



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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18th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
Bonn, Germany, 1-3 July 2014
Agenda Item 6.1

CONCERTED AND COOPERATIVE ACTIONS

Summary:

Resolution 10.23 made a series of recommendation to the Scientific Council and the Secretariat for improving the process for concerted and cooperative actions under CMS. This document summarizes action already undertaken to implement some of those recommendations, and suggests action towards the further implementation of the Resolution 10.23 mandate.

The document includes a draft Resolution on concerted and cooperative action submitted to the 18th meeting of the Scientific Council for review before its submission to COP11 for its consideration.

CONCERTED AND COOPERATIVE ACTIONS

(Prepared by the UNEP/CMS Secretariat)

1. The 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP10), through Annex 3 to Resolution 10.23, made a series of recommendations to the Scientific Council and the Secretariat for enhancing the effectiveness of the concerted and cooperative actions process, and requested the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to implement the actions recommended, and to prepare a report and recommendations on their implementation to the Scientific Council, the Standing Committee and the 11th Meeting of the Conference of Parties.
2. A draft report commissioned by the Secretariat and aiming to fulfil part of the recommendations included in Annex 3 of Resolution 10.23, in particular recommendation (iii) to the Scientific Council and recommendations (i) and (ii) to the Secretariat¹, is being submitted to the 18th meeting of the Scientific Council (ScC18) under a separate cover (ScC18/Doc.6.1.1).
3. Capacity and resource constraints did not allow the implementation of other recommendations included in Annex 3 by the Secretariat. Part of those addressed to the Scientific Council, in particular recommendations (i) and (ii), could be at least partly addressed by the Council at ScC18, within its consolidated mandate to keep the conservation status of species listed for concerted and cooperative actions under review, and recommend species to be designated for concerted and cooperative action to the Conference of the Parties. The meeting is also invited to provide guidance to the Secretariat on the implementation of remaining recommendations.
4. Operational paragraph 6 of Resolution 10.23 requests the Scientific Council to nominate, by the end of the ScC18, for each species and/or taxonomic group listed for concerted or cooperative action, a member of the Council or a designated alternative expert to be responsible for providing a concise written report to each meeting of the Council on progress in the implementation of actions for the species or taxonomic group concerned. A certain number of focal points for individual species or taxonomic groups designated for

¹ Excerpt from Resolution 10.23 Annex 3:

...

Instructs the Scientific Council to:

- i. undertake an analysis of Appendix I and II species listed for concerted and cooperative action, to indicate which species have been included in or under a CMS instrument or process, to what extent and how their needs have been addressed by those instruments or processes, and to summarize the future conservation action needs of each of those species (and their relative priority) in terms of the CMS mechanisms available;
- ii. review the case for retaining on the list of concerted and cooperative actions, any species for which the entirety of its range is covered by an existing CMS instrument;
- iii. develop an expanded rationale, criteria and guidance, as appropriate, for identifying candidate species for concerted or cooperative actions, with a view to improving scientific rigour, objectivity, consistency and transparency in their selection for concerted or cooperative action;

...

Requests the Secretariat to:

- i. prepare guidance on the purpose of listing a species for concerted or cooperative action, and the outcomes sought when species are proposed for concerted or cooperative action;
- ii. prepare guidelines to assist Parties to identify options for action to take in response to concerted or cooperative action listing;

...

concerted or cooperative action have already been identified within the Council, mainly tasked with reporting on the conservation status of the species at the meetings of the Council. Focal point nominations are expected to be made by the taxonomic working groups of the Scientific Council.

5. Operational paragraph 7 of Resolution 10.23 requests the relevant appointed Scientific Councillors to liaise with relevant experts including those nominated as focal points for concerted and cooperative actions to produce a concise written report providing a synthesis of issues for each taxonomic group to each meeting of the Scientific Council. While this provision might become fully implementable when the identification of focal points for concerted and cooperative actions has been completed, coordinators of taxonomic working groups are invited to consider how to fulfill this task to the extent possible at ScC18.

Action requested:

The Scientific Council is invited to:

- (a) Review the draft report included in document ScC18/Doc.6.1.1 and provide comments and guidance towards its further development and finalization, with a view to its submission to COP11 for consideration;
- (b) Review the implementation of concerted and cooperative actions during the period 2012-2014, and produce syntheses for COP11 consideration;
- (c) Consider which species, among those designated for concerted or cooperative actions for the triennium 2012-2014 (annexes 1 and 2 to Resolution 10.23), should be retained on the lists for concerted and cooperative actions for the period 2015-2017, taking into account recommendations (i) and (ii) to the Scientific Council included in Annex 3 to Resolution 10.23;
- (d) Consider whether recommending any new species for concerted or cooperative actions for the period 2015-2017;
- (e) Provide guidance to the Secretariat on the implementation of those recommendations included in Annex 3 to Resolution 10.23, not yet or only partly implemented;
- (f) Review the draft Resolution on concerted and cooperative actions annexed to this cover note.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

CONCERTED AND COOPERATIVE ACTIONS

Recalling the preamble of the Convention which refers to the Parties' conviction that conservation and management of migratory species require the concerted action of all range states;

Further recalling Resolution 3.2 which instructed the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take concerted actions to implement the provisions of the Convention, and which initiated a process for each meeting of the Conference of Parties to recommend initiatives to benefit a selected number of species listed in Appendix I;

Further recalling Recommendation 5.2 which introduced the concept of "cooperative action" as a rapid mechanism to assist the conservation of species listed in Appendix II and to act as a precursor or alternative to the conclusion for any of those species of an agreement under Article IV;

Recalling also the recommendations for improving the process for concerted and cooperative actions under CMS as detailed in Annex 3 to Resolution 10.23, and *noting* the proposals of the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to address part of those recommendations, as detailed in document UNEP/CMS/Conf.11.xx;

Recalling also that Resolution 3.2, as updated by Resolutions 4.2, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.29, 9.1 and 10.23, and Recommendation 6.2, as updated by Recommendations 7.1, 8.28, and Resolution 9.1 and 10.23, advise the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to encourage and assist Parties to take concerted and cooperative actions to implement the provisions of the Convention and to improve the conservation status of certain listed migratory species;

Welcoming the conservation activities undertaken by Parties and other organizations for Appendix I species designated for concerted action and for Appendix II species designated for cooperative action as summarized in the report of the 18th meeting of the CMS Scientific Council;

Noting the recommendations of the 18th meeting of the Scientific Council to the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties on species to be considered for concerted and cooperative action for the period 2015-2017;

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

1. *Adopts* the lists of species designated for concerted and cooperative actions in Annexes 1 and 2 of this Resolution, and *encourages* Parties and other stakeholders to identify and undertake activities aimed at implementing concerted and cooperative actions to improve the conservation status of listed species, including the preparation of species action plans, during the 2015-2017 triennium;

2. *Urges* Parties to provide the in-kind and financial means required to support targeted conservation measures aimed at implementing concerted and cooperative actions for the species listed in Annexes 1 and 2 to this Resolution;
3. *Encourages* Parties to ensure that all initiatives to undertake concerted or cooperative actions pursuant to this Resolution must include a specification of the conservation and institutional outcomes expected and the timeframes within which these outcomes should be achieved;
4. *Endorses* the recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of the concerted and cooperative actions process as detailed in document UNEP/CMS/Conf.11.xx;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat, the Scientific Council and Parties, and *invites* other relevant stakeholders to take these recommendations fully into account in the identification of candidate species for designation for concerted or cooperative action, and in the identification and subsequent implementation of action to take in response to concerted or cooperative action listing.

Annex 1: SPECIES DESIGNATED FOR CONCERTED ACTIONS DURING 2015-2017

Annex 2: SPECIES DESIGNATED FOR COOPERATIVE ACTIONS DURING 2015-2017