15th MEETING OF THE CMS SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

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FOLLOW-UP TO COP8 DECISIONS: DEVELOPMENT OF MIGRATORY SPECIES INDICATORS (Res. 8.7)

- 1. Development of migratory species indicators was recognized by COP8 as an appropriate step towards an assessment of the contribution of the Convention in the achievement of the 2010 target. In this regard, COP8 requested the Secretariat to continue to liaise with the CBD Secretariat and the other Biodiversity-related conventions and relevant institutions with a view to adopting suitable indictors to measure the achievement of the 2010 target and, in collaboration with the Scientific Council, to develop a Migratory Species Index within the context of Living Planet Index.
- 2. In pursuance of this mandate, the CMS Secretariat joined the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (2010 BIP) in early 2006. The Partnership is an initiative bringing together over 40 organisations and agencies working on 2010 biodiversity indicators in support of the 2010 target. It is coordinated by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC).
- 3. The BIP aims at supporting the regular delivery of the 2010 indicators at the global level in a way that is useful for policy intervention and communicating the degree of success in achieving the 2010 target. It is expected to establish links between global and regional biodiversity indicator development, and relate this work to other targets and indicators used in the various multilateral environmental agreements such as CMS, and other international initiatives such as the Millennium Development Goals. Detailed information on the BIP is available from the BIP website: http://www.twentyten.net.
- 4. Among the headline indicators identified by CBD for assessing progress towards, and communicating the 2010 target at the global level, and currently being considered within the 2010 BIP, two appear to be of particular relevance to CMS: the Living Planet Index (LPI) and the Red List Index (RLI).
- 5. In support of an evaluation of the applicability and suitability of the LPI and RLI to the CMS context, concept papers have been commissioned from BirdLife International and the Institute of Zoology of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), with financial support from the government of Italy. The two documents are annexed to this note. In the case of the Living Planet Index, work undertaken included an integration of the existing LPI database with data on populations of migratory species of CMS interest.

6. Development of Migratory Species Indices based on the LPI and the RLI is foreseen as a specific contribution of CMS to the 2010 BIP.

Action requested:

The Scientific council is invited to:

- a. Review and comment on the reports submitted.
- b. Evaluate the suitability of the proposed Migratory Species Indices to the CMS context.
- c. Transmit its recommendation to the COP on the utilization and possible further development of these indices in the context of the Convention.