UN environment programme

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

CMS

AEMLAP-UNCCD Joint Meeting on Land Degradation Neutrality Targets

(3-4 December 2026, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe)

UNEP/CMS/AEMLAP-UNCCD/Doc.3.2

ANNOTATED AGENDA AND MEETING SCHEDULE

(as of 17 November 2026)

Objectives of the Meeting:

1. To discuss effective habitat restoration interventions that improve the conservation status of CMS-listed migratory species and impact assessment approaches using migratory landbirds as an indicator of restoration success.

2. To showcase best-practice already in place in the African-Eurasian Region, enabling countries to meet both CMS and UNCCD Strategic Goals, while improving local livelihoods.

3. To review the current implementation of the POW for the AEMLAP Working Group and identify priority actions for the development of joint next steps for migratory species conservation and land restoration.

4. To explore fundraising options to support restoration efforts and enhance regional and international implementation and cooperation.

DAY 1

Thursday, 3 December 2026

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (all times are quoted as UTC/GMT+2, Zimbabwean time)

Time	Agenda item/Speakers	Documents/Expected outcomes
08.30 - 09.30	**Registration**	
09.30 - 17.00	**Plenary**	
09.30 - 10.15	**1. Opening of the Meeting** a. Welcoming remarks by the host country, *Prof. Edson Gandiwa, Director General of ZimParks* b. Welcoming remarks by the CMS and UNCCD Secretariats, *Mr. Iván Ramírez, CMS Secretariat; Ms. Ece Aksoy Gurcam, UNCCD Global Mechanism* **2. Election of the Chair and introduction of participants** **3. Adoption of the Agenda and Schedule**	**Documents:** UNEP/CMS/AEMLAP-UNCCD/Doc.3.1 *Provisional Agenda* UNEP/CMS/AEMLAP-UNCCD/Doc.3.2 *Annotated Agenda and Meeting Schedule* **Expected outcome:** *The meeting is opened, Chair elected, and agenda and schedule adopted. Participants are informed about the meeting's objectives.*
10.15 - 10.45	**4. Setting the scene - Mandates and targets** a. CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) Indicators across species and habitats, and the role of AEMLAP, *Mr. Iván Ramírez, CMS Secretariat* b. UNCCD Mandate and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets, including outcomes of UNCCD COP17 [Drought Rangelands, Private sector, etc.], *Ms. Ece Aksoy Gurcam, UNCCD Global Mechanism*	**Documents:** Presentations **Expected outcome:** *Shared understanding of each Convention's commitments to and ambitions about the management and restoration of land/habitats; mapping of areas of common interest and priority.*
10.45 - 11.15	***Coffee Break and Group Photo***	
11.15 - 12.30	**5. Demonstrating joint implementation on the ground** a. Concrete examples of projects and lessons learned - *Presenters TBC*	**Documents:** Presentations **Expected outcome:** *Participants informed of concrete on-the-ground projects across Range States.*

Time	Agenda item/Speakers	Documents/Expected outcomes
12.30 - 14.00	***Lunch Break***	
14.00 - 17.00	**Breakout Groups**	
14.00 - 15.30	**5. Demonstrating joint implementation on the ground (continued)** b. Breakout groups: identifying priority geographies/themes/species for joint conservation and restoration action	**Documents:** Information documents on SPMS and LDN Results from the pre-meeting survey **Expected outcome:** *Concrete ideas identified by geography/theme/species as a basis for projects and further joint conservation and restoration action.*
15.30 - 16.00	***Coffee Break***	
16.00 - 17.00	**Breakout Groups**	
16.00 - 17.00	**Breakout Groups (continued)**	**Documents:** Information documents on SPMS and LDN Results from the pre-meeting survey **Expected outcome:** *Concrete ideas identified by geography/theme/species as a basis for projects and further joint conservation and restoration action.*
17.00	***End of Day 1***	

DAY 2

Friday, 4 December 2026

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (all times are quoted as UTC/GMT+2, Zimbabwean time)

Time	Agenda item/Speakers	Documents/Expected outcomes
09.15 -	**Plenary**	
09.15 - 09.30	**Brief Summary of Day & Introduction to Day 2**	**Documents:** No documents **Expected outcome:** *Participants are reminded of housekeeping items, the progress made on Day 1 and are informed about the programme for the day.*
09.30 - 10.15	**Report back from the Breakout Groups** Report to Plenary & Conclusions from Breakout Groups, *Reporters from Breakout Groups*	**Documents;** No documents **Expected outcome:** *Participants are informed about the conclusions from the Breakout Groups.*
10.15 - 10.45	**6. Available Resources and Challenges,** a. Financing - donor funds/pipeline, private sector engagement b. Scientific and technical - methodologies and platforms	**Documents:** No documents **Expected outcome:** *Shared understanding of what works and bottlenecks to success and roll out.*
10.45 - 11.00	**7. Upcoming Opportunities,** *Mr. Iván Ramírez, CMS Secretariat; Ms. Ece Aksoy Gurcam, UNCCD Global Mechanism* a. The 2030+ agenda: i. UNCCD - IWG, etc. ii. LDN TSP next phase iii. SPMS next phase b. UNCCD COP18 in Egypt - land/water nexus c. CMS COP16 in Germany	**Documents:** Presentations **Expected outcome:** *Participants are informed of next phases of initiatives, upcoming meetings and opportunities for collaboration under both Conventions.*

Time	Agenda item/Speakers	Documents/Expected outcomes
11.00 - 12.00	**8. Agreement on Next Steps**	**Documents:** No documents **Expected outcome**: *Agreement on concrete shared priorities and next steps for the continued collaboration between both Conventions on migratory species conservation and land restoration.*
12.00 - 12.15	**9. Any Other Business**	**Documents:** No documents **Expected outcome:** *All AOB points are addressed.*
12.15 - 12.30	**10. Closing remarks and closure of the Meeting** a. Closing remarks by the CMS and UNCCD Secretariats, *Mr. Iván Ramírez, CMS Secretariat; Ms. Ece Aksoy Gurcam, UNCCD Global Mechanism* b. Closing remarks by the host country, *Prof. Edson Gandiwa, Director General of ZimParks*	**Documents:** No documents **Expected outcome:** *The meeting is closed.*
12.30	***End of the Meeting***	