

Notification 2022/023

20 December 2022

## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

### **NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLOR SUBJECT AREAS OF AQUATIC MAMMALS AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Through this Notification the Secretariat is seeking nominations for suitable candidates for the COP-appointed Councillor subject areas of Aquatic Mammals and Climate Change.

Annexed to this Notification are generic terms of reference for COP-appointed Councillors. Parties are invited to submit nominations in writing to the Secretariat, [cms.secretariat@cms.int](mailto:cms.secretariat@cms.int), copying [marco.barbieri@un.org](mailto:marco.barbieri@un.org), by **28 February 2023**. Candidates do not have to be nationals of the Party submitting the nomination, or even of a CMS Party. Candidates should be internationally recognized experts in the field which they are proposed to cover as a COP-appointed Councillor. Nominations should include a statement justifying the candidature, a CV of the candidate, as well as a declaration by the candidate expressing their readiness to accept the appointment if selected. Appointments will be for the intersessional period between COP14 (October 2023) and COP15, approximately 3 years later. Appointments are normally renewed by each subsequent meeting of the COP for the following intersessional period, subject to the confirmation of the corresponding subject area among those to be covered by COP-appointed Councillors.

Considering that COP-appointed Councillors are usually called to coordinate and/or chair working groups at CMS Scientific Council meetings, normally operating in English without simultaneous interpretation, a good command of English is considered necessary to efficiently undertake the task. Knowledge of the other working languages of the Scientific Council (French, Spanish) would be an asset.

The position of COP-appointed Councillor is not remunerated. Based on currently applicable rules and policies, and subject to availability of resources, the Secretariat will cover the travel and subsistence allowance related to the participation of the COP-appointed Councillors to meetings of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (normally two in the intersessional period between COPs) and of the COP (normally one meeting in a triennium).

The Secretariat will compile all nominations received and will make them available to COP14 for consideration. Prior to COP14, the Sessional Committee will consult on the nominations received with a view to formulating its recommendations on the selection of candidates to the COP.

<http://www.cms.int/en/news/notifications>

For further information or clarification on the COP-Appointed Councillor subject areas and the nomination process, please contact the CMS Scientific Adviser Mr. Marco Barbieri [marco.barbieri@un.org](mailto:marco.barbieri@un.org).

### **Background**

The 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (Gandhinagar, India, 15-22 February 2020) decided on the appointment of COP-appointed Councillors for the intersessional period between COP13 and COP14 for the following subject areas: Birds, Terrestrial Mammals, Aquatic Mammals, Fish, Climate Change, Connectivity/Networks, Marine Pollution, Bycatch, and Invasive Species/Wildlife Disease. Based on a recommendation of the Scientific Council, COP13 also agreed on a review process that should occur every two COP cycles to ensure the ongoing applicability of the subject areas (see document [UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.15.1 Revision of COP-appointed Councillor Subject Areas](#) for details). The subject areas approved by COP13 are therefore expected to be confirmed for the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15.

The COP-appointed Councillors for Aquatic Mammals (Dr. Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara) and Climate Change (Prof. Colin Galbraith) have informed the Secretariat that they are not going to seek reappointment for the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15. The current COP-appointed Councillors for all other subject areas have confirmed their availability to remain in their appointed positions following COP14.

## ANNEX

### INDICATIVE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLORS

#### Functions and responsibilities (when applicable)

- Contribute to the work of the Scientific Council (ScC) and its Sessional Committee (ScC-SC) by helping to:
  - Identify and formulate proposals/recommendations to address the conservation of migratory species, notably in the subject area for which he/she has been appointed, where appropriate through the development of draft Resolutions or Decisions to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties (COP) for consideration, or the revision of relevant existing Resolutions and Decisions;
  - Collaborate with the Secretariat and Chair of the ScC on the implementation of COP Decisions and items in the Programme of Work of the ScC-SC relating to the subject area for which he/she has been appointed;
  - Identify species for potential inclusion in the CMS Appendices, and where appropriate assist Parties in the drafting of proposals to amend the CMS Appendices for consideration by the COP;
  - Assist, and where appropriate promote, the development of proposals for Concerted Actions on CMS-listed species to be submitted to the ScC for review and to the COP for endorsement;
  - Contribute to the preparation and regular update of reports on the conservation status of CMS-listed species;
  - Report to the ScC on progress in the work of other organizations for which he/she was identified as focal point within the ScC;
  - Participate in *ad hoc* working groups established within the ScC to address specific issues;
- Advise the Secretariat on the suitability of project proposals to be funded by CMS, and the technical evaluation of the outputs of the approved projects, notably for the subject area for which he/she has been appointed;
- Participate in meetings of the ScC-SC (with travel and subsistence expenses covered by CMS, if necessary) - normally two meetings in a three-year period- and act as Chair of the relevant taxonomic or thematic working group, if applicable;
- Upon request, participate in Meetings of the Conference of the Parties (with coverage by CMS of travel and subsistence expenses, if necessary) - normally one meeting every three years.

#### Language skills

The working languages of the Scientific Council are English, French and Spanish. As COP-appointed Councillors are often called upon to chair working groups at meetings operating without simultaneous interpretation, a good command of English is necessary. Knowledge of other working languages of the Scientific Council would be an asset.