

THIRD MEETING OF SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS OF PREY IN AFRICA AND EURASIA

(Dubai, 3-6 July 2023)

UNEP/CMS/RAPTORS/MOS3/Doc.15.3(Rev.1)

TAG WORKPLAN 2023-2026

(Prepared by the Technical Advisory Group)

Summary: This document presents the TAG Workplan 2023-2026, explaining the sources of the different actions that the Workplan brings together. The Meeting is invited to adopt the document.

1. From the Second Meeting of Signatories (MOS2, Trondheim, October 2015) until the present meeting, the work of the Technical Advisory Group to the Raptors MOU (TAG) was guided by the TAG Workplan 2016-2020 (see Annex A to document [UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG4/Doc.6.1](#) [only available in English]).
2. At the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG5, Online, December 2022), the Coordinating Unit presented a proposal for a follow-up workplan, i.e. a TAG Workplan 2023-2026 (see document [UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG5/Doc.2](#) [only available in English]). TAG members discussed the proposal at the meeting, agreeing to the Coordinating Unit implementing certain modifications to it and circulating a revised version of the document for the Group's approval after the meeting (see document [UNEP/CMS/RAPTORS/TAG5/Report](#) [only available in English]).
3. The TAG Workplan 2023-2026 version approved by the TAG following TAG5 is presented in Annex 1 below. The document compiles the actions relevant to the TAG that are foreseen in the following documents:
 - (a) Unimplemented actions listed in the TAG Workplan 2016-2020 that are still considered relevant;
 - (b) Terms of Reference of the TAG;
 - (c) Rules of Procedure for Meetings of Signatories to the Raptors MOU, as adopted at MOS2 (see Annex I to document [UNEP/CMS/Raptors/MOS2/Report](#));
 - (d) Actions agreed at the Fourth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group to the Raptors MOU (TAG4, Online, December 2021; see document [UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG4/Report](#)); and
 - (e) Activities contained in Table 2 of the Raptors MOU Action Plan, as refined and updated following TAG4 (see paragraph 388 of document [UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG4/Report](#)).

Action requested

4. The Meeting is invited to:
 - (a) Adopt the TAG Workplan 2023-2026 contained in Annex 1 to the present document, which has been approved by the TAG;
 - (b) Request that the Coordinating Unit ensure the necessary updating of the column "mandate" of the Workplan, so that it aligns with the outcomes adopted at the present meeting; and
 - (c) Invite the TAG to identify suitable "leads" and "contributors" for implementing each action of the Workplan at its earliest convenience.

ANNEX 1

TAG Workplan 2023-2026

Mandate ¹	Action	Expected Output	Lead (L) & Contributor (C)	Priority Level	Funding Required (USD)
▪ TOR 4(b) ▪ ROP 16(2)	1. Ensure changes in taxonomy and/or conservation status and knowledge of movement of migratory raptors are reflected in the Raptors MOU lists.	Amendments to Annexes 1, 2 and 3 (Table 1 and Table 3) proposed to MOS.	L: C:	Core activity	~30,000
▪ ROP 16.3(c)	2. Review proposals submitted to MOS for the inclusion of species in Annex 1 of the MOU.	Written comments on each proposal tabled by Signatories.	L: C:	Core activity	~4,000
▪ ROP 16.3(c)	3. Review proposals submitted to MOS for the inclusion of sites in Table 3 of the MOU's Action Plan.	Written comments on each proposal tabled by Signatories.	L: C:	Core activity	~7,000
▪ TOR 4(a)	4. Contribute scientific and technical advice on matters brought to the attention of the TAG by Signatories and relating to the following: conservation and management activities and promulgation of guidance; and capacity-building to develop guidance, good practice, and other activities.	To be determined (TBD) based on Signatories' requests.	L: C:	Core activity	TBD
▪ TOR 4(d)	5. Report to MOS on TAG activities.	Report to MOS submitted by the deadline.	L: C:	Core activity	-
▪ Table 2 Act. (5.1), 7	6. Contribute technical expertise on raptors to the work of the CMS Task Forces.	TAG advice provided to Lead and MIKT Task Forces.	L: C:	Core activity	-
		Outputs of CMS Task Force meetings shared with Signatories.	L: C:	Core activity	-
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 5.1	7. Contribute to the CMS Energy Task Force and ensure that the potential impact on raptors of energy production and distribution infrastructure is properly addressed.	TAG input into ETF documents, as required.	L: C:	Core activity	-
▪ TOR 4(b) ▪ Table 2 Act. 1.1	8. Monitor consistency between the IUCN Red List status, Table 1 Category, and CMS Appendix listing of species.	List of species eligible for inclusion in CMS Appendix I or II.	L: C:	Very high	~1,500

¹ **TOR** = Terms of Reference of the TAG; **ROP** = Rules of Procedure for Meetings of Signatories to the Raptors MOU; **Table 2** = Table 2 of the Raptors MOU Action Plan.

▪ TOR 4(b)	9. Clarify the criteria for inclusion of a species in Category 2 of Table 1 of the MOU's Action Plan.	Discussion paper to lead the TAG discussion aimed at clarifying what should be considered as a "regional assessment".	L: C:	Very high	~5,000
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 1.2 ▪ Table 2 Act. 1.2, 1.3	10. Support assessments of whether national legislation appropriately protects birds of prey.	Support the clarification of the definition of legal protection. Support the identification of the right format for legislative guidance for Signatories. Support the review of national species protection legislation (indicator).	L: all TAG C: all TAG	High	TBD
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 3.1	11. Support the assessment of the distribution, conservation, and protection status of habitats important for migratory raptors.	Inputs into the "Assessment of the State of principal birds' habitats" project.	L: C:	High	TBD
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2	12. Provide guidance on the Migratory Raptor Safe Zones approach to Signatories.	Guidance document on Migratory Raptor Safe Zones.	L: C: André Botha	Low	-
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2	13. Identify information gaps on key breeding areas, stopovers, refuelling, bottleneck, and other congregational and non-breeding sites along raptor flyways.	Site Network Analysis covering all relevant Annex I spp. (taking into consideration satellite tracking data).	L: C:	Very high	~60,000
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2	14. Produce guidance on effective habitat and site protection.	Guidance on assessing the effectiveness of legal protection of sites and habitat (indicator).	L: C:	Medium	TBD
▪ TOR 4(b) ▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2, 6.1	15. Assess the protection status of the sites listed in the Action Plan's Table 3 and their effectiveness in conserving migratory raptors.	Contribute to the Conservation Status Assessment Report to MOS4 an overview regarding protection of sites of international importance for raptors and a measure of their effectiveness.	L: C:	Very high	~9,000, depending on data sources used
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 4	16. Assess and provide recommendations on the value of new technologies, including satellite tracking, to: assess mortality; and identify mortality causes,	Collate information on the value of satellite tagging and the use of drones.	L: C:	High	TBD

	important sites, distribution range, and migration pathways.	Information on mortality included periodically (i.e., when new significant information becomes available) in the Conservation Status Assessment Report.	L: C:	Very High	~5,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR 4(a) Table 2 Act. 4.1 	17. Provide guidance on national threat assessment methodologies.	Guidance on how to assess threats at the national level (indicator).	L: C:	Medium	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR 4(a) Table 2 Act. 4.1 	18. Study the impact on raptors of locust and Quelea control programmes.	Information material on locust and/or Quelea control programmes. Collaborate with FAO to promote access to data that may be used for impact assessments.	L: C:	High	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR 4(a) Table 2 Act. 4.1 	19. Collate and disseminate information on the extent of climate change's impacts on raptors, their habitats and prey.	Information material on the impact of climate change on raptors, their habitat, and prey. Consider JNCC's work on climate change and migration, as well as the outcomes of the workshop on "Bird Migration and Climate Change" organized by Navarra Environmental Management on 31 March 2022, and any work being undertaken by CMS on climate change.	L: Matyas Prommer C:	Very high	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR 4(a) Table 2 Act. 6.2 	20. Support the development of guidance on national monitoring of raptors.	Support the review of existing national monitoring protocols and programmes (indicator) with a focus on Asia.	L: C:	High	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR 4(a) Table 2 Act. 4.1, 6.1 	21. Monitor the conservation status of migratory raptors listed in Annex 1.	Conservation Status Assessment Report at each MOS.	L: C:	Very high	~18,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR 4(b) 	22. Collate best-practice guidance on the use of satellite tags and drones for monitoring raptors.	Guidance material on the field use of satellite tracking and other technologies for raptor conservation.	L: C:	High	TBD

▪ Table 2 Act. 6.3	23. Provide guidance and share information on how to identify conservation-related research needs.	Review of existing relevant research priority frameworks and platforms (indicator).	L: C:	Low	TBD
▪ TOR 4(a)	24. Advise on matters pertaining to raptor conservation, including in response to the climate-biodiversity crisis.	Horizon scanning paper.	L: C:	High	~15,000
▪ TOR 4(b)	25. Collate and disseminate guidelines on raptor reintroduction programmes and promote their application.	Consider any relevant work already published by IUCN and Cambridge Press.	L: C:	High	-
▪ Table 2 Act. 7.1	26. Contribute to monitoring of awareness-raising activities related to raptors' migration and threats.	Develop a raptor-specific sub-indicator for the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership Biodiversity Barometer (indicator).	L: C:	Low	TBD
▪ Table 2 Act. 7.2	27. Contribute to monitoring of awareness-raising activities at bottleneck sites for raptors' migration.	Support development of TORs for surveys on awareness-raising activities (indicator).	L: C:	Low	-
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 6.2, 7.2, 8.1, 8.2	28. Contribute advice to the development of an East African-Eurasian Flyway bottleneck monitoring project.	Advise on rationale and draft concept for monitoring and building capacity and awareness along the Flyway.	L: C:	High	-
▪ TOR 4(a) ▪ Table 2 Act. 9.1	29. Develop mechanisms for sharing data on raptors that can contribute to the MOU's objectives.	Guidance on good practice on data sharing that takes into account any synergies with BirdLife's work.	L: C:	Medium	TBD