

**ANNEX 1**

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSES OF CANDIDATES FOR POSITIONS OF  
COP-APPOINTED COUNCILLORS FOR THE SUBJECT AREAS OF  
AQUATIC MAMMALS AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

*NB: 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.*

**Summary of the nominations received**

Nominations for the Position of COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals  
(in alphabetical order):

1. Md. Zahangir Alom
2. Pavel Gol'din
3. Ellen Hines
4. Gabriel Hoinsoude Segniagbeto
5. Vanesa Patricia Tossenberger

Nominations for the Position of COP-appointed Councillor for Climate Change  
(in alphabetical order):

1. Md. Zahangir Alom
2. Trisha Brooke Atwood
3. Miguel Ferrer Baena
4. Colin James Limpus
5. Asghar Mobaraki
6. Des B.A Thompson

### Analysis of Nominations for the Position of COP-Appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
<b>Md. Zahangir Alom</b>	PhD in Zoology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildlife Conservation Society</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Country Representative and Senior Terrestrial Conservation Program Manager for the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Bangladesh.</b></li> <li><b>Species focus:</b> Tigers and freshwater cetaceans.</li> <li><b>Thematic focus:</b> Illegal wildlife trade and data monitoring in the field including using SMART (Species Movement, Acceleration and Radio Tracking collars)</li> <li>Project leader for the 'Management of the Sundarbans Mangrove Forests for Biodiversity Conservation and Increased Adaptation to Climate Change Project'.</li> <li>Lead author of multiple handbooks and reports relating to illegal wildlife trade, for example, 'Handbook for Law Enforcement Officers on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade' (2020) and management plans for freshwater dolphins, for example, 'Integrated management plan for the three wildlife sanctuaries for freshwater dolphins in the Eastern Sundarbans Reserved Forest' (2015).</li> <li><b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Mohammad-Zahangir-Alom-2226511915">https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Mohammad-Zahangir-Alom-2226511915</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worked with the Government of Bangladesh to strengthen their compliance with CITES</li> <li>Trained in the IUCN Red List Assessment Process.</li> <li>Worked as an assessor for IUCN Red List of Bangladesh, Volume 2: Mammals.</li> <li>Created a handbook for 'Enforcing CITES Regulations and National Laws to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade'.</li> </ul>
<b>Pavel Gol'din</b>	PhD in Zoology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Professor/researcher at the Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.</b></li> <li><b>Species focus:</b> marine mammals of the Azov and the Black Seas.</li> <li><b>Thematic focus:</b> mammalian evolution, anatomy and development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worked on ACCOBAMS projects: 'Establishing the bank of cetacean tissue samples in Ukraine' and 'Identification and initial assessment of cetacean groupings in coastal waters of the north-western Black Sea, Ukrainian sector'.</li> </ul>

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD thesis: postnatal growth of the harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>).</li> <li>• Member of the National Advisory Council on Conservation of Marine Mammals, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine.</li> <li>• Expert for the Working Group on Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea and Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for the Black Sea, Government of Ukraine.</li> <li>• <b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Pavel-Goldin">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Pavel-Goldin</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research coordinator from Ukraine for DG ENV, European Commission.</li> <li>• Expert on the IUCN Species Survival Commission.</li> <li>• Editor on the CBD Sixth National Report for Ukraine.</li> <li>• National Contact Person in Ukraine for the European Cetacean Society.</li> </ul>
<b>Ellen Hines</b>	PhD in Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Center for Coastal Studies, Massachusetts, USA</li> <li>• San Francisco State University, USA</li> <li>• University of Victoria, Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Professor of Geography at San Francisco State University and Associate Director of the Estuary and Ocean Science Center.</b></li> <li>• <b>Species focus:</b> Cetaceans and sirenians.</li> <li>• <b>Thematic focus:</b> Population and community ecology of endangered marine species.</li> <li>• Extensive experience using GIS and remote sensing for marine and coastal spatial planning. Conducted aquatic mammal research globally including habitat use, abundance, monitoring techniques, and risk assessments for anthropogenic threats.</li> <li>• Collaboration with NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries and local scientists around San Francisco Bay to model habitat use and human threats to marine mammals and seabirds.</li> <li>• Author of 'Sirenian Conservation: Issues and Strategies in Developing Countries', 2014 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, to be published in 2024</li> <li>• <b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ellen-Hines-2">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ellen-Hines-2</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of the CMS Scientific Council's Aquatic Mammals Working Group (AMWG) since 2013.</li> <li>• Member of the IUCN SSC Sirenian Specialist Group since 2005.</li> <li>• Member of the IUCN Marine Mammal Protected Area Task Force and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas.</li> <li>• Member of the Expert Panel on marine mammal bycatch, FAO, Rome, Italy (since 2018).</li> <li>• Member of the expert Panel on marine mammal bycatch, International Whaling Commission, since 2018.</li> <li>• Co-led the 3<sup>rd</sup> Southeast Asian Marine Mammal Symposium in Malaysia, and led the publication of a report on this workshop published by the CMS Secretariat.</li> <li>• Appointed expert to the United Nations World Ocean Assessment (Marine Mammals).</li> </ul>

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
<p><b>Gabriel Hoinsoude Segniagbeto</b></p>	<p>PhD in Zoology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Lomé</li> <li>• National Museum of Natural History, Paris</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Senior lecturer and deputy director of the Ecology and Ecotoxicology Laboratory (LaEE) at the University of Lomé.</b></li> <li>• <b>Species focus:</b> West African mammals, waterbirds, reptiles, amphibians and fish.</li> <li>• <b>Thematic focus:</b> continental, marine and coastal biodiversity of West Africa, and protected area management including blue planning, climate change adaptation and the management and restoration of mangrove ecosystems.</li> <li>• Founder and scientific adviser for the Togolese Association for Nature Conservation.</li> <li>• Member of the Cameroon Dolphin Working Group.</li> <li>• <b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gabriel-Segniagbeto">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gabriel-Segniagbeto</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional expert who has attended many regional and global meetings, including IUCN, CITES, CBD, CMS, IOC UNESCO and WOA.</li> <li>• Expert involved in preparatory meetings to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding concerning the Conservation of the Manatee and Small Cetaceans of Western Africa and Macaronesia (WAAM), 2007-08</li> <li>• Conducted an exploratory survey of Cetaceans and their status in Cameroon for CMS (May 2011).</li> <li>• Coordinator of the Togo CITES Scientific Authority.</li> <li>• UNESCO IOC National Focal Point</li> <li>• Expert on the panel for the evaluation of the IUCN Green List of protected and conserved areas in the West African marine area (WACA Project).</li> <li>• Worked with IUCN on biodiversity assessments in the face of climate change.</li> <li>• Involved in drafting the IUCN PACO proposal: 'Using Marine Spatial Planning in the Gulf of Guinea for the implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services and Coastal Nature-based Solutions (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo)'</li> </ul>

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
<b>Vanessa Patricia Tossenberger</b>	Degree in Biological Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC)</li> <li>• Fundación Cethus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>WDC Director of International Policy since 2013 and leader of the Whale Hunting and Whale Trade Program since 2011</b></li> <li>• Vice-President of Fundación Cethus since 2016.</li> <li>• <b>Species focus:</b> marine mammals, especially cetaceans, with a particular focus on Commerson's dolphin (<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>).</li> <li>• <b>Thematic focus:</b> conservation management and generation of conservation strategies for marine mammals.</li> <li>• Developing and leading international and national campaigns aimed at the protection of species and their environment.</li> <li>• Drafting and analysing legislation and regulations.</li> <li>• <b>Publications:</b>  <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Vanessa-Tossenberger-2009852246">https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Vanessa-Tossenberger-2009852246</a> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific adviser to the CITES Scientific Authority of Argentina since 2007 and member since 2021. Scientific adviser to the Argentinean delegation to CMS since 2014.</li> <li>• Scientific adviser to the Argentinean delegation to CBD since 2022.</li> <li>• IWC observer since 2000.</li> </ul>

### Analysis of Nominations for the Position of COP-Appointed Councillor for Climate Change

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
<p><b>Md. Zahangir Alom</b></p>	<p><b>PhD in Zoology</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildlife Conservation Society</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Country Representative and Senior Terrestrial Conservation Program Manager for the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Bangladesh.</b></li> <li><b>Species focus:</b> Tigers and freshwater cetaceans.</li> <li><b>Thematic focus:</b> Illegal wildlife trade and data monitoring in the field including using SMART (Species Movement, Acceleration and Radio Tracking collars).</li> <li>Project leader/manager for the “Getting SMART about saving among the world’s most endangered and iconic wildlife in the Sundarbans mangrove forest, Bangladesh” (September 2016 - August 2018), a subproject of the Management of the Sundarbans Mangrove Forests for Biodiversity Conservation and Increased Adaptation to Climate Change Project (SMP-I) implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).</li> <li>Lead author of multiple handbooks and reports relating to illegal wildlife trade, for example, ‘Handbook for Law Enforcement Officers on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade’ (2020) and management plans for freshwater dolphins, for example, ‘Integrated management plan for the three wildlife sanctuaries for freshwater dolphins in the Eastern Sundarbans Reserved Forest’ (2015).</li> <li><b>Publications:</b>  <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Mohammad-Zahangir-Alom-2226511915">https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Mohammad-Zahangir-Alom-2226511915</a> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worked with the Government of Bangladesh to strengthen their compliance with CITES</li> <li>Trained in the IUCN Red List Assessment Process.</li> <li>Worked as an assessor for IUCN Red List of Bangladesh, Volume 2: Mammals.</li> <li>Created a handbook for ‘Enforcing CITES Regulations and National Laws to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade’.</li> </ul>

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
<p><b>Trisha Brooke Atwood</b></p>	<p><b>PhD in Forestry</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Watershed Sciences and The Ecology Center, Utah State University, USA</li> <li>• Ecological Society of America</li> <li>• American Geophysical Union</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Associate Professor of Aquatic Ecology and Global Change at Utah State University (USA); Climate mitigation specialist for the National Geographic Society’s Pristine Seas program</b></li> <li>• <b>Species focus:</b> birds, marine fishes (including sharks), marine mammals, marine reptiles, insects, and beavers</li> <li>• <b>Thematic focus:</b> the role of animals in climate mitigation; aquatic conservation; the response of aquatic ecosystems to global change; effects of disturbance on aquatic carbon cycling; biotic interactions in aquatic food webs; cycling and storage of carbon in aquatic ecosystems</li> <li>• Author and co-author of multiple publications on the response of aquatic ecosystems to global change, for example, ‘What global biogeochemical consequences will marine animal–sediment interactions have during climate change?’ and ‘The importance of marine predators in the provisioning of ecosystem services in coastal plant communities’</li> <li>• Presentation ‘How altered animal communities change the functioning of ecosystems, and possibly our climate’ at the Netherlands Annual Ecology Meeting (2018)</li> <li>• <b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Trisha-B-Atwood-2067121210">https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Trisha-B-Atwood-2067121210</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert invited referee for Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)-Ocean &amp; Cryosphere in a Changing Climate Report</li> <li>• Expert invited referee for The High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy Report</li> <li>• Invited member of UNEP’s International Expert Meeting on Mangrove Restoration (2021)</li> <li>• Panelist for the UNEP’s Forests Project open broadcast webinar on policy opportunities for harnessing the value of oceanic blue carbon (2021)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Miguel Ferrer Baena</b></p>	<p><b>PhD in Ecology</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)</li> <li>• Raptor Research Foundation (USA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research Professor of the Spanish National Research Council at the Doñana Biological Station</b></li> <li>• <b>Species focus:</b> birds (birds of prey, and imperial eagle)</li> <li>• <b>Thematic focus:</b> vertebrate ecology and behavior, conservation biology of birds of prey, bird migration and global change, dynamics of small populations,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of the Council of Europe’s Expert Group on Biodiversity and Global Change (since 2001)</li> <li>• Expert Reviewer of the IPCC (2012, 2020, 2022)</li> <li>• Spanish representative in renewable energies and the environment of the International Energy Agency (IEA)</li> </ul>

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Migres Foundation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>conservation of endangered species, and analysis of the impacts caused by human infrastructures</li> <li>Published 14 books and more than 200 scientific articles, for example, 'Effects of climate change on the migratory behavior of the common buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i>' and 'Migration timing responses to climate change differ between adult and juvenile white storks across Western Europe'</li> <li>Included since 2007 in the percentile 1 of the most cited scientist in the world in the field Ecology/Environment according to ISI web</li> <li>Referee for multiple journals, for example, 'Ecology', 'Journal of Applied Ecology', and 'Biological Conservation'</li> <li><b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Miguel-Ferrer-5">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Miguel-Ferrer-5</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member of the Council of Experts Working Group "Terrestrial environment" Integrated into the Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment (CSTEE) of the European Commission (since 2009)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Colin James Limpus</b></p>	<p><b>PhD in Marine Turtle Biology</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Queensland Department of Environment and Science, Australia</li> <li>James Cook University School of Earth and Environmental Science</li> <li>University of Queensland School of Veterinary Science</li> <li>Griffith University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Chief Scientific Officer, Threatened Species Operations, Queensland Department of Environment and Science, Australia</b></li> <li><b>Species focus:</b> marine turtles, crocodiles, freshwater turtles, dugong, sea snakes, sea birds, terrestrial reptiles and native mammals on islands</li> <li><b>Thematic focus:</b> reproductive ecology and population dynamics of long-lived vertebrates</li> <li>Co-author of multiple reviews of impact on climate change on marine turtle population, for example, 'Integrating climate change and management scenarios in population models to guide the conservation of marine turtles' and 'Vulnerability of marine turtles to climate change'</li> <li>Pioneered studies linking regional climate cycles (El Nino Southern Oscillation) to regulation of annual breeding rates of green turtles</li> <li><b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Colin-Limpus">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Colin-Limpus</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Former CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Marine Turtles (COP4-COP13)</li> <li>Former member of IUCN SC Marine Turtle Specialist Group executive (1978-2000)</li> <li>Former president of International Sea Turtle Society (2009)</li> </ul>

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
<b>Asghar Mobaraki</b>	<b>PhD in Environmental Science</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Environment, Iran</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Reptilian expert at the Department of Environment, Iran</b></li> <li><b>Species focus:</b> Turtles and crocodiles</li> <li><b>Thematic focus:</b> field research and conservation work on marine turtles, reptilian species; working on terrestrial and aquatic habitats</li> <li>Species conservation planning, including climate change effects; working with CITES as a member of the Animal Committee, as well as with IUCN and CBD</li> <li>Author of multiple publications on turtles, for example, 'Population study of foraging Green sea turtles (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>) in the Northern Persian Gulf and Oman Sea' and crocodiles in Iran, for example, 'Total length and head length relationship in Mugger Crocodiles <i>Crocodylus palustris</i> (Reptilia: Crocodylia: Crocodylidae) in Iran'</li> <li><b>Publications:</b> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Asghar-Mobaraki">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Asghar-Mobaraki</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member of CITES Animal Committee</li> <li>Regional Vice Chairman for Crocodile specialist Group Chair in South Asia and Iran (SSC/IUCN/CSG)</li> <li>National Focal Point for Indian Ocean and South-East Asia Sea Turtle MOU (IOSEA MOU)</li> <li>Member of Tortoise and Freshwater turtle (TFT) specialist Group</li> <li>Member of Marine turtle specialist Group (MTSG/SSC/IUCN)</li> <li>Member of IUCN/SSC Viper specialist Group</li> </ul>
<b>Des B.A Thompson</b>	<b>DSc in Nature Conservation and Ecology; PhD in Zoology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NatureScot</li> <li>Royal Society of Edinburgh</li> <li>Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Principal Adviser on Biodiversity and Science with the government nature agency NatureScot</b></li> <li><b>Species focus:</b> raptors, shorebirds</li> <li><b>Thematic focus:</b> work on raptors, shorebirds, and mountain environments – all acutely sensitive to climate change</li> <li>Published more than fifteen books, for example, 'Tundra Plovers: the Eurasian, Pacific and American golden plovers and Grey Plover, and Gulls and Plovers: the ecology and behavior of mixed species feeding groups', and several hundred papers, for example, 'Raptors: a field guide for surveys and monitoring'</li> <li>Advises on both mitigation and adaptation responses to climate change, and is a proponent of nature-based solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair of the CMS Raptors MOU Technical Advisory Group (TAG)</li> <li>Former Chair of the AEWA European Goose Management International Working Group</li> <li>Advising UNESCO on the nomination of the Flow Country as a World Heritage Site</li> <li>Leader of Biodiversity Team developing the Post-COP15 'Strategic Framework for Biodiversity': Scottish Biodiversity Strategy 2045</li> <li>Contribution to the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow on the adaptive management of the Flow Country to meet net zero emissions</li> </ul>

Name	Qualifications	Affiliation	Key relevant experience	International policy experience
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialty Chief Editor of <i>Frontiers in Bird Science: Bird Conservation and Management</i></li> <li>• <b>Publications:</b>  <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Des-Thompson">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Des-Thompson</a></li> </ul>	