



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CONVENTION THROUGH A PROCESS TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th Meeting (Quito, 4-9 November 2014)

Recalling that the United Nations Environment Programme, in its *Guidelines on Compliance with and Enforcement of Multilateral Environmental Agreements* (2002), has identified “[s]trengthening of compliance with multilateral environmental agreements ... as a key issue”;

Noting that most major multilateral environmental agreements have established a process for facilitating implementation and providing support to those Parties experiencing difficulties with implementation;

Aware that two agreements within the CMS Family, the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) and the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), already have processes for reviewing the effectiveness of implementation measures (AEWA Resolution 4.6, *Establishment of an Implementation Review Process* (2008), ACCOBAMS Resolution 5.4, *ACCOBAMS Follow-up Procedure* (2013));

Recognizing that both compliance with the Convention’s obligations and the effectiveness of implementation measures are critical to the conservation and management of migratory species;

Recalling Article VII, paragraph 5, of the Convention, which provides that “the Conference of the Parties shall review the implementation of this Convention” and may, in particular, “make recommendations to the Parties for improving the effectiveness of this Convention”;

Recalling Resolution 10.9, Activity 16, of the Future Structure and Strategies for CMS, which establishes a medium-term priority (by COP12–2017) to “improve mechanisms to measure implementation of CMS and its Family ... and identification of gaps and propose measures to close these gaps”; and

Recalling Article IX, paragraph 4, of the Convention, which directs the Secretariat “to invite the attention of the Conference of the Parties to any matter pertaining to the objectives of this Convention”;

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

1. *Launches* an intersessional process to explore possibilities for strengthening implementation of the Convention through the development of a review process;
2. *Instructs* the Secretariat to propose terms of reference for a working group to be considered for adoption by the Standing Committee at its 44th Meeting;
3. *Instructs* the Standing Committee at its 45th Meeting to review any progress, if a working group is established, and report to the 12th Meeting of Conference of the Parties;
4. *Instructs* the Secretariat to support the process;
5. *Requests* UNEP, Parties and other donors to provide financial assistance to support the development of the review process; and
6. *Requests* the Secretariat, where possible, to reduce costs by convening potential meetings of the Working Group in the most cost-effective way.