



# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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Agenda Item 20.1

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING WORK PLAN 2012-2014

### Summary:

This document is a progress report on activities related to the implementation of the Capacity Building Work Plan for 2012-2014 since COP10.

The primary activities discussed include:

- The development of the CMS Family Manual for NFPs;
- Regional Pre-COP training;
- Establishment of the CMS e-community;
- Integration of NBSAP processes; and
- New recruitment

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING WORK PLAN 2012-2014**

*(Prepared by the UNEP/CMS Secretariat)*

### **Background:**

1. The Capacity Building Work Plan 2012-2014, adopted at the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, set out to realise three essential programme items, namely *to create the CMS Family Manual for National Focal Points (NFPs)*, *to develop national/regional capacity building training programmes*, and *to improve the assessment and progress of capacity building activities*.

2. Successful completion of these activities in accordance with the Capacity Building Strategy laid out in UNEP/CMS/Conf.9.30 was pursued taking into account a number of criteria in order to ensure that capacity building activities were carried out in line with CMS ideals and the Strategic Plan objectives. Selected capacity building activities were completed in collaboration with other biodiversity-related MEAs and with UNEP. Implementation of capacity building was done using a bottom-up approach.

3. Institutional capacity building was effected through continuous knowledge sharing among the CMS Family Secretariats as well as the Standing Committee, Scientific Council and the advisory bodies of the CMS instruments. Tailor-made training utilized available capacity building material, such as the Flyways Training Kit and the Manual for National Focal Points and its Instruments.

4. Ear-marked contributions provided the base for regional training. During the period 2012-2014, most capacity building activities could be realized thanks to the generous support from the ENRTP fund. The ENRTP Strategic Cooperation Agreement between the European Commission and UNEP has contributed to the implementation of activities under the project "Effective Implementation of CMS, AEWA and other CMS Family instruments across various regions and languages through capacity building".

### **Capacity Building Activities implemented during 2012-2014:**

#### *The Development of the CMS Family Manual for National Focal Points*

5. The Manual is a reference tool to guide the NFPs in their roles and responsibilities on the national level as well as in the multi-lateral sphere. Input from all parties ensured a comprehensive compilation of ideas that led to the creation of this well-balanced reference tool to support NFPs in contributing more effectively towards implementing the CMS Family instruments.

6. The Manual provides background information on the Convention, responsibilities for NFPs and procedures for negotiation as well as national implementation and reporting. It also facilitates NFPs' preparation for CMS-related meetings.

7. Shortly after its completion in 2013, the Manual was presented to NFPs of CMS and AEWA from the African Region. Fifty-one participants from 27 Anglophone and Francophone African Countries were trained using this new tool. The training workshop was

hosted by the government of South Africa in conjunction with the African Initiative Meeting and the CMS Strategic Plan Meeting. These workshops proved to be crucial in improving the participation of the African region at COP meetings. Additional efforts are needed to provide all regions with consistent tools and training opportunities. CMS intends to further implement the capacity building activities planned for the next triennium. Similarly, under ENRTP and ACP projects, it is planned to strengthen the synergies and collaboration between the different MEAs and in particularly within the CMS Family.

*Specific Regional Negotiation and Preparatory Training for COP11 for NFPs of Latin America, the Pacific, Africa, and Central Asia*

8. In the months leading up to COP11, the CMS Secretariat along with various partners is organizing four preparatory workshops in different regions of the world along the lines of the South Africa meeting. The primary aim of these workshops was to educate National Focal Points on important documents, actions, and issues prior to the COP meeting. The desired outcome was to improve the capacity for negotiation involvement in areas with a weaker CMS presence.

9. The programme of the Pre-COP meetings being held in August and September 2014 focused on preparations for the COP11 meeting. Workshop content focused on introducing important documents and activities for the COP11 meeting. In the regions where the Manual had not yet been introduced (South America, the Pacific, and Central Asia) presentations and training on this tool were included.

*Establishment of the CMS e-community*

10. In collaboration with the CMS Family website project, a capacity building e-community has been established. The main objective of the CMS Family NFP e-community is to support NFPs in fulfilling their many roles, especially in implementing CMS and its instruments. The e-community provides information from the CMS Family Manual as well as up to date information on CMS family events.

11. The e-community also serves as a network to connect NFPs outside of meetings. The platform aims to encourage participation including informal debate on CMS topics by offering a sound mix of information, knowledge management, and communications and networking. The aim is to create a platform where NFPs are able to mutually support each other by collaboratively learning on the job.

*Improving integration in NBSAPs processes*

12. During COP10 in November 2011, the Secretariat developed guidelines in order to provide direction to Parties of CMS and Range States in terms of wider biodiversity conservation issues. The adopted guidelines focus on the “Integration of Migratory Species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)”. More concretely, strategies and actions to conserve and sustainably use migratory species in accordance with CMS including policy planning by each country to obtain the necessary political support and financial resources. Similar guidance has been provided by CITES to its Parties.

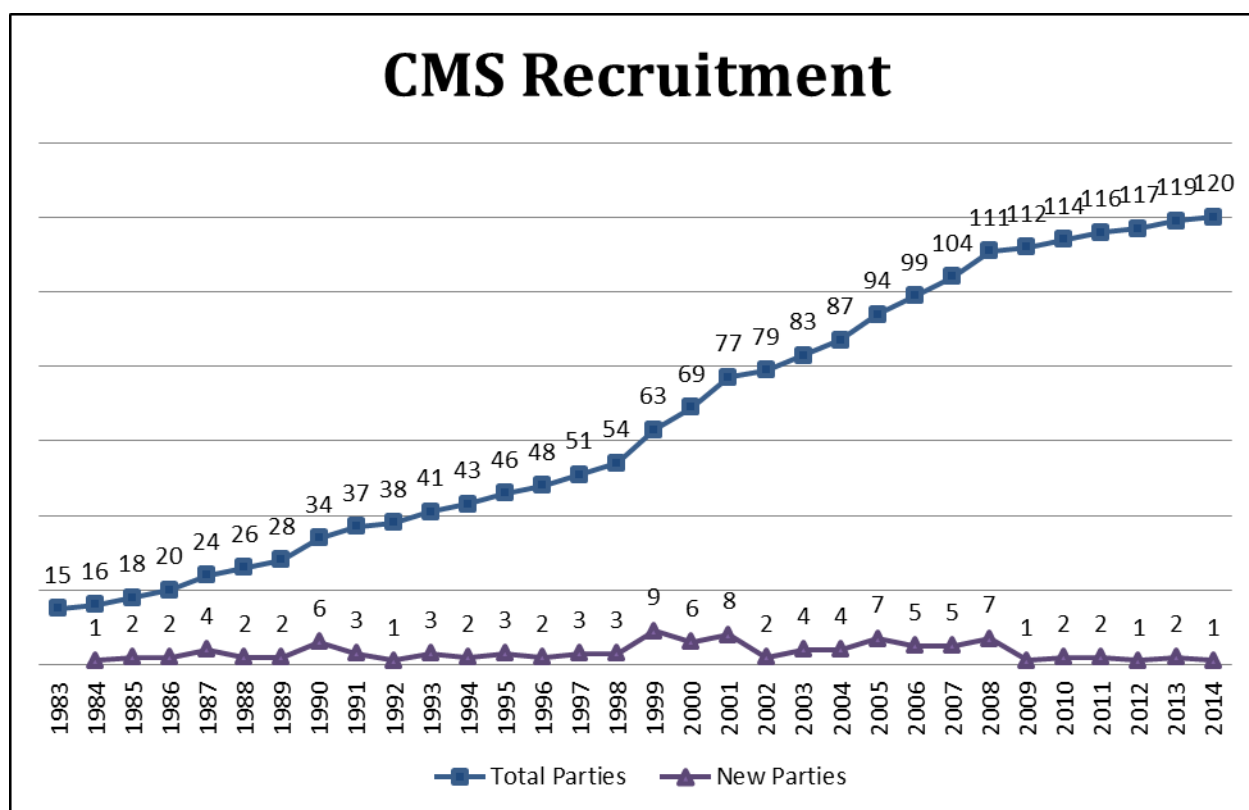
13. In order to enhance the synergies among biodiversity-related MEAs to support the facilitation of a harmonized and integrated approach in revising and implementing the

NBSAPs, UNEP’s Regional Office for Africa, in collaboration with the biodiversity-related secretariats, held a three-day workshop for the Africa Region. The participants were the NFPs of CMS, CBD, CITES and International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), who developed guidelines on how NBSAPs could be an effective part of cross-sectorial government policy and planning, and how they could be adopted or supported by other sectors of society.

*Recruitment of New Parties*

14. Recruitment of new Parties is essential to the growth of the Convention. One of the primary objectives of the Convention is to encourage cooperation among nations for the conservation of migratory species. This is best achieved with the maximum number of global Parties involved. By recruiting new Parties, the Convention can expand its influence and cover a greater range. The outcome is more concerted action to preserve migratory species worldwide.

15. The following graph shows CMS Accession over time:



16. CMS has added four new Parties in the period since the last COP, bringing the total number to 120. Zimbabwe, Fiji, Swaziland, and Kyrgyzstan are the most recent additions to the CMS fold. Additionally, special dedication has been given to non-Party countries from Latin America, the Caribbean, and South-east Asia (Viet Nam, Malaysia and Thailand) and the Middle East. Particular attempts have been undertaken with regards to Brazil, Russian Federation, and P.R of China and more recently to Colombia, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Afghanistan and Botswana.

**Action requested:**

The Conference of the Parties is requested to:

- (a) Note the progress made and advise the Secretariat where necessary in its implementation of Capacity Building in this inter-sessional period.
- (b) Work closely with National Focal Points in their regions dealing with biodiversity-related MEAs, particularly CBD and CITES, to ensure that NFPs play a proactive role and liaise with their counterparts for further consideration on the integration of measures to conserve migratory species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and national implementation of national biodiversity targets and plans.