



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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Agenda Item 26.1

CONCERTED ACTIONS

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

This document consolidates the thirteen resolutions and recommendations on Concerted and Cooperative Actions into a single Resolution. It also proposes adjustments aimed at streamlining the procedures for the management of the Concerted Actions tool.

Implementation of the draft Resolution and Decisions will contribute towards meeting several targets of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, notably targets 7, 8, 9, 11.

CONCERTED ACTIONS

Background

1. Thirteen resolutions and recommendations provide advice to the Parties relating to Concerted Actions for Appendix I species and Cooperative Actions for Appendix II species:
 - a) [Resolution 3.2, Appendix I Species](#);
 - b) [Resolution 4.2, Appendix I Species](#);
 - c) [Resolution 5.1, Concerted Actions for Appendix I Species](#);
 - d) [Resolution 6.1, Concerted Actions for Appendix I Species](#);
 - e) [Resolution 7.1, Concerted Actions for Appendix I Species](#);
 - f) [Resolution 8.29, Concerted Actions for Appendix I Species](#);
 - g) [Resolution 9.1, Concerted and Cooperative Actions](#);
 - h) [Resolution 10.23, Concerted and Cooperative Actions](#);
 - i) [Resolution 11.13, Concerted and Cooperative Actions](#);
 - j) [Recommendation 5.2, Co-operative Actions for Appendix II Species](#);
 - k) [Recommendation 6.2, Co-operative Actions for Appendix II Species](#);
 - l) [Recommendation 7.1, Co-operative Actions for Appendix II Species](#); and
 - m) [Recommendation 8.28, Cooperative Actions for Appendix II Species](#).
2. The most recent resolution, Resolution 11.13, *Concerted and Cooperative Actions*, calls for a consolidation of the process for designating species for Concerted and Cooperative Actions. As a consequence of Resolution 11.13, all previous resolutions and recommendations on Concerted and Cooperative Actions appear to have been superseded, with the exception of paragraphs 1 and 4 of Resolution 3.2 and paragraph 6 of Resolution 10.23.
3. As part of the process for consolidating Concerted and Cooperative Actions, the Parties endorsed elements of document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I and adopted Annex 3 of Resolution 11.13. These documents include concepts that should be included in the process for Concerted Actions.
4. In addition, the Secretariat receives frequent requests for clarification and guidance about the process of Concerted Actions. For that reason, the Secretariat has decided to develop guidelines, which provide a step-by-step explanation for the implementation of the Concerted Actions process. The guidelines are expected to be attached to, and be an integral part of the consolidated resolution. In developing the guidelines, the Secretariat has referred as faithfully as possible to extant decisions taken by the Parties as reflected in the relevant resolutions and document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I. In doing so, a number of provisions reflected in the guidelines are proposed to be removed from the operative part of the resolution. Similarly, the content of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13 has been fully integrated in the guidelines.
5. The structure of the new resolution is intended to create a well-defined and transparent process for nominating and designating species for Concerted Actions. It is also designed to avoid redrafting a resolution at each meeting of the COP. Instead, any subsequent changes to the list of species identified as needing Concerted Actions would occur through revisions to Annex 3 of the new resolution.
6. The Secretariat notes that this document began as a consolidation, consistent with the process outlined in UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.21. To simplify the process for considering the substantial changes proposed at this meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat decided to consider all changes within a single document under Agenda Item 26.
7. Nonetheless, the document is presented as the consolidated resolutions are presented.

Annex 1 of this document presents a draft consolidated resolution which includes, in the left-hand column, the original text of Resolution 11.13, paragraphs 1 and 4 from Resolution 3.2 and paragraph 6 from Resolution 10.23 and the key concepts found in UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I. The right-hand column indicates the source of the text, as well as comments that explain into which part of the consolidated resolution (i.e. the resolution itself or the annexed *Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process* and *Template for proposing Concerted Actions*) the text has been moved. The resolution, if adopted, will include the following elements:

- a) The preambular and operative paragraphs of the resolution;
 - b) An annex that includes the *Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process*;
 - c) A second annex that includes the *Template for Proposing Concerted Actions*; and
 - d) A third annex that will include the species for which the Parties have decided to implement Concerted Actions. (The Parties will decide which species would benefit from Concerted Actions under Agenda Item 26.2; see UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.26.2).
8. Annex 2 of this document contains the clean version of the draft resolution, including clean versions of the *Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process* and *Template for Proposing Concerted Actions*. This structure is intended to make clear that the *Guidelines and Template* are integral parts of the resolution.
9. Annex 3 of this document contains draft decisions, which are separate from the consolidated resolution. Some of the draft decisions derive from provisions of Resolution 11.13; the relevant paragraphs are identified in the right-hand column of the table. Other draft decisions are new. The Secretariat has proposed them to increase the effectiveness of the process presented in the resolution.

Recommended Actions:

10. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
- a) adopt the consolidated resolution, including the *Guidelines* and *Template* contained in Annex 2; and
 - b) adopt the decisions contained in Annex 3.

DRAFT CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTION: CONCERTED ACTIONS

NB: Proposed new text is underlined. Text to be deleted is ~~crossed out~~.

Text from existing resolutions	Comment
<i>Recalling</i> the preamble of the Convention, which refers to the Parties' conviction that conservation and management of migratory species require the concerted action of all Range States;	Resolution 11.13 Retain
<i>Further recalling</i> Resolution 3.2, which instructed the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take Concerted Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention, and which initiated a process for each meeting of the Conference of Parties to recommend initiatives to benefit a selected number of species listed in Appendix I;	Resolution 11.13 Retain
<i>Further recalling</i> Recommendation 5.2 which introduced the concept of "Cooperative Actions" as a rapid mechanism to assist the conservation of species listed in Appendix II and to act as a precursor or alternative to the conclusion for any of those species of an agreement under Article IV;	Resolution 11.13 Retain
<i>Recalling also</i> the recommendations for improving the process for Concerted and Cooperative Actions under CMS as detailed in Annex 3 to Resolution 10.23, and <i>noting</i> the proposals of the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to address part of those recommendations, as detailed in document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I;	Resolution 11.13 Repeal
<i>Recalling also</i> Resolution 3.2, as updated by Resolutions 4.2, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.29, 9.1, 10.23, and 11.13 and Recommendation 6.2, as updated by Recommendations 7.1, 8.28, and Resolutions 9.1, 10.23, and 11.13, which advise the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take Concerted and Cooperative Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention and to improve the conservation status of certain listed migratory species;	Resolution 11.13 Retain as updated
<i>Welcoming</i> the conservation activities undertaken by Parties and other organizations for Appendix I species designated for Concerted Action and for Appendix II species designated for Cooperative Action as summarized in the report of the 18th Meeting of the CMS Scientific Council; and	Resolution 11.13 Repeal; out of date
<i>Noting</i> the recommendations of the 18th Meeting of the Scientific Council to the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties on species to be considered for concerted and cooperative action for the period 2015-2017;	Resolution 11.13 Repeal; out of date
<u><i>Recalling</i> the decision of the Parties at COP11 to consolidate Concerted Actions and Cooperative Actions into a single process, as described in Resolution 11.13;</u>	New text based on paragraphs 1 and 2 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
<i>The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals</i>	
1. <u><i>Determines</i> that Concerted Actions are priority conservation measures, projects or institutional arrangements undertaken to improve the conservation status of selected Appendix I and Appendix II species or selected groups of Appendix I and Appendix II species that</u>	New text derived from paragraphs 2.5, 2.6 and 3.2 of UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I, which the Parties

Text from existing resolutions	Comment
<p>(a) <u>involve measures that are the collective responsibility of Parties acting in concert; or</u></p> <p>(b) <u>are designed to support the conclusion of an instrument under Article IV of the Convention and enable conservation measures to be progressed in the meantime or represent an alternative to such an instrument;</u></p>	<p>endorsed, and paragraph 2 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13.</p>
<p>2. <u>Adopts</u></p> <p>a) <u>the Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process contained in Annex X to this Resolution; and</u></p> <p>b) <u>the Template for Proposing Concerted Actions; and</u></p> <p><u>requests Parties, the Scientific Council, the Secretariat and other relevant stakeholders to take them fully into account in the different steps of the Concerted Actions process;</u></p>	<p>New text derived from paragraph 5 of Resolution 11.13</p>
<p>3. <u>Instructs the Scientific Council to propose for each meeting of the Conference of the Parties a list of species for Concerted Actions;</u></p>	<p>New text based on the paragraphs of previous resolutions and recommendations on Concerted Actions</p>
<p>4. Encourages Parties to ensure that all initiatives to undertake Concerted Actions specify the conservation and institutional outcomes expected and the timeframes within which these outcomes should be achieved;</p>	<p>Resolution 11.13, paragraph 3</p> <p>This paragraph is now implicitly covered by the Guidelines contained in Annex 1 to this resolution and the Template contained in Annex 2 to this resolution</p>
<p>5. Endorses the recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of the Concerted and Cooperative Actions process as detailed in document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX-I and summarized in Annex 3 to this Resolution; and</p>	<p>Resolution 11.13, paragraph 4</p> <p>Repeal; some of the recommendations are now implemented, and the remaining ones have been integrated in the Guidelines (and the Template)</p>
<p>6. Requests the Secretariat, the Scientific Council and Parties, and invites other relevant stakeholders to take these recommendations fully into account in the identification of candidate species for designation for Concerted or Cooperative Actions, and in the identification and subsequent implementation of action to take in response to Concerted or Cooperative Actions listing.</p>	<p>Resolution 11.13, paragraph 5</p> <p>This paragraph is now covered by paragraph 2 of this resolution and Step 1 of the Guidelines contained in Annex 2 of this document</p>

Text from existing resolutions	Comment
<p>7. <i>Requests</i> the Scientific Council to:</p> <p>(a) nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for Concerted Actions, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned <u>in accordance with the Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process contained in Annex X to this Resolution;</u></p> <p>(b) confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary;</p>	<p>Resolution 10.23, paragraph 6</p> <p>Retain</p>
<p>8. <u>Decides to review, at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, progress in implementing Concerted Actions, in accordance with the Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process contained in Annex X to this Resolution;</u></p>	<p>New text based on paragraphs 3 and 4 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13</p>
<p>9. <i>Instructs</i> the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take Concerted Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention, where possible through existing instruments of bilateral or multilateral cooperation;</p>	<p>Paragraph 4 of Resolution 3.2</p> <p>Retain</p>
<p>10. <i>Urges</i> Parties to provide the in-kind and financial means required to support targeted conservation measures aimed at implementing Concerted and Cooperative Actions for the species listed in Annexes 1 and X to this Resolution; and</p>	<p>Resolution 11.13, paragraph 2</p> <p>Retain as modified</p>
<p>11. <i>Adopts</i> the lists of species designated for Concerted and Cooperative Actions <u>contained in Annexes 1 and X of this Resolution and encourages Parties and other stakeholders to implement the activities included in the proposals for the designation of the species submitted in accordance with the Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process;</u> and encourages Parties and other stakeholders to identify and undertake activities aimed at implementing Concerted and Cooperative Actions to improve the conservation status of listed species including the preparation of species action plans, during the 2015-2017 triennium;</p>	<p>Resolution 11.13, paragraph 1</p> <p>Retain as modified; text suggested for deletion is now contained in Step 1 of the Guidelines contained in Annex 2</p>
<p>12. <u>Repeals</u> Resolutions 3.2, 4.2, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.29, 9.1, 10.23, and 11.13 and Recommendations 5.2, 6.2, 7.1, and 8.28.</p>	<p>New text to reflect consolidation</p>
<p>Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CONCERTED AND COOPERATIVE ACTIONS PROCESS</p> <p><u>INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN PROPOSAL FOR CONCERTED ACTIONS</u></p> <p>The recommendations headings listed below are derived from the report “Improving the process for Concerted and Cooperative Actions” which was compiled in response to requests in Annex 3 to COP Resolution 10.23 (2011), and was provided to COP11 as document</p>	<p>The concepts embodied in the crossed out text are included in the following parts of this document:</p> <p>Paragraphs 1 and 2 are included in the last preambular paragraph of this resolution;</p> <p>Paragraph 3 is contained in paragraph</p>

Text from existing resolutions	Comment
<p><u>UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I. The document provides further guidance on issues to address under each of the headings:</u></p> <p>1. It is recommended that the two processes (Concerted Actions, normally for selected Appendix I species; and Cooperative Actions, normally for selected Appendix II species) be consolidated. While a variety of approaches may continue to be taken to the purposes defined and activities undertaken in each individual case, a unified system will help to provide the greater clarity and streamlining that has been sought for some years.</p> <p>2. To effect this consolidation, all future proposals (from COP12 onwards) would be made for Concerted Actions only. The Concerted Actions mechanism would be applicable to both Appendix I and Appendix II species, and its scope would broaden to include all of the kinds of activity previously pursued through Cooperative Actions, as well as those normally pursued through Concerted Actions. The Cooperative Actions mechanism itself would cease to exist.</p> <p>3. Species previously listed for Cooperative Actions, but for which no activity has yet begun, would be automatically transferred into a new unified Concerted Actions list. The list would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP, to determine whether each such species should remain listed or be deleted.</p> <p>4. Projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier COP decisions would continue unaffected. These too however would be subject to review by the Scientific Council and the COP. Such reviews may conclude, <i>inter alia</i>, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be re-named accordingly).</p> <p>5. It is recommended that proposals for future Concerted Action listing decisions should include a specification of certain standard items of information, according to the headings listed below. (Further guidance on issues to address under each of these is given in document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I). The information compiled should as far as possible provide a balanced assessment of the advantages and risks associated with each issue, rather than being seen solely as a tool for persuasion.</p>	<p>a) of Decision 12.AA, Annex 4</p> <p>Paragraph 4 is contained in paragraph b) of Decision 12.AA, Annex 4</p> <p>Paragraph 5 is included in the Guidelines and Template, Annexes 2 and 3</p>
<p>A. Target species/population(s), and their status in CMS Appendices</p> <p><i>A Concerted Action may address a single species, lower taxon or population, or a group of taxa with needs in common. The target animals in each case should be clearly defined, including by reference to their status in terms of the CMS Appendices and the geographical range(s) concerned.</i></p> <p>B. The case for action</p> <p><i>To be assessed according to the following criteria:</i></p> <p>(i) Conservation priority <i>May relate to the degree of endangerment or unfavourable</i></p>	<p>Point A. is included in the Template, Annex 3</p> <p>Point B. is included in the Guidelines, Annex 2</p> <p>Points C-F are included in the Template, Annex 3</p>

Text from existing resolutions	Comment
<p><i>conservation status as defined under the Convention; the urgency with which a particular kind of action is required; and other priorities expressed in CMS decisions.</i></p> <p>(ii) Relevance</p> <p><i>May relate to the degree to which the particular conservation problem is linked to migration and requires collective multilateral action; and the degree to which the proposed action will fulfil specific CMS mandates.</i></p> <p>(iii) Absence of better remedies</p> <p><i>An options analysis to test whether (and why) a CMS Concerted Action is the best method of meeting the defined conservation need. Alternatives both within and outside the mechanisms of the CMS should be considered⁴.</i></p> <p>(iv) Readiness and feasibility</p> <p><i>The proposal will need to demonstrate meaningful prospects for funding and leadership, and to address all significant issues of practical feasibility for undertaking the action.</i></p> <p>(v) Likelihood of success</p> <p><i>Feasibility (see previous criterion) only concerns whether an action is likely to be implementable. Criterion (v) seeks in addition to assess whether implementation is likely to lead to the intended outcome. Risk factors to consider include: uncertainty about the ecological effects; weakness in the underpinning science; lack of a “legacy mechanism” by which results can be sustained; and activities by others that may undermine or negate the results of the action.</i></p> <p>(vi) Magnitude of likely impact</p> <p><i>Proposals that are equal in other respects might be prioritized according to the number of species, number of countries or extent of area that will benefit in each case; the scope for catalytic or “multiplier” effects, contribution to synergies or potential for acting as “flagship” cases for broadening outreach.</i></p> <p>(vii) Cost-effectiveness</p> <p><i>Proposals should specify the resources they require, but should also relate these to the scale of impact expected, so that cost-effectiveness can be judged.</i></p>	

⁴ For cases where it appears that proceeding directly to the development of an Agreement or other instrument under Article IV of the Convention would be a better remedy, equivalent guidance and criteria for judging such proposals is provided in Resolution 11.12, *Criteria for Assessing Proposals for New Agreements*.

Text from existing resolutions	Comment
<p>C. Activities and expected outcomes</p> <p><i>Activities to be undertaken should be specified, and their expected outcomes defined. This should address both institutional aspects (e.g. development of an Action Plan) and ecological aspects (e.g. targets for improved conservation status). Following the SMART standard (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) will help; and the intended process for monitoring & evaluation should also be described.</i></p> <p>D. Associated benefits</p> <p><i>Opportunities to maximise added value should be identified, for example where actions targeting certain migratory animals may incidentally benefit other migratory species/taxa/populations, or where there is good scope for awareness-raising, capacity-building or encouraging new Party accessions.</i></p> <p>E. Timeframe</p> <p><i>Any elements of the action that are intended to be open-ended (e.g. measures to maintain conservation status) should be identified as such; and otherwise completion timeframes (and progress milestones where possible) should be specified.</i></p> <p>F. Relationship to other CMS actions</p> <p><i>Information should be given on how the action's implementation will relate to other areas of CMS activity. This may form part of its purpose, for example if it is designed to lead to an Agreement; or it may involve showing how the action will support the Strategic Plan or COP decisions. It may also be necessary to show how different Concerted Actions complement or interact with each other.</i></p>	

Annex 1 to Resolution 12.XX

GUIDELINES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCERTED ACTIONS PROCESS

<u>Step 1: Proposing a species for Concerted Actions</u>	
1) <u>Proposals for Concerted Actions can be submitted to the Scientific Council by Parties, the Secretariat or other relevant stakeholders, using the template provided in Annex 2 of this Resolution.</u>	Derived from paragraph 5 of Resolution 11.13
2) <u>The Scientific Council itself can also propose a species for Concerted Actions.</u>	Derived from paragraph 5 of Resolution 11.13
3) <u>Proposals for Concerted Actions may address a single species, lower taxon or population, or a group of taxa with needs in common. The target animals in each case should</u>	Derived from paragraph A. of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13

<p>be clearly defined, including by reference to their status in terms of the CMS Appendices and the geographical range(s) concerned.</p>	
<p>4) <u>Proposals for Concerted Actions should be submitted in the template provided in the Annex to these Guidelines.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify procedure</p>
<p>5) <u>Proposals for Concerted Actions should be submitted to the Scientific Council according to the provisions for the submission of documents to meetings of the Scientific Council or its Sessional Committee as defined by its Rules of Procedure.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify procedure</p>
<p><u>Step 2: Assessment of proposal by the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee</u></p>	
<p>1) <u>Upon receipt of a proposal for Concerted Actions the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will assess the merits of the proposal.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify procedure</p>
<p>2) <u>The Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will assess the merits of each proposal, taking into account the following criteria:</u></p> <p>(i) Conservation priority</p> <p><i>May relate to the degree of endangerment or unfavourable conservation status as defined under the Convention; the urgency with which a particular kind of action is required; and other priorities expressed in CMS decisions.</i></p> <p>(ii) Relevance</p> <p><i>May relate to the degree to which the particular conservation problem is linked to migration and requires collective multilateral action; and the degree to which the proposed action will fulfil specific CMS mandates.</i></p> <p>(iii) Absence of better remedies</p> <p><i>An options analysis to test whether (and why) a CMS Concerted Action is the best method of meeting the defined conservation need. Alternatives both within and outside the mechanisms of the CMS should be considered¹.</i></p> <p>(iv) Readiness and feasibility</p> <p><i>The proposal will need to demonstrate meaningful prospects for funding and leadership, and to address all significant issues of practical feasibility for undertaking the action.</i></p> <p>(v) Likelihood of success</p> <p><i>Feasibility (see previous criterion) only concerns whether an action is likely to be implementable. Criterion (v) seeks in addition to assess whether implementation is likely to lead to the intended outcome. Risk factors to consider include: uncertainty about the ecological effects; weakness in the underpinning science; lack of a “legacy mechanism” by which results can be sustained; and</i></p>	<p>Text derived from paragraph 5 and paragraph B. of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13</p>

¹ For cases where it appears that proceeding directly to the development of an Agreement or other instrument under Article IV of the Convention would be a better remedy, equivalent guidance and criteria for judging such proposals is provided in Resolution 11.12, *Criteria for Assessing Proposals for New Agreements*.

<p><i>activities by others that may undermine or negate the results of the action.</i></p> <p>(vi) Magnitude of likely impact</p> <p><i>Proposals that are equal in other respects might be prioritized according to the number of species, number of countries or extent of area that will benefit in each case; the scope for catalytic or “multiplier” effects, contribution to synergies or potential for acting as “flagship” cases for broadening outreach.</i></p> <p>(vii) Cost-effectiveness</p> <p><i>Proposals should specify the resources they require, but should also relate these to the scale of impact expected, so that cost-effectiveness can be judged.</i></p>	
<p>3) <u>If the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee considers it beneficial, it may recommend to extend or reduce the number of species covered by the proposal or amend the proposed conservation measures.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify the procedure.</p>
<p><u>Step 3: Recommendation to the Conference of Parties to designate species for Concerted Actions</u></p>	
<p>1) <u>If the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee concludes that there are merits to add a species to the list for Concerted Actions, the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will recommend to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting to designate the species for Concerted Actions.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify the procedure.</p>
<p>2) <u>The recommendation of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee to the Conference of the Parties will also include the conservation measures proposed to be undertaken under the Concerted Actions, as well as a list of Range State Parties of the species, where measures are to be implemented.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify the procedure.</p>
<p><u>Step 4: Decision of the COP to include species into the list for Concerted Actions</u></p>	
<p>1) <u>The Conference of the Parties will consider the recommendations of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee and decide whether or not to accept the proposal for Concerted Actions, including the conservation measures proposed and the list of range States concerned.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify the procedure</p>
<p>2) <u>If the Conference of the Parties accepts the proposal, it will include the species in the list for Concerted Actions.</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify the procedure</p>
<p><u>Step 5: Reporting and monitoring of implementation of Concerted Actions</u></p>	
<p>1) <u>Members of the Council or alternative experts nominated by the Scientific Council will provide a concise written report to each meeting of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned.</u></p>	<p>Derived from Paragraph 6. a of Resolution 10.23</p>
<p>2) <u>Parties that are Range States of species listed for Concerted Actions are urged to fully cooperate in providing information to the nominated members of the Council or alternative experts.</u></p>	<p>Derived from paragraph 3 of Resolution 3.2</p>
<p>3) <u>The Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will evaluate the progress made in implementation by Range State Parties</u></p>	<p>New text to clarify the</p>

<u>of species listed for Concerted Actions and make appropriate recommendations for further actions, as necessary.</u>	procedure.
4) <u>Parties that are Range States of species listed for Concerted Actions should report 180 days prior to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on their progress in implementation of Concerted Actions, as part of their National Reports.</u>	Derived from paragraph 5 of Resolution 10.23
5) <u>The Conference of the Parties will review the progress made in implementing Concerted Actions in order to measure the effectiveness of the instrument.</u>	Derived from paragraph 5 of Resolution 10.23
<u>Step 6: Removing a species from the list for Concerted Actions</u>	
1. <u>The Scientific Council / Sessional Committee, having assessed progress in implementation of Concerted Actions will recommend to the Conference of Parties at each of its meetings whether a species listed for Concerted Actions should be removed from the list.</u>	New text derived from paragraph 4 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
2. <u>The Conference of Parties, upon the recommendation of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will, at each of its meetings, decide whether a species should be taken off the list.</u>	New text derived from paragraph 4 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13

Annex 2 to Resolution 12.XX

TEMPLATE FOR PROPOSING CONCERTED ACTIONS

Text from existing resolutions and proposed new text		Comment
<p><u>Proponents of proposals for Concerted Actions are requested to fill in the template below. The information required in the template is derived from Resolution 11.13 and document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I on <i>Improving the process for Concerted and Cooperative Actions</i> submitted to the Conference of Parties at its 11th meeting. The information compiled should as far as possible provide a balanced assessment of the advantages and risks associated with each issue, rather than being seen solely as a tool for persuasion (paragraph 5, Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13).</u></p> <p><u>Proposals should be submitted to the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee through the Secretariat at cms.secretariat@cms.int prior to the deadline for submission of documents to the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee at its meetings.</u></p> <p><u>All text in blue should be removed when submitting the proposal.</u></p>		Paragraph 5 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13.
<u>Proponent</u>	<u>Provide the name of the proponent and in the case of a stakeholder demonstrate your relevance to the species and CMS.</u>	New text to clarify process
<u>Target species, lower taxon or population, or group of taxa with needs in common</u>	<u>List the species, lower taxon or population, or group of taxa with needs in common concerned in accordance with the names used within the CMS Appendices.</u>	Point A of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13

<u>Geographical range</u>	<u>Define the geographical range of the target species.</u>	Point A of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Activities and expected outcomes	<u>Specify each activity to be undertaken, and define their expected outcomes. This should address both institutional aspects (e.g. development of an Action Plan) and ecological aspects (e.g. targets for improved conservation status). Following the SMART standard (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) will help; and the intended process for monitoring & evaluation should also be described.</u>	Point C of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Associated benefits	<u>Identify opportunities to maximise added value, for example where actions targeting certain migratory animals may incidentally benefit other migratory species/taxa/populations, or where there is good scope for awareness-raising, capacity-building or encouraging new Party accessions.</u>	Point D of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Timeframe	<u>Specify completion timeframes (and progress milestones where possible) and identify any elements of the action that are intended to be open-ended (e.g. measures to maintain conservation status).</u>	Point E of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Relationship to other CMS actions	<u>Explain how the action's implementation will relate to other areas of CMS activity. This may form part of its purpose, for example if it is designed to lead to an Agreement; or it may involve showing how the action will support the Strategic Plan or COP decisions. It may also be necessary to show how different Concerted Actions complement or interact with each other.</u>	Point F of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Conservation priority	<u>Explain why this action is a conservation priority. This may relate to the degree of endangerment or unfavourable conservation status as defined under the Convention; the urgency with which a particular kind of action is required; and other priorities expressed in CMS resolutions and decisions.</u>	Point B (i) of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Relevance	<u>Explain, for example, the degree to which the particular conservation problem is linked to migration and requires collective multilateral action; and the degree to which the proposed action will fulfil specific CMS mandates.</u>	Point B (ii) of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Absence of better remedies	<u>Provide a brief options analysis to test whether (and why) CMS Concerted Action is the best method of meeting the defined conservation need. Alternatives both within and outside the mechanisms of the CMS should be considered. (For cases where it appears that proceeding directly to the development of an Agreement or other instrument under Article IV of the Convention would be a better remedy, equivalent guidance and criteria for judging such proposals is provided in Resolution 11.12 and document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.2/Annex 1.)</u>	Point B (iii) of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13

Readiness and feasibility	<u>Demonstrate meaningful prospects for funding and leadership, and address all significant issues of practical feasibility for undertaking the action.</u>	Point B (iv) of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Likelihood of success	<u>Explain how implementation is likely to lead to the intended outcome. Risk factors to consider include: uncertainty about the ecological effects; weakness in the underpinning science; lack of a “legacy mechanism” by which results can be sustained; and activities by others that may undermine or negate the results of the action.</u>	Point B (v) of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Magnitude of likely impact	<u>Explain the number of species, number of countries or extent of area that will benefit from the action; the scope for catalytic or “multiplier” effects, contribution to synergies or potential for acting as “flagship” cases for broadening outreach.</u>	Point B (vi) of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13
Cost-effectiveness	<u>Specify the resources required and relate these to the scale of impact expected, so that cost-effectiveness can be judged.</u>	Point B (vii) of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13

Annex 3 to Resolution 12.XX

SPECIES DESIGNATED FOR CONCERTED ACTIONS

ANNEX 2

Resolution 12.XX

CONCERTED ACTIONS

Recalling the preamble of the Convention, which refers to the Parties' conviction that conservation and management of migratory species require the concerted action of all Range States,

Further recalling Resolution 3.2, which instructed the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take Concerted Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention, and which initiated a process for each meeting of the Conference of Parties to recommend initiatives to benefit a selected number of species listed in Appendix I,

Further recalling Recommendation 5.2 which introduced the concept of "Cooperative Actions" as a rapid mechanism to assist the conservation of species listed in Appendix II and to act as a precursor or alternative to the conclusion for any of those species of an agreement under Article IV,

Recalling also Resolution 3.2, as updated by Resolutions 4.2, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.29, 9.1, 10.23, and 11.13 and Recommendation 6.2, as updated by Recommendations 7.1, 8.28, and Resolution 9.1, 10.23, and 11.13, which advise the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take Concerted and Cooperative Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention and to improve the conservation status of certain listed migratory species,

Recalling the decision of the Parties at COP11 to consolidate Concerted Actions and Cooperative Actions into a single process, as described in Resolution 11.13,

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

1. *Determines* that Concerted Actions are priority conservation measures, projects, or institutional arrangements undertaken to improve the conservation status of selected Appendix I and Appendix II species or selected groups of Appendix I and Appendix II species that
 - a) involve measures that are the collective responsibility of Parties acting in concert; or
 - b) are designed to support the conclusion of an instrument under Article IV of the Convention and enable conservation measures to be progressed in the meantime or represent an alternative to such an instrument;
2. *Adopts*
 - a) the *Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process* contained in Annex 1 to this Resolution; and
 - b) the *Format for Proposing Concerted Actions* contained in Annex 1 to this Resolution;

and *requests* Parties, the Scientific Council, the Secretariat and other relevant stakeholders to take them fully into account in the different steps of the Concerted Actions process;

3. *Instructs* the Scientific Council to propose for each meeting of the Conference of the Parties a list of species for Concerted Actions;
4. *Requests* the Scientific Council to:
 - a) nominate, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for Concerted Action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned in accordance with the *Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process* contained in Annex X to this Resolution;
 - b) confirm at each subsequent meeting of the Scientific Council that these nominations remain valid or agree alternative nominations as necessary;
5. *Decides* to review, at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, progress in implementing Concerted Actions, in accordance with the *Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process* contained in Annex X to this Resolution;
6. *Instructs* the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take Concerted Actions to implement the provisions of the Convention, where possible through existing instruments of bilateral or multilateral cooperation;
7. *Urges* Parties to provide the in-kind and financial means required to support targeted conservation measures aimed at implementing Concerted Actions for the species listed in Annex X to this Resolution; and
8. *Adopts* the lists of species designated for Concerted Actions contained in Annex X of this Resolution and *encourages* Parties and other stakeholders to implement the activities included in the proposals for the designation of the species submitted in accordance with the *Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process* contained in Annex X to this Resolution;
9. *Repeals* Resolutions 3.2, 4.2, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.29, 9.1, 10.23, and 11.13 and Recommendations 5.2, 6.2, 7.1, and 8.28.

Annex 1 to Resolution 12.XX

GUIDELINES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCERTED ACTIONS PROCESS

Step 1: Proposing a species for Concerted Actions

- 1) Proposals for Concerted Actions can be submitted to the Scientific Council by Parties, the Secretariat or other relevant stakeholders, using the format provided in Annex 2 of this Resolution.
- 2) The Scientific Council itself can also propose a species for Concerted Actions.
- 3) Proposals for Concerted Actions may address a single species, lower taxon or population, or a group of taxa with needs in common. The target animals in each case should be clearly defined, including by reference to their status in terms of the CMS Appendices and the geographical range(s) concerned.
- 4) Proposals for Concerted Actions should be submitted in the template provided in the Annex to these Guidelines.
- 5) Proposals for Concerted Actions should be submitted to the Scientific Council according to the provisions for the submission of documents to meetings of the Scientific Council or its Sessional Committee as defined by its Rules of Procedure.

Step 2: Assessment of proposal by the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee

- 1) Upon receipt of a proposal for Concerted Actions the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will assess the merits of the proposal.
- 2) The Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will assess the merits of each proposal, taking into account the following criteria:

(i) Conservation priority

May relate to the degree of endangerment or unfavourable conservation status as defined under the Convention; the urgency with which a particular kind of action is required; and other priorities expressed in CMS decisions.

(ii) Relevance

May relate to the degree to which the particular conservation problem is linked to migration and requires collective multilateral action; and the degree to which the proposed action will fulfil specific CMS mandates.

(iii) Absence of better remedies

An options analysis to test whether (and why) CMS Concerted Action is the best method of meeting the defined conservation need. Alternatives both within and outside the mechanisms of the CMS should be considered¹.

(iv) Readiness and feasibility

The proposal will need to demonstrate meaningful prospects for funding and leadership, and to address all significant issues of practical feasibility for undertaking the action.

(v) Likelihood of success

Feasibility (see previous criterion) only concerns whether an action is likely to be implementable. Criterion (v) seeks in addition to assess whether implementation is likely to lead to the intended outcome. Risk factors to consider include: uncertainty about the ecological effects; weakness in the underpinning science; lack of a "legacy mechanism" by which results can be sustained; and activities by others that may undermine or negate the results of the action.

(vi) Magnitude of likely impact

Proposals that are equal in other respects might be prioritized according to the number of species, number of countries or extent of area that will benefit in each case; the scope for catalytic or "multiplier" effects, contribution to synergies or potential for acting as "flagship" cases for broadening outreach.

¹ For cases where it appears that proceeding directly to the development of an Agreement or other instrument under Article IV of the Convention would be a better remedy, equivalent guidance and criteria for judging such proposals is provided in Resolution 11.12, *Criteria for Assessing Proposals for New Agreements*.

(vii) Cost-effectiveness

Proposals should specify the resources they require, but should also relate these to the scale of impact expected, so that cost-effectiveness can be judged.

- 3) If the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee considers it beneficial, it may recommend to extend or reduce the number of species covered by the proposal or amend the proposed conservation measures.

Step 3: Recommendation to the Conference of Parties to designate species for Concerted Actions

- 1) If the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee concludes that there are merits to add a species to the list for Concerted Actions, the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee will recommend to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting to designate the species for Concerted Actions.
- 2) The recommendation of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee to the Conference of the Parties will also include the conservation measures proposed to be undertaken under the Concerted Actions, as well as a list of Range State Parties of the species, where measures are to be implemented.

Step 4: Decision of the COP to include species into the list for Concerted Actions

- 1) The Conference of the Parties will consider the recommendations of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee and decide whether or not to accept the proposal for Concerted Actions, including the conservation measures proposed and the list of range States concerned.
- 2) If the Conference of the Parties accepts the proposal, it will include the species in the list for Concerted Actions.

Step 5: Reporting and monitoring of implementation of Concerted Actions

- 1) Members of the Council or alternative experts nominated by the Scientific Council will provide a concise written report to each meeting of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned.
- 2) Parties that are Range States of species listed for Concerted Actions are urged to fully cooperate in providing information to the nominated members of the Council or alternative experts.
- 3) The Scientific Council/Sessional Committee will evaluate the progress made in implementation by Range State Parties of species listed for Concerted Actions and make appropriate recommendations for further actions, as necessary.
- 4) Parties that are Range States of species listed for Concerted Actions should report 180 days prior to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on their progress in implementation of Concerted Actions, as part of their National Reports.
- 5) The Conference of the Parties will review the progress made in implementing Concerted Actions in order to measure the effectiveness of the instrument.

Step 6: Removing a species from the list for Concerted Actions

- 1) The Scientific Council/Sessional Committee, having assessed progress in implementation of Concerted Actions will recommend to the Conference of Parties at each of its meetings whether a species listed for Concerted Actions should be removed from the list.
- 2) The Conference of Parties, upon the recommendation of the Scientific Council/Sessional Committee will, at each of its meetings, decide whether a species should be taken off the list.

Annex 2 to Resolution 12.XX

TEMPLATE FOR PROPOSING CONCERTED ACTIONS

Proponents of proposals for Concerted Actions are requested to fill in the template below. The information required in the template is derived from Resolution 11.13 and document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.4/ANNEX I on *Improving the process for Concerted and Cooperative Actions* submitted to the Conference of Parties at its 11th meeting. The information compiled should as far as possible provide a balanced assessment of the advantages and risks associated with each issue, rather than being seen solely as a tool for persuasion (paragraph 5, Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13).

Proposals should be submitted to the Scientific Council/Sessional Committee through the Secretariat at cms.secretariat@cms.int prior to the deadline for submission of documents to the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee at its meetings.

All text in blue should be removed when submitting the proposal.

Proponent	<i>Provide the name of the proponent and in the case of a stakeholder demonstrate your relevance to the species and CMS.</i>
Target species, lower taxon or population, or group of taxa with needs in common	<i>List the species, lower taxon or population, or group of taxa with needs in common concerned in accordance with the names used within the CMS Appendices.</i>
Geographical range	<i>Define the geographical range of the target species.</i>
Activities and expected outcomes	<i>Specify each activity to be undertaken, and define their expected outcomes. This should address both institutional aspects (e.g. development of an Action Plan) and ecological aspects (e.g. targets for improved conservation status). Following the SMART standard (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) will help; and the intended process for monitoring & evaluation should also be described.</i>
Associated benefits	<i>Identify opportunities to maximise added value, for example where actions targeting certain migratory animals may incidentally benefit other migratory species/taxa/populations, or where there is good scope for awareness-raising, capacity-building or encouraging new Party accessions.</i>
Timeframe	<i>Specify completion timeframes (and progress milestones where possible) and identify any elements of the action that are intended to be open-ended (e.g. measures to maintain conservation status).</i>
Relationship to other CMS actions	<i>Explain how the action's implementation will relate to other areas of CMS activity. This may form part of its purpose, for example if it is designed to lead to an Agreement; or it may involve showing how the action will support the Strategic Plan or COP decisions. It may also be necessary to show how different Concerted Actions complement or interact with each other.</i>
Conservation priority	<i>Explain why this action is a conservation priority. This may relate to the degree of endangerment or unfavourable conservation status as defined under the Convention; the urgency with which a particular kind of action is required; and other priorities expressed in CMS resolutions and decisions.</i>

Relevance	<i>Explain, for example, the degree to which the particular conservation problem is linked to migration and requires collective multilateral action; and the degree to which the proposed action will fulfil specific CMS mandates.</i>
Absence of better remedies	<i>Provide a brief options analysis to test whether (and why) a CMS Concerted Action is the best method of meeting the defined conservation need. Alternatives both within and outside the mechanisms of the CMS should be considered. (For cases where it appears that proceeding directly to the development of an Agreement or other instrument under Article IV of the Convention would be a better remedy, equivalent guidance and criteria for judging such proposals is provided in Resolution 11.12 and document UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.22.2/Annex 1.)</i>
Readiness and feasibility	<i>Demonstrate meaningful prospects for funding and leadership, and address all significant issues of practical feasibility for undertaking the action.</i>
Likelihood of success	<i>Explain how implementation is likely to lead to the intended outcome. Risk factors to consider include: uncertainty about the ecological effects; weakness in the underpinning science; lack of a “legacy mechanism” by which results can be sustained; and activities by others that may undermine or negate the results of the action.</i>
Magnitude of likely impact	<i>Explain the number of species, number of countries or extent of area that will benefit from the action; the scope for catalytic or “multiplier” effects, contribution to synergies or potential for acting as “flagship” cases for broadening outreach.</i>
Cost-effectiveness	<i>Specify the resources required and relate these to the scale of impact expected, so that cost-effectiveness can be judged.</i>

ANNEX 3

DRAFT DECISIONS

CONCERTED ACTIONS

Text from existing resolution and proposed new text	Comments
<p><i>Directed to the Scientific Council</i></p> <p>12.AA The Scientific Council shall:</p> <p>a) Determine whether species previously listed for Cooperative Actions, but for which no activity has yet begun, should remain listed in the new unified Concerted Actions list or be deleted;</p>	<p>Paragraph 3 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13</p>
<p>b) Review the projects and initiatives already begun as Cooperative Actions under earlier decisions of the Conference of the Parties, subject to the criteria included in Step 2, paragraph 3 of the <i>Guidelines to the Implementation of the Concerted Actions Process</i>, along with any information about progress towards and impact of implementing those actions. Such review may conclude, <i>inter alia</i>, that the objectives of a given action have been achieved and it has been completed, or that it should continue within the terms of the unified Concerted Actions mechanism (and be added to the list of species accordingly);</p>	<p>Paragraph 4 of Annex 3 to Resolution 11.13</p>
<p>c) <u>Report to the Standing Committee at its 48th or 49th meeting on the progress in implementing this Decision.</u></p>	<p>New text for increased effectiveness</p>
<p><i>Directed to the Secretariat</i></p> <p>12.BB <u>The Secretariat shall:</u></p> <p>a) <u>Develop a template to be used by the Members of the Council or alternative experts nominated by the Scientific Council to provide a concise written report to each meeting of the Scientific Council / Sessional Committee on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned.</u></p>	<p>New text to increase effectiveness</p>
<p>b) <u>Report to the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council at its 3rd meeting on the progress in implementing this Decision.</u></p>	<p>New text to increase effectiveness</p>