



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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Campo Grande, Brazil, 23 – 29 March 2026
Agenda Item 24

REVIEW OF DECISIONS

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document reports on the implementation of the Decisions that are not addressed in any other document.

The document also makes recommendations to the Conference of the Parties on further action to be taken in relation to these Decisions.

REVIEW OF DECISIONS

Background

1. Resolution 11.6 (Rev.COP12) *Review of Decisions*, includes the following provisions directed to the Secretariat:
 3. c) *to revise the register of Decisions in force after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to contain all recommendations (or other forms of decision) that are not recorded in Resolutions and that remain in effect. The Decisions shall be sorted according to subject, using the subjects of the Resolutions for guidance, and within the section for each subject they shall be divided according to the body to which they are directed. The Secretariat shall distribute to the Parties a copy of the updated Decisions soon after each meeting of the Conference; and*
 - d) *when revising the register of Decisions in force for the purpose of suggesting amendments, deletions or continuity, the Secretariat shall provide justification of any proposed changes to a Decision at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties;*
2. To implement the mandates in Paragraph 3. c) and d) of Resolution 11.6, the Secretariat compiles a register of Decisions in effect after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
3. Most of the Decisions in effect after COP14 are reported on in meeting documents and feature in the agenda of COP15. Their renewal, amendment or deletion is expected to be addressed during the discussions of the corresponding documents. Due to the shortened intersessional period between COP14 and COP15, the Secretariat and ScC were not able to address all topics as anticipated.
4. When revising the list of Decisions in effect, the Secretariat identified those Decisions that are not addressed in any other COP15 meeting document. Annex I of this document provides a summary of the implementation status or actions undertaken in regard to these Decisions since COP14 and a recommendation from the Secretariat concerning their renewal, amendment or deletion.

Recommended actions

5. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to decide on the appropriate action to be taken in relation to the Decisions contained in the Annex of this document.

ANNEX

LIST OF DECISIONS TO BE RENEWED OR DELETED THAT ARE NOT ADDRESSED IN OTHER COP15 DOCUMENTS

Aquatic Species				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
14.38	The Maltreatment and Mutilation of Seabirds in Fisheries	Directed to Parties	Parties bordering the south-west Atlantic Ocean are requested to: a) work with their fisheries management agencies to identify ways to address this issue impacting seabird populations; b) endeavour to prevent further injuries to threatened and at-risk migratory species in their Exclusive Economic Zones; and c) report to the Standing Committee at its 57 th meeting on any further developments on this issue.	Regarding (c) there was only one intersessional meeting (StC56) to which no reports were received.	Delete
14.39	The Maltreatment and Mutilation of Seabirds in Fisheries	Directed to Parties	Other Parties are requested to report back to the Scientific Council if they become aware of this issue occurring within their jurisdiction or elsewhere in the future.	The Secretariat did not receive information from Parties.	Delete
14.40	The Maltreatment and Mutilation of Seabirds in Fisheries	Directed to the Scientific Council	The Scientific Council is requested to keep the issue of the maltreatment of seabirds in fisheries under review in case any further instances of mutilation are brought to its attention.		Renew
14.54	Marine Wildlife Watching	Directed to Parties	Parties are encouraged to disseminate the Guidelines on Recreational In-water Interactions with Marine Wildlife to relevant organizations and operators in their countries, and to utilize them in national planning.		Delete
14.55	Marine Wildlife Watching	Directed to the Scientific Council	The Scientific Council is requested to, subject to availability of external resources: a) develop a report to assess the long-term effects and biological significance of disturbances from boat-based and in-water interactions for all CMS-listed marine species, and make recommendations to Parties;	Implementation of Decision 14.55 is planned for 2026.	Renew

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
			<p>b) recommend in which areas activities should be strictly limited to boat-based activities from an increased distance for particularly vulnerable populations, and make recommendations to Parties;</p> <p>c) investigate the desirability of developing guidance regarding the use of unmanned aerial and underwater vehicles, and other relevant technologies used around marine wildlife during recreational activities; and</p> <p>d) report to the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting on the progress in implementing this Decision.</p>		
14.56	Marine Wildlife Watching	Directed to the Secretariat	<p>The Secretariat is requested, subject to the availability of external resources, to:</p> <p>a) support the Scientific Council in implementing Decision 14.55; and</p> <p>b) combine the <i>Guidelines for Boat-Based Wildlife Watching</i>, annexed to Resolution 11.29 (Rev.COP12), and the <i>Guidelines for Recreational In-water Interactions for Marine Wildlife</i>, annexed to Resolution 12.16 (Rev.COP14), into a CMS Technical Series Publication.</p>	Decision 14.56 (b) has been completed. International Guidelines for Sustainable Marine Wildlife Interactions: Boat-Based and In-Water Activities - Technical Series No. 49	Paragraph (a): renew Paragraph (b): delete
14.65	Seagrass Ecosystems	Directed to Parties	<p>Parties are requested to:</p> <p>a) identify, at the national level, migratory species that use seagrass meadows, the most important seagrass ecosystems for migratory species, the most important ongoing threats to seagrass and drivers of seagrass loss, the main historical reasons that have resulted in the loss of seagrass beds, the most important activities that prevent their recovery, and the conservation actions necessary to reduce seagrass loss and restore it, including the conservation of</p>	In order to support implementation of these decisions, the Secretariat has developed and shared with parties a short survey to collect information on national seagrass conservation efforts.	Renew

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
			<p>migratory species that support healthy seagrass ecosystems;</p> <p>b) include identified seagrass meadows in marine protected areas, locally managed marine areas, or other effective conservation measures, as well as in marine spatial plans; and</p> <p>c) report, through the national reports, to the Conference of Parties at its 15th meeting on the progress.</p>		
14.66	Seagrass Ecosystems	Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations	Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide technical support to conservation, sustainable management and research in seagrass ecosystems that are of particular importance to marine migratory species globally.		Renew
14.67	Seagrass Ecosystems	Directed to the Scientific Council	<p>The Scientific Council is requested, subject to availability of resources, to:</p> <p>a) provide technical support to Parties to identify an inventory of migratory species that use seagrass ecosystems and those that contribute to their functioning, the most important seagrass meadows for migratory species globally, the most important past and current threats to seagrass and drivers of seagrass degradation and loss, and the conservation actions necessary to reduce seagrass loss and restore it; and</p> <p>b) collaborate with the Dugong MOU and other intergovernmental organizations or initiatives such as UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the IUCN SSC Seagrass Specialist Group, to accelerate the process described in paragraph 14.67 (a).</p>		Renew
14.68	Seagrass Ecosystems	Directed to the Secretariat	Where appropriate, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with Parties and subject to availability of resources:		Renew

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
			<p>a) provide technical support to Parties on conservation, sustainable management and research in seagrass ecosystems that are of particular importance to marine migratory species;</p> <p>b) develop and disseminate guidelines and management tools for conservation, sustainable management and research in seagrass ecosystems that are of particular importance to marine migratory species; and</p> <p>c) report to the Conference of Parties at its 15th meeting on the progress in implementing this Decision.</p>		
14.87	Sirenians, Pinnipeds and Otters	Directed to Parties	Parties that are Range States to the species are requested to consider the possibility of proposing for listing the East African and New Caledonia Dugong populations, which have been listed as Critically Endangered or Endangered in the IUCN Red List, on Appendix I of CMS.	Given the short intersessional period, no progress was made by CMS bodies, hence no document has been submitted. Therefore, it is proposed to renew Decisions 14.87 – 14.92.	Renew
14.88	Sirenians, Pinnipeds and Otters	Directed to Parties	Parties are requested to support the Secretariat in securing the external expertise required to develop draft reviews of conservation status and threats to CMS-listed aquatic mammal species and recommendations for the consideration of the Scientific Council as foreseen in Decision 14.90.		Renew
14.89	Sirenians, Pinnipeds and Otters	Directed to non-governmental organizations	Non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide in-kind and technical support to the development of draft reviews of conservation status and threats to CMS-listed aquatic mammal species and recommendations.		Renew
14.90	Sirenians, Pinnipeds and Otters	Directed to the Scientific Council through its Aquatic Mammals Working Group	<p>The Scientific Council through its Aquatic Mammals Working Group is requested to, subject to the availability of resources:</p> <p>a) review the regional threats for the CMS-listed aquatic mammals other than cetaceans, with priority given to species or populations not currently covered by CMS agreements and/or with a less favourable conservation status;</p>		Renew

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
			<p>b) based on this assessment of threats and regional priorities, prepare detailed recommendations for these other aquatic mammal species for consideration by the Scientific Council; and</p> <p>c) assess whether any additional sirenian, pinniped or otter species might meet the criteria for listing on the CMS Appendices I or II and might benefit from being so listed.</p>		
14.91	Sirenians, Pinnipeds and Otters	Directed to the Scientific Council	The Scientific Council is requested to review the assessments of regional threats and resulting recommendations developed by the Aquatic Mammals Working Group and provide recommendations to COP15.		Renew
14.92	Sirenians, Pinnipeds and Otters	Directed to the Secretariat	The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external resources, facilitate the development of draft reviews of conservation status and threats to CMS-listed aquatic mammal species and recommendations for the consideration of the Scientific Council as foreseen in Decision 14.90.		Renew
Avian Species					
14.143	Initiative for Central Asian Flyway	Directed to Parties, non-Party Range States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations of the Central Asian Flyway	<p>Parties, non-Party Range States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations of the Central Asian Flyway are invited to:</p> <p>a) provide financial resources for the establishment and functioning of the Initiative for Central Asian Flyway (ICAF) Coordination Unit and for the Initiative for the Central Asian Flyway in the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15; and</p> <p>b) work in coordination with the Secretariat towards a meeting of the ICAF, members and the endorsement of a Programme of Work.</p>	Other Decisions on CAF are reported on in Document 26.3.1 Flyways .	Delete
Cross-cutting conservation issues					
14.223	Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic,	Directed to Parties	<p>Parties are encouraged to:</p> <p>a) fully support the negotiations for a legally</p>	The only work undertaken by the ScC and the Secretariat has been reported in Document 25.2.1 Marine	Delete

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
	Terrestrial and Avian Species		<p>binding treaty to end plastic pollution currently ongoing in response to UNEP/EA.5/Res.14 <i>End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument</i>, with the ambition to complete them by the end of 2024, by raising issues associated with plastic pollution of importance to migratory species and identify locally appropriate solutions, striving to ensure that communities actively participate, taking into account relevant provisions of CMS Resolution 12.20 <i>Management of Marine Debris</i> and the recommendations of the report, <i>Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Freshwater Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Migratory Species in the Asia and Pacific Region</i>;</p> <p>b) disseminate the findings of the report, <i>Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Freshwater Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Migratory Species in the Asia and Pacific Region</i>, within their Governments and among other stakeholders, and take steps to address the conclusions;</p> <p>c) engage with the Global Ghost Gear Initiative, in line with the recommendation contained in Resolution 12.20, implement strategies to increase gear traceability through the implementation of fishing gear marking schemes in line with the FAO voluntary guidelines and participate in the ongoing FAO global assessment of Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG);</p> <p>d) encourage further research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders on the impact of plastic pollution, including plastics of all sizes and materials, on marine, freshwater and terrestrial CMS-listed species with a view to providing clear recommendations; and</p>	<p><u>Pollution</u>. As negotiations for the Plastics Treaty are ongoing, this work is best dealt with in other fora.</p>	

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
			e) develop, in collaboration with relevant agencies, a harmonised standard and guidance relating to the circular design of fishing gears in order to prepare for their re-use, repair or recycling, and sharing best practices, including in relation to the collection of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gears.		
14.224	Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species	Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations	Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to identify and mobilize resources to support activities and initiatives to prevent and mitigate plastic pollution, including actions towards combating and removing accumulated marine debris and supporting upstream activities towards prevention of plastic pollution in areas of high importance for migratory species on the basis of the precautionary principle, recognizing the challenges faced by Parties and the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties including least developed and small island developing states.	The only work undertaken by the ScC and the Secretariat has been reported in Document 25.2.1 Marine Pollution . As negotiations for the Plastics Treaty are ongoing, this work is best dealt with in other fora.	Delete
14.225	Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species	Directed to the Scientific Council	The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of external resources, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noting the work undertaken already with respect to the Asia Pacific region, develop a concise report summarizing the status of knowledge on the impact of plastic pollution on CMS-listed species that inhabit terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems in other regions taking into account plastics of all sizes and materials, along with recommendations to address such threats, and submit the report to the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting; and 	Decision 14.225 (b) is reported on in Document 25.2.1 Marine Pollution .	Delete
14.226	Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species	Directed to the Secretariat	The Secretariat shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) subject to the availability of resources, support implementation of Decisions 14.223 – 14.225; and 	The only work undertaken by the ScC and the Secretariat has been reported in Document 25.2.1 Marine Pollution . As negotiations for the Plastics Treaty are ongoing, this work is best dealt with in other fora.	Delete

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP14	Recommendation of the Secretariat (delete or renew)
			b) report to the Conference of the Parties at its 15 th meeting on progress of the implementation of Decisions 14.223 - 14.225.		