

## First Meeting of the Americas Flyways Task Force

(26 – 27 July 2018, Florianopolis, Brazil)

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UNEP/CMS/AFTF1/Doc.3

### PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND MEETING SCHEDULE

*(Prepared by the Secretariat, as of 10 July 2018)*

Thursday 26 July 2018			
Time	Agenda item	Document	Comments
08:00-09:00	Registration of participants		
09:00-09:30	<p>Opening of the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and introduction of participants (representative of the Ministry of Environment of Brazil, CMS Secretariat)</li> <li>• Appointment of chair, vicechair and rapporteur of the meeting (this point will be led by the CMS Secretariat)</li> <li>• Adoption of the annotated agenda and meeting Schedule (the chair takes over and presides the meeting from now on)</li> </ul>	<p>Doc.1 Doc.3 Inf.3</p>	<p>The representative of Brazil opens the meeting and gives some welcoming remarks. The CMS Secretariat makes also a short intervention. Participants introduce themselves through a tour de table. Chair, vicechair and rapporteur are appointed. The annotated agenda and meeting schedule are adopted</p>
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Report from the Secretariat about CMS COP12 (Manila, 2017) regarding the Americas Flyways Framework and associated Action Plan and Task Force. (Led by the Secretariat and the Scientific Councilor of Ecuador)</p>	<p>Doc.4 Doc.4.1 Doc.4.2</p>	<p>The Secretariat reports on these items via a power point presentation and highlights progress made at COP12. The Scientific Councilor of Ecuador will explain the process to elaborate the Action Plan</p>
10:00-10:30	Coffee break		
10:30-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process to review the Action Plan for the Americas Flyways and synergies with the Vision for bird conservation for the next century endorsed by the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI)</li> <li>• Identification of priorities in the short term</li> <li>• How to measure progress</li> </ul>	<p>Doc.4.2</p>	<p>The process to review the Action Plan will be discussed. The goal is to explore how the Vision endorsed by NABCI can work with the Americas Flyways Framework for a Western Hemisphere approach to bird conservation. This would include exploring how the implementation plan for the Americas Flyways Framework aligns with the Vision and identify what actions can be taken to advance both initiatives before COP13 in India, 2020</p>

Time	Agenda item	Document	Comments
11:30 – 12:00	<p>Reports from Task Force members and international initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI, Hemispheric Vision)</li> <li>• Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI)</li> <li>• Western Hemisphere Shorebird Research Network (WHSRN)</li> <li>• Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative (AFSI)</li> <li>• Pacific Americas Shorebirds Conservation Strategy (PASCS)</li> <li>• Partners in Flight Landbirds Conservation Plan</li> </ul>	<p>Doc.5.1 Doc.5.2.1 Doc.5.2.2 Doc.5.3 Doc.5.4 Doc.5.5</p>	<p>Task Force members will have the opportunity to present the situation in their respective countries, either orally or with a power point. International organizations will introduce their plans, goals, key species and sites, status of implementation, and how they align with CMS goals. Strategic/priority actions to be taken now in preparation for COP13 in 2020 will be discussed</p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Before lunch a group photo of participants will be taken Lunch</p>		
13:00-14:00	<p>Reports from Task Force members and international initiatives (continuation)</p>		
14:00 – 15:00	<p>Review of the composition of the Task Force and potential gaps</p>	<p>Inf.2</p>	<p>The list of members of the Task Force is updated and new candidates are identified</p>
15:00-15:30	<p>Coffee break</p>		
15:30 – 17:00	<p>Institutional and procedural aspects, including mechanisms for the implementation of the Americas Flyways Framework and Action Plan. Setting up of the Partnership for the Americas Flyways</p>		<p>The Secretariat will present several options under the CMS framework to promote coordination and cooperation among the different countries in the Region. Next steps to establish the Partnership will be discussed</p>

Friday 27 July 2018			
Time	Agenda item	Document	Comments
09:00 – 09:30	Coordination of the Task Force		The Secretariat will introduce the need to have a Coordinator to facilitate the work of the Task Force and the Partnership, and promote the implementation of the Framework and the Action Plan. In the absence of a Coordinator, countries can take the lead this topic on a rotational basis
09:30-10:30	Communication and public awareness: World Migratory Bird Day	Doc.9	The Secretariat will introduce this topic and the representative of Environment for the Americas (EFTA) will deliver a presentation on the new cooperation agreement signed among AEWA, CMS and EFTA for the implementation of the campaign
10:30-11:00	Coffee break		
11:00-12:00	<p>Conservation approaches for different taxonomic groups of birds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shorebirds Discuss how the Americas Flyways Task Force can move shorebird conservation forward, especially in the short term. (Led by representatives of the USA)</li> <li>• Landbirds Explore the possibility of applying a place based conservation approach similar to the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) for landbirds. (Led by the representative of Canada)</li> <li>• Seabirds Gather information on the current status of seabird bycatch strategies in the Americas, focussing on what programs, initiatives, and strategies are underway in countries throughout the Region and potential synergies. This may help determine how countries can work together to address seabird bycatch. (Led by the representative of Canada)</li> </ul>		<p>Given the existence of the Atlantic and Pacific shorebird conservation plans and several national shorebird conservation plans, shorebird conservation seems ripe for a boost from the Americas Flyways Task Force.</p> <p>In the case of landbirds, ongoing research into migration and overwintering sites for neotropical landbirds suggests that similar to shorebirds, landbirds congregate in hotspots or pass through bottlenecks thus a WHSRN approach could be valuable to conserve these important areas that are currently being identified</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grassland birds To be dealt with at Grassland Birds MOU meeting on 24-25 July</li> <li>• Other groups</li> </ul>		<p>for landbirds. Conservation of these sites, including wintering sites, is essential to full life-cycle conservation of landbirds. The success of WHSRN could be used as a model for landbird place-based conservation.</p> <p>For seabirds, Canada has an interdepartmental committee for seabird bycatch which helps the agencies work collaboratively on data collection and analysis, policy initiatives and programs related to Canada's National Plan of Action for reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries. The Task Force meeting is an opportunity to present information on projects underway in Canada and to determine if collaboration with other countries would be beneficial</p>
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-14:00	<p>Data management and accessibility</p> <p>Discuss options for data management and accessibility across the Americas. The use of a common data management system would facilitate information sharing among agencies and with the public. This discussion would need to explore and take into consideration all the data needs that exist for programs and countries. (Led by the representative of Canada)</p>		<p>An example of available data is the BirdCast site, which shows forecasts of bird migrations. At the moment, BirdCast does not extend past the United States, but if it did it could better inform the public of high risk periods for birds, including bird collisions with buildings. The Avian Knowledge Network may also be a tool to consider for housing and sharing avian data collected by various agencies in the western hemisphere and/or related to the work of the Task Force</p>

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14:00-14:30	Resource mobilization and funding		Under this agenda item options for funding priority actions agreed during the meeting will be discussed
14:30-15:00	Coffee break		
15:00-15:30	Date and venue of next meeting		Governments and organizations present at the meeting will be invited to express their interest in hosting the next meeting of the Task Force and to propose dates
15:30 – 16:00	Any other business		
16:00 – 16:30	Closure of the meeting		After the customary expression of thanks to the host country and the organizers and sponsors, the Chair will close the meeting. The Secretariat will also make a brief closing intervention