



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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13th MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Gandhinagar, India, 17 - 22 February 2020
Agenda Item 23

REVIEW OF DECISIONS

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document reports on the implementation of the Decisions that are not addressed in any other document.

The document also makes recommendations to the Conference of the Parties on further action to be taken in relation to these Decisions.

REVIEW OF DECISIONS

Background

1. Resolution 11.6 (Rev.COP12) *Review of Decisions*, includes the following provisions directed to the Secretariat:
 3. *c) to revise the register of Decisions in force after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to contain all recommendations (or other forms of decision) that are not recorded in Resolutions and that remain in effect. The Decisions shall be sorted according to subject, using the subjects of the Resolutions for guidance, and within the section for each subject they shall be divided according to the body to which they are directed. The Secretariat shall distribute to the Parties a copy of the updated Decisions soon after each meeting of the Conference; and*
 - d) when revising the register of Decisions in force for the purpose of suggesting amendments, deletions or continuity, the Secretariat shall provide justification of any proposed changes to a Decision at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties;*
2. In order to implement this instruction, after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties the Secretariat compiles a list of the Decisions in effect.
3. Most of the Decisions in effect after COP12 are reported on in meeting documents and are therefore featured on the agenda of the present meeting. Their renewal, amendment or deletion is expected to be addressed during the discussions of the corresponding documents.
4. This document covers those decisions that are not addressed in any other document. They are contained in Annex I to the present document, together with a brief summary on the status of implementation since COP12 and a recommendation from the Secretariat concerning their renewal, amendment or deletion.

Recommended actions

5. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to make decisions on the appropriate action to be taken in relation to the Decisions contained in the Annex of this document.

ANNEX

LIST OF DECISIONS TO BE RENEWED OR DELETED THAT ARE NOT ADDRESSED IN OTHER COP13 DOCUMENTS

				Status and/or action(s) undertaken since COP12	Recommendation of the Secretariat (Delete or renew)
Strategic and institutional matters					
12.2	Scientific Council	Directed to the Scientific Council	The Scientific Council, with advice from the Secretariat, shall develop and establish a revision of its Rules of Procedure, as well as elements of its <i>modus operandi</i> in accordance with UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.4 on the <i>Scientific Council</i> .	ScC-SC3 considered and agreed a revision of the ROP of the Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee, covering also its modus operandi, which was presented to StC48 for adoption.	Delete Decision
12.3		Directed to the Standing Committee	The Standing Committee shall approve the revised Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Council.	StC48 duly adopted the ROP	Delete Decision
Interpretation and implementation of the Convention					
12.15	Communication, Information and Outreach Plan	Directed to the Secretariat	Requests the CMS Executive Secretary to present the CMS communication strategy to the 48 th meeting of the CMS Standing Committee for consideration and Decision.	Decision originated from Resolution 11.8. Information management and communications team (IMCA) is now fully functioning.	Delete Decision
Avian Species					
12.36	Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures	Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations	Parties, non-Party Range States and stakeholders are encouraged to: a) Develop partnerships with anti-poaching initiatives and conservation groups concerned with poisoning of other taxonomic groups, including developing training courses, translating and disseminating examples of best practice, sharing protocols and regulations, transferring technology, and promoting the use of online tools to address specific issues that are relevant to the Vulture Multispecies Action Plan;	Some good work underway in various countries in East and South Africa. However, details are sketchy because CMS Parties have so far failed to provide any resources to properly coordinate implementation of the Vulture MsAP	Renew Decision

			<p>b) Contribute, with the support of the Secretariat, to the proposed workshop hosted by CMS-United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), referred to in UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.2 on the <i>Conservation of Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region</i> (especially in relation to sustainable land use in Africa), to ensure the needs of vultures are provided for in the development of a plan (to be proposed for adoption at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties) on the integration of biodiversity requirements, as indicated by wild birds, into the land degradation neutrality delivery at national level with a focus on West Africa (countries of the Sahel and Guinea Savannah) and potentially also North-West Africa (countries of the Maghreb), subject to the availability of resources.</p>		
12.37		Directed to the Scientific Council	<p>The Scientific Council is authorized to liaise with the Vulture Working Group and the IUCN Vulture Specialist Group, via the Coordinating Unit of the Raptors Memorandum of Understanding to address key gaps in knowledge as highlighted within the Vulture Multispecies Action Plan, subject to the availability of resources.</p>	Limited liaison so far due to lack of resources but Vulture MsAP is a 12- year plan.	Renew Decision
12.38		Directed to the Secretariat	<p>The Secretariat shall convey this Decision to the secretariats of other multilateral environmental fora, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), seeking their support, contributions, cooperation and collaboration in the implementation of the Vulture Multispecies Action Plan, subject to the availability of resources.</p>	<p>The Vulture MsAP was promoted at various meetings and events, including meetings organized by the CBD, UNCCD, UN Environment Carpathian Convention and CITES</p>	Renew Decision

12.39		Directed to the Secretariat	The Secretariat, through the Coordinating Unit of the Raptors Memorandum of Understanding, shall report to the next Meeting of Signatories of the CMS Raptors Memorandum of Understanding and subsequent meetings of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council.	Report submitted to CMS ScC-SC4 as Information Doc: UNEP/CMS/SCC-SC4/Inf.7	Renew Decision
Aquatic Species					
12.53	Conservation and Management of Whales and Their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region	Directed to the Secretariat	<p>The Secretariat shall, in collaboration with Parties and relevant international organizations, subject to the availability of external resources:</p> <p>a) Support capacity-building activities related to cetacean conservation;</p> <p>b) Organize a regional workshop to improve capacity for the implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales (Annex 1 to UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.17 on <i>Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region</i>).</p>	<p>a) A number of activities have been undertaken at the global level (e.g. development of joint CMS / IWC Handbook on Whale Watching</p> <p>b) No action undertaken, owing to lack of funds and staff time.</p>	Renew Decision
12.54		Directed to the Parties	Parties are requested to report on progress in implementing the Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales (Annex 1 to UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.17 on <i>Conservation and management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region</i>), including monitoring and efficacy of measures taken, to the Conference of the Parties at each of its meetings.	No reports from Parties received by the Secretariat. Given the lack of action under 12.53b, the Secretariat did not actively request such reports.	Renew Decision

Crosscutting conservation issues					
12.89	Sustainable Tourism and Migratory Species	Directed to the Secretariat	Promote and support research activities subject to availability of resources and in consultation with the Parties collate existing information on best practices and impacts of tourism on wildlife as basis to develop guidelines for sustainable tourism on wildlife interactions. Produce and submit a draft report at the 13 th meeting of the Conference of Parties.	Due to lack of capacity and resources, no progress has been made with respect to implementation of Decision12.89. It is recommended that the action be carried forward, and funds be made available to support its implementation.	Renew Decision
12.90		Directed to the Scientific Council	Subject to the availability of resources, the Scientific Council shall conduct periodic appraisals of the latest scientific evidence on the impacts of ecotourism activities on migratory species and to recommend refined guidelines. Produce and submit a draft report at the 13 th meeting of the Conference of Parties.	Due to lack of capacity and resources, no progress has been made with respect to implementation of Decision12.90. It is recommended that the action be carried forward, and funds be made available to support its implementation.	Renew Decision
Amendment of CMS Appendices					
12.102	Taxonomy and Nomenclature	Directed to the Secretariat	The Secretariat, in consultation with the Scientific Council and the Depositary, shall adapt the CMS Appendices according to the new bird reference adopted and the rules outlined in UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.27 on <i>Taxonomy and Nomenclature</i> , including publication of higher-level taxonomy.	Adaptation of CMS Appendices according to the new bird reference was done immediately after COP12, within the revision of CMS Appendices issued in January 2018.	Delete Decision

Formal and concluding business					
12.105	Sustainable Development and Migratory Species	Directed to the Secretariat	b) Compile information and data on the interlinkages between migratory species and sustainable development;	Resource limitations did not allow to fully implement these mandates. Elements relevant to these mandates can be found in the documents reporting on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) 2015-2023. Linkages and correspondence between SPMS targets and SDGs can be found at https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/basic_page_documents/HLS_concept_SDGs_e.pdf	Renew Decision. Subject to the availability of resources, a more detailed analysis of the contribution of the CMS family to the achievement of the SDGs will be possible in correspondence with the final assessment of the implementation of the SPMS expected to be undertaken in 2023.
			c) Compile a report on the contributions of the CMS Family to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, using information from national reports and other sources;		
			d) Take into account the need to assess the contribution made to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through the implementation of CMS when developing proposals towards the revision of the National Report Format;		
12.106	Arrangements for Hosting the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties	Directed to Parties	Parties decide to accept the offer of the Government of India to host the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2020.	Completed	Delete Decision
12.107		Directed to the Standing Committee	The Standing Committee shall engage with the Host Government and the Secretariat to progress the planning of the 13 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be hosted by the Government of India in 2020.	Completed	Delete Decision