



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



RESOLUTION 7.7*

IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE AGREEMENTS

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Seventh Meeting (Bonn, 18-24 September 2002)

Recognising that Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding (MoU), represent one of the key operational tools of the Convention on Migratory Species;

Recalling Strategic Plan Resolutions 4.4 (Nairobi, 1994), 5.4 (Geneva, 1997) and 6.4 (Cape Town, 1999) which *inter alia* stimulate the conclusion of Agreements and MoU to conserve migratory species listed in the Convention's appendices, call for Parties to take the lead and, where applicable, establish partnerships between developing and developed Party countries;

Referring to Recommendations 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5 (Cape Town, 1999) on Sahelo-Saharan antelopes, Houbara bustards and African elephants in Western and Central Africa;

Noting with satisfaction the progress made since COP 6 (Cape Town, 1999) with regard to the conclusion and implementation of Article IV Agreements;

Emphasising the importance of the rapid entry into force of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP);

Paying tribute to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for his welcoming address to the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties in which he calls upon "the world community, and especially the governments of the Range States and those with relevant fishing fleets, with the help of international organisations, to ratify [ACAP] and to get it working so as to reduce as soon as possible the factors which have brought these splendid birds to the brink of extinction"; and

Referring to the report of the Secretariat in documents UNEP/CMS/Conf.7.9, UNEP/CMS/Conf.7.9.1 and UNEP/CMS/Conf.7.9.2, as well as the reports** of the Secretariats of the various Agreements concluded under the aegis of CMS;

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

1. With regard to Agreements already concluded:
 - (a) *Expresses* its satisfaction with the achievements made to conclude and implement CMS Agreements;

* The original draft of this resolution, considered by the Conference of the Parties, was numbered 7.2.

** UNEP/CMS/Inf.7.17.1, UNEP/CMS/Inf.7.17.2, UNEP/CMS/Inf.7.17.3.

- (b) *Encourages* the examination and further use of CMS Agreements by all relevant stakeholders;
- (c) *Encourages* the Secretariat to continue exploring partnerships with interested organizations specialised in the conservation and management of migratory species for the provision of secretariat services for selected MoU; and
- (d) *Calls upon* all Range States that have not yet done so to sign, ratify or accede, as appropriate, to CMS Agreements and to contribute to their implementation;

2. With regard to Agreements under development:

BIRDS

(a) ***Houbara Bustard***

- i. *Takes note* of the information provided by the representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that an updated text of an Agreement and Action Plan on the Asiatic populations of the Houbara Bustard is ready for official dissemination and comment;
- ii. *Takes further note* that an informal meeting to review the updated text will be held some time in early 2003; and
- iii. *Welcomes* the information that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will hold a meeting of the Range States to conclude the Agreement and Action Plan in late 2003;

(b) ***Aquatic Warbler***

- i. *Acknowledges* the results already achieved by BirdLife International to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding on the Aquatic warbler in close cooperation with the Secretariat;
- ii. *Endorses* preparations for a Range State meeting by the end of 2002 or in early 2003 to finalise the Memorandum of Understanding; and
- iii. *Agrees* with the Secretariat's intention to support financially the preparation and holding of the Range State meeting;

(c) ***Sand Grouse***

- i. *Welcomes* South Africa's initiative to continue to develop and conclude among Botswana, Namibia and South Africa a Memorandum of Understanding on the Sand grouse; and
- ii. *Encourages* the Range States to seek an early conclusion to their work;

FISH

(d) ***Sturgeons***

- i. *Calls upon* CMS Party Range States of sturgeons listed in CMS Appendices to take the lead to develop an appropriate CMS instrument on sturgeons;

- ii. *Urges* the resumption of cooperative activities among the lead country, IUCN, the CMS Secretariat and the CITES Secretariat, as appropriate; and
- iii. *Invites* the CITES Conference of the Parties to encourage closer collaboration between the CMS and CITES Secretariats with respect to sturgeon conservation in view of the strategic priorities of these two complementary conventions;

MARINE REPTILES

(e) *Marine Turtles*

Endorses the Secretariat's proposal to explore, by the most appropriate means, the possible development of an instrument for Marine turtles in the Pacific Ocean, within the context of the CMS Strategic Plan and the existing CMS Indian Ocean-South-East Asian Marine Turtle MoU, and to allocate sufficient resources for this purpose;

MARINE MAMMALS

(f) *Small Cetaceans and Sirenians in West Africa*

Supports the development of an appropriate CMS instrument on small cetaceans and sirenians in West Africa pursuant to Recommendation 7.3, and the allocation of sufficient resources for this purpose;

(g) *Small Cetaceans and Dugongs in South-East Asia*

Supports the development of an appropriate CMS instrument on small cetaceans and dugongs in South-East Asia pursuant to Recommendation 7.4, if the reaction from Range States is positive, and the allocation of sufficient resources for this purpose;

(h) *Other Marine Mammals*

- i. *Invites* the Secretariat to monitor the non-governmental initiative on cetaceans in the Indian Ocean referred to in its report (document UNEP/CMS/Conf.7.9.2) and as appropriate explore further options with regard to the development of a CMS instrument; and
- ii. *Supports* the development of an appropriate CMS instrument on Dugong pursuant to Recommendation 7.5;

TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS

(i) *Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes*

- i. *Acknowledges* the progress made to date to implement the Action Plan adopted in Djerba in February 1998;
- ii. *Agrees* to the future role of the CMS Secretariat as fund manager and administrator for the FFEM (Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial) project; and
- iii. *Supports* the Secretariat's plan to develop an Agreement in close contact with the Sahelo-Saharan Antelope Working Group as requested by the Djerba Workshop;

(j) ***Saiga Antelope***

- i. *Acknowledges* the excellent cooperation between various national and international organizations that has taken place thus far, as well as the progress made to date to develop a Memorandum of Understanding and an Action Plan regarding *Saiga tatarica tatarica*;
- ii. *Encourages* the early conclusion and opening for signature of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan by the Range States; and
- iii. *Invites* the CITES Conference of the Parties to acknowledge and endorse further cooperation between the CMS and CITES Secretariats with regard to the finalisation and conclusion of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan;

(k) ***Mongolian Gazelle***

- i. *Supports* the Secretariat's intention to coordinate with the Range States of the Mongolian gazelle to establish the basis for improved coordinated conservation and sustainable use; and
- ii. *Agrees* that sufficient funding for this purpose should be provided by CMS and requested from other sources;

(l) ***African Elephant***

Invites the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to assist the lead country in its endeavour to organise the work relevant to the African Elephant as outlined in Recommendation 6.5 (Cape Town, 1999);

(m) ***Bats***

- i. *Takes note* of the Secretariat-commissioned study on the feasibility of developing additional bats Agreements under CMS (document ScC.11/Doc.7);
- ii. *Encourages* the Secretariat to continue its activities in this field, including exploring the potential to develop further CMS Agreements on bats;
- iii. *Invites* the Scientific Council to have a substantial discussion on bats at its next meeting; and
- iv. *Invites* Parties to consider developing and submitting proposals to list additional bat species in the CMS Appendices.

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