

ScC-SC6 CRP 12.4.3**SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**
(arising from ScC-SC6)**MIGRATORY SPECIES AND HEALTH****UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC6/Doc.12.4.3****RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Sessional Committee welcomed the review contained in Annex to the Document, and requests the Secretariat to undertake the following, taking into account, as appropriate, the comments made in the 6th meeting of the Sessional Committee and submitted in writing to the Secretariat by 4 August:

- a) finalize the report;
- b) prepare a document for consideration by COP14, containing draft Decisions and a draft amended Resolution 12.6 *Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species*, taking into account, as appropriate, the comments by the 6th Meeting of the Sessional Committee, including the following elements:
 - i. Encourage Parties to take note of the of the Migratory Species and Health Review and implement its key recommendations;
 - ii. Request Scientific Council to provide any recommendations on issues related to migratory species and health, as appropriate, to COP15, noting the establishment of The CMS Scientific Council Working Group on Migratory Species and Health (Terms of reference is contained in the document UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC5/Outcome 11);
 - iii. Encourage the Secretariat and Parties to engage with WHO in developing a new instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

A number of comments were provided on a range of issues, including the following:

- It was noted that the recommendations included in Doc.12.4.3 refer to disease spillover. Reference to pathogens spillover is recommended, on the ground that wildlife may not show morbidity, mortality, or any sign of disease, while they may carry pathogens with potential to spill over and infect other wildlife, livestock, or people. Similarly, recommendations on the need for disease surveillance in the document could be further emphasised. The importance of establishing adequate national wildlife health surveillance programmes was remarked.
- Also in relation to spill over, it was suggested that the risk of reverse spill over could be further emphasized in the report.
- Some geographical unbalance was noted in the report. While this may well reflect differences in availability of studies for different geographic areas, efforts to correct the imbalances to the extent possible would be desirable.
- It was noted that some references, e.g. in relation to spill over from livestock to people, were somehow dated, when more recent publications are available, that could be referred to.

- The engagement of Parties, and Secretariat, with the ongoing negotiations under WHO of a new instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response was recommended, with a view to inject elements related to the prevention of emergence of disease related to spill over. Negotiations are expected to be ongoing through 2024, and probably beyond.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

The following specific revisions were recommended to be made in the executive summary included in the Annex to the document:

- Key Messages, 1st paragraph: add at the end of the paragraph the text "...and should be included in any future instrument on pandemic prevention";
- Preliminary Recommendations, 1st paragraph: at the end of the first sentence, add the text "...and should be a feature of any future pandemics instrument being negotiated under the auspices of the WHO.";
- Preliminary Recommendations, 2nd paragraph: add 'exploitation' among the drivers of population decline.