



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Report of the 18th Meeting of the Standing Committee

Bonn, Germany, 3 - 4 February 1998

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Agenda Item 1: Opening remarks

1. The Chairman, Professor Abdulaziz H. Abuzinada, opened the meeting. He spoke of his appreciation at being elected Chair of the Standing Committee in April 1997, and paid tribute to his predecessor, Dr. Peter Bridgewater. He thanked the German Government for its hospitality, and welcomed all the representatives of the Committee, remarking that the key to the success of CMS was the full and active participation of all Standing Committee representatives. The list of participants appears at Annex 1.

2. Dr. Gerhard Fulda, the representative of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, then welcomed all to the meeting. He pointed to the CMS Secretariat's pioneering status in Bonn's association with the United Nations, and described the establishment in Bonn of a UN home for matters concerning environment and development, with the arrival of the United Nations Volunteers, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and, shortly, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. In the future he hoped to see the installation of the new United Nations convention concerning trade in hazardous chemicals. Dr. Fulda said that Germany would continue strongly to support CMS, taking its role as Depositary seriously, and concluded by reminding all present of the importance to all of securing worldwide protection of migratory species.

Agenda Item 2: Approval of Agenda and Work Schedule

3. The agenda (attached at Annex 2) and work schedule were approved by consensus and without modification.

Agenda Item 3: Secretariat report on intersessional activities

Recruitment of new Parties

4. The Executive Secretary, Mr. Arnulf Müller-Helmbrecht, reported that the Depositary had received the instrument of accession of Liechtenstein during the current week, which brought the total of CMS Parties to 52. He added that Romania had passed a law in favour of CMS in December 1997, and that the Depositary was now awaiting its instrument of accession. The instrument of accession of Mauritania was also awaited, although the government there had passed a law in its favour in June/July 1997. Mauritania was nonetheless a promising newcomer, with many new activities being pursued in collaboration with the German Government.

5. The Executive Secretary reported further that "country profiles" were nearly ready for about 20 non-Party States, and would, upon their completion, be sent to the countries as drafts for their

comments. Brazil, Turkey, Malaysia and some others had already received their copies which were being given consideration, and upon which advice was expected.

6. The Executive Secretary explained that the UNEP Executive Director, following up the Sofia "Environment for Europe" conference in 1995, had written to non-Parties and Parties to the Convention that formed part of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), to encourage the accession of non-Parties both to CMS and relevant Agreements concluded under its auspices. In particular, Parties were urged to encourage non-Parties to accede by the time of the forthcoming meeting in Århus of Environment Ministers from 22-25 June 1998.

UNEP/CMS Secretariat staffing situation

7. The Executive Secretary explained that the Secretariat was in the final phases of recruiting an Administrative and Fund Management Officer, and it was expected that an officer would enter on duty by 1 March 1998. Ms Bothena Bendahmane (Morocco) had worked for a number of years in Nairobi, and would assume responsibility for the functioning of the Agreements Unit, the co-location of Agreements secretariats, and the administration of project funding, amongst other things.

8. Further, UNEP had that very morning approved the appointment of Mr. Carles Carboneras (Spain) to the post of Information Officer. It was hoped that he could enter on duty on either 1 March or 1 April 1998. The recruitment of an Information Assistant had been postponed pending the successful integration of the Information Officer into the Secretariat and his new role.

9. The Administrative Assistant, Ms. Christina Heuft, had decided to resign last year in December, but had agreed to stay on a part-time basis until the end of May 1998. Dr. Nowak would retire at the end of May 1998 and Mr. Eric Blencowe, the half-time Special Project Officer seconded by the UK Department of Environment, was for the near future fully occupied with his work for EUROBATS. His work assignment would end as of 31 December 1998. The Executive Secretary reported that he had addressed the CMS Focal Points of the respective countries making reference to an appeal made during COP5 that the responsible Governments should consider a follow-up solution. Additionally, the Executive Secretary reported about his appeal of October 1997 to a selected number of CMS Focal Points to provide the CMS Secretariat with staff on secondment as regional officers for Africa and Asia, as mentioned in the budget for 1998-2000 (see Resolution 5.6, Annex 1, Budget lines 1107 and 1108). No response had been received thus far. He indicated his intention to make a new approach soon, as well as consulting the authorities of Germany and the United Kingdom to consider a follow-up solution for the expiring secondments of Dr. Nowak and Mr. Blencowe, referring to the appeal made by the COP5. The Standing Committee endorsed these plans.

Update on CMS Agreements

EUROBATS

10. The Executive Secretary of the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe, Mr. Eric Blencowe, explained progress towards the arrangements for the 3rd Advisory Committee meeting to the Agreement on 23-24 March 1998 in Prague, Czech Republic, and the second session of the Meeting of Parties on 1-3 July 1998 in Bonn, Germany. These, coupled with a second European Bat Night, to take place on 29 August 1998 in a presently unknown number of countries, were occupying an increasing amount of time and energy. He urged Parties to CMS, through the Standing Committee, to participate in the celebrations, and to encourage their NGOs to participate also.

AEWA

11. The representative of Europe (Netherlands), Dr. Gerard Boere, reported an increase in signatories from 11 to 15. A few ratifications had also taken place. Continuing contacts with the nearly 120 countries concerned by this Agreement indicated that progress was being made, and he was hopeful

of securing the necessary 14 ratifications in time for the first session of the Meeting of Parties. The Interim Secretariat was continuing its activities: it had recently issued its third newsletter in French and English; it was preparing documents in preparation for the first Meeting of Parties; and US\$150,000 had been granted by the Government of the Netherlands to Wetlands International for a world wetlands conference in Senegal in November 1998.

12. Meanwhile, the preparations for the first session of the Meeting of Parties were progressing well. In January, a joint mission of the Government of the Netherlands, the CMS Secretariat, the Interim Secretariat of AEWA and a representative of the Government of South Africa had visited the proposed venue for the consecutive conferences of CMS and AEWA in 1999. In addition, Dr. Boere reported that he had given presentations on the AEWA at over 20 international environmental conferences.

13. The Executive Secretary added to Dr. Boere's report by urging the representatives for the Asian, African and European regions to try to persuade other countries to ratify AEWA. He said that there should be no problems with hunters, because the *Conseil International de la Chasse* had been involved at all stages of the negotiations of the AEWA, and had approved its final form.

Houbara bustard

14. The Executive Secretary explained that Saudi Arabia had prepared a draft Agreement, the text of which had been screened by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre. An Action Plan would be needed, but this was still under development. The draft Agreement would be circulated for comments once the draft Action Plan was available.

ACCOBAMS

15. The Executive Secretary explained that there had been no information from the interim secretariat in Monaco at the time the last CMS Bulletin was being prepared, but that the next Bulletin would outline the progress in this area. He had been encouraged by the involvement of at least one NGO in dolphin conservation, developing projects under the umbrella of ACCOBAMS, and seeking EU assistance for their funding.

Other potential agreements

16. Two further agreements were being developed: one on ungulates in the Arabian Peninsula; and another on the sandgrouse (*Pteroclididae*) in three countries of southern Africa. The representative of South Africa, Mr. Johann Lombard, reported that a meeting in April or May 1998 in Namibia would discuss the ideas and preparations of the individual countries in the sandgrouse issue.

Siberian crane

17. The Deputy Executive Secretary, Mr. Douglas Hykle, reported that news from the field was positive: scientists from the Russian Federation and Iran were monitoring populations intensively, and had achieved a number of successes. Arrangements for the third Siberian crane Range States meeting in Iran had so far been hampered by poor communication. He would continue efforts to locate the meeting there during the spring of 1998. The Siberian crane was featured in a lengthy exposé in the last issue of the CMS Bulletin, part of a new series focusing on critically endangered species. The Secretariat intended to seek contributions about other endangered species for future issues.

Turtles

18. The Deputy Executive Secretary said that a report drafted by a consultant, which would include recommendations on marine turtle conservation activities that could be pursued by CMS, would be

ready in the next month or so. Dr. Jacques Fretey had prepared another document on the status of marine turtles off the Atlantic coast of Africa, and the Secretariat was at present editing this in preparation for a major marine turtle symposium at the beginning of March 1998. Additionally, the Secretariat was at present arranging to finance the production of some turtle identification posters in French, and possibly Portuguese.

19. Mr. Hykle concluded his remarks by informing the meeting about a marine turtle workshop organised by ECOFAC in Gabon in December 1997. Discussions were underway to fund and organise a much larger West African regional meeting in 1998, possible in Côte d'Ivoire.

Sahelo-Saharan ungulates

20. The Executive Secretary reported on progress towards the workshop planned for Djerba in Tunisia from 19-23 February 1998. The Secretariat had sent invitation letters to relevant countries, and had consulted the Tunisian Government on the conclusion of a Host Government Agreement for the meeting. As regards funding of the meeting, contributions had been promised from UNEP, the Belgian, French, and German Governments, but these would be insufficient to make up the deficit even including the funds allocated from the CMS budget. He suggested that the shortfall be taken from the additional voluntary contribution from Germany.

Cormorant

21. The representative of Europe explained that, following up the decision of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to establish an expert working group to develop a Management Plan for this species, a meeting of experts had taken place in September 1997. Views expressed at the meeting had differed widely on the ways to deal with the expanding population, and consultations would continue.

Mediterranean monk seal

22. The Executive Secretary reported on the precarious state of the Atlantic population of this species, and noted the difficulties involved in co-ordinating related conservation activities. He expressed confidence that CMS could play a co-ordinating role in collaboration with other organisations, such as UNEP and possibly the European Union, and sought the endorsement of the Standing Committee in continuing its efforts, which was given unanimously.

Gorilla

23. The Executive Secretary reported that this Appendix I species, for which concerted conservation actions were required, was one where the Secretariat had hitherto no capacity to intervene. He hoped that, notwithstanding the political difficulties in the region, the Secretariat could play some part. The regional representative for Africa encouraged the Secretariat to take action, in consultation with the Scientific Council.

Sturgeon

24. The Executive Secretary considered that sturgeons were one of the groups of fish species that could benefit from CMS activities. Most were now endangered owing to pollution, habitat degradation and over-fishing. The Conference of the Parties to CITES had listed sturgeons on Appendix II with the consequence that trade in caviar would be controlled from 1 April 1998. He went on to explain that further investigation would be necessary to verify the possibilities to conclude an Agreement or a memorandum of understanding, either regional or global, and perhaps a separate management plan for the Caspian Sea area. A CITES meeting in Moscow had recently revealed considerable political difficulties in concluding such an Agreement, and the Executive Secretary sought the endorsement of the Committee in continuing to investigate the matter. He considered that

there was a common misapprehension that CMS was a purely protection-oriented Convention, but that this was a fallacy which could be seen by the nature of the cormorant and AEWA discussions, both of which included important management aspects. He concluded by saying that the development of agreements on sturgeons and the Houbara bustard would prove that CMS remained in line with Agenda 21, CITES and Ramsar.

25. The representative of the Depositary (Germany), Mr. Gerhard Adams, explained that, for the European Union, imports would be allowed only if they did not harm the overall conservation of the species. Germany had supported the listing of 23 species of sturgeon at the CITES Conference in 1997. He reported that the above-mentioned meeting in Moscow had two fundamental purposes: to consider the question of import/export conditions; and to review the need for a regional agreement. Germany had supported the meeting financially as it was an important importer of sturgeon products. He echoed that the response towards the conclusion of a regional agreement had not been very positive, but that the German Government was nonetheless supportive of the CMS Secretariat's view that the species was appropriate for a regional agreement under CMS.

26. The representative of Africa (Guinea), Mr. Abdel Kader Bangoura, commented on difficulties which were present but as yet undefined off the Atlantic coast of Africa, and in particular Senegal. A vast number of boats regularly fished the seas there, but the authorities were largely unaware of the dangers posed to the status of the species concerned. Concerning the agreement under consideration, he said there were two options: to include sturgeons in the CMS Appendices or to conclude a regional agreement. It was important that dialogue should continue.

27. The Chairman concluded that the Secretariat ought to continue efforts to pursue the conclusion of a regional agreement for the species.

Institutional links with other bodies

28. The Executive Secretary said that there was little to report on developments with NGOs or IGOs, other than routine consultations. Subsequent to the conclusion of a Memorandum of Co-operation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity there had been little communication. The Executive Secretary added that he had written to the CMS Focal Points of all Parties on 28 October 1997 reporting about the Secretariat's activities to liaise with CBD and to urge them to relate their countries' activities on CMS to those of CBD, in order to gain better synergies and to benefit from the GEF. He pointed to the difficulties in establishing good contacts with regional biodiversity-related conventions, which had in some cases not been possible owing to the lack of appropriate organs of the conventions concerned, and the limited capacity in the Secretariat. Relations with CITES had continued to be good, as witnessed by the recent meeting to discuss sturgeons. The Secretariat was also involved with the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy process, especially in terms of its Agreements (AEWA, ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS and the Bat Agreement). He referred also to the Programme for the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), to which USA, Canada and the Russian Federation were among the eight Parties, and hoped to see ways of persuading them to come on board CMS through collaborative efforts between CMS and CAFF in the future.

29. The representative of Europe reported that he had attended the last CAFF meeting, and was a quasi-permanent observer to the proceedings. He said that all CAFF's work could be undertaken in the framework of CMS, but that the problem was that very few of CAFF's representatives were also Parties to CMS. He had appealed very strongly to all CAFF representatives to join CMS. A CAFF report on status of species in the Arctic region, which would be partly financed by the Netherlands and prepared by Dr. Derek Scott from the United Kingdom, would be finalised within the next two months. The report would strongly endorse the conclusion of AEWA, and the need for agreements on two further flyways.

30. The Executive Secretary spoke about his recent approach to UNEP with the request that they incorporate some of CMS' plans into their own work programme (e.g. the Sahelo-Saharan ungulate project), and said that a further two could be so incorporated in the future.

Agenda Item 4: Report of the Depositary

a) Headquarters agreement

31. The representative of the Depositary, Mr. Adams, explained that the matters had been discussed in detail by the Standing Committee at its 16th meeting (before the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties). The latest draft under consideration reflected the agreement earlier concluded with the United Nations Volunteers, and this had been used as a basis for the agreement with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The UNV agreement contained further advantages such as the lack of need for a work permit in Germany. Correspondence had continued between the Government, UNEP and the CMS Secretariat, and he considered that consensus was near, with only two matters outstanding. These were, first, the CMS request that invited persons should receive visas at the border if this had not been possible before. The German Government could not accept this as it stood, but had developed a compromise which would be outlined at a future meeting with the Secretariat, where representatives from the Ministries of Interior and Justice would be present. Secondly, the question of the immunities and privileges afforded to Secretariat staff and visitors had been addressed by UNEP. The 1946 United Nations Convention on Privileges and Immunities had been used as a basis for this part of the agreement, which in turn grants immunity to staff, representatives of representative states and visiting experts. Mr. Adams said that people enjoyed these benefits from the Convention directly, if they were from a United Nations member State, so there was no need to include a specific stipulation in the Headquarters agreement for the CMS Secretariat. He added that there was no such clause in the Headquarters agreement concluded between UNEP, the Government of Canada and the CBD Secretariat.

32. Finally, the representative of the Depositary said that the Government of Germany was giving an additional voluntary contribution of DM 100,000 per annum towards activities pursued under the Convention. The contribution was valid from 1997.

33. The Executive Secretary paid tribute to the personal involvement of Mr. Adams in the negotiation process, and thanked the German Government for its generous financial contribution. He clarified that the outstanding points relating to the conclusion of the Headquarters agreement concerned visits of external experts rather than representatives of the Secretariat, and he was happy to learn of the Interior Ministry's view on the equal treatment of experts on official mission in Germany. He added that the Secretariat had responded to the latest draft agreement from the German Government by sending a draft response to UNEP for its views. At the time of writing of this report, a formal reply from the German Government on the remaining issues outstanding was still awaited.

b) Preparation of certified copies of the Convention text

34. The representative from the German Foreign Office, Ms. Bennemann, explained that the new French and Spanish texts were still being worked upon, and the Government was hoping to finalise them as soon as possible. The Russian version was nearly completed, apart from a few minor translation difficulties. The Arabic version needed some further work, but would be circulated soon. The Chinese version was nearly finished and would be circulated in the next few weeks. Subsequent to all these developments, certified copies would be prepared. She was very confident of achieving this goal soon, and including the Appendices for all languages.

35. The representative of Asia (Saudi Arabia), Dr. Hany Tatwany, was encouraged by the progress, but pointed to the need to finalise the Arabic text as soon as possible, in order for them to be able to promote the Convention in the region.

**Agenda Item 5: Reports from Committee representatives:
promotion of CMS, including Agreements, on a regional basis**

The Americas and the Caribbean

36. The representative of the Americas and the Caribbean (Uruguay), Dr. Jorge L. Cravino Castro, reported that, in addition to the two Central American and five South American countries already Parties to the Convention, a number of others had signaled their intention to join. He had distributed copies of the report of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties widely, but had not yet had a clear response from any on whether they would definitely join. These included Paraguay and Jamaica, both of which had been represented at the fifth meeting of the Conference. He reported on progress towards the two-day regional workshop on CMS in Uruguay due to take place in May 1998. This was being arranged by a small commission established by a regional working group set up to organise such events. He further reported that an albatross project had been launched, and brought with him a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for it. It had suffered some delay due to administrative difficulties. He concluded by saying that Uruguay wanted to start a new project covering Chile, Argentina and Uruguay on a species of bustard.

37. The Secretariat's Technical Officer, Mr. Pablo Canevari, said that one issue at the regional workshop in Uruguay would be the accession of new Parties to the Convention: Brazil had shown some considerable interest which needed to be pursued.

Europe

38. The representative of Europe reported further on his activities with the CAFF, and explained that encouraging CMS membership may be more difficult than Agreements on particular species or species groups in the region. He added that Ukraine was almost ready to ratify CMS (he hoped before the May elections there).

39. Dr. Boere explained that the Brent Goose Management Plan was now completed and had been circulated for comments, with a view to presenting a revised version to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. A meeting on CMS in the Russian Federation, which had been postponed from 1997, would now take place in 1998. He said that the Government of the Netherlands was to invest US\$4 million in conservation activities including AEWA and CMS. This also included a project under AEWA to be formally launched in Dakar, Senegal, in February 1998 at the Dutch Embassy, which would cost US\$2.5 million. Investment in other projects in Central and Eastern Europe and Africa, over the next few years, would amount to nearly US\$5 million.

40. Dr. Boere concluded his remarks by adding that the Government of the Netherlands had offered to co-locate the European Programme of BirdLife International with Wetlands International. He looked forward to close collaboration between both organisations.

41. The Executive Secretary paid tribute to the Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee, Dr. Boere, for his efforts to attract East European countries, and urged other Committee representatives to encourage non-Parties from their regions to join the Convention and AEWA, in particular.

Asia

42. The representative of Asia reported that, in spite of the lack of promotional materials in Arabic, including the Convention text, Saudi Arabia had been trying to attract new Parties through the ungulates exercise, and the negotiation meeting on the MoU due to take place in 1998, as well as promotion of the Houbara bustard agreement. He stressed that forthcoming related meetings would be used as opportunities for CMS promotion.

Africa

43. The representative of Africa had received a positive response from the Central African Republic and some others, but all sought information about what they would gain from membership. He said that many African countries had signed the Final Act of AEWA. He added that a December 1998 Wetlands International conference in Dakar, Senegal, as well as that on ungulates, would provide a good forum for promoting CMS.

Oceania

44. The representative of Oceania (Philippines), Mr. Wilfrido Pollisco, submitted a written statement reporting on developments both by Philippines and by Australia. Australia, a keen supporter of the conservation of albatrosses, had pursued the promotion of an agreement on the conservation of 14 species, identifying key contacts in the relevant states of the southern hemisphere. This had been followed up by the circulation of material aimed at seeking consensus on the form of such an agreement. The statement outlined the specific elements such an agreement could contain, but added that regional action was already under way, undertaken by international organisations such as the Commission on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna. Australia supported the development of an agreement to complement these activities and to promote a more co-ordinated and integrated approach.

45. Bilateral discussions between Australia and New Zealand had led to an informal indication that the latter would review possible accession to CMS. Meantime, they had recently agreed to closer co-operation on, in particular, small-cetacean and seabird conservation. Building upon a successful workshop in Java in late 1996 on marine turtles, Australia was continuing co-operation on a set of workshops focussing on the development of conservation actions for the species. Australia was very encouraged by developments in the ASEAN states in relation to sea turtles, and placed a high priority on the proposed workshop in Malaysia on turtle conservation.

46. With support from CMS, the Philippines had given a presentation on the Convention during the seventh meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation in June 1997 in Bangkok, Thailand. Almost all ASEAN countries showed interest in the Convention, in particular Malaysia and Thailand. Further, the Philippines and Malaysia signed an agreement establishing the world's first transboundary protection area for marine turtles, the Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Area (TIHPA) on 31 May 1996. The Agreement includes the aims of establishing a centralised database, developing appropriate information and awareness-raising programmes for the inhabitants of the islands, and developing a joint marine turtle resource management programme. The TIHPA, though not an agreement in the Convention's sense, will promote interest in the region. Finally, the Philippines had proposed the creation of a Regional Conservation Programme for Marine Mammals in the ASEAN, which it has submitted to the ASEAN Co-operation Unit for appraisal.

47. The Deputy Executive Secretary, in complimenting the representative of Oceania on the content of his report, encouraged Standing Committee members of other regions to contact neighbouring Parties in advance of the next meeting of the Standing Committee, with a view to obtaining a fuller picture of regional developments.

Depositary

48. The representative of the Depositary, Mr. Adams, reported that El Salvador and Columbia had recently been given CMS material at Ministerial level. Slovenia had seemed interested, but activities had led to nothing yet. The German Embassy in Brazil had followed up the German Environment Minister's visit there last year. The Minister would shortly open an exhibition in Bonn on marine turtles in Brazil, and would remind the Brazilian Ambassador about CMS. She would also take advantage of the Environment for Europe forum in Århus in June 1998. Lithuania had reported its wish to join CMS, ASCOBANS and the Bat Agreement, but probably not before 2000.

49. The Executive Secretary added that he had met the Kazak president, and had handed over a CMS information package. At a reception with the Yemeni Foreign Minister and Environment Minister, he had done the same, and they had promised to get the instrument of accession ready by the end of 1997. He asked the representative of Asia to follow up both of these matters.

50. The representative of Europe added that the Netherlands had seconded agricultural counsellors to 50 Dutch embassies. They had all been provided with CMS and AEWa background documents, and would raise the matters in relevant meetings.

Agenda Item 6: Co-location of Agreements secretariats

51. The Executive Secretary pointed to the developments already mentioned at previous Standing Committee meetings and at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. He added that the Parties to ASCOBANS had agreed to co-location in principle, and that Secretariat was expected to be installed in Bonn later in the spring, although it would, at least until the third session of its Meeting of Parties, be administered by the German Government, as was at present the case with the EUROBATs Secretariat. He hoped that the secretariat for the AEWa would join the CMS Secretariat after its first Meeting of Parties late in 1999.

52. The observer from the United Kingdom, Mr. Ian Muchmore, expressed concern at the delays involved in recruiting new officers for small secretariats, and asked whether temporary cover could be provided by UNEP in such cases. The representative of UNEP, Mr. Rudy van Dijk, said that arrangements for immediate employment for up to, but not including, one year, were already possible if funds were available and the position had been graded by the United Nations. The Executive Secretary added that a new MoU between UNEP and Convention Secretariats would include arrangements where heads of Convention secretariats could unilaterally make temporary staffing arrangements for up to six months.

Agenda Item 7: Review of current status of contributions to CMS Trust Fund CMS budget and resources

53. The Deputy Executive Secretary introduced document UNEP/CMS/Doc.5, and reported that the rate of payment of contributions as of the end of 1997 was similar to that of previous years (about 83%). The comparison of expenditures versus budget for 1997 was self-explanatory and elicited no comment from the Committee. The representative of Oceania passed on the message that Australia questioned its inclusion in the non-payment category, stating that its payments for 1996 and 1997 had already been made. The Deputy Executive Secretary said that UNEP would be informed and that Australia would be requested to provide the necessary paperwork in order to allow the transaction to be traced. He emphasised the importance of Parties' specifying the intended purpose of their

contribution payments, as failure to do so had resulted in some contributions' not being recorded correctly in UNEP's books.

54. The Deputy Executive Secretary referred also to the latest United Nations Scale of Assessment, which had just been received, and noted that it raised two issues. Over the course of the next three years, the relative assessments of UN member States would change significantly, with some countries of the former Soviet Union having their percentages on the UN scale drop to only 1/4 or 1/5 of 1997 levels by the year 2000. Although the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties had agreed to apply *pro rata* to new Parties the UN scale prevailing in April 1997, the Secretariat considered that there may be valid grounds for considering a different approach. Certain countries which CMS has long hoped to attract as members have desisted from joining the Convention for financial reasons. If such Parties were invited to join CMS, subject to the immediate application of the *new* scale of assessment (instead of applying the old scale *pro rata*), there might be an incentive for them to join sooner rather than later. The Trust Fund would gain additional, unanticipated income while key countries would be allowed to join the Convention with less of a financial burden. On the other hand, if these potential Parties were to forego membership until, say 2001, when all Parties would be subject to a new scale of assessment, the Convention would not receive *any* extra budgetary contributions from them during the current triennium.

55. The representative of Asia supported the approach that the timely application of the new scale would encourage republics of the former Soviet Union to join earlier rather than later. While expressing general support for the proposal, the representative of the Depositary queried whether Resolution 5.6 of COP5 allowed for the application of the new scale. The Deputy Executive Secretary said that, if the Standing Committee were to so decide, the measure would be consistent with the spirit of the conditional amnesty that had been applied in the past to some Parties with respect to non-payment of contributions. His further suggestion that the offer to apply the new scale be extended to new Parties only through 1999, allowing the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties to make further judgements, satisfied the concerns that had been raised.

56. The Standing Committee then endorsed the approach proposed in UNEP/CMS/Doc. 5. In its decision, it recognised that, while such a special derogation would not be entirely in accordance with the letter of Resolution 5.6, operative paragraph 3, it would be comparable to the amnesty granted to certain Parties in the past and, above all, could act as a strong incentive for key countries to join CMS. It further agreed that a time limitation should be placed on this special offer.

57. Accordingly, the Standing Committee decided to interpret Resolution 5.6 in such a way that the United Nations Scale of Assessment for the years 1998 and 1999 only (attached at Annex 3) be applied *pro rata* to new Parties, in those cases where the application of that scale would be more favourable to the country concerned. The Standing Committee made it clear that this special arrangement would be limited in time, so as to give a clear incentive for certain Parties to join CMS as soon as possible, and agreed that this arrangement should be reviewed on the occasion of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

58. The second issue raised by the new UN scale of assessment is that by incorporating another decimal place (from 1/100ths to 1/1000ths), the scale makes more of a distinction among developing and least developed countries. The Secretariat invited the Standing Committee to use this refined scale to make an objective determination of eligibility for support from the CMS Trust Fund for official travel of delegates to attend CMS meetings. This would help to guide the Secretariat in funding of such travels during the current triennium.

59. With reference to the United Nations Scale of Assessment for 1998, the Standing Committee then decided that:

- a) Parties whose percentage lies between 0.001 and 0.049 (except those in Europe) shall automatically be considered eligible for financial support to attend CMS-sponsored meetings that are relevant to them; and
- b) Parties whose percentage lies between 0.050 and 0.100 (except those in Europe) be considered eligible for financial support to attend CMS-sponsored meetings that are relevant to them, upon request to the Secretariat (see Annex 4).

It was agreed that this arrangement would remain in effect through the next ordinary meeting of the Standing Committee, at which time it would be reviewed.

60. Responding to a query, the Deputy Executive Secretary said that the new eligibility criteria would have a negligible effect on the budget. Six Parties would be affected: two (Chile and India), which hitherto had been considered eligible for support, would no longer be considered so, because they would be above 0.1 on the new scale: Egypt, Nigeria, Pakistan and the Philippines would also be affected, although only inasmuch as they would not automatically be considered for funding: they would have to advise the Secretariat of their need for support.

61. The representative of Europe pointed to the fact that, under these arrangements, the Russian Federation would not be eligible for support to attend meetings. He recommended that the Secretariat should be more liberal with the criteria where it concerned countries which would otherwise not attend. The Deputy Executive Secretary said that the Secretariat had in the past sought *external* funds for such countries that did not qualify for CMS funding, adding that China would also fall into such a category.

62. The representative of Europe further queried whether, at a recent meeting of the Food and Agricultural Organisation, it had been agreed that the United States' contribution be reduced to 20% from 25%. The Deputy Executive Secretary said that this was unlikely, given that the application of the scale was consistent throughout the United Nations and its organs. The representative of UNEP said that the United States may actually have declined to pay the full 25% it had been assessed.

Agenda Item 7.1: Use of additional voluntary contribution from Germany: DM 100,000

63. The Executive Secretary referred to the terms of Resolution 5.6, according to which it was for the Standing Committee to decide on the allocation of the funds. He then distributed a draft list showing one possibility of using the DM 200,000 available from 1997 and 1998.

64. The representative of Asia proposed that any future amendments to the list should be agreed between the Secretariat and the Chair of the Standing Committee. This, together with the list itself, was agreed without further discussion.

65. The representative of the Americas and the Caribbean sought inclusion in the list of funding for the regional meeting planned in Uruguay in May 1998. Although he recognised that, at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, it had been decided that funding for the meeting should not come from the CMS budget, some money would be needed for travel expenses of some of the participants. He added, on another issue, that Recommendation 5.2 had included some significant species in Appendix II. He asked whether the Committee would support the use of some of the funds for cooperative actions for this species.

66. The Executive Secretary proposed that the Secretariat investigate the possibility of using some funds for this purpose, bearing in mind the requirement that the funds should flow exclusively to developing countries. The two issues were therefore added as possibilities to the list, for the Secretariat to examine further, in consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee.

67. The representative of the Depositary expressed satisfaction with the discussions and the outcome, and hoped that, rather than building up year-on-year, the funds allocated each year would also be spent in the year to which they applied.

**Agenda Item 8: Standing Committee work programme arising from
the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

a) Pursuit of priority objectives agreed at COP5

Objective 1.1

68. The Executive Secretary repeated the report of efforts which the Secretariat had made under Agenda Item 3. He added that the Standing Committee might wish to consider how members could intensify their efforts to persuade potential Parties to join the Convention.

69. The representatives for Africa and the Americas and the Caribbean agreed to make CMS presentations at all appropriate regional meetings. The representative of Asia requested copies of correspondence which the Secretariat sent to countries in the Asian region, and agreed to follow up on it. The Chairman said that it was important to focus on key officials and Ministers, scientists being less powerful in persuading governments to participate. The representative of UNEP said that it was standard practice within UNEP to raise the issue of membership of Conventions at all levels, including Government and Ministerial. The observer from the United Kingdom suggested that Ministers in Parties should raise the issue with counterparts in non-Party States at all opportunities.

70. The Committee decided to take the list of priority countries as the basis for the best approach from the Standing Committee, and representatives volunteered to assume the responsibilities for their region and, in some cases, another region where they had good contacts with a key country. This two-pronged approach is to be actioned according to the list provided in Annex 5 to this report.

71. The representative of the Americas and the Caribbean, noting the absence of Canada and the USA from the list of those for which country profiles had been prepared, offered to use its own considerable diplomatic efforts using the medium of the Organisation of American States. The Deputy Executive Secretary explained that the lack of country profiles for those two countries did not signify that they were not priorities for CMS. On the contrary, the Secretariat felt it had enough background information on those countries that the expenditure of funds to prepare country profiles on them was not warranted.

Objective 6.1

72. The Executive Secretary explained that the representatives of the Standing Committee could assist greatly in the development of closer links with multilateral agencies by ensuring that their activities in CMS had some link to those agencies. In particular, he reiterated the activities of the Netherlands towards Wetland International and CAFF, and added that Australia and the Philippines should provide closer linkages of CMS to CCAMLR.

Objective 7.1

73. The representative of Asia said that some contributions for work on the Houbara bustard and ungulates could be provided by donor organisations, and the funding would be channelled through his organisation. The Executive Secretary paid tribute to the vast contribution made by the Netherlands

in the development and promotion of AEWA and associated projects, and urged other countries to follow its example in other regions of the Agreement area, notably Africa and Central Asia.

Objective 8.1(d)

74. The Executive Secretary explained the importance of strengthening new partnerships with the organs of CBD not only between the secretariats, but especially on the national level. In particular, he reiterated the importance – outlined in his letter of 28 October 1997 to Focal Points – of drawing links between CMS activities and those of CBD.

Objective 8.2

75. The Executive Secretary reported on his correspondence with the Executive Director of UNEP concerning the inclusion of various CMS issues in UNEP's work programme. UNEP was already supporting the ungulate meeting and had offered funds for work related to Siberian cranes, flamingoes and the Slender-billed curlew. He stressed the need to discuss how the Standing Committee and Parties could help orient Governing Council discussions on the implementation of CBD and the incorporation of CMS and AEWA's objectives. The Chairman expressed gratitude for the Executive Secretary's initiative, and the representative of UNEP was pleased at the increased co-operation between UNEP and CMS. He agreed that there was a need to find more creative ways to approach the issue.

76. The observer from the United Kingdom enquired generally about the mechanics of implementing the recommendation included in Resolution 5.4 that a revised version of the *Strategy for the Future Development of the Convention* be prepared and submitted to the next meeting of the Conference. The Executive Secretary said that the Secretariat would not be able to produce anything on this until the autumn at least, owing to lack of staff capacity.

77. Mr. Muchmore added that the IUCN (U.K.) Committee was considering holding a seminar later in 1998 on the relationship between CBD and other conventions and international wildlife treaties. This would be a brainstorming session bringing together representatives of conventions. Although the UK Government would not be responsible for the arrangements, the observer would keep the Secretariat informed of developments. The Deputy Executive Secretary mentioned the project being carried out by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), which was addressing the potential harmonisation of reporting requirements in five major conventions, as being a potential subject for discussion at the seminar. The representative of UNEP mentioned also the ongoing efforts of UNEP to facilitate co-ordination of various conventions.

b) Updating of Guidelines for acceptance of financial contributions (Resolution 5.7)

78. The Executive Secretary said that this point was included in the agenda only as a reminder to the Committee that needed at present no further consideration.

Agenda Item 9: Arrangements for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

79. The Chairman announced that the Government of South Africa had formally approved hosting the conference. Mr. Johann Lombard, South Africa, read out the Government's letter of invitation addressed to the Secretariat. The representative of Oceania welcomed South Africa's offer and supported it.

80. Mr. Lombard referred to the joint mission to South Africa in search of a suitable venue. The mission had concluded that one particular venue surpassed the others visited, on account of there being all amenities on site. The representative of Europe then showed some slides to allow the Committee to see the proposed venue, its locality and the specific conference rooms.

81. The Deputy Executive Secretary pointed to one problem which needed to be addressed: the cost of accommodation alone in the Cape Town area equalled the entire UN per diem, leaving almost nothing extra for meals. For delegates being sponsored by CMS, there would be a shortfall of about US\$75 per night. Three options were possible: try to negotiate a lower rate from the hotels, seek to have the UN per diem increased; or request special dispensation from the UN to pay a higher per diem. The representative of UNEP welcomed the South African invitation and the Netherlands' support. He added that, under the particular per diem circumstances outlined by the Secretariat, up to 25% in addition could be provided.

82. Mr. Lombard explained that funding for the meeting was coming from the Netherlands, a little from South Africa and possibly also from the European Union. The representative of Europe added that, although it looked positive at this stage, a decision was awaited in the next two weeks from the European Union on their funding.

83. The Executive Secretary stressed the need to ensure that the conference was timed not to coincide with that of CITES. It was agreed that, on the assumption that the CITES conference would go ahead as planned in Indonesia from 15-26 November 1999, as he had recently been informed, the sensible time for the CMS conference and the possible first session of the AEWA Meeting of Parties would be the first half of October 1999. The Executive Secretary agreed to keep the Standing Committee informed on the progress of ratifications of AEWA, in case these should not reach the necessary total of 14 in time for the conference.

84. The representative of Asia welcomed the South African offer, and looked forward to hearing further details about the proposed seminar on animal migration that would be associated with the conference, provisionally scheduled to be held at a picturesque university campus near to the conference venue.

85. The Chairman summarised the discussion, confirming that the next conference would be held in South Africa, at a date to be decided in the first half of October 1999. He then welcomed the representative of South Africa as a full member of the Standing Committee. The representative of the next host country thanked the Secretariat, the Netherlands and the AEWA Interim Secretariat for their support and advice.

Agenda Item 9.1: Cost estimate for the provision of Arabic as a working language of the Convention

86. The Deputy Executive Secretary explained that no precise costing had yet been received from UNEP for the provision of Arabic as an interpreted language, but this was expected within the week. He added that the costs would not be insignificant. There had been some informal discussions centering on the possibility of the Arabic countries' paying for the provision of the Arabic language in a similar way to Germany's voluntary provision of German. The Deputy Executive Secretary clarified that the question to be considered was related only to interpretation, since translation would be prohibitively expensive. He added that the Secretariat would not be responsible for providing the interpreters themselves, but would try to facilitate the ancillary arrangements should a sponsor be found.

87. The Chairman suggested that Arabic-speaking countries could pay for the provision of interpretation facilities as a temporary measure. The representative of Asia agreed to encourage Arabic-speaking countries in Asia to do this, while asking the representative of Africa to encourage Arabic-speaking countries in Africa to do the same. In the absence of any more accurate information, still awaited by the Secretariat, the Chairman postponed further discussion on this issue until the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

**Agenda Item 10: Working Group report on preparations for
CMS's 20th anniversary celebrations in 1999**

88. The representative of the next host country reported that South Africa chaired the Group, and would be the focal point for all the activities. The Group sought approval for pursuing some of the actions, for example: symposia on migratory species; a video translated into the Convention's official languages, a marine turtle Action Plan or other Action Plans; posters; stamps; bookmarks; national/international poster competition/presentation. He added that South Africa would be preparing a celebration logo, a poster and a special anniversary excursion (possibly whale-watching). A major item on the Group's agenda was the acquisition of funding. A procedure would be put in place to follow up and inform CMS Focal Points, Scientific Councillors and like-minded NGOs. The Chairman thanked the representative of the next host country for his report.

**Agenda Item 11: Matters of the Scientific Council relating to
the work of the Standing Committee**

89. The Chairman of the Scientific Council, Dr. Pierre Devillers, paid tribute to the work of the Secretariat's Technical Officer, Mr. Pablo Canevari, in serving as a bridge to the Council. He said that the most important task facing the Council was contained in Resolution 3.2 on Concerted Actions for Appendix I species. This was broken into two parts: ongoing activities financed by the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and projects approved by the fifth meeting. He explained the guiding principle that the allocation of funds to projects should stimulate more funds. He reported that the main expenditures thus far had related to Sahelo-saharan ungulates. He outlined the arrangements for the workshop to take place in Tunisia at the end of the month, adding that an Action Plan to be financed at or following the meeting had been prepared and distributed. The total cost of the project had now been revised down to US\$133,000. He added that all this money had come from COP4. US\$147,500 would be the total cost, but US\$30,000 in salaries would be covered by the Belgian Government, so there was a figure of US\$17,000 still to be found.

90. The Technical Officer reported that, with regard to two species of Andean flamingoes in the Puna region, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia and Peru would benefit from US\$5,000 from UNEP for conservation activities. A previously undiscovered population of 10,000 of the species had been discovered, comprising 20% of the known total. In addition, there was an awareness-raising campaign in progress on the Lesser white-fronted goose. On the Franciscana dolphin, subject to by-catch problems, a workshop had been organised in Buenos Aires bringing together Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. The workshop had identified a need for more survey work, which would be financed from the German Government's additional voluntary contribution. Mr. Canevari concluded by adding that a project between the Chilean Government (CONAF) and Wetlands International for the Americas to find new breeding areas of the Ruddy-headed goose was also proceeding thanks to the assistance of the German Government's additional voluntary contribution.

91. The Scientific Council Chairman continued his report by referring to the allocation made by COP5. At that time, the Chairman of the Conference of the Parties had requested a first list to be developed by Councillors during the conference, which had resulted in proposals totalling US\$790,000. Proposals were then circulated to the Scientific Council in December 1997, with the result that the value of projects to be funded had risen to US\$900,000, although the new proposals did not change the tone of the earlier list. The Councillors would now be asked to prepare short project descriptions, which would be presented to the next Scientific Council meeting for discussion. US\$600,000 would then be allocated over the current triennium.

92. As regards the review of Appendix I carried out by WCMC, a first draft had been prepared but this had not satisfied either the Secretariat or the Standing Committee. A second draft would therefore be prepared for the consideration of the next meeting of the Scientific Council.

93. On the representation of the Scientific Council at similar fora of other conventions, Dr. Devillers reported that there had so far been one opportunity, when his colleague Dr. Beudels-Jamar represented the Council at the CBD's meeting of the SBSTTA in September 1997. She had made good contacts, and the presence of CMS had been welcome. For the future, however, he recommended first that the Secretariat make strong representations to the CBD Secretariat about adequate notice of documents, owing to the fact that most decisions appeared to have been made before the meeting had taken place. Secondly, the cost of representation was high. In this first instance, the Belgian Government had covered the costs, but for future occasions funding from elsewhere should be considered. The Scientific Council would meet again in June 1998.

94. The representative of Europe, supported by the Chairman of the Scientific Council, expressed concern at the fact that, of the US\$500,000 allocated at COP4, only US\$300,000 had so far been spent, leaving a further US\$200,000 unspent at the close of the 1994-1997 triennium. In response, the Deputy Executive Secretary pointed out that the administration of many small projects took up a great deal of the Secretariat's time. The original intention had been to give larger blocks of money to other organisations for them to undertake umbrella projects. This approach had not worked very well so far, since those organisations were slow to fulfil their contractual commitments. As a result, the Secretariat had been obliged to conclude contracts for smaller amounts which, collectively, were more time-consuming in terms of monitoring. He hoped that the imminent employment of a Fund Management and Administrative Officer would allow other staff to concentrate more on the substantive development of projects for which funds were available.

95. Dr. Devillers stressed that the strength of the funds available was in the ability to make direct payments for projects, not giving large amounts away to intermediaries to manage and upon which to levy heavy administration charges. The Deputy Executive Secretary clarified that the Secretariat had no intention to hire other organisations to manage the funds in this way. Instead, the Secretariat would continue to try to identify suitable organizations to actually implement umbrella projects that encapsulated several different, yet related activities; if some new activity required funding, it could simply be added as a protocol to the overall project. The representative of Oceania reported much interest in Philippines and elsewhere in Oceania in marine turtle projects pursued by the Marine Turtle Specialist Group.

96. Before concluding the discussion, the representative of Europe said he appreciated the constraints faced by the Secretariat as regards administrative bureaucracy and staff capacity, but added that it was also a question of planning and prioritization. In his view, more emphasis should be placed on implementing activities that demonstrate the usefulness on the Convention than, for example, concluding memoranda of co-operation with other organizations.

97. There being no further comments, the Committee accepted the report of the Chairman of the Scientific Council.

Agenda Item 12: Date and venue of the next meeting of the Standing Committee

98. The Committee agreed to meet at some point towards the end of January 1999 at the proposed conference venue in the Cape Town area. The date would be fixed later and communicated to the Committee by the Secretariat.

99. The Deputy Executive Secretary noted that Trust Fund would incur additional expense by holding the meeting in South Africa (i.e. in terms of transport, staff to service the meeting etc.), but the Secretariat considered the additional expense justified since it would allow for a trial run of the conference venue. He added that the budgetary allocation for past Standing Committee meetings had been underspent, since the budget had always to leave room to finance the attendance of a hypothetical number developing countries. Financing the meeting in January 1999 could therefore probably be accommodated within funds unspent from previous Standing Committee meetings. The Committee acknowledged that the amount in question would probably exceed the budget that had been agreed for that particular meeting.

Agenda Item 13: Any other business

100. There was no other business.

Closure of the meeting

101. The Chairman thanked the Secretariat, in particular the Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary, the CMS staff and the interpreters for their efforts. He thanked also the Standing Committee representatives and the representative of UNEP, the Chairman of the Scientific Council and the Government of Germany, and closed the meeting at 12.38 p.m.

**18th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee
Bonn, 3 - 4 February 1998**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chair:

Saudi Arabia (Asia) Prof. Abdulaziz H. Abuzinada

Vice-Chair:

Netherlands (Europe) Dr. Gerard Boere

Members:

Germany (Depositary)	Mr. Gerhard Adams
	Ms. Gabriela Bennemann
	Dr. Gerhard Fulda (part-time)
	Dr. Michael Paul
	Ms. Astrid Thyssen
Guinea (Africa)	Mr. Abdel Kader Bangoura
Philippines (Oceania)	Mr. Wilfrido Pollisco
Saudi Arabia (Asia)	Dr. Hany Tatwany
South Africa (Host country, COP6)	Mr. Johann Lombard
Uruguay (Americas/Caribbean)	Dr. Jorge Cravino Castro

Observers:

United Kingdom	Mr. Ian Muchmore
Chairman, Scientific Council	Dr. Pierre Devillers (part-time)
UNEP - Nairobi	Mr. Rudy van Dijck

UNEP/CMS Secretariat:

Executive Secretary	Mr. Arnulf Müller-Helmbrecht
Deputy Executive Secretary	Mr. Douglas Hykle
Technical Officer	Mr. Pablo Canevari
Special Project Officer	Mr. Eric Blencowe
Scientific Adviser	Dr. Eugeniusz Nowak

**18th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee
Bonn, 3 - 4 February 1998**

AGENDA

1. Opening remarks
2. Adoption of the agenda, work schedule and rules of procedure
3. Secretariat report on intersessional activities
4. Report from the Depositary
 - a) Headquarters agreement
 - b) Preparation of certified copies of the Convention text
5. Reports from Committee members
6. Co-location of Agreement secretariats (Resolution 5.5)
7. Review of current status of contributions to the CMS Trust Fund, CMS budget and resources
 - 7.1 Use of additional voluntary contribution from Germany: DM100,000
8. Standing Committee work programme arising from the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
 - a) Pursuit of priority objectives agreed at COP5
 - b) updating of *Guidelines for acceptance of financial contributions* (Resolution 5.7)
9. Arrangements for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
 - 9.1 Cost estimate for the provision of Arabic as a working language of COP6
10. Working Group report on preparations for CMS 20th anniversary celebrations in 1999
11. Matters of the Scientific Council relating to the work of the Standing Committee
12. Date and venue of the next meeting of the Standing Committee
13. Any other business

UN Scale of assessment sorted alphabetically, by country, for years 1998 and 1999			
	Country	1998	1999
1	Afghanistan	0.004	0.003
2	Albania	0.003	0.003
3	Algeria	0.116	0.094
4	Andorra	0.004	0.004
5	Angola	0.010	0.010
6	Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.002
7	Argentina	0.768	1.024
8	Armenia	0.027	0.011
9	Australia	1.471	1.482
10	Austria	0.935	0.941
11	Azerbaijan	0.060	0.022
12	Bahamas	0.015	0.015
13	Bahrain	0.018	0.017
14	Bangladesh	0.010	0.010
15	Barbados	0.008	0.008
16	Belarus	0.164	0.082
17	Belgium	1.096	1.103
18	Belize	0.001	0.001
19	Benin	0.002	0.002
20	Bhutan	0.001	0.001
21	Bolivia	0.008	0.007
22	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.005	0.005
23	Botswana	0.010	0.010
24	Brazil	1.514	1.470
25	Brunei Darussalam	0.020	0.020
26	Bulgaria	0.045	0.019
27	Burkina Faso	0.002	0.002
28	Burundi	0.001	0.001
29	Cambodia	0.001	0.001
30	Cameroon	0.014	0.013
31	Canada	2.825	2.754
32	Cape Verde	0.001	0.002
33	Central African Republic	0.002	0.001
34	Chad	0.001	0.001
35	Chile	0.113	0.131
36	China	0.901	0.973
37	Colombia	0.108	0.109
38	Comoros	0.001	0.001
39	Congo	0.003	0.003
40	Costa Rica	0.017	0.016

41	Cote d'Ivoire	0.012	0.009
42	Croatia	0.056	0.036
43	Cuba	0.039	0.026
44	Cyprus	0.034	0.034
45	Czech Republic	0.169	0.121
46	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.031	0.019
47	Dem. Republic of the Congo	0.008	0.007
48	Denmark	0.687	0.691
49	Djibouti	0.001	0.001
50	Dominica	0.001	0.001
51	Dominican Republic	0.016	0.015
52	Ecuador	0.022	0.020
53	Egypt	0.069	0.065
54	El Salvador	0.012	0.012
55	Equatorial Guinea	0.001	0.001
56	Eritrea	0.001	0.001
57	Estonia	0.023	0.015
58	Ethiopia	0.007	0.006
59	Fiji	0.004	0.004
60	Finland	0.538	0.542
61	France	6.494	6.540
62	Gabon	0.018	0.015
63	Gambia	0.001	0.001
64	Georgia	0.058	0.019
65	Germany	9.630	9.808
66	Ghana	0.007	0.007
67	Greece	0.368	0.351
68	Grenada	0.001	0.001
69	Guatemala	0.019	0.018
70	Guinea	0.003	0.003
71	Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001
72	Guyana	0.001	0.001
73	Haiti	0.002	0.002
74	Honduras	0.004	0.003
75	Hungary	0.119	0.120
76	Iceland	0.032	0.032
77	India	0.305	0.299
78	Indonesia	0.173	0.184
79	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.303	0.193
80	Iraq	0.087	0.045
81	Ireland	0.223	0.224
82	Israel	0.329	0.345
83	Italy	5.394	5.432
84	Jamaica	0.006	0.006

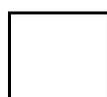
85	Japan	17.981	19.984
86	Jordan	0.008	0.006
87	Kazakhstan	0.124	0.066
88	Kenya	0.007	0.007
89	Kuwait	0.154	0.134
90	Kyrgyzstan	0.015	0.008
91	Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.001	0.001
92	Latvia	0.046	0.024
93	Lebanon	0.016	0.016
94	Lesotho	0.002	0.002
95	Liberia	0.002	0.002
96	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0.160	0.132
97	Liechtenstein	0.005	0.006
98	Lithuania	0.045	0.022
99	Luxembourg	0.066	0.068
100	Madagascar	0.003	0.003
101	Malawi	0.002	0.002
102	Malaysia	0.168	0.180
103	Maldives	0.001	0.001
104	Mali	0.003	0.002
105	Malta	0.014	0.014
106	Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001
107	Mauritania	0.001	0.001
108	Mauritius	0.009	0.009
109	Mexico	0.941	0.980
110	Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001	0.001
111	Monaco	0.003	0.004
112	Mongolia	0.002	0.002
113	Morocco	0.041	0.041
114	Mozambique	0.002	0.001
115	Myanmar	0.009	0.008
116	Namibia	0.007	0.007
117	Nepal	0.004	0.004
118	Netherlands	1.619	1.631
119	New Zealand	0.221	0.221
120	Nicaragua	0.002	0.001
121	Niger	0.002	0.002
122	Nigeria	0.070	0.040
123	Norway	0.605	0.610
124	Oman	0.050	0.051
125	Pakistan	0.060	0.059
126	Palau	0.001	0.001
127	Panama	0.016	0.013
128	Papua New Guinea	0.007	0.007

129	Paraguay	0.014	0.014
130	Peru	0.085	0.095
131	Philippines	0.077	0.080
132	Poland	0.251	0.207
133	Portugal	0.368	0.417
134	Qatar	0.033	0.033
135	Republic of Korea	0.955	0.994
136	Republic of Moldova	0.043	0.018
137	Romania	0.102	0.067
138	Russian Federation	2.873	1.487
139	Rwanda	0.002	0.001
140	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	0.001
141	Saint Lucia	0.001	0.001
142	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.001
143	Samoa	0.001	0.001
144	San Marino	0.002	0.002
145	Sao Tome and Principe	0.001	0.001
146	Saudi Arabia	0.594	0.569
147	Senegal	0.006	0.006
148	Seychelles	0.002	0.002
149	Sierra Leone	0.001	0.001
150	Singapore	0.167	0.176
151	Slovakia	0.053	0.039
152	Slovenia	0.060	0.061
153	Solomon Islands	0.001	0.001
154	Somalia	0.001	0.001
155	South Africa	0.365	0.366
156	Spain	2.571	2.589
157	Sri Lanka	0.013	0.012
158	Sudan	0.009	0.007
159	Suriname	0.004	0.004
160	Swaziland	0.002	0.002
161	Sweden	1.099	1.084
162	Syrian Arab Republic	0.062	0.064
163	Tajikistan	0.008	0.005
164	Thailand	0.158	0.167
165	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.005	0.004
166	Togo	0.002	0.001
167	Trinidad and Tobago	0.018	0.017
168	Tunisia	0.028	0.028
169	Turkey	0.440	0.440
170	Turkmenistan	0.015	0.008
171	Uganda	0.004	0.004
172	Ukraine	0.678	0.302

173	United Arab Emirates	0.177	0.178
174	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	5.076	5.090
175	United Republic of Tanzania	0.004	0.003
176	United States	25.000	25.000
177	Uruguay	0.049	0.048
178	Uzbekistan	0.077	0.037
179	Vanuatu	0.001	0.001
180	Venezuela	0.235	0.176
181	Viet Nam	0.010	0.007
182	Yemen	0.010	0.010
183	Yugoslavia	0.060	0.034
184	Zambia	0.003	0.002
185	Zimbabwe	0.009	0.009
	TOTAL	100.000	100.000

CMS Parties eligible for financial support for travel to relevant CMS meetings, as determined by the CMS Standing Committee (Bonn, February 1998)

No.	Country	UN scale of assessment		
		1998	1999	2000
1	Peru	0.085	0.095	0.099
2	Philippines	0.077	0.080	0.081
3	Nigeria	0.070	0.040	0.032
4	Egypt	0.069	0.065	0.065
5	Pakistan	0.060	0.059	0.059
6	Uruguay	0.049	0.048	0.048
7	Morocco	0.041	0.041	0.041
8	Tunisia	0.028	0.028	0.028
9	Panama	0.016	0.013	0.013
10	Cameroon	0.014	0.013	0.013
11	Sri Lanka	0.013	0.012	0.012
12	Dem. Republic of the Congo	0.008	0.007	0.007
13	Ghana	0.007	0.007	0.007
14	Senegal	0.006	0.006	0.006
15	Guinea	0.003	0.003	0.003
16	Mali	0.003	0.002	0.002
17	Burkina Faso	0.002	0.002	0.002
18	Togo	0.002	0.001	0.001
19	Benin	0.002	0.002	0.002
20	Niger	0.002	0.002	0.002
21	Somalia	0.001	0.001	0.001
22	Chad	0.001	0.001	0.001
23	Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001	0.001



Parties which need to request financial support to attend relevant CMS-sponsored meetings (will not be automatically considered as needing funding)



Parties which are automatically considered eligible for financial support to attend CMS sponsored meetings

**List of 20 Non-Party States for which profiles have been prepared by
WCMC, representing the highest priority for recruitment
by the Standing Committee and Secretariat**

Country	Regional Standing Committee Member(s) who will lead the initiative
Algeria	Africa
Brazil	Americas/Caribbean
Bulgaria	Europe
China	Asia
Indonesia	Oceania, Asia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Asia
Japan	Asia
Kazakstan	Asia, Europe
Kenya	Africa
Korea (Republic of)	Asia
Mauritania	Africa, Asia
Mexico	Americas/Caribbean
Malaysia	Oceania, Asia
New Zealand	Oceania
Russian Federation	Europe
Thailand	Oceania
Turkey	Europe, Asia
Vietnam	Oceania
Canada*	Americas/Caribbean
USA*	Americas/Caribbean

* Also priorities for recruitment. However, no profiles have been prepared since sufficient information is available from other sources.