

## Africa Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 12th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> August 2017

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



### WORKSHOP REPORT

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#### Contents

1. Workshop introduction .....	2
2. Workshop venue and programme .....	2
3. Workshop participants .....	2
4. Workshop opening and resume .....	2
5. Workshop account .....	3
6. Evaluation.....	13
7. Acknowledgements .....	15
8. Annexes .....	15

## 1. Workshop introduction

This preparatory meeting was convened by the UNEP/CMS Secretariat to meet the objectives of preparing the Africa region for effective participation in the forthcoming 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP12) and enhancing regional capacity for CMS implementation activities in the continent.

The meeting built on previous training and pre-COP workshops, and aimed to ensure effective preparation for the upcoming COP12 of Africa National Focal Points (NFPs) and to give them the possibility of developing common positions on some of priority issues for the region. This was achieved through presentation and discussion of key issues, with time available for the Africa group to make decisions during a closed session.

The European Commission were recognized as Champion Plus for their generous support and commitment towards Building Capacity for Migratory Species Conservation for the period 2015-2018. This activity has been funded with the contribution granted by the European Commission under the Migratory Species Champion Programme and through the Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC Programme) Cooperation Agreements with UNEP.

## 2. Workshop venue and programme

The workshop was held at Hotel Elilly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, using a hotel meeting room. The workshop started at 8:30 on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August, and ended at 16:00 on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August, following the programme agenda in Annex 1.

## 3. Workshop participants

Participants comprised CMS NFPs and other representatives from 20 CMS Africa Parties to the Convention and representatives of three non-governmental organizations. Including resource persons, there were 34 participants. A full participant list is given in Annex 2.

## 4. Workshop opening and resume

### Opening



The workshop was opened by H.E. Dr. Hirut Weldemariam, State Minister of Culture and Tourism (MoCT), Ethiopia, who welcomed all participants to Ethiopia, which she

introduced as the 'cradle of humanity'. Clara Nobbe (UNEP/CMS) added words of welcome on behalf of the Convention Secretariat. Hanah Al-Samaraie presented the aims of the workshop, after which the facilitator, Tim Dodman, led the participant introduction session, when everyone told the group their name, country, workshop expectation, and something

that they knew about Ethiopia. This session, which was followed by a group photo, set the scene for an interactive and informal workshop.

### Resume

The first technical session of the workshop on 9<sup>th</sup> August was an interactive quiz, after which participants looked closely at the COP12 agenda, highlighting priority issues for Africa. A session was held on practical COP issues, followed by group work on species amendment proposals. The evening concluded with a Shark cocktail. On 10<sup>th</sup> August, there were presentations on generic and institutional issues followed by a closed session. In the afternoon there was a visit to the National Museum of Ethiopia and an extensive stalled market. On 11<sup>th</sup> August key negotiation points were examined through group work before considering implementation issues, starting with a presentation from the host country. There was then further group work on different CMS plans, followed by a presentation on the Carnivore Initiative, concerted actions and national reporting. The workshop ended with discussions on preparations for COP12 and beyond, clarifications from a second closed session and evaluation. All key issues identified by the participants were covered during the workshop.

## **5. Workshop account**

### ***5.1 Team Quiz: Their Future is our Future, Migratory Species & CMS***

Tim Dodman presented an interactive quiz, when the participants grouped into six teams to answer questions about CMS, migratory species and the role of NFPs, with a special focus on the COP12 theme 'Their future is our future'. The quiz was a very lively and engaging activity, generating much debate within groups and between groups during the answers session. A prize was presented to the winning team 'Team Francophonie' (below), who celebrated with loud clapping and chanting of 'Bravo'!



### ***5.2 COP12 Agenda and key issues***

Hanah Al-Samaraiie presented the CMS COP12 agenda, highlighting key issues for Africa identified by the Secretariat and through responses from African NFPs (Annex 3). Participants were invited to adapt this list and highlight the key issues for Africa during a plenary discussion. Through discussions and questions, it was clarified that issues can only be raised at the COP if they relate to an existing item on the COP agenda; it was not possible at this

stage to introduce an entirely new subject. Concerning item 11 of the COP agenda (Statement from States), usually only a small number of States / Parties make statements. Parties who wish to make a statement at the COP are encouraged to make it available in writing in advance to all Parties.

Clara Nobbe then gave a presentation on the review of decisions, which was primarily a housekeeping exercise to tidy up all past resolutions. As a new feature, decisions were introduced to this COP. Whilst a resolution provides long-standing guidance, a decision refers to time-bound instructions or recommendations. Resolution 11.6 further recommended that from now on Parties and the Secretariat modify existing Resolutions with new provisions rather than creating a new Resolution on the same subject, as had been done in the past.

### **5.3 Preparation for COP12: logistics, planning, regional positions and hosting COP13**



James Njogu (left) introduced logistics and planning for COP12, encouraging NFPs to determine national priorities in advance and inform themselves about the Rules of Procedure. It is important to allow time for national consultation and familiarization with species proposals and decisions. Logistical preparation is also important, including preparation of necessary documents both for the COP and for travel requirements.

The CMS Secretariat outlined that the main regional positions to consider are those on the Standing Committee (StC) and the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council. The CMS Secretariat reminded participants about the function and mandate of the StC, which includes ensuring that decisions are implemented and monitoring the budget. Election of StC members takes place during the COP. Current members from Africa are Congo, South Africa and Uganda.

All Parties also have the opportunity to host a COP, so a short presentation was provided on the key issues involved, so that Parties could consider whether or not they might put themselves forward to host COP13. Responsibilities and costs for the host include local staff, servicing of the COP and High Level Segment, hosting a welcome reception and ensuring good technical and communication facilities throughout the conference.

### **5.4 Proposals to amend the Appendices of the Convention**

Clara Nobbe introduced the proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II and the process that is involved. Several proposals coming up at COP12 are very relevant for Africa. Tim Dodman set up a group session, forming groups focused on the amendment proposals most relevant for Africa. The groups addressed proposals for:

- a. Lion (& Leopard)
- b. Giraffe
- c. Chimpanzee
- d. Vultures (& Steppe Eagle)
- e. Sharks & Guitarfish

Each group discussed the relevant proposals and developed recommendations, which they then presented in plenary. The exercise gave participants an opportunity to discuss these species together in some detail, for which decisions would be made at COP12.

Several points of view were aired within the group that discussed the inscription of the Lion onto Appendix II. Overall it was considered that there was sufficient information at present to justify listing the Lion on Appendix II, and Range States should elaborate and implement conservation plans for the Lion, although complementary studies are still needed, with potential to develop non-exportable trophy hunting quotas for 'wild' individuals.

The Giraffe is protected in several Range States, but there are no international protection measures at present. A regional conservation policy was recommended for Giraffes to raise awareness and use for fundraising and to promote collaboration amongst Range States. The Giraffe is extinct in at least seven countries in West Africa and overall has a very fragmented range with an estimated 40% decline between 1985 and 2016. There should be an MOU under CMS, and national conservation strategies. Many Giraffe populations live in trans-boundary areas and make seasonal migrations / movements across borders. Habitat loss and hunting are key threats. Giraffes are protected under national law in many countries, but there is no international protection. The group recommended to list the Giraffe under CMS, and to use this as a starting point for Africa-wide collaboration, including standardized monitoring methodology among Range States.

The proposal to list the Chimpanzee on Appendix I of CMS was made by Tanzania and Congo and presented by Jérôme Mokoko (right). Chimpanzees are widely threatened across their fragmented range by hunting, pressure on their habitats and emerging diseases. Chimpanzees can be highly mobile in trans-boundary areas across their range. A key objective after successful listing is to develop an action plan for the species.



The Common Guitarfish was proposed for listing on Appendix II of CMS by Israel, Mauritania, Senegal and Togo, whose NFPs have contacted others to support the proposal and to circulate the conclusions of the Scientific Council. However, there is a need for better communication between African countries. The Whale Shark and five other shark species have also been proposed for listing, and a lobby effort is underway to seek the support of governments for the proposals.

### 5.5 Shark Cocktail



The Pew Charitable Trust hosted a **Shark cocktail** in the evening at the Intercontinental Hotel, during which Megan O'Toole of Pew and Ralf Sonntag of IFAW (left) gave presentation of key shark conservation issues and the need for countries to implement conservation action, supported by Manon Dene of Humane Society International, who translated into French. It was clear from the presentations that sharks across the globe are widely threatened and much needs to be done to improve their conservation status. There was good justification for listing the proposed new species to the

Appendices of CMS and for the Convention, its Parties and partners to actively support shark conservation measures. The cocktail provided a good setting for participants to learn about and share these issues.

### **5.6 Review process for the Convention, Budget and Plan of Work (POW)**

Clara Nobbe presented the review process of CMS, for which a working group has been formed, charged with discussing a comparative analysis of best practices of existing review mechanisms of MEAs and the feasibility for an existing body within CMS to exercise the functions of a review process (e.g. Standing Committee) and preparing options for a CMS review process. Africa is represented by Uganda and South Africa on the working group, which has already met twice.

Professor Moustafa Fouda recommended that innovation is needed to see how to move forward. Dr. Sonntag added that decisions needed to be reviewed and implemented, and it should be considered that NGOs had an important role to play.

Hanah Al-Samaraie presented the budget and POW, highlighting the three options that would be discussed at COP12, as detailed below:

	<b>Option 1: Zero nominal growth</b>	<b>Option 2: Zero real growth (= status quo)</b>	<b>Option 3: subject to consultation with Finance &amp; Budget sub-committee</b>
<b>Based on</b>	Standard salary cost plus 2% inflation across all items		
<b>Fund allocation</b>	No funds could be allocated to servicing of Governing bodies and translation of documents	Servicing of Governing bodies included	Same as Option 2 plus funds for National Report analysis, a 50% IT officer & 18% of P3 upgrade for Common Information Management Unit
<b>Total budget</b>	€7,442,630	€7,971,806	€8,268,842
<b>Implications</b>	Stop of translations, interpretation services, COP report-writing & core functions, no delegate funding for meetings	Translations, interpretation services & COP report-writing & core functions covered & funding of eligible delegates for governing body meetings	

Parties' assessed contributions for each budget scenario increase from Option 1 to 3. During the COP, the POW 2018-2020 will be considered in conjunction with the proposed Budget. During the meeting, NFPs were able to see how their contributions would vary between the three scenarios and the benefits and costs each option would offer.

## 5.7 Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS)



Malta Qwathekana (left) is a member of the Strategic Plan Working Group and presented this issue to the meeting. The purpose of the SPMS is to provide vision, leadership, and a driving force toward the full and effective implementation of commitments related to migratory species. The **companion volume** for SPMS, planned as a dynamic (online) resource, will be presented at COP12 together with the guidelines for the SPMS indicators, and NFPs are encouraged to trial the companion volume and comment on both.

## 5.8 Closed Session

Governmental representatives (NFPs) held a closed session for 1.5 hours to discuss pertinent issues relating to COP12.

## 5.9 Afternoon visit to the National Museum and market

### a. National Museum

Meeting participants visited the National Museum, which has very important archaeological relics, including bones of the famous Lucy and other early hominids, indicating the importance of the region as a cradle of humanity. There were also items on display depicting the more recent history of Ethiopia, and its succession of Emperors, as well as a collection of important national artworks.



### b. Market

Participants had the opportunity for a short visit to a stalled market area and a stop-off at a popular coffee shop, with a chance to buy some of Ethiopia's famous coffee. It also gave an opportunity to see a bit of Addis Ababa.

## 5.10 Key negotiation points of relevance for Africa for COP12

Four groups were formed to discuss key negotiation points in relation to some key issues, reporting later back to plenary:

- *Climate change*

Djibril Diouk highlighted the need to take account of migratory species adaptations to climate change, for which research and monitoring are needed. Good planning and land use are essential, for which exchanges and capacity building are sought. Cooperation and implementation is necessary at all levels, requiring fund-raising.

- *Marine issues*

Key marine issues that called for decision-making at COP12 include marine noise, marine debris, bycatch, boat-based wildlife watching and recreational in-water interactions with aquatic mammals. Professor Fouda outlined the main negotiation points. For underwater noise, proper Environmental Impact Assessments are essential; they are often done inadequately not taking noise into account, resulting in poor decisions. For marine debris, macro and micro plastics pose a global problem. Countries need to 'RRRR': Reduce, Recycle, Redesign & Reuse. For boat-based tourism, regulations and monitoring are needed.

- *Ecological networks*

'Promoting conservation of critical intertidal coastal habitats for migratory species' is one COP12 item that comes under ecological networks. It's important to build synergies with ecological network actions under CBD and to establish contact with South Africa and Egypt, which had been active in this issue. For 'improving ways of addressing connectivity of migratory species' an African action plan is proposed to protect important migration corridors. Morocco is willing to lead a component on education and community participation. Concerning 'trans-frontier conservation areas for migratory species', it was anticipated that CMS, CITES and UNODC would aid some countries in implementation. Miguel Xavier presented on behalf of the group. Morocco recommended to develop good practice and exchange between countries. It's also vital to remove barriers to migratory species.

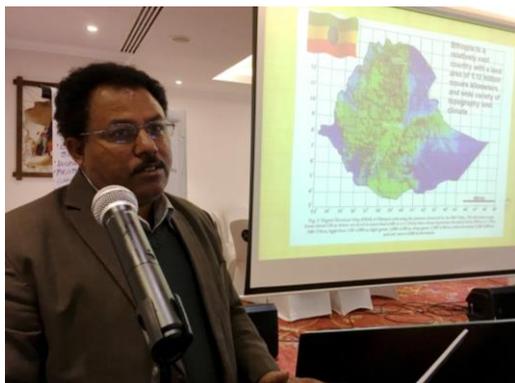
- *Community participation*

A bottom-up approach was advocated for community involvement, including responsibility and custodianship. Incentives and benefits have a role to play in promoting self-control. Through conservation approaches, livelihoods need to be protected, e.g. through community managed areas. Effective transboundary management requires strong community participation linked to national legislation, and with any input of external actors linked with local actors. Abdoulie Sawo (right) gave the presentation. South Africa indicated the link to the Nagoya Protocol for use of natural resources. Kenya

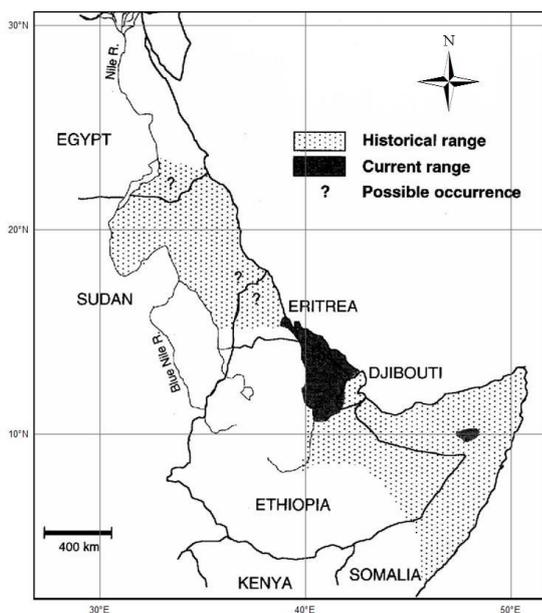


recommended to contextualise locally and present globally, highlighting the many cross-cutting issues. NFPs should engage with communities, e.g. through best practice workshops. An analysis of how to engage communities would be useful, noting that practices are very different across Africa. Togo recommended to take account of traditional law and to promote creation of income-revenue activities. Benin highlighted the need for sustainable mechanisms with financial resources for implementation.

### 5.11 National implementation of CMS in Ethiopia



Kahsay Asgedom (left) presented the implementation of CMS in Ethiopia and briefed the meeting on the African Wild Ass Roadmap. Ethiopia is a large country with a wide variety of topography and climate and resulting high endemism and biodiversity. Ethiopia ratified CMS in 2010 and has since reviewed legal frameworks, increased involvement of stakeholders, aligned CMS strategic plans with NBSAP, and has set aside Protected Areas as habitats for migratory species, notably in Gambella where there is a significant migration of White-eared Kob between Ethiopia and South Sudan and Kafta-Sheraro – the main location for Red-fronted Gazelle. There has also been increased collaboration and partnership for migratory species conservation and trans-boundary conservation agreements: whilst Ethiopia submitted species proposals for COP11 and COP12, it has ratified AEWA, participated in the Action Plan for African-Eurasian Land Bird Conservation and has organised WMBD events.



The inclusion of the African Wild Ass on Appendix I of CMS is important for Ethiopia, given the trans-boundary nature of this Critically Endangered species, and the heavily declining population. The ass's range has also contracted severely (see map),

and it is now only known to occur in remote arid lowlands of Ethiopia and Eritrea. All NFPs are encouraged to support this proposal at COP12.

### 5.12 Taking action for migratory species

Four groups were formed tasked with devising a programme proposal on migratory species conservation for presentation for funding. The selected issues were all benefiting from conservation action under CMS:

- *African Elephant Action Plan*

The CMS West African Elephant MoU has been in force since 2005. Kotchikpa Okoumassou indicated that conservation of the African Elephant requires an integrated approach due to its fragmented range, loss of habitats, poaching, illegal traffic of ivory, conflicts and climate change. Urgent actions proposed by the group included efforts to maintain and restore elephant habitats and their connectivity, anti-poaching measures, improve knowledge on the conservation status of elephants and their distribution, strengthen cooperation and harmonization of laws and regulations, improve cooperation at the local level and synergies between conventions.

- *Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures*

Abdoulie Sawo presented the proposal ‘Vultures for our future in Africa’, justified by the high threats to vultures from illegal killing, poisoning, infrastructural development and habitat loss, and the important ecological role of vultures through cleaning of carcasses. In addition, vultures are of importance for ecotourism and cultural aspects. The CMS Multi-species Action Plan for African-Eurasian Vultures was developed by Parties to the Convention and is in urgent need of implementation. Actions proposed by the group included rapid assessment, community mobilization and awareness, capacity building, habitat and species protection, addressing poisoning, transboundary collaboration and the development of vulture species action plans. These should result in improved knowledge of vulture populations, well-informed stakeholders, habitat restoration, improved human health and livelihoods and healthy vulture populations.

- *Action Plan for Birds: Saker Falcon*



Tebogo Mashua (left) presented the birds proposal. The group had selected a project titled ‘Saving Saker Falcon from Extinction’, an project focused on this Endangered migratory raptor, which is listed on Appendix I of CMS of high ecological and cultural value. The Saker Falcon is threatened in particular by electrocution of birds on medium-voltage power lines, unsustainable trapping/harvest on the breeding grounds and along the migration routes, secondary poisoning, decreased prey

availability and collision with man-made structures. The CMS Saker Falcon Global Action Plan was published in 2014 for COP11. Actions proposed by the group included aligning legislation in the Range States to protect the habitat, launching livelihoods programmes, raising awareness and establishing a research and animals’ health centre.

- *Conservation & management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region*

Hawa Walker presented the proposal ‘Whales’ future is our future’, with a programme of education and awareness targeting children, fishermen and the general public about the importance of whales. This would include education on boats and the production of guidelines for sustainable boat-based whale watching. Other outputs would include schoolbooks, radio programmes and social media tools, backed up by workshops in coastal communities.

After the groups developed their proposals, each one presented in plenary, after which participants voted for their favoured proposal. The Saker Falcon proposal won the most votes, and the group received a (fake!) cheque and gift from a (fake!) UK donor speaking on behalf of Prince Philip.

### **5.13 Carnivore Initiative**

Clara Nobbe and Aristide Tehou presented the Carnivore Initiative, including the decision submitted by the Governments of Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger on the conservation and management of the Cheetah and the African Wild Dog. The Carnivore Initiative will be used to develop concrete, coordinated and synergistic conservation programmes for four carnivore species (Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Wild Dog), with local and regional projects

implemented across their African range; to develop policy guidance and recommendations for Range States, CITES and CMS concerning the four species; and to organize collaboration with other conservation initiatives and organizations, such as IUCN.

The added value of addressing the four iconic species together, and for joining forces of CMS and CITES in this effort, is expected to include:

- increased conservation means for all four species by pooling funds and expertise;
- more equitable deployment of resources amongst the four species;
- avoidance of duplicative activities and associated costs;
- coordinated and consolidated support to Range States in implementing conservation measures;
- more effective and immediate conservation actions across the range of the four species;
- synergetic and holistic conservation approaches; and
- increased opportunities for donors to allocate resources to well-coordinated and internationally recognized conservation actions.

#### **5.14 Concerted Actions**

Tim Dodman gave a brief overview of Concerted Actions. Those relevant for Africa that will be tabled at COP12 are for the European Eel, Atlantic Humpback Dolphin, the Arabian Sea population of Humpback Whale, Angel Shark, Mobulid Rays and Whale Shark. The Atlantic Humpback Dolphin occurs off the western coastline of Africa from Mauritania to Angola. Threats include bycatch, capture for wild meat, habitat loss and disturbance from coastal development. The proposed concerted action is to form a Steering Committee of government and NGO stakeholders of Range States to convene a meeting in order to formulate a Plan of Action 2018-2023 to address immediate conservation needs. A Task Force should also be established to coordinate and implement conservation actions.

#### **5.15 National Reporting**

National reporting is one of the requirements of Parties, and the rate of reporting in the run-up to COP12 has improved on previous COPs, reaching a record high, with 66% of Parties in Africa and 74% overall submitting reports. Hanah Al-Samaraie reminded participants about the need for reporting, which is an important means to monitor the implementation of the Convention, with the results used for decision-making and planning. The format of national reports for CMS is online and in the three working languages of the COP. This online reporting system (ORS) is a versatile web-based platform that is flexible and easy to use.

Whilst national reports are important for the Convention and its Secretariat, they also benefit countries by providing a unique framework for data collection and information, a tool for sharing information and in enabling countries to identify conservation issues that need to be addressed within their country and region. Ultimately, Governments can use the information for decision-making, whilst they and NGOs can use it to prioritize field / conservation activities. Contributions from participants included the following:

- Togo: Need to look for structures that help NFPs and ways to enable other sectors to read the reports. There is a time pressure for reporting.

- Gabon: Sometimes, generating data is an issue, and some departments believe they should be paid for providing data.
- Egypt: CBD provides resources for a reporting system. With improved synergy among conventions, there could be one reporting system, as it's a considerable effort at national level.
- Seychelles: Online reporting is very tricky, especially concerning division between different experts.
- South Africa: CMS should attempt to understand reasons for not submitting reports.
- CMS: The Secretariat has looked into reasons and does encourage NFPs to submit reports. The fluctuations of NFPs can often be an issue. Also, sometimes NFPs are too 'senior' to bother with reporting. In some countries, there is a lack of resources, whilst the online nature presents other countries with difficulties.
- South Africa: Remembering to do reports can be an issue. It would be good if NFPs could do their reporting on a continuous basis, making sure by the end that it was not incomplete.
- South Africa: There should be a feedback mechanism to show that the report has been done. This enables us to show our Ministry that the report has been done.
- Angola: The CMS report is a very big report, which can be daunting. The Latin names of all species should be included in the reporting system.
- Zimbabwe: One issue with reporting is delegation, which is necessary for effective reporting, e.g. by including relevant experts. However, sometimes those delegated to contribute to the report do not respond.
- Algeria: There are many national stakeholders involved and we need to show all of them the report before submitting. This is difficult to achieve via the online reporting system.

#### **5.16 COP12 preparation and looking ahead & beyond**

The deadline for registration had been extended once again for funded delegates, whilst self-funding delegates could register right up to the COP. The Philippines government is preparing to organize for the receipt of visas on arrival; delegates will require invitation letters, which the Secretariat will organise in collaboration with the Philippines government. Assistance from the Secretariat was possible before October.

In preparation for the COP, Parties need to submit credentials for national delegations for signing by their Head of State or Minister of Foreign Affairs and all supporting documents. Full powers indicate that a person is granted authority to negotiate the instrument on behalf of their country. The Secretariat had requested that funded NFPs / delegates submit these documents before they can purchase flight tickets. Participants unanimously expressed their concern for this procedure, which they felt would cause significant delays due to the hierarchy of ministries and internal administrative processes. It is not always possible for such documents to be signed months in advance of a meeting. As NFPs are already delegated by their governments, they felt it was not necessary for this process to be completed in advance of ticket issuance and requested the Secretariat to propose a better solution how to proceed in preparation for COP.

A High Level Segment or Panel will take place the day before COP12, in combination with a leadership dialogue breakfast and the Migratory Species champions night. It is hoped that the breakfast will build momentum for migratory species, especially through linking the CMS agenda to the main theme of the forthcoming session of the UN Environment Assembly

(UNEA3), which is 'Towards a Pollution-free Planet'. A panel discussion that links the sustainable development goals with migratory species conservation will follow the breakfast and will result in the Manila Declaration to be adopted at the end of the COP. In the evening, immediately after the High-Level Panel Discussion, the Secretariat will hold an award ceremony under the Migratory Species Champion Programme. This Programme aims to involve and recognize governments, organizations or individuals that provide medium- to long term support for the implementation of specific initiatives. The focal point for this at the Secretariat is Laura Cerasi ([laura.cerasi@cms.int](mailto:laura.cerasi@cms.int)). Participants requested more information about the High Level Events, in particular so that they could brief their Ministers, and it was hoped that NFPs would motivate their ministers to take interest or participate in the event. The Government of the Philippines will support the participation of some ministers.

Government representatives to the workshops requested and held a short closed session in order to discuss various aspects of COP12 preparation, after which a number of questions were posed to the Secretariat, especially relating to practical issues for COP12 preparation and supporting options.

### **5.17 Closing session**



A short closing session was held to wrap up the meeting. Hanah Al-Samaraie spoke on behalf of the Secretariat and thanked all participants, colleagues within the Secretariat, the facilitator, translators, technicians, hotel staff and the Ethiopian hosts for all their active input.

Closing remarks were also made by Dr Cliff Dlamini (left) on behalf of the Anglophone countries and by Dr Ouahida Boucekkine on behalf of the Francophone countries. Both thanked all who contributed to the meeting and expressed their satisfaction about participating in the event.

## **6. Evaluation**

The analysis of evaluation questions revealed a positive evaluation of the workshop. The workshop definitely contributed to an improved knowledge / understanding of the COP12 documents, with nine participants indicating a good knowledge before the workshop compared with 23 after the workshop, demonstrating the value of pre-COP workshops in Africa. Participants rated the presentations and working sessions positively, yielding the ranking below, with 87% of responses recorded as excellent, very good or good (below). The most popular sessions were the team quiz, workshop opening and shark cocktail. The facilitator / trainers were also rated very positively, as well as the meeting venue and arrangements.



Time wise, 25 participants considered that a meeting of three days was the right length, with three opting for too short. Some comments indicated frustration in having to wait for some participants who came late for sessions whilst more time was needed for the closed session (although the room was available in the evening should it have been requested). Most participants supported the workshop approach and presentation of information, finding it to be interactive, generating good discussions; 83% of participants recorded the approach as either excellent or very good. However, there were some conflicting comments:

- Give more time to the closed session meeting
- Just ideal
- Evaluated points are not taken into account by the Secretariat
- Ensure consistent communication with all focal points relating CMS
- Allocate more time to species listing proposals which can be controversial at the COP
- Some instructions for interactive sessions could be clearer but enjoyed the approach
- The workshop allowed better understand the process of the COP preparation
- Overall great! Love the teambuilding activities
- All presentations to be sent in advance to consult with experts on certain issues.

Additional comments relating to the workshop and potential improvement included:

- Customers services in Ethiopia could be better, especially to obtain a visa
- Good work - translation good - lively setting
- The staff of the CMS Secretariat did go out of their way before and during the workshop which is highly appreciated
- Keep it up!!!
- It was a pleasant workshop
- More time to discuss issues on Africa in closed session
- I would like to take this time to say thank you to the CMS Family for the opportunity given to participate in this international workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Very good
- The commitment of the meeting organizers was exceptional and highly professional
- Thank you very much
- At least with dinner participants could make their own choices.

## **7. Acknowledgements**

The UNEP/CMS Secretariat recognizes the generous support of the European Commission through Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) Programme Cooperation Agreements with UN Environment for financing the workshop. The Government of Ethiopia receives special thanks for its warm welcome in Addis Ababa and for technical and logistical support, also for organizing the excursion. The Secretariat thanks Hanah Al-Samaraie, Clara Nobbe and Tim Dodman for development and delivery of the workshop content, with input from Secretariat staff, also to the administrative support team, especially Melanie Jakuttek. Special thanks go to the PEW Foundation and partners for hosting the enjoyable and informative shark cocktail. All participants are warmly thanked for taking the time to travel to Ethiopia for the meeting and for their active participation. Final thanks go to the translators, technicians, hotel meeting organisers, drivers and other support staff, who all played a vital role.

## **8. Annexes**

- Annex 1. Workshop Agenda**
- Annex 2. List of participants**
- Annex 3. Relevant CMS COP12 documents for Africa identified prior to the meeting**
- Annex 4. A selection of photos from the workshop**

## Annex 1. Workshop AGENDA

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> August	8:30-08:45: Registration	<b>Preparation for CMS COP12:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COP12 agenda &amp; prioritising key issues for Africa (PL L &amp; D)</li> <li>Review of resolutions &amp; understanding COP docs (PL L)</li> </ul>	<b>Species:</b> Amendment of appendices: Species proposals (GW/PL): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lion (&amp; Leopard)</li> <li>Giraffe</li> <li>Chimpanzee</li> <li>Vultures (&amp; Steppe Eagle)</li> <li>Sharks &amp; guitarfish</li> </ol>	Shark cocktail
	<b>Opening session:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome &amp; opening</li> <li>Participant introductions &amp; expectations</li> <li>Workshop agenda</li> </ul>			
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Species Proposals feedback</b>  <b>Preparation for CMS COP12: generic &amp; institutional issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SPMS 2015-2023 / Review Process for the Convention / Budget &amp; POW 2018-2020 (PL L)</li> </ul>	<b>Preparation for CMS COP12 (closed):</b> As decided by group; expected to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Africa working group: functioning</li> <li>Appointment of representatives</li> <li>Agreement on priorities &amp; key issues</li> </ul>	Visit to National Museum and market	Continuation of closed session meeting (optional)
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Participation at CMS COP12:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key negotiation points for Africa for COP12: Marine issues / climate change / ecological networks / community participation (GW &amp; PL D)</li> </ul>	<b>Implementation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of CMS in Ethiopia &amp; Wild Ass roadmap (PL L CS)</li> <li>Taking action for migratory species: African Elephant Action Plan / Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures / Conservation &amp; management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region / actions for birds (GW &amp; PL D)</li> <li>Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative / Conservation &amp; Management of Cheetah and African Wild Dog (PL L/D)</li> </ul>	<b>Implementation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerted Actions (PL D)</li> <li>National reporting (PL Q&amp;A)</li> </ul>	<b>Closing session:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CMS COP12 preparation and looking ahead to COP12 &amp; beyond (PL B &amp; D)</li> <li>Closed session</li> <li>Evaluation</li> <li>Close</li> </ul>

**Approx. times:** Morning sessions 08:45-12:45; afternoon sessions 14:00-17:30. Lunch 12:45-14:00. Coffee & tea breaks provided.

**Abbreviations:** PL: Plenary; L (IL): (Interactive) Lecture; GW: Group Work; EX: Exercise; D: Discussion; CS: Case Study; RP: Role Play; B: Brainstorming; Q&A: Question & Answer

**Colours:** These represent chapter numbers and their respective colours in the CMS Family Manual.

## Annex 2. Workshop Participants

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### Annex 3. Relevant CMS COP12 documents for Africa identified prior to the meeting

Topic
Strategic Plan & Companion Volume
Review mechanism
Budget and POW
Election of representatives
Call for Host of COP13
Understanding COP docs
Revision of resolutions
Ecological Networks/ Habitat
Concerted actions Elephant + Wild dog
Community Participation
Wild meat (terrestrial and aquatic)
Noise
Boat-based watching and recreational in-water interactions
Listing proposals: sharks (all), vultures, lion, giraffe, leopard, wild ass, antelopes, chimpanzee
Vultures Multi Species Action Plan
African Carnivores Initiative
Brazil's South Atlantic Whale proposal

Annex 4. A selection of photos from the workshop

