

**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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CMS STRATEGIC PLAN 2015–2023

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Tenth Meeting
(Bergen, 20-25 November 2011)

Recalling Resolution 8.2 whereby the Strategic Plan for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (2006-2011) was adopted;

Aware that the 38th meeting of the Standing Committee decided that the Conference of the Parties at its 10th meeting should consider updating the current Strategic Plan to cover the next three-year period (2012-2014) without making substantive changes;

Taking into account that this decision would allow gaining sufficient time to elaborate the Strategic Plan for 2015-2023 to be submitted to COP11 in 2014 on the basis of the final outcome of the Future Shape process and on the results and recommendations of the assessment of the status of implementation of the 2006-2011 Plan by the Contracting Parties, Partner Organizations and the CMS Secretariat;

Noting the draft updated version of the current Strategic Plan for the period 2012-2014 (UNEP/CMS/Doc 10.22);

Recalling Decision X/20 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in which CMS is recognized as the lead partner in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species over their entire range;

Further recalling Decision X/2 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity by which the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets were adopted, and which invited the UN Environment Management Group (EMG) to identify measures for effective and efficient implementation of the Strategic Plan across the United Nations system;

Noting that Decision X/2 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity urged Parties and other governments to support the updating of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) as effective instruments to promote the implementation of the Strategic Plan and mainstreaming of biodiversity at the national level, taking into account synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions in a manner consistent with their respective mandates;

Also noting Resolution 14.2 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) (The Hague, 2007), which contains the CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2013;

Also noting Resolution X.1 of the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention (Changwon, 2008) which adopted the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015; and

Taking note of the Secretariat's report reviewing the implementation of the CMS Strategic Plan (document UNEP/CMS/Conf.10.21);

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

1. *Welcomes* the updated CMS Strategic Plan 2006-2014 annexed to this Resolution;
2. *Decides* to develop a new Strategic Plan for the period 2015-2023 and *confirms* the need for intersessional work on its elaboration;
3. *Decides* to set up a Working Group with the task of drafting the next Strategic Plan 2015-2023 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting, and *requests* the Working Group to submit a progress report to the 40th meeting of the Standing Committee. The Terms of Reference of the Strategic Plan Working Group are annexed to this Resolution;
4. *Instructs* the Secretariat to undertake the necessary preparations, including by drawing on material prepared as part of the Future Shape process and by identifying possible elements for a new Strategic Plan, to feed in to and complement the efforts of the Working Group;
5. *Invites* the UN Environment Management Group, through its Issue Management Group on Biodiversity, to consider issues related to migratory species when identifying opportunities for cooperation and mainstreaming biodiversity into the relevant policy sectors in support of an effective and efficient implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity across the United Nations system;
6. *Requests* UNEP, Parties and multilateral donors to provide financial assistance for the implementation of this Resolution.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN WORKING GROUP

Objectives

1. The main objective of the Working Group will be to elaborate the CMS Strategic Plan for the period 2015-2023. The new Strategic Plan will be presented for adoption at COP11.
2. To this end, the Working Group will take into account the Strategic Plan for the period 2006-2011 and its updated version to 2014. It will also take into account the conclusions of COP10 on the Future Shape of the Convention, especially with respect to priorities chosen and the activities outlined in the option chosen.
33. The Working Group will further take into account the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity for the period 2011-2020 and in particular its Aichi targets, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the strategic documents of other global biodiversity-related MEAs and any other relevant documents that the Working Group may consider appropriate.
4. The Working Group will consider and propose a procedure for the assessment of the status of implementation of the Strategic Plan 2015-2023 by Parties as well as organizations which are partners of CMS.
5. The Working Group will keep the Standing Committee informed of its work through reports to each of the meetings of the Committee, and will present its initial findings to the Standing Committee in 2012.

Composition of the Working Group

6. The Working Group shall be composed of Parties to the Convention on the basis of the same regions as the Standing Committee, with a maximum of two representatives per region. The regional groups will select their representatives based on their experience of the subject of the CMS Strategic Plan and their knowledge of the CMS and its family. The Chairs of the Standing Committee and the Scientific Council shall be ex-officio members of the Working Group. Partner organizations and relevant MEA Secretariats will also be invited to be non-voting members of the Group.
7. Contracting Parties shall be consulted by their regional representatives at each step of the process.
8. To have a CMS Strategic Plan in which the work of the CMS Family is included as much as possible while respecting the mandate of each individual instrument, the Working Group will invite the views of and work in cooperation with the whole CMS Family. The Secretariats as well as the Chairs of the relevant bodies of other relevant MEAs will also be consulted.
9. The composition of the Working Group shall be agreed upon under the responsibility of the CMS Standing Committee no later than one month after the end of COP10.

10. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be chosen among the members of the Working Group under the responsibility of the CMS Standing Committee no later than two months after the end of COP10.

11. The work of the Working Group will be facilitated by the CMS Secretariat.

**CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION
OF
MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS**

UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN 2006–2014

This is an extended version of the Strategic Plan 2006-2011 to cover the triennium 2012-2014 until COP11

1. INTRODUCTION
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1. INTRODUCTION

1. The Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) marked its thirtieth Anniversary in 2009. As one of the first biodiversity-related Conventions, which came into force long before the more comprehensive Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), it has played, under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), a pioneering role in promoting and initiating collaborative conservation and management action on migratory animal species of which “a proportion cyclically and predictably cross one or more national jurisdictional boundaries” (Article I). The phenomenon of those migrations is a unique part of the global natural heritage which can be conserved only through the joint efforts of all nations.

2. This Updated Strategic Plan aims to set the general goal, objectives and targets for the nine years from 2006 to 2014 to ensure a coherent and strategic approach to the Convention’s implementation at national, regional and global levels. The current Strategic Plan 2006-2011 is being extended because the outcome of the Future Shape process will not be known until COP10 and it would not be reasonable to elaborate a new Plan without that input.

3. The extended period covered by the Strategic Plan partly includes a significant target date set by the international community at the Tenth Meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties, when, in Nagoya (Japan), Ministers responsible for CBD implementation resolved to strengthen their efforts to put in place measures to halt biodiversity loss at the global, regional, sub-regional and national levels by the year 2020. That target was also reflected in Decision X/2 which adopted “The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020” and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, which include the CBD Strategic Plan’s mission statement: “to take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet’s variety of life, and contributing to human well-being and poverty eradication. To ensure this, pressures on biodiversity are reduced, ecosystems are restored, biological resources are sustainably used and benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources are shared on a fair and equitable manner; adequate financial resources are provided, capacities are enhanced, biodiversity issues and values mainstreamed, appropriate policies are effectively implemented, and decision making is based on sound science and the precautionary approach”. The Updated CMS Strategic Plan, together with future associated implementation plans for the various CMS bodies, represents the Convention’s planned contribution to achieving the 2020 targets and seeks to ensure that the benefits of migratory species to ecosystems and human well-being will continue for present and future generations.

2. THE ISSUE

2.1 What is special about migratory species?

4. Migratory animals are special components of the world’s ecosystems. They range from antelopes to fish, from whales to elephants, from bats to birds and butterflies. While, like all species, they make a great variety of vital contributions to the functioning of the ecosystems in which they live, their movements over short or long distances represent a unique global ecological feature which has many implications for their value as a natural resource as well as for their conservation. Migratory animals are in principle “part-time” components of ecosystems, where they fulfil important seasonal ecological functions: they may serve as a crucial food resource for non-migratory species in those areas, they may act as pollinators and seed distributors, or they may themselves exploit seasonally abundant local food resources, thereby contributing to the biological balance of a local ecosystem.

2.2 The importance of migratory species for people

5. There are also many human communities that rely on the regular influx of migratory animals. In various parts of the world they provide the basis for subsistence, recreational and commercial hunting and fishing activities, often serving as an important basis for the livelihoods of communities. In many instances, migratory animals represent a shared, seasonally predictable resource for human communities far apart. The use of that resource by one community might greatly influence its availability to people in another, distant location.

6. Because of their migratory habits and the diversity of environments that they occupy over shorter or longer periods, many migratory animals are sensitive indicators of environmental change. They may link the impact of human-induced environmental modifications in widely separate regions, such as the well known example of toxic pesticides being found in the tissues of Antarctic animals.

7. Migratory species have great significance in many cultures, in legends, stories, religions and medicine. For many people, the regular comings and goings of migratory animals are a powerful symbolic sign of the seasonality of nature and the passing of yearly cycles. More recently, spectacular gatherings of seasonal migrants have become prime attractions for nature tourists such as bird-, turtle- and whale-watchers.

2.3 Increasing threats to migratory species

8. In line with its impacts on biodiversity in general, human pressure on migratory animals and their habitats is often intense. That pressure can lead to particularly strong negative impacts on the populations of migratory animals as large numbers of individuals concentrate at certain traditionally used sites. Unsustainable hunting and fishing practices, and also incidental capture in fisheries, for example, result in heavy impacts on many species. Destruction or modification of wetlands, forests and grasslands removes food and shelter vital to their life. The introduction of alien species and the harmful effects of industrial and agricultural pollutants are further risks.

9. Recent scientific work also suggests that climate change is also likely to have an impact on migratory species. Many habitats important for migratory species may be profoundly changed, with traditional migratory patterns disrupted or altered as a result. The status of certain species could be seriously affected. The ongoing desertification of semi-arid areas, most notably in the Sahelo-Saharan zone, is also believed to have an increasing negative impact on some long-distance migratory birds and some terrestrial migratory mammals.

10. Barriers to migration such as dams, fences, power lines and wind farms can disrupt migratory routes and result in significant mortality. Birds also face the danger of injuries or death caused by communication towers and electricity transmission lines and pylons. For all the above reasons, there is a growing number of migratory species with a serious risk of becoming extinct. All these threats still exist to date and hence the need to address them in the extended period of the Strategic Plan.

2.4 Special conservation needs for migratory species

11. Because of their unique behaviour and particular ecological requirements, migratory species have special conservation needs. Most importantly, international cooperation between States that share populations of migratory species is absolutely essential. Those States have a joint responsibility to ensure the long-term survival of migratory animals and their migratory behaviour across and beyond their territories.

12. Concerted and coordinated actions on the ground will be needed to address the threats to migratory animals if we want to maintain their free movement across international boundaries and continents, thereby ensuring that they continue to contribute to the health and proper functioning of ecosystems and the well-being of human populations that depend on those animals for their livelihood. Such actions will require more research to understand the needs of those species; a multitude of conservation measures on the ground, directed towards both the species and their habitats throughout their ranges; greatly increased awareness of the issues; and international cooperation between relevant agencies and decision-makers.

3. THE ROLE OF CMS

3.1 International cooperation

13. Since migratory species, in the sense of the definition given in the text of the Convention, can be conserved only through joint international efforts in which species- and ecosystem-based approaches are linked and coordinated across the entire migratory range of a species the purpose of CMS is to catalyse, foster and support such international collaboration.

14. Through its various operational tools, CMS establishes obligations for its Contracting Parties to protect the most endangered species, listed in Appendix I to the Convention; sets a framework for developing regional or global multilateral instruments to conserve and ensure the sustainability of use of particular migratory species or groups of species listed in Appendix II; and provides funding for research and conservation projects through its Small Grants Programme.

3.2 Contribution to sustainable development

15. Many migratory species provide essential ecosystem services which in turn add to human well-being in practically all countries of the world. The conservation and sustainable management of migratory species populations is an important special contribution to the wider aims of global sustainable development.

16. Ultimately, CMS is committed to assisting its Contracting Parties to move towards a truly sustainable use of natural resources. Its work is directed towards the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets, Millennium Development Goal 7 and the Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002. It supports conservation programmes to bring long-term benefits to local communities while helping to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss. Many of the agreement-associated action plans developed under CMS auspices work to the common benefit of migratory species and local communities. They address issues to reduce pressures on migratory animal populations, while at the same time having regard for the livelihood needs of local communities including, where compatible with the conservation status of a species, providing for the sustainable use of such species.

3.3 Achievements

17. CMS has currently 116 Parties and considering the Convention and its associated agreements, the CMS family currently extends to nearly 150 participating countries, a number which is steadily growing.

18. As of December 2008, 128 species have been listed in CMS Appendix I, and Appendix II covers, potentially, over 1,000 species. Many of those species are subjects of strict protection measures within Contracting Party Range States, of cooperative activities through CMS agreements and also of research and conservation projects funded through the CMS Small Grants Programme. Since 1990, twenty-six international instruments have been concluded under the CMS umbrella, for bats, birds, large herbivores, elephants, dolphins and whales, marine turtles and seals. Fifty-three (as of December 2008) endangered migratory species have been designated for concerted action. Since 1997, small grants for projects have exceeded \$1.5 million in value, although from 2006 resources available for small grants have decreased significantly.

3.4 Relationship to other conventions

19. CMS and its instruments, while aimed specifically at benefiting migratory species, contribute to the broader objective of conserving biodiversity. They are part of an integrated approach to the implementation of other biodiversity-related international instruments and to the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted at CBD COP 10. The goals and aims of CMS and other biodiversity-related conventions – particularly the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) are mutually reinforcing. The complementarity with CBD is highlighted by the recognition of CMS as the lead partner to CBD in conserving migratory species. While CBD focuses on the maintenance of biological diversity on genetic, species and ecosystem levels, CMS uses migratory species as a “living thread” to link ecosystems functionally through networks, corridors and pathways over large geographic areas, cutting across national, regional and continental boundaries.

20. CMS has entered into a number of collaborative relationships with these and other intergovernmental organizations in order to maximize synergies and avoid duplication. Joint work programmes have been developed between CMS and CITES, CMS and CBD, and between CMS, AWEA and Ramsar. CMS work must be undertaken, where appropriate, in close coordination with

the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, in which Article 64 deals with highly migratory marine species.

3.5 Partnerships with other organizations

21. CMS activities are supported by strong partnerships with intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations. First and foremost is the association with its parent organisation, UNEP, which not only provides the Convention's Secretariat but, through its regional offices, thematic programmes and headquarters, also extends financial and in-kind support to some of the Convention's specific programmes.

22. Partnerships with major non-governmental organizations help to bring conservation action into effect on the ground. They also provide a key conduit for scientific and conservation information to be brought into the Convention's decision-making processes. Great potential remains to be tapped. Attention must be given to expanding and strengthening those cooperative activities in a more formal manner, for example, through memoranda of cooperation and joint work programmes. In 2011, partnership agreements have been signed with the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and the Migratory Wildlife Network.

3.6 Key challenges for CMS

23. The greatest challenges for the conservation of migratory species, as reflected in the four objectives of the Strategic Plan, are to have the best available information on which to base conservation and sustainable management decisions; the need to undertake conservation measures in a coordinated and cooperative way across a migratory range; to widen awareness of the key issues among relevant target audiences; and the development and mobilization of human capacity and financial resources to implement needed conservation measures.

24. CMS provides a global platform to address the threats to migratory species through a suite of tools which can be tailored to specific situations. It will be critical for CMS to further expand its membership across the world. Also, additional financial resources – always a limitation in biodiversity conservation activities – will have to be mobilized to enable not only country-level activities but also coordinated and cooperative migratory-range-wide activities.

4. UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN 2006–2014

4.1 Scope and structure

25. The CMS Strategic Plan provides the general framework and rationale for what the Convention – the individual Contracting Parties and the CMS institutional bodies – aspires to achieve during the next intersessional period. It is structured in the format of a hierarchical logical framework (see logical framework table in section 6).

4.2 Vision

➔ **A world which understands, respects and sustains the phenomenon of animal migration as a unique part of our shared natural heritage**

26. This long-term vision, expressed in relation to biodiversity conservation, was ultimately not only behind the origination of the Convention more than 30 years ago but is also still today the driving motivation behind its steady development and expansion.

4.3 Goal

➔ **To ensure the favourable conservation status of migratory species, thereby contributing to global sustainability**

27. In pursuing the above general goal, CMS seeks to strengthen its leading role in international efforts on behalf of migratory species. It builds the necessary partnerships between countries and many national and international institutions in order to achieve a better conservation status for migratory animals. The goal underlines the fact that CMS clearly sees itself as an integral part of a family of international legal instruments with the primary aim of biodiversity conservation, the

maintenance of biospheric processes and systems and the sustainability of the use of biological resources as an essential basis to ensure global sustainability and the long-term livelihoods of people.

4.4 Objectives

28. Based on its general remit under the Convention and the expertise acquired over more than a quarter of a century, CMS pursues four main objectives. While the first three are directed towards mitigating the threats to the status of migratory species (lack of knowledge, lack of action and lack of awareness), the fourth is related to the capacity of the Convention itself and its constituent bodies.

➔ **OBJECTIVE 1: To ensure that the conservation and management of migratory species are based on the best available information**

29. In view of the complex issues relating to migratory species, the availability of good scientific information, and also of traditional knowledge, is essential for sound decision-making. Through the work of its Scientific Council, the Convention has a tradition of promoting, initiating and supporting relevant research work and will continue to do so over the next three years. **Eight targets** are to ensure that relevant data continue to be collected which document the status of species and species groups, the pressures acting on biodiversity, the development of responses and the effectiveness of these responses to manage those threats.

➔ **OBJECTIVE 2: To ensure that migratory species benefit from the best possible conservation measures**

30. The leading rationale for the Convention is the “migratory range approach”. Migratory species can best be conserved through joint international cooperative efforts, linking species- and ecosystem-based approaches at national levels, coordinated across a migratory range.

31. A series of instruments are available under the framework Convention to achieve the above objective: Agreements, memoranda of understanding and action plans. The **nine targets** of the objective are directed towards the various actions required in relation to the various categories of species recognized by the Convention: Appendix I species, Appendix II species and all migratory species. They deal with the development of integrated action plans, site-specific actions, and also some general threats which are of particular concern for migratory species.

➔ **OBJECTIVE 3: To broaden awareness and enhance engagement in the conservation of migratory species amongst key actors**

32. Cooperation between nations can be achieved only if the decision-makers and opinion-leaders involved are aware of the issues and the paramount need for concerted action. It has been a main task of the Convention in the past, and will remain so in future, to bring those problems to the attention of selected key target audiences. The identified **six targets** deal with those audiences, especially to ensure that existing Contracting Parties enhance their engagement; that identified priority countries join as new Contracting Parties; that the already large network of Partners can be further strengthened and expanded; and that dialogues can be initiated with key sectoral groups whose activities have particular impact on migratory species.

➔ **OBJECTIVE 4: To reinforce CMS’s overarching and unifying role in the conservation and management of migratory species**

33. **Eight** “internal” **targets** are identified under the above “enabling” objective aimed at strengthening the work of the Convention, increasing its effectiveness and efficiency and establishing a better corporate identity for the Convention and its legally independent, daughter Agreements. The Strategic Plan must also make provision for helping to develop the capacity of bodies involved in implementing the Convention and its legal instruments, especially in developing countries. Finally, with the Convention suffering from a great mismatch between available resources and the tasks conferred on its implementing bodies by the Conference of the Parties, the future financing of the Convention’s programmes and the need to diversify its sources of income are a principal challenge for the next three years.

4.5 Targets, indicators and milestones

34. The targets listed in the logical framework table are the backbone of the Strategic Plan. They provide the basis for measuring the performance and achievements of the Convention over the strategic planning period. A total of 31 targets have been identified, many of them with a series of interim milestones. Where targets are not measurable in themselves, proxy indicators are provided. The individual Contracting Parties, the Secretariat and the Scientific Council are the main actors for achieving most of those targets.

4.6 Operational principles

35. In addition to the targets, nine cross-cutting issues have been identified which, in the pursuit of implementing the Strategic Plan, will be adopted and applied as Operational Principles in all activities where appropriate. They reflect the Convention's fundamental working philosophy, which is:

- OP1 To respect the general principles of the United Nations Charter
- OP2 To cooperate closely with relevant multilateral environmental agreements and key partners to maximize synergies and avoid duplication
- OP3 To foster awareness of the concept of sustainable use, and of livelihoods being dependent on migratory species
- OP4 To increase the opportunities for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- OP5 To spend available project funding in less wealthy countries
- OP6 To attract at least 50 per cent matching funding for project activities
- OP7 To seize opportunities for capacity-building in all activities
- OP8 To involve stakeholders in the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- OP9 To work in ever closer collaboration with the institutions and partners of all CMS Article IV Agreements

5. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Implementation plans

36. The successful implementation of the Strategic Plan is dependent on contributions made by the Contracting Parties individually and by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee, the Scientific Council and the Secretariat, and also by the Agreements and memoranda of understanding developed under the auspices of the Convention. Each of those constitutional players must be aware of the role which they play and the specific tasks which they must carry out if the targets are to be attained. More detailed implementation plans may be developed for some tasks to assist and guide progress towards the targets, linked to the triennial budget. The Secretariat will also develop an annual work plan for its activities. The structure and content of the plans must relate to the targets of the Strategic Plan. That structure should also be used for future reporting. Contracting Parties, Agreements and memoranda of understanding are encouraged to adopt a similar procedure for planning their own work under the Convention.

37. The Conference of the Parties will set overall programme and budgetary priorities for each triennium. The Standing Committee will provide guidance on request to the Secretariat and the Scientific Council on how to achieve the Conference of the Parties' priorities, including guidance on budgetary issues and the use of the Convention's limited financial resources. Key partners, including the Agreements negotiated under CMS auspices, will be invited to assist in the Strategic Plan's implementation.

5.2 The role of Contracting Parties

38. Besides participating in the work and meetings of the various Convention bodies, the individual Contracting Parties will play a fundamental role in attaining the targets of the Strategic Plan. While the Secretariat has the function of a driving and coordinating force, in relation to many targets it will have to rely on timely feedback and inputs from the Contracting Parties, such as providing national information on:

- Status of species (e.g., target 1.1), threats to migratory species (1.4), habitats of key importance (2.3), ongoing conservation actions (2.2, 2.4, 2.6 and 2.7) and success of conservation actions (2.7)
- Possible national evaluation systems for measuring conservation success (1.5)
- National impact assessment and environmental impact assessment regulations (2.8)
- Integration of migratory species considerations into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) (2.9)
- Level of national funding for conservation of migratory species (indicator for Objective 3)
- Possible non-governmental and private sector funding sources (4.8)

39. The success of the Plan will also depend on actions taken by the Parties in their countries, such as:

- Following agreed standards for research and reports (1.7)
- Participating in relevant Agreements (2.5)
- Submitting comprehensive and accurate updated national reports (2.9)
- Promoting the Convention to relevant national players (3.5)
- Assisting in the recruitment of new Parties (4.1)
- Fostering and enhancing regional capacity (4.7)

5.3 Agreements and memoranda of understanding

40. The Agreements and memoranda of understanding negotiated under the auspices of the Convention are important extensions of CMS conservation work at regional and more specialized levels. They help to achieve the Convention's Goal and Objectives and make important contributions to the total of CMS achievements.

41. To ensure that those daughter instruments are fully integrated and strategically aligned with the Convention, the Agreements and memoranda of understanding should use similar systems for planning and reporting their work. In particular, they are encouraged:

- To develop their own strategic or implementation plans linked, as far as possible, to the Convention's Strategic Plan through a system of cascading logical frameworks which show how their work contributes to the attainment of CMS objectives and targets.
- To use an effective national reporting system fully harmonized with the system for the Convention.
- To provide, in a timely manner, whatever information and inputs are required for the targets and milestones of the CMS Strategic Plan.

5.4 Monitoring and evaluation

42. Recognizing that strategic planning and monitoring and evaluation are closely interlinked, and that one does not make sense without the other, provisions for monitoring and evaluation have been

built into the Strategic Plan and must also be reflected in the associated implementation plans. Monitoring the Strategic Plan's implementation is to take place on three levels:

- **Performance:** measuring the success of the annual activities pursued in order to attain the target.
- **Achievement:** measuring our success in relation to reducing pressures on migratory species. This will be done in two ways: through the regular evaluation of the milestones and indicators of individual targets and through the triennial evaluation of the additional, independent key indicators identified for each of the Objectives.
- **Impact:** the ultimate, triennial measure of evaluating the status of migratory species through one or more special indices at Goal level (to be developed under Target 1.3).

43. Many of the indicators for the Objectives and Targets require the collection of baseline data at the beginning of the Strategic Plan period. They will mainly require actions by the Secretariat and the Scientific Council, but some inputs will also be needed from Contracting Parties.

5.5 Review of the Updated Strategic Plan 2006-2014

44. The Strategic Plan 2006-2011 recommended that the implementation of the Strategic Plan would be reviewed by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth and tenth meetings in the light of the Plan's stated targets, milestones and indicators. The first, mid-term review, would be carried out internally under the leadership of the Standing Committee with inputs from the Scientific Council and the Secretariat. Amendments to the Strategic Plan may at that stage be made in accordance with the findings of the review and any new, external circumstances which may arise. The Secretariat carried out an assessment of the activities undertaken by the CMS institutional bodies from 2006 to 2008 (UNEP/CMS/Conf.9.5 and its Addendum) and from 2009-2011 (UNEP/CMS/Conf.10.21) which implemented the objectives of the Plan; these assessments were submitted to COP9 in 2008 and will be to COP10 in 2011.

45. The second, end-of-term review foreseen in the Strategic Plan 2006-2011 will not be done at this stage because of the extension of the Plan until 2014 due to the need to take into account the results and outcome of the Future Shape process which will be presented at COP10. The process to develop a new Strategic Plan for the period 2015-2020 is outlined in draft Resolution 10.5.Rev.1.

46. The Agreements negotiated under CMS auspices will be invited to participate in the review process and to adopt complementary procedures for themselves.

6. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK TABLE

STRATEGIC PLAN 2006–2014

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
VISION A world which understands, respects and sustains the phenomenon of animal migration as a unique part of our shared natural heritage			
GOAL To ensure the favourable conservation status of migratory species thereby contributing to global sustainability			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of App. I species whose conservation status has improved as indicated by CMS global index (→ target 1.8) Aggregate measure derived from similar top status indicators for all species or species groups covered through Agreements or memoranda of understanding
OBJECTIVE 1 To ensure that the conservation and management of migratory species are based on the best available information			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality improvement of listing proposals, review reports and background papers for recommendations (assessment of underpinning data: how up-to-date, scientifically credible and, where possible, independently refereed)
	Status	1.1 Review of status of and conservation actions for App I and II species published at regular intervals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific Council 14: Aquatic mammals, aquatic reptiles, terrestrial mammals, birds, bats Scientific Council 16 and 17: Freshwater fish Scientific Council 17: Report on Conservation Status of App. I species
		1.2 Up-to-date list of Range States of App I and II species presented to each Conference of the Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ninth Conference of the Parties Tenth Conference of the Parties Eleventh Conference of the Parties
		1.3 Indices for measuring the status and trends of migratory species at global, regional and national levels developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific Council 14: decision on way forward Ninth Conference of the Parties: draft indicators submitted

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
	Pressures	1.4 Emerging and existing threats to migratory species and obstacles to migration identified and reviewed at regular intervals and guidelines for appropriate actions developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Council 14: Draft guidelines for the most important pressure issues available • Scientific Council 15: Recommendations with respect to the most important pressure issues to ninth Conference of the Parties • Scientific Council 17/Tenth Conference of the Parties: Guidelines on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids adopted • Scientific Council 18 and 19: Preparation of guidelines for barriers to migration and terrestrial mammals • Eleventh Conference of Parties: Guidelines on barriers to migration and terrestrial mammals adopted
	Responses	1.5 Criteria, indicators and guidelines for assessing the success of conservation actions for priority migratory species developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Council 14: Review of available evaluation systems • Scientific Council 15: Draft guidelines available • Ninth Conference of the Parties: Guidelines adopted
	Other	1.6 Research and monitoring priorities for App I and II species identified and recommended to appropriate institutions for action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Council 15: terms of reference set • Scientific Council 18: Priorities for App I species identified • Scientific Council 19: Priorities for App II species identified • Eleventh Conference of the Parties: Priorities for App I and II species adopted
		1.7 Improved standards and effectiveness of commissioned research and CMS published reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006: Baseline assessment of three sample reports • Scientific Council 14: Standard system operational • 2008: Quality assessment of three sample reports
		1.8 User-friendly information management system integrating the best available data on migratory species operational and regularly updated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eighth Conference of the Parties: Decision on future development of IMS • Scientific Council 14: Documentation of necessary data sources • Proof of updating procedures from all data sources

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
OBJECTIVE 2 To ensure that migratory species benefit from the best possible conservation measures			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of App. I species with improved conservation status • Number of App. II species with conservation status maintained or improved • Documentation of migratory species issues being integrated in sectoral policies (provided by national reports) • Number and total area of protected areas benefiting migratory species (national reports)
	All species	2.1 App. I and App. II regularly updated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninth Conference of the Parties: listing proposals • Tenth Conference of the Parties: listing proposals • Eleventh Conference of the Parties: listing proposals
	App. I species	2.2 All species in App. I fully protected throughout their range in Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006: baseline: legal protection status of every species in every Party Range State
	App. I species	2.3 Habitats of key importance in removing App. I species from danger of extinction conserved, restored and effectively managed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Council 15: Habitats (or sites as proxies) of key importance for all species identified • Scientific Council 16: Background document on ecological networks introduced • Scientific Council 17/Tenth Conference of the Parties: Resolution on ecological networks adopted • Scientific Council 18 and 19: Follow up of implementation of resolution on ecological networks • Eleventh Conference of the Parties: Adoption of progress report
	App. I: Concerted Action species	2.4 Concerted actions for App. I priority species identified by Conference of the Parties implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Council 14: Evaluation framework and baseline information available • Scientific Council 16: First evaluation of implementation
	App. II species not yet covered by Agreement	2.5 App. II regularly reviewed and opportunities for international collaborative arrangements (incl. agreements) at appropriate scale and resulting in greatest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 15 new international collaborative arrangements in place • Scientific Council 14: First entries of CMS App II

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
	or memorandum of understanding	possible conservation gain actively pursued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreements table • Scientific Council 16: Review of existing arrangements for birds • Scientific Council 17/Tenth Conference of the Parties: Review of existing arrangements for marine turtles and terrestrial mammals • 2006: Pacific Islands Cetaceans MoU; Saiga Antelope MoU • 2007: Monk Seal MoU; Dugong MoU; Southern South American Grassland Birds MoU
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2008: Gorilla Agreement; Andean Flamingos MoU; Birds of Prey MoU; Western African Aquatic Mammals MoU • 2010: Sharks MoU; South Andean Huemul MoU • 2014: Two more instruments concluded, including but not limited to the following: Asian Houbara Bustard; Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna; Central Asian Flyway (including the option of merging with AEWA); Small Cetaceans of South-East Asia; Central African Elephants
	All species	2.6 Actions to mitigate the most serious threats to migratory species and obstacles to animal migration initiated or carried out, in particular relating to wind turbines, power lines, by-catch, oil pollution, climate change, disease, invasive species (within the specificities of CMS), illegal take	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Council 14: Evaluation of implementation (baseline) • Scientific Council 16: Re-evaluation: at least a 20 per cent increase over baseline • Scientific Council 17/Tenth Conference of the Parties: Resolutions on Ecological networks; Power lines; Gillnets bycatch; Marine debris; Climate change and Wildlife diseases adopted • Scientific Council 18: Follow up of implementation of the above resolutions; Review on invasive species introduced • Scientific Council 19: Follow up of implementation of COP10 resolutions; Review on invasive species finalized • Eleventh Conference of the Parties: Resolution on invasive species adopted

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
		2.7 The most important key habitats/sites for migratory species in each Range State are protected and connected, where appropriate, through networks of protected areas and corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninth Conference of the Parties: Guidelines developed and presented by Scientific Council • Tenth Conference of the Parties: Resolution on Ecological Networks adopted • Scientific Council 18 and 19: Assessment of the extent to which protected area systems and ecological networks address the needs of migratory species • Eleventh Conference of the Parties: Adoption of progress report
		2.8 Impact assessments (EIA, system evaluation assessment) required for all development likely to impact migratory species seriously (especially wind turbines and power lines) and special provisions for migratory species included in national EIA regulations and procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006: First assessment of need for EIA in each Party for wind turbines and power lines and of general provisions in EIA regulations for migratory species • Ninth Conference of the Parties: First assessment of migratory species considerations in Party EIA regulations and procedures
		2.9 Issues affecting migratory species addressed in national biodiversity strategies and action plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninth Conference of the Parties: First evaluation of implementation of guidance by Parties • Tenth Conference of the Parties: Guidelines on the integration of migratory species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) adopted
OBJECTIVE 3 To broaden awareness and enhance engagement in the conservation of migratory species amongst key actors			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of references to migratory species per year in global news agencies (Reuters, Associated Press, AFP, Spanish services) • Number of references to the Convention in same • Total amount of funding spent by selected countries (Parties, non-Parties, regionally representative) on migratory species conservation
	Parties	3.1 Levels of engagement in and commitment of existing Parties to CMS increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to requests • Level of meeting attendance • Assessed and voluntary contributions • Level of implementation of resolutions and recommendations (national reporting) • 2006: Baseline data collected

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
	Non-Parties	3.2 Level of engagement in CMS work of priority target non-Parties increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proxy indicator: number of countries joining CMS or/and participating in agreements
	Partners	3.3 Number of Partners supporting and participating in the work of CMS increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006: Baseline data (number of partners in CMS and agreements, etc.) collected • References to CMS and Agreements in Partners' work/materials
	Media	3.4 Awareness of key media of CMS and its leading role in the conservation of migratory species enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References to CMS in media • Measuring interactions with web site
	Sectoral groups	3.5 Opinion-leaders of key sectoral groups impacting on migratory species influenced, including by expert advice, through CMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS institutions: Number of engagements with such people • Parties (in national reports): legal references/EIAs referring to CMS or migratory species
	All	3.6 Key information material in appropriate UN languages disseminated to identified target audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brochures in Chinese and Arabic • Measuring interactions with web site • Frequency of updating web site
OBJECTIVE 4 To reinforce the overarching and unifying role of CMS in the conservation and management of migratory species			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Contracting Parties to CMS and/or Agreements • Number of signatories to memoranda of understanding • Number of references to CMS in CBD, CITES and Ramsar national reports • Number of references to CMS in annual reports of key partners: IUCN, WWF, BirdLife, Wetlands International, Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society
	Parties	4.1 CMS membership increased by 30 Parties, particularly those that are of high importance for migratory species, and/or for which there is a high priority for securing new agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninth Conference of the Parties: 20 • Double number of members in Americas and Asia

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
	Agreements, memoranda of understanding	4.2 Contribution of Agreements and memoranda of understanding towards delivery of the CMS Strategic Plan targets jointly reviewed and appropriate measures developed to deal with any identified gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing Committee pre-ninth Conference of the Parties: Gaps identified • Ninth Conference of the Parties: Measures developed • Scientific Council 16: Flyways reviews introduced • Scientific Council 17: Reviews on terrestrial mammals, marine turtles and gap analysis for elephant conservation in Central Africa undertaken • Tenth Conference of the Parties: Reviews on flyways, terrestrial mammals, marine turtles and gap analysis for Central African elephant endorsed
	Multilateral environmental agreements and Partners	4.3 Cooperative activities in pursuit of shared targets with relevant multilateral environmental agreements and key partners increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of cooperative activities conducted • Financial volume of those activities
	Corporate identity	4.4 Identity and cohesiveness of the CMS family of instruments strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreements as observers on Scientific Council • Combination of logos/branding
	National networks	4.5 CMS national liaison systems or committees established in most Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of national liaison systems and committees • Ninth Conference of the Parties: Guidelines for CMS Focal Points and Scientific Councillors on how to establish such networks
	Effectiveness	4.6 Effectiveness of CMS's own institutions reviewed and, where necessary, enhanced to ensure fulfilment of its increasing worldwide responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eighth Conference of the Parties: Evaluation commissioned • Ninth Conference of the Parties: Decision on recommendation
	Participation	4.7 Regional capacity for participating in CMS implementation activities enhanced, particularly in those regions where CMS is underrepresented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of regional meetings and participants • Number of projects supported in region
	Funding	4.8 Extra budgetary funding from a wider range of sources secured for implementation of the CMS Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of funding • Permanent mechanisms established for private-sector fundraising

	SUBDIVISION	TARGETS	INDICATORS, MILESTONES
OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES		In pursuit of implementing this Strategic Plan, CMS endeavours to adhere, where appropriate, to the identified Operational Principles in all its programmes, projects and activities	
	United Nations principles	OP1 To respect the general principles of the United Nations Charter	
	Synergies with other Conventions	OP2 To cooperate closely with relevant multilateral environmental agreements and key partners to maximize synergies and avoid duplication	
	Sustainable use	OP3 To foster awareness of the concept of sustainable use, and of livelihoods being dependent on migratory species	
	Transfer of resources	OP4 To increase the opportunities for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan	
	Project funding	OP5 To spend available project funding in less wealthy countries	
	Co-funding	OP6 To attract at least 50 per cent matching funding for project activities	
	Capacity-building	OP7 To seize opportunities for capacity-building in all activities	
	Involvement of stakeholders	OP8 To involve stakeholders in the implementation of the Strategic Plan	
	Collaboration with Agreements	OP9 To work in ever closer collaboration with the institutions and partners of all CMS Article IV Agreements	