ADDENDUM 1
In-Session Version

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC4)

ACTION PLAN FOR MIGRATORY LANDBIRDS
IN THE AFRICAN-EURASIAN REGION (AEMLAP)
UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.26.1.2

ScC-SC4 Agenda Item 10.1.2

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP13

-   Recommended for adoption.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

General comments on the issue
-   More resources for implementation of AEMLAP need to be channeled and the activities need to be made more visible;
-   The lack of funding for this initiative is to be emphasized, as well as it was the case for other initiatives such as the coordination of the implementation of the Flyways Programme of Work;
-   The proposed Decision regarding the funding needs should express those needs in a stronger way.

Comments on the Background
-   Background section page 4, para 6.
    For clarification, a whole symposium on landbirds was held at the International Ornithological Congress in Vancouver, Canada, in August 2018 on the Conservation on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds, including several presentations, and a round-table discussion. This was also supported by Simba Chan, the compiler of the Yellow-breasted Bunting Action Plan, in presenting activities on the Action Plan for this species.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

    Page 12, Draft Decision 13.BB (12.23) b),
-   Add text as following on the described activities
    i) identify migratory pathways and strategies (including multi-species analysis) using tracking technologies to better understand movement patterns, geographic areas of particular importance to multiple landbird species and migratory connectivity so enabling field research, monitoring and conservation action to be targeted more effectively;

    iv) use satellite image earth observation data and where possible in conjunction with on the ground habitat and bird monitoring (including through synergies with and expansion of common bird monitoring schemes) to improve understanding where land cover is changing and how this impacts African-Eurasian migrant birds, and research the drivers of land use / land cover change;

    Comments on Document UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.26.1.2/Annex 3; AEMLAP Annex 3: Species Lists:

Page 34, Introductory text, Point 1:
- Under the BirdLife definition of 'full migrant' should read 'a substantial proportion of the global or regional population makes regular or seasonal cyclical movements beyond the breeding range, with predictable timing and destinations.' [Migratory is defined as those species recorded within the IUCN Species Information Service (SIS) and BirdLife World Bird Database (WBDB) as 'Full Migrant', i.e. species which have a substantial (>50%) proportion of the global or regional population which migrates makes regular or seasonal cyclical movements beyond the breeding range, with predictable timing and destinations]
- Also under point 1, delete the following text: 'with the addition of Great Bustard *Otis tarda* which is listed on CMS Appendix I and II and is probably erroneously recorded as an altitudinal migrant within SIS and the WBDB'. This comes from the original document and in fact the Great Bustard has been listed as a full migrant in both SIS and the WBDB for many years

- For clarity we would also suggest that the method of updating the list is explained fully on this page with reference to the date stamped version of the BirdLife checklist used for comparison and a fuller explanation of how an entity previously on the list which has since been split or lumped was dealt with.
- On this topic some of the entities originally included in the AEMLAP species list appear to be missing in the updated annex. As with the disaggregation work, the aim should be to retain all entities covered by the previous list if still deemed to qualify even if some of those entities have since been split or lumped; Birdlife and the ScC will collaboratein addressing the necessary changes in the species list
- We would also suggest that within each category the species in Annex 3 are re-ordered to reflect their taxonomic order'