



# Convention on Migratory Species

**4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical  
Advisory Group to the Raptors  
MOU (TAG4)**

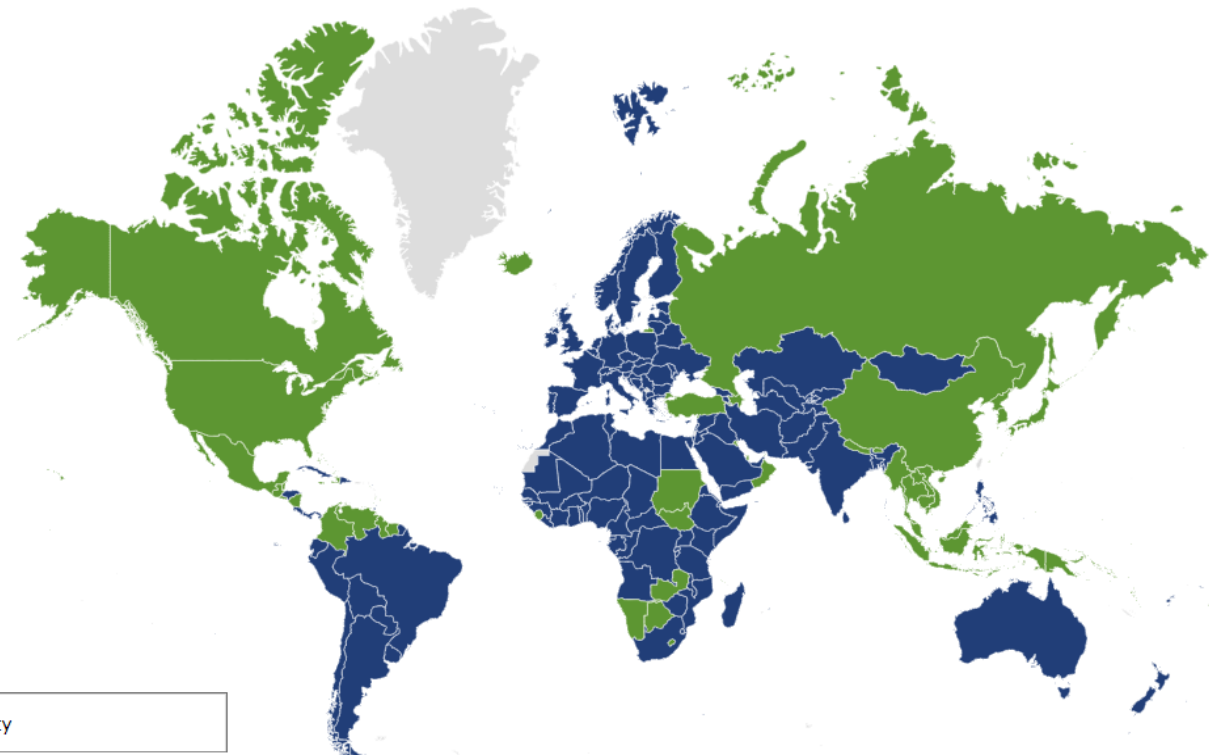
**13 December 2021**

## Report of the CMS Secretariat

Iván Ramírez, Head CMS Avian Species Team

## A summary:

- Review on key CMS overarching and avian-related developments and achievements since TAG3, with focus on migratory raptors.
- The TAG can contribute to the implementation of several resolutions and decisions through specific guidance and inputs.
- The CMS Secretariat welcomes the engagement from TAG members and will work to ensure better synergies



# Overarching and Cross-cutting issues



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- Res 11.2 (Rev.COP12); Dec 13.4 - 13.5 - *Options for a Follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023* - incl. analysis of the post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and its implications
- Res 12.6 - *Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species*
- Res 12.21; Dec 13.126 -13.128 - *Climate Change and Migratory Species*
- Res 12.26 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.113 - 13.115 - *Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species*
- Res 12.28 (Rev.COP13) - *Concerted Actions* - StC52 developed a draft revision of the resolution
- Res 13.7 - *Guidelines for Preparing and Assessing Proposals for the Amendment of CMS Appendices*; Dec 13.140 - *Definition of the Terms "Range State" and "Vagrant"* - ScC-SC5 established an intersessional working group
- Decisions 13.14 to 13.15 – *National Reports* - new format endorsed by StC52
- Decisions 13.16 to 13.19 - *Application of Article III of the Convention Regarding International Trade in Appendix I-listed Species*
- Decisions 13.24 to 13.26 - *Conservation Status of Migratory Species*

# Wildlife Diseases and Migratory Species

## - Res 12.6

- CMS Secretariat contributed to UNEP's efforts in joining the **One Health initiative** in 2020 to steer attention to the impact of human activities on wildlife and nature, and the resulting risks to human health, with the creation of a One Health High-Level Expert Council.
- Within this context the CMS:
  - Reactivated the **Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza** in 2020
  - At the 5th meeting of the CMS Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (2021) we developed:
    - Terms of Reference for the **Working Group on Migratory Species and Health** ([UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC5/Outcome 11](#))
    - Terms of Reference for a **Review of Migration and Wildlife Disease Dynamics and the Health of Migratory Species**

# Climate Change and Migratory Species

Resolution 12.21; Decisions 13.126 -13.128

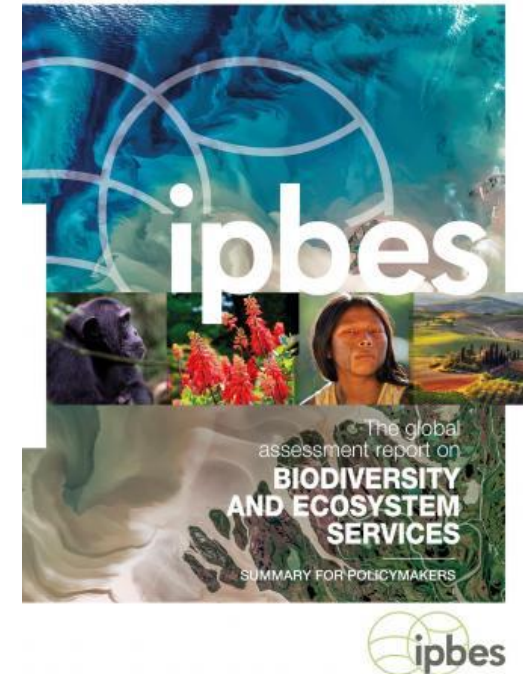


- Res. 12.21 addresses the role of climate change on the favorable conservation status of species, particularly **climate-induced range shifts**
  - > **Action beyond the historic range of species may be required.**
- Important to put in place legislative, management or other actions that support National Biodiversity Action Plans.
- Sessional Committee of CMS Scientific Council studied applying conservation action beyond the species historic ranges was discussed.
- As a result: new document outlining how species range could change because of climate change & problem tree to identify what action to take (cf. [UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC5/Doc.6.4.5](https://www.unep.org/cms/sc5/doc645))

# Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species

Resolution 12.26 (Rev.COP13); Decisions 13.113 - 13.115

- Resolution focuses on sharing info on connectivity and prioritization of key areas
- CMS supported **CBD** to include indicators for ecological connectivity and migratory species in the **post-2020 global biodiversity framework**  
[UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.17](https://www.unep.org/cms/cop13/doc17)
- CMS prepared a summary of IPBES Assessment on Biodiversity and ES and its relation to connectivity
- CMS submitted a request for an assessment on connectivity for the second work programme of **IPBES** up to 2030 ([UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.18.1](https://www.unep.org/cms/cop13/doc18.1))
- At the ScC-SC5 meeting, Terms of Reference for the **CMS Scientific Council Working Group on Ecological Connectivity** were adopted.



## ***Application of Article III of the Convention Regarding International Trade in Appendix I-listed Species (Dec 13.16 - 13.19),***

- We will work with CITES to produce list of CMS Appendix I species which are also on the CITES Appendices
- Develop criteria, subject to resources, with CITES to assess the impact of international trade on the conservation status of relevant Appendix I species

## ***Conservation Status of Migratory Species (Decisions 13.24 - 13.26)***

- COP13 requested in-depth review of the **conservation status of CMS-listed species**, and an **assessment of the impact of direct use on the conservation status of species listed on Appendix I**
- Some funding received from Australia, Switzerland and the UK
- **proposed framework** for a review of the conservation status, **template for case studies** providing an in-depth assessment of Appendix I species, and **proposed methodology** for a rapid assessment were discussed by ScC-SC5



## Avian-specific developments

- Res 11.15 (Rev. COP13); Dec 13.39-13.40 - *Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds*
- Res 11.16 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.27-13.31 - *The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds*
- Res 11.17 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.34 – 13.38 - *Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP)*
- Res 11.18 (Rev.COP12) - *Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug) Global Action Plan* – No revisions
- Res 11.27 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.106 - 13.108 - *Renewable Energy and Migratory Species*
- Res 10.11 (Rev.COP13) - *Power Lines and Migratory Birds*
- Res 12.10 - *Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures* – No revisions
- Res 12.11 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.41, 13.43 - 13.46 – *Flyways*
- Res 12.27 - *Taxonomy and Nomenclature* - Intersessional ScC Working Group on Disaggregation of higher Taxa listed on CMS Appendix II to provide advice to COP14 regarding treating the species currently aggregated under families or genera
- *Atlas of bird migration in the Eurasian-African region*

M. Mendi





# Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds

(Res. 11.15 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.39-13.40 )

- [Terms of Reference](#) of the **Intergovernmental Task Force on Phasing Out the Use of Lead Ammunition and Lead Fishing Weights** adopted by the CMS Standing Committee (StC52, Sept. '21)
  - > Recruitment process in 2022; Observers incl. Representatives of CMS and relevant MEA instruments (incl. Preventing Poisoning Working Group)
- **Vulture poisoning Guinea-Bissau**: Letter from CMS to Minister; joint concept of VCF, BirdLife, IUCN SSC Vulture Specialist Group, Raptors MOU and CMS for a capacity-building mission to prevent poisoning in future.
- Comments to **European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)** thanks to ad-hoc **CMS Expert Group** for the Evaluation of Exposure of European Union Birds to Lead Fishing Weights and Lead Ammunition in Terrestrial Environments
- Comments on **ECHA Annex XV restriction report on lead in outdoor shooting and fishing** in consultation with the ad-hoc expert group



# The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds (Res. 11.16 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.27-13.31)

- **MIKT**: Joint IKB meetings held in Rome (2019) and online in 2021 in coop. with Bern Convention; **IKB Scoreboard** results presented
- **Rome Strategic Plan** adopted as a joint framework of Bern Conv. and CMS for Eradication of IKB 2020-2030
- Strategic outputs: **IKB baseline/methodology** paper; new **MIKT workplan 2021-25**
- Funds for coordination from EU under GPGC project secured until 2023
- Workshop **Addressing IKB in the Middle East** (October '21, Jordan):
  - > Promoting further development of **Draft Regional Action Plan for addressing IKB in the Middle East**, based on MIKT model
  - > Promoting plans for regional workshop for developing NAPs (additional resources needed)



## ***Renewable Energy and Migratory Species*** (Res 11.27 (Rev.COP13))

- Strengthening implementation of **guidelines** through enhancing availability of **data, legislation for licensing and permitting procedures** related to renewable energy infrastructure projects, and specific aspects of **science-based planning** and **monitoring** of wind and solar energy technologies.

### **Decisions 13.106 – 13.108 – Support to the Energy Task Force**

- Strengthen representation from relevant **energy authorities** in implementing the ETF workplan
- Integrate biodiversity and migratory species considerations in **national energy and climate policy** to enhance synergies between UNFCCC and CMS;
- Promoting **best practices** and **guidance** for **standardization of approaches and methods for planning, managing and monitoring** of renewable energy infrastructure and its impact on biodiversity, and related mitigation measures.

## ***Power Lines and Migratory Birds*** (Res 10.11 (Rev.COP13))

- Strengthening and linking relevant provisions to the recent activities and recommendations of the ETF for **science-based mitigation measures**, related **data sharing, legislation** and **monitoring**



## Energy Task Force

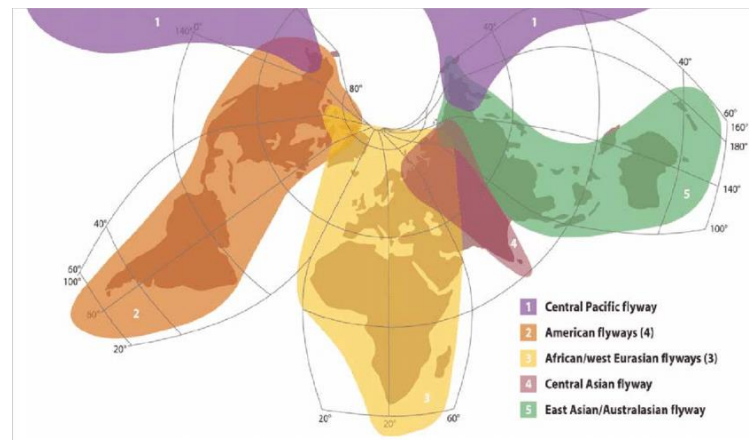


- **Annual meetings** (Paris 2019; online 2020) and several interim virtual meetings held; ET February 2022 (online); new [ETF workplan 2021-2024](#) adopted
- **Membership extended** incl. to South America (Brazil)
- Intersessional **ETF Powerlines Working Group** and **Technical WG** established
- > **Opportunities for linkages with Raptors MOU technical bodies and Task Forces**
- ETF promoted at various **events**, Ostrava , CZ, 2019; Open seminar Paris 2019; side events at CMS COP13, UNFCCC COP26; several webinars, etc
- Key **strategic documents, fundraising briefs, case studies and publications** developed and promoted by ETF members
  - > e.g. Good Practice Handbook on Post-construction Bird and Bat Fatality Monitoring (PCFM) for Onshore Wind Energy Projects in Emerging Market Countries under finalization
- [Analysis](#) of the progress made by Parties based on the national reports presented to COP13
- Recent **funding** from India and France for ETF coordination and workplan implementation



## **Flyways** (Res 12.11 (Rev.COP13); Dec 13.41, 13.43 - 13.46)

- Supporting implementation of the **Flyways POW 2014-2023** through the various regional and thematic initiatives, in conjunction with the **Flyways Working Group** under the Scientific Council
- Strengthening cooperation with partners e.g. EAAFP, CAFF-AMBI and others
- **Central Asian Flyway (Dec. 13.46)**
- CMS and AEWA Secretariats have been continuing the collaborative process with the Government of India **to develop under CMS an institutional framework** for the Central Asian Flyway (CAF)



## Central Asian Flyway (Dec. 13.46)

- **Meeting** hosted by India (Nov 2019; in-person)
  - **Webinar** on *Wetlands as Ecological Connections in the CAF* (Sept 2020; GoI with support from UNEP Country Office in India)
  - CMS Secretariat call on CAF Range States, organizations and advisory bodies to nominate **focal points** for the CAF initiative -> Chair of **TAG** confirmed participation
  - **Online workshop** for CAF Range States and organizations hosted by India with support from CMS Secretariat (6-7 Oct. 2021)
- > Updates on implementation of COP Decisions;
- > Showcasing work led by the India and **India's National Action Plan for the CAF 2018-2023** information on activities and conservation priorities within CAF
- A **Questionnaire** to Range States regarding priorities and preferred next steps will be issued soon
- > Would be great for **TAG Members** to engage with their governments
- Based on the feedback, the conceptualization of the **institutional framework** will be continued
  - A Meeting of the Range States and relevant Observers is planned to be held in 2022

## ***Fundraising activities relevant to Raptors***

- **Vulture MsAP** coordination budgeted in International Climate Initiative (IKI) concept note for West Africa (context zoonotic diseases); application declined in Oct. 2021
- **Assessment of the status of principal bird habitats** (under lead of AEWA): In 2021 we had the initial concept commented by CMS, AEWA + Raptors MOU; expecting to receive second draft.  
-> expected result: a costed project brief which will be used to raise funds to deliver the assessments and action plans.
- Avian Unit currently undergoing restructuring and exploring synergies with Raptors MoU and AEWA to jointly work on fundraising, prioritisation and better implementation of agendas



**THANK YOU**