

**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

Distr. GENERAL

UNEP/CMS/Resolution 9.6

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Ninth Meeting (Rome, 1-5 December 2008)

Acknowledging the importance of cooperation and synergies with other bodies, including MEAs, other inter-governmental bodies and non-governmental organisations, as well as the private sector;

Recognising the instrumental role of partner organisations in the development and implementation of CMS and its related initiatives and outreach campaigns, including the negotiation of the Convention itself;

Appreciating the value of such partnerships in reaching a wider audience and raising public awareness of the Convention and the importance of conserving migratory species on a global scale;

Recalling Resolution 8.11 adopted at CMS COP8 (Nairobi, 20-25 November 2005) on “Cooperation with other Conventions”;

Having considered documents UNEP/CMS/Conf 9.12 (Report of the Biodiversity Liaison Group) and UNEP/CMS/Conf 9.23 (Report on Activities with Partners), which highlight the formal arrangements entered into by CMS with a range of other bodies engaged with the conservation of migratory species;

Noting Decision IX/27 adopted by CBD COP9 (Bonn, 2008) which underlines the important role of the BLG in exploring options for enhancing synergies, avoiding duplication of efforts and improving the coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions;

Aware that the United Nations General Assembly, following a recommendation made by CBD at its eighth COP, has declared 2010 to be “International Year of Biodiversity” (IYB);

Noting with satisfaction the joint endorsement by the CITES and CMS Standing Committees respectively at the fifty-seventh meeting held in July 2008 and at the thirty-fourth meeting held in December in Rome of the cooperation between CITES and CMS (Conf.9.23);

Recognising the importance of the harmonisation of nomenclature used in the CMS and CITES appendices as outlined in the proposal made by the CMS Scientific Council;

Taking note of the progress made towards the resumption of activities aimed at developing synergies and strengthening cooperation with the Ramsar Convention, the World Heritage Convention and IUCN, and work undertaken towards the expeditious conclusion of the negotiations order to move towards their early implementation;

Awaiting the conclusion of the Memoranda of Understanding with CITES and the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats through their respective decision-making bodies to formalise collaboration on the conservation of migratory species;

Aware of the ongoing discussions with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the establishment of a Memorandum of Cooperation; and

Noting that a number of Memoranda of Understanding have been concluded and their potential has yet to be fully explored, such as the partnership with UNCCD, which is particularly relevant to the Sahelo-Saharan antelopes and CMS Resolution 8.23;

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

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the many partner organisations that have assisted in promoting CMS and its mandate, for example, by facilitating the negotiation and implementation of species agreements under the Convention;
2. *Reaffirms* the interest and importance for CMS of continuing to develop effective and practical cooperation with other biodiversity instruments and international organisations;
3. *Encourages* Contracting Parties and other governments and organizations to make use of the web-based UNEP/IUCN TEMATEA issue-based modular system when developing and implementing mutually supportive activities among CMS Agreements and biodiversity related Conventions so as to improve coherence in their implementation;
4. *Further encourages* the Secretariat to continue to foster such partnerships in order to further the effective delivery of conservation action and awareness-raising, subject to available human and financial resources;
5. *Recognises* that preferred instruments for such cooperation are renewable joint work plans with agreed and attainable targets included in clear timetable, drawn up by CMS and partner bodies and the necessity to report on progress and to assess effectiveness of results regularly;
6. *Mandates* the Executive Secretary to continue to participate in the activities of the BLG and to report to the Standing Committee on progress achieved;
7. *Requests* the Secretariat and the Parties concerned to pursue the implementation of CMS Resolutions 8.11 and 8.18;
8. *Agrees* that the priority for CMS in 2009-11 is to consolidate and develop its existing partnerships, following the addition of a number of new partners over the last 4-5 years;

9. *Asks* CMS to develop in this context a new partnership agreement with UNEP on practical conservation work to allow both organisations to assess where they could best focus their mutual support, taking account of their separate remits from the Governing Council and COP;
10. *Requests* the CMS Secretariat to elaborate concrete measures in collaboration with the CITES Secretariat towards the implementation of the existing Memorandum of Understanding and towards the 2010 target;
11. *Notes* also the proposal made by the CMS Scientific Council concerning harmonisation of nomenclature used in the CMS and CITES Appendices, and asks the CITES Animals Committee to consider the proposal at its next meeting in April 2009;
12. *Requests* the CMS Secretariat, CMS daughter agreements and the Scientific Council to enhance engagement with IUCN expert committees, CITES processes and committees, including the IUCN Species Survival Commission, the CITES Secretariat, CITES Animals Committee, and CITES meetings of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate;
13. *Requests* the CMS Secretariat and partners to develop additional processes to streamline and coordinate their relationship, such as:
 - (i) Agreed work programmes between CMS and partner organisations that align closely with the CMS Strategic Plan and that are regularly reviewed; and
 - (ii) Joint or consolidated reporting of partner contributions (monetary, in-kind and professional) to CMS for formal submission into CMS processes;
14. *Requests* CMS partner organisations to promote and publicise the benefits to them, to CMS and to conservation arising from effective collaboration;
15. *Instructs* the Secretariat to develop a code of conduct for partnerships with the private sector following examples of the Ramsar Resolution 10.12 and the CBD Business and Biodiversity Initiative to be considered by the 36th Standing Committee;
16. *Invites* the Secretariats of Agreements concluded under the auspices of the CMS to share relevant information and contribute to the implementation of partnerships between CMS and other organisations where applicable;
17. *Congratulates* all who contributed to the achievements of the Year of the Turtle (2006) and Year of the Dolphin (2007/8), especially the many participants from civil society; and expresses its confidence that the “Year of the Gorilla 2009” based on the partnership with the Great Apes Survival Project (GRASP) will be as successful as previous campaigns, and endorses the CMS Secretariat’s participation in the International Year of Biodiversity 2010, which is being coordinated through CBD; and
18. *Recognises* that adequate resources are required to allow partnerships to be developed, and such resources could be provided in part through voluntary contributions from Parties.

