



# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

*Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme*



## 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee

*Bonn, Germany, 14 - 15 October 2015*

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### COOPERATION BETWEEN CMS AND CBD

#### Summary

This document consists of a cover note and two Annexes: joint activities carried out between 2012-2015 in Annex 1 and the Joint Work Plan (JWP) for 2016-2018 for the CMS and CBD Secretariats in Annex 2.

The latter identifies activities that contribute to the attainment of both the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Migratory Species Targets.

The JWP 2016-2018 is submitted to the Standing Committee for its endorsement.

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## COOPERATION BETWEEN CMS AND CBD

### Background

1. In 1996, a Memorandum of Cooperation was concluded between the Secretariats of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which continues to govern our cooperation to date.
2. In 2005, CMS Resolution 8.11 stressed the importance of and need for enhanced collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions. To this end, a joint CBD-CMS Joint Work Programme 2006-2008 was submitted to and adopted by the Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP 8) through Resolution 8.18.
3. Although no standalone joint work programme was formalized for the following triennium, the Secretariats continued cooperating under the auspices of the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG).
4. During this period, both CBD and CMS Parties called for coherent and synergistic implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions, and requested to review related working arrangements. In particular, CBD CoP10 X/20 recalled that decision VI/20 recognizes the CMS as the lead partner in conserving and sustainably using migratory species over their entire range, and requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the CMS, to update the joint work programme between the two conventions.
5. The second CMS and CBD Joint Work Plan for 2012-2014 was then prepared and adopted, first at the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee in November 2011, and subsequently at the CBD COP11 in 2012.
6. As CBD COP 12 and CMS COP 11 took place in late 2014, it was agreed that a new Joint Work Plan would be developed in 2015 to take into considerations decisions of both COPs. The Plan for 2012-2014 therefore continued guiding the collaborative work between the Secretariats throughout 2015;
7. The activities undertaken in accordance during the period 2012-2015 are described in detail in Annex 1 to the present document.

### Joint activities planned for the period 2016-2018

8. The Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS adopted, through Resolution 11.2, the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) 2015-2023 which links migratory species priorities to the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The SPMS also supports the entire CMS Family as well as serves as a guiding framework for all of those working towards the conservation of migratory species.
9. In order to build on this aligned framework for action and further maximise synergies between the CBD Secretariat and the Secretariats of CMS and of its daughter instruments as appropriate, a joint work plan for the CBD and CMS Secretariats for 2016-2018 has been drafted and is presented in Annex 2 to this document. It identifies activities that contribute to the attainment of both the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Migratory Species Targets.

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

11. The CMS Secretariat will submit regular reports on the joint activities to the CMS Standing Committee and, if appropriate, to other stakeholders, including the other biodiversity-related conventions.

12. The First Meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Implementation in May 2016 will be invited to formally endorse the joint work plan for 2016-2018 while in the meantime, the two Secretariats will move forward with its implementation.

**Action requested:**

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a. Take note of the activities carried out between 2012-2015 in Annex 1; and
- b. Endorse the draft Joint Work Plan for 2016-2018 in Annex 2.



## **Report on implementation of joint activities between the CBD and CMS Secretariats for the period 2012-2015**

### **Strategic cooperation**

#### ***Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)***

The Secretariats took part in the four meetings of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) that took place during the indicated period. An informal meeting was held in January 2013 in Bonn, in the margins of the first IPBES Meeting, while a formal, eighth meeting of the BLG was held on 13 February 2013 in Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland. Discussions were held on relevant issues such as coordination of requests to IPBES and joint fundraising to promote synergies and collaboration on programmatic issues through the scientific bodies. A special meeting of the BLG was held with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in Geneva, Switzerland, from 2-3 September 2013 to contribute inputs, from the perspective of the biodiversity-related conventions, to help in the finalization of the GEF-6 strategy document and also to consider ways to enhance opportunities for eligible countries to access GEF funding to implement projects that harness synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions consistent with the GEF mandate and contribute to the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The work initiated at this meeting contributed to CBD COP Decision XII/30 regarding the financial mechanism to the CBD, in particular concerning guidance provided to the GEF by the CBD COP, as well as CMS Resolution 11.10. The ninth regular meeting of the BLG took place on 16 August 2014 in Warth, Switzerland and focused particularly on discussing options for facilitating access to financial resources from the GEF for Conventions other than the CBD, as well as inviting the Secretary of the International Plant Protection Convention to join the BLG. Another meeting which was held by video - conference on 23 January 2015 took stock of the decisions of the COPs of CBD and CMS and of other MEAs. All information can be found here: <https://www.cbd.int/blg/>

#### ***Chairs of Scientific Advisory Bodies of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (CSAB)***

The Sixth Meeting of the CSAB took place in 7 October 2013 - Formia, Italy. The meeting was organized by the CMS Secretariat back-to-back with the Strategic and Planning Meeting of the CMS Scientific Council. Two of the main issues addressed by the meeting were scientific and technical needs for the attainment of the Aichi Biodiversity targets and the participation of a member of the IPBES Secretariat and IPBES MEP in future meetings of CSAB. All information can be found here: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=CSAB-06>

#### ***Processes promoting synergies***

Both the CBD and the CMS Secretariats have taken part and contributed to:

- The UNEP project on “Improving the effectiveness of and cooperation among the biodiversity related Conventions and exploring opportunities for further synergies”. The purpose of this project was to elaborate and refine options for enhancing synergies across the seven major biodiversity related Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) at the global level; in particular with respect to the role of UNEP in supporting the coherent implementation of MEAs; and
- The UNEP Task Team on the Effectiveness of Administrative Arrangements and Programmatic Cooperation between UNEP and UNEP-administered MEAs Secretariats. The purpose of the initiative was to review the current state and level of efficiency of the administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation between UNEP and the convention

secretariats administered by UNEP, and to provide recommendations for more cost-effective, and quality-driven solutions.

The outputs of both initiatives will be submitted to the Second United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in June 2016.

Furthermore, the CMS Secretariat as BLG member, has been invited to take part in the Informal Advisory Group (IAG) established under the CBD COP Decision XII/6. The IAG is requested to organize a workshop with the objective of elaborating options to enhance synergies and improve efficiency among the biodiversity-related conventions. The CMS Secretariat is facilitating the nomination of representatives of its Parties to the workshop.

### **Collaborative support to Parties on the integration of migratory species considerations in National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAPs)**

#### ***Conservation of migratory birds and their habitats***

On 30 January 2015, the CBD Secretariat issued a [notification](#) requesting Parties to provide information on relevant recent actions and plans for the conservation of migratory bird and their habitats covering threats to critical sites and routes as well as direct threats to species, such as illegal killing, unsustainable hunting, bycatch, poisoning, power lines, wind farms and other infrastructure. Furthermore, in the notification Parties were encouraged to include these actions in the NBSAP implementation process. In preparing their inputs, National Focal Points of Parties to CBD were encouraged to coordinate with their counterparts from the other Conventions including CMS. Subsequently, the CMS Secretariat issued a [notification](#) reiterating the importance of the CBD Notification and highlighting Resolution 11.14 on “Programme of work on migratory birds and flyways” which requests the Secretariat to liaise with the secretariats of relevant MEAs.

### **Joint activities to support achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of key shared interest**

#### ***Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA)***

In 2015, the Secretariats initiated cooperating on the implementation of the CBD programme of work on protected areas, in the context of the CBD Peace and Biodiversity Dialogue Initiative. On CBD Secretariat’s invitation, the CMS Secretariat contributed a list of sites important for avian and terrestrial migratory species as inputs on trans-boundary ecological networks and protected area systems. These will be considered at a series of planned regional or sub-regional workshops that will bring together countries to identify opportunities for collaboration in the identification, designation and co-management of transboundary conservation areas.

In addition, the CBD secretariat is organizing a series of capacity building workshops on Targets 11 and 12 and CMS Secretariat would be involved in these workshops also.

### **Coherent approach to cross-cutting issues**

#### ***Wildlife management***

In 2013, both the CBD and CMS Secretariats became founding members of the [Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management \(CPW\)](#) which aims to promote cooperation and coordination on sustainable wildlife management issues among its members and partners. In the biennium 2013-2014, the work of CPW focused on the thematic focal areas of wildlife, food security and livelihoods; human wildlife conflict; and illegal and unsustainable hunting. On the occasion of the second World Wildlife on 3 March 2015, the CPW launched the Bushmeat

Sourcebook. The online sourcebook examines bushmeat's vital contribution to food security, local livelihoods. It also shows, however, how unsustainable harvesting can affect the ecological stability of forest ecosystems, as well as human health. The sourcebook represents a valuable awareness-raising tool.

### ***Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs)***

At the invitation of the UAE Government, marine experts from 15 Northwest Indian Ocean countries participated in a regional workshop in April 2015 to describe marine areas meeting criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas developed under the CBD (EBSA criteria). The week-long workshop was hosted by the UAE's Ministry of Environment and Water, and organized by the CBD Secretariat with support from CMS Office – Abu Dhabi. The Office mobilized CMS's expert networks for marine mammals, marine turtles, sharks, and seabirds and arranged their inputs into the meeting. It also facilitated the participation of the CMS Appointed Councilor for Aquatic Mammals whose presence was made possible with funding from the International Whaling Commission. Twelve of the participating countries were either CMS Parties and/or signatories to one or more CMS agreements. At least four of the seven CBD EBSA criteria correlate strongly with marine migratory species, as a [study](#) commissioned by the CMS Office – Abu Dhabi confirmed (UNEP/CMS/COP11/Inf.23), and information used to describe EBSAs may be useful in developing ecological networks that can contribute to the needs of migratory marine species and promote connectivity. For these reasons, CMS COP11 recognized in Resolution 11.25 (Advancing Ecological Networks to Address the Needs of Migratory Species) the value and importance of the CBD EBSA process in supporting the work of CMS. At the workshop thirty-one marine areas were described as meeting the EBSA criteria. Migratory species correlated strongly with 30 of the 31 areas described.

### ***Underwater noise***

On 29 May 2015, the CMS Secretariat issued a [notification](#) to its Parties to request information on measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate the potential significant adverse impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity including any related legal requirements or guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessments and on 4 June 2015, the CBD issued a similar [notification](#) to its Parties. Through these notifications, National Focal Points of Parties to both Conventions were encouraged to liaise at national level to ensure that needs of CBD and CMS were met. For easing the reporting, the two Secretariats would coordinate the compilation of inputs. Information submitted to one Secretariat would be used by the other, as appropriate.

## **Collaborative information, outreach and capacity-building**

### ***Capacity building***

In August 2014, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) organized a Pacific Joint Preparatory Meeting to the CBD COP 12, CMS COP 11 and Ramsar COP 12 in Nadi, Fiji. The objective of the workshop was to develop a synergistic roadmap for Pacific engagement at these international conferences to help enhance conservation and protection of Pacific biodiversity. This initiative was noted as a global milestone in moving towards greater MEA synergy and coordination at national level.

### ***Communications and Outreach***

Every year, both Secretariats supported each other's awareness-raising campaigns (International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) – 22 May and World Migratory Bird Day – second weekend of May) by providing statements and featuring them on their respective websites. The 2015 IDB

Statement by the Executive Secretary of CMS on behalf of the CMS Family can be found here: <http://www.cms.int/en/news/international-day-biological-diversity>.

In July 2015, an interview with CBD's Information Officer was conducted in the framework of the CMS Communication Strategy development process. Alignment of themes for the various "international days" and further cooperation with regards to Communication, Education and Awareness-raising (CEPA) activities between CBD and the CMS Family were among the topics being discussed.



## Joint Work Plan for the CBD and CMS Secretariats for the period 2016-2018

During the triennium 2016- 2018, the Secretariats will continue cooperate in the context of the BLG, CSAB and in other processes promoting synergies among MEAs. In particular, following CBD COP Decision XII/6 and CMS Resolution 11.10, the Secretariats will jointly contribute to the party-led process to enhance collaboration and improve efficiency among the biodiversity-related conventions.

The Secretariats will hold an annual coordination meeting as well as regular teleconference calls as required, to discuss the implementation of the Joint Work Plan, and for ensuring continued cooperation and organization of joint activities including their funding and outreach and communication as necessary.

Migratory Species Targets	Aichi Targets <sup>1</sup>	Activity
Target 1	Target 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Support each other’s awareness campaigns (International Day for Biological Diversity and World Migratory Bird Day) by providing statements and featuring them on respective websites.</li> <li>– Following decisions of BLG, enhance collaboration on communication and outreach through strengthened coordination among their information and communications officers.</li> <li>– Under CBD COP decision XII/2, cooperate on the development of the CBD global communication strategy as a contribution to the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity.</li> <li>– Explore potential for joint Communication, Education and Awareness Raising (CEPA) activities including preparation of joint funding proposal for CEPA workshops to be conducted in the framework of CBD and CMS meetings (e.g. COPs, Pre-COPs and NBSAPs development workshops).</li> </ul>
Target 2	Target 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Cooperate in the UNEP project on Integrating Environmental Sustainability in the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and UN Common Country Programming Processes.</li> <li>– Promote the synergistic implementation of the two Conventions at national level in activities on supporting the implementation of NBSAPs as feasible.</li> </ul>
Target 4	Target 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Keep each other informed about activities, such as any projects or initiatives related to sustainable tourism and wildlife watching with a view to explore ways to streamline efforts.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> More detailed mapping of both sets of targets can be found at:  
[http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res\\_11\\_02\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_for\\_MS\\_2015\\_2023\\_E\\_0.pdf](http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf)

<b>Target 5</b>	<b>Target 4 and Target 7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Under CMS Resolution 11.27 and in the context of a dedicated Task Force, cooperate on reconciling energy sector developments with migratory species conservation.</li> <li>– Keep each other informed about and involved in any projects or initiatives related to underwater noise with a view to explore ways to streamline efforts. Consider holding joint side event at CBD SBSTTA20.</li> <li>– Keep each other informed about work related to marine debris with a view to explore ways to streamline efforts. Consider to hold joint side event at CBD COP13.</li> <li>– Continue cooperate in the context of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management.</li> </ul>
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<b>Migratory Species Targets</b>	<b>Aichi Targets</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>Target 6</b>	<b>Target 6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Keep each other informed about activities, such as any projects or initiatives related to fisheries and bycatch with a view to explore ways to streamline efforts.</li> <li>– Coordinate input, and where appropriate represent each-other at meeting of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations or Arrangements (RFMOs/As).</li> <li>– Continue cooperate in the context of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (same as above).</li> </ul>
<b>Target 7</b>	<b>Target 8, Target 9 and Target 10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Keep each other informed about work related to marine debris with a view to explore ways to streamline efforts. Consider to hold joint side event at CBD COP13. (same as above).</li> <li>– Continue to collaborate on activities related to invasive alien species in line with CBD decisions 12/16 and 12/17 and CMS Resolution 11.28.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 8</b>	<b>Target 12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Continue to jointly promote the conservation of migratory birds following the example of the mutual supporting related notifications issued in 2015.</li> <li>– Continue cooperate in the context of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (same as above).</li> <li>– Collaborate, as appropriate, on the series of regional workshop on Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 10</b>	<b>Target 5 and Target 11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Cooperate on the implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas.</li> <li>– Cooperate on the identification, designation and co-management of transboundary conservation areas at regional or sub-regional levels, including in the context of the Peace and Biodiversity Dialogue Initiative as appropriate.</li> <li>– Cooperate in the context of the EBSA process to support the development of area-based conservation measures to promote ecological networks.</li> <li>– Collaborate, as appropriate, on the series of regional workshop on Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 11</b>	<b>Target 14 and Target 15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop synergies and coordinate activities related to climate change adaptation including, where appropriate, the organization of back-to-back meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 12</b>	<b>Target 13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Keep each other informed about scientific advances on the genetic diversity of wild species, including the development of related indicators and Essential Biodiversity Variables.</li> </ul>

<b>Target 13</b>	<b>Target 17</b>	– Continue to cooperate on promoting the revision and implementation of NBSAPs and the inclusion of migratory species provisions.
<b>Target 14</b>	<b>Target 18</b>	– Keep each informed on matters of mutual relevance concerning to application of traditional knowledge and the implementation of the global plan of action on customary sustainable use.
<b>Target 15</b>	<b>Target 19</b>	– Liaise on the further elaboration of indicators and future assessments of the attainment of both the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Migratory Species Targets
<b>Target 16</b>	<b>Target 20</b>	– Liaise with a view to establish a process for the submission of national priorities to the GEF and of inputs for the elaboration of the new four-year framework of programme priorities (2018-2022) for the seventh replenishment and to fulfil CBD COP decision XII/30 and CMS Resolution 11.10.