**FRESHWATER FISH INCLUDING THE EUROPEAN EEL**

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*(Prepared by the Aquatic WG)*

DRAFT DECISIONS

**european eel**

***Directed to Parties***

14.AA Parties that are Range States to the European Eel are urged to provide support for the development of the Action Plan, including the convening of a Range State Meeting to finalize it.

***Directed to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations***

14.BB Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are urged to provide expertise and funding for the development of the Plan, including the convening of a Range State meeting to finalize the plan.

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

14.CC The Standing Committee shall consider the Action Plan for adoption at one of its meetings before COP15.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

14.DD The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of resources:

1. support the finalisation of the draft Action Plan for the European Eel (*Anguilla anguilla*);
2. hold consultations among the Range States and relevant IGOs and NGOs on the draft Action Plan by correspondence and, if funding permits, by convening or supporting another meeting of Range States;
3. collaborate with the CITES Secretariat on their respective intersessional activities relating to European eel;
4. submit the draft plan to the Standing Committee at a meeting before COP15 for adoption.

**Freshwater fish**

***Directed to Parties***

14.EE Parties are urged to:

1. promote the sharing of data with other Range States and/or international bodies on transboundary freshwater migratory fish species, including current abundance, fish ecology and habitat degradation, especially for those species identified on national, regional or global red listings;
2. take actions with respect to hydroelectric dams to mitigate the effects of barriers in rivers, such as the creation of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures in the upper and lower floodplains that are important for the feeding and spawning cycles of wild migratory fish populations;
3. take action to ensure ecological flow in fluvial ecosystems in order to ensure good conditions for the existing ecosystems and avoid the negative consequences on fisheries that they support;
4. consider, taking into account the advice of the Scientific Council, developing a multispecies action plan based on minimizing the main threats to a group of species;
5. work together with other Range States to propose the inclusion of additional threatened freshwater migratory fish species in the CMS Appendices;
6. promote awareness on the conservation status of CMS-listed freshwater fish.

***Directed to non-governmental organizations***

14.FF Non-governmental organizations are urged to:

1. work closely with Range States to provide expertise and funding for the collection and sharing of data on transboundary freshwater migratory fish species, including current abundance, fish ecology and habitat degradation, especially for those species identified on national, regional or global red listings;
2. provide expertise and funds to Range States to support their research and data sharing;
3. promote awareness on the conservation status of CMS-listed freshwater fish.

***Directed to the Scientific Council***

14.GG The Scientific Council is requested to, subject to the availability of resources,

1. update the review of freshwater fish found in [UNEP/CMS/Inf.10.33](https://www.cms.int/en/document/review-freshwater-fish);
2. provide advice on the development of a multispecies action plan for freshwater fish to address the main threats to this group of species;
3. report to the Conference of Parties at its 15th meeting on the progress in implementing this decision.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

14.HH The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of resources:

1. support the Scientific Council in the development of the review outlined in Decision 14.GG;
2. provide technical support to Parties for the implementation of activities outlined in Decision 14.EE;
3. develop and disseminate relevant guidelines and management tools as requested by Parties.