

ADDENDUM 1
In-Session Version

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC4)

PREVENTING POISONING OF MIGRATORY BIRDS
UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.26.1.3

ScC-SC4 Agenda Item 10.1.3

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP13

Recommended for adoption.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

- CMS is considered to be at the cutting edge of efforts to address this widespread and critical threat to many species of migratory birds. Councillors expressed concerns relating to the lack of a Coordinator for the Preventing Poisoning Working Group (PPWG) and requested these views communicated strongly to the Standing Committee. Councillors supported continuation of the PPWG.
- BirdLife International contributed the following update from the Saving Asia's Vultures from Extinction (SAVE) consortium to support the proposed insertion of the pre-ambular paragraph between existing paragraphs 4 and 5 on page 9 of the Resolution.
- The recent SAVE annual meeting included a strong suite of presentations and discussions regarding NSAIDs, and the anticipated final safety-testing phase for Tolfenamic Acid due imminently, which is hoped to offer a second safe alternative NSAID in addition to meloxicam. However, the urgent need for the safety-testing work to advance could not have emerged more clearly, and the most immediate need is to ban aceclofenac (the diclofenac pro-drug) along with ketoprofen, flunixin (noting increasing cases of dead vultures in Europe), nimesulide (noting increasing cases of dead vultures in India), and carprofen. Finding support to get safety-testing completed more swiftly than the existing slow process with IVRI in India is a priority. Using expertise (including from South Africa) in Bangladesh and/or Spain may offer new avenues to pursue. Based on current progress, IVRI will take at least 2-3 more years to test nimesulide, paracetamol, analgin, without reaching beyond any sooner.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

Annex 1, PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION 11.15 (REV.COP12)

Page 8, para 2, preambular

- Welcoming the process within the European Union to introduce a coherent Union-wide ban on the use of lead shot in wetlands under the REACH regulation (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals; (EG Nr. 1907/2006)) to address the estimated 1 million waterbirds that succumb annually to lead poisoning within Europe,

Operative part

Page 9, para [5]

- insert new paragraph between existing paras 4 and 5, the new paragraph reading as following:

Urges CMS Parties and invites Parties, Signatories and non-Parties of CMS Family instruments, to: a) review existing licensing of veterinary NSAIDs; b) withdraw licensing of vulture-toxic NSAIDs (including diclofenac) for veterinary use where Parties, Signatories and non-Parties are Range States of vultures and scavenging Aquila eagles, or implement adequate risk assessment with particular reference to known threats to vultures and Aquila eagles; c) ensure safety testing of new veterinary NSAIDs on these groups of birds; and, d) contribute to identification and promotion of safe alternative drugs.