to the template. **Sierra Leone** pointed out the numerous repetitions in the document; she also asked how the reports would be provided to the CMS Secretariat. **Nigeria** stated that the format could be amended page by page but suggested that the current format be tested so that its inadequacies could be better ascertained, given that 8 countries have already submitted their reports in this format. **Togo**, referring to point 2 in the format, suggested that different methodologies used for censusing and monitoring be integrated, as well as the methodology recommended according to experience. At that point, it was agreed that a working group would be formed that will work on improving the document through email exchanges. This was agreed to occur after the Secretariat has received all the national reports and at the time of preparing the overview report.

### *National reports*

17. The CMS Secretariat introduced this point by providing the list of the countries who had submitted a national report. Eight countries had submitted their report. Guinea Bissau highlighted that it had not finalised its report but that it had recently developed a conservation plan for African elephants, which will be provided to the Secretariat. Nigeria and Mali suggested that the deadline for the submission of national reports be pushed back to 15 May 2009. The delegates agreed on these preliminary discussions and then moved on to the presentation of national reports in the following order:

#### **Benin:**

18. The delegate highlighted that the elephant benefits from full protection under domestic law. He also provided the example of the efforts made with Niger and Burkina Faso with respect to the strengthening of collaboration on the management of shared areas. He stressed the necessity of working in synergy and of developing initiatives to carry out a census throughout the entire W-Arly-Pendjari (WAP) area. He also underlined difficulties such as the lack of cooperation between managers of forests and protected areas, the lack of long-term financing for conservation and the mobility of officers in conservation areas.

#### **Burkina Faso:**

19. The representative highlighted the legal status of the elephant as a species fully protected by law at the domestic level. He mentioned five main trans-boundary sites that Burkina shares with neighbouring countries and provided a status report on trans-boundary collaboration with those countries. Noting the difficulties concerning the management of elephants, he highlighted *inter alia* the management of human/elephant conflicts, which was becoming more and more difficult. On this precise issue, efforts had been made to build

capacity through the training of four managers in Burkina on the management of conflicts in Zambia. While recognising that compensation is not a sustainable approach regarding the management of conflicts between humans and elephants, in 2009 the Burkina government agreed to provide around 92,000 euros to compensate farmers who had been victims of damage from elephants in order to calm local populations. In closing, Burkina Faso requested CMS's support in conducting public information and education campaigns and in order to carry out studies into the movement of elephants given that no information is available in that regard.

**Cote d'Ivoire:**

20. The representatives noted that his country had signed numerous conventions on the protection of elephants and had a strategy for the management of elephants. The military/political crisis has disrupted the protected status of the species. He highlighted that there remains much to be done in the area of censusing, awareness-raising and the resolution of human/elephants conflicts. He noted that joint efforts for trans-boundary management had been developed with Ghana since 2007.

**Ghana:**

21. The representative highlighted the importance of the elephants and trans-boundary areas in Ghana. He provided the example of ongoing work regarding the development of programmes and action plans. He noted that the African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) developed an important trans-boundary project between Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana but that financing had not yet been obtained. Ghana uses community-based initiatives in order to manage migratory elephants. An agreement on trans-boundary management was signed with Burkina Faso and Togo. The representative noted in closing that studies had not yet been carried out in all of the range areas in the country.

**Guinea:**

22. The representative mentioned the existence of laws on the management of fauna and elephants, but which were not enforced. He also highlighted the existence of a national strategy for the management of elephants that was only implemented in one sole site at Ziama. In closing, he noted that Guinea had implemented a framework programme for the management of its protected areas.

**Liberia:**

23. The representative commended the ongoing efforts to save elephants in West African countries and highlighted that there are still elephants in Liberia, particularly at the border between Guinea/Liberia. He also provided the example of significant human/elephant conflicts at the border with Guinea. He stated that the main challenges remain gold mining, which affects the protected areas, and the intrusion of foreign nationals from various countries including Niger, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire etc. into those sites.

**Niger:**

24. The representative reported on the new laws concerning the management of fauna and its habitat. He also mentioned the existence of a strategy and a plan of action on the management of elephants in Niger.

**Togo:**

25. The representative mentioned that his country has a national strategy for the management of elephants and was firmly engaged in a process to rehabilitate its protected areas. He noted that, with the assistance of the AfESG, Togo had carried out a number of studies on elephants. He stated that elephants are currently concentrated in the Fazao Malfakassa Park. He highlighted the necessity of increasing the capacity of those engaged in conservation through equipment and training. He stated that, with the help of the AfESG,

Togo was able to mobilise finance from the USFWS to carry out a public information and education campaign and to update legislation on elephants. He stressed the need to improve knowledge on the status of trans-boundary elephants, particularly between Togo and Ghana and Togo and Benin. Equally, he noted the need to investigate and identify the elephant migration corridors between protected areas in order to better understand the situation and to plan the reestablishment of their connections before it is too late.

**Mali:**

26. The representative stated that Mali shares the same difficulties as its neighbours and reported that his country had signed a total of thirteen treaties and conventions for conservation. He highlighted the collaborative efforts undertaken by Mali and Burkina in the development of synergies for the conservation of trans-boundary resources. He pointed out that Mali was seeking financing for the development of its national strategy for the management of elephants. In closing, he informed the CMS Secretariat that measures had been taken to pay all Mali's subscription arrears and thanked MIKE for strengthening capacities from which officers in Mali have benefited.

**Nigeria:**

27. The representative stated that it was a miracle to still find elephants in Nigeria due to human overpopulation. Out of all the elephants in Nigeria, only the population in the Gnankari Park remains relatively unthreatened. He noted that Nigeria shares elephant populations with Niger, Chad and the Cameroon.

**Senegal:**

28. The representative recalled that he is not the focal point for the MoU in Senegal but was representing him at the meeting. He recalled that his country signed the MoU in 2007 and underlined that solely the Niokolokoba Park provides habitat for elephants in Senegal. He pointed out, however, that the number of those elephants had significantly reduced due to poaching because of a lack of staff for monitoring. He reported that in 2004, Senegal recruited staff and corrected that inadequacy.

**Sierra Leone:**

29. The representative reported that censusing of elephants financed by USFWS was carried out at the Oti-killima national park and that monitoring activities were being carried out on the ground. Unlike most of the countries, he underlined that human/elephant conflicts are not significant in Sierra Leone and only affect those farmers that have set up their fields next to protected areas. He nevertheless stressed the lack of equipment to carry out monitoring.

**Guinea Bissau:**

30. The representative reported on the recent development of an action plan for the management of elephants. He noted that his country would like to cooperate with Guinea in order to jointly initiate elephant conservation activities. Those activities include the organisation of a census of elephants, the development of a plan for the creation of a trans-boundary park for elephants at the border with Guinea and a training programme in fauna management for staff. He noted that his country also intends to strengthen wildlife management with equipment and to conduct a public information and education campaign on elephant conservation.

## **Agenda Item 7: Presentation/discussion of the terms of reference for national focal points and their coordination (establishment of a working group if necessary)**

31. The CMS Secretariat presented the draft terms of reference that it prepared concerning the role of designated national focal points in accordance with article 6 of the MoU. Those terms of reference were based on three objectives each having associated specific activities.

32. Following that presentation, Mr. Tom de Meulenaer, regional MIKE Coordinator for Africa, suggested that those tasks that are important be distinguished from those that are desired but whose implementation is uncertain. Benin was concerned about the layout of the document, in particular the links between the objectives and activities. He suggested that the activities be linked with the objectives or to simply list the activities. It was also suggested that partners with respect to objective 2 be listed in order to better commit them and to number all the activities in the table. Referring to point 6 in the draft document, Benin and Guinea, supported by Liberia, remained opposed to the idea of requesting State governments to supply budget lines to focal points for their activities. They considered rather that it was up to CMS to supply logistics to focal points, above all during the initial stage. On this point, the CMS Secretariat responded that it was not able to provide the support envisaged because of other essential support needing to be provided such as participation at international meetings. It suggested, however, that those means be mobilised through projects or governments. On this point, it was agreed to amend the document to provide for the mobilisation of funds with the support of CMS and partners to be developed. The question of training focal points and calling on NGOs for various support was also raised. A template document was ultimately able to be produced and adopted. The amended terms of reference document, whose title was amended from “Terms of Reference for National Contact Points” to “Role of National Contact Points”, as well as the approved list of focal points are attached to this report as Annex 3 and Annex 4 respectively.

### **Coordination of the Memorandum**

33. The CMS Secretariat presented the document concerning the coordination of the MoU. It was highlighted that, in accordance with article 4 of the MoU, the AfESG plays the role of technical advisor for the implementation of the MoU but the coordination is an integral part of the services provided by the Secretariat. However, due to the ever-increasing number of agreements, the Secretariat collaborates with partners who provide coordination support. In that context, CMS supervises the coordination and remains the official contact point for Signatory States. The Terms of Reference for coordination remain focussed on four main bases as follows: the provision of assistance to the secretariat, the coordination of defined activities, the development of reports and the promotion of the MoU/Strategy through the exchange of information. That document including its annex underwent the necessary amendments and was adopted (presented as Annex 5 to this report).

## **Agenda Item 8: Continuation of the implementation of the Memorandum and organisation of intersessional work**

### **Agenda Item 8.1: Intersessional work programme**

34. The CMS Secretariat presented the draft medium term work programme that it prepared for the implementation of the MoU and the Strategy for the 2009-2011 period. Discussions were then opened. At this point, the participants agreed to integrate sub-regional priorities that came out of the meeting of elephant Range States in Gigiri in March 2009. The Secretariat then produced a revised version of the document along the lines suggested, which was adopted by the meeting (Annex 6 to this report).

## **Agenda Item 8.2: Trans-boundary priorities**

35. The Secretariat presented a list of trans-boundary areas containing elephants in West Africa and, for each of those areas, the countries concerned. A list of ongoing initiatives as well as the actors involved was also integrated into the document.

36. The participants were asked to integrate other trans-boundary areas and other partners. On this specific point, the delegate for Mali requested that all the partners be listed by name. He was informed that the term “other partners” added to each column took into account potential omissions. Nigeria expressed a desire that the areas that it shares with Chad and the Cameroon be incorporated into the list of the trans-boundary priorities in West Africa. As Chad and the Cameroon are not West African States, the Chair of the meeting suggested that those issues be dealt with separately. Those States with areas to be added to the list were subsequently invited to provide information to the Secretariat to complete the document. The final approved document is presented as Annex 7 to this report.

## **Agenda Item 9: Budgetary matters**

37. Mr. Hepworth introduced this agenda item and reported on collaboration with IUCN’s AfESG in the context of the coordination of the MoU. He then provided explanations and information on CMS financing mechanisms. He mentioned the current difficulties with respect to financing and, in particular, the lack of financing for the coordination of the MoU. He noted, however, the interest that exists in continuing that coordination. He stated that the Secretariat could provide up to 30,000 Euros for coordination for three years and requested participants to see if additional support was available from their governments.

38. Ms. Diane Skinner from the AfESG Secretariat was invited to present an estimated budget for coordination for three years. The budget was valued at 85 000 euros and, given that CMS has agreed to contribute 30,000 euros, there remains a shortfall of 55,000 euros. It was agreed that this financing would be sought through contributions from the States. However, some States suggested that those contributions not be mandatory while others considered that they were not authorised to debate questions of finance. It was recommended to the CMS Secretariat to write to the States individually on the subject of those contributions.

## **Agenda Item 10: Cooperation with other countries and partners**

### **Final declaration of the signatories to the MoU**

39. The participants at the first meeting of the Signatory States of the MoU adopted a declaration (see Annex 8 to this report) in which they dealt with the following questions:

- The adoption of a work programme for the years 2009-2011;
- The adoption of terms of reference on the role of national focal points and on the coordination of the implementation of the MoU;
- Support for the seeking of financial resources for the execution of the established work programme;
- The consideration of the national reports submitted and the adoption of the role of focal points;
- The finalisation of a list of trans-boundary areas where collaborative activities are to be strengthened for the management of trans-boundary elephants; and
- The development of projects and the seeking of financing to supplement the provision of 30,000 euros by CMS for the coordination of the MoU.

### **Agenda Item 11: Miscellaneous matters**

40. Under this item, the discussions focussed on the extension of the agreement to Central Africa and the type of collaboration to be undertaken with States in that sub-region. Most of the delegates were in agreement as to the idea of collaboration but the type and extent of collaboration remains to be determined. The Secretariat will be responsible for suggesting the type of collaboration at the next meeting of the Signatory States once significant advances have been recorded with respect to the implementation of the recommendation adopted at the CMS COP9 on the subject of Central African States.

### **Agenda Item 12: Date and place of the next meeting of the Signatory States**

41. Niger nominated itself to host the next meeting of the Signatory States to the MoU in 2011, which was welcomed with enthusiasm by all the participants.

### **Agenda Item 13: Closure of the meeting**

42. The meeting was declared closed at 1800 hrs. on Tuesday 31 March 2009.



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# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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Annex 2

English  
Original: French

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*)  
Accra, Ghana, 30-31 March 2009

## AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure
3. Election of officers
4. Adoption of the agenda and the meeting schedule
5. Secretariat's report
  - 5.1 Relevant results from CMS's COP9
  - 5.2 Actions taken under the Memorandum since 2005
6. National reports
7. Presentation/discussion of the terms of reference for national focal points and their coordination (establishment of a working group if necessary)
8. Continuation of the implementation of the Memorandum and the organisation of intersessional work
  - 8.1 Intersessional work programme
  - 8.2 Trans-boundary priorities
9. Budgetary matters
10. Cooperation with other countries and partners
11. Miscellaneous issues
12. Date and place of the next meeting of the Signatory States
13. Closure of the meeting



**CONVENTION ON  
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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*)  
Accra, Ghana, 30-31 Month 2009

**ROLE OF NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS REGARDING THE MEMORANDUM  
OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE  
WEST AFRICAN POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT**

*(As adopted by the First Meeting of the Signatories)*

1. Recalling paragraph 6 in which the Memorandum provides for each Signatory State to nominate a competent authority to act as a contact point for the other signatories and which requires each Signatory State to communicate the name and details of that contact person to the CMS Secretariat.
2. Noting on the other hand that:
  - The Memorandum does not enter into details about the role and responsibilities of the contact points;
  - The Secretariat has received several requests for clarification in that regard;
  - It therefore seems appropriate to provide clarification in order to allow the designated contact points to fully carry out their functions and to allow the Signatory States to identify the most appropriate option for any future designation;
  - The CMS Secretariat submitted a table concerning the role of national contact points for the consideration of the First Meeting of the Signatory States.

**The First Meeting of the Signatory States agreed:**

1. on the role of national contact points as described in the Attachment 1 for the period 2009-2011;
2. that the implementation of these terms of reference would be reviewed at the next meeting of the Signatory States on the basis of a report on their implementation.

## ATTACHMENT 1

### Objectives and activities for National Contact Points

Objectives	Activities
<p><b>Objective 1:</b> To provide ongoing representation of the Signatory State to bodies charged with providing secretariat services and the coordination of the MoU, to provide reports and to participate in the work of the MoU</p>	<p>1.1 Represent the country as a competent authority and contact point at meetings of the Signatory States of the MoU and, if necessary, at associated technical meetings;</p> <p>1.2 Formulate the Signatory State's positions on the documents and questions submitted for consideration at those meetings;</p> <p>1.3 Regularly prepare and deliver to the CMS Secretariat the national report on the implementation of the Memorandum requested of competent authorities by paragraph 7 of the Memorandum;</p> <p>1.4 Suggest issues to be added to the agendas for meetings held in the context of the Memorandum;</p> <p>1.5 Support CMS initiatives to seek the financing necessary for the coordination of the Memorandum;</p> <p>1.6 Quickly inform the coordinator of the MoU and CMS of any event that may compromise the objectives of the Memorandum and its strategy in one way or another;</p> <p>1.7 Ensure, in collaboration with other competent national authorities, that there is consistency with the positions taken regarding other international instruments and, if necessary, alert the coordinator and the CMS Secretariat.</p>
<p><b>Objective 2:</b> Liaise with national and international partners – notably other Signatory States – working in the area of the conservation of elephants and associated ecosystems in order to facilitate the exchange of relevant information and knowledge and to develop any possible synergies</p>	<p>2.1 Create a network of exchange of knowledge by using the MoU website. The site may not be fed with any information that has not been provided and approved by the competent authorities in order to facilitate technical and scientific collaboration.</p>
<p><b>Objective 3:</b> Coordinate the implementation of the MoU at a national level in carrying out necessary activities and, in particular, referring to the defined list on the right, in accordance with needs and opportunities</p>	<p>3.1 Develop a centralisation programme with regular updates of:</p> <p>3.1.1 Knowledge concerning the available data on the evolution of the populations of the elephants;</p> <p>3.1.2 Projects developed that may favourably or unfavourably affect the conservation of the species;</p>

	<p>3.1.3 Data with respect to human / elephant conflicts and the solutions adopted to resolve them, whether these were successful or not;</p> <p>3.2 Ensure the MoU is applied by legislation;</p> <p>3.3 Create a network of the principal national partners and provide necessary mediation between the partners and/or groups;</p> <p>3.4 Initiate and/or support national projects that provide for the implementation of the MoU and its strategy while ensuring coordination between partners;</p> <p>3.5 Seek or support the seeking of the necessary finance for the implementation of those projects;</p> <p>3.6 Support the development of trans-boundary projects;</p> <p>7 Promote awareness raising and training on the African elephant and the issues for the conservation of the species.</p>
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Note: The achievement of these objectives and these activities requires that the competent authority/designated contact point has, to the fullest extent possible, the necessary time and means at her/his disposal (telephone, computer, printer, means of travel). Those measures should be sought by the government of the Signatory State as soon as the official designation of the competent authority/contact point is decided. The achievement of these objectives also requires that the competent authority is able to participate in relevant meetings or training organised by other bodies dealing with this issue, upon being invited and subject to the means being available.



# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*)  
Accra, Ghana, 30-31 March 2009

## LIST OF DESIGNATED NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS / LISTE DES POINTS DE CONTACT NATIONAUX DESIGNES

(as at 31. March 2009 / au 31 mars 2009)

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**CMS**



**CONVENTION ON  
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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*)  
Accra, Ghana, 30-31 March 2009

**TERMS OF REFERENCE  
FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*LOXODONTA AFRICANA*)**

**Terms of Reference**  
**for the Coordination of the Memorandum of Understanding**  
**concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of the**  
**African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*)**

**Mandate**

The objective of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of the African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) (hereinafter “MoU”) and of the Strategy for the Conservation of West African Elephants (hereinafter “Strategy”) is to:

“Take steps to conserve and, when and where appropriate, to strictly protect the African Elephant and to conserve and sustainably use the habitats essential for its survival”.<sup>1</sup>

To facilitate its implementation, the MoU designates the CMS Secretariat as the MoU Secretariat and empowers it to use the services of any reliable organisation to support it.<sup>2</sup>

The MoU’s conclusion and entry into effect were endorsed by the CMS Eighth Meeting of the Conferences of the Parties (“COP8”) in Resolution 8.5 (Nairobi 2005). CMS Conference of the Parties Resolutions 7.7, 8.5 and 9.2 encourage the Secretariat to continue exploring partnerships with interested organisations specialised in the conservation and management of migratory species for the provision of developmental support and coordination services for selected MoUs, including the West African Elephant MoU.

**Primary Objective**

The primary objective is to assist the CMS Secretariat and the Range States in coordinating and implementing the MoU and the Strategy.

**Expected outcomes**

The main expected outcomes are:

- a) Strengthened Secretariat services;
- b) The coordination of work under the MoU between Signatory States, sub-regional bodies, intergovernmental organisations, non-governmental organisations and other UNEP secretariats in a manner that optimises synergies and creates efficiency;
- c) Implementation of decisions of the Meeting of the Signatories;
- d) The obtainment of funding;
- e) Monitoring and reporting on progress achieved;

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<sup>1</sup> MoU, para 1

<sup>2</sup> MoU, para 15

- f) The efficient exchange of information between stakeholders and distribution of information to them; and
- g) Promotion of the MoU and Strategy regionally and internationally.

**Functions expected to be carried out** (depending on availability of resources)

**1. SECRETARIAT SERVICES**

- a) Assist the CMS Secretariat in providing the secretariat services assigned to it under the MoU, in particular:
  - Convene and service meetings of the Signatory States;
  - Provide secretariat services to committees or working groups established under the MoU.

**2. COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES**

**I. Signatory States**

***Designation of National Contact Points***

- a) Act as a focal point for all Range States in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat;
- b) Maintain an up-to-date list of contact points for the MoU and Strategy and liaise closely with them on matters relating to implementation;

***Implementation and associated projects***

- c) Draw the attention of the Signatory States to matters relating to implementation;
- d) Formulate and give effect to proposals to improve implementation of the MoU, as well as seeking support for national and international African Elephant conservation-related projects;
- e) Facilitate collaboration between Range States in developing initiatives for the transboundary management of elephants and help provide input to these initiatives;
- f) Identify new transboundary elephant areas and suggest actions to be taken;

***Funding***

- g) Identify and negotiate potential external funding from Governments, development aid agencies, foundations and other sources;
- h) Review project proposals and facilitate contact between relevant institutions and the donor community;

### ***Support in the development and implementation of national strategies***

- i) Help to develop national strategies in countries and to coordinate them with other countries' national strategies;
- j) Provide assistance, including helping strengthen capacity, to implement existing national elephant conservation strategies and action plans as and when requested and required;
- k) Make available tools and guidelines for conservation and management of elephants to help implement the Strategy (e.g., mitigating human elephant conflict, translocation, managing local overpopulation, etc.); and
- l) Improve actors' capacities in the mitigation of human-elephant conflicts through regional workshops.

### **II. Intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organisations**

- a) Exchange information, correspond and interact regularly with IGOs and NGOs working on issues related to the conservation of African elephants and the habitats on which they depend; and
- b) Catalyse and support the development by other organisations of project activities that serve to further the aims of the MoU.

### **3. REPORTING**

- a) Prepare reports on the work of the secretariat for submission to the Meeting of the Signatory States; and
- b) Encourage Range States to provide regular national reports on progress regarding the implementation of the MoU and Strategy, synthesize the reports received into a summary report and distribute it.

### **4. PROMOTION OF THE MOU/STRATEGY AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

- a) Promote the MoU and the Strategy regionally and internationally;
- b) Represent the MoU at international, regional and national meetings in order to promote its objectives in wider fora;
- c) Facilitate the rapid exchange of scientific, technical and legal information necessary to coordinate elephant conservation measures;
- d) Undertake public awareness-raising through the media, both regionally and internationally;
- e) Provide content to the CMS webpage on the MoU/Strategy (summarizing important meetings or activities supporting the MoU's/Strategy's implementation, etc.);

- f) Oversee the development of a range of information materials suitable for distribution to a wider audience reflecting the aims and spirit of the MoU;
- g) Ensure the appropriate compilation and dissemination of information materials prepared by Governments and other organisations, in order to maximize the benefits of experience-sharing; and
- h) Develop and consult on proposals for special international events aimed at promoting African Elephant conservation.

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# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*)  
Accra, Ghana, 30-31 March 2009

## MEDIUM TERM INTERNATIONAL WORK PROGRAMME

*(As adopted by the First Meeting of Signatory States)*

1. Recalling that the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of the African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), hereinafter the “MoU”, and the Strategy for the Conservation of West African Elephants, hereinafter “Strategy”, provide the framework for the Signatories to work in close collaboration in order to improve the conservation status of the African Elephant in West Africa;
2. Considering paragraph 3 of the MoU, which suggests that the objectives contained in the Strategy could be achieved through the development and implementation of national elephant conservation and management strategies and plans, and paragraph 4, which provides for the exchange of scientific, technical and legal information to co-ordinate conservation measures and for co-operation with other Signatory States, appropriate international organizations and the recognized experts at the IUCN/SCC African Elephant Specialist Group;
3. Further considering that, in the context of collaboration promoted by the MoU, the concrete measures taken, in particular those taken by Signatory States at a national level in the context of their respective national elephant conservation and management strategies and plans, could be coordinated through a Medium Term International Work Programme (hereinafter the “Work Programme”);
4. Noting that the Work Programme is based on the objectives linked to the MoU and the Strategy, namely the following main themes:
  - a. Information necessary for management
  - b. Enhanced institutional capacity for management
  - c. Reduction of the rate of loss of elephant habitat
  - d. Reduction of conflict between humans and elephants
  - e. Better understanding and effective control of the ivory trade
  - f. Illegal killing of elephants contained
  - g. Elephant conservation issues better understood at all levels
  - h. Strengthening of cooperation between Range States
  - i. Costs/benefits of the presence of elephants

- j. Implementation and evaluation of the Work Programme
  - k. Mobilisation of the necessary financial and human resources for the implementation of the Work Programme
5. Recalling that funding will be needed to support the activities listed in the Work Programme and that multilateral, bilateral and other sources of funding will need to be sought;
6. Also taking into account the initiatives underway, in particular the *Plan of Action for the African Elephant* prepared by the Range States of the African Elephant in the context of the implementation of CITES and its Decisions on the elephant.

**The Signatory States to the MoU agree to:**

- 1. Adopt the 2009-2011 Work Programme concerning the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of the African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), attached to this document;
- 2. Commit to provide information to the Secretariat on the financial matters and the schedule for the 2009-2011 Work Programme; and
- 3. Consider the 2009-2011 Work Programme in 2012 in order to update it, if necessary, and make any amendments required.

**Attachment**

**Medium Term International Work Programme  
concerning Conservation Measures for the West African  
Populations of the African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*)**

**2009 – 2011**

Objectives	Activity	Priorities <sup>1</sup>	Timing	Financial considerations (budget, partners)	Party responsible	Partners
<b>1.0 Information necessary for management</b>					States	
1.1 Organise inventories of elephants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Choose the method</li> <li>2. Plan the areas to undergo an inventory (e.g.: trans-boundary areas)</li> <li>3. Implementation (seek financing, choose experts etc.)</li> </ol>	VH				CMS, MIKE, USWS  IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
1.2 Study seasonal movements of trans-boundary elephants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify study areas</li> <li>2. Identify the institutions/experts</li> <li>3. Choose the methodology</li> <li>4. Planning and implementation</li> </ol>	VH				Local communities, CMS, MIKE, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
1.3 Undertake genetic studies to determine the taxonomic status of the forest and savannah elephants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Report on studies undertaken</li> <li>2. Identify priority areas</li> <li>3. Implementation (choose experts, seek financing)</li> </ol>	M				CMS, scientific experts, other partners
1.4 Evaluation of the socio-economic value of elephants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate and present direct and indirect sources of revenue linked to the presence of elephants</li> <li>2. Evaluate the service provided by elephants to traditional medicine and to cultural activities and other associated beliefs</li> </ol>				States	Academic institutions, NGOs, experts
1.5 Evaluation of the cost/benefit ratio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the essential needs of the local population in order for them to cohabit with elephants</li> <li>2. Ascertain the cost/benefit ratio</li> </ol>	H			State	Academic institutions, NGOs, experts  Universities

<sup>1</sup> VH = Very High; H = High; M = Medium.

Objectives	Activity	Priorities <sup>1</sup>	Timing	Financial considerations (budget, partners)	Party responsible	Partners
1.6 Improvement of the cost/benefit ratio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of the evolution of the cost/benefit ratio</li> <li>If necessary, suggest mechanisms to reduce the negative impacts and to increase the benefits</li> </ol>	M			State	Universities and experts  Academic institutions, NGOs, experts
<b>2.0 Enhanced capacity for management</b>					States	
2.1 Organise training courses at a site-specific and sub-regional level	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify training needs (on-site agents, guards, community contact points, NGOs)</li> <li>Develop training subjects</li> <li>Implementation (choose the trainers etc.)</li> </ol>	H				Local communities, CMS, MIKE, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
2.2 Supply of equipment needed to the relevant agents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate requirements</li> <li>Seek necessary funding</li> <li>Distribute and provide training for use</li> </ol>	H			States	Local communities, CMS, MIKE, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
<b>3.0 Reduction of the rate of loss of elephant habitat</b>						
3.1 Evaluate the habitats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a status report on elephant habitat (distribution, water/food/salt resources etc.)</li> <li>Qualitative and quantitative analysis</li> </ol>	VH				Local communities, CMS, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
3.2 Develop and/or implement management plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare management plans by site incorporating a review of the distribution, creation and management of corridors, water sources, fire management, the number of humans/elephants, reintroduction if necessary etc.</li> <li>Implementation of the plans prepared</li> </ol>	H				Local communities, CMS, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners

Objectives	Activity	Priorities <sup>1</sup>	Timing	Financial considerations (budget, partners)	Party responsible	Partners
<b>4.0 Reduction of conflict between humans and elephants</b>					States	
4.1 Report on conflict sites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigation and mapping</li> <li>Extent of the conflict</li> <li>Determine the type of conflict</li> </ol>	VH				Local communities, CMS, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
4.2 Contribution to the resolution of conflicts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of the causes of the conflicts</li> <li>Implementation of solutions</li> <li>Identify the local population's needs to cohabit with the elephants</li> <li>Ascertain the cost/benefit ratio</li> </ol>	VH				Local communities, CMS, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
4.3 Reinforcement of capacities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and distribute information on interactions between humans and elephants</li> <li>Training sessions</li> </ol> <p>Persons involved locally (managers, structures organised around conservation areas, local populations etc.)</p>	VH				Local communities, CMS, IUCN, WWF, AWF, other partners
<b>5.0 Better understanding and effective control of the ivory trade (CITES Cnf. Decision 13.26 (Rev COP14): Action plan for the control of the ivory trade)</b>					States	
5.1 Conduct studies into ivory trade in those countries identified by ETIS		M				Experts, ETIS, TRAFFIC, CITES, other partners
5.2 Initiate policies on the control of ivory trade at the level of CEDEAO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status report</li> <li>Use knowledge to harmonise legislation, if necessary</li> <li>Strengthening of law and policies in the sub-region</li> <li>In the context of the implementation of Decision 13.26 (Rev COP14)</li> </ol>	M			CDEAO	Experts, ETIS, TRAFFIC, CITES, other partners

Objectives	Activity	Priorities <sup>1</sup>	Timing	Financial considerations (budget, partners)	Party responsible	Partners
5.3 Reinforce the capacities of the persons involved in controlling the trade in ivory	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organisation of training sessions (police, customs etc.)</li> <li>2. Development of a network of inter-governmental information on illegal trafficking</li> </ol>	M				ETIS, TRAFFIC, CITES
<b>6.0 Illegal killing of elephants contained</b>					States	
6.1 Strengthen control policies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Status report</li> <li>2. Harmonisation of legislation</li> <li>3. Organise monitoring patrols</li> </ol>	VH				CEDEAO
6.2 Strengthen the capacities of the persons involved in the struggle against poaching	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organisation of training sessions (communities, field officers, guards)</li> <li>2. Development of a framework of inter-governmental information on illegal poaching</li> <li>3. Provide the agents with the equipment necessary</li> </ol>	VH				MIKE, IUCN, WWF, AWF, CITES
6.3 Supply of necessary equipment to the agents concerned	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate requirements</li> <li>2. Distribute and provide training for use</li> </ol>	VH				MIKE, IUCN, WWF, AWF, MIKE
<b>7.0 Elephant conservation issues better understood at all levels</b>					States	
7.1 Information, education and communication (IEC) campaigns	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify IEC's requirements (target groups)</li> <li>2. Create the tools</li> <li>3. Promote and distribute information on interactions between humans/elephants</li> <li>4. Implementation</li> <li>5. School information</li> <li>6. Distribution of legislative texts on the conservation of the elephants</li> </ol>	H				Local communities, CEDEAO, CMS, IUCN, WWF, AWF

Objectives	Activity	Priorities <sup>1</sup>	Timing	Financial considerations (budget, partners)	Party responsible	Partners
	7. Publication of texts (statutes, management, poaching and illegal trade) 8. Use of media					
<b>8.0 Strengthening of cooperation between Range States</b>					States	
8.1 Creation of a technical consultation network for the management of each trans-boundary area	1. Development of technical inter-State agreements 2. Regular meetings	H				CEDEAO, CMS, IUCN
8.2 Development and implementation of joint initiatives	1. Creation of a mechanism for the exchange of information between States for better monitoring of trans-boundary movements 2. Other initiatives in the areas of legislation, research, management, the struggle against poaching and illegal trade, training, public information etc.	H				Local communities, local NGOs, CMS, MIKE, CEDEAO, IUCN, WWF, AWF
<b>9.0 Mobilisation of financial/human resources</b>						
9.1 Human resources	1. Identify and mobilise existing competence according to needs (e.g. creation of networks) 2. Capacity building 3. Recruitment, if necessary	H			State	Agencies and other institutions NGOs
9.2 Financial resources	1. List potential sources of finance 2. Prepare joint project proposals 3. Submit those proposals to potential sources of finance	VH			State	Experts and consultants NGOs Institutions Universities

Objectives	Activity	Priorities <sup>1</sup>	Timing	Financial considerations (budget, partners)	Party responsible	Partners
<b>10. Implementation and evaluation</b>						
10.1 Monitoring of implementation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish indicators for each objective and activity</li> <li>2. Seek synergies with other MoUs</li> <li>3. Implementation</li> <li>4. Consolidate the results</li> <li>5. Prepare monitoring reports</li> </ol>	H			State	State University
10.2 Evaluation of the programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Put in place and use the indicators necessary</li> <li>2. Evaluate the performance of the programme</li> </ol>	M				IUCN, WWF, AWF Experts Universities

**CONVENTION ON  
MIGRATORY  
SPECIES**

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE WEST AFRICAN  
POPULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*)  
Accra, Ghana, 30-31 March 2009

**SUMMARY OF TRANS-BOUNDARY AREAS CONTAINING ELEPHANTS IN  
WEST AFRICA**

*(As adopted by the First Meeting of Signatory States)*

1. Recalling that at the workshop on the African Elephant organised by CMS on 23 June 2008 in Mombasa on the occasion of the Pan African CITES/MIKE meeting, some countries expressed their desire to strengthen trans-boundary cooperation concerning the management of elephants;
2. Considering the need to facilitate the strengthening of that cooperation in the context of the implementation of the MoU and the joint CMS/CITES work programme, the secretariat prepared a table of such trans-boundary areas in collaboration with IUCN/AfESG on the basis of the available knowledge;

**The signatories agreed on:**

the Attachment to this document, which takes into account the necessity of developing specific complementary projects at some of the trans-boundary areas.

## ATTACHMENT

**Table 1: Principal projects / programmes in the priority trans-boundary areas for elephants (see: Strategy for the Conservation of West African Elephants)**

Areas	No. of elephants	Actions being implemented	Actions to be undertaken	Partners
<b>East corridor: Nazinga-Parc Kabore Tambi-Red Volta Ecosystem- Doung</b>  Countries involved: Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo	700-800 for the two East and West corridors below	1. MIKE programme 2. OFINAP / Burkina Faso 3. Ongoing LCA study		CITES LCA (Leadership for Conservation in Africa)
<b>West corridor: Nazinga-Parc de Molle</b>  Countries involved: Burkina Faso, Ghana,	700-800 for the two East and West corridors below	1. MIKE programme 2. OFINAP / Burkina Faso 3. PROGEREF / Burkina Faso 4. Ongoing LCA studies (CREMA-ZOVICS)		CITES LCA BAD/FAD
<b>Bia-Gossou-Bossemati-Djambarakrou</b>  Countries involved: Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana	150 - 200 (Ghana area)	1. Protected Areas Development Programme 2. Community Forest Biodiversity Programme		1. EC 2. FFEM, CARE Int.
<b>W-Arly-Pendjari-Réserves Est Burkina</b>  Countries involved: Burkina Faso, Benin, Niger	4500	1. MIKE programme 2. PRoCGRN / CENAGREF 3. Aerial monitoring of elephant populations in the Penjari biosphere reserve 4. Research into the role of the elephant <i>Loxodonta africana</i> in the ecosystems and rural villages in the biosphere reserves of Penjari and West of Benin and study of the elephants' impact on vegetation		1. CITES 2. HO/UFR/SVT 3. GTZ 4. EU 5. GEF/PNUD 6. Université d'Abomey 7. Calavi du Bénin 8. ECOPAS 9. EU 10. AWF

Areas	No. of elephants	Actions being implemented	Actions to be undertaken	Partners
		5. Long-term monitoring of vegetation in the Benis Pama Reserve 6. WAP programme (BF, Niger, Bénin) 7. Ecological monitoring of elephants by range finding 8. ECOPAS / CENAGREF programme 9. DLWEIP / GEF AU-IBAR project 10. Analysis of the human/elephant conflicts and capacity building for the persons involved		
<b>Tai-Grebo - National Forest</b>  Countries involved: Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia	50 -?	1. Analysis of human/elephant conflicts and the factors that determine their distribution 2. MIKE programme (elephant inventory) 3. Ecological monitoring (determination of the density and distributions of the elephants)		1. WWF 2. CITES, WCF, GTZ 3. WWF, WCF
<b>Ziama-Wenegizi</b>  Countries involved: Guinea, Liberia	200-300	1. MIKE programme 2. Project on the management of natural resources		1. CITES 2. KFW
<b>Gourma / Mali-Sahel Burkina</b>  Countries involved: Burkina Faso, Mali	500	1. Project on the conservation and evaluation of biodiversity and elephants 2. Elephant project "The future of the elephants of Gourma" 3. MIKE programme		1. FFEM, World Bank 2. Wildlife Foundation (US) 3. CITES

**Table II: Other trans-boundary areas containing elephants in West Africa**

Areas	No. elephants	Actions being implemented	Planned Actions	Partners
<p><b>Comoé-Comoe-Leraba Area</b></p> <p>Countries involved: Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire</p>				
<p><b>Region de Sikasso</b></p> <p>Countries involved: Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali</p>				
<p><b>Reserve Baba Rafi</b></p> <p>Countries involved: Niger, Nigeria</p>	80-100			
<p><b>Niokolo Badiar</b></p> <p>Countries involved: Senegal, Guinea</p>	<50	1. MIKE programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Inventory</li> <li>2. Strengthening of monitoring measures (equipment, operational means, management of the roads, adapted vehicles)</li> <li>3. Strengthening of management capacity (training, etc.)</li> <li>4. Strategic conservation plan</li> <li>5. Reintroduction - Translocation</li> </ol>	CITES
<p><b>Pinseli, Soya, Madina Oula – Outamba / Kilini</b></p> <p>Countries involved: Guinea, Sierra Leone</p>	<50 (Estimation)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information and awareness raising in river communities</li> <li>2. Inventory of the population</li> <li>3. Equipment and strengthening of management measures</li> <li>4. Monitoring, evaluation</li> </ol>	

Areas	No. elephants	Actions being implemented	Planned Actions	Partners
<b>Corubal - Dulombi</b>  Countries involved: Guinea, Guinea Bissau	10 - 40 individuals (CECI 1991)			
<b>Gola Forest</b>  Countries involved: Liberia, Sierra Leone	+/- 60			
<b>Réserve de faune de Kankau</b>  Countries involved: Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire	<50 (Estimation)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information and awareness raising in river communities</li> <li>2. Inventory of the population</li> <li>3. Equipment and strengthening of management measures</li> <li>4. Monitoring, evaluation</li> </ol>	

**Table III: National parks**

Areas	No. elephants	Actions being implemented	Planned Actions	Partners
<b>Kyabobo, Fazao-Malfakassa et Réserve de Faune d'Abdoulaye, Mont Kouffé and Wani –Maro</b>  Countries involved: Benin, Ghana, Togo	Kyabobo: unknown Fazao-Malfakassa: +60 Abdoulaye: +6 Mont Kouffé: unknown	Fazao-Malfakassa, MIKE site	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthen the management capacities of the sites with respect to ecological research</li> <li>2. Provide the managers with the necessary equipment</li> <li>3. Undertake inventories of the elephant populations</li> <li>4. Identify national and trans-boundary migration corridors</li> <li>5. Put in place a mechanism for the exchange of information between the countries concerned</li> </ol>	States CMS EU MIKE
<b>Oti-Kéran, Oti-Mandouri OKM (Togo) and the WAP complex</b>	Not known for OKM	MIKE site, Oti-Kéran	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve the framework of national governance with a view towards strengthening the OKM management system</li> <li>2. Consolidate the management of the complex</li> </ol>	State FEM/PNUD MIKE EU

			3. Develop cooperation for the sustainable management of OKM	CMS
<b>Chingurme-buguma/waza</b> Countries involved: Nigeria, Cameroon	50-100			
<b>Lake Chad Shores</b> Countries involved: Nigeria, Chad	100 - 150			
<b>Cross-River Natural Park / Takamanda Population</b> Countries involved: Nigeria, Cameroon	50-80			

**Table IV: Trans-boundary areas in West Africa containing elephants in contact with transboundary areas in Central Africa**

Areas	No. elephants	Actions being implemented	Planned Actions	Partners
Country involved: Nigeria, Cameroon				

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# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
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Accra, Ghana, 30-31 Month 2009

## CONCLUDING STATEMENT BY SIGNATORIES

1. On the instigation of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the First Meeting of Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of the African Elephant took place in the conference room of the Crystal Palm Hotel in Accra, Ghana on 30-31 March 2009.
2. The thirteen Signatory States to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) took part in the meeting, namely, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and the Secretariats of CMS and CITES, the UICN/AFESG and the IFAW.
3. The meeting was chaired by the host country Ghana and had the following objectives:
  - 3.1 Provide an update on the status of the activities carried out by each Signatory States through national reports; and
  - 3.2 The introduction of agreed measures linked to the 2009-2011 Work Programme.
4. Two opening addresses were given:
  - 4.1 An opening address by the Executive Secretary of CMS, who gave an account of the large support provided by the Range States of African Elephants that are signatories to the MoU.
  - 4.2 An opening address was provided by the representative of the Government of Ghana, Mr. Nana Kofi Adu-Nsiah, Executive Director of the Forestry Commission (Wildlife Division) of Ghana, who welcomed the delegates.
5. Following those addresses he proceeded to the adoption of the agenda which had the following aims:
  - 5.1 Adoption of the rules of procedure;
  - 5.2 Election of meeting officers;
  - 5.3 Adoption of the agenda and the Work Programme;
  - 5.4 Presentation of the Secretariat's Report;
  - 5.5 Presentation of national reports;
  - 5.6 Continuation of the implementation of the MoU and organisation of intersessional work;

- 5.7 Presentation and discussion of the terms of reference for the national contact points;
  - 5.8 Discussion of budgetary matters;
  - 5.9 Cooperation with other partners;
  - 5.10 Miscellaneous issues;
  - 5.11 Date and place of the next meeting of the Signatory States; and
  - 5.12 Closure of the meeting.
6. Following the debates cited above, the meeting arrived at the following conclusions:
- 6.1 An agreed 2009-2011 Work Programme centred around ten key objectives, namely:
    - 6.1.1 Information necessary for management
    - 6.1.2 Enhanced institutional capacity for management
    - 6.1.3 Reduction of the rate of loss of elephant habitat
    - 6.1.4 Reduction of conflict between humans and elephants
    - 6.1.5 Better understanding and effective control of the ivory trade
    - 6.1.6 Illegal killing of elephants contained
    - 6.1.7 Elephant conservation issues better understood at all levels
    - 6.1.8 Strengthening of cooperation between Range States
    - 6.1.9 Mobilisation of the necessary financial and human resources for the implementation of the Work Programme
    - 6.1.10 Implementation and evaluation of the Work Programme
  - 6.2 The presentation of national reports by the thirteen Signatory States was followed with much interest from the delegates at this meeting of the MoU;
  - 6.3 The adoption of the role assigned to the national contact points and the terms of reference concerning coordination;
  - 6.4 The updating of the list of trans-boundary sites where joint action is necessary in order to strengthen the conservation of the elephant;
  - 6.5 Support for the seeking of financial resources in order to implement the work programme, including projects concerning trans-boundary sites;
  - 6.6 The allocation of €30,000 from the CMS trust fund for the administrative management of the MoU between 2009 and 2011;
  - 6.7 The request of the Signatory States to the Executive Secretary of CMS to write to the countries concerned encouraging them to provide voluntary contributions for the MoU; and
  - 6.8 On a motion by the delegates, the Republic of Niger was appointed the host country for the next meeting of the Signatories scheduled for the end of 2011.

The meeting  
Accra, 31 March 2009

Annex: List of participants (see Annex 1 to the report)