

**Addendum 1**

**SESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
CANDIDATE PROFILES**

*(prepared by the Secretariat)*

Through notification 2025/31, the Secretariat is seeking suitable candidates for the position of COP-appointed Councillor for invasive species, disease, feral animals, insects, and marine pests and weeds. This Addendum contains the candidate profiles, in alphabetic order, as received by 11 December 2025:

1. Silvia Neri Godoy
2. Stuart Patterson
3. Dharmaveer Shetty
4. Craig Stephen
5. Chris Walzer

The full CVs of the candidates are contained in the Annex to this Addendum in the language in which they were received; they will not be translated.

CANDIDATE PROFILE OF DR SILVIA NERI GODOY

<b>CANDIDATE INFORMATION</b>	
<b>CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Invasive species, disease, feral animals, insects, and marine pests and weeds</b>	
<b>Candidate Name</b>	Silvia Neri Godoy
<b>Email address</b>	Silvia.godoy@icmbio.gov.br
<b>Affiliation: name and address of the current employer / organization</b>	Brazilian National Centre for Research and Conservation of Wild Birds (CEMAVE/ICMB)
<b>Languages – fluent oral and written</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<b>Languages – basic knowledge</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish

<b>KEY RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>Qualifications: education / academic title (max 50 words)</b>
Graduated in Veterinary Medicine, with a Master’s degree in Animal Pathology, a PhD in Applied Ecology, and a Postdoctoral fellowship in Epidemiology, all focused on the study, diagnosis, and ecological implications of infectious diseases affecting wild animals.

<b>Relevant experience in subject area of the specific Councillor position (max 200 words)</b>
Wildlife veterinarian and national focal point for avian diseases at CEMAVE/ICMBio, including avian influenza (H5N1) other emerging infectious agents.
Serves as ICMBio’s representative in the Interministerial One Health Committee, collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health to develop integrated policies and operational tools aligned with One Health principles.
Participates in training and capacity-building activities for field teams, conservationists, researchers, and protected area managers on biosafety, sampling, outbreak investigation, and health monitoring of wild animals.

<b>International policy experience: working with CMS or other multilateral environmental agreements and organisations (max 200 words)</b>
Active participant in international cooperation networks and discussion forums on Wildlife Health and One Health, representing both ICMBio and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change of Brazil. Focuses particularly on avian influenza, engaging in technical assessments, expert consultations, and policy dialogues addressing transboundary disease risks in migratory species. Participates in international workshops and capacity-building programmes on emerging zoonoses and sanitary preparedness. Experienced in drafting technical reports, protocols, and strategic contributions aligned with multilateral environmental agreements, supporting evidence-based decision-making and cross-border cooperation for conservation and biosecurity.

**Relevant publications / ResearchGate / ORCID link (max 200 words)**

Relevant work includes technical notes, national guidelines, and scientific translations on avian influenza (H5N1), parrots diseases, sanitary protocols for conservation breeding programmes, and migratory bird health surveillance. These contributions support national and international conservation strategies, integrating One Health approaches across wildlife, ecosystems, and human interfaces. Additional information on academic background, technical production, and publications is available on the Brazilian Lattes Platform: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/2801909345426573>.

CANDIDATE PROFILE OF DR STUART PATTERSON

<b>CANDIDATE INFORMATION</b>	
<b>CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Invasive species, disease, feral animals, insects, and marine pests and weeds</b>	
<b>Candidate Name</b>	Stuart Patterson
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:SPatterson@rvc.ac.uk">SPatterson@rvc.ac.uk</a>
<b>Affiliation: name and address of the current employer / organization</b>	Royal Veterinary College, Hawkshead Lane, Hatfield, United Kingdom, AL9 7TA
<b>Languages – fluent oral and written</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<b>Languages – basic knowledge</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish

<b>KEY RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>Qualifications: education / academic title (max 50 words)</b>
<p><b>Title:</b> Associate Dean for Postgraduate Teaching and Learning, and Senior Lecturer in Wild Animal Health</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (2007) Master of Science in Veterinary Epidemiology (2013) Master of Veterinary Science in Veterinary Conservation Medicine (2015) PhD in Wildlife Epidemiology (2017) Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Education (2020)</p>

<b>Relevant experience in subject area of the specific Councillor position (max 200 words)</b>
<p>I have a PhD in Wildlife epidemiology focussing on interventions in wild animal health, having been a veterinarian, actively involved in animal health since 2007. As Head of Wildlife Health at the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), I oversee a faculty team of 5 academics, developing the RVC’s research portfolio in this area, and I have been the course director for both undergraduate and postgraduate degrees focussing on wildlife health. I have plenty of experience of chairing committees, both with the university and between organisations. I chair 3 internal committees as well as 2 partnership boards, all meeting regularly.</p> <p>Away from the university I have lead the British Veterinary Zoological Society as president, as well as being a council member for 5 years. I am also chair of the international Wildlife Disease Association’s Student Awards Committee. I am part of the Wildlife Health Bridge leadership group delivering capacity building around wildlife health in both India and Kenya, working with international partners.</p>

I have presented at international wildlife conferences regularly over recent years and am actively engaged in wildlife health research. I currently supervise a PhD student looking at health within the Rewilding sector.

**International policy experience: working with CMS or other multilateral environmental agreements and organisations (max 200 words)**

I am currently a member of the Wildlife Disease Core Group advising the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) within the UK and have sat on that panel since its inception in 2024.

Since 2018 I have been a member of the Wildlife Health Specialist Group for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Since 2023 I have participated in an ad hoc working group for the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), initially the Next Generation Wildlife Health Information System group, and currently a Global Wildlife Health Data Sharing panel.

I have sat on committees of the Wildlife Disease Association since 2017, and am currently co-chair of their Student Awards Committee.

**Relevant publications / ResearchGate / ORCID link (max 200 words)**

Publications list available [here](#)

CANDIDATE PROFILE OF DR DHARMAVEER SHETTY

<b>CANDIDATE INFORMATION</b>	
<b>CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Invasive species, disease, feral animals, insects, and marine pests and weeds</b>	
<b>Candidate Name</b>	Dr Dharmaveer Shetty
<b>Email address</b>	dharmaveershetty@gmail.com
<b>Affiliation: name and address of the current employer / organization</b>	World One Health Association (in formation), Global Convenor;  Wildlife Disease Association, USA, Chair, Ethics Committee
<b>Languages – fluent oral and written</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<b>Languages – basic knowledge</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish

<b>KEY RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>Qualifications: education / academic title (max 50 words)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinarian: Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, India</li> <li>• Wildlife Biologist: MSc Wildlife Biology and Conservation, UC Davis, USA</li> <li>• Wildlife Epidemiologist: PhD in Epidemiology (wildlife); Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis</li> <li>• Additional training in leadership and governance (Harvard)</li> <li>• Experienced in applied epidemiology, wildlife health systems, and multilateral coordination.</li> </ul>

<b>Relevant experience in subject area of the specific Councillor position (max 200 words)</b>
<p>Veterinary epidemiologist with over twenty years of experience in wildlife health, emerging diseases, and multisectoral risk assessment. As global Wildlife Networks Coordinator at the World Organisation for Animal Health, I supported 183 national wildlife focal points and 23 collaborating centres and established the organisation’s first wildlife health collaborating centre network. This involved guidance development, capacity strengthening, and operational support for surveillance, outbreak response, and early warning.</p> <p>My technical work has included disease risk assessment in migratory species and wildlife reservoirs, beginning with bat associated emerging disease investigations under the USAID PREDICT project, migratory species ecology during MSc training, and avian influenza related assessments through OFFLU aligned work. I contributed to WOAHP wildlife surveillance guidance with CITES, including elements relevant to invasive species and cross border disease movement.</p> <p>I contributed to the recent mpox surveillance guide for the Quadripartite and Zoonosis response guide for the Tripartite. I coordinated WOAHP’s internal mpox response, covering technical review, risk communication inputs, and evidence synthesis on spillback and diagnostics. I coordinated the development of WOAHP’s first evidence based emerging</p>

disease threats watchlist and contributed as an observer to the WHO SAGO, providing input to global discussions on pathogen emergence and risk governance.

**International policy experience: working with CMS or other multilateral environmental agreements and organisations (max 200 words)**

Served as secretariat to the WOAHA Emerging Diseases Group, coordinating global policy processes, producing the first evidence based emerging disease threats watchlist, and supporting countries on science policy translation. Helped convene intergovernmental working structures for wildlife health across 183 Members and contributed to preparation of H5N1 and other high impact disease policy notes.

Worked with the Quadripartite (FAO, WHO, WOAHA, UNEP), CITES, CMS, and IAEA on emerging zoonoses, surveillance frameworks, and guidance development. Contributed to the Tripartite zoonosis response guide and to WOAHA's wildlife surveillance guidance with CITES. Participated as an observer to the WHO Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins of Novel Pathogens (SAG O), contributing to discussions on pathogen emergence and global risk governance.

As coordinator of the WOAHA wildlife health network, I helped align national and regional wildlife surveillance initiatives with global standards and decision making. Engaged in discussions and grant proposals related to H5N1 in wildlife, including elements of flyway based surveillance and response.

I have worked closely with national focal points, collaborating centres, and multilateral technical groups in policy implementation across regions, with a consistent focus on bridging science and decision making for wildlife and emerging diseases.

**Relevant publications / ResearchGate / ORCID link (max 200 words)**

Key outputs include:

- WOAHA Emerging Disease Threats Watchlist (secretariat lead)
- Mpox spillback risk guidance (secretariat)
- Contributions to FAO led Quadripartite Mpox Surveillance (Case Detection) Guide
- WOAHA-CITES Wildlife Surveillance Guide (technical contributor)
- EFSA aquatic reservoir analyses (observer and contributor)
- Avian influenza related OFFLU aligned assessments and policy input
- Multiple peer reviewed papers on wildlife disease ecology, emerging infections, and risk assessment (work on bat borne zoonoses, carnivore viruses, and cross species transmission)

Publication list: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Dharmaveer-Shetty>

CANDIDATE PROFILE OF DR CRAIG STEPHEN

<b>CANDIDATE INFORMATION</b>	
<b>CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Invasive species, disease, feral animals, insects, and marine pests and weeds</b>	
<b>Candidate Name</b>	Craig Stephen DVM PhD FCAHS
<b>Email address</b>	craigstephen.pes@gmail.com
<b>Affiliation: name and address of the current employer / organization</b>	McEachran Institute (Executive Director) Address: 1859 Delancie Way, Nanoose Bay, BC, CANADA
<b>Languages – fluent oral and written</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<b>Languages – basic knowledge</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish

<b>KEY RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>Qualifications: education / academic title (max 50 words)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (1987).</li> <li>• PhD (Epidemiology, 1995).</li> <li>• Fellow Canadian Academy of Health Science.</li> <li>• Clinical Professor, University of British Columbia</li> <li>• Former Canada Research Chair in Integrating Human and Animal Health</li> <li>• Former Professor in Ecosystem Health. University of Calgary</li> </ul>

<b>Relevant experience in subject area of the specific Councillor position (max 200 words)</b>
<p>The applicant’s adaptation of the determinants of health and population health concepts to wildlife has changed how several governments and NGOs view wildlife health and influenced international guidelines to protect wildlife health, manage health risks in the wildlife trade and assess conservation risks from health concerns. His work has covered global challenges in emerging infectious diseases, climate change adaptation, species conservation, and ecosystem health. The One Health Action Committee (Shanghai Jiao Tong University) ranked him as one of the 50 most impactful One Health researchers in the world. He received an award from Canada’s wildlife directors for modernizing and innovating wildlife health management.</p> <p><u>Chairing examples:</u> (i) Wildlife Health Advisory Committee – Environment and Climate Change Canada, (ii) Canadian Federal-Provincial Fish Health Management Committee, (iii) Evaluation working group. Alliance Against Health Risks in the Wildlife Trade, (iv) Board of Directors. BC Environmental and Occupational Health Research Network. <u>Leadership examples:</u> (i) Created and lead two One Health NGOs (Centre for Coastal Health &amp; McEachran Institute), (ii) Co-Founder and Vice-President, Veterinarians Without Borders Canada, (iii) Scientific Director, Animal Determinants of Emerging Disease Research Unit</p> <p><u>Wildlife health leadership examples:</u> (i) Former Director of the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative, (ii) Wildlife Health focal point for Canada 2014- 2020</p>

**International policy experience: working with CMS or other multilateral environmental agreements and organisations (max 200 words)**

The applicant has extensive experience partnering in research and capacity development in Asia, the EU, and Americas including Nepal, Thailand, Sri Lanka, several Caribbean countries, Chile, the USA, and Belize. He has provided technical advice to WOA, ILRI, the World Bank, WTO, CIRAD, and PAHO.

Example Positions

- Wildlife health working group member. Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. 2025-present, (ii) Co-Director, WOA Collaborating Centre on Research, Diagnosis and Surveillance of Wildlife Pathogens, (iii) Steering Committee. Alliance Against Health Risks in the Wildlife Trade. 2022-present; (iv) Technical Working Group - Climate Change Leadership and Youth in the Caribbean. Pan-American Health Organization 2020-2025, (v) International Year of the Salmon - North Pacific Steering Committee Meeting 2017 2019, (vi) Expert group on invasive alien species and health. World Animal Health Organization (OIE) 2011

Example Projects

- (i) Supporting the One-Health Investment report. International Livestock Research Institute, (ii) Technical advisor and facilitator for the One Health in Action series. CIRAD, (iii) Caribbean One Health Leadership training. One Health, One Caribbean, One Love program. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, (iv) International animal health policy for invasive alien species: Animal health issues. WTO, (v) Rapid review of evidence for managing emerging diseases risks in the wildlife trade. WOA

**Relevant publications / ResearchGate / ORCID link (max 200 words)**

**Books (n = 5).** Examples, (i) Wildlife Population Health. Springer Nature (2022) DOI 10.1007/978-3-030-90510-1, (ii) Climate Change and Animal Health CRC Press (2022) DOI <https://doi.org/10.1201/9781003149774>

**Scientific publications (n=177)**

1. Stephen C, Berezowski J. 2025. Expectations of wildlife health surveillance systems and implications for system design. [doi.org/10.1017/one.2025.4](https://doi.org/10.1017/one.2025.4)
2. Stephen C, et al. 2023. A reimagined One Health framework for wildlife conservation. [doi.org/10.1017/one.2023](https://doi.org/10.1017/one.2023).
3. Pushpakumara .... Stephen C. 2020. The challenges and opportunities for wildlife disease surveillance in Sri Lanka. DOI: [10.7589/2019-07-181](https://doi.org/10.7589/2019-07-181)
4. Wittrock J, ... Stephen C. 2018. A Determinants of Health Conceptual Model for Fish and Wildlife Health. DOI: [10.7589/2018-05-118](https://doi.org/10.7589/2018-05-118)
5. Stephen C, et al (2018) Proposed attributes of national wildlife health programmes. DOI: [10.20506/37.3.2896](https://doi.org/10.20506/37.3.2896)
6. Stephen C, et al. 2018. Using a Harm Reduction Approach in an Environmental Case Study of Fish and Wildlife Health. DOI: 10.1007/s10393-017-1311-4

**Technical reports (n= 66)**

1. Stephen C, Berezowski J. 2022. Perspectives on opportunities for WOA standards and guidelines to better address wildlife health. Report to WOA.
2. Stephen C, Berezowski et al. 2021. Rapid Review of Evidence on Managing the Risk of emerging Diseases in the Wildlife Trade. Report to WOA.

CANDIDATE PROFILE OF DR CHRIS WALZER

<b>CANDIDATE INFORMATION</b>	
<b>CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Invasive species, disease, feral animals, insects, and marine pests and weeds</b>	
<b>Candidate Name</b>	Chris Walzer
<b>Email address</b>	cwalzer@wcs.org   chris.walzer@vetmeduni.ac.at
<b>Affiliation: name and address of the current employer / organization</b>	Wildlife Conservation Society, 10460 Bronx, NY, USA
<b>Languages – fluent oral and written</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<b>Languages – basic knowledge</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish

<b>KEY RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>Qualifications: education / academic title (max 50 words)</b>
Board-certified wildlife veterinarian [DECZM wph], DVM, Dr. med.vet, and habilitation in Conservation Medicine; former tenured Professor at the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna, Austria. Three decades of experience leading interdisciplinary wildlife health, disease ecology, and One Health initiatives globally.

<b>Relevant experience in subject area of the specific Councillor position (max 200 words)</b>
<p>Dr. Walzer is a leading expert in wildlife health and related disease dynamics, as well as the ecological drivers of pathogen emergence. As Executive Director of Health at WCS, he oversees global programmes integrating wildlife surveillance, epidemiology, conservation, and ecosystem-level management.</p> <p>As Director of a WOAHA Collaborating Centre, he supports Member Countries in building capacity in wildlife health and wildlife management. Before joining WCS, Chris led several successful large-scale EU-funded projects on ecological connectivity and biodiversity conservation across the Alps. He spent 20+ years working on the reintroduction of the Przewalski’s horse to SW Mongolia and extensive research on the Asiatic wild ass. Since joining WCS, he i.a., led the development of WildHealthNet’s national surveillance systems in Southeast Asia, addressed sarcoptic mange in vicuna across Latin America, addressed environmental contaminants, and, more broadly, the environment-health nexus.</p> <p>Dr. Walzer’s work incorporates transdisciplinary systems mapping, Indigenous knowledge, and community-based monitoring. It includes extensive experience in wildlife conservation and management, as well as wildlife–livestock interfaces.</p> <p>As a Commissioner on the Lancet Commission to Prevent Viral Spillover, he contributes to global guidance on upstream prevention that aligns closely with CMS priorities.</p> <p>See: <a href="http://www.linkedin.com/in/christian-walzer-3780b92">www.linkedin.com/in/christian-walzer-3780b92</a>.</p>

**International policy experience: working with CMS or other multilateral environmental agreements and organisations (max 200 words)**

Dr. Walzer engages extensively with multilateral organisations including CMS, WOA, WHO, UNEP, and CBD. He contributes to high-level policy processes such as the WHO Pandemic Agreement negotiations (Articles 4 & 5; PABS System), CBD Biodiversity & Health Action Plan, and international frameworks on HPAI, and wildlife trade.

As Director of a WOA WOA Collaborating Centre Consortium for Research, Diagnosis, and Surveillance of Wildlife Pathogens he advises on technical guidelines, risk assessment methodologies, and surveillance strategies for Member Countries. His service as a Commissioner on the Lancet Commission to Prevent Viral Spillover further underscores his role in shaping global upstream prevention policy, integrating conservation, integrity, and public health.

He is routinely invited to chair working groups, develop technical recommendations, and support Party-driven decision-making on emerging diseases, AMR, and conservation-linked health challenges—core functions of the CMS Scientific Council.

**Relevant publications / ResearchGate / ORCID link (max 200 words)**

500+ publications, 140+ peer-reviewed SCI/SSCI listed, hindex 48, i10 Index 151, 7963 citations [Google Scholar June 2025].

For a full list of publications, presentations and associated statistics see: [https://vetdoc.vetmeduni.ac.at/vivo/display/per\\_928](https://vetdoc.vetmeduni.ac.at/vivo/display/per_928)

ORCID ID is 0000-0002-0437-5147

[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Chris\\_Walzer](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Chris_Walzer)