

## 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC4)

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### REVIEW OF THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF MIGRATORY SPECIES

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

#### Summary:

The 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties endorsed the preparation of a report on the conservation status of migratory species as an activity to pursue within the CMS Programme of Work for 2018-2020.

This document includes a preliminary compilation and analysis of information concerning the conservation status, population trends and threats concerning migratory species covered by CMS Appendices, based on data obtained from the IUCN Red Data List database.

The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council is requested to provide comments and advise the Secretariat on the further development of the compilation and analyses, and on possible conclusions that could be drawn from the analysis, which could be reflected in a revised document to be presented to COP13.

This revised version incorporates two additional annexes (Annex 3 and Annex 4) that include the analysis of a few indicators and corrects a few minor mistakes in Annex 1 and Annex 2.

## REVIEW OF THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF MIGRATORY SPECIES

### Background

1. The 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP11) in 2014 identified the preparation of a report on the conservation status of species listed on CMS Appendices as an activity to pursue within the CMS Programme of Work for 2015-2017 ([Resolution 11.1](#), Annex V). The production of the report was expected to be realized entirely through voluntary contributions.
2. Despite the Secretariat's efforts, financial resources sufficient to produce the report in the course of that triennium could not be secured. Efforts were devoted to the definition of the scope of the report, and identification of potential partners to contribute to the implementation of this activity.
3. Thanks to a voluntary contribution from the Government of Switzerland, an expert workshop was convened by the CMS Secretariat in Cambridge, UK on 21 November 2016, working in collaboration with the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), which acted as local organizer and facilitator. In addition to the Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC, participants included the chair of the CMS Scientific Council, the scientific councillor for the UK, experts from BirdLife International, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Wetlands International, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Zoological Society of London (ZSL).
4. The main outcome of the workshop consisted of a scoping paper regarding the establishment of a flagship report for CMS on the "State of the World's Migratory Species". The scoping paper, which provides for costed alternative options for the report, was endorsed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council and was made available to COP12 as document [UNEP/CMS/COP12/Inf.29](#).
5. The 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP12, Manila, 2017) reaffirmed the preparation of a report on the conservation status of migratory species as an activity to pursue within the CMS Programme of Work for 2018-2020 ([Resolution 12.2 Financial and Administrative Matters](#), Annex 5). The production of the report was again expected to be realized entirely through voluntary contributions.

### Activities

6. Since COP12, the Secretariat has been actively fundraising for the production of the report. Unfortunately, fundraising efforts have not produced sufficient resources to contract out the production of the report as was intended when including the activity in the Programme of Work.
7. While fundraising efforts are being continued, the Secretariat decided to undertake a compilation of information on the conservation status of migratory species covered by CMS Appendices, using own internal capacity, with a view to submitting at least a preliminary review to COP13.
8. The Secretariat is providing this document, with the preliminary compilation and analysis it could undertake so far, to the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council with a view to receiving comments and advice on the possible further development of the compilation and analysis, possible conclusions to be drawn, and any additional guidance, which the Secretariat could use to update the document and submit it as a preliminary report to COP13.

9. Annex 1 to this document summarizes information concerning the Red List status, population trend and threat analysis, as available from the IUCN Red List database, for all taxa currently listed at the species and subspecies levels in CMS Appendices, as well as species considered covered by higher taxa listing in Appendix II (see annexes for details).
10. Annex 2 includes the results of preliminary analyses conducted on the information compiled in Annex 1.
11. In addition to the compilation and analyses referred to above, this version of the document incorporates two additional annexes that include the analyses of a few indicators aimed at informing an interim assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, which are expected to be relevant to the report on the conservation status of migratory species as well. These indicators include: (i) Trends in protected area coverage of KBAs identified for migratory species; (ii) Red List Index of CMS-listed and migratory species (Annex 3); and (iii) Living Planet Index for species listed on CMS Appendices (Annex 4)..

### Recommended Actions

12. The Scientific Council is recommended to:
  - a) review the compilation and analyses of information on the conservation status of migratory species included in the annexes to this document;
  - b) provide comments and advice to the Secretariat on the possible further development of the compilation and analyses referred to above;
  - c) review the analyses of priority indicators referred to above;
  - d) provide advice to the Secretariat on how the analyses and any conclusions that could be drawn from them could be compiled in a preliminary report on the conservation status of migratory species to be submitted to COP13.