



**13<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

*03 - 05 July 2018, The Hague, the Netherlands*

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DRAFT RESOLUTION 7.XX (StC/DR1)<sup>1</sup>

**ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AEWA STRATEGIC PLAN AND PLAN OF ACTION FOR AFRICA FOR THE PERIOD OF 2019-2027**

*Recalling* Resolution 4.7 which adopted the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 to guide the implementation of the Agreement at the national and flyway levels and Resolution 5.9 which adopted the Plan of Action for the implementation of AEWA in Africa 2012-2017 to further serve as an operational guideline for implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan in Africa,

*Also recalling* Resolution 6.14 which extended the validity of both the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa to 2018 to correspond with the timing of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties (MOP7), and instructed the AEWA Standing Committee, working with the Technical Committee and supported by the Secretariat to prepare drafts of both plans covering the period of 2019-2027, for submission to MOP7,

*Recognizing* the positive contribution of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa in guiding and advancing the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the African-Eurasian flyways,

*Expressing sincere appreciation* to the Governments of all AEWA Contracting Parties, other relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and partner organizations, which have contributed towards the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa over the period of 2009-2018,

*Further expressing sincere appreciation* to the Governments of donor countries and donor organizations that have provided financial and other support towards the coordination and implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa,

*Acknowledging* the work of the consultants, the Working Groups for the development of the Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa, the Secretariat, the AEWA Technical and Standing Committees and the input and support from AEWA Contracting Parties and partner organizations regarding the preparation of the draft AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 and the draft Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 for presentation to MOP7,

*Also acknowledging* the need to further strategize the actions, efforts and limited resources of the Agreement to effectively address changing priorities and emerging issues affecting migratory waterbirds and their habitats along the African-Eurasian flyways, as captured in the objectives, targets, actions and activities depicted in the draft AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027,

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<sup>1</sup> The numbering of draft resolutions presented to MOP7 may change.

*Further acknowledging* the need to continue mobilizing significant financial and other resources for the effective and coordinated conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the African-Eurasian flyways, and particularly the need for dedicated support for advancing the implementation of AEWA in the African region due to the limited financial, human and material resources available for migratory waterbird conservation,

*Mindful* of the need to harmonize efforts for migratory waterbird conservation with those of relevant MEAs, particularly regarding the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs) 2015-2030, the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) 2015-2023 and the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024,

[Placeholder for reference to the report on the implementation of the SP 2009-2018 and highlight findings of CSR7],

*Mindful* that the effective monitoring of the implementation of the Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action of Africa and the progress towards achieving their targets and objectives is dependent on the timely and comprehensive reporting by each Contracting Party,

The Meeting of the Parties:

1. *Adopts* the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa for the period of 2019-2027 as presented in documents AEWA/MOP7.XX and AEWA/MOP7.XX respectively;
2. *Urges* all AEWA Contracting Parties and other stakeholders to allocate financial and other resources for the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027, and invites non-Party Range States to consider contributing to the implementation of both plans;
3. *Further urges* all AEWA Contracting Parties, the AEWA Secretariat, in close consultation with the AEWA Standing and Technical Committees and other stakeholders as identified by the two Plans, to establish budgeted annual or triennial work plans, as relevant, on the basis of the AEWA Strategic Plan and/or the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027, and to actively implement them;
4. *Calls on* the AEWA Contracting Parties to strongly consider allocating additional resources to the AEWA core budget to support the effective coordination and implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027;
5. *Also calls on* donor countries and organizations to provide support towards the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 through financial and other contributions, meanwhile acknowledging the need to prioritize support to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and Small Island Developing States for the implementation of work plans associated with the AEWA Strategic Plan and/or the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027;

6. *Further calls* on donor countries and organizations to consider providing additional Technical Support arrangements, such as the Technical Support Unit provided by the Governments of France and Senegal to the Plan of Action for Africa 2012-2018, to enhance the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 in priority areas which have so far received relatively limited support;
7. *Further requests* the AEWA Standing Committee, in collaboration with the Technical Committee and the Secretariat, to monitor the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 and to report progress to each ordinary session of the AEWA MOP;
8. *Adopts* the format for National Reports on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2018-2020 as presented in document AEWA/MOP7.XX.;
9. *Instructs* the Standing Committee, working with the Technical Committee and the Secretariat, to establish a module on the implementation of the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 in the national report format and to integrate the module in time for the reporting cycle to MOP8;
10. *Instructs* the Standing Committee, in close consultation with the Technical Committee and the Secretariat, to revise, amend and enhance the national report format after each session of the MOP, as necessary, so as to bring it in line with any relevant decisions of the MOP;
11. *Decides* that the deadline for submission of the national reports by Contracting Parties to MOP8 shall be 180 days before the opening date of MOP8, while the module on the status of native and non-native species of waterbirds shall be submitted by 30 June 2020 and the module on the implementation of the Plan of Action for Africa not later than 240 days before the opening date of MOP8;
12. *Urges* Contracting Parties to submit, in a timely manner, complete and thorough national reports on their progress towards the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027, as well as the other provisions of the Agreement, to each ordinary session of the AEWA MOP;
13. *Further instructs* the Secretariat to work closely with UN Environment, other relevant MEAs and partner organizations to harmonize the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 with the implementation of relevant global and regional relevant frameworks, particularly the SDGs, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, SPMS, and the Ramsar Strategic Plan.