



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme



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UPDATE ON CMS RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Document prepared by the CMS Secretariat

1. The Convention's work is guided by Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by COPs and by the Strategic Plan 2006-2011 which set the general goals, objectives and targets to ensure a coherent and targeted approach to implement the Convention at national, regional and global levels. Although many of the objectives set are primarily to be achieved by the CMS Contracting Parties, some of them fall under the responsibility of the Secretariat. COP-approved triennial budgets are mainly destined for staff salaries and operational costs, while voluntary contributions are sought for specific conservation projects, e.g. organizing meetings and for publications. The CMS Secretariat, with only two staff members dedicated to Agreement implementation, provides basic secretariat services to 16 out of the 25 instruments. As these instruments have no core operational funding, their implementation depends to a very limited extent on the CMS core budget but mainly on voluntary contributions.
2. This update on the Secretariat's resources includes funds and personnel made available to implement the Convention since 1st January 2009. On funding, the total of voluntary contributions so far received from the Governments of Finland, France, Germany, Monaco, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland and from UNEP amounts to € 766,870. This estimate does not include the grant of US\$ 823,275 (in total US\$3.6 million for the triennium 2009-2011) paid by the United Arab Emirates towards the operation of the office coordinating the Raptors and Dugongs MoUs in Abu Dhabi.
3. Total funds were earmarked as follows: 26% to the CMS Future Shape Process and related issues (including the reviews developed by the Scientific Working Group on Global Flyway and those on existing CMS instruments by taxonomic groups); 59% to implementation of CMS instruments being the Gorilla Agreement, the MoUs on African Elephants, Siberian Crane and Saiga antelope and the development of the Shark MoU (most of these funds were allocated to support the organization of related meetings); 7% on Capacity Building in Latin America and outreach activities being the evaluation of the annual species campaigns; 5% to support conservation and technical work including the Scientific Council Meeting; Avian Influenza Task Force and the development of reviews on Small Cetaceans and on the management of waterbird hunting in Asia; 3 % to purchase of office equipment and furniture.
4. Further contributions were received from the Government of Germany in the form of in-kind support including interpretation services for meetings of the Scientific Council and Standing Committee held in Bonn, the venue for the Standing Committee meeting in 2010 and a Junior Professional Officer starting from October 2010. Another Junior Professional Officer, sponsored by the Government of Finland, has been confirmed to assume office in 2011.

5. Both financial and in-kind support is also sought from and provided by partner organizations and the private sector. For instance, Lufthansa has confirmed is €10,000 grant to support the Thesis Award initiative. CBD has co-sponsored the production of the 2010 and 2011 desk diary. A number of NGOs provide technical advice to support the implementation of CMS instruments.

6. Even though many activities have also been implemented through the generous contributions received, much more still needs to be done. For instance, the reviews requested under Resolution 9.2 on existing CMS instruments by taxonomic group, could not be undertaken due to lack of funds to match the German contribution. Unfortunately no funds have been received for national implementation including capacity building in the different regions. Also seed money to initiate priority projects including the organization of a Workshop on Climate Change, through the Small Grant Programme has not been raised.

7. The CMS Secretariat is grateful for the financial support received from the countries mentioned above, especially given the current economic circumstances. It does however rely on the continuous support of CMS Parties and partners to make a difference and contribute to conserving migratory species as part of biodiversity.

8. The CMS Secretariat therefore urges the Parties and partners to consider any possibility of providing additional support in cash or in kind to further the implementation of the Convention. In order to assist Governments, the CMS Secretariat is working on strengthening its efforts to mobilize resources by developing a more coherent and harmonized strategy across the Family aiming at developing a portfolio of projects on the basis of the most pressing needs, and to prioritize and tailor efforts on the basis of donors' interest and capacity.

9. Attention is being given to the private sector. A Memorandum of Cooperation has in fact been signed with the NGO "Friends of CMS" which will support the CMS Secretariat in seeking sponsors for implementing large- and medium-scale conservation projects. A list of conservation priorities is being developed as a "shopping list" for the consideration of these donors.

Action requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the document and to give comments or guidance, as necessary, to the Secretariat.