



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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CMS CONTRIBUTION TO THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document provides an update on efforts to implement Decision 12.105 e) with regard to contributing to the preparations for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

The document proposes the adoption draft Decisions and the deletion of Decision 12.105 e).

CMS CONTRIBUTION TO THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Background

1. The Conference of the Parties at its 12th meeting (COP12, Manila, 2017) adopted Decision 12.105 on *Sustainable Development and Migratory Species*, which has a number of provisions including one paragraph related to the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework:

12.105 Directed to the Secretariat

- e) *Engage in the preparations for the post-2020 follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and ensure migratory species concerns are properly reflected during the Biodiversity Summit in 2020.*

Establishment of the Working Group on the CMS Family Contributions to the Post-2020 Framework

2. A Working Group (WG) on the CMS Family contributions to the Post-2020 Framework was informally set up by the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (29 May-1 June 2018). A notification ([2018/006](#)) was issued in July 2018 to invite Standing Committee members and other Parties to indicate their interest in taking part in this WG in view of its first meeting, which was planned for October 2018. The 48th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee, which met on 23-24 October 2018 in Bonn, endorsed the establishment of the WG, which is now composed of members of both subsidiary bodies as well as of NGOs and the Secretariats of the CMS Family instruments.
3. The first meeting of the WG was held on 25 October 2018. The WG determined that the conservation needs of migratory species can be best represented in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework through the concept of *connectivity*.
4. The WG drew up a roadmap of activities culminating in the CMS COP13. The roadmap, which was circulated to all CMS Parties in November 2018, also included a series of events planned in the margins of decision-making bodies of other Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

Activities

5. CMS Parties, the CMS Secretariat, and CMS stakeholders engaged in various scientific and policy meetings with respect to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The Secretariat also organized several informal consultations, undertook research and prepared policy documents and outreach materials, and strengthened collaboration with partners. Below is a summary of all activities already undertaken and planned so far.

Meetings and events

Side events at MEA COPs

6. On 28 October 2018, in the margins of COP13 of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, an event entitled "*Connectivity Conservation, Towards 2020 and Beyond*", was jointly convened with the Ramsar Secretariat and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Government of the Philippines, which currently holds the role of CMS COP Presidency.

7. Two other similar events were held in the margins of COP14 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 17 - 29 November 2018) and the Seventh Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP7) to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) (4-8 December 2018).

First informal meeting on connectivity

8. An informal meeting was convened on 17 May 2019 in Bonn, together with the Beyond the Aichi Target Task Force of the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The meeting brought together key actors to discuss how best to ensure that various aspects of connectivity are reflected in the post-2020 framework. Further details are provided in document UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.26.4.4.

Other meetings

9. The Secretariat attended a series of meetings in June 2019, which provided the opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of connectivity and encourage its integration of in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. These meetings are:
 - the ALTER-Net/EKLIPSE Conference (17-19 June, Ghent, Belgium) on the EU Biodiversity Strategy beyond 2020;
 - the Consultative Workshop on Sustainable Wildlife Management beyond 2020 (25-28 June 2019, Cambridge). The proceedings of the workshop are available at: www.cbd.int/doc/c/2d1f/ab01/681ae86a81ab601e585ecfe0/wg2020-01-inf-03-en.pdf;
 - the Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity (2-5 July 2019). A round-table discussion focused on the theme of connectivity. The report of the Conference is available at: trondheimconference.org/assets/Files/TC9%20Conference%20Report/Co-chairs-report-31-July-2019-revised.pdf.
10. The Secretariat also attended the Fourteenth Meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) was held on 26-27 September 2019, in Cambridge, UK, hosted by the International Whaling Commission. The meeting focused on expectations and perspectives of the eight biodiversity-related conventions of the post-2020 framework and on possible key elements for its development and implementation.

Engagement in the Formal Process of the Post-2020 Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG)

11. The formal process to develop the post-2020 global biodiversity framework set out a comprehensive consultation process, including various requests for written submissions and provisions for global, regional and thematic consultation meetings. The Secretariat provided inputs to all consultations and participated in all major events.

Formal submissions

12. On 15 December 2018, following the invitation of the CBD Secretariat to submit inputs on the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as set out in CBD Notification 2018/063, the CMS Secretariat transmitted the preliminary views of the WG which are available on the CBD website at: www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/Post2020/postsbi/cms.pdf.

13. OEWG1 invited Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and stakeholders, to submit proposals on the structure of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by 15 September 2019 with a view to preparing a zero-draft text, six weeks before OEWG2 i.e. 24 November 2019. In response to CBD Notification 2019/075 the CMS Secretariat, on behalf of CMS Family and the Working Group provided a submission which is available on the CBD website at <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020/submissions/2019-075>. The submission outlines some initial suggestions for how the concept of connectivity might be reflected in the new framework:
- **As part of an “apex” goal.** Connectivity provides a science-based approach for establishing ecological networks, beyond a numerical target for area-based conservation measures. Ecological networks include protected areas, other effective area-based conservation areas, and areas outside of either category that are nonetheless important for ecological functions. Connectivity as part of an apex goal may be particularly relevant for countries that have few opportunities to significantly increase the total geographical coverage of protected areas.
 - **As a stand-alone target on connectivity or including connectivity in relevant goals and targets.** Because of the importance of connectivity to the three objectives of CBD, to many Aichi Biodiversity Targets and for the mandates of other MEAs, a stand-alone target on connectivity might be most appropriate and effective. Connectivity could alternatively be included as an element of relevant goals, targets, and indicators.
 - **As a commitment to international cooperation at the transboundary, regional and/or global levels.** Achieving the objectives of CBD and other biodiversity-related conventions as well as other MEAs often requires international cooperation for implementation. For example, international cooperation is essential for countries to address shared populations of migratory species and their habitats. However, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 does not include any goal or target for international cooperation, and thus National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) may not reflect commitments for international cooperation. The new framework would benefit from inclusion of a commitment to international cooperation to ensure effective implementation.
 - **Inclusion in NBSAPs of commitments for all biodiversity MEAs to which countries are a Party.** Parties of CBD, CMS and other biodiversity-related conventions have repeatedly called for NBSAPs to include commitments to the various conventions to which a country is a Party in order to ensure better coherence in implementation across the various agreements. The new global biodiversity framework provides a unique opportunity to do so.
 - **As one of several top priorities.** Addressing the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) global assessment may benefit from international consensus on a suite of top priorities in order to mobilize the level of response needed. Given the important role that connectivity plays, it could be included in any such set of key priorities.

Meetings

Workshop of the biodiversity-related conventions

14. The workshop was organized by the CBD Secretariat and hosted by the Swiss Government in Bern on 10–12 June 2019. The event included a much broader array of stakeholders than originally planned, being: Secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions, Rio conventions and chemical conventions; government representatives of the Parties to each convention and other relevant organizations. The workshop provided a useful initial opportunity for participants to present their views on the post-2020 framework. The importance of connectivity was brought to the attention of all discussions both in plenary and in break-out groups. The workshop, however, agreed that to most effectively reflect the strengths and contribution of all biodiversity-related conventions, further consultations needed be held. The report of the meeting is available on the CBD website at www.cbd.int/doc/c/de6d/6f08/e6f5ab406bf39019f9d5db62/post2020-ws-2019-06-02-en.pdf.

Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

15. The meeting (OEWG1) was held in Nairobi on 27-30 August 2019. The Secretariat and several members of the CMS WG attended it. Agreement was reached to (i) include connectivity in the list of possible elements for the post-2020 framework as a cross-cutting issue and (ii) organize a Consultation Workshop of the Biodiversity-related Conventions on the post-2020 framework to be hosted by the Swiss Government as a follow up to the one held in Bern in June 2019. The outputs of the Nairobi meeting are available at: www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020/wg2020-01/documents.

Written statements and outreach materials

16. During CBD COP14, the CMS Secretariat collaborated with the Secretariats of the other biodiversity-related conventions on interventions related to the post-2020 process. Two joint statements were delivered at the High-Level Segment and in the course of the COP with a view to conveying a collective call for considering the mandates and priorities of each convention in the development of the post-2020 framework.
17. The CMS Secretariat prepared two fact sheets on connectivity and the post-2020 framework. These are available at the links below:
- Connectivity and the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework - *An introduction*: www.cms.int/sites/default/files/publication/fact_sheet_connectivity_new.pdf
 - Connectivity and the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework - *Elements for new goals and targets*: www.cms.int/sites/default/files/publication/fact_sheet_connectivity_2.pdf

Upcoming events

Thematic consultations

18. OEWG1 agreed on a preliminary list of meetings, consultations and workshops for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework which is contained in: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/feb6/83d0/9c9bc7de55b2d6b18ab4c9b0/wg2020-01-l-02-annex-en.pdf>. The Secretariat will strive to ensure that the views of the CMS Family WG will be presented to all events.

Second Informal Meeting on Connectivity

19. The meeting will be held on 11 November 2019 in Bonn, in cooperation with the Beyond the Aichi Target Task Force of the IUCN WCPA and the IUCN Connectivity Specialist Group. The meeting aims to promote common ongoing efforts to elevate the importance of ecological connectivity as a long-term proposition to conserve biodiversity and to reflect it in the development of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and other relevant processes. Further details are provided in document UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.26.4.4.

Second Meeting of the CMS Family WG on the post-2020 framework

20. The meeting, which is kindly supported by the Swiss Government, will be held on 18 November 2019 in Bonn back-to-back with the meetings of the Sessional Committee and of the Standing Committee. The WG will provide further guidance on the development of contributions to the post-2020 framework.

IUCN World Conservation Congress

21. The CMS Secretariat, in cooperation with numerous partners, promoted the importance of connectivity for the post-2020 framework through the submission of proposed side events and of a proposal for a motion to the IUCN World Conservation Congress that will take place on 10-19 June 2020 in Marseille, France. Further details are provided in document UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.26.4.4.

Second Meeting of the Biodiversity-related Conventions

22. OEWG1 agreed to include plans for a future meeting of the biodiversity-related conventions in annex II of the *Conclusions* document. Many governments and stakeholders consider it important that the future framework encompasses priorities of the different conventions, and that the opportunity of shaping a new global framework is fully taken to achieve more coherence among the biodiversity-related conventions in addressing common threats to biodiversity. Dates and a venue still need to be determined.

COP13

23. COP13 provides an important opportunity to advance work on connectivity for migratory species as well as to further efforts to shape the post-2020 framework. Document UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.26.4.4 on *Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species* brings to the attention of COP further steps for action including at the national level, as well as for continuing the engagement in the post 2020 and other relevant fora. Furthermore, the High-Level Segment of COP13 will focus on the importance of connectivity for the post-2020 framework. Outcomes of COP13 will be transmitted to the second meeting of the OEWG in Kunming, China in February 2020, and to CBD COP15 in Kunming in October 2020.

Draft Decisions and deletion of Decision 12.105 e)

24. The Secretariat proposes the deletion of Decision 12.105 e) as it considers it to be fulfilled. Draft Decisions are proposed for adoption as contained in the Annex to this document.

Recommended Actions

25. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
- a) adopt the draft Decisions contained in Annex of this document.
 - b) delete Decision 12.105 e);

ANNEX

PROPOSED DECISIONS

MIGRATORY SPECIES IN THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Directed to Parties

13.AA Parties are requested to:

- a) liaise with the CBD focal points to ensure that migratory species' needs and consideration are integrated in the post-2020 framework;
- b) ensure the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species [proposed for development in draft Decision 13.xx of Doc xx] is aligned to the post 2020 framework;
- c) report to the Conference of Parties at its 14th meeting on the progress in implementing the decision.

Directed to the Secretariat

13.BB The Secretariat shall:

- a) continue support the CMS Family Working Group on the post-2020 framework and transmit the contributions to the CBD COP15 in Kunming, China in October 2020;
- b) support the development of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species beyond 2023 to be aligned to the post-2020 framework;
- c) report to the Standing Committee at its 52nd and 53rd meetings and to the Conference of Parties at its 14th meeting on the progress in implementing this decision.