

ADDENDUM 1**SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**
(arising from ScC-SC6)**IMPACTS OF PLASTIC POLLUTION ON AQUATIC, TERRESTRIAL AND AVIAN SPECIES****UNEP/CMS/COP14/ Doc. 30.4.5****RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP14**

Recommended for adoption with changes.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

The Scientific Council recommended that COP14 accepts the recommendations contained in this document.

- Plastic pollution is a very important issue for migratory species and ecosystems and can result in the poisoning of species.
- The focus of action should not be on cleaning up plastic pollution but on avoiding plastic production in the first place. In that regard, the development of a new treaty under the aegis of UNEP to address plastic pollution in a comprehensive manner was welcomed.
- The paper by Clark, B.L., Carneiro, A.P.B., Pearmain, E.J. et al. Global assessment of marine plastic exposure risk for oceanic birds. *Nat Commun* 14, 3665 (2023); <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-38900-z> was recommended.
- Measures to address plastic pollution should be handled by the Convention in a complementary manner between aquatic and other taxa units.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

- Concerns were expressed on overstepping the COP mandate with regards to Decision 14.AA, which directs Parties to raise issues of importance to migratory species in the negotiations on the new plastic treaty; and on overstretching the resources of the Scientific Council in regard to Decision 14.CC, which directs the Council to develop a concise report, built on the work undertaken in the Asia Pacific region, summarizing the status of knowledge on the impact of plastic pollution on CMS-listed species that inhabit terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems in other regions, along with recommendations to address such threats.
- Under Decision 14.AA, it would be important to include the need for Parties to monitor levels of emerging persistent organic pollutants such as PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in tissues of migratory species.
- Additionally, Parties should be requested to take note of new EU regulations regarding Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which set maximum levels of PFOS/PFOA/PFAS in several foods, noting that many migratory species are used for human consumption worldwide: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32022R2388>