

Notification 2025/034

19 December 2025

## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

### **CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLOR SUBJECT AREA OF TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS**

The subject area of Terrestrial Mammals has been handled by a single COP-appointed Councillor between COP14 and COP15, following the resignation of the expert who previously shared this position. Given the high volume of work related to terrestrial mammals, the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council ScC-SC8 recommended that the position of the COP-appointed Councillor for Terrestrial Mammals should be shared by two councillors in the intersessional period between COP15 and COP16, following the practice before COP14, with the understanding that this would count as a single position. Pending the Decision of COP15 on this matter, and to facilitate consideration of this matter at COP15, the Secretariat is seeking, through this Notification, suitable candidates for the shared position of the COP-appointed Councillor for Terrestrial Mammals.

Annexed to this Notification are generic terms of reference for COP-appointed Councillors. Potential candidates should be proposed in writing to the Secretariat, [cms-secretariat@un.org](mailto:cms-secretariat@un.org), by **19 January 2026**. Candidates do not have to be nationals of a CMS Party. Candidates should be internationally recognized experts in the field which they are proposed to cover as a COP-appointed Councillor. Nominations should include a statement justifying the candidature, a candidate profile (see the format in Annex 2 to this Notification), as well as a declaration by the candidate expressing their readiness to accept the appointment if selected. Appointments will be for the intersessional period between COP15 (March 2025) and COP16. Appointments are normally renewed by each subsequent meeting of the COP for the following intersessional period, subject to the confirmation of the corresponding subject area among those to be covered by COP-appointed Councillors.

Considering that COP-appointed Councillors are usually called to coordinate and/or chair working groups at CMS Scientific Council meetings, normally operating in English without simultaneous interpretation, a good command of English is considered necessary to efficiently undertake the task. Knowledge of the other working languages of the Scientific Council (French, Spanish) would be an asset.

The position of COP-appointed Councillor is not remunerated. Based on currently applicable rules and policies, and subject to availability of resources, the Secretariat will cover the travel and subsistence allowance related to the participation of one of the two COP-appointed Councillors sharing this position to meetings of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific

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Council (normally two in the intersessional period between COPs) and of the COP (normally one meeting in a triennium).

The Secretariat will compile all nominations received and will make them available to COP15 for consideration. Prior to COP15, the Sessional Committee will consult on the nominations received by an email exchange, with a view to formulating its recommendations on the selection of candidates to the COP.

For further information or clarification on the COP-Appointed Councillor subject areas and the nomination process, please contact the CMS Secretariat, [cms-secretariat@un.org](mailto:cms-secretariat@un.org)

## INDICATIVE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLORS

### Functions and responsibilities

- Contribute to the work of the Scientific Council (ScC) and its Sessional Committee (ScC-SC) by helping to:
  - Identify and formulate proposals/recommendations to address the conservation of migratory species, notably in the subject area for which he/she has been appointed, where appropriate through the development of draft Resolutions or Decisions to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties (COP) for consideration, or the revision of relevant existing Resolutions and Decisions;
  - Collaborate with the Secretariat and Chair of the ScC on the implementation of COP Decisions and items in the Programme of Work of the ScC-SC relating to the subject area for which he/she has been appointed;
  - Identify species for potential inclusion in the CMS Appendices, and where appropriate assist Parties in the drafting of proposals to amend the CMS Appendices for consideration by the COP;
  - Assist, and where appropriate promote, the development of proposals for Concerted Actions on CMS-listed species to be submitted to the ScC for review and to the COP for endorsement;
  - Contribute to the preparation and regular update of reports on the conservation status of CMS-listed species;
  - Report to the ScC on progress in the work of other organizations for which he/she was identified as focal point within the ScC;
  - Participate in *ad hoc* working groups established within the ScC to address specific issues;
- Advise the Secretariat on the suitability of project proposals to be funded by CMS, and the technical evaluation of the outputs of the approved projects, notably for the subject area for which he/she has been appointed;
- Participate in meetings of the ScC-SC (with travel and subsistence expenses covered by CMS, if necessary) - normally two meetings in a three-year period- and act as Chair of the relevant taxonomic or thematic working group, if applicable;
- Upon request, participate in Meetings of the Conference of the Parties (with coverage by CMS of travel and subsistence expenses, if necessary) - normally one meeting every three years.

### Language skills

The working languages of the Scientific Council are English, French and Spanish. As COP-appointed Councillors are often called upon to chair working groups at meetings operating without simultaneous interpretation, a good command of English is necessary. Knowledge of other working languages of the Scientific Council would be an asset.

## CMS COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLOR

## CANDIDATE PROFILE

*This candidate profile is intended for inclusion in documents for consideration by the CMS Scientific Council and Conference of Parties and will be translated into the three working languages of the Convention (English, French, Spanish) and published on the CMS website.*

Candidates are invited to:

- Complete this candidate profile (maximum two pages). It is recommended to use brief entries and bullet points where possible, focusing on experience most relevant to migratory species conservation and the specific subject area.
- A full list of publications and a full CV may be attached separately. They are not required and will be made available to Parties in the original language, but not translated.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Terrestrial Mammals	
Candidate Name	
Email address	
Affiliation: name and address of the current employer / organization	
Languages – fluent oral and written	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
Languages – basic knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish

KEY RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE
Qualifications: education / academic title (max 50 words)

Relevant experience in subject area of the specific Councillor position (max 200 words)

**International policy experience: working with CMS or other multilateral environmental agreements and organisations (max 200 words)**

**Relevant publications / ResearchGate / ORCID link (max 200 words)**