



Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia

Distribution: General
UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG3/Doc.3.1

12 November 2018

Third Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group | *Sempach, Switzerland, 12-14 December 2018*

REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF TAG

Prepared by Coordinating Unit of the Raptors MOU

Here follows a summary of the progress made on the ten Actions that emerged from the second meeting of TAG, held in Abu Dhabi, UAE in March 2015. The assessment of the status of these tasks was completed on 1 November 2018.

Action TAG2-1: TAG could consider undertaking a review and assessment of modern technologies used for birds of prey with a view to developing guidance on selection, risks and benefits and including examples of good practice.

- **Ongoing** – Earlier in 2018, the Vulture Conservation Foundation commissioned a review of the impacts of satellite tagging on vultures. Further discussions on this topic are planned to be conducted at the third meeting of TAG, scheduled to be held in December 2018.

Action TAG2-2: TAG could develop a pro forma for Signatories to use to nominate species to be considered for inclusion in the Raptors MOU or to change the Category in which it was currently listed.

- **Completed** – Subsequent consideration by the Coordinating Unit concluded that a pro forma is unnecessary. Since TAG2, one Signatory has nominated a species to be considered for inclusion in Annex 1 to the Raptors MoU and the process was readily and effectively managed by means of a straightforward exchange of emails. The process to allocate the species listed on Annex 1 into one of the three Categories identified in the Raptors MoU is driven by the IUCN threat status allocated to it, so developing a pro forma is not considered necessary to challenge this policy, which is enshrined in the text of the MoU.

Action TAG2-3: TAG to prepare a summary of emerging issues for presentation at MOS2.

- **Ongoing** – TAG had no capacity to assess emerging issues in advance of MOS2. However, a Horizon Scanning paper is under preparation for TAG3 and a slot has been allocated in the Agenda to discuss this topic.

Action TAG2-4: Coordinating Unit to consider approaching those agencies funding major development projects to alert them to conservation concern, particularly related to birds of prey.

- **Ongoing** – Some progress, particularly by engaging with development funding agencies via the CMS-led Energy Task Force (e.g. Power Africa – USID and the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development). In addition, at the Global Flyways Summit, convened by BirdLife International, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE) in April 2018, the Government of UAE announced USD 1 million funding for a project to Prevent Raptor Electrocution. It is anticipated that a major component of this initiative may include hosting a gathering of representatives of international development funding agencies, probably in late 2019.

Action TAG2-5: Consideration be given to inviting someone with expertise in the social sciences to contribute to the work of TAG.

- **Ongoing** – Still under consideration. The Coordinating Unit would welcome nominations of any suitably qualified individuals.

Action TAG2-6: TAG to compile a list of salient points relating to the licensing and use of diclofenac in Europe for transmission to the CMS Executive Secretary requesting that he write a letter to the European Commission.

- **Completed** - A letter was sent to the European Commission by the CMS Secretariat in September 2015.

Action TAG2-7: Consideration be given to comparing the species list of the MOU with that of the parent CMS Convention, probably during the period between MOS2 and MOS3.

- **Ongoing** – This task was not included in the original Small Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) established with BirdLife International in October 2016. However, it is anticipated that this relatively modest piece of work can be included in a future SSFA planned to be negotiated to cover the period between TAG3 and the forthcoming Third Meeting of Signatories (date not yet fixed). The task will need to take account of the imminent results anticipated from work commissioned by the CMS Secretariat for Dr Stephen Garnett to review all species of birds against the CMS definition of a 'migratory species'.

Action TAG2-8: Consideration should be given to further developing the idea of a 'Year of the Vulture' initiative, alongside other partners such as the IUCN Vulture Specialist Group, The Peregrine Fund, Endangered Wildlife Trust (South Africa), etc.

- **Ongoing** – This idea is included with a range of initiatives being considered as part of the development of a Strategic Implementation Plan for the Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP). A Report from the Vulture MsAP Coordination Team is included on the Agenda of the TAG3 meeting.

Action TAG2-9: Coordinating Unit to prepare an illustrated news article about TAG2 for publication on the Raptors MOU website.

- **Completed** – A [webstory](#) and a [Report](#) of the TAG2 meeting were published online in April 2015.

Action TAG2-10: Coordinating Unit to consider developing an online data source of raptor-related organisations which could promote international communication, cooperation and collaboration.

- **Ongoing** – No progress due to lack of capacity, but still considered worthy of implementation.