

**7th Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the
CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC7)**

Bonn, Germany, 17 – 20 September 2024

UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC7/Doc.6.1.5

**IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 13.5 (REV.COP14) CMS INTERNATIONAL LIGHT
POLLUTION GUIDELINES FOR MIGRATORY SPECIES**

(Prepared by Mark P. Simmonds, COP-appointed Councillor for Marine Pollution)

Summary:

Further to Resolution 13.5 and Decisions 14.221 and 14.222, the Sessional Committee is requested to consider the recommendations considered here relating to the dissemination of the new light pollution guidelines and the facilitation of an expert consultation related to possible future guidelines.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 13.5 (REV.COP14) CMS INTERNATIONAL LIGHT POLLUTION GUIDELINES FOR MIGRATORY SPECIES

Background

1. At COP 14 new *CMS International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species* were adopted including Technical Appendices relating to Marine Turtles, Seabirds, Migratory Shorebirds, Migratory Landbirds and Bats
2. Additionally, the following decisions were passed (14.221 and 14.222):

Decision 14.221: Directed to the Scientific Council

The Scientific Council is requested, subject to the availability of resources, to consider the issues under Decision 14.222 in the 7th or 8th meeting of the Sessional Committee, including possible new evidence of impacts and developments concerning mitigation methods, and provide recommendations to COP15 and advice to the Secretariat on the implementation of Decision 14.222.

Decision 14.222: Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) *subject to the availability of resources, consider the preparation of additional annexes to the CMS International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species for adoption by COP15 on how to effectively avoid and mitigate the indirect and direct negative effects of light pollution for those taxa not yet in the focus of the guidelines, such as fish, taking also into account other existing guidance as relevant;*
- b) *disseminate the CMS International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species widely, including to other multilateral environment agreements, regional agreements and programmes, intergovernmental organizations, Parties and other stakeholders; and*
- c) *subject to the availability of resources, support Parties and stakeholders in implementing the CMS International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species, through webinars or other activities.*

Subsequent actions

3. Translations of this large document have now been completed and a cover and suitable acknowledgments have been added. Hence, the Guidelines are now fully available for dissemination.

Recommendations to the Scientific council

4. Noting that an *ad hoc* international team of experts was assembled to help develop the Guidelines and that during that process many indicated a willingness to help CMS with this topic further, it is suggested that an online meeting should be held to consult with this team and seek their support in
 - a) dissemination of the Guidelines; and
 - b) their advice related to next steps, including the potential development of further guidelines for taxa or situations not already covered, for example invertebrates, perhaps in the context of prey for migratory species, migratory fish or light pollution in the marine/aquatic context.

5. Developing a list of organisations and institutions that might be interested in the Guidelines so that the Guidelines could be made available to them in line with Decision 14.222 b).
6. A member or members of the Scientific Council with relevant expertise should be nominated to help take this topic forward.

Recommendations to the Secretariat

7. The Sessional Committee is recommended to:
 - a) Invite the Secretariat to consider paragraphs 4-5 above when implementing Decision 14.222;
 - b) Identify its member or members with relevant expertise to support the Secretariat in implementing Decision 14.222.