



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CMS SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON MAINTAINING LISTS OF SPECIES LISTED IN CMS APPENDICES

The Seventh Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC7) held in September 2024, decided to establish a Working Group on the above subject. The ScC-SC8 (December 2025) amended paragraph 4. Duration.

1. Purpose

The Working Group shall have the mandate to:

- a) Support the Secretariat in implementation of Article VI, paragraph 1 of the Convention and Decision 14.234 and 14.30;
- b) Provide a platform to discuss and exchange information and scientific findings on:
 - Mapping the different uses of the online databases and define the information needed for different purposes and by relevant users;
 - Species to be displayed in the databases Species List and Species+ with specific focus on Appendix II species listed at family and genus level;
 - Information to be displayed for each species (e.g. an annotation informing about migratory behaviour of the species, Range State data, taxonomic and range state references, etc.);
 - Search options and other recommended functionalities of the databases; – Possible integration of the lists requested under Resolution 14.19 paragraph 1 and Decision 14.30 into the online databases;
 - Practical issues in implementing any options considered;
- c) Formulate its findings and recommendations for consideration by ScC-SC8.

2. Membership

- A. The Working Group should consist of the following members:
 - a) Sessional Committee members and Scientific Councillors;
 - b) Sessional Committee Observers;
- B. The Working Group strives to maintain a balance of gender, regional representation and taxonomic categories of expertise.
- C. If and when needed, experts external to the Working Group and interested in contributing to the objectives of the Working Group may be invited to join meetings or to support specific tasks.

3. Organization of work

- A. The Working Group will appoint its chair from among the Sessional Committee / Scientific Council members.
- B. The Working Group will mainly operate electronically by communicating via email and possibly making use of a dedicated workspace or virtual meetings. In-person meetings may be held in the margins of Sessional Committee meetings.
- C. The Chair of the Working Group will report on progress to the Sessional Committee.
- D. The CMS Secretariat will keep the membership list and will support and facilitate the coordination of the activities and the organization of meetings of the Working Group.

4. Duration

The Working Group will remain in place until the Sessional Committee decides its work is completed, or an alternative arrangement is made.