



**Convention on the  
Conservation of Migratory Species  
of Wild Animals**

**CMS Proposal on the CBD/CMS  
Joint Work Programme**

**WORKING DRAFT**

20 July 2001

## **Proposed Joint Work Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals**

### *Note by the CMS Secretariat*

The attached joint work programme (JWP) represents an important step of the evolving partnership between the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as enumerated in various CMS Resolutions (e.g., 4.4, 5.4 and 6.4), CBD Decision (e.g., III/21 and V/21) and lately in the SBSTTA VI/8 recommendation. Because of its close inter-linkages, the proposed CMS/CBD JWP supports the role that each convention can play in supporting the other's implementation in order to promote synergies and avoid the duplication of work. The Secretariats of the two conventions developed the JWP, in consultation with the current chairs of the instruments' respective subsidiary scientific and technical bodies.

Work was guided by the various thematic and cross-cutting CBD work programmes and the work programmes of the CMS Instruments, as well as the four objectives of the CMS Strategic Plan (2000-2005) adopted by the CMS COP at its sixth meeting (Cape Town, 1999) (CMS Res. 6.4). These are (1) to promote the conservation of migratory species included in major animal groups listed in CMS Appendices (Objective 1); (2) to focus and prioritise conservation actions for migratory species (Objective 2); (3) to enhance global membership in CMS through targeted promotion of the Convention's aims (Objective 3); and (4) to facilitate and improve implementation of the convention (Objective 4). Finally, some of the activities suggested were adapted from the CMS working document UNEP/CMS/Conf.6.12.

The various thematic and cross cutting areas of the CBD are the framework for organisation. Background information is provided and a non-exhaustive, indicative list of actions to be taken is given, along with an indication of the priority (high (H), medium (M) and low (L) that should be accorded to undertake the activity. Finally, the actors responsible for undertaking the actions, and the mechanisms and financial considerations are suggested.

Individual Parties to both the CBD and/or the relevant CMS Instruments have the primary responsibility to implement the JWP. Where appropriate SBSTTA and the CMS Scientific Council have been referenced. In addition, other actors such as international organisations (intergovernmental and non-governmental) are invited to contribute to the JWP's implementation. Finally, the secretariats of the CBD and the CMS Instruments will actively contribute to the JWP implementation process, as resources permit.

The JWP is viewed as an evolving document whose implementation should be kept under review regularly by each instruments' respective Conferences of the Parties. The initial period of application is 2002-2003. Because of their nature, some activities could be rolled over into subsequent implementation periods.

Notwithstanding further guidance from each instruments' respective Conferences and Subsidiary Bodies, and in order to expeditiously capture synergies, CMS and CBD Parties are invited to use the JWP as a basis for guiding their national level efforts to implement the CBD thematic areas and cross-cutting themes with regard to migratory species, as well as their international level co-operative actions. The CMS and CBD Secretariats will use the JWP as the basis for their collaborative efforts, pursuant to their 1996 Memorandum of Co-operation.

## Proposed Joint Work Programme between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on Migratory Species (Working Draft as at 20.07.2001)

### *Thematic Areas*

#### **1.0 Marine and Coastal Biodiversity**

CMS works extensively with migratory species in marine and coastal areas. The primary taxonomic groups and their habitats that CMS addresses are migratory marine mammals, seabirds and marine turtles. Some of these are listed on CMS Appendix I and are the subject of concerted actions by the CMS Parties.

Six of the CMS Instruments (CMS, Wadden Sea Seals, ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS and Turtles (i.e., Atlantic Coast of Africa, and Indian Ocean and South-east Asia) deal directly with marine and coastal biodiversity. Two others, AEWA and the Slender-billed Curlew MOU, also address migratory waterbirds whose migratory ranges may include marine and coastal ecosystems.

CMS Instruments contribute to each programme element of the CBD marine and coastal biodiversity work programme. However, the primary areas where the CMS Instruments and the CBD can work together are (1) integrated marine and coastal area management (IMCAM), (2) marine living resources, and (3) the identification of important sites and criteria for establishing and managing protected areas.

#### **1.1 Integrated marine and coastal area management**

Under Programme Element 1 of the CBD Marine and Coastal Work Programme, Operational Objective 1.1 (CBD Decision IV/5) aims to review existing instruments relevant to IMCAM and their implications for the CBD's implementation. Among other things, this operational objective is to be fulfilled with the creation of an informal inter-agency task force.

The Wadden Sea Seals Agreement, ACCOBAMS, ASCOBANS, AEWA, the Slender-billed Curlew MOU and the African Atlantic Coast Turtles MOU, are key instruments under CMS through which ICAM can be presented for the regional areas that the instruments address. In general, these instruments promote adequate protection of areas for reproduction as well as other habitats important to migratory species. In particular, the Seals Agreement and ASCOBANS are key regional instruments to reduce and control sea- and land-based sources of pollution that impact not only upon the migratory species that they target but other species as well.

<i>Actions to be Taken<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Priority<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Main Actors<sup>3</sup></i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Review CMS Instruments for their relevancy to IMCAM and determine appropriateness of participation in the informal inter-agency task force to support operational objective 1.1	H	SCBD	SCMSI	Secretariats' consultation	None

<sup>1</sup> Actions listed in the CMS/CBD Joint Work Programme are non-exhaustive and indicative.

<sup>2</sup> H – High priority: by end of the 2003 or sooner; M - Medium priority: by the end of 2004 or sooner; L – Lower priority: by the end of 2005 or sooner.

<sup>3</sup> Parties (Parties to the various CMS Instruments and/or CBD); SCBD (CBD Secretariat); SCMS (CMS Secretariat); SBSTTA (CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice); IOs (International Organizations); SCMSI (Secretariats to the CMS Instruments, as appropriate); ScC (CMS Scientific Council).

## 1.2 Marine and Coastal Living Resources

CBD Marine Programme Operational Objective 2.1 focuses on promoting ecosystem approaches to the sustainable use of marine and coastal living resources to assess and monitor (1) components of biodiversity; (2) sustainable use of such components; and, (3) ecosystem effects. Among other things, the CBD Secretariat is to establish an informal inter-agency task force to accomplish this work.

CBD COP V also expanded the marine and coastal living resources element of the work programme by integrating coral bleaching (CBD COP Decision V/3). This was based in part on the report produced by the CBD sponsored Expert Consultation on Coral Bleaching. Among other things, the CBD Secretariat will develop a specific work plan on coral bleaching and will liaise with other organisations in conducting this work. Relevant organisations were invited to contribute to the implementation of the work plan. In addition, the CBD COP asked for the submission of case studies on the coral-bleaching phenomenon.

Finally, CBD V suggested to SBSTTA that it consider additional issues and prioritise their treatment as appropriate. These include *inter alia* the issue of the use of unsustainable fishing practices, including the effects on marine and coastal biodiversity of the discard of by-catch.

Migratory species are important marine and coastal living resources. The general activities of CMS with regard to Appendix I and II species and the activities under the more specific CMS Instruments generally contribute to the CBD's work programme in this area. The work of CMS on marine turtles is relevant to that of the CBD on coral bleaching because some marine turtle species rely at least in part on coral reefs. Finally, the issue of by-catch and unsustainable fishing practices is integral to the work of CMS on for example cetaceans, marine turtles and seabirds. In particular, CMS Resolution 6.2 (By-catch) reminds CMS Parties of their obligations to protect migratory species from by-catch. It also asked the CMS Secretariat to bring the resolution to the attention of the CBD and FAO in order to explore future co-operation. In addition, the Seals Agreement and ASCOBANS are collecting data on by-catch pursuant to resolutions of their meetings of Parties.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Review conclusions of the CBD Expert Consultation on Coral Bleaching to determine appropriate CMS follow-up actions	H	ScC	SCMS	Secretariats' consultation	None
2. Contribute case studies on the relationship between marine turtles and coral bleaching	M	Parties; IOs	SCMS	Prepare a consolidated document	To be determined
3. Forward CMS Resolution 6.2 (By-catch) to CBD; explore possibilities for future co-operation and subsequently implement (under objective 2.1)	H	SCMS; SCMSI; Parties	IOs	Expert workshop to be supported by CMS; Case studies	To be determined by the ScC.
4. Intensify dialogue and co-operation with the fisheries sector where there are known impacts on migratory species due to by-catch and contribute to the CBD's future work on by-catch case studies or a commissioned study on the magnitude of the threat	H	Parties; IOs	SCMS	Commission a study / Submit case studies	To be determined

5. Promote signature and implementation of the CMS Agreement on Albatrosses and Petrels in the Southern Hemisphere and CMS MoUs for marine turtle conservation in the Atlantic Coast of Africa and in the Indian Ocean and South-east Asia	H	Parties	SCMS	Establish priorities for action	To be determined
6. Prepare a study on the indirect effects of fishing by influencing available food resources for coastal and in-shore migrating and wintering bird species (terns, gulls, pelicans, etc.) in addition to the effect to local fauna populations.	M			Commission study	To be determined
7. Stimulate concerted actions in favour of the endangered marine birds, mammals and reptile species listed in CMS Appendix I that are not adequately covered by other instruments.	H	Parties	SCMS	Develop regional projects	To be determined

### 1.3 Identification of Important Sites and Criteria for Establishing and Managing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas

CBD Operational Objective 3.1 is designed to facilitate research and monitoring activities related to the value and the effects of marine and coastal protected areas on sustainable use of marine and coastal living resources. Among the activities envisioned are the identification of pilot projects, a desk study to gather and assimilate information, the identification of the linkages between conservation and sustainable use and the facilitation of research on the effects marine and coastal protected areas or closed areas in population size and dynamics. In addition, the CBD Secretariat will select experts for an ad hoc technical experts group that will work under SBSTTA. Experts will be selected from the CBD marine and coastal biodiversity roster of experts.

CBD Operational Objective 3.2 will develop criteria to establish and manage marine and coastal protected areas. The CBD Secretariat is to collaborate with relevant organisations. The CBD COP, as a possible appropriate mechanism to support this work, foresees development of an informal task force.

Protected areas are key tools with which to conserve and sustainably use migratory species whether in general, or those listed on CMS Appendices and are generally addressed in the section on protected areas (Section 11.0). The CMS COP at its fifth meeting decided that in conjunction with Range States, Parties should develop a network of critical sites as protected areas throughout the migration routes of Appendix I species (CMS COP, Res. 5.4). The Wadden Sea Seals Agreement also recognises the importance of creating a network of protected areas in the seals' migration areas and the importance of an adequate number of reserves. ASCOBANS encourages its Parties to work with others to develop criteria to define marine protected areas for small cetaceans (ASCOBANS MOP1, Res. 2).

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Include expertise on migratory species and marine and coastal protected areas in the CBD ad hoc technical experts group to support CBD Operational Objective 3.1	H	SCBD	SCMSI	Invite CMS to participate	None
2. Review CMS Instruments and determine relevancy of their participation in the informal inter-agency task force to support CBD Operational Objective 3.1	H	SCBD	SCMSI	Secretariats' consultation	None
3. Collaborate to support CBD Operational Objective 3.2, possibly through participation in an informal task force	H	SCBD; SCMSI		Secretariats' consultation	None

## 2.0 Inland Waters Biodiversity

Migratory species rely on and are important components of inland waters ecosystems. The primary taxonomic groups and their habitats that CMS addresses are migratory waterbirds, reptiles and fish. Some of these are listed on CMS Appendix I and are the subject of concerted actions by the CMS Parties.

Four of the CMS Instruments are relevant to the CBD work programme on inland waters biodiversity. CMS, the AEWA and, to a lesser extent, the Siberian Cranes MOU and the Slender-billed Curlew MOU directly address inland waters biodiversity. Of the CMS Instruments, AEWA is presently making an immediate substantive policy contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of inland waters biodiversity as it has adopted a set of nine conservation guidelines and will be commissioning international reviews.

As part of their mandate, these instruments collect, review and assess information on the conservation status and trends of migratory species associated with inland waters biodiversity. CMS's work therefore contributes to CBD Work Programme Element A (Assessment of the Status and Trends of the Biodiversity of Inland Waters Ecosystems and Identification of Options for Conservation and Sustainable Use) of the CBD Inland Waters Biodiversity Work Programme, and the supporting SBSTTA work programme (Work Programme Element A(2) (CBD COP Decision IV/4). SBSTTA's complementary work includes *inter alia* (a) developing an improved picture of inland waters biodiversity and (b) developing and disseminating regional guidelines for rapid assessment. In Programme Element A, the CBD COP noted that the CBD Secretariat should continue to work with and further develop collaboration with organisations working on research, management, and conservation of inland waters biodiversity such as *inter alia* the Bonn Convention (CMS).

CBD Work Programme Element B (Provision of Scientific and Further Guidance to Assist in the National Elaboration of CBD Annex 1 (as pertaining to inland water ecosystems)) requests the CBD Secretariat to work closely with the Ramsar Bureau. It also directs SBSTTA to work jointly with the Ramsar Scientific, Technical and Technical Review Panel to achieve desirable convergence between approaches on criteria and classification of inland water ecosystems between the two conventions. Because Annex 1 refers in part to ecosystems and habitats required by migratory species, it may be appropriate for SBSTTA to collaborate as well with the CMS Scientific Council and the AEWA Technical Committee.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Identify specific areas where CMS Instruments can contribute to Programme Element A including how GROMS <sup>4</sup> may be able to contribute	H	SCBD	SCMSI	Secretariats' consultation	None
2. Monitor the development of regional guidelines for rapid assessment of inland waters biodiversity and provide substantive inputs from CMS Instruments as necessary	H	SCMSI; ScC	SBSTTA SCBD	Pilot project	To be determined
3. Make available to the CBD and in particular the Clearinghouse Mechanism guidelines and reviews generated by the CMS Instruments, such as AEWA, relevant to inland waters biodiversity	H	SCMSI		Hand over guidelines	None
4. Participate in the further development of the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy	H	Parties	SCMS	Regional Workshop	To be determined
5. Facilitate the development of initiatives for migratory waterbirds: of the Central Asian-Indian flyway and the Pacific Flyway of the Americas	H	Parties	SCMS, Ramsar, WI	Regional Workshops	To be determined

<sup>4</sup> The Global Register of Migratory Species (GROMS) is an initiative of the CMS Secretariat in co-operation with Bonn University. The GROMS database combines existing knowledge of migratory species with a geographical information system (GIS).

### 3.0 Forest Biodiversity

Migratory species, such as songbirds, raptors and bats, can be components of forest biodiversity. Species from these groups and others such as the mountain gorilla and the African forest elephant appear on CMS Appendix I. In addition to the CMS agreement, three CMS Instruments are relevant to the CBD work programme on forest biodiversity. The EUROBATS Agreement directly addresses migratory species that are components of or rely on forest biodiversity. AEWA, the Siberian Cranes MOU and the Slender-billed Curlew MOU address migratory species that may be transient components of or rely on forest biodiversity along part of their migration routes.

The CBD forest biodiversity work programme is research-oriented, although CBD COP V decided to expand the work programme to practical actions to urgently address forest biodiversity conservation and sustainable use measures (CBD COP Decision V/4).

CBD COP V also decided to create an ad hoc technical experts group on forest biodiversity. The expert group's mandate includes (1) providing advice on scientific programmes and international co-operation in research and development related to conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity and (2) carrying out a review of available information on the status and trends of, and major threats to, forest biodiversity, to identify significant gaps in information.

Forest biodiversity is the main theme of SBSTTA VII.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial considerations</i>
1. CMS Instruments to contribute to the assessment of status and trends of forest biodiversity by the ad hoc technical expert group. Incorporate special needs of migratory species in their work.	H	SCBD	SCMSI	Invite CMS to participate	None
2. Make available to the CBD and in particular the Clearinghouse Mechanism guidelines generated by the CMS Instruments relevant to the CBD forest biodiversity work programme, such as the EUROBATS guidelines on bat-friendly forestry practices (forthcoming)	H	SCMSI		Hand over information	None
3. Review CMS Instruments in regards to their relevance to integrated holistic and inter-sectoral ecosystem approaches to forest biological diversity to support element 1 of work programme on forest biological diversity	M	SCBD	SCMS, IOs	Commission a study	To be determined

#### 4.0 Agricultural Biodiversity

A number of agricultural practices threaten migratory species including building fences and other obstacles, conversion, overgrazing and pollution in aquatic areas from agricultural runoff. Some agricultural activities such as agricultural conversion are major threats to wetlands important to migratory waterbirds, while some activities may actually sustain migratory species populations. In some areas, migratory species such as the Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes must compete with livestock for suitable grazing areas, in addition over-grazing has led to habitat damage. Persistent organic chemicals in agricultural run-off bio-accumulate in migratory waterbirds and marine mammals. Agricultural practices may also impact on migratory insects that act as pollinators such as the monarch butterfly.

Conversely, in some situations, migratory species such as certain species of migratory waterbirds are viewed as pests because they can lead to damage in crops and aquaculture operations.

Seven CMS Instruments intersect with the CBD agricultural biodiversity work programme. In addition to the substantive work they already carry out, the primary additional contribution the CMS Instruments can make to the CBD's agricultural biodiversity work programme is under CBD programme element two (Adaptive Management). Experience and lessons learned could be provided in the form of guidelines and case studies.

Agricultural biodiversity, with a focus on the International Initiative on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators will be discussed at SBSTTA VII.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Include expertise on migratory species and agricultural biodiversity in the CBD roster of experts on agricultural biodiversity	H	Parties; SCBD	SCMS	Invite CMS to participate	None
2. Make available to the CBD guidelines generated by the CMS Instruments relevant to the CBD agricultural biodiversity work programme, such as the AEWA guidelines to reduce crop damage and other forms of conflict between waterbirds and human activities	H	SCMSI	CHM	Hand over guidelines to CHM	None
3. Provide case studies on the relationship between best agricultural practices and migratory species conservation	H	Parties; IOs	SCBD; SCMSI	Case studies	To be determined
4. Provide case studies on the impacts of migratory birds on agricultural crops and how to mitigate those impacts	H	Parties; IOs	SCBD; SCMSI	Case studies	To be determined

## 5.0 Biodiversity of Dry and Sub-humid Lands

Migratory species are especially prevalent in dry and sub-humid climates. A number of these species such as the great and Houbara bustard and various ungulates are listed on CMS Appendices I and II.

CMS, AEWA, the Siberian Cranes MOU, the Slender-billed Curlew MOU, the Great Bustard MOU and the Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes Action Plan all contribute to supporting the work programme on dry and sub-humid biodiversity adopted by the CBD (CBD COP Decision V/23). For example, AEWA and the Siberian crane and slender-billed curlew instruments address migratory waterbirds that use wetland ecosystems in dry and sub-humid landscapes within their migratory ranges. The Antelopes Action Plan addresses ungulates that depend on dry and sub-humid lands for survival.

The implementation of these CMS Instruments will contribute to supporting the general CBD work programme on dry and sub-humid lands agreed by the CBD COP. More specific contributions to the CBD work programme could be made in the context of (1) assessment (CBD Work Programme Part A)<sup>5</sup> and (2) targeted actions (CBD Work Programme part B).

The CBD Secretariat will provide a progress report to SBSTTA VII.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Include expertise on migratory species and biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands in the CBD roster of experts, as well as on the ad hoc technical experts group	H	Parties; SCBD	SCMSI	Invite CMS to participate	None
2. CMS Instruments to contribute to the CBD work programme element on assessment of dry and sub-humid biodiversity (Part A)	H	SCBD; SCMSI		Commission study	To be determined
3. Provide case studies on the relationship between migratory species and agricultural practices to contribute to Part A(7)(c) of the work programme element on assessment	H	Parties; IOs	SCBD; SCMSI	Case studies	To be determined
4. Determine how CMS Instruments and CBD can best co-operate with regard to the CBD Work Programme element on targeted actions including the creation of corridors for migratory species (activity 7(l))	H	SCBD; SCMSI		Secretariats' consultation	None
5. Develop a project proposal for a pilot demonstration site reflecting the common interests of CBD, CMS, Ramsar, UNCCD and UNFCCC (Ramsar/CBD Joint Work Programme, para. 1.8). The project proposal would be undertaken in consultation with an interested national government, possibly in Africa	M	SCBD; SCMSI		Pilot project	To be determined

<sup>5</sup>The assessment component includes: assessing the status and trends of the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands; identifying specific areas of particular value for biodiversity or under threat pursuant to CBD's annex I; developing indicators; building knowledge on the processes that affect biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands; identifying local and global benefits; and identifying and disseminating best management practices.

## *Cross-cutting Areas*

### **6.0 Alien Species**

CMS and AEWA address alien species for both terrestrial and marine environments. AEWA, as part of its international implementation priorities 2000-2004 (AEWA Res 1.4), is seeking funding to produce a conservation guideline on the avoidance of introductions of non-native migratory waterbird species. It is also seeking funding for an additional study on the rehabilitation of important sites for migratory waterbirds that have been degraded by invasive aquatic weeds.

CBD COP V requested the Executive Secretary to co-operate with international and regional binding and non-binding agreements, such as *inter alia* CMS, with the aim to co-ordinate work on alien species and to report to SBSTTA's sixth meeting on potential joint work programmes (CBD COP Decision V/8). CBD COP V also urged Parties, governments and relevant organisations to submit case studies following a format annexed to the decision. Finally, relevant international organisations were requested to submit to the CBD Secretariat written comments on the interim guiding principles on alien species in time for the sixth meeting of SBSTTA.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Provide case studies on the relationship between migratory species and the prevention of introduction, eradication or control of alien invasive species, pursuant to the format annexed to CBD COP Decision V/8	H	Parties; IOs	SCBD; SCMSI	Case studies	To be determined
2. Make available to the CBD guidelines by the CMS Instruments, such as AEWA, relevant to migratory species and the prevention of introduction, eradication or control of alien invasive species	M	SCMSI	CHM	Hand over guidelines	None

### **7.0 Ecosystem Approach**

The habitats of migratory species are found within a wide range of ecosystems across a number of Range States. Maintaining the structure and function of these ecosystems is therefore critical to the ultimate survival of migratory species and their habitats. Consequently, the CBD's ecosystem approach should be useful as a tool for migratory species conservation and sustainable use.

The CMS/CBD Complementarities Study (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/Inf/28) noted however that solely focussing on habitat conservation may not produce the best results for migratory species if other threats and needs unrelated to habitat go unaddressed either within individual Range States or across a migratory range. A "**migratory range approach**" incorporating an appropriate combination of both ecosystem and species-related approaches should be applied to migratory species conservation and sustainable use measures. This would reflect the principle that threats in one Range State can negatively impact upon a migratory species throughout its entire range.

The CBD COP has prepared guidelines and principles on the ecosystem approach and SBSTTA will prepare implementation guidelines prior to CBD COP VII (CBD COP Decision V/6). The CBD COP invited Parties, other governments and relevant bodies to identify case studies, implement pilot projects and to organise workshops to enhance awareness, share experiences and strengthen capacities on the ecosystem approach. Case studies and lessons learned will be collected and synthesised by the CBD Secretariat for SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the CBD COP. SBSTTA will prepare implementation guidelines for the ecosystem approach. Finally, Parties and governments are encouraged to promote regional co-operation through *inter alia* joint declarations and memoranda of understanding in applying the ecosystem approach.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Provide case studies on the relationship between the ecosystem approach and the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species taking into consideration the <b>migratory range approach</b>	H	Parties; IOs	SCBD; SCMSI	Case studies	To be determined
2. Assess the relationship between the ecosystem approach and the <b>migratory range approach</b>	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs; Parties, Wetlands Inter- national	Technical workshop / commission a study	To be determined

## 8.0 Global Taxonomy Initiative

Taxonomic information for migratory species has a number of gaps. CMS hopes to overcome the gaps in part through the Global Register of Migratory Species (GROMS). GROMS is being developed in co-operation with Bonn University. It is envisaged as an important contribution to the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

The information will also be made available through the CMS WWW site and the CBD CHM. This would support COP Decision IV/1 whose annex suggested making taxonomic information, literature and checklists available in electronic form. In addition to Decision IV/1, CBD Decision V/9 requested the CBD Secretariat to initiate short-term activities, such as regional meetings of scientists, managers and policy-makers to prioritise the most urgent global taxonomic needs, facilitate national and regional projects to meet these needs and to report to CBD COP VI.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Consider how GROMS could contribute to the GTI. Organize workshops involving key players to facilitate development of pilot project proposals	H	SCBD; SCMS	ScC	Workshops and pilot projects	To be determined
2. Identify experts on migratory species from the roster of experts under CBD and CMS to participate in the short-term GTI activities, starting with mangrove ecosystems.	H	IOs	SCBD; SCMS	Invite CMS to participate	None

## 9.0 Indicators, Identification and Assessment and Monitoring of Biodiversity

Many actions under CMS, such as listing in its appendices and negotiating additional agreements, are based on the availability of basic scientific information. This information describes the conservation status of the particular species or group of species in question.

All of the CMS Instruments require their Parties to research and monitor the migratory species they address. Information on migratory species may contribute not only to knowledge of their conservation status and, subsequently, establish the basis for conservation and sustainable use measures; it may also provide an indication of the status of the biodiversity upon which they depend as well. Parties are to exchange this information amongst themselves. EUROBATS and AEWA have produced guidelines on monitoring bats and migratory waterbirds within their respective agreement areas.

CBD COP V requested the CBD Secretariat to carry out pending activities of a work programme which was adopted as amended by CBD COP IV upon the recommendation of the third meeting of SBSTTA (CBD COP Decision V/7). Earlier work had included the creation of a roster of experts and the formation of a liaison group.

The pending activities include (1) developing a set of principles to design national-level monitoring programmes and indicators; (2) elaborating a key set of standard questions and a list of potential available indicators that may be used by CBD Parties at the national level as well as in national reporting and for regional and global overviews; and (3) regional co-operation on indicators, monitoring and assessment including regional workshops where the documents above are reviewed on the basis of case studies submitted by Parties, governments and relevant organisations.

An interim progress report will be produced for SBSTTA's review prior to CBD COP VI, with a final report submitted to CBD COP VI.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Identify experts on migratory species as indicators that could be included on the CBD roster of experts and the liaison group on indicators	H	Parties; SCBD; SCMS	ScC	Invite CMS to participate	None
2. GROMS to contribute to the CBD's work programme, including the development of regional and global overviews (e.g., the Global Biodiversity Outlook)	M	SCBD; SCMS		Pilot project	To be determined
3. Exchange case studies, best practices, guidelines, reviews, reports and data on the use of migratory species as indicators of biological diversity and their use in assessment and monitoring programmes (i.e. AEWA guidelines to reduce damage to fisheries and other forms of conflict between waterbirds and human activities, guidelines on bat-friendly forestry practices under the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe (EUROBATS). Provide case studies on migratory species as indicators to support the regional process of workshops on indicators	H	Parties	SCBD; SCMSI	Hand over information	None
4. Collect information and case-studies on the relationship between migratory species, coral bleaching and physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs and associated habitats (decision V/3)	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs; Parties	Case studies	To be determined

5. Organize a technical workshop or a commissioned study examining migratory species as indicators	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs; Parties	Develop a set of principles, standard questions and a list of available and potential indicators (Dec. V/7).	To be determined
--	---	---------------	-----------------	--	------------------

### 10.0 Impact Assessment and Minimising Adverse Impacts

None of the CMS Instruments specifically refer to environmental impact assessment, although all CMS Instruments require their Parties to address the threats posed by certain activities, and three instruments (ACCOBAMS, Cranes and Great Bustard) mention the assessment of threatening activities. Notwithstanding this, potential individual and cumulative impacts on migratory species should be considered in environmental impact assessment procedures addressing impacts to biodiversity.

CBD COP V invited Parties, governments and other relevant organisations to *inter alia* organise expert meetings, workshops and seminars, as well as training, educational and public awareness programmes and exchange programmes (CBD COP Decision V/18). It also requested SBSTTA to further develop guidelines to incorporate biodiversity-related issues into legislation or processes on strategic environmental impact assessment. The application of the precautionary principle and the ecosystem approach in impact assessment will be addressed. The guidelines are to be completed for further consideration by COP VI.

The CMS Scientific Council was specifically referenced by the CBD COP as a collaborating agency.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Organize a technical workshop or a commissioned study examining migratory species and impact assessment, including the problems posed by obstacles to migration, as an input into the CBD process	H	SCBD; SCMS	IOs; Parties	Case studies / Commission study	To be determined

### 11.0 Protected Areas

Protected areas are key tools with which to conserve and sustainably use migratory species. The creation of protected areas in “bottleneck areas” can be especially useful in conservation efforts. The work programmes of all the CMS Instruments address protected areas. The CMS COP at its fifth meeting decided that in conjunction with Range States, Parties should develop for Appendix I species a network of critical sites as protected areas throughout the migration routes of the species concerned (CMS COP, Res. 5.4).

The CBD COP has not addressed protected areas as a subject although they are addressed in the various thematic areas, for example, marine and coastal biodiversity. Protected areas will be addressed by CBD COP VII.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. CMS to provide expertise on migratory species and contribute to the CBD’s future work programme on protected areas including peer review of CBD papers, the participation of experts meetings and submission of case studies or commissioned studies on the value of protected areas to migratory species	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs	Invite CMS to participate. Commission study	None  To be determined

2. Identify pilot projects and research initiatives assessing the effect of protected areas on the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species (operational objective 3.2 of marine and coastal programme of work; elements 1 and 4 of the work programme for forest biological diversity)	M	Parties, IOs	SCBD; SCMS	Pilot projects	To be determined
3. Give particular attention to CMS Appendix I species when creating networks of critical sites or corridors throughout the migratory range of the species concerned, in close co-operation with other Range States, particularly neighbouring States.	H	Parties	IOs	Commission study	To be determined
4. Include information about the special needs of migratory species in the desk study on “The value and effects of marine and coastal protected areas on marine and coastal biological diversity” for the ad hoc technical expert group on marine and coastal protected areas.	H	SCBD; SCMS	Parties	Commission study	To be determined
5. Encourage research on the effects of protected areas or closed areas on population size and dynamics (operational objective 3.1 of marine and coastal programme of work)	M	IO's		Pilot Project	To be determined

## 12.0 Public Education and Awareness

Public education and awareness has been recognised by the majority of CMS Instruments as fundamental to efforts to conserve and sustainably use migratory species.

Public education and awareness is being integrated into all CBD sectoral and thematic items and CBD COP VII will review progress made. CBD COP V requested the CBD Secretariat to work with other organisations to further advance and identify priority activities for the proposed global initiative on biological diversity education and public awareness. The CBD Secretariat was also requested to designate a theme each year for the International Day for Biological Diversity.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Incorporate migratory species into the programme elements on education and public awareness (EPA) being developed between CBD and UNESCO initiative.	M	SCBD; SCMS; UNESCO	IOs	Secretariats' consultation	To be determined
2. Consider designating migratory species as a possible theme in the near future for the International Day of Biological Diversity	M	SCBD; SCMS		Secretariats' consultation	To be determined
3. Promote awareness-raising, information sharing and training with regard to migratory species for stakeholders involved in sustainable tourism.	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs	Pilot project	To be determined

### 13.0 Sustainable Use, including Tourism

The importance of sustainable use is growing within the CMS Instruments though the term is not actually used in the Convention's text. CMS addresses both the conservation and management of migratory species and therefore implicitly addresses the issue of sustainable use. The CMS COP decided that future CMS agreements should incorporate directly "sustainable use" consistent with conservation measures (CMS COP IV, Res. 4.4).

Under the CMS Instruments sustainable use is addressed in three areas. The areas relate to: (1) direct and indirect uses of migratory species (e.g., taking and tourism); (2) management where protection measures have benefited migratory species to the point where growing populations conflict with certain human activities; and, (3) the impacts of threatening activities (e.g., incidental losses such as fishing by-catch). A key consideration, as well as a complication, is to ensure that use is sustainable throughout a particular migratory range taking into consideration the larger population.

The CBD COP has acknowledged sustainable use as a cross-cutting issue and has recognised linkages with its other work on incentives and indicators. The CBD Secretariat has been requested to invite organisations involved with sustainable use initiatives to gather and disseminate through the Clearinghouse Mechanism case studies on best practices and lessons learned from use of biodiversity under the CBD's thematic areas. From this information, the CBD Secretariat will assemble practical principles, operational guidelines and associated instruments, and guidance specific to sectors and biomes. A progress report will be presented to SBSTTA VII prior to the CBD COP's sixth meeting.

CBD COP V accepted the invitation from the Commission on Sustainable Development to participate in the CSD's work programme on sustainable tourism development with a view to contributing to international guidelines for operating in vulnerable ecosystems, habitats of major importance and protected areas. The CBD Secretariat was asked to prepare a proposal for a contribution to guidelines, for example, by convening an international workshop.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Provide case studies on the sustainable use of migratory species and their economic value to support the development of CBD principles and guidelines	H	Parties	SCBD; SCMSI	Case studies	To be determined
2. Determine the most appropriate means for migratory species and tourism to be addressed in the CBD's contribution to the CSD Initiative	M	SCBD; SCMS		Pilot project	To be determined
3. Make available to the CBD when published, guidelines by the CMS Instruments, such as those by AEWA on (1) the development of ecotourism in wetlands, (2) the sustainable harvest of migratory waterbirds (3) regulating trade in migratory waterbirds and (4) reducing crop damage from migratory waterbirds	M	SCMSI	CHM	Hand over information	None

## 14.0 National Strategies, Plans, Policies and Laws

The development of appropriate legal and policy instruments, such as legislation and national biodiversity strategy and action plans, is a priority for both conventions. Biodiversity-related legal and policy instruments need to integrate the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species in order to contribute to the longer term efforts to conserve inland waters, marine and coastal, forest, agricultural, dry-land and mountain biodiversity. In addition, there is a need to integrate the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies, for example, in the fisheries, forestry and agricultural areas (CBD article 6(b)). Similarly, consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species needs to be integrated into national decision-making (CBD article 10(a)).

Guidelines on integrating the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species into biodiversity strategies and national decision-making could be useful.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Integrate the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species into national biodiversity strategies and action plans.	M	IOs	SCBD; SCMS	Develop guidelines	To be determined
2. Integrate the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species into national decision-making especially across the competencies of governmental institutions	M	IOs	SCBD; SCMS	Develop guidelines	To be determined
3. Based on the results on impact assessments (see section 10) develop national legislation for the protection and conservation of migratory species	L	Parties, IOs	SCBD; SCMS	Pilot project	To be determined

### *Institutional Linkages*

## 15.0 National Level Institutional Linkages

Migratory species cross-cut most of the CBD's work programme as well as national level efforts and sectors involved with biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

The CBD and CMS have focal points for matters of general convention implementation and administrative matters. It is foreseen that CBD and CMS focal points will work together to further develop their work to promote better national and regional level implementation. CBD COP III called on national focal points of the CBD and the competent authorities of *inter alia* CMS to co-operate on the implementation of the two conventions at the national level to avoid duplication of effort (CBD COP Decision III/21). There is also a growing need for national level focal points involved with the implementation of other biodiversity-related treaties to take into consideration migratory species-related issues and vice versa.

As with biodiversity conservation in general, national level efforts to conserve and sustainably use migratory species must take into consideration the wide variety of sectors and agencies that may affect beneficially or adversely upon migratory species. Promoting national level cross-sectoral co-ordination is one way to improve the treatment of migratory species related issues at national and regional levels.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Support the implementation of the CMS Agreements (i.e., ASCOBANS, EUROBATS, Wadden Seals Agreement and AEWA) to facilitate co-operation, collaboration and synergy	M	Parties	SCMSI	Workshops	To be determined
2. Promote national level cross-sectoral co-ordination to improve the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, including focal points of conventions	M	Parties	SCBD; SCMSI	Workshops	To be determined
<p><b>16.0 Secretariats</b></p> <p>The heads of the CBD and CMS Secretariats concluded and signed on 13 June 1996 a memorandum of co-operation. The memorandum was endorsed by CBD COP decision II/10. Through the memorandum of co-operation the secretariats decided to: co-operate institutionally; exchange experience and information; co-ordinate work programmes and exploring the possibility of harmonising reporting requirements; encourage joint conservation action; and, consult with, report to and seek guidance from their governing bodies on the memorandum of co-operation.</p> <p>At its fifth meeting, the CMS COP adopted “Objectives and Action Points for the Triennium 1998-2000 (CMS COP, Res. 5.4). Objective 8.1 invites CMS Parties and the CMS Secretariat to implement the CBD/CMS memorandum of co-operation. The memorandum remains the primary basis for co-operation between the two secretariats.</p> <p>One area that requires further examination is how to increase the possibilities for co-operation and collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and the secretariats of the other CMS Instruments. Presently, even though the other CMS Instruments oversee important components of biological diversity, and their work contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and, therefore, the CBD’s implementation, their secretariats have extremely limited means to co-operate and collaborate with the CBD.</p>					
<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Continue to strengthen co-operation between the CMS and CBD secretariats, particularly by keeping the joint CMS/CBD work programme under review and reporting on their activities at each other’s respective major meetings	M	SCBD; SCMS		Secretariats’ consultations	None
2. Provide materials/stories/information for inclusion in their respective newsletter/bulletins and websites	M	SCBD; SCMS	Parties	Provide information	None

## 17.0 Bureaux and Subsidiary Scientific Bodies

Synergies can be gained when the various bodies of CMS and CBD communicate and collaborate. Dialogue can be especially useful between the bureaux of the two instruments: the CBD Bureau and the CMS Standing Committee and could be encouraged.

As between the CBD SBSTTA and the CMS Scientific Council, pursuant to CBD COP Decision III/21, the CBD COP encouraged further co-operative arrangements between the CBD SBSTTA and the CMS Scientific Council. At its fifth meeting, the CMS COP also confirmed that CMS should strengthen or establish new partnerships with the CBD institutions (CMS COP, Res. 5.4). The CMS Standing Committee and Scientific Council were encouraged to communicate with the respective bodies in question, participate in their meetings and report back to CMS bodies.

The CBD has invited a member of the CMS Scientific Council to sit as an observer at its meetings and a member has done so. At its sixth meeting, the CMS COP invited SBSTTA to observe the meetings of the CMS Scientific Council (CMS COP, Res. 6.7).

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Promote further dialogue and collaboration between the CBD Bureau and the CMS Standing Committee	M	CBD Bureau; CMS Standing Committee		Attend each others' meetings	To be determined
2. Continue to strengthen co-operation between the CMS Scientific Council, including its working groups, and the CBD SBSTTA, and the various bodies subsidiary to it	M	ScC; SBSTTA	SCMS; SCBD	Attend workshops	To be determined
3. Establish a Working Group or a Liaison Group under the SBSTTA to fully address migratory species at thematic and cross-cutting levels	H	SBSTTA; ScC	IOs	Establish Working or Liaison Group	To be determined

## 18.0 Information Management: Clearinghouse Mechanism and National Reporting

The CBD Clearinghouse Mechanism (CHM) was established to promote and facilitate scientific and technical co-operation. The CHM can be envisioned as a tool through which to promote synergies between the CBD and CMS as well as the other biodiversity-related conventions. The CHM has also been entrusted with the exchange and dissemination of biodiversity-related information which includes migratory species. In that regard initiatives such as GROMS (see footnote 4), the North American Commission on Environmental Co-operation's Species Analyst and others are seen as significant possible contributions to the CBD CHM.

A valuable joint web site of the biodiversity-related Conventions ([www.biodiv.org/rioconv/websites.html](http://www.biodiv.org/rioconv/websites.html)) has been developed and this represents a very positive milestone in terms of CHM-related collaboration among sister Conventions.

In 1999, the CMS COP adopted an information management plan whose objectives include *inter alia* (1) increasing access to information on migratory species already being collected by the secretariats and Parties to the CMS Instruments and (2) developing mechanisms to share experiences particularly between Parties and other Range States.

National reports are seen as valuable sources of information through which progress achieved to implement a biodiversity-related treaty can be ascertained. CBD and CMS are actively involved in the UNEP-led harmonisation of national reporting. The CMS Secretariat has also been working with the World Conservation Monitoring Centre to draw from the national reports of CMS Parties information on the status and population trends for selected species as well as conservation measures taken by CMS Parties. The information could make a valuable contribution not only to the implementation of CMS, but also to the overall CBD work on the status and trends of biodiversity, especially in the context of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.

<i>Actions to be Taken</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Main Actors</i>	<i>Other Actors</i>	<i>Mechanisms</i>	<i>Financial Considerations</i>
1. Exchange and disseminate information on migratory species, including case studies, reports and others on the importance of migratory species in all thematic areas and crosscutting issues.	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs	Use the CHM	To be determined
2. Integrate the work of the Global Register of Migratory Species (GROMS) and other initiatives that include migratory species-related information to the CHM. Consider how GROMS can contribute to the programmes of work under CBD.	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs	Secretariats' consultations	To be determined
3. Further develop a joint-web site with other BD-related conventions on matters related to migratory species, including making available excerpts from their national reports on line	M	SCBD; SCMS	IOs	Secretariats' consultations	To be determined
4. Ensure that National Reports of CMS and Agreements are made available for and taken into account in CBD decision-making	H	Parties, SCMS	IOs, SCBD;	Provide executive summaries	To be determined
5. Include a section on migratory species in the web sites developed for the various CBD thematic and cross-cutting areas	H	SCBD	SCMSI; IOs	Provide information	None
6. Explore the best ways and means to promote and facilitate scientific and technical co-operation on migratory species via the CHM	H	SBSTTA; ScC	IOs	Workshop	To be determined

## List of Acronyms

<b>ACCOBAMS</b>	Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Mediterranean and Black Seas
<b>AEWA</b>	Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds
<b>ASCOBANS</b>	Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>CHM</b>	CBD Clearinghouse Mechanism
<b>CMS</b>	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
<b>EUROBATS</b>	Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
<b>GROMS</b>	Global Register of Migratory Species
<b>IMCAM</b>	Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management
<b>IO</b>	International Organisation (Intergovernmental or non-governmental)
<b>SBSTTA</b>	CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice
<b>SCBD</b>	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>ScC</b>	CMS Scientific Council
<b>SCMS</b>	Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species
<b>SCMSI</b>	Secretariats of the CMS Instruments
<b>WI</b>	Wetlands International