

**6th Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the
CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC6)**

Bonn, Germany, 18 – 21 July 2023

UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC6/Doc.7.1

STATE OF THE WORLD'S MIGRATORY SPECIES

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

Pursuant to decisions 13.24 a) and 13.26 b), this document submits to ScC-SC6 for consideration a draft *State of the World's Migratory Species* report.

ScC-SC6 is recommended to review the report and provide comments and recommendation to the Secretariat towards the finalization of the report and its submission to COP14.

STATE OF WORLD'S MIGRATORY SPECIES

Background

1. Through Decision 13.24 *Conservation Status of Migratory Species*, COP13 requested the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to:
 - a) *further develop the preliminary review of the conservation status of migratory species submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its 13th meeting (COP13) in document UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.24, in close consultation with the Scientific Council and in collaboration with competent organizations;*
 - b) *initiate, in consultation with the Scientific Council and in collaboration with competent organizations, an in-depth review of the conservation status of individual CMS-listed species, starting with those species listed in Appendix I classified in the categories of lowest threat of extinction in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and whose conservation status has improved since first listed, and those species listed in Appendix II classified in the categories Endangered, Critically Endangered and Extinct in the Wild, with a view to determining inter alia: (i) differences in the conservation status of individual populations or management units; (ii) the importance of the protection provided by the listing on Appendix I for the conservation of the species and its individual populations;*
 - c) *undertake, in consultation with the Scientific Council and in collaboration with competent organizations, and in synergy with other relevant initiatives under the Convention, an assessment of the impact of direct use on the conservation status of species listed on Appendix I;*
 - d) *report to the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council at its intersessional meetings between COP13 and COP14 and to COP14 on the progress in implementing this Decision.*
2. Through Decision 13.26, COP13 requested the Scientific Council to assist the Secretariat in undertaking the activities foreseen by Decision 13.24 and to formulate recommendations to COP14 underpinned by the report thus produced:

The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of resources, to:

 - a) *provide support and guidance to the Secretariat in undertaking the activities foreseen in Decision 13.24 (a) - (c);*
 - b) *consider the reports submitted by the Secretariat pursuant to this Decision and formulate recommendations to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on conservation actions underpinned by the reports as appropriate.*
3. This document concerns activities undertaken to implement the mandate included in Decision 13.24 a). The mandates included in paragraphs b) and c) of the same decision are addressed in documents [UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC6/Doc.7.2](#) and [UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC6/Doc.7.3](#).

Progress in the implementation of Decision 13.24 a)

4. Fundraising activities undertaken after COP13 by the Secretariat in respect to the implementation of Decisions 13.24 and 13.17 have succeeded in raising significant resources. In particular, resources have been provided by the Government of Australia (Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment), the Government of Switzerland (Federal Office for the Environment FOEN), and by the Government of the United Kingdom (Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs – DEFRA). Thanks to the abovementioned contributions, the Secretariat has been able to establish an agreement with the UNEP - World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to assist with undertaking the activities foreseen in Decision 13.24 (a) - (c).

5. As an initial step, the CMS Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC developed a framework for a review of the conservation status of migratory species that could serve as a basis for the compilation of the report for COP14. A draft of the framework was submitted to the 5th Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC5, 2021), that reviewed and endorsed it.
6. Based on the established framework, WCMC, in close consultation with the Secretariat, has developed the draft *State of the World's Migratory Species* report, which is submitted to the 6th meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council for discussion, in line with Decision 13.24 d) and 13.26 b).
7. The draft report is reproduced in Annex to this document. The Secretariat would welcome in particular any comments and advice on i) possible factual inaccuracies in the report; ii) any clarification that may be required concerning the content of the report; iii) advice on the possible future iterations of a report on the conservation status of migratory species, including its desirable frequency; iv) possible conclusions to be drawn and recommendations to be brought to the attention of COP14, including any gap to be filled; v) any other advice concerning the finalization of the report and its submission to COP14.

Recommended Actions

8. The Scientific Council is recommended to:
 - a) review the draft *State of the World's Migratory Species* report included in the annex to this document;
 - b) provide comments and advice to the Secretariat concerning the finalization of the report and its submission to COP14, including any conclusions and recommendation to be brought to the attention of the COP.