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COOPERATION BETWEEN CMS AND CITES

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Background

1. In 2002, a Memorandum of Cooperation was concluded between the CMS and CITES Secretariats.

2. In 2005, CMS Res.8.11 stressed the importance of and need for enhanced collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions. In addition, Res.8.2 adopted the *CMS Strategic Plan* 2006-2011 (which is proposed to be extended to 2014), which has four main objectives:

- a) To ensure that the conservation and management of migratory species are based on the best available information;
- b) To ensure that migratory species benefit from the best possible conservation measures;
- c) To broaden awareness and enhance engagement in the conservation of migratory species amongst key actors; and
- d) To reinforce CMS's overarching and unifying role in the conservation and management of migratory species.

3. In 2007, CITES adopted the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013* in Resolution Conf. 14.2, which stipulated that: "Parties and the Secretariat [should] cooperate with other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources, as appropriate, in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited."

4. In July 2008, the joint CITES/CMS Action Plan for 2008–2010 (and later extended to 2011^{10} was approved by the 57th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee. In November 2008, the 34th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee also approved the joint Action Plan (document UNEP/CMS/StC34/3).

In March 2011, at its 59th meeting, the CITES Standing Committee endorsed the joint proposal from the CITES and CMS Secretariats to extend the 2008-2010 plan of joint activities until the end of 2011.



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5. In December 2008, CMS Res.9.6 reaffirmed the interest and importance for CMS of continuing to develop effective and practical cooperation with other biodiversity instruments. In Res.9.6, the Parties recognized that the preferred instruments for such cooperation are renewable joint work plans with agreed and attainable targets included in a clear timetable, and the necessity to report on progress and to assess effectiveness of results regularly.

Joint activities undertaken since 2008

6. In 2009, France made a significant financial contribution to CITES to enable the Secretariat to hire a joint consultant to promote synergy with CMS and to continue the work that CMS had, up to that time, financed from its own resources. For its part, CMS received funding from donors in order to undertake relevant activities to advance that cooperation. The CITES and CMS Secretariats wish to take this opportunity to thank the Governments of France and Monaco and the other donors for their generous support.

7. The joint activities undertaken between 2008 and 2011 are described in detail in **Annex 1** to the present document.

Joint activities planned for the period 2012-2014

8. In August 2011 the 61st meeting of the CITES Standing Committee considered a draft CITES/CMS joint action plan for the period 2012-2014. Their comments made at the meeting have been taken into account; for example, some Parties urged both secretariats to consider involvement with gorillas, snow leopard, marine turtles and dugongs, and another Party sought mention of the African Elephant Action Plan. CITES Parties were requested to provide any further comments on this draft plan by 31 October 2011, after the date of the finalization of this present report. Accordingly, an oral briefing will be provided to the 38th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee, about any subsequent comments received on the draft plan.

9. The revised draft joint work plan for 2012-2014 is attached in **Annex 2**. It takes account of the CMS Strategic Plan 2006-2011 (proposed to be extended to 2014), the CITES Strategic Vision for 2008-2013 and importantly is set within the over-arching framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Its structure has been simplified since it was presented to the CITES Standing Committee.

10. Many of the activities will not incur significant extra cost, but for those that do, the secretariats will continue to seek external funding. In addition, carrying out activities jointly should make it possible to optimize the utilization of the funds secured.

11. The CMS and CITES Secretariats will submit regular reports on their activities to their respective Standing Committees and, if appropriate, to other stakeholders, including the other biodiversity-related conventions.

12. The 62nd meeting of the CITES Standing Committee in 2012 will be invited to approve the joint work plan for 2012-2014. If the document is approved by the two Standing Committees, the two secretariats will move forward with its implementation. Until then, the activities listed for 2008-2011 which are not yet completed will continue to be pursued.

Action requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a. review the activities carried out between 2008-2011 in Annex 1; and
- b. approve the draft joint work plan for 2012-2014 in Annex 2.

CITES/CMS LIST OF JOINT ACTIVITIES 2008-2011 STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION (AUGUST 2011)

Activities	Indicative list of common tasks	Comments	Summary of activities undertaken
Harmonization of taxonomy and nomenclature	 Finalize an updated concordance list of species in the Appendices of the two Conventions. Identify differences in nomenclature/taxonomy in the respective Appendices. Strive to eliminate these through the scientific subsidiary bodies and CoPs. Establish a common database for species covered by the two Conventions. 	 1-4. This will facilitate the practical cooperation between the Conventions and assist the understanding of our shared activities by partner organizations, other stakeholders and the general public. 4. UNEP-WCMC would appear a natural partner in such an exercise. 	 1-4. Comparison made of the lists. Joint presentation of the work involved in advancing the harmonization of the taxonomy and nomenclature in the species lists used by CITES and CMS, at the second meeting of the Chairs of the scientific advisory bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions (CSAB) (25 May 2008, Bonn). Support by the CSAB. Preparation and review of document UNEP/CMS/ScC/Doc. 8 on harmonization of taxonomy and nomenclature at the 15th meeting of the CMS Scientific Council (Rome, November 2008). Adoption of recommendation UNEP/CMS/9.4/Rev.1; review of this document by the CITES Animals Committee. The harmonization proposed mainly concerns: a) The new reference adopted by the CMS Scientific Council relating to marine mammals; this reference was subsequently adopted at CITES CoP15 in its list of standard references [Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP15)]; b) A proposal regarding harmonization of taxonomy and nomenclature for birds will be discussed at the 17th meeting of the CMS Scientific Council and reported on to CMS CoP10 in November 2011; c) The benefit there would be in creating a nomenclature and taxonomy committee under the guidance of the CSAB. (The progress made in harmonization of the nomenclature for mammals is described in CITES document CoP15 Doc. 12).

the conservation concordance list and focusing cost-effectiveness, joint actions on	3. <u>African elephant</u> : Presentation of CMS activities relating to elephants to the national focal points of the CITES MIKE programme
 use of shared species. (Saiga spp.), snow leopard (Uncia uncia); west and central African populations of the African elephant (Loxodonta atricana); marine turtles of the Atlantic coast of Africa, the Indian Ocean, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Ocean; whale shark (Rhincodon typus) of South and Southeast Asia; great white shark (Carcharodon carcharias) and sturgeons (Acipenseriformes), identify regional stakeholders and relevant national, regional agencies or NGOs that could collaborate in or support regional programmes on joint management aims and activities. Working with these stakeholders, develop joint programmes for the conservation and/or sustainable use of these species. Each Secretariat taking the lead where appropriate with CITES focusing on sustainable use and CMS on restoration of species. Establish joint 	 (Mombasa, June 2008). Organization of a first joint meeting, in Accra, Ghana, on 1 April 2009, of the national focal points of the CMS MoU and the steering committee of the MIKE programme for West Africa. Adoption of a joint declaration concerning the preparation of 12 trans-boundary projects and of a summary of the trans-boundary range areas of elephants in West Africa. Preliminary development of the 12 project summary sheets. Participation of CMS in the annual meeting of MIKE national focal points for Central Africa, (Brazzaville, 5-6 October 2010) in order to inform them about the regional trans-boundary activity undertaken in West Africa. Organization of the second joint meeting in Niamey (Niger) on 23 June 2011 of the national focal points of the CMS MoU and the steering committee of the MIKE programme for West Africa. Further bilateral work on the 12 trans- boundary projectswhich had been adopted in Accra, and adoption of a joint declaration on the process for finalization of the projects, their implementation and their funding. 3 <u>Sharks</u>: participation of CITES in the third meeting on the drafting of a memorandum of understanding concerning migratory sharks (Manila, Philippines, February 2010). Participation by CMS in the FAO/CITES workshop to review the application and effectiveness of international regulatory measures for the conservation and sustainable use of elasmobranchs (Genazzano, Italy,19-23 July 2010).

Activities	Indicative list of common tasks	Comments	Summary of activities undertaken
	 these activities. 3. Together, identify indicators for these shared species, which demonstrate the effectiveness of the programmes, fit with existing Convention indicators and monitor progress towards the 2020 target. 4. Identify relevant decisions proposed or taken by the governing bodies of CITES and CMS in order to encourage Parties to ensure policy coherence across the two Conventions and coherent implementation of the Conventions at national level. 	 dogfish shark (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>). The species shared with CITES are the great white shark, the basking shark and the whale shark. Paragraph 6 of the MoU calls for cooperation to be developed with all stakeholders, including CITES. <u>Saiga antelope</u>: These two meetings organized one after the other demonstrated the need for joint CITES/CMS work to follow up on: the action plan and the implementation of community management of resources; restricting poaching; and the needs of traditional medicine as well as coordinated fund-raising with a shared intention to study possible cooperation activities with the Chinese traditional medicine industry (<i>Workshop on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Saiga Antelope</i>, Urumqi, China, 27-29 September 2010). 	1-3. <u>Saiga antelope</u> : CITES CoP15 was the occasion of a bilateral meeting at which the idea was initiated of jointly organizing two meetings, one dealing with the second meeting of the signatories to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (<i>Saiga tatarica tatarica</i>) (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 7-10 September 2010), the other organized by CITES and relating to a workshop on the conservation and sustainable use of the saiga antelope (Urumqi, China, 27-29 September 2010). A further informal bilateral CMS/CITES meeting took place during AC25 (18-22 July 2011, Geneva, Switzerland) about matters of common interest.
		<u>Saker falcon:</u> <u>Gorillas</u> :	 1-3. <u>Saker falcon</u>: Participation of the CITES Secretariat in the meeting organized by CMS on the Saker falcon (<i>Falco cherrug</i>) (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, April 2009). 1-3. <u>Gorillas</u>: Participation of the CITES Secretariat in the first meeting of the Technical Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and their Habitats organized by the CMS Secretariat (Kigali, Rwanda, 29-30 March 2011). As this meeting focused on law enforcement issues, the presence of the CITES Enforcement Officer was extremely beneficial.

Activities	Indicative list of common tasks	Comments	Summary of activities undertaken
			4. Relevant decisions proposed or taken by the governing bodies of CITES and CMS were identified and considered in work planning.
Administrative and fund-raising cooperation	 Undertake annual meetings of Secretariats to review the MoU, work plan and matters of mutual interest. 	1-2. Represents a formalization of tasks which already occur on a more informal and <i>ad hoc</i> basis.	 Four meetings of CMS and CITES were held in Geneva, Bonn or by teleconference (February and August 2009, and March and August 2011) about the implementation of joint activities and distribution of tasks.
	 Exchange experience with using and ideas for expanding the Knowledge Management portal for biodiversity-related MEAs (www.inforMEA.org), calendars of meetings, meeting invitations, lists of administrative and scientific focal points in Parties, draft documents in advance of Convention meetings including strategic plans, details of procedural and administrative developments and guidelines whose joint adoption might be mutually supportive. Promote joint fund-raising for projects on shared species. 		 2-3. CITES provided technical support (such as document management) for CMS CoP10 (November 2011). 2-3. Funds have been obtained for CITES to hire a consultant and by CMS to develop projects related to the list of joint activities.
Outreach and capacity building	Explore possibilities for coordinated outreach and capacity building activities and representation of one Convention Secretariat by another at events of mutual interest to save participation costs and promote synergy.		December 2008: Participation of the CITES Secretariat in CMS CoP9 (Rome, Italy) and a reminder in plenary to the national focal points of the decisions taken on listing sharks in the CITES Appendices.February 2009: Representation of the CMS Secretariat by the CITES Secretariat at the technical meeting of the United Nations Environmental Management Group (EMG) (Nairobi, 14- 15 February 2009) on the basis of a position paper provided to

Activities	Indicative list of common tasks	Comments	Summary of activities undertaken
Activities	Indicative list of common tasks	Comments	the CITES representative. <u>March 2009</u> : In Accra (Ghana), participation of CITES in the first meeting of the signatories to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of the African Elephant and, on 2 April, participation of CMS in the steering committee of the system for Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) for West Africa. <u>March 2010</u> : Participation of CMS in CITES CoP15 (including the discussion on sharks) and organization of two joint CMS/CITES side events, one on the cooperation already in place, the other on the state of progress of the implementation of the Accra Declaration on trans-boundary projects relating to elephants in West Africa. <u>June 2010</u> : Participation of CITES in the 16th meeting of the CMS Scientific Council. <u>September 2010 and Sept 2011</u> : Joint CMS/CITES participation in these two high-level retreats involving the Secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions (BLG) (Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland, September 2010 and September 2011). Joint preparation in advance of the latter retreat in terms of the
			biodiversity-related conventions (BLG) (Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland, September 2010 and September 2011). Joint
		At Nagoya, the CBD adopted a 2011- 2020 strategic plan for biological diversity which concerns all of the biodiversity-related conventions. The latter should work together towards the implementation of the plan, in particular by means of <i>ad hoc</i> coordination meetings.	October 2010: Participation of the two Conventions in the CBD CoP10 (Nagoya, Japan, 18-29 October 2010) and joint inputs to decision UNEP/CBD/COP10/DEC.X/20 on cooperation with other organizations and initiatives. A joint statement on behalf of CMS and other biodiversity-related conventions was made by CITES to the High Level Segment of CBD CoP10.

Activities	Indicative list of common tasks	Comments	Summary of activities undertaken
			<u>March 2011</u> : Representation of the CMS Secretariat by the CITES Secretariat at the CBD-led workshop on updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans (Kasane, Botswana).
			June 2011: In Niamey (Niger), participation of CITES in the second meeting of the signatories to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of the African Elephant. On 24 June, participation of CMS in the steering committee of the system for Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) for West Africa.

DRAFT CMS CITES JOINT WORK PROGRAMME 2012-2014

Background: The CMS CITES Joint Work Programme 2012–2014 comprises a non-exhaustive list of joint activities. It gives priority to previously agreed priority species and issues, but also other species suitable for joint thematic work, such as the conservation and sustainable use of species in a context of community management of natural resources, traditional medicine and the consumption of bushmeat. The activities are organized around four main themes:

- (A) Harmonization;
- (B) Joint activities for shared species;
- (C) Administration and fund-raising;
- (D) Outreach and capacity building.

The secretariats will cooperate in seeking opportunities for the development and funding where applicable of joint projects of mutual interest.

(A) Harmonization of taxonomy and nomenclature activities

Joint activities in this area relate to updating the concordance list of species in the Appendices of the two Conventions (CMS and CITES) and establishing a common database, and taking steps to eliminate differences in nomenclature and taxonomy in the Appendices of the two Conventions.

Description of envisaged joint activities	Timeframe
Concordance List of Species and Common Database	
A1. On-going update of the concordance list of species in the Appendices of the two Conventions.	2012
A2. Work with UNEP-WCMC on establishing a single database accessible from the two websites, taking into account the respective requirements of the two Conventions, regardless of whether the species are shared or not.	2012
Harmonize Nomenclature and Taxonomy	
A3. Pursue efforts to harmonize the nomenclature and taxonomy in the Appendices of the two Conventions. Consider in particular the harmonization of the CITES and CMS references relating to marine turtles.	2012
A4. Prepare a critical assessment of the differences in the criteria for inclusion of shared species and the reasons for which they are listed in the Appendices of the two Conventions.	2012-13
A5. Raise the possibility of creating a nomenclature and taxonomy committee under the guidance of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions (CSAB), taking into account any work carried out in the future by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).	2012
A6. Critically assess the taxonomic differences between the final joint CMS-CITES species list and the IUCN Red List, and make recommendations for reconciling these.	2012-13

(B) Joint actions for the conservation and sustainable use of shared species

Joint activities in this area relate to promoting actions for the conservation and sustainable use of shared species, with a focus on:

- West and Central African populations of the African elephant (Loxadonta africana);
- Sharks, particularly, whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) of South and Southeast Asia, great white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*) and basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*);
- Saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.);
- Marine turtles of the Atlantic coast of Africa, the Indian Ocean, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Ocean (Cheloniidae and Dermochelyidae);
- Snow leopard (Uncia uncia);
- Sturgeons (Acipenseriformes);
- Gorillas (Gorilla spp.);
- Dugongs (*Dugong dugon*); and
- Tigers (*Panthera tigris*).

Other shared species may be added to this list if joint work proves to be necessary to ensure their conservation and meeting the strategic objectives of the two Conventions; for example argali sheep (*Ovis ammon*) and saker falcon (*Falco cherrug*) if listed on CMS Appendix II by CMS COP10.

Joint work will include identifying regional stakeholders, including national agencies and NGOs, which could collaborate with or support regional programmes on joint management aims and activities. Working with these stakeholders, the secretariats will develop joint programmes for the conservation and/or sustainable use of these species. Each secretariat will take the lead where appropriate with CITES focusing on sustainable use and CMS on recovery of species. Joint working groups may be established to guide and oversee the implementation of these activities. Together, the secretariats will identify indicators for species activities, which demonstrate the effectiveness of the programmes.

The secretariats will also respond to any recommendations and resolutions, pertaining to joint CITES/CMS work, adopted during any relevant meetings.

Description of envisaged joint activities	Timeframe
African elephant	
 B1. Follow up on the outcomes of the second joint meeting of the parties to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the West African elephant (CMS MoU) and the CITES Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme for West Africa, held on 22 June 2011, by: Assisting countries to progress transboundary projects benefitting elephants in West Africa; Providing support to secure funding for these projects; Following-up on the implementation of the projects, and submitting progress reports on these projects to the Standing Committees by 	2012-2014
 Pollowing-up on the implementation of the projects, and submitting progress reports on these projects to the standing Committees by December 2014; Organize at least one further joint meeting between the CMS MoU and MIKE by December 2014 (subject to external funding). 	
B2. Maximize the synergies between the CMS MoU and MIKE in West Africa.	On-going
B3. Ensure synergies with the African Elephant Action Plan.	On-going
B4. Continue to seek further options for collaboration in West Africa to improve coherence between the two Conventions, particularly in areas	On-going

Description of envisaged joint activities	Timeframe
such as elephant management, management of human-elephant conflicts, illegal trade in specimens and capacity-building.	
B5. Follow up on any decisions adopted at CMS CoP10 regarding the feasibility of a CMS instrument for Central African Elephants. This will be informed by the results of a study entitled "Analyzing gaps and options for enhancing elephant conservation in Central Africa". The decision could lead to closer collaboration between CMS and the CITES MIKE programme in the region (subject to external funding).	Will depend on decisions adopted at CMS CoP10
Sharks	
B6. CITES will participate in finalizing the Conservation Management Plan that will be annexed to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (CMS Sharks MOU).	2012
B7. CITES will participate in the first meeting of the signatories to the Sharks MOU (MOS1).	2012-2013
B8. CMS/CITES Secretariats to organize trilateral meetings with FAO in order to optimize the implementation of the Conservation Management Plan and to enable the organizations to test, in their respective fields, its application to the three species currently shared between the two instruments and FAO, namely, the whale shark, white shark and basking shark (subject to external funding).	2013
B9. CMS and CITES will use the CMS Sharks MOU meeting to further discussions on turtles and other shared marine species.	2012
Saiga antelope	
B10.CMS and CITES will collaborate to identify a host country, and jointly fundraise for the third meeting of the signatories of the Saiga MoU to be held in 2014/2015, incuding for expert participation at the meeting (subject to external funding).	2014
B11. The CITES Secretariat will participate in the implementation of the Medium-Term International Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope (2011-2015) and in particular in the implementation of measures pertaining to transboundary anti-poaching and law enforcement activities, and the sustainable use of and trade in the saiga antelope. CMS and CITES will investigate the possibility of making use of the techniques used in the CITES MIKE programme on monitoring poaching.	On-going
B12.CITES will explore, as per CITES decision 14.97 (Rev. CoP15), possibilities to establish a mechanism to use funds from the traditional Asian medicine industry for <i>in situ</i> conservation of the saiga antelope. The aim being that consumer countries will contribute to improving the conservation status of the saiga. For example, follow up on the priorities for population-specific action that were proposed by the Urumqi workshop on the conservation and sustainable use of the saiga antelope (27-29 September 2010).	On-going
Marine turtles	
B13.CITES and CMS will explore the possibility of organizing a meeting of the secretariats of conventions and other governmental bodies (FAO, RFMOs) dealing with marine turtles, in order to make an overall assessment of the obligations of each one towards their contracting Parties, to compare experiences and improve efficiency through cooperation and synergy (subject to external funding).	2013

Description of envisaged joint activities	Timeframe
Snow leopard	
B14. CITES and CMS will consult the IUCN Cat Specialist Group in order to assess how the two Conventions can contribute to improving the situation of this species.	2012
B15.CMS and CITES will investigate options for their attendance at the Snow Leopard Summit in Kyrgyzstan, currently planned for 2012, to be hosted by the President of Kyrgyzstan, with the assistance of the German NGO Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.	2012
Gorillas	
B16.CMS and CITES will cooperate on enforcement issues relating to gorillas. CITES is a partner in the International Consortium for Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) a cooperation of CITES, INTERPOL, World Bank and the World Customs Organisation which will seek relevant gorilla-specific information from CMS for the ICCWC workplan.	On-going
B17. CMS will discuss with CITES and INTERPOL the implementation of the database collecting and consolidating information on wildlife crime globally. Investigate making the database available for the use of focal points and the technical committee of the CMS Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and Their Habitats.	2012
Other species	
B18.For other species, such as certain falcons and sturgeons, the South American fur seal, the dugong, vicugna, and tiger: continue discussions in order to assess how CMS and CITES could best add value to the conservation status of the species, through for example: community management of resources, non-detrimental trade and sustainable use, and monitoring emerging threats such as climate change.	2012 – 14

(C) Administrative and fund-raising cooperation

Joint activities in this area relate to coordinating and updating this work programme and matters of mutual interest, such as by exchanging experience and information, and promoting joint fund-raising for proposed joint activities.

Description of envisaged joint activities	Timeframe
Secretariat coordination meetings	
C1. An annual secretariat coordination meeting, and regular teleconference calls as required, will be held to update this Joint Work Programme and for continued cooperation and organization of joint activities.	Annual and as-required

Exchange information C2. Information exchange, such as: • Calendars of meetings; • Meeting invitations; • Lists of administrative and scientific focal points in Parties; • Pertinent draft documents in advance of Convention meetings, including strategic plans; • Details of procedural and administrative developments; and • Guidelines whose joint adoption is mutually supportive.	On-going
Fundraising C3. Raise funds for joint projects already planned and those that will be proposed during the term of this Joint Work Programme.	On-going

(D) Outreach and capacity building activities (strengthening existing cooperation between secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions)

Joint activities in this area relate to such activities as representation of one secretariat by the other at events of mutual interest to save participation costs and promote synergy, jointly undertaking activities on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and following up on work undertaken by inter-agency liaison groups.

Description of envisaged joint activities	Timeframe
D1. Investigate possibilities for coordinated outreach and capacity building activities and representation of one secretariat by the other at events of mutual interest to reduce costs and promote synergies. This may include joint presentations and/or joint statements.	On-going
A good example of this would be joint participation in relevant regional capacity building workshops on updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and thereby also helping to facilitate national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the development of national biodiversity targets in the framework of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.	
 D2. Jointly attend, or represent the other secretariat, at meetings of interagency groups including those listed below, collaborate with follow-up to such meetings and actions as required, and encourage such groups to assist in the implementation of CMS and CITES: Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG); Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) processes; Environment Management Group (EMG) and the Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (IMG4); 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. 	On-going

D3. Share experience about the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA).			On-going		
D4. Possib	D4. Possibilities for other joint activities so far include the following:				
2012:	March: May: June: June: July: September: October: Late in the year	 26th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee. 16th session of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the CBD. United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) (Rio + 20). 11th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the RAMSAR Convention. 62nd meeting of the CITES Standing Committee. 6th IUCN World Conservation Congress. 1st meeting of the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force. CMS 40th Standing Committee . 			
2013:	March:	16 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES.			
2014:	April: July: During 2014:	27 th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee. 65 th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee. Preparations for the first IUCN-led World Congress on Species.			