

**FIFTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP TO THE RAPTORS MOU**

*(Online, 14 December 2022)*

UNEP/CMS/RAPTORS/TAG5/Doc.2

**TAG WORKPLAN 2023-2026**

*(Prepared by the Coordinating Unit of the Raptors MOU)*

1. As per paragraph 1 of the Terms of Reference of the TAG, the purpose of the Technical Advisory Group to the Raptors MOU (TAG) is to serve and assist Signatories in the effective implementation of the MOU and its Action Plan.
2. From the Second Meeting of Signatories (MOS2, Trondheim, October 2015) until present, the work of the TAG has been guided by the TAG Workplan 2016-2020 (Annex A to document UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG4/Doc.6.1).
3. Since the TAG Workplan 2016-2020 is now obsolete, the Coordinating Unit has developed a proposal for a TAG Workplan 2023-2026 which is contained in Annex I to the present document. The proposal includes actions relevant to the TAG that are foreseen in the following documents:
  - i) Unimplemented actions listed in the TAG Workplan 2016-2020 that are still considered relevant;
  - ii) Terms of Reference of the TAG;
  - iii) Rules of Procedure for Meetings of Signatories to the Raptors MOU, as adopted at MOS2 (Annex I to document UNEP/CMS/Raptors/MOS2/Report);
  - iv) Actions agreed at the Fourth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group to the Raptors MOU (TAG4, online, December 2021; document UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG4/Report); and
  - v) Activities contained in Table 2 of the Raptors MOU Action Plan, as refined and updated following TAG4 (paragraph 388 of document UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG4/Report).
4. In addition, the new workplan proposal contains the following changes in relation to the previous workplan:
  - i) Addition of a column named "Mandate", to clarify where the mandate for each action comes from;
  - ii) Addition of a column named "Expected Output", to clarify the output expected with the implementation of each action;
  - iii) Addition of a column named "Lead (L) & Contributor (C)", to indicate suitable stakeholders for leading and/or contributing to the implementation of each action;
  - iv) Addition of a column named "Priority Level", to guide the TAG in prioritizing its activities; and
  - v) Addition of a column named "Funding Required (USD)", to indicate the approximate resources required for implementation.

5. The choices described in paragraphs 3 and 4 above aim to ensure that a comprehensive overview of the TAG's work for the period 2023-2026 is available in a single document so that the Group may better plan and prioritize its activities.

**Action requested**

6. The TAG is invited to:
  - i) Review the proposal contained in Annex I, including the prioritization of actions proposed therein;
  - ii) Identify suitable leads and contributors to support the implementation of those actions; and
  - iii) Agree to submit the workplan proposal included in Annex I, with any changes pursuant to i) and ii) above, for adoption at the next session of the Meeting of Signatories.

**Annex I  
Proposal for a TAG Workplan 2023-2026**

| Mandate <sup>1</sup>   | Action  | Expected Output   | Lead (L) & Contributor (C) | Priority Level | Funding Required (USD) |
|--|---|---|----------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(b)</li> <li>▪ ROP 16(2)</li> </ul>        | 1. Ensure changes in taxonomy and/or conservation status and knowledge of movement of migratory raptors are reflected in the Raptors MOU lists.   | Amendments to Annexes 1, 2 and 3 (Table 1 and Table 3) proposed to MOS. | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  | ~ 30,000               |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ROP 16.3(c)</li> </ul>                          | 2. Review proposals submitted to MOS for the inclusion of species in Annex 1 of the MOU.  | Written comments on each proposal tabled by Signatories.                | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  | ~ 4,000                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ROP 16.3(c)</li> </ul>                          | 3. Review proposals submitted to MOS for the inclusion of sites in Table 3 of the MOU's Action Plan.  | Written comments on each proposal tabled by Signatories.                | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  | ~ 7,000                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> </ul>                             | 4. Contribute scientific and technical advice on matters brought to the attention of the TAG by Signatories and relating to the following: conservation and management activities and promulgation of guidance; and capacity-building to develop guidance, good practice, and other activities. | To be determined (TBD) based on Signatories' requests.                  | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  | TBD                    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(d)</li> </ul>                             | 5. Report to MOS on TAG activities.   | Report to MOS submitted by the deadline.                                | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  |                        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. (5.1), 7</li> </ul>                | 6. Contribute technical expertise on raptors to the work of the CMS Task Forces.  | TAG advice provided to Lead and MIKT Task Forces.                       | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  |                        |
|  |   | Outputs of CMS Task Force meetings shared with Signatories.             | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  |                        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 5.1</li> </ul> | 7. Contribute to the CMS Energy Task Force and ensure that the potential impact on raptors of energy production and distribution infrastructure is properly addressed.  | TAG input into ETF documents as required.                               | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  |                        |
|  |   | Outputs of CMS Energy Task Force meetings shared with Signatories.      | L:<br>C:                   | Core activity  |                        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(b)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 1.1</li> </ul> | 8. Monitor consistency between the IUCN Red List status, Table 1 Category, and CMS Appendix listing of species.   | List of species eligible for inclusion in CMS Appendix I or II.         | L:<br>C:                   | Very high      | ~ 1,500                |

<sup>1</sup> **TOR** = Terms of Reference of the TAG; **ROP** = Rules of Procedure for Meetings of Signatories to the Raptors MOU; **Table 2** = Table 2 of the Raptors MOU Action Plan.

|   |  |  |          |           |          |
|---|--|--|----------|-----------|----------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(b)</li> </ul>                                  | 9. Clarify the criteria for inclusion of a species in Category 2 of Table 1 of the MOU's Action Plan.  | Discussion paper to lead the TAG discussion aimed at clarifying what should be considered as a 'regional assessment'.  | L:<br>C: | Very high | ~ 5,000  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 1.2</li> </ul>      | 10. Provide legislative guidance for the protection of birds of prey.  | Clarification on the definition of legal protection, and legislative guidance document for Signatories.                | L:<br>C: | Medium    |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 1.2, 1.3</li> </ul>                     | 11. Support assessments of whether national legislation appropriately protects birds of prey.  | Review national species protection legislation (indicator).  | L:<br>C: | High      |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 1.4</li> </ul>                          | 12. Support Signatories in the implementation of national legislation to protect birds of prey.  | Workshop to build Signatories' capacity on what legal protection of birds of prey means and how they can implement it. | L:<br>C: | Medium    |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 3.1</li> </ul>      | 13. Assess extent, distribution, conservation, and protection status of habitats important for migratory raptors.  | Inputs into the "Assessment of the State of principal birds' habitats" project.  | L:<br>C: | High      |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2</li> </ul>      | 14. Provide guidance on the Migratory Raptor Safe Zones approach to Signatories.   | Guidance document on Migratory Raptor Safe Zones.  | L:<br>C: | Low       |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2</li> </ul>      | 15. Identify information gaps on key breeding areas, stopovers, refuelling, bottleneck, and other congregational and non-breeding sites along raptor flyways.  | Site Network Analysis covering all relevant Annex I spp. (taking into consideration satellite tracking data).          | L:<br>C: | Very high | ~ 60,000 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2</li> </ul>      | 16. Provide guidance on effective habitat and site protection.   | Guidance on assessing the effectiveness of legal protection of sites and habitat (indicator).                          | L:<br>C: | Medium    |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(b)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 3.2, 6.1</li> </ul> | 17. Assess the protection status of the sites listed in the Action Plan's Table 3 and their effectiveness in conserving migratory raptors.   | Conservation Status Assessment Report presented at MOS4.   | L:<br>C: | Very high | ~ 9,000  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 4</li> </ul>        | 18. Provide recommendations on the value of new technologies, including satellite tracking to: assess mortality; and identify mortality causes, important sites, distribution range, and migration pathways. | Information material on the use of satellite tracking in raptor conservation.  | L:<br>C: | Medium    |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 4.1</li> </ul>      | 19. Provide guidance on national threat assessment methodologies.  | Guidance on how to assess threats at the national level (indicator).   | L:<br>C: | Medium    |          |

|   |  |  |          |           |          |
|---|--|--|----------|-----------|----------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 4.1</li> </ul>                | 20. Study the impact on raptors of locust and Quelea control programmes.   | Information material on locust and/or Quelea control programmes.   | L:<br>C: | Low       |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 4.1</li> </ul>                | 21. Understand the impacts of climate change on raptors, particularly on their habitats and prey.                  | Information material on the impact of climate change on raptors, their habitat, and prey.                    | L:<br>C: | Very high |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 6.1</li> </ul>                | 22. Provide guidance on national monitoring of raptors.  | Review of existing national monitoring protocols and programmes (indicator) with a focus on Asia.            | L:<br>C: | High      |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 4.1, 6.1</li> </ul>           | 23. Monitor the conservation status of migratory raptors listed in Annex 1.  | Conservation Status Assessment Report at each MOS.   | L:<br>C: | Very high | ~ 18,000 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 6.3</li> </ul>                                    | 24. Provide guidance and share information on how to identify conservation-related research needs.                 | Review of existing relevant research priority frameworks and platforms (indicator).                          | L:<br>C: | Low       |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> </ul>  | 25. Advise on matters pertaining to raptor conservation, including in response to the climate-biodiversity crisis. | Horizon scanning paper.  | L:<br>C: | High      | ~ 15,000 |
|   |  | Information material on opportunities and risks related to raptors and drones.                               | L:<br>C: | Medium    |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 7.1</li> </ul>                                    | 26. Contribute to monitoring of awareness-raising activities related to raptors' migration and threats.            | Raptor-specific sub-indicator of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership Biodiversity Barometer (indicator). | L:<br>C: | Low       |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 7.2</li> </ul>                                    | 27. Contribute to monitoring of awareness-raising activities at bottleneck sites for raptors' migration.           | TOR for survey (indicator).  | L:<br>C: | Low       |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 6.2, 7.2, 8.1, 8.2</li> </ul> | 28. Develop an East African Eurasian Flyway Initiative.  | Rationale and draft concept for monitoring and building capacity and awareness along the EAE Flyway.         | L:<br>C: | High      |          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TOR 4(a)</li> <li>▪ Table 2 Act. 9.1</li> </ul>                | 29. Develop mechanisms for sharing data on raptors that can contribute to the MOU's objectives.                    | Guidance on good practice.   | L:<br>C: | Medium    |          |