



FIRST REGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP for CMS NON-PARTIES of SOUTH and SOUTH-EAST ASIA

CMS as a Tool for Conservation of Biodiversity

Brentwood Suites Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines
27th – 29th October 2015



WORKSHOP REPORT

Tim Dodman
December 2015

Contents

1. WORKSHOP INTRODUCTION	2
2. WORKSHOP VENUE AND PROGRAMME	2
3. WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS	2
4. WORKSHOP RÉSUMÉ	2
5. WORKSHOP ACCOUNT	3
6. DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRY ROAD MAPS TO ACCESSION	17
7. EVALUATION	20
8. ANNEXES	22

1. Workshop introduction

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) aims to conserve terrestrial, aquatic and avian migratory species throughout their range. As an environmental treaty under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), CMS provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats. In order to meet this aim and to serve as an effective platform for conservation, CMS ultimately needs countries to become Party to the Convention and work together for the sustainable management of migratory species, which, of course, know no political boundaries.

The region of South and South-East Asia has relatively few CMS Parties, which makes it hard to implement the Convention effectively, especially when it comes to regional issues. The Philippines is a long-standing CMS Party and offered to host this workshop, joining with the CMS Secretariat, UNEP and The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) to inform Non-Parties about the Convention and to ultimately encourage them to join. The workshop is one of a series of workshops planned around the world aiming to boost accession to the Convention. Financial support came from the GPGC¹ thematic Programme *Time for Action for Migratory Species – Implementation of key decisions of CMS COP11* between the European Commission and UNEP. The workshop structure followed mostly the Manual on the roles and responsibilities of the CMS Family National Focal Points (NFPs), referred to as the CMS Family Manual.

2. Workshop venue and programme

The workshop was held at the Brentwood Suites Hotel, Quezon City with a field trip to the Bataan Peninsula, based at Balanga City. The workshop started at 8:30 on 27th October, and ended at 16:00 on 29th October, following the programme agenda in Annex 1.

3. Workshop participants

Participants comprised 1-2 government representatives from CMS Non- Parties in the region, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal and Vietnam, with additional participants from the government of the Philippines and local and international NGO sector, plus a representative from UNEP. A full participant list is provided in Annex 2.

4. Workshop résumé

The workshop was opened by Ms. Corazon Davis, Assistant Secretary for Administration and Finance, DENR, the Philippines, whilst Bert Lenten (UNEP/CMS) gave welcoming words on behalf of CMS, Makiko Yashiro on behalf of UNEP and Sheila Vergara on behalf of ACB. Tim Dodman, the workshop facilitator, then led a participant introduction session, when participants gave their name, country, a

1

Through the thematic programme on Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC), the European Union (EU) aims to contribute to the solution of global problems through global development outcomes that will be inclusive and sustainable within planetary boundaries.

workshop expectation and their favourite migratory species. Francisco Rilla (UNEP/CMS) presented the aims of the workshop and gave an introduction to the workshop programme. After this, training sessions were held following the chapters of the manual in a largely consecutive order.

The workshop included a field trip on the morning of 28th October to Balanga Wetland and Nature Park with a stakeholder meeting in Balanga City and afternoon visits to las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar and the community-based Pawikan Conservation Center in Nagbalayong Morong. The Pew Charitable Trusts also organised a Shark event cocktail on 28th October in the evening.

At the end of the training, there was an informal closing session and vote of thanks for key contributors, including the government of the Philippines and ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) staff. The government of the Philippines hosted an evening dinner on 29th October, and presented government delegations with a beautiful book 'Treasures of the Philippine Wild'.

5. Workshop account

Tuesday 27th October 2015

5.1. Participant introductions

During the introduction session, participants introduced themselves and chose their favourite migratory species. These ranged from the Black-winged Stilt to Dumbo the flying elephant! The most-featured animals were marine turtles and Dugong, both of which are covered by CMS Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) in the region.

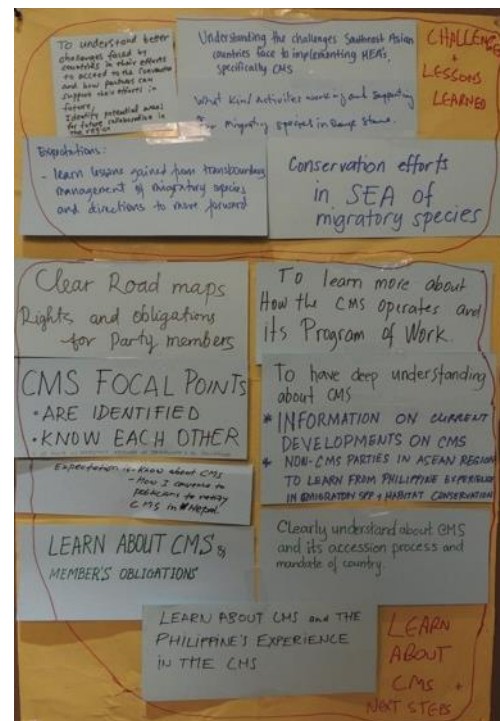
Participants also wrote down their expectations for the workshop (a selection shown right), which fell into three main categories:

- Understand the main challenges facing migratory species in the region and lessons learned;
- Learn more about CMS and steps needed for accession;
- Understand the value added and benefits to joining CMS.

Participants also expressed their interest in knowing each other and in learning from the experience of the Philippines.

The aim of the workshop and agenda were then presented by Francisco Rilla, who outlined the main objectives:

- Enhance the presence of CMS in the region
- Promote discussions relating to animal migration and shared migration routes
- Support the accession process and take steps towards developing national roadmaps



- Build awareness about the Convention and UNEP and where to find assistance, and build synergies
- Highlight the importance of NBSAPs and the need to build migratory species conservation into these strategies

This was followed by an overview of why countries in South and South-East Asia had not joined the Convention. This information was based on a questionnaire that had been circulated to all Non-Parties in the region before the workshop. The main reasons were that:

- Some countries considered that the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) covers migratory species already
- Countries had a general lack of awareness about CMS and were unaware of the benefits of joining.

The main obstacle to joining the Convention was that the process to ratify multilateral agreements is very time-consuming with administrative difficulties.

5.2. Background Information

5.2.1 Migratory species and the rationale for their protection

Participants had clearly expressed their wish to know more about migratory species and the rationale for protecting them. This message was delivered first through an interactive lecture by Tim Dodman on 'What is migration?' The CMS definition of migration was presented and examples given of migratory groups of animals. The ecological advantages of being migratory were then highlighted, and some of the key issues influencing migration, such as weather. Migration strategies were also discussed, especially for birds.

This was followed by a group exercise 'Draw a Migration Route'. Four groups were formed, and each was required to draw the migration route of a different migratory species and then present their findings. The animals chosen were the Sarus Crane, the Hawksbill Turtle, the Irrawaddy Dolphin and the Whale Shark. Each group worked together to produce a map, and then presented their map to the other participants.



It was clear from the maps and discussion that, although these species may occur in their countries, participants were not fully aware of their migration routes or migratory behaviours. Indeed, for some species, such as the Whale Shark, there are still question marks about their migratory life cycle. Such issues clearly have an impact on conservation decision-making. It is important that all countries have

a good general understanding of migratory routes, and the need to work together with other countries, especially to enable effective dialogue about global conservation for migratory species.

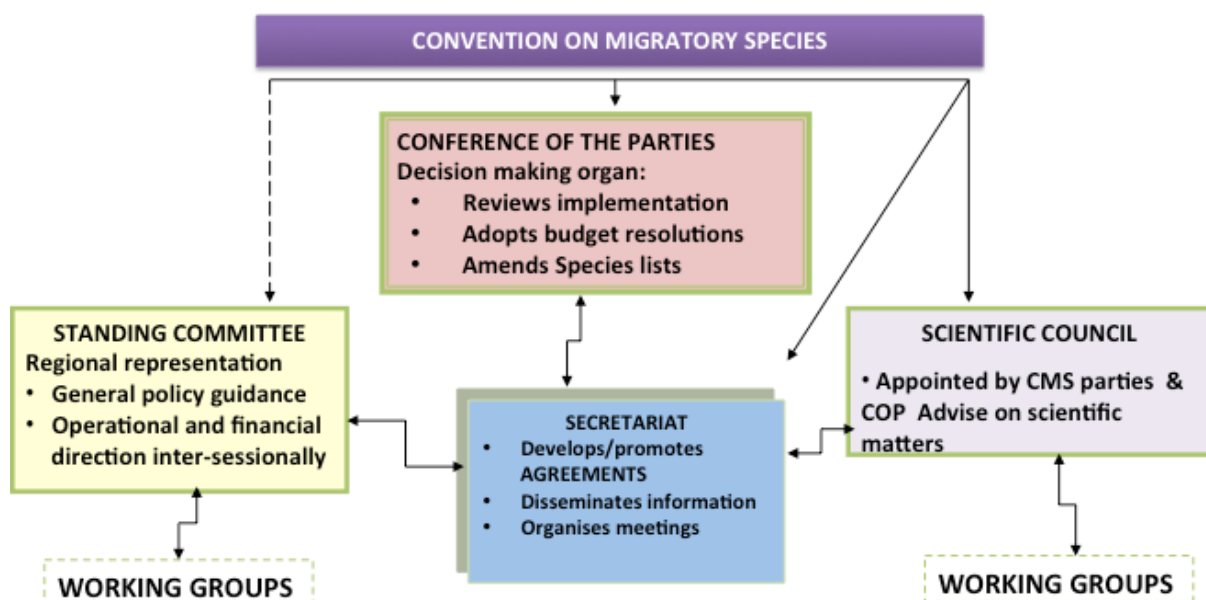
An interactive lecture was also delivered on the rationale for protecting migratory species. This focused especially on the numerous threats faced by migratory species, such as barriers to migration, habitat loss and degradation, bycatch, underwater noise, illegal hunting and fishing, pollution, marine debris, disturbance and climate change.

5.2.2 The role of CMS



After lunch, Francisco Rilla gave an interactive presentation on the role of CMS in supporting countries to improve the conservation status of migratory species and to help mitigate these threats. CMS is a global convention under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), governed by the Parties and administered by the Secretariat, whose headquarters are in Bonn, Germany. Since its inception in 1979, 122 countries have become Party to the Convention. CMS operates especially through its Appendices, agreements and other instruments, such as MOUs. The

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species requires international cooperation efforts that link species conservation and ecosystem-based approaches. The main bodies of CMS are illustrated in the diagram below:



5.2.3 The role of UNEP

Makiko Yashiro illustrated the role of UNEP in supporting the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), especially the role of UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP). Although this region supports high biodiversity, its status is highly threatened, especially due to the rapid loss of natural habitats, the high demand the region puts on wildlife products and the impacts of fisheries on marine ecosystems. Although there is some progress in formulating environmental policies, biodiversity continues in steady decline. The new Sustainable



Development Goals (SDGs) present a new framework for action. UNEP has a mandate to support countries in implementing biodiversity conservation. Its key services are summarised below:



UNEP is a key partner in the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which operates through projects. Some GEF projects support the implementation of CMS in Asia, including the '*Dugong and Seagrass Conservation*' project, which links closely to the CMS Dugong MOU and the former '*Siberian Crane Wetlands Project*', which builds on the CMS Siberian Crane MOU. Range states of migratory species should consider working together to develop other regional conservation projects, for which GEF is one potential window. Building on existing mechanisms and frameworks of CMS is effective in ensuring sustainability and replication beyond the lifetime of projects, which is one of the important requirements of GEF projects.

5.2.4 CMS Family Instruments

The CMS family instruments relevant to South-East Asia are:

- Dugong MOU
- Sharks MOU
- Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA) Marine Turtles MOU



In addition, the Raptors MOU is relevant to Nepal, and the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) is relevant to Indonesia.

Participants learned from each other about the Sharks MOU and the IOSEA Marine Turtles MOU through film, fact sheets, presentation and discussion within groups led by resource persons. Participants exchanged groups so that they could participate in both. Both MOUs are important implementation tools for the region, although they are as yet under-subscribed.



5.3. Migratory species conservation issues in South and South-East Asia

5.3.1 Transboundary conservation of sea turtles

Evangeline Miclat of Conservation International gave a case study presentation about transboundary efforts between Malaysia and the Philippines to protect a shared turtle population breeding on nine islands – three in Malaysia and six in the Philippines. The islands have been declared as the first transboundary Marine Protected Area (MPAs) for turtles, with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed in 1996 for integrated and uniform management and joint research and conservation. The Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Area (TIHPA) supports the single largest and most stable population of Green Turtles in South-East Asia. Efforts are being made to extend actions to a network of MPAs beyond TIHPA; there should be a role in this respect for CMS and the IOSEA Marine Turtles MOU.

After this session, the group travelled to Balanga City in Bataan Province, arriving in time for dinner at around 8pm.

Wednesday 28th October 2015

5.3.2 Local case study: migratory species conservation in Bataan

a. Balanga Wetland and Nature Park

The group was welcomed warmly to Balanga Wetland and Nature Park by Mr Rodolfo De Mesa, Balanga City Administrator, whilst a number of local resource persons were also on hand. After being shown around the impressive educational centre, the group had a walk along the



boardwalk through the mangroves, bird watching on the beach / mudflats and a discussion with students engaged in field research at the site. The facilities were impressive, also the role of the site in hosting a number of environmental events, such as bird festivals. There was clearly much enthusiasm for conserving the site for its natural values as well as its educational and recreational role.

A number of migratory birds were seen at the site, including species of herons, terns and waders. As was described to the group, the proximity to Manila, on the opposite side of Manila Bay, presented constant problems of litter / debris being washed ashore, whilst the invasive weed Water Hyacinth was also seen (right).

b. Audience with local government official in Balanga City

Rodolfo de Mesa then accompanied us to the Balanga City Hall, where the group was introduced to and met local community leaders, for a presentation about the city, the importance of Balanga for migratory birds, and the social and significant economic benefits of bird watching and ecotourism. The city administration was clearly very proud of its natural assets, and had genuine pride in hosting an important site for migratory birds. The environmental projects currently underway at Balanga City include:

- Mangrove reforestation in the shoreline of Tortugas
- Talisay River Clean-up Drive
- Integrated Solid Waste Management Program
- Declaration of Bird Watching Sites in the City
- Declaration of Critical Habitat Areas
- Smoke-Free City Advocacy
- Institutionalization of the Balanga Biodiversity Foundation
- Dredging and maintenance of canals/waterways

c. Community-based Pawikan Conservation in Nagbalayong Morong

There was just time enough to visit the community-based Pawikan (Marine Turtles) Conservation Center in Nagbalayong Morong, on the west coast of Bataan. The group was welcomed by Manolo Ibias, who gave us a fascinating talk about the marine turtles that breed on the beach below the centre, their efforts in rearing hatchlings and their important educational awareness work. Manolo himself was once a regular turtle hunter and egg collector, but was now closely involved in running the centre and delivering an important conservation message. The centre was established in 1999 and is run by volunteers as a grassroots community enterprise.



5.3.3 Bird conservation initiatives in Philippines

Arlie Endonila of the Haribon Foundation gave a presentation on bird conservation in the Philippines, focused on the monitoring and conservation of endangered migratory species. Site conservation actions have included research and monitoring at Candaba Swamp, which holds important numbers of ducks, including the endangered Baer's Pochard. The site is under high pressure from agriculture, aquaculture, hunting, logging and over-harvesting. Another site where conservation action is getting underway is Najuan Lake, including capacity-building for mayors and forest wardens and awareness raising.

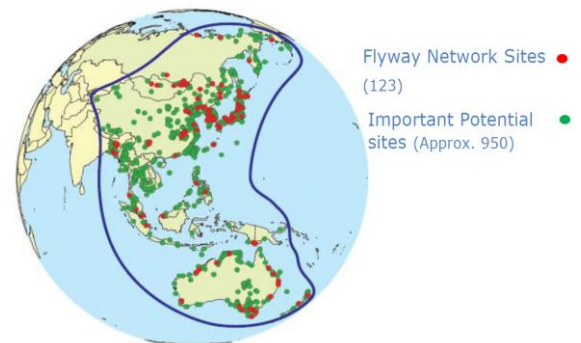
Haribon and partners also support awareness raising for bird conservation around Philippines, including the Welcome to the Birds festival, which celebrates the arrival of migratory birds.



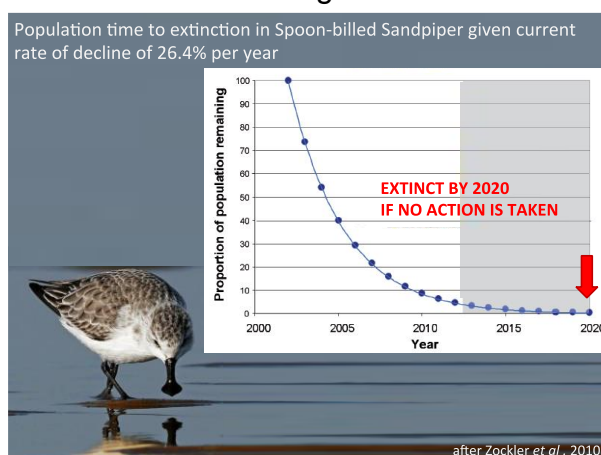
5.3.4 East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAF)

Sheila Vergara (ACB) gave a presentation on the EAAF on behalf of Spike Millington. The East Asian-Australasian Flyway involves around 50 million birds of 200 waterbird species, of which at least 33 are threatened, whilst the flyway also has a high number of declining species, with annual declines of 9% for some shorebirds, some freshwater species are also in decline. One of the most threatened species is the Broad-billed Sandpiper, which could become extinct by 2020 if no action is taken.

Flyway Site Network



Habitat loss and degradation is the major factor



responsible for waterbird declines in the flyway, especially intertidal areas, which are vital stopover sites for migratory shorebirds. Only 0.03% of the stopover sites of the Great Knot are protected along the flyway. Given the large geographical range of the flyway, the conservation of migratory waterbirds in the region clearly requires a strong international response; the EAAF was launched in 2006 as a voluntary arrangement with five key objectives:

- Develop the Flyway Network of Sites
- Enhance CEPA (communication, education & public awareness)
- Build knowledge and promote exchange of information
- Build habitat and waterbird management capacity
- Develop flyway wide approaches to enhance conservation status

The countries along the flyway have made commitments to global biodiversity targets but it will only be possible to honour these if they halt the declining trends in waterbird populations and in habitat availability and quality.

Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar

Both these presentations were held at Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar, where lunch was also served. After the presentations, participants enjoyed a guided tour of Las Casas, where a number of traditional buildings from Manila and elsewhere in Philippines have been relocated. The group then proceeded to the Pawikan Conservation project (see above), before returning to Quezon City, arriving at about 7:30pm.



5.3.5 Shark conservation



The Pew Charitable Trust hosted a cocktail evening session on return to Quezon City, which began with a fact-filled presentation by Moonyeen Alava of the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation (CCEF) on elasmobranch research and conservation initiatives in the Philippines. Sharks are vulnerable especially due to their slow growth, late sexual maturity and low fecundity, resulting in a low capacity for population increase. The main pressures on sharks are due to fisheries, both intentional catch and bycatch. Most shark fins from the Philippines have been exported to Hong Kong. Sharks are afforded some measure of protection through national legislation and management areas, but major challenges remain, including

- violation of existing laws (e.g. poaching of CITES-listed species)
- enforcement problems
- deterioration / destruction of critical habitats
- major gaps in information and data

Priorities for action are to adopt FAO's Precautionary Approach to management, improve the quality of ecological and fisheries data, develop and apply management mechanisms and tools, and investment in human and financial resources. These actions are outlined in the National Plan of Action for the Conservation and



Management of Sharks in the Philippines. However, in 2014 there were calls to amend the plan so that actionable targets will be arrived at from a variety of perspectives to further advance shark conservation and management in the country.

This was followed by a presentation by Philip Chou of Pew on global shark conservation. With some 100 million sharks killed each year, shark declines are worldwide, especially for the global fin trade, whose main market is Hong Kong. Most governments don't act on controlling shark overfishing, partly due to difficulties in producing accurate scientific advice. 21 species of sharks and rays

were listed on CMS Appendices at the CMS COP11 in 2014. Pew works to reduce demand, limit trade and limit supply of sharks, especially through in-country action, including trade controls in Hong Kong, a demand reduction project in China, and supporting a regional shark sanctuary in Micronesia. Research has also shown that sharks are worth more alive than dead.

The main objectives of the CMS Conservation of Sharks MOU are to:

- improve understanding of migratory shark populations
- ensure that fisheries are sustainable
- protection of critical habitats and migration corridors
- public awareness and participation
- enhance national, regional and international cooperation.



Thursday 29th October 2015

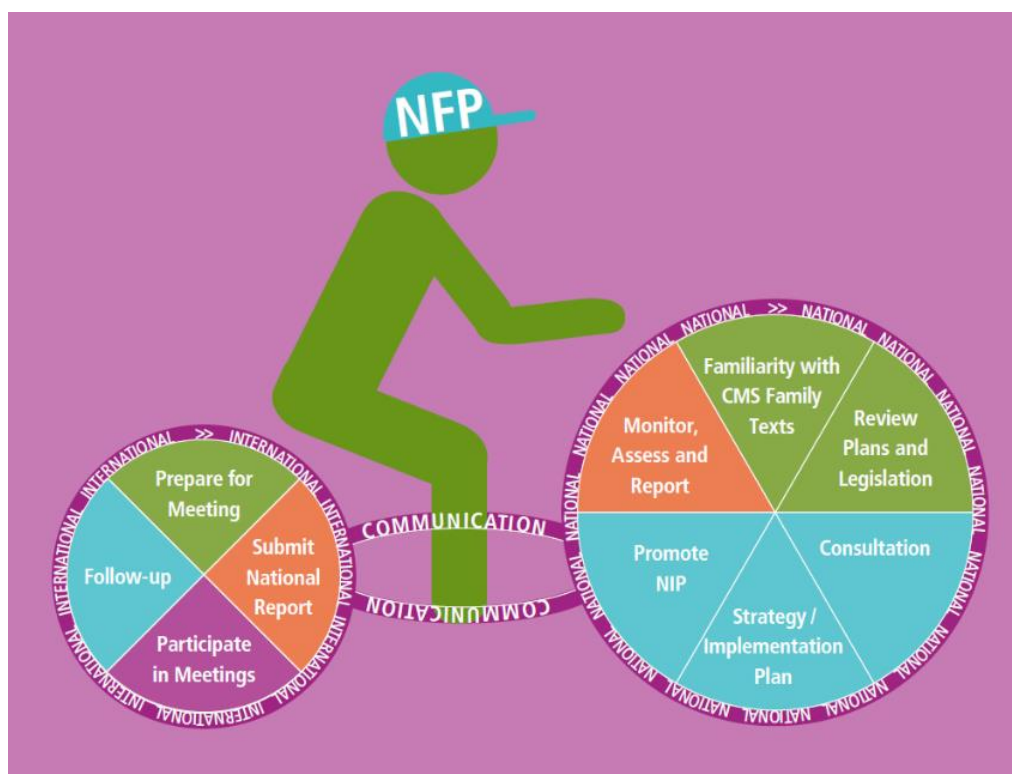
5.4. Implementation of CMS

5.4.1 The role of National Focal Points, the implementation cycle and NBSAPs

Francisco Rilla gave an overview of CMS implementation issues, including the implementation cycle, the integration of migratory species into NBSAPs (National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans) and the role of National Focal Points (NFPs). The main responsibilities of NFPs are to promote synergies for migratory species conservation through:

- communications
- dissemination of information
- representation at meetings
- responding to various requests for information
- collaboration with other stakeholder groups
- monitoring
- promoting and/or facilitating national implementation of the Convention.

The NFP has a central role to play in the implementation cycle of the Convention:



The NBSAP is the main instrument to implement CBD; it's a process through which countries can plan their strategies how to approach threats to biodiversity. This planning process should co-involve other conventions and MEAs, including CMS. CMS thus drafted guidelines on the integration of migratory species in the review and update of NBSAPs. These also relate to the Aichi Targets. Biodiversity indicators are important to measure implementation targets; such indicators are needed for migratory species.

5.4.2 Regional implementation of CMS

As CMS focuses on migratory species, it's essential that countries share information and work together for migratory species conservation. This had been demonstrated by the transboundary programme to conserve marine turtles in Malaysia and the Philippines. Tim Dodman reminded participants of the regional GEF project for dugongs, and asked them to form three groups to develop regional GEF project ideas for migratory birds, marine turtles and sharks. The groups worked to devised their project briefs, then presented them in plenary, with a time limit of two minutes per presentation. This was set in order to highlight the need to be able to present key information concisely and with enthusiasm. The other participants then voted for their preferred project, and the winning group was the marine turtles. They were presented with a 'cheque' and gift by a spoof benefactor.



The turtle project aimed to: build the knowledge base and improve site management; strengthen and enhance legislation, policies and enforcement; boost communication and outreach; and enhance local livelihoods through incentives. The shark project planned to focus on capacity building (including national resource centres) and research to achieve a well-regulated shark trade. The 'Tracking and Monitoring Endangered Waterbirds' project aimed to monitor and protect waterbirds and their habitat through research, training and CEPA. All projects showed good planning together, and would no doubt be useful projects to see through in reality.

5.4.3 Implementation of CMS in the Philippines

Anson Tagtag of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines gave a thorough presentation about the implementation of CMS in his country, which had been a Party since 1994. The Philippines is currently a member of the CMS Standing Committee, and will host the next Conference of Parties (COP). The Philippines has made progress in aligning national policies and conservation planning with CMS objectives. Migratory species conservation is subsumed within the Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, especially in the thematic areas of inland wetland ecosystems, coastal and marine ecosystems, and urban biodiversity. The Philippines further participates in the EAAFP and in regional initiatives relevant to the conservation of migratory species, e.g. ACB, ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) Wildlife Enforcement Network, Coral Triangle Initiative, Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Initiative and the TIHPA.

The Philippines recognises the following benefits to being a CMS Party:

- Guidance to articulate conservation plans and programmes in the country;
- Conservation of migratory species of particular interest to the country (e.g. birds and Whale Shark for nature-based tourism);
- Participation in collaborative research for migratory species;
- CMS-funded projects:
 - Philippines-Malaysia Marine Mammals Research Project Grant (\$20,000)
 - Survey of small cetaceans in the North Eastern Celebes Sea (\$60,000)
 - Survey of small cetaceans in the Southern Sulu Sea (\$120,000);
- Access to CMS grants by NGOs on migratory species related projects;
- Free technical and financial assistance from other member states for the conservation, protection and management of migratory species;
- Travel grants for attending CMS meetings (Standing Committee, COP and scientific council meetings);

Some of the costs or challenges in terms of national implementation are:

- Institutional capacity to fully implement the programme of work of the CMS and its strategic action plans
- National reporting: how comprehensive can it get?
- Effective and sustained representation to CMS / MOU meetings
- Contributions to trust fund of CMS and its MOUs, and other partnerships
- Preparations for participation to COPs
- More active representation in the COP from the region (Oceania / South-East Asia).

5.4.4 Conservation implications of a migratory species

Various conservation, management and advocacy issues were brought to the fore through an interactive game led by Tim Dodman on the Spoon-billed Sandpiper. In this exercise, volunteer participants were invited to be migratory animals, in this case the Spoon-billed Sandpiper, a bird that migrates annually between breeding areas in Russia and non-breeding areas in South-East Asia.



The 'sandpipers' had to leave Russia, then find enough food (beads on the floor) to eat at the Yellow Sea, before proceeding either to Myanmar, Cambodia or the Philippines. There was much action as the sandpipers competed for food, and only two 'birds' made it from Russia to South-East Asia and back (left).



There was a rich discussion following the exercise about the dangers faced by animals at different stages of their migration and the need for conservation measures along the whole migratory route. In this particular case, the Yellow Sea was identified as a clear bottleneck (or pressure point) in the sandpiper's

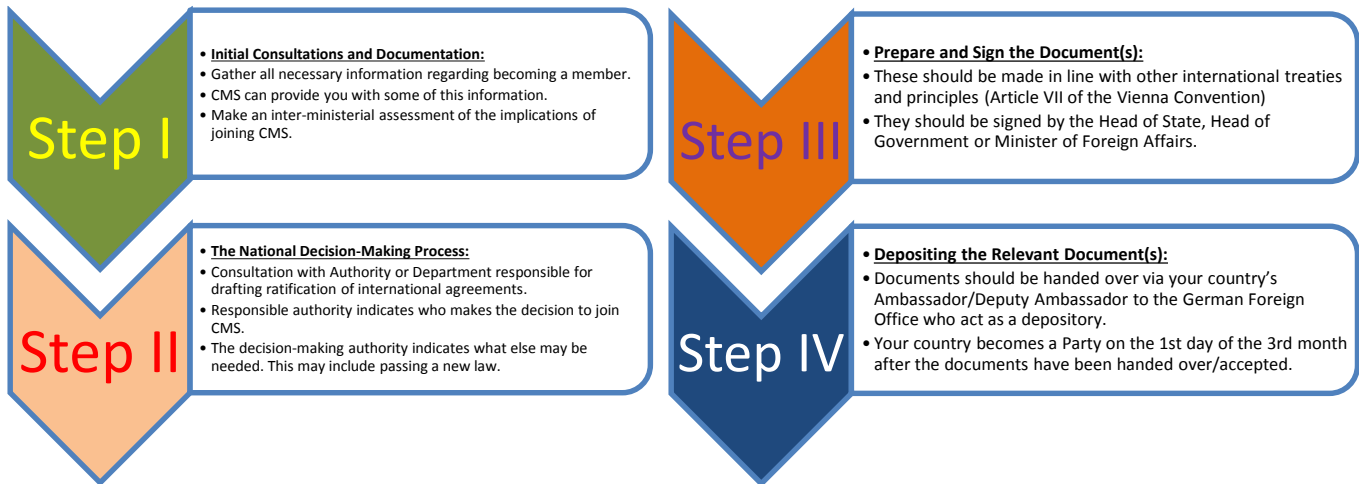
route (as it is also for many migratory other wading birds). If South-East Asian countries wanted to maintain this species and other waders in their countries they may need to put pressure on the countries bordering the Yellow Sea not to further impact the dwindling mudflat and estuarine habitats on which the birds depend.

5.5. Accession of CMS: process, obligations and costs / benefits

5.5.1 The CMS accession process

Accession is when a State undertakes to become a Party to a treaty already negotiated and signed by other States. It has the same legal effect as ratification. CMS membership enters into force for the acceding country on the first day of the third month after the country has deposited its Instrument of Accession to the Convention with the Depositary, which is the Foreign Office of Germany. The process of accession follows four main steps, illustrated below:

- **Prepare and Sign the Document(s):**
- These should be made in line with other international treaties and principles (Article VII of the Vienna Convention)
- They should be signed by the Head of State, Head of Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs.



It is possible for a State to declare a reservation at the time of accession, through which it announces that it does not wish to be bound by one or more specified provisions of the Convention.

In South and South-East Asia, some of the priorities for implementing CMS include the identification of new species to be included in CMS Appendices I and II, existing CMS instruments (Agreements and MOUs), conservation plans and building synergies with other MEAs and regional partners, such as CITES, Ramsar, CBD and the EAAFP.

5.5.2 Obligations to joining CMS

The main obligations of Parties to CMS are to:

- Adapt national legislation (Appendix I species)
- Include migratory species in NBSAPs and NIPs (National Implementation Plans)
- Designate a focal point and scientific counsellor
- Pay annual contributions (based on the United Nations Scale of Assessment)
- Prepare proposals for Appendix I and II
- Boost regional / bilateral agreements
- Submit a National Report every three years

Implementation requires reviewing and enforcing legislation relating to migratory species and implementing relevant CMS Agreements.

5.5.3 Costs and Benefits of joining CMS

The main costs associated with CMS obligations relate to the protection of migratory species, legislation and law execution, and training of staff. These are all costs that most countries should be undertaking anyway in terms of biodiversity conservation. The financial contribution is linked to the UN Scale of Assessment, and is generally low for most countries of South and South-East Asia. There is also staff time input required in relation to CMS, especially for the NFP, who should carry out a range of duties and produce a National Report every three years.

In terms of benefits, initiating the accession process for CMS exhibits national determination toward international collaboration on the conservation of migratory species. CMS Parties:

- demonstrate their commitment to the conservation of migratory species;

- strengthen national legal and technical capacity for the conservation of migratory species for the benefit of future generations;
- foster regional and international co-operation for sharing information and building consensus among migratory species Range States;
- gain improved access to relevant technologies and data, and benefit from a regular exchange of information and expertise;
- participate in regular COPs, where decisions are taken on such important matters as the allocation of financial resources, the listing of species on Appendices I and II and conservation programmes to protect them;
- are eligible to participate in the work of the Convention, such as the CMS Scientific Council, Standing Committee and ad hoc working groups;
- have access to funding for research, conservation and capacity building.

Direct benefits include:

- Access to fora of specialists in the management and conservation of migratory species
- Coordination between the academic sector and ministries to maximize cooperation and resource use
- Low annual contribution
- Simplified National Reporting procedure (*online*)
- Financial support of eligible delegates to the COP and other meetings
- Access to CMS Small Grants Fund for research, conservation and capacity building (US\$ 20,000 - US\$ 40,000)

During a plenary brainstorming session, participants identified the following costs or challenges and benefits to joining CMS.

Costs / Challenges	Benefits
Annual contribution	International partnerships for conservation
Human resources: institutional / technical capacity	Improved capacity for implementing CBD and other MEAs and NBSAPs
Political will	Implementing conservation of migratory species
Ministry of Finance	Regional initiatives (between range states)
Inter-ministerial cooperation / coordination and jurisdiction	Technical support
Choice of entry point at government level	Improved protection of migratory species
Clear justification needed	Improved potential for ecotourism
Implementation	Awareness activities
Illegal activities	Financial support
	Increased potential to control illegal activities
	Protected area management

5.5.4 Accession of the Philippines to CMS

Ms. Donna Celeste Feliciano-Gatmaytan, Director of the UN and international organisations office of the Department of Foreign Affairs, went over the process whereby the

Philippines became a Party to CMS. The Philippines is the only ASEAN country that has become a Party to CMS, joining in 1994, and encourages other countries to also become



Parties. The process of accession involved a consultation among government agencies, resulting after some time in Certificates of Concurrence collated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and transmitted along with an Instrument of Accession to the Office of the President for signature. After this signature, the Department of Foreign Affairs transmitted the signed Instrument to the CMS Secretariat for registration. The treaty also underwent three readings in the Philippine Senate and a public hearing. The Philippines Government contributes to the CMS budget according to a scale adopted by the Conference of Parties.

6. Development of country road maps to accession

After more than two days of presentations, discussions and site visits, it was time for participants to consider options for progressing with accession to CMS for their own countries. Small country groups were formed, with each Non-Party participant supported by a participant from the Philippines or a workshop resource person.





6.1. Costs / challenges and Benefits

Non-Party participants were asked to identify the main costs/challenges and benefits to joining CMS, and identify the next steps. These results together represent the foundation of country road maps to accession. Four countries identified their priority costs and benefits, as illustrated in the table below (where 1 = most relevant).

Country	Cambodia	Myanmar	Indonesia	Malaysia
Costs / Challenges				
Annual contribution				
Human resources: institutional / technical capacity	2			
Political will	1	1		
Ministry of Finance		3		
Inter-ministerial cooperation / coordination and jurisdiction	4	2	2	1
Choice of entry point at government level				
Clear justification needed	5		1	
Implementation	3		3	
Illegal activities				
Benefits				
International partnerships for conservation	3			
Improved capacity for implementing CBD and other MEAs and NBSAPs	2	3		
Implementing conservation of migratory species	5			
Regional initiatives (between range states)				2
Technical support	1	1		
Improved protection of migratory species				1
Improved potential for ecotourism	4			
Awareness activities				
Financial support		4		
Increased potential to control illegal activities				
Protected Area management		2		



6.2. Roadmaps to accession

All countries identified priority steps to accession, as illustrated below:

Country	Next steps / roadmap to accession
Cambodia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report to Ministries after this workshop 2. CMS to send a letter to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & respective ministries 3. Seek support to attend relevant CMS Meetings (MOU/Species meetings)
Indonesia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Ministries of Environment & Forestry and Marine & Fisheries should conduct a deep analysis of the added values of CMS 2. Facilitate discussions among related ministries 3. As a member of CMS, align national policies with CMS obligations
Malaysia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen existing conservation efforts, especially on Dugong, turtles & sharks through the CMS MOUs, and identify areas where other MEAs do not cover migratory species conservation adequately 2. Determine the economic value that migratory species can bring to Malaysia, e.g. through ecotourism 3. The next COP, being in Asia, presents a good opportunity to involve & learn about CMS and gain exposure; Malaysia needs to participate actively in the COP 4. At the flyway level, South-East Asia is the bottleneck, as only Philippines is a member of CMS; this situation should be corrected 5. Establish a long-term platform for migratory species protection 6. Engage the national Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) committee under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) in CMS initiatives
Myanmar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a working group comprising the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAF), Fisheries and NGOs (WCS, FFI, WWF, CI) 2. The DG of MOECAF should become the CMS NFP 3. Establish a national checklist of migratory species 4. Boost support for Protected Area management 5. Develop a strategic plan for migratory species
Nepal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 6-9 months: Build political will: the Department of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) to try to convince the Minister and senior management team of the Ministry of Forest & Soil Conservation (MFSC) of the benefits of accession to CMS

Country	Next steps / roadmap to accession
	<p>At the same time, CMS to write a formal thank-you letter to Honourable Agni Prasad Sapkota (Minister, MFSC) for nominating Fanindra Raj Kharel, DG of NPWC, to participate in this workshop</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> another 6 months: Preparation of concept notes; publicise the benefits to the general public through the media another 6 months: Gain support from the general public; the Minister is articulated 1 year or more: Finalise concept notes; present proposal for cabinet decision; submission to parliament; ratification
Vietnam	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Present a report of the CMS capacity building workshop to DGs & Ministries in Vietnam CMS Secretariat / UNEP to send a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) Prepare good justifications for accession Carry out consultations with relevant stakeholders Finalise documents and send to relevant ministries Submit accession documents to the Prime Minister for consideration

6.3. Regional Steps

Participants decided that we should not lose momentum in the process of accession of South and South-East Asian countries to CMS. It may be justified to hold a follow-up meeting. However, a number of upcoming events were identified where there was potential for CMS engagement and/or accession progress. The events identified are listed below:

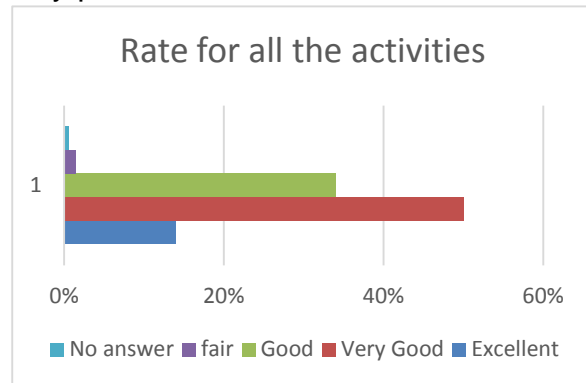
Date	Event / notes	Opportunity / Action
February 2016	ASEAN Biodiversity Conference ACB is the main organiser	CMS meeting or side event
June 2016	ASEAN Working Group for Nature Conservation & Biodiversity (AWGNCB) Share CMS workshop results with government ministries	Report from the CMS workshop to ACB CMS submit a proposal to ACB by November 2015
2016	UNEP-ROAP Senior officials meetings for different ministries	
September 2016	CITES COP17	Possible side event
2016-2017	Philippines government to reach out to Non-Parties in run-up to CMS COP12	Outreach
December 2016	CBD COP13 (Mexico)	Target the high level segment
2017	CMS COP12 (Philippines)	Potential new Parties?

7. Evaluation

The workshop can be considered as a very successful workshop to enhance the influence and existence of CMS in the South-East Asia region. 83% of participants had limited understanding of CMS before the workshop, whilst all participants had good or sufficient knowledge of CMS after the workshop. 67% of participants found the workshop to be very useful, the remaining 33% finding it useful. The length of the workshop (three days) was considered 'just right' by 92% participants. 93% of participants rated the facilitator / trainers as excellent or very good. One less positive

issue identified by participants was the transport to/from the field sites, although the field visits themselves were rated very positively. Holding workshops in major cities with chronic traffic problems always presents such challenges.

Comprehensive and active understanding of the work of CMS was well ensured by presentations, group work, plenary exercises and field visits. The overall introduction in Day 1 and activities in Day 2 all enjoyed very positive feedback, which constituted a solid base for the productive sessions in Day 3. The overall workshop content received a very positive rating, as shown in the diagram (right). Sessions with particularly positive feedback included Migration Challenge (plenary exercise), introduction about accession process and some field visits, for example, visit to Balanga City Government Office.



The training approach enjoyed broad approval from the participants (graph, below).



Additional comments relating to the workshop included the following:

- Great handling of logistics on the ground
- It would be good to include participants from respective agencies / departments in charge of terrestrial & marine fauna (as well freshwater fauna)
- Late evening and early morning should be avoided while designing field trips if possible, to avoid fatigue.
- It would be good to circulate a questionnaire on diet (food allergies / vegetarians / food restrictions) to participants before the workshop.
- Three days is a perfect time, but several more breaks would be ideal.
- Decision-making level participants may not be available for a longer-length workshop.
- Breaks in which participants can chitchat would be good.

Most participants found that their expectations (collected during the initial participant introductions) had been met.



8. Annexes

- Annex 1. Workshop Agenda**
- Annex 2. List of participants**



Annex 1. Workshop AGENDA

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening		
Monday 26 th October	Arrival of participants. Workshop planning meetings (trainers, facilitators, logistics, CMS Secretariat).				
Tuesday 27 th October	Opening session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration Welcome & official opening Participant introductions & expectations Agenda overview & CMS family manual Why countries are not (yet) CMS parties (PL Q&A / D) 	CMS background & rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is migration? (PL IL) Draw a flyway / migratory route (GW) Rationale for protecting migratory species (PL IL) 	CMS background & rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The roles of CMS and UNEP at global & regional level (PL IL) CMS Instruments and other initiatives in the region (PL L & MoU / other initiative market) Benefits to accede CMS & its instruments (PL IL, Q&A / D) 	Migratory species conservation in South-East Asia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transboundary conservation of sea turtles (PL IL) Review of migratory species issues in the region (PL D) 	Travel from the Brentwood Suites Hotel, Quezon City to the Plaza Hotel, Balanga City
Wednesday 28 th October	Field visit to Balanga Wetland & Nature Park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guided visit to the park, an important site for migratory birds. 	At Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar: Roles & responsibilities of NFPs & administrative issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migratory bird conservation (PL L) Migration challenge (PL EX) Appointment of NFPs, their roles & responsibilities (PL D & Philippines CS) Practicalities / meetings (Q&A D) 	At Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tour of Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar 	Travel from Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar to the Brentwood Suites Hotel, Quezon City	Shark Side Event & Cocktail: hosted by the PEW Charitable Trust & CCEF: Shark / marine wildlife management
Thursday 29 th October	Implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation cycle, and integration of migratory species into NBSAPs (IL) What does implementation involve? Case study from Philippines (IL) Aspects of implementation; roles of government & NGOs (GW) 	CMS Accession Process & Exercise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The accession process (PL L) Obligations: annual contribution & reporting (PL L) Accession cost/benefit studies: taking steps towards joining CMS (PL L & EX) 	Accession Exercise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accession Challenge exercise, followed by feedback and discussion (GW & PL EX) Road maps to accession (PL D) 	Workshop conclusions, evaluation & close	Dinner hosted by BMB (Philippines government)

Approx. times: 27th & 29th: Morning sessions 08:30-12:30; afternoon sessions 13:45-17:00. Lunch 12:30-13:45. Coffee & tea breaks provided.

28th: Field trip: 05:30–09:00; Balanga office 09:00-10:00; at Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar 10:30-15:30, morning snack and lunch provided. Evening cocktail at 19:00.

Abbreviations: PL: Plenary; IL: Interactive Lecture; GW: Group Work; EX: Exercise; D: Discussion; CS: Case Study; RP: Role Play; B: Brainstorming

Colours: These represent chapters and their respective colours in the CMS Family Manual

Annex 2. Workshop Participants

First Regional Capacity Building Workshop for CMS Non-Parties in South & South-East Asia

27-29 October in Quezon and Balanga City, Philippines

Participant List

NON-PARTIES

CAMBODIA

Ms. Bopreang Ken
Deputy Director of Department of Biodiversity
Ministry of Environment
#48, Preah Sihanouk
Tonle Bassac
Chamkarmorn
Phnom Penh
Cambodia

E-mail: preangk@gmail.com
Tel.: (+855) 96 3535 646
(+855) 17 535 646

Mr. Dany Chheang
Deputy Director
Department of Wildlife and Biodiversity
Forestry Administration
#40, Norodom Blvd
Phnom Penh
Cambodia
E-mail: wpo@online.com.kh
Tel: (+855) 12 867477

INDONESIA

Mr. Lesthio Wibowo
Directorate of Development, Economic, and
Environmental Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of
Indonesia
Jl. Taman Pejambon No. 6
Jakarta Pusat, 10110

E-mail: lesthio.wibowo@kemlu.go.id
Tel: (+62)-21-384 8626 ext. 5723

MALAYSIA

Ms. Rahmah Ilias
Senior Assistant Director
Department of Wildlife and National Parks
KM 10 Jln. Cheras,
56100 Cheras,
Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia

E-mail: rahmah@wildlife.gov.my
Tel.: (+60) 390 866 930
(+60) 122 177 884



MYANMAR

Mr. Tin Mya Soe
Park Warden
Panlaung-Pyadalin Cave Wildlife Sanctuary
Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division
Forest Department
Ministry of Environmental Conservation and
Forestry
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Myanmar

E-mail: nwcdmof@gmail.com

Tel.: (+95) 67- 405002

NEPAL

Mr. Fanindra Raj Kharel
Officiating Director General (Joint Secretary)
Department of National Parks and Wildlife
Conservation
G.P.O. Box: 860
Kathmandu
Nepal

E-mail: fkharel@gmail.com

Tel.: (+977) 1422 7926, (+977) 1446 6981
(+98) 0203 9235, (+98) 4300 2277

VIETNAM

Ms. Nguyen Thi Van Anh
Species Conservation Officer/ Contact Point
Biodiversity Conservation Agency
Vietnam Environment Administration
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment
B213, No. 10, Ton That Thuyet Street
Hanoi
Vietnam

E-mail: nguyenvananh.bca@gmail.com

Tel.: (+84) 4 3 795 6868, ext. 3116
(+84) 966 466 557

PARTIES

PHILIPPINES

Ms. Theresa Mundita S. Lim
Director
Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB)
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources (DENR)
Ninoy Aquino Parks & Wildlife Nature
Center
Quezon Avenue
Diliman
Quezon City 1100

E-mail: director@pawb.gov.ph

pawbdir@yahoo.com

Tel.: (+63) 2924 6031-35

DFA

Ms. Donna Celeste Feliciano Gatmaytan
Director
Office of United Nations and International
Organization
Department of Foreign Affairs
2330 Roxas Boulevard
Pasay City

E-mail: unio.div2@gmail.com

Tel.: (+63) 834 3892

Ms. Jaybee B. Arguillas
Desk Officer
Office of United Nations and International
Organization
Department of Foreign Affairs
2330 Roxas Boulevard
Pasay City

E-mail: unio.div2@gmail.com

Tel.: (+63) 834 4911

Mr. Raymond Cuevas
Desk Officer, ICF
Department of Foreign Affairs
2330 Roxas Boulevard
Pasay City

E-mail: unio.icf@gmail.com

Tel.: (+63) 834 3464

BMB

Ms. Josefina de Leon
OIC-Chief, Wildlife Resources Division
Biodiversity Management Bureau
North Avenue
Diliman
Quezon City

E-mail: Deleon.josefina@gmail.com

Ms. Nermalie M. Lita
OIC, Wildlife Management Section
Biodiversity Management Bureau
North Avenue
Diliman
Quezon City

E-mail: nerma_lita@yahoo.com

Tel.: (+63) 921 537 5071

Mr. Anson M. Tagtag
Supervising Ecosystems Management
Specialist
Wildlife Resources Division
Biodiversity Management Bureau
North Avenue
Diliman
Quezon City

E-mail: ansong_tagtag@yahoo.com

Tel.: (+63) 2925 8946

Ms. Marlynn M. Mendoza
Chief
Ecosystem Management Specialist
Biodiversity Management Bureau
North Avenue
Diliman
Quezon City

E-mail: mmmendozapawb@yahoo.com

Ms. Zoisane Geam G. Lumbres
Ecosystem Management Specialist - II
Biodiversity Management Bureau
North Avenue
Diliman
Quezon City

E-mail: zoisanegl@yahoo.com

Mr. James Santiago
Ecosystem Management Specialist - II
Biodiversity Management Bureau
North Avenue
Diliman
Quezon City

E-mail: owasantiago@gmail.com

UNEP

Ms. Makiko Yashiro
Programme Officer
UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
(UNEP-ROAP)
UN Building, 2nd Floor
Rajdamnern Avenue
Bangkok 10200
Thailand

E-mail: makiko.yashiro@unep.org
Tel: (+66) 2 280 3829

UNEP/CMS

Mr. Bert Lenten
Deputy Executive Secretary
UNEP/CMS Secretariat
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn
Germany

E-mail: bert.lenten@cms.int
Tel: (+49) 228 815 2401
Fax: (+49) 228 815 2449

Mr. Francisco Rilla
Capacity Building Officer
UNEP/CMS Secretariat
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn
Germany

E-mail: francisco.rilla@cms.int
Tel: (+49) 228 815 2401
Fax: (+49) 228 815 2449

Ms. Hanah Al-Samaraie
Capacity Building Assistant
UNEP/CMS
UNEP/CMS Secretariat
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn
Germany

E-mail: hanah.alsamaraie@cms.int
Tel.: (+49) 228 815 2429

Facilitator

Mr. Timothy Dodman
Hundland
Papa Westray
Orkney KW17 2BU
United Kingdom

E-mail: tim@timdodman.co.uk
Tel.: (+44)1857 644 224
(+44)77 9600 7225

IGOs

ASEAN CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY (ACB)

Ms. Sheila Vergara
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Block 18 Lot 9 New Capitol Estates 1,
Commonwealth Avenue
Philippines

E-mail: sgvergara@aseanbiodiversity.org
Tel.: (+63) 49 536 2865

Ms. Rhia Galsim
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Block 18 Lot 9 New Capitol Estates 1,
Commonwealth Avenue
Philippines

E-mail: rcgalsim@aseanbiodiversity.org
Tel.: (+63) 49 536 2865

Ms. Lilibeth Cabebe
CHM and KM Officer
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Block 18 Lot 9 New Capitol Estates 1,
Commonwealth Avenue
Philippines

E-mail: Ircabebe@aseanbiodiversity.org
Tel.: (+63) 9175343191
(+63) 49 536 2865

Ms. Pauline Carmel Joy Eje (field trip only)
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Block 18 Lot 9 New Capitol Estates 1,
Commonwealth Avenue
Philippines

E-mail: pcjeje@aseanbiodiversity.org
Tel.: (+63) 49 536 2865

NGOs

COASTAL CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

Ms. Moonyeen Nida R. Alava
Executive Director
CCEF
Rm 302
3/F PDI Condominium
Kasambagan
Cebu City
Philippines

E-mail: mnralava@gmail.com;
executive_director@coast.ph.
Mobile: (+63) 915-697-9073

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL-PHILIPPINE

S

Ms. Evangeline Barretto Miclat
Manager
GIZ Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion
(SSME) Project
Conservation International-Philippines
Units 401-A&D, 4th Floor Culmat Bldg.
E. Rodriguez Aveue
Quezon City
Philippines

E-mail: emiclat@conservation.org
Tel: (+63) 2 5713761 5713767
Mobile: (+63) 9209524234

HARIBON FOUNDATION

Ms. Maria Belinda de la Paz
Chief Operating Officer
Haribon Foundation
2/F Santos & Sons Bldg.
973 Aurora Blvd.
Cubao
Quezon City
1102 Philippines
E-mail: coo@haribon.org.ph.
Tel.: (+63) 922 815 1937
(+63) 911 6088

Ms. Arlie Endonila
Manager
Constituency Development Department
Haribon Foundation
2F Santos and Sons Building
973 Aurora Boulevard, Cubao
Quezon City 1102
Philippines

E-mail: constituency@haribon.org.ph
Tel.: (+63) 2 9116088
(+63) 922 8151939

THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Mr. Philip Chou
Officer
Global Shark Conservation Campaign
Pew Charitable Trusts
901 E ST NW, 10th Floor
Washington, DC 20004"
United States

E-mail: pchou@pewtrusts.org
Tel.: +1 (202) 552 2013
+1 (202) 525 9996

Ms. Julia Goss
Associate
Pew Charitable Trusts
901 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20004
United States

E-mail: jgoss@pewtrusts.org
Tel.: (+1 314) 623 4131

