



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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Agenda Item 14

**PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN
FOR MIGRATORY SPECIES 2015-2023**

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

In relation to the mandate provided by Resolution 11.2 (Rev.COP12) to keep the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 under review and the related action included in the Programme of Work 2018-2020, this document provides an interim assessment of progress towards the achievement of the 16 targets in the Plan, based on the indicators identified in the plan itself to that purpose.

The document includes a draft Decision concerning the final assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 to be submitted to COP14 for consideration.

PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR MIGRATORY SPECIES 2015-2023

Background

1. The Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting (COP11, Quito, 2014) adopted the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) 2015-2023 (Annex 1 to [Resolution 11.2](#)). Through the same resolution the Conference of the Parties decided to keep the implementation of the SPMS under review at its regular meetings in the light of the Plan's stated goals, targets and indicators and in line with chapter 4 section 7 of the Strategic Plan. In connection to this mandate, an assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan was included in the Programme of Work for the period 2018-2020 included in Annex 5 to [Resolution 12.2](#).
2. Annex B of the SPMS, contained an initial indicative selection of headline indicators that could be used (following further development, in most cases) to track progress towards achievement of the 16 targets in the Plan.
3. In adopting the SPMS, the CMS Parties in Resolution 11.2 recognized the need for further enabling activities or instruments concerning implementation and monitoring – essential components of a successful and effective Strategic Plan – and made provisions for additional inter-sessional work to strengthen the suite of materials to support implementation of the SPMS, including:
 - a) indicators for the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, drawing as far as possible from existing work, such as that under the global Biodiversity Indicators Partnership; and
 - b) a Companion Volume on Implementation for the Strategic Plan, based on available tools, to provide guidance on implementation of the Plan.
4. The mandate was accomplished with the adoption by 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP12, Manila, 2017) of a technical [Companion Volume on Implementation](#) and a set of indicators defined for each of the 16 targets in the SPMS, which replaced the initial indicative set of indicators in Annex B of the SPMS ([Resolution 11.2 \(Rev.COP12\)](#)). The underlying background to each of the indicators, on the factors requiring measurement, possible sources of data, baseline issues, proposed reporting questions and links to other existing processes as well as some summary observations on scope and readiness are given in the Indicator Factsheets compiled for each target and presented in document [UNEP/CMS/COP12/Inf.26](#).
5. Resolution 11.2 (Rev.COP12) also requested the Secretariat to consider amendments to the format for National Reports, where necessary, in respect of assessing implementation of the SPMS and those indicators for which such reports were identified as a potentially important source of information, and confirmed the decision to keep the implementation of the SPMS under review at its 13th and 14th meetings.
6. Based on the mandates of Resolution 11.2 (Rev.COP12) and of Decisions 12.4 and 12.5 a complete revision of the format for National Reports was undertaken after COP12, which culminated with the adoption of a new format by the 48th meeting of the Standing Committee (Bonn, 23-24 October 2019). Further details on the revision of the National Report format are provided in [UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.20](#).

Activities

7. In relation to the mandate provided by Resolution 11.2 (Rev.COP12) to keep the implementation of the SPMS under review, the Secretariat, thanks to voluntary contributions from the Governments of Germany and Switzerland, was able to commission an interim assessment of progress towards the achievement of SPMS targets to the UNEP World

Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). The assessment is attached to this document as Annex 2. The assessment was undertaken in conjunction with the analysis of CMS National Reports to COP13, and elements of the assessment can also be found in the analysis compiled by UNEP-WCMC and made available in Annex 2 to UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.20.

8. The assessment provides a summary of progress towards each SPMS target synthesized from relevant information provided in Parties' National Reports to COP13 and from the analysis of a subset of other priority indicators. As such, it is intended as a snapshot rather than a comprehensive overview of implementation and does not ascribe a category of progress to each target. It also serves to identify gaps in knowledge and data collection to inform priorities for action. The final section includes key findings, data gaps and recommendations towards the further implementation of the SPMS and further development of the indicators with a view to future assessments of the implementation of the Plan.

Recommended actions

9. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
 - a). take note of the assessment of progress towards the achievement of SPMS targets contained in Annex 2 of this document, and make any comment as appropriate;
 - b). adopt the draft Decisions contained in Annex 1 of this document.

DRAFT DECISION(S)

STRATEGIC PLAN

Directed to the Secretariat

13.AA The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, is requested to:

- a) Further develop indicators identified in the Strategic Plan which are not yet operable, notably the composite indicators recommended for assessing progress towards Targets 6 and 7;
- b) Identify data gaps which are hindering assessment of progress in relation to indicators, and support filling of those gaps;
- c) Identify appropriate case studies and single assessment studies relevant to those indicators in the Strategic Plan expected to be based on such studies, and support their undertaking;
- d) Undertake a full assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 in time for COP14 consideration;
- e) Report to the Standing Committee at its intersessional meetings on progress in implementing this Decision.

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

13.BB Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide financial and technical support to the assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, notably in relation to the activities foreseen in decision 13.AA a-c.

Directed to the Standing Committee

13.CC The Standing Committee is requested to

- a) Consider the reports on progress in implementing this Decision submitted by the Secretariat;
- b) Provide guidance to the Secretariat as appropriate.