



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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11th MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Quito, Ecuador, 4-9 November 2014

Agenda Item 17.2

NOMINATIONS FOR THE COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLORS FOR AQUATIC MAMMALS AND BIRDS

Summary:

The COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals, William Perrin, and the COP-appointed Councillor for Birds, Leon Bennun, have informed the Secretariat that they will not be in a position to continue serving for the next triennium (2015-2017).

The Secretariat has therefore sought nominations for candidates to be appointed for those positions. Three nominations were received for the Aquatic Mammals position and two for the Birds position. A summary of nominations for the COP-appointed Councillors is contained in this document as Annex 1.

The candidatures were reviewed and discussed by the Scientific Council at its 18th Meeting in July 2014.

The Council recommended the appointment of Dr. Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara for the post of COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals to be forwarded to COP11 for consideration by the Parties.

In the case of COP-appointed Councillor for Birds, the Council did not reach a decision in favour of either of the candidates. Thus, it was agreed to recommend both candidates, namely Dr. Robert Clay and Dr. Stephen Garnett to COP11 for a final decision.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLORS FOR AQUATIC MAMMALS AND BIRDS

(Prepared by the UNEP/CMS Secretariat)

1. The COP-appointed Councillors for Aquatic Mammals and Birds, respectively William Perrin and Leon Bennun, have informed the Secretariat that they will not be in a position to continue serving as COP-appointed Councillors for the next term (2015-2017).
2. On the assumption that the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP11) will acknowledge the continued need for appointed councillors for these taxonomic groups, the Secretariat has therefore sought nominations for candidates to be appointed for those positions.
3. In May 2014, a call for nominations went out to all Members of the Scientific Council, as well as the external experts associated with the working groups concerned. It was also brought to the attention of relevant scientific bodies.
4. Terms of reference for Conference-appointed Councillors were included in the mailing and instructions given for nominating candidates, which should include a brief statement justifying the candidature, a CV of the candidate, as well as a declaration by the candidate expressing readiness to accept the appointment if selected. Nominations were accepted until 8 June 2014. A summary of the nominations received is attached as Annex 1.
5. The candidatures were reviewed and discussed by the Scientific Council at its 18th Meeting in July 2014. The Council, while acknowledging that each of the candidates for the position of COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals would be able to contribute significantly to the work of the Convention, recommended the appointment of Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra to COP11 for consideration. In the case of COP-appointed Councillor for Birds, the Council did not reach a decision in favour of either of the candidates. Thus, it was agreed to recommend both candidates, namely Robert Clay and Stephen Garnett to COP11 for a final decision.
6. Incumbents of the other seven current positions of COP-appointed Councillors have expressed their readiness to continue serving in that capacity for the next term, should the Conference of the Parties so wish. The list of COP-appointed Councillors is attached to this note as Annex 2.

Action requested:

The Conference of the Parties is requested to:

- (a) Review the candidatures for the position of the COP-appointed Councillor for Birds, and make a decision on the appointment.
- (b) Consider the recommendation of the Scientific Council as regards the position of COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals for the next triennium, and make a decision on the appointment.
- (c) Reconfirm the appointment of the existing COP-appointed Councillors for the next triennium.

Annex I

**SUMMARY OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSITIONS OF CONFERENCE-APPOINTED COUNCILLORS
FOR AQUATIC MAMMALS AND BIRDS**

With a view to facilitating a comparative review of the candidatures, a short overview of the candidates is provided in Table 1 (Aquatic Mammals) and Table 2 (Birds), in alphabetical order by last name. The tables were compiled by the Secretariat, and reflect its interpretation of the candidates' CVs. The contents of the tables have not been reviewed or approved by the candidates. The full submissions, each including the nomination letter, the CV and the declaration of the candidate, can be found in document UNEP/CMS/ScC18/Inf.14.

Table 1: Nominations for the position of COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key Relevant Experience	Key International Policy Experience
Ellen Hines	PhD in Geography	San Francisco State University, USA University of Victoria, Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive research and teaching experience • Research mainly on cetaceans and sirenians • Emphasis on habitat use, abundance, monitoring techniques, community-based conservation • Main regional focus: South and South-east Asia, Caribbean; local and regional perspectives • Member, IUCN SSC Sirenian Specialist Group • Member, Joint IUCN WCPA/SSC Task Force on Marine Mammal Protected Areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointed Expert to the Pool of Experts, United Nations World Ocean Assessment (Marine Mammals) • External Expert to the CMS ScC AMWG
Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara	PhD in Marine Biology	Tethys Research Institute University of Milan, Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive research and policy experience • Research mainly on cetaceans and rays • Emphasis on ecosystem- and habitat-based conservation, impacts and mitigation of threats, morphology • Main regional focus: Mediterranean; local, regional and global perspectives • Deputy Chair, IUCN SSC Cetacean Specialist Group • Member, IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group • Co-Chair, Joint IUCN WCPA/SSC Task Force on Marine Mammal Protected Areas • Coordinator, CIESM Task Force on Marine Mammals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Coordinator, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas – Marine • Chair, Scientific Committee ACCOBAMS (2002-2010) • Commissioner/Alternate Commissioner for Italy, International Whaling Commission (IWC) (1999-2003) • External Expert to the CMS ScC AMWG

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key Relevant Experience	Key International Policy Experience
Brian Smith	MSc in Natural Resource Management	Wildlife Conservation Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive field research and training experience • Research on cetaceans, freshwater and marine • Emphasis on population assessments, impacts and mitigation of threats, community-based conservation • Main regional focus: South and South-east Asia; local and regional perspectives • Member, IUCN SSC Cetacean Specialist Group • Member, Joint IUCN WCPA/SSC Task Force on Marine Mammal Protected Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member, IWC Climate Change Working Group • Advisor/Working group member for IWC, U.S. Marine Mammal Commission, WWF, CI and UNESCO World Heritage Committee • External Expert to the CMS ScC AMWG

Table 2: Nominations for the position of COP-appointed Councillor for Birds

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key Relevant Experience	International Policy Experience
Robert Clay	PhD in Zoology	BirdLife International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive research and policy experience • Main regional focus: Latin America • Member of IUCN SSC, including the Threatened Waterfowl, Flamingo and Heron Specialist Groups • Member of the Cracid Specialist Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of CMS Flyways Working Group (2013 – present) • CMS Scientific Councillor for Paraguay (2014 onwards) • Chair of the Council for Waterbird Conservation in the Americas (2011 – present) • Regional (Americas) representative for BirdLife International to CMS (1999-2005) and the Ramsar Convention (2005-2006) • Member of IUCN Species Survival Commission
Stephen Garnett	PhD	Charles Darwin University, Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive research and teaching experience • Extensive experience in the application of conservation criteria • Global network of professional contacts • Main regional focus: Australia, Oceania and Southeast Asia • Board member, WWF Australia • Committee member of several BirdLife Australia committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of BirdLife Australia at the first meeting of parties to the China Australia Migratory Bird Agreement in 1990 • Coordinator, committee for applying the IUCN Red List Guidelines to Australian birds and preparing proposals for adoption by the IUCN and the Australian government • Advisor to the Australian Government on species to include on bilateral migratory bird agreements with neighbouring countries

LIST OF CURRENT COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLORS

<p>Mr. Barry G. Baker COP-appointed Councillor (By-Catch) 114 Watsons Road Kettering Tasmania 7155 AUSTRALIA Tel.: (+61 3) 6267 4079 Fax: - E-mail: barry.baker@latitude42.com.au</p>	<p>Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah COP-appointed Councillor (African Fauna) Council for Scientific and Industrial Research CSIR-Ghana C/o Wildlife Division, Forestry Commission of Ghana Accra GHANA Tel: (+233 24) 477 2256 Fax: (+233 21) 777 655 E-mail: alfred.otengyeboah@gmail.com</p>
<p>Dr. Rodrigo A. Medellín COP-appointed Councillor (Neotropical Fauna) President of the Society for Conservation Biology Instituto de Ecología, UNAM Ap. Postal 70-275 04510 Ciudad Universitaria, D. F. MEXICO Tel.: 52-55-5622-9042 Fax: 52-55-5622-8995 E-Mail: medellin@miranda.ecologia.unam.mx</p>	<p>Prof. Dr. Colin A. Galbraith COP-appointed Councillor (Climate Change) 45 Mounthooly Loan Edinburgh EH10 7JD Scotland UNITED KINGDOM E-mail: colin@cgalbraith.freeserve.co.uk</p>
<p>Dr. Zeb S. Hogan COP-appointed Councillor (Fish) 2355 Camelot Way Reno NV 89509 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Tel: (+1 530) 219 0942 Fax: - E-mail: zebhogan@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Dr. Colin J. Limpus COP-appointed Councillor (Marine Turtles) Chief Scientist Queensland Turtle Research P. O. Box 541, Capalaba Queensland 4157 AUSTRALIA Tel.: (+61 7) 3245 4056 Fax: - E-mail: Col.Limpus@ehp.qld.gov.au</p>
<p>Dr. Taej Mundkur COP-appointed Councillor (Asiatic Fauna) Programme Manager - Flyways Wetlands International Horapark 9 (2nd Floor) 6717 LZ Ede THE NETHERLANDS Tel: (+31 318) 660910 Fax: (+31 318) 660950 E-mail: taej.mundkur@wetlands.org</p>	