



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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Agenda Item 18.2

**COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE–POLICY
PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (IPBES) AND CMS**

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document reports on progress to implement Decisions 14.12–14.14 *Cooperation between the Intergovernmental Science–Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and CMS*. The document proposes new draft Decisions and the deletion of Decisions 14.11–14.14.

The draft Decisions in Annex of this document would support the achievement of Target 5.3 of the Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024–2032.

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE–POLICY PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (IPBES) AND CMS

Background

1. The Intergovernmental Science–Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is an independent intergovernmental body established in 2012 under the auspices of the United Nations. It aims to strengthen the science–policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services to support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being, and sustainable development. Recognizing the importance of IPBES's work for the implementation of the Convention, CMS has engaged with IPBES since its inception, making use of its assessments on the state of knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services.
2. To further strengthen cooperation with IPBES, the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP14) adopted Decisions 14.11–14.14 *Cooperation between the Intergovernmental Science–Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and CMS*, which provide specific mandates to the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to engage in relevant IPBES processes:

14.12 Directed to the Scientific Council:

The Scientific Council is requested to, subject to the availability of resources, actively engage in relevant scoping and review processes of the IPBES assessments agreed by the IPBES Plenary at its tenth session, including with respect to the assessment of integrated biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity and a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, with a view to ensure that CMS priority elements are addressed.;

14.13 Directed to the Scientific Council:

The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of resources, to consider the findings of recent and forthcoming IPBES deliverables, including the assessment of the Sustainable Use of Wild Species, the assessment of the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature, the assessment of Invasive Alien Species and their Control, the IPBES-IPCC co-sponsored workshop report on biodiversity and climate change, the assessment on the of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health, the assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, the assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, and the assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, and to prepare recommendations relating to the implementation of the Convention for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 15th Meeting.

14.14 Directed to the Secretariat:

The Secretariat is requested to:

- a) *support the Scientific Council in engaging in relevant scoping and other processes of the IPBES assessments agreed by the IPBES-10 Plenary, including with respect to the assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity and a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services;*
- b) *engage with the IPBES Secretariat to further cooperate on issues of relevance to migratory species; and*
- c) *report to the Standing Committee at its 56th and 57th meetings and to the Conference of Parties at its 15th meeting on the progress in implementing this decision.*

Relevant activities of CMS to engage and strengthen collaboration with IPBES

3. The Chair of the CMS Scientific Council (ScC) is a permanent observer on the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) and is invited to all its meetings. The main aim of inviting observers is to highlight synergistic workstreams that are in progress. When the ScC Chair cannot attend, the CMS Secretariat takes their place. Since COP14, there have been three meetings of the MEP and of the IPBES Bureau, of which the ScC Chair participated in two, with the Secretariat attending one meeting on behalf of the Chair, to inform the MEP about relevant developments in CMS.

Implementation of Decision 14.12

4. The 7th meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC7, 2024) highlighted opportunities to strengthen synergies between CMS and IPBES. The meeting welcomed the approval of the IPBES fast-track assessment on biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity by the IPBES Plenary in 2023 ([spatial planning and connectivity assessment](#)).
5. Through Notifications [2024/019](#) and [2024/023](#), the Secretariat brought to the attention of Parties the associated calls for hosting the Technical Support Unit and to nominate experts. The ScC members were encouraged to engage in the assessment and related processes.

Implementation of Decision 14.13

6. Due to lack of resources, this Decision has not yet been implemented. The activities under the Decision are therefore proposed for the intersessional period after COP15.

Discussion and analysis

7. In the context of the Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024–2032 and in support of improved knowledge-based decision-making, increased cooperation between CMS and IPBES presents a timely and strategic opportunity to strengthen the science–policy interface for migratory species conservation.
8. Draft Decision 15.AAa) mandates the Scientific Council to remain engaged in relevant IPBES scoping and review processes, to ensure that CMS priorities are considered in relevant assessments agreed by IPBES-10 and IPBES-11.
9. Draft Decision 15.AAb) proposes that the Scientific Council considers selected IPBES assessments and provides recommendations to COP16 on their relevance to the implementation of the Convention for consideration.
10. During the next triennium, specific attention should be paid to the [spatial planning and connectivity assessment](#) and the [second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services](#), which are both relevant to CMS priorities:
 - a. The ‘spatial planning and connectivity assessment’ is expected to be completed in 2027 and subsequently considered at the 14th session of the IPBES Plenary. Until then, it will progress through author meetings and drafting sessions, including coordinated work on the ‘summary for policymakers’. The CMS Parties, observer organizations and the Secretariat will be invited to contribute throughout the external review processes. The first external review is planned for the second

quarter of 2026 and will include the release of draft chapters and a draft 'summary for policymakers' for review by governments and experts. A second external review is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2026, and a final review phase for the third quarter of 2027.

- b. The 'second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services' will be prepared between the 11th and 14th sessions of the Plenary and will be considered by the Plenary in 2028.
 - c. Further IPBES assessments to be completed in the next intersessional period include the 'assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people' and the 'assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people'.
11. The CMS Secretariat, with input from the Scientific Council, plans to participate in the external review of the 'spatial planning and connectivity assessment' and in external reviews for other assessments, as appropriate. Development of the CMS input will be led by the Secretariat, in cooperation with the CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Connectivity, and based on contributions received from ScC-SC members and the members of the Working Group on Ecological Connectivity.
 12. Draft Decision 15.BB would mandate the Secretariat to support the Scientific Council's engagement in relevant scoping and review processes. It also requests the Secretariat to further strengthen collaboration with the IPBES Secretariat in order to further cooperate on issues of relevance to migratory species.

Recommended actions

13. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
 - a) adopt the draft Decisions contained in the Annex of this document; and
 - b) delete Decisions 14.11–14.14

ANNEX

DRAFT DECISIONS

**COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE–POLICY
PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (IPBES) AND CMS**

Directed to the Scientific Council

- 15.AA The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of resources, to:
- a) actively engage in relevant scoping and review processes of ongoing and upcoming IPBES assessments, with special focus on the methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity, with a view to ensuring that CMS priority elements are raised; and
 - b) review the scientific aspects of selected IPBES assessments and make recommendations on their relevance to the implementation of CMS for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 16th meeting.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 15.BB The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of resources:
- a) support the Scientific Council in implementing Decision 15.AA; and
 - b) engage with the IPBES Secretariat to further cooperate on issues of relevance to migratory species.