



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.26.3.1

24 September 2025

Original: English

15th MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Campo Grande, Brazil, 23 to 29 March 2026
Agenda Item 26.3.1

FLYWAYS

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document reports on progress in implementing Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) *Flyways*, Resolution 14.13 *Initiative for Central Asian Flyway*, Resolution 12.25 *Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species*, and Decisions 14.137–14.142 *Flyways*. It proposes amendments to Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) and new draft Decisions.

The amended Resolution and draft Decisions would support the achievement of Targets 2.1–2.3, 3.2 and 3.4 of the Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (2024–2032)

FLYWAYS

Background

1. The Conference of the Parties, at its 14th meeting (COP14), adopted [Resolution 12.11 \(Rev.COP14\) Flyways](#), in which it called on the Secretariat to support Parties to effectively implement the priorities set by the Flyways Working Group, and to help develop its Programme of Work (POW) and monitoring tool. The Resolution encouraged the Secretariat to liaise with the secretariats of CMS instruments, relevant MEAs, international organizations, international conservation initiatives, NGOs, and the private sector to promote synergies and coordinate activities related to the conservation of flyways and migratory birds, including, where appropriate, the organization of joint activities.
2. The Resolution agreed to continue the work of the Americas Flyways Task Force, to coordinate the implementation of the [Action Plan for the Americas Flyways](#) and protect migratory birds and their habitats throughout the Western Hemisphere, in full alignment with the CMS Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS).
3. COP14 also adopted [Resolution 14.13 Initiative for Central Asian Flyway](#), welcoming the offer of the Government of India to host a Coordinating Unit for the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) as a platform for further strengthening regional cooperation and building greater coherence in the work delivered in this priority region.
4. COP12 (2017) adopted [Resolution 12.25 Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species](#), in which it requested the Secretariat to explore the possibility, funding permitting, to set up a 'coastal forum' to raise the profile of intertidal wetlands and their associated habitats. This Resolution also requested the Scientific Council to establish a multi-stakeholder working group to develop guidance on the conservation of coastal habitats.
5. COP14 also adopted [Decisions 14.137–14.142 Flyways](#), which read:

14.137 Directed to the Parties

Parties:

- a) *are requested to review the actions in Part A of the Programme of Work for Migratory Birds and Flyways 2014-2023 (POW) and the actions in Part B of the POW identified for their region, as well as the information provided in the CMS Avian Species Team Strategic Review of the Flyways work, and i) share information with the Flyways Working Group and the Secretariat about major implementation gaps and needs, and ii) address those actions that lack implementation so far and are of highest urgency, where appropriate coordinating with other countries in the region;*
- b) *are urged to support meetings of the Flyways Working Group and the appointment of its Coordinator for the triennium 2023-2026;*
- c) *are urged to support the Americas Flyway Task Force's work, in particular the Task Force's meetings and the review and/or update of the Americas Flyways Framework and the Action Plan for the Americas; and*
- d) *are urged to report progress in National Reports in implementing Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) Flyways, including monitoring the efficacy of measures taken, to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15).*

14.138 Directed to non-Parties, intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental organizations, and others

Non-Parties, organizations, the private sector, international financial institutions, donors and other stakeholders are invited to support the Flyways Working Group, and to jointly cooperate in the implementation of its strategic priorities.

14.139 Directed to non-Parties, organizations and stakeholders in the Americas

Non-Parties, organizations and stakeholders in the Americas are invited to actively engage in the review and update of the Americas Flyways Framework and the Action Plan for the Americas.

14.140 Directed to the Flyways Working Group

The Flyways Working Group is requested to, subject to the availability of external resources:

- a) *act as a platform that ensures the exchange of best practices and the identification of global synergies and gaps across the different flyway-related initiatives, either developed within the framework of the CMS or outside, in alignment with the priorities identified in the CMS Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) and with those of other relevant MEAs working in the areas linked to migratory bird conservation, their habitats or threats associated with them;*
- b) *with the support of the Secretariat, and in coordination with regional flyway initiatives, develop guidance to aid Parties in identifying key priorities and major implementation gaps in their region to support implementation of Decision 14.137 (a);*
- c) *based on the information provided by the Parties, review the relevant elements of the Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways 2014-2023, and propose a way forward for an update or revision of this work programme, in alignment with the priorities and targets identified in the CMS SPMS;*
- d) *review relevant scientific and technical issues, international initiatives and processes linked to migratory birds, their habitats and the threats associated with them;*
- e) *help to ensure the coordination between various CMS Working Groups and Task Forces (e.g., Illegal Killing of Birds, Poisoning, Landbirds, Energy) on flyway-related actions and priorities, and enhance synergies in their implementation;*
- f) *facilitate a discussion amongst Parties, non-Party Range States, relevant regional mechanisms and stakeholders to explore opportunities for advancing a comprehensive seabird agenda, taking into account existing programmes of work;*
- g) *with support from the Secretariat, develop guidance to help Parties raise awareness of the importance of migratory flyways and the ecosystem services they provide; and*
- h) *report progress to the Scientific Council.*

14.141 Directed to the Americas Flyways Task Force

The Americas Flyways Task Force shall, subject to the availability of external resources:

- a) *review and update the Americas Flyways Framework, and the Action Plan for the Americas in line with the CMS Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) and aligned with those of other relevant MEAs working in the areas linked to migratory bird conservation, their habitats or threats associated with them; and*
- b) *facilitate and monitor the implementation of the Action Plan for the Americas.*

14.142 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external resources:

- a) *organize sub-regional meetings aimed at sharing best practices and lessons learned on flyway-scale conservation, awareness-raising, and on the development of adequate institutional frameworks to protect them;*
- b) *support the work of the Flyways Working Group, in particular by organizing its meetings, aiding the development of a monitoring tool to provide Parties with an objective, fact-based national self-assessment of the current status of flyways at national level, and helping to raise awareness of flyways conservation; and*
- c) *support the Americas Flyway Task Force work, in particular by organizing the Task Force's meetings and helping to update the Americas Flyways Framework and the Action Plan for the Americas.*

Activities to implement Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) and Decision 14.142

Flyways Working Group

6. During this intersessional period, and with reference to Decision 14.142 (b), the Secretariat supported the organization of three Flyway Working Group (FWG) meetings.
7. The 3rd FWG meeting, held in April 2024, agreed to establish specific groups/teams to identify priority tasks. Consequently, three thematic sub-groups were established on: (i) New Programme of Work (POW), Gaps and Priorities; (ii) Seabirds; and (iii) Other Instruments and Platforms/Hubs.
8. The 4th FWG meeting, held in February 2025, reviewed the work delivered by the three sub-groups. The New POW, Gaps and Priorities Sub-group shared the [new FWG POW for 2026–2029](#). The Seabirds Sub-group agreed to prepare a new draft Resolution on Seabirds and Marine Flyways to be submitted to COP15. FWG members also agreed to establish a new sub-group to propose amendments to CMS Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) *Flyways* and to develop FWG Terms of Reference for consideration by the 8th meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC8).
9. The 5th FWG meeting, held in May 2025, reviewed the outputs produced by the three sub-groups, as well as the draft [Terms of Reference](#). A policy gap analysis on marine flyways was also presented at the meeting (see UNEP/CMS/COP15/Inf.26.3.2). A new draft Resolution on Seabirds and Marine Flyways (see UNEP/CMS/COP15/Inf.26.3.2) was proposed for submission to COP15 as well as draft amendments to Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) (see Annex 1).

Americas Flyway Task Force

10. In alignment with Decision 14.142 (c), the Secretariat supported the Americas Flyways Task Force with the organization of [its second meeting](#), which took place in Florianopolis, Brazil, on 5 and 6 December 2024. The objectives of the meeting were to: i) review the implementation of the Americas Flyways Action Plan; ii) agree on updates/revisions to the Americas Flyways Framework and Action Plan in line with Decisions 14.141–14.142 and the SPMS; iii) agree on a Task Force Workplan for the next term, including conservation, communication, policy and fundraising activities for both species and sites; iv) identify donors and strategic stakeholders to support implementation of the new Workplan; and v) hold preliminary discussions on the elaboration of an MOU on American Flyways to be submitted to COP15.

11. The meeting reviewed the implementation of the [Americas Flyways Action Plan 2018–2023](#), identifying its alignment with the SPMS Goals and Targets as well as any gaps. A [draft update of the Americas Flyways Framework and Action Plan](#) was endorsed. Participants also explored the potential establishment of a new CMS instrument to enhance coordination among CMS Parties, non-Parties and key stakeholders along the American flyways. This included evaluating various non-legally binding instruments, drawing lessons from initiatives such as the CMS Central Asian Flyway, and agreeing on next steps. A dedicated working group was established to advance this effort. Additionally, the meeting considered the inclusion of new avian species for listing at CMS COP15, which led to the formation of a task group and a [proposal of candidate species](#) for consideration.
12. In line with Decision 14.142(c), the Secretariat held a series of meetings in 2025 with the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to explore the development of an online tool showcasing the Americas Flyways and associated CMS-listed species. At the time of writing, the proposal remains under active development; however, additional resources are required to ensure its timely launch ahead of CMS COP15.
13. At the time of writing, further conversations to advance a draft information document on the development of a new CMS initiative for American Flyways were being planned.

Central Asian Flyway

14. In response to Resolution 14.13 *Initiative for Central Asia*, the Secretariat continued to cooperate with the Government of India to further advance the establishment of the Coordination Unit in India. The Coordination Unit will be responsible for drafting and coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Programme of Work (POW) and will be advised by a Steering group composed of representatives of Parties, the Secretariat of the Convention, CAF Range States, international organizations and other participating non-CMS frameworks.
15. In a parallel process, the Secretariat continued to support communication events that promote the relevance of the CAF. As an example, the Secretariat attended a workshop on ‘Building Momentum for Biodiversity Conservation along the CAF’ organized by the Central Asian Conservation Network and Think Global in April 2025. The Secretariat also participated in the event, ‘Cooperating to Enhance the Central Asian Flyway Initiative’, organized by the Hans Seidel Foundation in June 2025.

East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership

16. In line with Decisions 14.138 and 14.142(a), the Secretariat has been a member of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) Management Committee since the 11th Meeting of the Partners (MOP11) to the EAAFP. In its capacity as an intergovernmental partner to the EAAFP Management Committee, the Secretariat has attended and supported its meetings, and provided inputs to its documentation and procedural matters.
17. The CMS Secretariat further strengthened cooperation with the Secretariat of the EAAFP, in line with Action 24 of the POW, particularly with regards to the prevention of illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds. The Secretariat will organize two side events during EAAFP MOP12, which runs from 8 to 14 November 2025 in Cebu, Philippines. The side events will address the prevention of illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds, aligned with the mandate of the CMS Asia Pacific Illegal Taking of Birds Intergovernmental Task Force (ITTEA) and the work of the CMS Energy Task

Force. For further information on the EAAFP's linkages with renewable energy see [UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.28.11](#), and with the illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds see [UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.26.1](#).

18. With respect to Decisions 14.137 (a) and 14.140 (b), in 2025 the Secretariat put out a Call for Proposals to conduct an East Asian–Australasian Flyway Situation Analysis to improve the knowledge and conservation status of migratory bird species in this region. The situation analysis will help fulfil obligations under the Convention by helping to develop conservation practices for migratory birds in the EAAF. This Call for Proposals was made possible thanks to funding provided by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water of the Australian Government.

Activities to implement Resolution 12.25

World Coastal Forum

19. With regards to the implementation of [Resolution 12.25](#), the Secretariat continued to participate as an observer in the meetings of the World Coastal Forum (WCF) Coordination Group. This included providing inputs to the drafting of the WCF Strategic Plan 2025–2030, to the outputs produced by each of the WCF's Task Teams, and to the planning of the 2025 WCF Conference, '[Beautiful Coasts: Ecological Priority and Green Development](#)', which takes place in Yancheng City, Jiangsu Province, China, from 23 to 25 September 2025. The Secretariat will continue to explore the synergies between the WCF and the CMS mandates on flyways, energy, connectivity, coastal habitat and species protection. It has also been in constant contact with the secretariats of other MEAs on these issues, including the Ramsar Convention and IUCN.

Discussion and analysis

20. Thanks to the active engagement of all members of the Flyways Working Group and the chairs of its thematic sub-groups, several amendments have been proposed to both the Programme of Work 2026–2029 and to Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14). These proposed amendments are expected to clarify the role of the FWG and other related structures, including the Americas Flyways Task Force.
21. In-person meetings have proved to be extremely effective for mobilizing Parties and encouraging non-Parties to actively engage in the CMS instruments linked to migratory flyways. The 2nd meeting of the Americas Flyways Task Force held in Florianopolis, Brazil, in December 2024, boosted regional cooperation and reaffirmed the benefit, when the availability of resources allow, of holding in-person meetings at least once every intersessional period.
22. As per Resolution 14.13 *Initiative for Central Asian Flyway*, the official launch of the Coordination Unit, hosted by the Government of India, will take place by COP15. This long-awaited milestone will boost international cooperation and help to mobilize resources in a region facing very serious challenges in terms of migratory species protection.
23. The ongoing and highly productive collaboration with the Secretariat of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership is anticipated to yield concrete outcomes during the upcoming intersessional period. These outcomes are expected to include enhanced engagement of both CMS Parties and non-Parties within the region, particularly in relation to addressing the illegal take of migratory birds and promoting the sustainable deployment of renewable energy. This cooperation also serves to reaffirm the principles of international collaboration enshrined in Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) *Flyways*.

Recommended actions

24. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
- a) adopt the draft amendments to Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) as contained in Annex 1 of this document;
 - b) adopt the draft Decisions, as contained in Annex 2 of this document;
 - c) delete Decision 14.137-14.142 *Flyways*.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION 12.11 (Rev.COP14)

FLYWAYS

NB: Proposed new text is underlined. Text to be deleted is ~~crossed-out~~.

Existing text with edits shown in underline and strikethrough	Commentary	Clean New Text Proposed (including new numbering of operative paragraphs)
<u>Recognizing that a flyway is a flight path used by large numbers of birds, including landbirds, raptors, waterbirds and seabirds, while migrating between their breeding grounds and their non-breeding areas, generally spanning continents and often passing over oceans,</u>	New text, preambular para 1	<u>Recognizing that a flyway is a flight path used by large numbers of birds, including landbirds, raptors, waterbirds and seabirds, while migrating between their breeding grounds and their non-breeding areas, generally spanning continents and often passing over oceans,</u>
Recalling Recommendation 7.7 America-Pacific Flyway Programme, Resolution 10.10 Guidance on Global Flyway Conservation and Options for Policy Arrangements, and Resolution 11.14 Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways⁴ relating to flyways,	Repeal	
Recognizing that a flyways approach is necessary to ensure adequate conservation of migratory birds throughout their ranges and that any use of migratory birds is sustainable, combining species- and ecosystem-based approaches and promoting international cooperation and coordination among States, the private sector, multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), United Nations institutions, non-governmental organizations, local communities and other stakeholders,	Retain, moved preambular para 2 to preambular para 3	<u>Recognizing that a flyways approach is necessary to ensure adequate conservation of migratory birds throughout their ranges and that any use of migratory birds is sustainable, combining species- and ecosystem-based approaches and promoting international cooperation and coordination among States, the private sector, multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), United Nations institutions, non-governmental organizations, local communities and other stakeholders,</u>

⁴All consolidated in Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) Flyways

<p><i>Also recognizing that there are specific threats of particular significance to migratory birds along flyways, as identified in A Review of Migratory Bird Flyways and Priorities for Management CMS Technical Series No. 27, that continue to have an impact on these species and their habitats including: <u>destruction and degradation of inland wetlands, inter-tidal and associated coastal habitats</u> (Resolution 12.25 <i>Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species</i>); loss of forests and grasslands; <u>including through agricultural intensification, overgrazing and habitat modification through desertification and overgrazing</u> (Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP14) <i>Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP)</i>); inappropriate <u>development of renewable energy including wind turbine development</u> (Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP13) <i>Renewable Energy and Migratory Species</i>); <u>collisions with and power lines causing collisions</u> and electrocutions (Resolution 10.11 (Rev.COP13) <i>Power Lines and Migratory Birds</i>); illegal and/or unsustainable killing, taking and trade (Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP14) <i>The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds</i>); overfishing and the bycatch of seabirds (Resolution 6.2, Recommendation 7.2, Resolutions 8.14, 9.18 and 10.14²); lead shot and other poisoning (Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP14) <i>Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds</i>); invasive alien species (Resolution 11.28 <i>Future CMS Activities related to Invasive Alien Species</i>)³ and avian influenza and other disease (Resolutions 8.27, 9.8 and</i></p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 3 to preambular para 4</p>	<p><i>Also recognizing that there are specific threats of particular significance to migratory birds along flyways, as identified in A Review of Migratory Bird Flyways and Priorities for Management CMS Technical Series No. 27, that continue to have an impact on these species and their habitats including: destruction and degradation of inland wetlands, inter-tidal and associated coastal habitats (Resolution 12.25 <i>Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species</i>); loss of forests and grasslands; including through agricultural intensification, overgrazing and desertification (Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP14) <i>Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP)</i>); inappropriate development of renewable energy including wind turbine development (Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP13) <i>Renewable Energy and Migratory Species</i>); power lines causing collisions and electrocutions (Resolution 10.11 (Rev.COP13) <i>Power Lines and Migratory Birds</i>); illegal and/or unsustainable killing, taking and trade (Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP14) <i>The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds</i>); overfishing and the bycatch of seabirds (Resolution 6.2, Recommendation 7.2, Resolutions 8.14, 9.18 and 10.14⁶); lead shot and other poisoning (Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP14) <i>Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds</i>); invasive alien species (Resolution 11.28 <i>Future CMS Activities related to Invasive Alien Species</i>), and avian influenza and other disease (Resolutions 8.27, 9.8 and 10.22 on wildlife disease⁷ and</i></p>
---	--	---

² All consolidated in Resolution 12.22 *Bycatch*

³ All consolidated in Resolution 12.6 (Rev.COP14) *Wildlife Health and Migratory Species*

⁶ All consolidated in Resolution 12.22 *Bycatch*

⁷ All consolidated in Resolution 12.6 (Rev.COP14) *Wildlife Health and Migratory Species*

<p>10.22 on wildlife disease^[66] and Resolution 14.18 <i>Avian Influenza</i>⁴<i>Management of Marine Debris</i>⁵),</p>		<p>Resolution 14.18 <i>Avian Influenza</i>); and marine debris (Resolution 11.30 <i>Management of Marine Debris</i>⁸),</p>
<p><i>Recognizing</i> that flyways are to be considered as ecological networks <u>because</u>, since although there may be no direct physical links between their component parts, the populations of <u>migratory</u> birds using them provide an ecological link <u>themselves</u>, as recognized in Resolution 14.16 <i>Ecological Connectivity</i>,</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 4 to preambular para 2</p>	<p><i>Recognizing</i> that flyways are to be considered as ecological networks because, although there may be no direct physical links between their component parts, the populations of migratory_birds using them provide an ecological link, as recognized in Resolution 14.16 <i>Ecological Connectivity</i>,</p>
<p><i>Acknowledging</i> the work of the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity in collaborating with non Parties in the ASEAN for the establishment of the ASEAN Flyway Network fostering regional cooperation for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and the wetlands that support them,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p><i>Acknowledging</i> that the very broad and comprehensive mandate of Resolution 10.10⁹ <i>Guidance on Global Flyway Conservation and Options for Policy Arrangements</i> has been streamlined and focused into a more detailed programme of work (POW), via Resolution 11.14¹⁰ in order to provide Parties and stakeholders with a clear road map with timelines, priorities and indicators for the conservation of flyways and migratory birds,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p><i>Recalling</i> that Resolution 10.10¹¹ requested CMS to work in close partnership with existing flyway organizations and initiatives in the Americas, to develop an overarching conservation Action Plan for migratory birds in the Americas, recognizing especially the established programmes of work and taking into account existing instruments,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	

⁵ Consolidated as Resolution 12.20 *Management of Marine Debris*

⁸ Consolidated as Resolution 12.20 *Management of Marine Debris*

⁹ Consolidated as Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) *Flyways*

¹⁰ Consolidated as Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) *Flyways*

¹¹ Consolidated as Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP14) *Flyways*

<p><i>Taking note of Resolution 10.18 (Rev.COP12) Guidelines on the Integration of Migratory Species into NBSAPs and other Outcomes from CBD COP10, which includes guidelines on the integration of migratory species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs);</i></p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p><i>Taking note of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2022, which includes many goals and targets relevant to the conservation of migratory species and their habitats;</i></p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p><i>Acknowledging the Critical Site Network Tool, an open-access web portal established by Wetlands International and BirdLife International to support conservation decision-making at site, national and international levels, which provides information on waterbird populations and sites critical to both their annual cycle, and for providing resilience to the impacts of climate change;</i></p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p><i>Acknowledging with satisfaction the extensive monitoring and conservation work by Partners of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) for migratory waterbirds and their habitats, including through the strengthening of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Site Network and recognizing the development of the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2029 with defined Key Result Areas and Indicators to promote actions to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats;</i></p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p><i>Welcoming the progress made by the Government of India, hosting, in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat, the 4th meeting of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Range States in May 2023 to establish the institutional framework and a road map to update the CAF Action Plan through Resolution 14.13 Initiative for Central Asian Flyway, and to advance the creation of a CMS-CAF Coordinating Unit for this flyway, and congratulating India for its National Action Plan on the</i></p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 12 to preambular para 10</p>	<p><i>Welcoming the progress made by the Government of India, hosting, in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat, the 4th meeting of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Range States in May 2023 to establish the institutional framework and a road map to update the CAF Action Plan through Resolution 14.13 Initiative for Central Asian Flyway, and to advance the creation of a CMS-CAF Coordinating Unit for this flyway, and congratulating India</i></p>

<p>CAF for migratory birds, and progress in implementing the Action Plan,</p>		<p>for its National Action Plan on the CAF for migratory birds, and progress in implementing the Action Plan,</p>
<p><i>Recognizing also</i> the vital importance of the Arctic as the location of breeding and moulting areas of the world’s major <u>migratory waterbird flyways</u> and that the region is undergoing rapid change driven by climate effects, development of activities of major extractive industries, land and water transportation routes and other threats,</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 13 to preambular para 6</p>	<p><i>Recognizing also</i> the vital importance of the Arctic as the location of breeding and moulting areas of the world’s major migratory waterbird flyways and that the region is undergoing rapid change driven by climate effects, development of activities of major extractive industries, land and water transportation routes and other threats,</p>
<p><i>Acknowledging</i> the 2013 Resolution of Cooperation signed between the Secretariats of CMS, the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group (CAFF) of the Arctic Council, and tripartite CAFF/CMS/AEWA joint work plan to encourage information sharing to assist in the conservation of migratory species along all the world’s flyways and to assist cooperation with non-Arctic countries on these issues, and <i>welcoming</i> the Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI) and its associated 2019-2023 Work Plan,</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 14 to preambular para 7</p>	<p><i>Acknowledging</i> the 2013 Resolution of Cooperation signed between the Secretariats of CMS, the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group (CAFF) of the Arctic Council, and tripartite CAFF/CMS/AEWA joint work plan to encourage information sharing to assist in the conservation of migratory species along all the world’s flyways and to assist cooperation with non-Arctic countries on these issues, and <i>welcoming</i> the Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI) and its associated 2019-2023 Work Plan,</p>
<p><i>Recognizing also</i> that climate change is already having an adverse impact on migratory birds and their habitats as reflected in Resolution 12.21 (Rev.COP14) <u>Climate Change and Migratory Species</u>,</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 15 to preambular para 5</p>	<p><i>Recognizing also</i> that climate change is already having an adverse impact on migratory birds and their habitats as reflected in Resolution 12.21 (Rev.COP14) <u>Climate Change and Migratory Species</u>,</p>
<p><i>Recalling</i> Resolution 11.14 <u>Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways</u>, which reaffirmed the global open-ended Working Group on Flyways (hereinafter Flyways Working Group) within the framework of the Scientific Council to act as a think-tank on migratory bird flyways and frameworks,</p>	<p>Repeal, as the POW resolution was repealed</p>	
<p><i>Recalling further</i> that the Flyways Working Group was given the task of reviewing scientific and technical issues concerning the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats, and relevant international instruments, initiatives and processes, as the basis for future CMS policy on flyways,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	

<p>Noting with appreciation the broad participation and work undertaken by the Scientific Council, the Secretariats of the Ramsar Convention and the African – Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity for its establishment of the ASEAN Flyway Network, international NGOs (BirdLife International, Wetlands International), the Americas Waterbird Conservation Council, the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI), East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), AMBI, the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE) and international experts as well as a wider consultative group contributing to the work of the Flyways Working Group,</p>	<p>Minor amendments, moved preambular para 18 to preambular para 8</p>	<p><i>Noting with appreciation</i> the broad participation and work undertaken by the Ramsar Convention and the African – Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity for its establishment of the ASEAN Flyway Network, international NGOs, the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), AMBI, the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE) and international experts as well as a wider consultative group contributing to the work of the Flyways Working Group,</p>
<p>Noting with appreciation the support and guidance provided by the Secretariat and the Standing Committee respectively to the operation of the Flyways Working Group throughout the intersessional periods,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>Further taking note of the report of the Global Waterbirds Flyways Workshop to promote exchange of Good Practice and Learning that took place in Seosan (Republic of Korea) on 17-20 October 2011, contained in document UNEP/CMS/Inf.10.41,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>Further taking note of the declaration and outcomes of the Global Flyways Summit in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, April 2018,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>Considering that policies that encourage environmentally-friendly economic growth and development would be highly beneficial for migratory birds, including bird friendly agricultural practices that also improve local livelihoods, and that these practices should be promoted along all flyways,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	

<p>Taking further note of the 2019-2020 workplan of the Americas Flyways Action Plan adopted as a result of the 1st Meeting of the Americas Flyways Framework (AFF) Task Force, which took place in Florianopolis, Brazil in July 2018, and subsequently updated at its second meeting in December 2024, and noting the many ongoing activities in the Americas for the conservation of migratory birds,</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 23 to preambular para 9</p>	<p><i>Taking further note of the Americas Flyways Action Plan adopted as a result of the 1st Meeting of the Americas Flyways Framework (AFF) Task Force, which took place in Florianopolis, Brazil in July 2018, and subsequently updated at its second meeting in December 2024, and noting the many ongoing activities in the Americas for the conservation of migratory birds,</i></p>
<p>Appreciating Welcoming World Migratory Bird Day as a joint, more unified, global campaign of CMS, AEWA, Environment for the Americas (EFTA) and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), under a partnership established during the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS, Manila, 2017 (Res. 11.09 (Rev.COP13) World Migratory Bird Day), to strengthen recognition and appreciation of migratory birds and highlight the urgent need for their conservation,</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 24 to preambular para 12</p>	<p><i>Appreciating World Migratory Bird Day as a joint global campaign of CMS, AEWA, Environment for the Americas (EFTA) and the EAAFP, under a partnership established during the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS, Manila, 2017 (Res. 11.09 (Rev.COP13) World Migratory Bird Day), to strengthen recognition and appreciation of migratory birds and highlight the urgent need for their conservation,</i></p>
<p>Noting the important habitat changes in non-breeding grounds in the Americas, particularly for shorebirds, and the indications of a decrease in numbers for almost all species of shorebirds,</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>Noting that over 50% of the world's seabird populations are in decline and that urgent coordinated conservation efforts at a global scale are needed, and</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p><i>Recognizing the ongoing efforts of various NGOs and regional inter-governmental fora to advance seabird conservation and identify marine flyways, as well as the opportunity to advance the designation of Marine Protected Areas for seabirds and other marine fauna through the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ),</i></p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved preambular para 27 to preambular para 11</p>	<p><i>Recognizing the ongoing efforts of various NGOs and regional inter-governmental fora to advance seabird conservation and identify marine flyways, as well as the opportunity to advance the designation of Marine Protected Areas for seabirds and other marine fauna through the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ),</i></p>

<i>The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals</i>		
<p>1. <i>Calls on Parties to effectively implement the priorities set by the Flyways Working Group in accordance with the circumstances of each Party and invites non-Parties and other stakeholders, with the support of the Secretariat to strengthen national and local capacity for flyway conservation including, <i>inter alia</i>, by developing partnerships with key stakeholders and organizing training courses; translating and disseminating documents, sharing protocols and regulations; transferring technology; protecting, designating and improving management and restoration of critically and internationally important sites; <u>ensuring any use of migratory birds is sustainable, understanding the ecological functionality of flyways through research of migratory birds and their habitats to help determine threats and identify effective solutions</u>; strengthening monitoring programmes; and promoting the conservation of migratory birds and ensuring any use of migratory birds is sustainable;</i></p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 1 to operative para 3</p>	<p>3. <i>Calls on Parties to effectively implement the priorities set by the Flyways Working Group in accordance with the circumstances of each Party and invites non-Parties and other stakeholders, with the support of the Secretariat to strengthen national and local capacity for flyway conservation including, <i>inter alia</i>, by developing partnerships with key stakeholders and organizing training courses; translating and disseminating documents, sharing protocols and regulations; transferring technology; protecting, and improving management and restoration of critically and internationally important sites; ensuring any use of migratory birds is sustainable, understanding the ecological functionality of flyways through research of migratory birds and their habitats to help determine threats and identify effective solutions; strengthening monitoring programmes; and promoting the conservation of migratory birds;</i></p>
<p><u>1. bis Notes the Programme of Work for the triennium 2026-2029 to enhance the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats along flyways, within and outside protected areas, especially by [addressing/minimising] key threats, and integrating their requirements into land-use and marine policies;</u></p>	<p>New text, operative para 2</p>	<p>2. <i>Notes the Programme of Work for the triennium 2026-2029 to enhance the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats along flyways, within and outside protected areas, especially by [addressing/minimising] key threats, and integrating their requirements into land-use and marine policies;</i></p>
<p>2. <i>Encourages Parties to promote the conservation and management priorities defined by the Flyways Working Group as global tools to contribute to achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in relation to <u>the conservation of migratory species birds</u> and their habitats and to ensure a strong level of support for its implementation by working closely with the</i></p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 2 to operative para 15</p>	<p>15. <i>Encourages Parties to promote the conservation and management priorities defined by the Flyways Working Group as global tools to contribute to achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in relation to the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats and to ensure a strong level of support for its implementation by</i></p>

<p>Convention on Biological Diversity and developing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) that include migratory birds;</p>		<p>working closely with the Convention on Biological Diversity and developing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) that include migratory birds;</p>
<p>3. Notes Agrees to continue the continuation of the Americas Flyways Task Force, to coordinate the development and implementation of the Americas Flyways Framework and the Americas Flyways Action Plan, developed in full alignment to <u>with</u> the CMS Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS), <u>CMS instruments such as the Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) for High Andean Flamingos, for Ruddy Headed Goose and for Southern South American Grassland Birds</u> and to report to meetings of the <u>Scientific Council</u> Conference of the Parties from COP15 onwards;</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 3 to operative para 4</p>	<p>4. Notes the continuation of the Americas Flyways Task Force, to coordinate the development and implementation of the Americas Flyways Framework and the Americas Flyways Action Plan, developed in full alignment with the CMS Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS), CMS instruments such as the Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) for High Andean Flamingos, for Ruddy Headed Goose and for Southern South American Grassland Birds and to report to meetings of the Scientific Council;</p>
<p>4. Urges Parties and Signatories to CMS avian instruments, and encourages non Parties, organizations and stakeholders to implement the Action Plan for the Americas Flyways and support efforts of the Americas Flyways Task Force to coordinate its implementation;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>4. bis <u>Welcomes progress in the African-Eurasian Flyway to address threats and develop transboundary solutions for the conservation of migratory birds through CMS instruments such as AEWA, the MOUs for Aquatic Warbler, for Birds of Prey (Raptors) and for Middle-European Great Bustard, and the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan;</u></p>	<p>New text, operative para 5</p>	<p>5. <u>Welcomes</u> progress in the African-Eurasian Flyway to address threats and develop transboundary solutions for the conservation of migratory birds through CMS instruments such as AEWA, the MOUs for Aquatic Warbler, for Birds of Prey (Raptors) and for Middle-European Great Bustard, and the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan;</p>
<p>5. <u>Requests</u> Parties, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations organizations, bilateral and multilateral donors, the private sector and others to provide financial assistance for the implementation of this Resolution</p>	<p>Retain text, moved operative para 5 to operative para 16</p>	<p>16. <u>Requests</u> Parties, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations organizations, bilateral and multilateral donors, the private sector and others to provide financial assistance for the implementation of</p>

<p>including to developing countries for relevant capacity-building and conservation action;</p>		<p>this Resolution including to developing countries for relevant capacity-building and conservation action;</p>
<p>6. Further welcomes the <u>commitment by the Government of India to provide resources and further efforts by the Government of India to continue the collaborative process, in close consultation with the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Range States and with the CMS and AEWA Secretariats, to establish the Central Asian Flyway Initiative develop under the CMS as an institutional framework, with a coordinating unit the Secretariat provided by the CMS Secretariat and along with a coordinating office hosted by the Government of India, to support the implementation of increased conservation action for migratory birds and their habitats in the CAF, as well as to support this initiative with resources, in coordination with the existing CMS avian-related instruments;</u></p>	<p>Minor amendment, retained as operative para 6</p>	<p>6. <i>Further welcomes</i> the commitment by the Government of India to provide resources and further efforts to continue the collaborative process, in close consultation with the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Range States and with the CMS and AEWA Secretariats, to establish the Central Asian Flyway Initiative under the CMS as an institutional framework, with a coordinating unit provided by the CMS Secretariat and hosted by the Government of India, to support the implementation of increased conservation action for migratory birds and their habitats in the CAF, as well as to support this initiative with resources, in coordination with the existing CMS avian-related instruments;</p>
<p>7. Further welcomes the <u>commitment by the Government of India to provide resources for this process including the establishment of the institutional framework, and the provision of a coordinating unit in India, under the umbrella of the CMS Secretariat in Bonn;</u></p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>7. bis Urges Parties and non-Parties of the <u>East Asian – Australasian Flyway (EAAF) to explore the feasibility and potential benefits of establishing a permanent flyway instrument for migratory birds, potentially under CMS auspices, in coordination with existing CMS avian-related instruments such as the MOUs for Birds of Prey (Raptors) and for Siberian Crane;</u></p>	<p>New text, operative para 7</p>	<p>7. <i>Urges</i> Parties and non-Parties of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway (EAAF) to explore the feasibility and potential benefits of establishing a permanent flyway instrument for migratory birds, potentially under CMS auspices, in coordination with existing CMS avian-related instruments such as the MOUs for Birds of Prey (Raptors) and for Siberian Crane;</p>
<p>8. Further r Requests the continuation of the open-ended Flyways Working Group extending membership to incorporate expertise from geographical regions, <u>technical groups</u> and relevant CMS bodies currently absent;</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 8 to operative para 1</p>	<p>1. <i>Requests</i> the continuation of the open-ended Flyways Working Group extending membership to incorporate expertise from geographical regions, technical groups and relevant CMS bodies currently absent;</p>

<p>9. Requests Encourages the Secretariat, Parties and all others involved with CMS, to actively foster closer synergies, cooperation and coordination among to liaise with the secretariats of CMS instruments, relevant MEAs and processes within and beyond the United Nations, international organizations, international conservation initiatives, NGOs, partnerships, and the private sector and government institutions (including bodies whose prime objective is not wildlife conservation), for example by organizing back-to-back meetings and joint activities;</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 9 to operative para 8</p>	<p>8. <i>Requests</i> the Secretariat, Parties and all others involved with CMS, to actively foster closer synergies, cooperation and coordination among secretariats of CMS instruments, relevant MEAs and processes within and beyond the United Nations, international organizations, international conservation initiatives, NGOs, partnerships, the private sector and government institutions (including bodies whose prime objective is not wildlife conservation), for example by organizing back-to-back meetings and joint activities;</p>
<p>10. Requests the Secretariat, Parties and all others involved with CMS, to seek actively closer cooperation among those instruments, initiatives and partnerships, within and outside the United Nations, relating to migratory birds and the habitats upon which they depend, and as a priority to focus on and address specific threats to halt the decline in the populations of these birds;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>11. Calls upon Parties and the CMS Secretariat to promote the collaborative conservation of migratory birds by working with other bodies whose prime objective is not wildlife conservation (governmental institutions, MEAs, UN institutions, non-governmental organizations and other organizations, including from the private sector), to ensure that the requirements of habitats of migratory birds are integrated into land use and marine policies, including protected areas but also especially outside protected areas;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	

<p>12. <i>Urges Parties, invites Range States and calls upon other partners and stakeholders, including the private sector, through formal designations and <u>Other Effective area-based Conservation voluntary Measures (OECMSs)</u> as appropriate, and through effective management and restoration, to afford high priority to <u>securing ecological connectivity through</u> the conservation of sites and habitats identified as being of importance to migratory birds (based on sound scientific information), expanding and strengthening existing flyway site networks (including <i>inter alia</i> the East Asian Australasian FlywayEAAF Site Network, Raptors MOU Site Network (Table 3), African-Eurasian Waterbirds Agreement Site Network, Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, West/Central Asian Site Network, Emerald Network, Ramsar Sites and World Heritage Sites, Special Protection Areas, Key Biodiversity Areas, BirdLife International's Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas), and to carry out work to determine how best to manage landscapes and seascapes, including the designation of protected trans-boundary habitat corridors and ecological networks with suitable and sufficient habitat in which to breed, forage and rest; and, to this end,</i></p>	<p>Minor amendment, combine operative paras 12 and 15, moved to operative paras 9</p>	<p>9. <i>los imp</i></p>
<p>13. <i>Invites Parties to implement Resolution 12.21 (Rev.COP14) <u>Climate Change and Migratory Species</u> on climate change and continue taking action to mitigate the impacts of climate change on migratory bird species, including addressing immediate threats that might reduce adaptive potential, ensuring adequate environmental safeguards for renewable energy projects, monitoring the status<u>impacts of renewable energy infrastructure on</u> migratory birds and their habitats (Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP13) <u>Renewable Energy and Migratory Species</u>), developing indicators to</i></p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 13 to operative para 14</p>	<p>14. <i>Invites Parties to implement Resolution 12.21 (Rev.COP14) <u>Climate Change and Migratory Species</u> and continue taking action to mitigate the impacts of climate change on migratory bird species, including addressing immediate threats that might reduce adaptive potential, ensuring adequate environmental safeguards for renewable energy projects, monitoring the impacts of renewable energy infrastructure on migratory birds and their habitats (Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP13) <u>Renewable Energy and Migratory Species</u>), developing indicators to identify the effects</i></p>

<p>identify the effects of climate change, promoting adaptive management, seeking new partnerships with other international bodies and considering how to assist species to adapt to climate change (e.g. through securing critical site networks);</p>		<p>of climate change, promoting adaptive management, seeking new partnerships with other international bodies and considering how to assist species to adapt to climate change (e.g. through securing critical site networks);</p>
<p>14. Requests Parties to review the coverage and protection status of current site networks taking into account any exploitation and degradation of sites, and to consider the resilience of sites to climate change, taking account of the potential for shifts in the range of species due to climate change, as well as other factors;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>15. Further requests urges Parties to make active use of the information and analytical modules offered by the African Eurasian Bird Migration Atlas, the Critical Site Network Tool and other tools, to better understand the role of existing networks of protected areas at the species/population flyway scale and to contribute to identifying gaps in these networks, both within the African Eurasian Flyway and other flyways, so that appropriate conservation action can be taken for these sites to ensure the coherence of the flyway site networks to include all important <u>Requests Parties to ensure that known key migratory stop over sites are all protected and managed and additional sites identified to form part of coherent site networks for migratory species and to continue to support the development of flyway scale site networks, especially where they are least developed, to include the widest possible range of available habitat for migratory birds, giving particular attention to tidal flats and associated coastal habitats</u> (see Resolution 12.25 <i>Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species</i>) as well as marine ecosystems;</p>	<p>Minor amendment, combine operative paras 12 and 15, moved to operative paras 10</p>	<p>10. Further requests Parties to better understand the role of existing networks of protected areas at the species/population flyway scale and to contribute to identifying gaps in these networks, so that appropriate conservation action can be taken for these sites to ensure the coherence of the flyway site networks to include all important habitat for migratory birds, giving particular attention to tidal flats and associated coastal habitats (see Resolution 12.25 <i>Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species</i>) as well as marine ecosystems;</p>

<p>16. <i>Urges</i> Parties to foster trans-boundary and trans-national collaboration within flyway networks to address threats to migratory birds and to implement existing site management plans and develop new ones, where needed, at key sites. supporting the development of a Global Critical Site Network Tool modelled on the redeveloped Critical Site Network Tool for the African-Eurasian flyways launched in 2018 to support the implementation of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands;</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 16 to operative para 11</p>	<p>11. <i>Urges</i> Parties to foster trans-boundary and trans-national collaboration within flyway networks to address threats to migratory birds and to implement existing site management plans and develop new ones, where needed, at key sites;</p>
<p>17. <i>Recommends</i> that Parties enhance and strengthen monitoring of migratory bird populations and the important sites upon which they rely (including surveying new sites to fill information gaps), and to increase capacity for and sustainability of such monitoring in the long term, where appropriate by institutionalizing it as an ongoing activity within government, in partnership with other organizations, including through provision of support initiatives such as the Global Waterbird Fund (established in response to the invitation of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention and managed by Wetlands International) in order to maintain present to key stakeholders with up-to-date information on the distribution, status and trends of migratory birds and the sites and habitats that they need;</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 17 to operative para 12</p>	<p>12. <i>Recommends</i> that Parties enhance and strengthen monitoring of migratory bird populations and the important sites upon which they rely (including surveying new sites to fill information gaps), and to increase capacity for and sustainability of such monitoring in the long term, where appropriate in order to maintain up-to-date information on the distribution, status and trends of migratory birds and the sites and habitats that they need;</p>
<p>18. <i>Requests</i> Parties to support enhanced understanding of patterns of bird migration including through analyses of existing datasets on individual bird movements and to support for the development and use of new tools and techniques, including geo-locators, radio and satellite tracking, remote sensing, and genetic and connectivity analyses, in order to help identify migration strategies, and important sites and routes whether of regular or occasional importance, covering the entire life cycle of</p>	<p>Minor amendment, moved operative para 18 to operative para 13</p>	<p>13. <i>Requests</i> Parties to support enhanced understanding of patterns of bird migration including through analyses of existing datasets on individual bird movements and to support for the development and use of new tools and techniques, including geo-locators, radio and satellite tracking, remote sensing, and genetic and connectivity analyses, in order to help identify migration strategies, and important sites and routes whether of regular or occasional</p>

<p>species and to compile and analyse multi-species datasets to understand the relative importance and the geographical distribution of threats;</p>		<p>importance, covering the entire life cycle of species and to compile and analyse multi-species datasets to understand the relative importance and the geographical distribution of threats;</p>
<p>19. Calls upon the Secretariat, in collaboration with Parties and relevant international organizations, to strengthen cooperation with the Arctic Council and other bodies focused on the Arctic in order to improve understanding of the ongoing and predicted changes to the environment and impacts on breeding and moulting distributions of species, and to ensure designation and management of all critically important areas;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>20. Requests the Secretariat to strengthen links with the Secretariat of the Arctic Council's Working Group on the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), in the framework of the existing Resolution of Cooperation, especially to ensure that the CAFF Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI) has maximum synergies with the priorities defined by the Flyways Working Group to capitalize on the flyway approach in gaining global support for the conservation of the arctic environment;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>21. Calls upon the Secretariat, in collaboration with Parties and relevant international organizations, to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to promote development and inclusion of flyway considerations into their operational guidance, to take up stewardship of areas directly linked to or associated with their footprint and beyond, to consider compensation for residual impacts along flyways, to strive for Net Positive Impact, and to be pro-active in using international best practice;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>22. Requests Parties, GEF, the United Nations and other international organizations, bilateral and multilateral donors, the private sector and others to provide financial assistance to developing and the least developed</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	

<p>countries, countries with economies in transition, the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and NGO partners for the implementation of this Resolution;</p>		
<p>23. Requests the Scientific Council to produce guidelines and/or case studies on mechanisms to enhance the conservation of migratory birds through site networks, including important oceanic ecosystems used by marine bird species;</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>24. Calls on Parties to ensure that the priorities of the Flyways Working Group are in line with the CMS SPMS and are aligned to the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as a contribution for the 2050 vision for biodiversity; and</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
<p>25. Notes that the following recommendations and resolutions were repealed by previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Recommendation 7.7, <i>America Pacific Flyway Programme</i> b) Resolution 10.10, <i>Guidance on Global Flyway Conservation and Options for Policy Arrangements</i>, and c) Resolution 11.14, <i>Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways</i>. 	<p>Retain text, moved operative para 25 to operative para 17</p>	<p>17. Notes that the following recommendations and resolutions were repealed by previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Recommendation 7.7, <i>America Pacific Flyway Programme</i> b) Resolution 10.10, <i>Guidance on Global Flyway Conservation and Options for Policy Arrangements</i>, and c) Resolution 11.14, <i>Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways</i>.

CLEAN TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDED RESOLUTION 12.11 (Rev.COP14)

FLYWAYS

Recognizing that a flyway is a flight path used by large numbers of birds, including landbirds, raptors, waterbirds and seabirds, while migrating between their breeding grounds and their non-breeding areas, generally spanning continents and often passing over oceans,

Recognizing that flyways are to be considered as ecological networks, since although there may be no direct physical links between their component parts, the populations of migratory birds using them provide an ecological link themselves, as recognized in Resolution 14.16 *Ecological Connectivity*,

Recognizing that a flyways approach is necessary to ensure adequate conservation of migratory birds throughout their ranges, and that any use of migratory birds is sustainable, combining species- and ecosystem-based approaches and promoting international cooperation and coordination among States, the private sector, multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), United Nations institutions, non-governmental organizations, local communities and other stakeholders,

Also recognizing that there are specific threats of particular significance to migratory birds along flyways, as identified in *A Review of Migratory Bird Flyways and Priorities for Management CMS Technical Series No. 27*, that continue to have an impact on these species and their habitats including:

- destruction and degradation of inland wetlands, inter-tidal and associated coastal habitats (Resolution 12.25 *Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species*);
- loss of forests and grasslands, including through agricultural intensification, overgrazing and desertification (Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP14) *Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP)*);
- inappropriate development of renewable energy including wind turbine development (Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP13) *Renewable Energy and Migratory Species*);
- power lines causing collisions and electrocutions (Resolution 10.11 (Rev.COP13) *Power Lines and Migratory Birds*);
- illegal and/or unsustainable killing, taking and trade (Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP14) *The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds*);
- overfishing and the bycatch of seabirds (Resolution 6.2, Recommendation 7.2, Resolutions 8.14, 9.18 and 10.14¹²);
- lead shot and other poisoning (Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP14) *Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds*);
- invasive alien species (Resolution 11.28 *Future CMS Activities related to Invasive Alien Species*), avian influenza and other disease (Resolutions 8.27, 9.8 and 10.22 on wildlife disease¹³ and Resolution 14.18 *Avian Influenza*); and
- marine debris (Resolution 11.30 *Management of Marine Debris*¹⁴),

¹² All consolidated in Resolution 12.22 *Bycatch*

¹³ All consolidated in Resolution 12.6 (Rev.COP14) *Wildlife Health and Migratory Species*

¹⁴ Consolidated as Resolution 12.20 *Management of Marine Debris*

Recognizing also that climate change is already having an adverse impact on migratory birds and their habitats, as reflected in Resolution 12.21 (Rev.COP14) *Climate Change and Migratory Species*,

Recognizing also the vital importance of the Arctic as the location of breeding and moulting areas of the world's major migratory waterbird flyways and that the region is undergoing rapid change driven by climate effects, development of activities of major extractive industries, land and water transportation routes and other threats,

Acknowledging the 2013 Resolution of Cooperation signed between the Secretariats of CMS and the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group (CAFF) of the Arctic Council and tripartite CAFF/CMS/AEWA joint workplan to encourage information sharing to assist in the conservation of migratory species along all the world's flyways and to assist cooperation with non-Arctic countries on these issues, and *welcoming* the Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI) and its associated 2019-2023 Work Plan,

Noting with appreciation the broad participation and work undertaken by the Ramsar Convention and the African–Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity for its establishment of the ASEAN Flyway Network, international NGOs, the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), AMBI, the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE) and international experts as well as a wider consultative group contributing to the work of the Flyways Working Group,

Taking further note of the Americas Flyways Action Plan adopted as a result of the 1st Meeting of the Americas Flyways Framework (AFF) Task Force, which took place in Florianopolis, Brazil in July 2018, and subsequently updated at its second meeting in December 2024, and *noting* the many ongoing activities in the Americas for the conservation of migratory birds,

Welcoming the progress made by the Government of India, hosting, in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat, the 4th meeting of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Range States in May 2023 to establish the institutional framework and a road map to update the CAF Action Plan through Resolution 14.13 *Initiative for Central Asian Flyway* and to advance the creation of a CMS-CAF Coordinating Unit for this flyway, and congratulating India for its National Action Plan on the CAF for migratory birds and progress in implementing the Action Plan,

Recognizing the ongoing efforts of various NGOs and regional inter-governmental fora to advance seabird conservation and identify marine flyways, as well as the opportunity to advance the designation of Marine Protected Areas for seabirds and other marine fauna through the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ),

Appreciating World Migratory Bird Day as a joint global campaign of CMS, AEWA, Environment for the Americas (EFTA) and the EAAFP, under a partnership established during the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS, Manila, 2017 (Res. 11.09 (Rev.COP13) *World Migratory Bird Day*), to strengthen recognition and appreciation of migratory birds and highlight the urgent need for their conservation,

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

1. *Requests* the continuation of the open-ended Flyways Working Group, extending membership to incorporate expertise from geographical regions, technical groups and relevant CMS bodies currently absent;
2. *Notes* the Programme of Work for the triennium 2026-2029 to enhance the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats along flyways, within and outside protected areas, especially by addressing key threats, and integrating their requirements into land-use and marine policies;
3. *Calls on* Parties to effectively implement the priorities set by the Flyways Working Group in accordance with the circumstances of each Party and *invites* non-Parties and other stakeholders, with the support of the Secretariat to strengthen national and local capacity for flyway conservation including, *inter alia*, by developing partnerships with key stakeholders and organizing training courses; translating and disseminating documents, sharing protocols and regulations; transferring technology; protecting and improving management and restoration of critically and internationally important sites; ensuring any use of migratory birds is sustainable, understanding the ecological functionality of flyways through research of migratory birds and their habitats to help determine threats and identify effective solutions; strengthening monitoring programmes; and promoting the conservation of migratory birds;
4. *Notes* the continuation of the Americas Flyways Task Force, to coordinate the development and implementation of the Americas Flyways Framework and the Americas Flyways Action Plan, developed in full alignment with the CMS Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS), CMS instruments such as the Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) for High Andean Flamingos, for Ruddy Headed Goose and for Southern South American Grassland Birds, and to report to meetings of the Scientific Council;
5. *Welcomes* progress in the African-Eurasian Flyway to address threats and develop transboundary solutions for the conservation of migratory birds through CMS instruments such as AEWA, the MOUs for Aquatic Warbler, for Birds of Prey (Raptors) and for Middle-European Great Bustard, and the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan;
6. *Further welcomes* the commitment by the Government of India to provide resources and further efforts to continue the collaborative process, in close consultation with the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Range States and with the CMS and AEWA Secretariats, to establish the Central Asian Flyway Initiative under the CMS as an institutional framework, with a coordinating unit provided by the CMS Secretariat and hosted by the Government of India, to support the implementation of increased conservation action for migratory birds and their habitats in the CAF, as well as to support this initiative with resources, in coordination with the existing CMS avian-related instruments;
7. *Urges* Parties and non-Parties of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway (EAAF) to explore the feasibility and potential benefits of establishing a permanent flyway instrument for migratory birds, potentially under CMS auspices, in coordination with existing CMS avian-related instruments such as the MOUs for Birds of Prey (Raptors) and for Siberian Crane;

8. *Requests* the Secretariat, Parties and all others involved with CMS, to actively foster closer synergies, cooperation and coordination among secretariats of CMS instruments, relevant MEAs and processes within and beyond the United Nations, international organizations, international conservation initiatives, NGOs, partnerships, the private sector and government institutions (including bodies whose prime objective is not wildlife conservation), for example by organizing back-to-back meetings and joint activities;
9. *Urges* Parties, *invites* Range States and *calls upon* other partners and stakeholders, including the private sector, through formal designations and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) as appropriate, and through effective management and restoration, to afford high priority to securing ecological connectivity through the conservation of sites and habitats identified as being of importance to migratory birds, expanding and strengthening existing flyway site networks (including *inter alia* the EAAF Site Network, Raptors MOU Site Network, African-Eurasian Waterbirds Agreement Site Network, Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, West/Central Asian Site Network, Emerald Network, Ramsar Sites and World Heritage Sites, Special Protection Areas, Key Biodiversity Areas, BirdLife International's Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas),
10. *Further requests* Parties to better understand the role of existing networks of protected areas at the species/population flyway scale and to contribute to identifying gaps in these networks so that appropriate conservation action can be taken for these sites to ensure the coherence of the flyway site networks to include all important habitat for migratory birds, giving particular attention to tidal flats and associated coastal habitats (see Resolution 12.25 *Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species*) as well as marine ecosystems,
11. *Urges* Parties to foster transboundary and transnational collaboration within flyway networks to address threats to migratory birds and to implement existing site management plans and develop new ones, where needed, at key sites,
12. *Recommends* that Parties enhance and strengthen monitoring of migratory bird populations and the important sites upon which they rely (including surveying new sites to fill information gaps), and to increase capacity for and sustainability of such monitoring in the long term, where appropriate, in order to maintain up-to-date information on the distribution, status and trends of migratory birds and the sites and habitats that they need;
13. *Requests* Parties to support enhanced understanding of patterns of bird migration, including through analyses of existing datasets on individual bird movements and support for the development and use of new tools and techniques, including geo-locators, radio and satellite tracking, remote sensing, and genetic and connectivity analyses, in order to help identify migration strategies, and important sites and routes whether of regular or occasional importance, covering the entire life cycle of species, and to compile and analyse multi-species datasets to understand the relative importance and the geographical distribution of threats;
14. *Invites* Parties to implement Resolution 12.21 (Rev.COP14) *Climate Change and Migratory Species* and continue taking action to mitigate the impacts of climate change on migratory bird species, including addressing immediate threats that might reduce adaptive potential, ensuring adequate environmental safeguards for renewable energy projects, monitoring the impacts of renewable energy infrastructure on migratory birds and their habitats (Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP13) *Renewable Energy and Migratory Species*), developing indicators to identify the effects of climate change, promoting adaptive management, seeking new partnerships with other international bodies and

considering how to assist species to adapt to climate change (e.g. through securing critical site networks);

15. *Encourages* Parties to promote the conservation and management priorities defined by the Flyways Working Group as global tools to contribute to achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in relation to the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats, and to ensure a strong level of support for its implementation by working closely with the Convention on Biological Diversity and developing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) that include migratory birds;
16. *Requests* Parties, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations organizations, bilateral and multilateral donors, the private sector and others to provide financial assistance for the implementation of this Resolution including to developing countries for relevant capacity-building and conservation action;
17. *Notes* that the following recommendations and resolutions were repealed by previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties:
 - a) Recommendation 7.7, *America Pacific Flyway Programme*
 - b) Resolution 10.10, *Guidance on Global Flyway Conservation and Options for Policy Arrangements*, and
 - c) Resolution 11.14, *Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways*.

ANNEX 2

DRAFT DECISIONS

FLYWAYS

Directed to Parties

15.AA Parties:

- a) are requested to implement the new Flyways Programme of Work 2026-2029 and share progress at the Flyways Working Group, with special focus on ensuring synergies with CMS and non-CMS instruments addressing migratory flyways globally;
- b) are urged to promote and support the development of online tools for mapping migratory flyways, such as IUCN or BirdLife International online databases and the AVISTEP spatial planning tool, and the threats affecting and ecosystem services provided by migratory bird species.

Directed to the Range States of the Americas Flyway

15.BB Range States of the Americas Flyways are encouraged to:

- a) implement the Americas Flyways Framework (AFF) Action Plan;
- b) support the work started by the AAF to develop a new CMS institutional framework for the Americas Flyways that could enhance cooperation among CMS Parties, non-Parties and relevant stakeholders in the region.

Directed to the Range States of the Central Asian Flyway

15.CC Range States of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) are requested to:

- a) support the Government of India and the Secretariat to set up the Coordination Unit of the CAF in India, under the umbrella of CMS;
- b) support the development and implementation of a CAF Programme of Work to identify the gaps and challenges in the region, including the need for further capacity-building and conservation initiatives;

Directed to intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and others

15.DD Non-Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the private sector, international financial institutions, donors and other stakeholders are invited to support the Flyways Working Group, and to jointly cooperate in the implementation of its strategic priorities.

Directed to the Flyways Working Group

- 15.EE The Flyways Working Group is requested, subject to the availability of external resources, to:
- a) act as a platform that ensures the exchange of best practices and the identification of global synergies and gaps across the different flyway-related initiatives, developed either within the framework of the CMS or outside, in alignment with the priorities identified in the CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) and with those of other relevant MEAs working in areas linked to migratory bird conservation;
 - b) review relevant scientific and technical reports, international initiatives and processes linked to the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats, and develop guidance to help Parties raise awareness of the importance of migratory flyways and the ecosystem services they provide;
 - c) help to ensure coordination between the various CMS Working Groups and Task Forces (e.g., Illegal Killing of Birds, Poisoning, Landbirds, Energy) on flyway-related actions and priorities, and enhance synergies in their implementation;
 - d) report progress to the Scientific Council.

Directed to the Americas Flyways Task Force

- 15.FF The Americas Flyways Task Force is requested, subject to the availability of external resources, to:
- a) support the implementation of the AFF Action Plan, seeking synergies with other CMS and non-CMS Parties and instruments, and explore the possibility of proposing a new CMS Instrument to coordinate action across the Americas Flyways.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 15.GG The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external resources:
- a) organize sub-regional meetings aimed at sharing best practices and lessons learned on flyway-scale conservation, awareness-raising, and on the development of adequate institutional frameworks to protect them;
 - b) support the work of the Flyways Working Group, in particular by organizing its meetings, aiding the development of a monitoring tool to provide Parties with an objective, fact-based national self-assessment of the current status of flyways and helping to raise awareness of flyways conservation;
 - c) support the Americas Flyway Task Force work, in particular by organizing the Task Force's meetings and helping to update the AFF Action Plan.