

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

2nd Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC2)

Bonn, Germany, 10 – 13 July 2017

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PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR 2016-2017

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document includes a version of the Programme of Work for the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council adapted to record progress in its implementation.

PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR 2016-2017

1. At its first meeting held in Bonn, the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council developed a Programme of Work (POW) for the period 2016-2017.
2. The present meeting provides an opportunity for an assessment of progress towards the implementation of the POW, as well as for possible adjustments as appropriate. To this purpose, Annex 1 to this document includes a version of the POW adapted to record progress in its implementation up to ScC-SC2, as well as an indication of possible further action at the COP12 and ScC-SC3 horizons for activities not yet completed. It is proposed that the table in Annex 1 be progressively updated throughout the meeting when relevant items are addressed.

Recommended Actions

3. The Sessional Committee is recommended to assess progress in the implementation of the POW and plan on further action at the COP12 and ScC-SC3 horizons using the version of the table included in Annex 1.

Programme of Work for the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council for 2016-2017

Progress in implementation as at July 2017

Thematic Work Area: **Institutional and Legal matters (Working Group 1)**

WG1 lead(s) and participants: Alfred Oteng-Yeboah / Fernando Spina, Malta Qwathakana, James Williams, Olivier Biber

Secretariat Focal Point: Marco Barbieri

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Scientific Council, with advice from the Secretariat, to develop and establish a revision of its Rules of Procedure, as well as elements of its <i>modus operandi</i> in accordance with Res. 11.4 (Res. 11.4 , para. 12)	Sessional Committee to produce a revised version of the Rules of Procedure. Secretariat to develop options for key points to be reviewed by chairs of Standing Committee and Scientific Council before review by the working group. Working Group to create draft consolidated RoP by end of June. Sessional Committee and Scientific Council to respond to consultation by end of July.	Revised RoP	Secretariat / WG	Core	No		
Scientific Council to submit a report on the implementation of Res. 11.4 to COP12 (Res. 11.4 , para. 12)	Sessional Committee to produce a report on the implementation of Res.11.4 provisions relevant to the establishment and operationalization of the Sessional Committee, to be submitted to cOP12	Report	ScC Chair / Secretariat	Core	No		
Scientific Council and Secretariat to update Res.1.5 by developing a new template and guidelines for the drafting of listing proposals in line with the Annex of this Resolution, for adoption by the Standing Committee in time for its use for proposals to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its 12 th Meeting (Res.11.33 para.5)	Template revised by SC, reviewed following SCSC1. Revised template and guidelines for proposals to amend CMS Appendices submitted to StC45 for review and approval	Revised template	Secretariat / WG	Core	No		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
	Sessional Committee to develop a couple of model proposals for amendment, using the revised template to be adopted by StC45, with a view to assisting Parties in developing sound proposals for amendment	Model proposals		High	No		
Scientific Council to clarify the meaning of the phrase “significant proportion” in Article I, paragraph 1 (a) of the Convention Text, and report back to the COP (Res.11.33 para.6)	Needs consideration of practicality of making definition. May need to have a part in the listing template that asks for why this is a significant proportion. Possible checklist of issues to be considered.	Output of SC to explain complexity of the matter. Aim for amendment to template for listing proposals.	ScC Chair / WG Initial approach to SC, may thereafter place out as request for help to scientific community.	Core	No		

Thematic Work Area: **Strategic issues (Working Group 2)**

WG2 lead(s) and participants: Fernando Spina / Malta Qwathkana, Zeb Hogan, Vincent Hilomen, James Williams, Olivier Biber, Sergey Dereliev, Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Marco Barbieri

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1-ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributor s	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Preparation of a report on the conservation status of species included in CMS Appendices (Res. 11.1 , Annex V, Activity 30)	SC Chair to participate in scoping workshop. SC to review and approve a costed concept for the report, to be prepared by the Secretariat. Depending on successful fundraising, SC to oversee production of the report, including review and endorsement in time for its submission to COP12. SC to provide focus on questions to be addressed by the workshop.	Concept initially followed by plan for report.	Secretariat /Chair / input from IUCN SSC-SGs / WCMC (Species+)	High	Yes		
Development of Atlas on Animal Migration - Starting with the African Eurasian region migratory birds atlas and taking into consideration already existent ones (Res. 11.1 , Annex V, Activity 32)	SC to consider proposal based on presentation by Franz Bairlein at ScC-SC1. SC to oversee preparation of the Atlas when work will start subject to successful fundraising	Progress in the implementation of the preparation of the atlas to be submitted to COP12	Franz Bairlein / Chair SC. EURING input wrt birds part. World Fish Migration Platform for fish poster. Need to identify other input for other taxa.	High – need to avoid fundraising competition with status assessment work above.	Yes		
CMS Strategic Plan Working Group (SPWG) to consult the Scientific Council as appropriate, including on the scientific evidence underpinning relevant indicators (Res. 11.2 , Annex 2, para. 8)	Input individually to drafts of indicator factsheets and Companion volume Review at Sessional Committee in mid 2017.	Comment provided to consultant in advance of deadlines set by SPWG.	All members of SC to contribute to SPWG	Core	No		

Thematic Work Area: **Aquatic species conservation issues (Working Group 3)**

WG3 lead(s) and participants: Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara / Barry Baker, Zeb Hogan, Graeme Taylor, Malta Qwathekana, Saras Sharma, Vincent Hilomen, Simone Panigada (ACCOBAMS), Heidrun Frisch (ASCOBANS), Mark Simmonds (H.S.I.), Alison Wood (WDC), Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Melanie Virtue

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributor s	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Scientific Council to nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for concerted or cooperative action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. Confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary. (Res. 10.23, para. 6)</p>	<p>Confirm availability of already identified focal points and identify focal points for remaining species.</p>	<p>Focal points identified</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>No</p>		
<p>Scientific Council to identify candidate species for designation for Concerted Action, and action to take in response to Concerted Action listing, taking fully into account the recommendations summarized in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13. (Res. 11.13, para. 5)</p>	<p>ScC members to promote, and assist with the development of proposals for Concerted Actions following the guidance provided in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13, for species already designated or for candidate species for designation</p>	<p>Proposals for designation of species for concerted Actions</p>	<p>Individual members</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No</p>		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributor s	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Species previously listed for cooperative action, but for which no activity has yet begun, would be automatically transferred into a new unified Concerted Actions list. The list would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP, to determine whether each such species should remain listed or be deleted. (Res. 11.13, Annex 3, para. 3)</p> <p>Projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier COP decisions would continue unaffected. These too would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP. Such reviews may conclude, <i>inter alia</i>, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be re-named accordingly). (Res. 11.13, Annex 3, para. 4)</p>	<p>Secretariat to produce unified concerted Actions list for ScC-SC2 review</p> <p>Secretariat to compile information on implementation of Concerted and Cooperative Actions from national reports to assist ScC review</p>	<p>Recommendation to COP on species designated for Cooperative Actions to be maintained in the unified Concerted Actions mechanism</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No</p>		
<p>Scientific Council to seek to enhance cooperation and collaboration with CITES and the IWC on small cetacean species targeted by live captures from the wild (Res. 11.22 para. 3)</p>	<p>Develop cooperation, e.g. through ScC Members or observers present in relevant CITES or IWC fora to provide link. Mutual observers IWC-ASCOBANS to assist</p>	<p>Options for cooperation identified</p>	<p>Mark Simmonds / (Sec FP: Frisch)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>No</p>		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributor s	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Resolution on live captures of cetaceans from the wild for commercial purposes (Res. 11.22)	Perform further analysis of survey responses, including possible legal inconsistencies, and consider the situation in non-Parties	Gaps and inconsistencies identified	Alison Wood / (Sec FP: Frisch)	High	No		
Action to address the impact on CMS-listed species that are likely to be subject to utilization as aquatic bushmeat (Res. 10.15)	Develop cooperation with CPW and IWC, e.g. through ScC Members or observers present in these fora, assisted by IWC-ASCOBANS observers Further develop briefing paper Develop draft resolution for COP12	Enhanced version of briefing paper; Draft resolution	Sigrid Lueber / (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	No		
Development of CMS Family Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines for Noise-generating Offshore Industries (Res. 9.19 para. 3)	Participate in consultation process on draft guidelines to be concluded by 5 July 2016 Develop draft resolution for COP12	Agreed guidelines Draft resolution	Notarbartolo di Sciara / (Sec FP: Frisch)	High	No further funding required		
Scientific Council to identify candidate species for listing on, or delisting from the CMS Appendices, and assist in the preparation of proposals for amendment as appropriate (Art.VIII para. 5.c of the Convention)	Consult ScC taxonomic WGs and CMS Family advisory bodies on species to be considered for listing Assist in development of listing proposals Consider: whale shark, golden dorado, Danube salmon, Japanese eel	Draft listing proposals	COP-App. Councillors for Aquatic Mammals, Turtles and Fish WGs / (Sec FP: Virtue)	High	No		
Scientific Council to assess the potential impact of dolphin swim-with programmes on CMS-listed species and advise CMS COP accordingly (Art. VIII para. 5.e of the Convention)	Provide briefing paper to ScC-SC2 Develop draft resolution and guidelines	Briefing paper Draft guidelines Draft resolution	Notarbartolo di Sciara / (Sec FP: Frisch)	High	No		

Thematic Work Area: **Terrestrial species conservation issues (Working Group 4)**

WG4 lead(s) and participants: Lkhagvasuren Badamjav / Rodrigo Medellin, Samuel Kasiki, Jean-Christophe Vié, Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Bert Lenten

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Scientific Council to nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for concerted or cooperative action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. Confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary. (Res. 10.23, para. 6)	Confirm availability of already identified focal points Wild Yak –Lkhagva to suggest expert	Focal points identified	Secretariat	Medium	No		
Scientific Council to identify candidate species for designation for Concerted or Cooperative Action, and action to take in response to Concerted or Cooperative Action listing, taking fully into account the recommendations summarized in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13. (Res. 11.13, para. 5)	ScC members to promote, and assist with the development of proposals for Concerted Actions following the guidance provided in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13, for species already designated or for candidate species for designation	Proposals for designation of species for Concerted Actions	Individual members	high	No		
Species previously listed for cooperative action, but for which no activity has yet begun, would be automatically transferred into a new unified Concerted Actions list. The list would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP, to determine whether each such species should remain listed or be deleted. (Res. 11.13, Annex 3, para. 3)	See point above	Recommendation to COP on species designated for Cooperative Actions to be maintained in the unified Concerted Actions mechanism	Secretariat	High	No		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier COP decisions would continue unaffected. These too would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP. Such reviews may conclude, <i>inter alia</i>, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be re-named accordingly). (Res. 11.13, Annex 3, para. 4)</p>							
<p>Scientific Council and the Secretariat to continue and strengthen efforts to collaborate with other relevant international fora with a view to strengthening synergies and implementation of CMS and the CAMI in these fora. (Res. 11.24 para. 7)</p>	<p>Similar reports should be done on progress under CAMI, Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes, Bats and other species groups Effort should be made to promote the abovementioned species initiatives at relevant international fora,</p>	<p>Reports at next meeting on progress made and on promotion of the initiatives in international fora</p>	<p>Scientific councillors</p>	<p>high</p>	<p>No</p>		
<p>Scientific Council to identify candidate species for listing on, or delisting from the CMS Appendices, and assist in the preparation of proposals for amendment as appropriate (Art.VIII para. 5.c of the Convention)</p>	<p>Verify interest of Parties in submitting listing proposals for species such as Chinkara and Lion, and assist them in the development of the proposals as appropriate. Consider the case of species which are not migrating anymore (e.g. Oryx, Przewalski's horse), listing lions at next COP (a review may be coming out of the upcoming Range states meeting (organized by CITES/CMS</p>	<p>Listing proposals submitted to COP12 for consideration</p>	<p>Scientific councillors</p>	<p>high</p>	<p>No</p>		

Mandate	Description of SC interessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Establishing Central Asian Scientific Initiative (Resolution 11.24 CAMI)	<p>Approach scientists in Central Asia with the help of the Secretariat to coordinate research efforts, collect data, use uniform methodology and cooperate with each other</p> <p>First task to compile distribution/migration data for CAMI species.</p> <p>To incorporate migratory species and threats into university curricula</p>	Start the activity by next meeting, contact scientists	Lkhagva/CMS Secretariat (CAMI)	high	No, at a later stage to conduct meetings		
Dry land fencing problems	Include this issue for drylands in Africa and Central Asia under the topic of Ecological networks	Address this issue in next meeting	Scientific Councillors	high	Yes?		
African carnivores	Develop a regional initiative to conserve African carnivores, consider including wild dog, lions, cheetah, leopards	Report on the next meeting	Scientific Councillors/ secretariat	high	Yes, meeting to discuss and set up the initiative		

Thematic Work Area: **Avian species conservation issues (Working Group 5)**

WG5 lead(s) and participants: Rob Clay, Stephen Garnett / Barry Baker, Graeme Taylor, Samuel Kasiki, Roman Baigún, Sergey Dereliev (AEWA), Alex Ngari (BirdLife Int.), Kelly Malsch (WCMC)

Secretariat Focal Point: Borja Heredia

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Scientific Council to nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for concerted or cooperative action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. Confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary. (Res. 10.23, para. 6)	Confirm availability of already identified focal points and identify focal points for remaining species.	Reports for each species. Identify actions required.	Secretariat	Medium	No		
Scientific Council to identify candidate species for designation for Concerted or Cooperative Action, and action to take in response to Concerted or Cooperative Action listing, taking fully into account the recommendations summarized in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13. (Res. 11.13, para. 5)	ScC members to promote, and assist with the development of proposals for Concerted Actions following the guidance provided in Annex 3 to Res. 11.13, for species already designated or for candidate species for designation	Proposals for designation of species for Concerted Actions	Individual members	High	No		
Species previously listed for cooperative action, but for which no activity has yet begun, would be automatically transferred into a new unified Concerted Actions list. The list would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP, to determine whether each such species should remain listed or be deleted. (Res. 11.13, Annex 3, para. 3)	Secretariat to produce unified concerted Actions list for ScC-SC2 review Secretariat to compile information on implementation of Concerted and Cooperative Actions from national reports to assist ScC review	Recommendation to COP on species designated for Cooperative Actions to be maintained in the unified Concerted Actions mechanism	Secretariat	High	No		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier COP decisions would continue unaffected. These too would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP. Such reviews may conclude, <i>inter alia</i>, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be re-named accordingly). (Res. 11.13, Annex 3, para. 4)</p>							
<p>Continuation of the open-ended Flyways Working Group to (a) monitor the implementation of the POW and the Americas Flyways Framework, (b) review relevant scientific and technical issues, international initiatives and processes, (c) provide guidance on and input into the conservation and management of flyways at global and flyway level during the intersessional period until COP12 and (d) review and update the POW, as a basis for the continued prioritization of the CMS activities on flyways (Res. 11.14 para. 7)</p>	<p>The Flyways Programme of work will be analyzed to check specific mandates for the scientific council.</p>	<p>A specific list of actions will be identified.</p>	<p>Avian Working Group</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>		
<p>Flyways Working Group to support the establishment of a Task Force, in conjunction with WHMSI, to coordinate the development and implementation of an action plan to achieve the global Programme of Work and Americas Flyways Framework including provisions for concerted conservation action for priority species, and to report to COP12 onwards and WHMSI (Res. 11.14 para. 3)</p>	<p>Provide technical support and review draft of the action plan.</p>	<p>Action plan endorsed.</p>	<p>Avian Working Group</p>	<p>Core</p>	<p>No</p>		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Development and adoption of a Species Action Plan (SAP) for Baer's Pochard in Asia (Res. 11.14 , Annex 1)	Provide technical support and review draft of the action plan.	Action plan endorsed.	WWT/ EAAFP	Core	No		
Development and adoption of a multi-species action plan for all African-Eurasian Vultures (except Palm-nut Vulture (<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>)) via the CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey (Raptors MoU) (Res. 11.14 , Annex 1)	Review and provide guidance as it develops. Offering a review and endorsement by the Council before the COP. Evaluate any proposals for listing resulting from the draft action plan. Evaluate the action plan and evaluate documents submitted by respective parties prior to COP.	Action plan endorsed.	Raptors MOU / IUCN SSC Vulture SG; BirdLife Int.	Core	No		
Continuation of the open-ended Preventing Poisoning Working Group until COP12 under the Terms of Reference annexed to Res. 11.15, renewing its membership to incorporate expertise from geographical regions currently absent as well as representatives of industry and governments, to address the impact of other sources of poisoning, and geographic gaps, and to monitor the implementation of the Guidelines (Res.11.15 para.15)	Providing recommendations as requested regarding working group membership. Reviewing the outputs from working group prior to COP.	Recommendations for the next COP.	Avian working group.	Core	No		
Scientific Council and the Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds, in liaison with the Migrant Landbirds Study Group to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets, the European Atlas of Bird Migration, the use of new and emerging tracking technologies, field studies of migrant birds in Sub-Saharan Africa, use of survey and demographic data from the Eurasian breeding grounds and use of remote sensing earth observation data of land cover change in sub-Saharan Africa (Res. 11.17 para. 6)	Providing guidance as requested and reviewing any outputs from the working group.	Recommendations for the next COP.	Avian working group	Core	No		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds and the CMS Scientific Council, in liaison with the Migrant Landbirds Study Group and the Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan, with the support of the CMS Secretariat, to develop as an emerging issue Action Plans for a first set of species including the Yellow-breasted Bunting <i>Emberiza aureola</i> , Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i> and European Roller <i>Coracias garrulous</i> (Res. 11.17 para. 11)	Reviewing the action plans. Offer guidance and advice if requested.	Recommendations for the next COP.	Avian working group	Core	No		
Saker Falcon Task Force to report on progress in the implementation of its mandate to the intersessional meeting of the Scientific Council (Res. 11.18 para. 6)	Take note of the report and offer advice where appropriate.	Endorse the report.	Scientific sessional committee avian working group	Core	No		
Scientific Council to consider the implications of adopting in future as a standard reference for Passerine bird taxonomy and nomenclature the Handbook of the Birds of the World/BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World, Volume 2: Passerines (Res. 11.19 para.3)	Provide a review and consult with partners.	A technical review document and a recommendation to COP.	Robert Clay and Stephen Garnett.	Core	No		
Scientific Council to identify candidate species for listing on, or delisting from the CMS Appendices, and assist in the preparation of proposals for amendment as appropriate (Art.VIII para. 5.c of the Convention)	Provide a review aligned with the taxonomic review. To continuously review any proposals that Parties submit.	Recommendations regarding species to be added based on the proposals that are received. Recommendation of species that parties could consider.	Avian working group	Core	No		

Thematic Work Area: **Cross-cutting conservation issues (Working Group 6)**

WG6 lead(s) and participants: Barry Baker, Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara, Zeb Hogan, Colin Galbraith, Fernando Spina / Rodrigo Medellin, Graeme Taylor, Malta Qwathekana, Saras Sharma, Vincent Hilomen, Simone Panigada (ACCOBAMS), Heidrun Frisch (ASCOBANS), Mark Simmonds (H.S.I.), Alison Wood (WDC), Kelly Malsch (WCMC), Alex Ngari (BirdLife Int.)

Secretariat Focal Points: Melanie Virtue, Heidrun Frisch, Borja Heredia, Marco Barbieri

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Scientific Council to establish an intersessional expert working group dealing with the conservation implications of culture and social complexity, with a focus on, but not limited to cetaceans (Res.11.23 para. 6)	Convene second workshop Develop draft resolution for COP12?	Draft resolution	Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Culture Expert Group	High	€50,000		
Encourages Parties and other stakeholders to gather and publish pertinent data for advancing the conservation management of these populations and discrete social groups (Res.11.23 para. 5)	Development and compilation of papers	Completion of papers Draft resolution	Notarbartolo di Sciara / Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Culture Expert Group	High	none		
Invites relevant CMS Scientific Councillors for taxa other than cetaceans to review the findings of the workshop and engage in this expert group. (Res.11.23 para. 7)	SC Councillors invited to contribute toward the work of the Expert Group, particularly with respect to other taxa.	Comments in relation to other taxa considered and incorporated in relevant paper and draft resolution	Notarbartolo di Sciara / Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	none		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Scientific Council to support Parties, as appropriate, to promote ecological networks and connectivity through, for example, the development of further site networks within the CMS Family or other fora and processes, that use scientifically robust criteria to describe and identify important sites for migratory species and promote their internationally coordinated conservation and management (Res.11.25 para.7)</p>	<p>2nd technical workshop on connectivity mediated by migratory species organized under the auspices of the Scientific Council (Feb/March 2017)</p>	<p>Draft resolution for COP12</p>	<p>Fernando Spina / (Sec FP: Barbieri)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>€10,000 (other funds likely to be provided locally)</p>		
<p>Scientific Council to assess the relevance of the concept of Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) to CMS and advise CMS COP accordingly (Res.11.25)</p>	<p>Review process, criteria and toolkit and make recommendation to COP12</p>	<p>Recommendation to COP12</p>	<p>Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>none</p>		
<p>Scientific Council and the Working Group on Climate Change to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets (Res. 11.26 para.3)</p>	<p>Assess survival needs of migratory species impacted by climate change Identify gaps in knowledge Develop a list of successful examples of action taken to improve resilience of species impacted by climate change</p>	<p>Report to MOP12 Draft resolution focusing on adaptation to assist the resilience of migratory species to climate change</p>	<p>Colin Galbraith (Sec FP: Barbieri) Climate Change WG</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>None (for now)</p>		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Parties and the Scientific Council to report progress in implementing the POW on Climate Change and Migratory Species, including monitoring and the efficacy of measures taken, to COP12 in 2017</p> <p>(Res. 11.26 para.11; Res.11.1, Annex V, Activity 33)</p>	<p>Convene a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group</p>	<p>Report to COP12</p> <p>Draft resolution focusing on adaptation to assist the resilience of migratory species to climate change.</p>	<p>Colin Galbraith (Sec FP: Barbieri) Climate Change WG</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>USD 30,000</p>		
<p>Scientific Council and the Working Group on Climate Change to promote work to address key gaps in knowledge and future research directions, in particular through the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets</p> <p>(Res. 11.26 para.3)</p>	<p>Start process to revise and update the review of climate change vulnerability of migratory species</p> <p>Taxonomic WGs to review whether updates are required</p>	<p>Updated review</p>	<p>Colin Galbraith (Sec FP: Barbieri) Climate Change WG</p>		<p>None (for now)</p>		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Scientific Council, subject to availability of resources, to review existing agreed guidelines, existing good practice and underpinning scientific evidence of the issues of concern, and based on this review develop guidelines as appropriate on marine boat-based wildlife watching for different taxonomic groups, differentiated if necessary by geographic areas (Res.11.29 para.9)</p>	<p>Development of guidelines for first taxonomic group (cetaceans) and simultaneously a template for the further modules (to follow later)</p>	<p>Guidelines developed and adopted by COP12 for cetaceans</p> <p>Draft guidelines developed for sharks/rays; seabirds/ turtles prepared</p>	<p>Notarbartolo di Sciara (Sec FP: Frisch)</p> <p>Barry Baker (Sec FP: Frisch)</p>		<p>Provided by Monaco</p> <p>Yes \$10,000</p>		
<p>Scientific Council, with support from the Secretariat, to further the Convention's work on the marine debris issue and investigate the feasibility of close cooperation with other biodiversity-related agreements by means of a multilateral working group (Res. 11.30 para.11)</p>	<p>Develop cooperation with CBD and IWC, as well as ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS</p>	<p>??</p>	<p><u>To be identified</u> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Secretariat to liaise with other MEAs</p>	
<p>Working groups established under the Scientific Council incorporate the issue of marine debris where relevant, drawing on the work already undertaken by the Convention (Res. 11.30 para.11)</p>	<p>Remind WG Chairs of this requirement</p>	<p>??</p>	<p><u>To be identified</u> (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>None</p>		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
Scientific Council, with support from the Secretariat, to promote the prioritization of research into the effects of microplastics on the species ingesting them, and support research on the significance of colour, shape or plastic type on the likelihood of causing harm, in order to be able to focus management strategies in future; (Res. 11.30)	Produce a review of the micro plastics threat to migratory species	Document for SC2	Simmonds (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	High	None		
Scientific Council to assess the progress made in addressing bycatch of migratory species and advise CMS COP accordingly (Res.10.14, Res.9.18, Res.8.14; 7.2, 6.2)	Review existing bycatch resolutions and develop a draft revised resolution for COP12, that reaffirms necessary actions relevant to the conservation of migratory species	Draft resolution	Barry Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Bycatch WG	High	No		
Work Program 2014-2017 for Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch Working Group	Maintain a small informal group of interested parties and technical experts on the workspace to assist the Scientific Councillor, Bycatch	Review of relevant bycatch issues, as required	Barry Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch)	ongoing	No		
As above	Work closely with other international competent bodies such as FAO and relevant RFMOs, to ensure bycatch management approaches are promulgated in working fisheries	Attendance at RFMO meetings Coordination of activities with daughter agreements	Barry Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Bycatch Working Group, relevant taxonomic WGs ACAP, ACCOBAMS, ASCOBANS, Wadden sea Seals, Marine Turtles Africa, Marine Turtles IOSEA, Pacific Islands Cetaceans, Sharks, IWC Bycatch Group		US\$ 30,000 pa		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
As above	Continuously review and utilise available information on the at-sea distribution of migratory species to assess overlap with fishing operations and hence the risk of bycatch in fishing regions	Advice to Scientific Council on emerging issues, as appropriate	Barry Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Bycatch Working Group	ongoing	None		
Encourage Parties to implement the best practice approach and procedures outlined in FAO International Plans of Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IPOA-Seabirds & Best Practices Technical Guidelines; - IPOA-Sharks - FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations; and - FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards (Res.10.14 para 3) Work Program 2014-2017 for Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch Working Group	Review effectiveness of IPOA-Seabirds and their implementation Assist Parties in the preparation, adoption & implementation of FAO NPOA-Seabirds and FAO NPOA-Sharks, as requested	Report to ScC-SC2 Potential input into revised Resolution for COP12 Advice to Scientific Council on emerging issues, as appropriate	Barry Baker ACAP colleagues Barry Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Bycatch Working Group	High	No		

Mandate	Description of SC intersessional actions (ScC-SC1 – ScC-SC2)	Expected Output	Lead / Contributors	Priority	Funding needed	Progress up to ScC-SC2	Further action up to COP12 and/or ScC-SC3
<p>Encourages Parties to conduct research to identify and improve mitigation measures, including use of alternative fishing gear and methods, to avoid or reduce bycatch where feasible, and subsequently promote their use and implementation</p> <p>(Res.10.14 para 5)</p> <p>Scientific Council to identify and provide advice on best practice mitigation techniques.</p> <p>(Res.10.14 para 9)</p> <p>Work Program 2014-2017 for Bycatch Councillor and Bycatch Working Group</p>	<p>Review information on mitigation measures for fishing methods known to impact migratory species</p>	<p>Advice to Scientific Council on emerging issues, as appropriate</p>	<p>Barry Baker (Sec FP: Virtue & Frisch) Bycatch Working Group</p>				