



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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Campo Grande, Brazil, 23 – 29 March 2026
Agenda Item 31.1

ScS-SC8 CRP 14.1

CONCERTED ACTIONS

(Prepared by the Scientific Council)

Summary:

This document proposes amendments to Resolution 12.28 (Rev.COP14) *Concerted Actions*, as part of the work of the Scientific Council to implement Decision 14.9 through its Working Group on Multiple Systems of Knowledge.

CONCERTED ACTIONS

Background

1. The 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP14, 2024) adopted Decision 14.9, which, inter alia, aims to facilitate the participation and engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as part of Decisions 14.8-14.10 *Participation of Non-CMS Governmental Organizations and Other Groups in CMS Processes*.

Activities to implement Decision 14.9

2. The 7th meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC7) established an intersessional Working Group on Multiple Systems of Knowledge, including traditional and Indigenous knowledge to consider this topic and provide its recommendations to ScC-SC8. This document should be read in conjunction with Document [UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.28.14](#), which contains the report of the Working Group and a summary of its recommendations.
3. As discussed in Document UNEP/CMS/COP15/Doc.28.14, the Working Group recommended including Indigenous and/or local knowledge known about the species when preparing Concerted Actions, where appropriate. This proposed amendment to Annex 1 of [Resolution 12.28 \(Rev.COP14\) Concerted Actions](#) is included in the Annex to this document; the text and Annex 2 of the Resolution remain unchanged and are not included in this document.

Recommended actions

4. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
 - a) adopt the draft amendments to Resolution 12.28 (Rev.COP14) contained in the Annex of this document.

ANNEX

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ANNEX 1 OF RESOLUTION 12.28 (Rev.COP14)

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

Annex 1 to Resolution 12.28 (Rev.COP1415)**GUIDELINES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCERTED ACTIONS PROCESS****Step 1: Proposing species for Concerted Actions**

- 1) Proposals for Concerted Actions can be submitted to the Conference of the Parties by Parties, and other relevant stakeholders by the same deadline applicable to listing proposals.
 - 2) Proposals for Concerted Actions may address a single species, lower taxon or population, or a group of taxa with needs in common. The target animals in each case should be clearly defined, including by listing their names (scientific name plus common names in each of the three languages of the Convention) and by reference to their status in terms of the CMS Appendices and the geographical range(s) concerned.
- 2bis) Inclusion of Indigenous and/or local knowledge known about the species when preparing Concerted Actions is encouraged to inform the development of appropriate actions to improve the conservation status of the target species.*
- 3) Proposals for Concerted Actions should be submitted using the template provided in Annex 2 to this Resolution.
 - 4) Proposals seeking to commit other entities, including Range States or the Secretariat, to specific activities should consult with those entities in advance of submission to ensure their agreement with the proposed activities. Upon request by the proponent, the Secretariat may assist with the consultations with Parties.

Step 2: Assessment of proposal by the Scientific Council/Sessional Committee

- 1) The Scientific Council will assess the merits of the proposals for Concerted Actions submitted to the Conference of the Parties pursuant to Step 1 above.
- 2) The Scientific Council will assess the merits of each proposal, taking into account the following criteria:

(i) Conservation priority

May relate to the degree of endangerment or unfavourable conservation status as defined under the Convention; the urgency with which a particular kind of action is required; and other priorities expressed in CMS decisions.

(ii) Relevance

May relate to the degree to which the particular conservation problem is linked to migration and requires collective multilateral action; and the degree to which the proposed action will fulfil specific CMS mandates.

(iii) Absence of better remedies

An options analysis to test whether (and why) a CMS Concerted Action is the best method of meeting the defined conservation need. Alternatives both within and outside the mechanisms of the CMS should be considered¹.

(iv) Readiness and feasibility

The proposal will need to demonstrate meaningful prospects for funding and leadership, and to address all significant issues of practical feasibility for undertaking the action.

(v) Likelihood of success

Feasibility (see previous criterion) only concerns whether an action is likely to be implementable. Criterion (v) seeks in addition to assess whether implementation is likely to lead to the intended outcome. Risk factors to consider include: uncertainty about the ecological effects; weakness in the underpinning science; lack of a “legacy mechanism” by which results can be sustained; and activities by others that may undermine or negate the results of the action.

(vi) Magnitude of likely impact

Proposals that are equal in other respects might be prioritized according to the number of species, number of countries or extent of area that will benefit in each case; the scope for catalytic or “multiplier” effects, contribution to synergies or potential for acting as “flagship” cases for broadening outreach.

(vii) Cost-effectiveness

Proposals should specify the resources they require, but should also relate these to the scale of impact expected, so that cost-effectiveness can be judged.

- 3) If the Scientific Council considers it beneficial, it may recommend extending or reducing the number of species covered by the proposal or suggest amendments to the proposed conservation measures, including any further actions, as necessary.

Step 3: Recommendation to the Conference of Parties on the acceptance of proposals for Concerted Actions

- 1) Based on its assessment of the merits of a proposal, the Scientific Council will make its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties regarding the acceptance or rejection of the proposal, including any recommendations for amendments or further actions.
- 2) The recommendation of the Scientific Council to the Conference of the Parties regarding the acceptance of the proposal may be conditional to the acceptance by the proponent of any amendment of the proposal recommended by the Scientific Council.

Step 4: Decision of the COP to accept proposals for Concerted Actions

- 1) The Conference of the Parties will consider the recommendations of the Scientific Council and decide whether or not to accept the proposal for Concerted Actions, including the conservation measures proposed and the list of range States concerned.

¹ For cases where it appears that proceeding directly to the development of an Agreement or other instrument under Article IV of the Convention would be a better remedy, equivalent guidance and criteria for judging such proposals is provided in Resolution 12.08, *Implementation of Articles IV and V of the Convention*.

Step 5: Reporting and monitoring of implementation of Concerted Actions

- 1) Proponents will provide a concise written report to the meeting of the Scientific Council preceding the Conference of the Parties on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. In particular circumstances, such as drastic changes in the conservation status of the species covered by the Concerted Action and/or a significant increase of threats (actual or potential) to the species, more frequent reports may be submitted to the Scientific Council.
- 2) Requests Parties and invites non-Parties that are Range States of species covered by accepted proposals for Concerted Actions cooperate in providing information to the proponents.
- 3) Proponents should submit a report on the implementation of the Concerted Action to the Conference of the Parties by the same deadline applicable to listing proposals.
- 4) The Scientific Council will evaluate the progress made in implementation of Concerted Actions and make appropriate recommendations for further actions, as necessary.
- 5) Parties that are Range States of species covered by accepted proposals for Concerted Actions should report as part of their National Reports on progress in implementation of Concerted Actions.
- 6) The Conference of the Parties will review the progress made in implementing Concerted Actions in order to measure the effectiveness of the instrument.

Step 6: Continuation and closure of Concerted Actions

- 1) Proponents of an accepted Concerted Action will, through the submission of a progress report by the deadline for COP documents with a scientific component, indicate whether the Concerted Action is proposed for continuation in the subsequent intersessional period, be considered complete or be closed for other specified reasons.
- 2) If the proponent wishes to continue and extend the Concerted Action, a proposal for extension should be submitted to the Conference of Parties, including a revised proposal for Concerted Action.
- 3) For Concerted Actions proposed to be continued, the Scientific Council, having assessed progress in their implementation, will recommend to the Conference of Parties whether they should be continued or closed.
- 4) In the event that no report is received, the Concerted Action will be considered closed.
- 5) For Concerted Actions proposed for closure, the proponent should report lessons learned from undertaking the Concerted Action for review by the Scientific Council.
- 6) The Conference of Parties, taking into consideration the recommendation of the Scientific Council will, at each of its meetings, decide whether a proposal for the extension of a Concerted Action for the subsequent intersessional period should be adopted.