

**TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
PASTORALISM AND CMS-LISTED SPECIES**

The Seventh Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC7) held from 17 to 20 September 2024 established a Working Group on the above subject. The ScC-SC8 (December 2025) amended paragraph 5. Duration.

1. Terms of Reference

The Working Group, consisting of experts identified in cooperation with the Secretariat, is to advise the Scientific Council on issues of pastoralism and migratory species, and to perform the following activities:

- a) Analyze available information relevant to pastoralism, the impact of transhumance on biodiversity, well-being, and the risk of zoonotic disease emergence at the human/wildlife/livestock interface, building on existing CMS mandates; and potential impacts on CMS-listed species, including existing models and best practice case studies and the compilation of responses received by the Secretariat under Decision 14.181;
- b) Provide recommendations to support Parties in addressing the impact of pastoralism on CMS-listed species and in realizing the potential benefits to ecosystem health and resilience associated with the holistic management of rangelands and migratory species including soil restoration and climate change adaptation and mitigation, in synergy with other conventions and international organizations.

2. Membership

Members of the Working Group should be experts from the following categories, taking into account geographical and gender balance:

- Scientific Council members;
- Environmental Ministries and Wildlife Authorities;
- Agriculture agencies and other respective agencies responsible for pasture management;
- Land use planning sector;
- Development agencies and banks working on land use issues (e.g. GIZ, AfD, World Bank)
- Scientific community involved in migratory species and land use issues;
- Relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements and intergovernmental organizations, such as UNEP, UNCCD, FAO, UNESCO;
- International and national NGOs; Representatives of relevant CMS Family Working Groups and Task Forces; and
- Other relevant experts.

3. Governance

The Working Group will select a Chair from among its members. The Working Group will operate by seeking consensus among the Group members.

4. Operation

The Working Group will generally work through electronic means. Subject to the availability of funding, in-person meetings may be organized.

The CMS Secretariat will assist with organizing meetings and the administration of the Group.

The Chair will coordinate the work with the Secretariat on issues such as outreach and communication.

5. Duration

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