



**7<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES**  
4 - 8 December 2018, Durban, South Africa

*“Beyond 2020: Shaping flyway conservation for the future”*

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**REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE TO  
THE 7<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES**

**Introduction**

This report is submitted to the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of Parties (MOP7) by the AEWA Technical Committee (TC) in accordance with Article VII paragraph 3(c) of the Agreement. It describes the activities of the Technical Committee during the period 2016 - 2018 and presents a summary of results achieved.

The Technical Committee is a subsidiary body to the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, which was established in accordance with Article VII of the Agreement.

The Technical Committee has the following general functions:

- It provides scientific and technical advice and information to the Meeting of the Parties and, through the Agreement Secretariat, to Parties;
- It makes recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties concerning the Action Plan, implementation of the Agreement and further research to be carried out;
- It prepares a report on its activities for each ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties;
- It carries out any other tasks referred to it by the Meeting of the Parties; and
- The TC works closely with the Standing Committee to ensure consistency across the Agreement’s work.

**Membership of the Committee**

The TC membership comprises:

- Nine experts representing the different regions of the Agreement Area (Northern & Southwestern Europe/Dr Ruth Cromie (United Kingdom), Central Europe/Dr Lorenzo Serra (Italy), Eastern Europe/Dr Saulius Svazas (Lithuania), Southwestern Asia/Mr Sharif Al Jbour (Jordan), Northern Africa/Dr Sidi Imad Cherkaoui (Morocco), Central Africa/vacant, Western Africa/Dr Erasmus Owusu (Ghana), Eastern Africa/Dr Muchai Samuel Muchane (Kenya) and Southern Africa/Dr Lizanne Roxburgh (South Africa)) elected among all the Parties of the region in question;
- One representative appointed by each of the following organizations: The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN/Dr Jean-Christophe Vié), Wetlands International (Dr Szabolcs Nagy), the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC/Dr Mikko Alhainen); and
- One thematic expert from each of the following fields: rural economics (Dr Philippe Karpe), game management (Dr Pierre Defos du Rau), and environmental law (Ms Melissa Lewis), elected by the Parties.

Observers of non-Party Range States and the Chairperson of the AEWA Standing Committee may be invited to the meetings of the TC.

A maximum of four observers from specialised international inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations may also be admitted, as well as invited experts, who may be asked to contribute to specific topics. This triennium the Committee was also supported by an invited expert on CEPA (Ms Olesya Petrovych).

### **Implementation of the Technical Committee work**

During the triennium 2016-2018, the Technical Committee held two meetings.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting was held on 14-17 March 2016 in Nahsholim, Israel. It was hosted and co-organized by the Israel Nature and Parks Authority and the Israel Ornithological Center of the Society for the Protection of Nature, under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel and the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting was held on 10-13 April 2018 in Bonn, Germany and was hosted by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

We express our thanks to hosts of both meetings for their sincere hospitality and to the staff of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, ensuring their effective organization.

Both meetings were chaired by Saulius Svazas (Lithuania), regional representative for Eastern Europe.

The TC Work Plan for the period 2016-2018 was adopted by the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP6) in November 2015 and was further developed and refined by the TC at its 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting in March 2016 (Table 2). The tasks were organised for progression by eight Working Groups (Table 1), each with a chair responsible for supervising the implementation of planned tasks. Alongside the new tasks and the ones that were carried over from the Work Plans of previous triennia, both of which were already mandated by the MOP, the TC included some extra tasks which it considered important to be dealt with. Membership of the Working Groups comprised regional representatives, thematic experts, NGO representatives and observers as well as staff of the Secretariat.

Intersessionally, the TC worked on the implementation of the work plan via the AEWA Technical Committee Workspace, which is a web-based, password-protected communication space and working area for the TC that provides easy access to documents, enables correspondence and discussions, as well as archiving all the work of the TC.

*Table 1. Technical Committee Working Groups and their membership (2016 - 2018)*

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Members</b>
1. Field of Application	<b>Lorenzo Serra (Chair)</b> , David Stroud, Szabolcs Nagy, Saulius Svazas, Nicola Crockford, Ruth Cromie, Sergey Dereliev and Nina Mikander
2. Species Conservation	<b>Pierre Defos du Rau (Chair)</b> , David Stroud, David Scallan, Melissa Lewis, Saulius Svazas, Philippe Karpe, Mikko Alhainen, Lorenzo Serra, Nicola Crockford, Alexandre Czajkowski, Sharif Jbour, Catherine Lehmann, Evelyn Moloko, Florian Keil, Sergey Dereliev and Nina Mikander

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Members</b>
3. Habitat Conservation	<b>Philippe Karpe (Chair)</b> , Szabolcs Nagy, David Stroud, Lorenzo Serra, Nicola Crockford, Lizanne Roxburgh, Samuel M. Muchai, Pierre Defos du Rau, Alexandre Czajkowski, Melissa Lewis, Saulius Svazas, David Scallan, Olesya Petrovych, Sharif Jbour, Florian Keil, Sergey Dereliev and Evelyn Moloko
4. Management of Human Activities	<b>Ruth Cromie (Chair)</b> , David Stroud, Sharif Jbour, Ohad Hatzofe, David Scallan, Olesya Petrovych, Imad Cherkaoui, Nicola Crockford, Lorenzo Serra and Sergey Dereliev
5. Research and Monitoring	<b>Szabolcs Nagy (Chair)</b> , Lizanne Roxburgh, Samuel M. Muchai, Imad Cherkaoui, Olesya Petrovych, Saulius Svazas, David Stroud, Alexandre Czajkowski, Lorenzo Serra and Sergey Dereliev
6. Education and Information	<b>Olesya Petrovych (Chair)</b> , Mikko Alhainen, Ruth Cromie, David Scallan, Philippe Karpe, Szabolcs Nagy, Melissa Lewis, David Stroud, Evelyn Moloko and Florian Keil
7. Implementation	<b>Lizanne Roxburgh (Chair)</b> , David Stroud, Szabolcs Nagy, Pierre Defos du Rau, David Scallan, Nicola Crockford, Baz Hughes, Philippe Karpe, Melissa Lewis, Mikko Alhainen, Lizanne Roxburgh, Imad Cherkaoui, Alexandre Czajkowski, Ohad Hatzofe, Sharif Jbour, Lorenzo Serra, Catherine Lehmann, Florian Keil, Evelyn Moloko, Nina Mikander and Sergey Dereliev
8. Strategic, reporting, emerging and other issues	<b>Melissa Lewis (Chair)</b> , Saulius Svazas, Ruth Cromie, Mikko Alhainen, Pierre Defos du Rau, Philippe Karpe, Olesya Petrovych, Szabolcs Nagy, Nicola Crockford, Lizanne Roxburgh, David Stroud, Alexandre Czajkowski, David Scallan, Sharif Jbour, Lorenzo Serra, Evelyn Moloko and Sergey Dereliev

### **The Delivery of the TC's Work in 2016 - 2018**

As the result of TC work, the Committee has drafted eight Resolutions to be endorsed for submission to MOP7 through the Standing Committee. Twenty MOP7 meeting documents, including one revised AEWA Guideline and one implementation guidance document, were drafted by the TC or prepared with the close involvement of the Committee.

The following key tasks were carried out by the TC in 2016–2018:

- Review of delineation of population boundaries of certain species. The recommended delineations were later approved by the Standing Committee and used for the purposes of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Conservation Status Report;
- Guide the preparation of and submit the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Conservation Status Review (CSR7) to MOP7;
- Compile a guidance on the application of paragraph 2.1.3 of the AEWA Action Plan on exemptions;
- Compile a guide to the available guidance on addressing invasive aquatic weeds as they impact migratory waterbird and their habitats;
- Suggest a possible systematic approach to addressing regional multi-species declines;

- Revise the priority list for species action planning and compile a priority list for species management planning;
- Monitor the implementation of species action and management plans and submit to MOP recommendations for revision, retirement and prolongation of plans;
- Compile a guide to guidance on reducing the impact of marine fisheries on migratory waterbirds;
- Assess the threats posed by marine litter on AEWA-listed species;
- Provide guidance to MOP on the most urgent priorities for seabird conservation in the context of the implementation of the Agreement;
- Compile guidance on targeted monitoring approaches for each AEWA population;
- Revise the format for international single and multi-species action plans;
- Revise AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 9 on Waterbird Monitoring;
- Provide guidance on AEWA's provisions on non-native species;
- Provide input to the development of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027;
- Provide input to the development of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027;
- Revise the national report format, including necessary adjustments on the basis of feedback received after MOP6, for use in the reporting cycle to MOP7;
- Develop a new national report format based on the draft Strategic Plan 2019-2027; and
- Update the assessment of the progress on issues relevant to the Aichi Targets.

In addition to the specific tasks requested by MOP6, the TC also implemented certain other tasks to fulfil its mandate.

Members of the TC actively participated in the work of the *Strategic Plan Working Group* and contributed to development of the *AEWA Strategic Plan for 2019–2027*, providing the framework for implementation of the Agreement by the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Technical Committee, Secretariat and Partners. Some of the key elements to be included in the new Strategic Plan (e.g. provisional Objectives and content for many of the associated Targets and Actions) were identified during the meeting of the Strategic Plan Working Group held in Bonn on 28-30 June 2016.

Members of the TC also participated in the work of the Working Group to compile the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019–2027, providing a more operational plan to the AEWA Parties for the implementation of the new Strategic Plan in Africa. The involved TC members took part in the meeting of the Working Group held in Dakar, Senegal on 10-12 October 2017.

TC Chair and several members have also contributed to the establishment of the *European Goose Management Platform* (EGMP) under AEWA and participated in the launching meeting of the EGMP held in Paris on 11-12 May 2016, as well as in the first, second and third meetings of the AEWA European Goose Management International Working Groups held respectively in Sweden in December 2016, Denmark in June 2017 and the Netherlands in June 2018. This key initiative represents a major turning point towards adaptive management of migratory goose populations in AEWA Range States, while in future, this new process for conservation and integrated management can be extended to provide for the sustainable use of many harvested waterbird species.

Dr Ruth Cromie, TC vice-chair, has significantly contributed to process under the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to develop a regulation for the European Union on the phase of lead shot for hunting in wetlands and she has attended together with the Secretariat the meetings of the ECHA Risk Assessment Committee on this issue.

The Technical Committee reviewed and provided comments and suggestions on the drafts of the action plans for the Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) and the Dalmatian Pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*), the revised species action plan for the White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*) and the management plans for the Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) and the Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*).

The Technical Committee reviewed incoming submissions of information for possible Implementation Review Process cases and provided advice to the Standing Committee.

The Chair of the TC participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> AEWA Standing Committee Meetings held in Paris on 31 January - 1 February 2017 and in The Hague on 3 - 5 July 2018, respectively.

The TC reviewed project proposals submitted to the *Small Grants Fund* intersessionally and provided advice on their funding to the Standing Committee through the Secretariat.

#### How could the Technical Committee work be made more effective?

As in the previous triennium, a significant proportion of the tasks in the Work Plan were not completed by the TC due to the large volume of requests to the TC by the Meeting of Parties and the lack of funds necessary for implementation of most of planned tasks (Table 2).

The progressive increase of requests by the MOP indicates that the TC work is necessary, but its capacity to respond to all requests is limited. It is important to assign a certain part of the core budget to support the work that the MOP requests from the TC.

A clear prioritisation from Parties within the numerous tasks requested from the TC is necessary for more effective service of the Committee. The key issues that the TC should be addressing were indicated in the Report of the Technical Committee to the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties and many of them are already the priorities of the TC work.

The Secretariat is very closely engaged in the work of the Technical Committee and practically every staff member of the Secretariat contributes in one way or another. With the ever-increasing work portfolio of the Secretariat, the staff is making every effort to deliver on all its mandates. In order to support the Secretariat in delivering their facilitating role to the Technical Committee, it will be beneficial, including for enhancing the outputs of the TC, to establish a specific Technical Committee Support Officer post in the Secretariat. While this is unlikely to be possible under the projected core budget scenarios for the next triennium, it is strongly requested that the countries providing Junior Professional Officers (JPO) to the United Nations system allocate a JPO to the AEWA Secretariat for the recommended post.

#### Technical Committee outreach

During the triennium, Members of the TC have participated in a wide range of important international meetings. Such engagement assists the TC to review and discuss its work with relevant experts and organisations from outside the Agreement area and to develop necessary synergies with other relevant treaties and conventions. A close collaboration with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was continued during this triennium and a liaison officer between the TC and the Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel was nominated. Dr David Stroud, permanent observer of the UK, agreed to take on this role.

The TC also designated its representatives to the CMS Working Group on Preventing Poisoning to Migratory Birds (the vice-Chair of the TC Dr Ruth Cromie) and to the CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (the representative for Northern Africa – Dr Sidi Imad Cherkaoui) who were closely involved in the work of these two processes.

TC members actively participated in the following meetings during 2016 - 2018:

- Ramsar Convention; Scientific and Technical Review Panel;
- Ramsar Convention; Conference of Parties;
- Scientific Council of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS);
- CMS Conference of the Parties;
- CMS Working Group on Preventing Poisoning to Migratory Birds;
- CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean;
- CMS African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan Working Group;
- CMS Working Group on Climate Change;
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Specialist Groups;
- European Union; Expert Group on the Birds and Habitats Directives;
- Wetlands International, Waterbird Monitoring Partnership;
- Wetlands International Specialist Groups Meetings;
- Conference of the European Ornithological Society;
- Pan-African Ornithological Congress;
- The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels;
- Wadden Sea Day (2016: 'The Wadden Sea - Still a Reliable Hub for Migratory Birds?'); and
- The 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> International Wildlife Law Conferences.

Table 2. Report on the implementation of the AEWA Technical Committee Work Plan 2016–2018

**Field of application (Working Group 1)**

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<p><b>1.1 Population definitions:</b> Evaluation of evidence supporting the delineation of current population boundaries for the following species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lesser White-fronted Goose</b> (<i>Anser erythropus</i>) – status of birds in Fennoscandia</li> <li>• <b>Little Crake</b> (<i>Porzana parva</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Sociable Lapwing</b> (<i>Vanellus gregarius</i>)</li> <li>• <b>White-tailed Lapwing</b> (<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Whimbrel</b> (<i>Numenius phaeopus rogachevae</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Black-legged Kittiwake</b> (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Roseate Tern</b> (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Little Tern</b> (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Guillemot</b> (<i>Uria a. aalge</i> &amp; <i>U. aalge albionis</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Puffin</b> (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>General guidance on the definition of species populations (delineation of populations) including a proforma template for the submission of proposals for population delineation to the TC were developed and adopted at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Committee in Israel on 14-17 March 2016.</p> <p>The general guidance as well as evaluations for the foreseen species were produced and delivered to the AEWA Standing Committee for adoption during 2017 and were subsequently used in the production of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report.</p> <p>General guidance on the definition of species populations under AEWA (<a href="#">Doc. AEWA StC 12.11</a>).</p> <p>AEWA Technical Committee recommendations for the delineation of selected AEWA populations on Table 1 of the Action Plan (<a href="#">Doc. AEWA StC 12.12 Rev. 1</a>)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>1.2 Taxonomic (and geographic) scope of AEWA:</b> Preparation of a review to explore options to extend AEWA as a framework for other migratory bird species/species groups in the Africa-Eurasian region so as to cover all African-Eurasian bird MoUs and Action Plans.</p>	<p>No action was necessary during this triennium.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>1.3 Taxonomy &amp; nomenclature:</b></p>	<p>No action was necessary during this triennium.</p>	<p>No</p>

Maintain overview of taxonomic and nomenclatural issues and advise on the need to update Annex 2 to the Agreement as necessary.		
<b>1.4 Technical Committee procedures:</b> Consider and implement appropriate, cost-neutral review procedures related to major outputs arising from the Committee to ensure maintenance of high scientific standards.	No action was necessary during this triennium.	No

### Species Conservation (Working Group 2)

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<b>2.1 Harvests and sustainability</b> Develop Terms of Reference for possible project(s) on the sustainable harvesting of migratory waterbirds that promote interdisciplinary approaches to livelihood needs, including development of alternative food resources and awareness raising.	<p>No action was taken on the various sub-actions identified under this task during the triennium due to lack of capacity and availability of funds.</p> <p>The Secretariat will liaise with the Wetlands International Waterbird Harvest Specialist Group to develop a first draft ToR for TC15 by the end of 2018.</p> <p>The Secretariat will also lead on the development of a briefing note/popular series publication on the AEWA sustainable harvest guidelines for TC15 by end of 2018.</p> <p>As decided at the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Committee, this task will be merged with tasks 2.4 and 2.8 below and will be carried over to the next triennium.</p>	No

<p><b>2.2 Guidance on derogation issues</b> Provide guidance concerning measures that should be taken in order to prevent exemptions listed in AP paragraph 2.1.3 operating to the detriment of species listed in Table 1.</p>	<p>The Technical Committee approved the draft Guidance on Satisfying the Conditions of Paragraph 2.1.3 of the AEWA Action Plan at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in March 2018, for submission to MOP7.</p> <p>The Technical Committee compiled a draft resolution on the adoption of guidance in the context of implementation of the AEWA Action Plan.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.32</p> <p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.8</p>
<p><b>2.3 Invasive aquatic weeds as they impact waterbirds</b> Compile a guide to the available guidelines on the issue.</p>	<p>The Technical Committee developed and approved for submission to MOP7 a draft “Guidance on taking a systematic approach to responding to waterbird declines: A checklist of potential actions” at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018, which includes a guide to guidance on invasive aquatic weeds as they impact waterbirds.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.34</p>
<p><b>2.4 Promoting better recognition of waterbird socio-economic importance</b> Consider the need to develop appropriate guidance concerning the recognition of the socio-economic values of migratory waterbird consumptive and non-consumptive uses to ensure that the economic and cultural values of waterbirds are fully recognised nationally and integrated within poverty reduction strategies.</p>	<p>This task was put on hold this triennium and subsequently no action was taken.</p> <p>As decided at the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Committee, this task will be merged with tasks 2.1 and 2.8 and will be carried over to the next triennium.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>2.5 Red List Assessments</b> Consider any needs to promote streamlining of this process to ensure prompt IUCN Red list assessment of migratory birds that feed into the prioritization of AEWA listings.</p>	<p>This task is completed. Under the framework of the Technical Committee, consultations were carried out between BirdLife International, Wetlands International, IUCN, TC representatives as well as the UNEP/AEWA and UNEP/CMS Secretariats.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>2.6 Regional multi-species declines</b> Continue to develop ideas as to how multi-species and regional-scale declines (such as Baltic seaducks) might be addressed through a combination of appropriate national and</p>	<p>The Technical Committee developed and approved for submission to MOP7 a draft “Guidance on taking a systematic approach to responding to waterbird declines: A checklist of potential actions” at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.34</p>

<p>international measures, and consider most appropriate means of issuing this as guidance.</p>		
<p><b>2.7 Breeding &amp; pre-nuptial migration periods</b> Continue to provide relevant information on African species, as mentioned in Appendix 1 of Resolution 5.10, as knowledge of these improves through the implementation of the Action Plan for Africa and bring elaborated guidance.</p>	<p>No action by the Technical Committee was necessary during this triennium. AEWAs Parties should pro-actively look into developing this guidance themselves. The Secretariat will liaise with South Africa to see whether the country would be willing to take the lead in elaborating such national guidance as a model for other African countries. This task will be retired.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>2.8 Understanding harvest issues</b> Seek information from Parties and stakeholders as to which further tools and guidance would be helpful to them in the context of ensuring that hunting is sustainable, together with seeking a better understanding as to which audiences these tools should be targeted at and the most appropriate means by which this could be undertaken.</p>	<p>As decided at the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Committee, this task will be merged with tasks 2.1 and 2.4 above and will be carried over to the next triennium.</p> <p>This action is also linked to task 7.2. regarding the updated review of pertinent hunting and trade legislation, for which Terms of Reference were developed, but no funding was available during this triennium.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>2.9 Traditional knowledge and harvest</b> Finalise the review on this issue and make recommendations for further work. Consider whether existing work can be included within conceptually related task (above) on promoting socio-economic benefits of waterbirds.</p>	<p>This task will be completed by the end of 2018.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>2.10 Overview of ISSAPs and development of Management Plans</b> Continue monitoring the implementation of ISSAPs and present proposals for the revision or retirement of specific plans to each MOP.</p>	<p>This task is completed. The Technical Committee continued the rolling monitoring of implementation of International Action and Management Plans, adopted a revised process for the retirement and revision of ISSAPs to include the option of extension, adopted a proposal for revision, retirement and extension of ISSAPs for MOP7,</p>	<p>Doc. AEWAs/MOP 7.21</p>

<p>Produce a priority list and subsequent selection of species/populations for the development of International Single Species Management Plans and revise the priority list for SSAPs.</p>	<p>produced a priority list for development of Management Plans as well as a revised priority list for development of Action Plans and adopted revised TC criteria for the prioritization of species/population for management planning.</p> <p>(linked with task 7.5 below)</p> <p>The Technical Committee compiled a draft resolution on species action and management plans.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.5</p>
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### Habitat conservation (Working Group 3)

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<p><b>3.1 &amp; 3.2 Site Conservation</b></p> <p><i>Site network review</i> Continue to develop the “<i>Report on the Site Network for waterbirds in the Agreement area</i>” so as to better reflect information on the management and conservation status of key sites, to further develop ways of summarising this information accessibly, while taking into account reporting needs for the AEWA Strategic Plan and assessment against relevant Aichi Targets</p> <p><u><i>Site conservation and AEWA</i></u> In view of the multiple (international) initiatives associated with the identification, designation and management of important sites for waterbirds, critically assess the added value (if any) that AEWA can bring and bring proposals for any specific activities or initiatives arising from this review to MOP 7.</p>	<p>No action was undertaken due to lack of available funds. The future approach for this review is outlined in the draft AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, expected to be adopted at MOP7.</p> <p>(note: task 3.2 site conservation and AEWA, was merged with this task)</p>	<p>No</p>

<p><b>3.3 Wetland loss as it impacts waterbirds</b>  Develop a shared and evidence-based understanding of regional rates of wetland habitat loss as the basis for prioritised actions to address the drivers of such loss and degradation as they impact migratory waterbirds. Initial work should focus on assessing the very rapid rates of inter-tidal habitat loss within the West Asian – East African Flyway and implications for waterbirds using these areas.</p>	<p>This task was completed. The AEWA Technical Committee provided input to the new Ramsar Report (State of the World’s Wetlands and their services to people) through the Ramsar STRP. This report includes good material on waterbirds, which will be useful for AEWA purposes.</p> <p>Relevant information will be available in the Ramsar Global Wetlands Outlook report mentioned above, and could also be found in the IUCN portal for online case studies (PANORAMA database), whereby an explicit link should be made to feeding successful waterbird conservation success stories to this database. BirdLife International is also exploring options to undertake a situation assessment of the Arabian coast in this regard.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>3.4 Socio-economic importance of waterbirds</b>  Explore the potential to develop a number of case studies summarising the socio-economic benefits (including food security) accruing to local populations from the sustainable management of wetlands and the sustainable use of the waterbirds that depend on these areas.</p>	<p>The FAO-led RESSOURCE project includes aspects that may contribute to fulfilling this task, at least partially. It will be carried over in the next work plan.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>3.5 Net Positive Impact</b>  Investigate the feasibility and develop a proposal for international Net Positive Impact including offsetting approaches that involve the corporate sector and governments in order to flyway conservation [CMS Flyways Programme of Work #7]</p>	<p>No action was taken on this task under the CMS Flyways Working Group, therefore no Technical Committee action was necessary.</p> <p>At its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018, the Technical Committee discussed the potential need for a short guide-to-guidance for Contracting Parties on this issue with a specific focus on birds. This task will be carried over to the next work plan.</p>	<p>No</p>

## Management of human activities (Working Group 4)

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<p><b>4.1 Management of disturbance</b> Commission simple but comprehensive guidance on the management of disturbance in a form that may be widely translated and disseminated, and submit to MOP7 for consideration. Produce versions in English, French, Arabic and Russian.</p>	<p>A structure for the guidance has been developed. There is interest from the Ramsar STRP to develop this as a joint project.</p> <p>This task will be carried forward to the next TC work plan and will be prioritised.</p>	No
<p><b>4.2 Extractive industries – cumulative impact assessment</b> Work with the Ramsar STRP and other interested parties to develop guidance for assessing the significance of cumulative impacts of multiple wetland losses along species’ flyways, and the implications for EIA, SEA and other assessment processes.</p>	<p>This task will be completed by the end of this cycle. Links to relevant literature will be included in the guidance on taking systematic approaches to declines (see task 2.6), in order to point AEWAs Parties to existing sources of information. No contribution is expected from the Ramsar STRP.</p> <p>This task will be retired.</p>	No
<p><b>4.3 Illegal killing</b> Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.16 on the prevention of illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds. The task includes the participation in the Intergovernmental Task Force to Address Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean and technical support for implementation of AEWAs/CMS Plan of Action to Address Bird Trapping Along the Mediterranean Coasts of Egypt and Libya.</p>	<p>The Technical Committee is represented on the CMS Illegal Killing Task Force by the Regional Representative for Northern Africa, Dr Sidi Imad Cherkaoui.</p> <p>This is a rolling task and will be carried over to the next work plan.</p>	No
<p><b>4.4 Reducing the impact of fisheries</b> Compile existing – and where necessary compliment – conservation guidelines and recommendations based on the</p>	<p>The Guide to Guidance to reduce the impact of fisheries on AEWAs seabirds has been outsourced to RSPB and the BirdLife International Global Seabird Programme. At the time of writing the TC had</p>	Doc. AEWAs/MOP 7.30

<p>priorities identified in paragraph 5 and best available science and bring these to MOP7.</p>	<p>reviewed at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018 only the first draft and further draft(s) will be provided in the run-up to MOP7.</p>	
<p><b>4.5 Poisoning and agrochemicals</b>  Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15 on <i>Preventing poisoning of migratory birds</i>. Task includes participation in the CMS Poisoning Working Group to provide further guidance and support in relation to the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15.</p>	<p>The AEWA Technical Committee is represented by the Regional Representative for North and South-Western Europe, Dr Ruth Cromie, in the CMS Poisoning Working Group.</p> <p>Rolling task – will be carried forward to next work plan.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>4.6 Poisoning by lead shot</b>  Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15 on <i>Preventing poisoning of migratory birds</i>. Task includes participation in the CMS Poisoning Working Group to provide further guidance and support in relation to the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15.</p>	<p>The AEWA Technical Committee is represented by the Regional Representative for North and South-Western Europe, Dr Ruth Cromie, in the CMS Poisoning Working Group.</p> <p>Rolling task – will be carried forward to next work plan.</p>	<p>No</p>

<p><b>4.7 Disturbance</b> Commission a synthesis of scientific knowledge of disturbance, including activities that are significant and widespread sources of disturbance, and dealing both with the effects of disturbance and with the possible mechanisms of adaptation, mitigation and compensation, and where relevant, summarising those studies that have evaluated the short-term effects of disturbance and its long-term impact on bird productivity and survival, both at the individual and population levels, and submit to MOP7 for consideration.</p>	<p>At its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018, the Technical Committee concluded that much work has already been undertaken on disturbance and that a new synthesis is not needed. Instead links to existing guidance on disturbance will be included under 4.1. (Guidance on Management of Disturbance).</p> <p>This task will be carried forward to the next work plan and will be concluded as described above together with task 4.1.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>4.8 Reducing energy impacts – Energy Task Force</b> Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.27 on <i>Renewable energy and migratory species</i>. Task includes participation in the CMS Energy Task Force to provide further guidance and support in relation to the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.27. Task also involves providing further guidance when relevant new developments on reducing the impact of power lines on birds become available, such as improved mitigation techniques.</p>	<p>The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat participates in the CMS Energy Task Force.</p> <p>This is a rolling task and will be carried forward to the next work plan.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>4.9 Reducing energy impacts – sensitivity mapping tool</b> In the context of the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.27 and Resolution 6.7, develop Terms of Reference and costings to further develop a sensitivity-mapping tool to indicate risk to migratory birds from potential infrastructure development.</p>	<p>At its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018, the Technical Committee concluded that leading on this issue is not an AEWA or AEWA Technical Committee task, as the scope of such a tool is potentially much wider. It was agreed to wait for the possible outcomes of the BirdLife International Flyway Summit taking place 23-26 April 2018 in Abu Dhabi.</p>	<p>No</p>

<p><b>4.10 Extractive industries – Guide to guidance</b> Work with the Ramsar STRP to finalise the <i>Guide to Guidance on Extractive Industries</i> and to disseminate this to Contracting Parties.</p>	<p>Much progress has been made on this task. It will be kept on the work plan for the next triennium and will be prioritised.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>4.11 Extractive industries – development of analytical tools</b> Continue to collaborate with the Ramsar STRP on these issues, in particular working with other interested organisations to further develop geospatial analytical tools for identifying those areas where potential conflicts may arise regarding impacts of extractive industry processes on wetlands of importance for migratory waterbirds.</p>	<p>No progress was made on this task due to lack of capacity and resources and it is no longer on the Ramsar STRP agenda. In the framework of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Niger Basin Authority, Ramsar and IUCN were developing guidance on extractive industries which could be useful, and there was/will be a regional meeting in this regard.</p> <p>During discussions at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018, the Technical Committee assessed this activity to be valuable with great potential, but also completely dependent on external resources. It was agreed to carry the task over to the next work plan, but to mark it as a low priority.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>4.12 Illegal killing – pilot project</b> In the context of the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.16 and Resolution 6.12, develop Terms of Reference and costings for a pilot project to be implemented in Africa (e.g. possibly relating to Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>) in the Sahel).</p>	<p>No progress made due to insufficient capacity and low priority. This task will be retired.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>4.13 Threats from marine litter</b> Assess any threats posed to migratory seabirds listed by AEWA from the ingestion of plastics, of microplastics and other forms of marine litter (marine debris) and to provide advice on appropriate responses to the MOP.</p>	<p>The production of a review to assess the threats of plastics and microplastics to AEWA seabird populations has been commissioned to RSPB and the BirdLife International Global Seabirds Programme and will be submitted to MOP7. The outcomes of the review will also be taken into account in the MOP7 Draft Resolution on Seabirds, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.28  Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.6</p>

<p><b>4.14 Identifying evidence needs to inform assessment of cumulative impacts from offshore renewable energy developments on migratory waterbird populations.</b></p>	<p>This task falls within the remit of the CMS Energy Task Force. A draft document was produced for TC13 (document TC 13.11), which needs to be finalized and submitted to the CMS Energy Task Force. This is foreseen to happen by the end of 2018, whereby the task will be concluded and retired.</p>	<p>No</p>
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### Research and monitoring (Working Group 5)

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<p><b>5.1 Targeting of monitoring schemes</b> Complete additional guidance to the Parties on how to ensure that populations are covered by international monitoring schemes which are appropriate both in their scopes and methods to produce reliable international population size and trend estimates, including monitoring of seabirds and colonial breeding waterbirds.</p>	<p>This additional guidance will be included in the draft revised AEWA Conservation Guidelines on Waterbird Monitoring (task 5.2), which will be submitted to MOP7 for adoption.</p> <p>The Technical Committee compiled a draft resolution on strengthening waterbird monitoring.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.35</p> <p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.7</p>
<p><b>5.2 Conservation Guidelines on monitoring</b> Develop Conservation Guidelines, in order to provide guidance to the Parties on how to develop individual monitoring programmes which are appropriate in their scope and methods to obtain reliable estimates of population sizes and trends of waterbird populations breeding or wintering in their territories while striving towards a harmonised methodology.</p>	<p>The AEWA Conservation Guidelines on monitoring are being revised under the framework of the African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership and will be submitted to MOP7 for adoption.</p> <p>The Technical Committee compiled a draft resolution on the adoption of guidance in the context of the implementation of the AEWA Action Plan.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.35</p> <p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.8</p>
<p><b>5.3 Monitoring priorities</b> Identify priorities for the systematic development of waterbird monitoring, in order to reach the target of a 50% increase by 2017 in the number of populations whose status is assessed on the basis of regular monitoring data, as per the AEWA</p>	<p>This task was not completed and will be carried over into the next work plan for completion, should sufficient funding be available.</p>	<p>No</p>

Strategic Plan 2009-2018, taking into account the conservation status of the populations, their geographic representativeness and other factors.		
<b>5.4 Sustainable funding of waterbird monitoring</b> Work with the Waterbird Monitoring Partnership to make progress towards the monitoring-related targets of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 and to report to MOP7 and, if required, to propose this issue to be revisited at MOP7 with the aim to secure a long-term, sustainable solution for international waterbird monitoring.	No need for action by the Technical Committee. A report on the development of waterbird monitoring along the African-Eurasian Flyways was prepared by Wetlands International and the AEWA Secretariat and presented to the Technical Committee at its 14 <sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018. It will be further submitted to the 13 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee and MOP7.	Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.31
<b>5.5 Waterbird monitoring synergies with Ramsar</b> Work with Ramsar to identify possible synergies with respect to waterbird monitoring in the context of Ramsar Strategic Plan Targets 11 & 13 and possible development of further indicators for Target 5 related to coverage of wetland dependent bird populations by designated Ramsar Sites.	There has been no further development on this issue with Ramsar. The task will be carried over in the TC work plan for the new triennium.	No

### Education and information (Working Group 6)

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<b>6.1 Communication Strategy implementation</b> Provide advice and prioritisation on the ongoing implementation of the Communication Strategy.	Several detailed tasks were included on the TC work plan under 6.1.  Progress was made, in particular, with regard to spreading the Communication Strategy to all AEWA National and CEPA Focal Points.  Several tasks will be carried over to the next work plan, including the development of short CS implementation plans based on priority TC tasks, preparation and distribution of targeted products around TC reports/documents as well as the continued flagging of flyway	No

	projects, initiatives and events of relevance to AEWA (CMS, Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative, Adriatic Flyway Project, AMBI, WWT Flight of the Swans etc.).	
<b>6.2 Global Interflyway Network</b> Engage in the future implementation of the Global Interflyway Network (GIN) to ensure that best practice is shared between the various international conservation initiatives for migratory birds in different parts of the world.	There was no activity under the Global Interflyway Network. This task will be retired.	No

### Implementation (Working Group 7)

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<b>7.1 Conservation Status Review 7</b> Guide the process of preparation of Conservation Status Review 7 (Action Plan 7.4a) while taking into account reporting needs on the AEWA Strategic Plan and assessment against relevant Aichi Targets.	<p>The Technical Committee commented extensively on drafts of the 7<sup>th</sup> Conservation Status Review (CSR7), the production of which was outsourced to Wetlands International, and adopted the final draft at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018 for submission to the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee and MOP7.</p> <p>This is a rolling task and will be included in the next TC work plan.</p> <p>As part of the CSR7 process, the TC compiled and approved a list of proposed amendments to Table 1 of AEWA Annex 3. These proposed amendments will be formally submitted to MOP7 by a Contracting Party.</p> <p>In the course of the CSR7 process, the need to revise the definition of the term “significant long-term decline”, was identified. A proposal for revision was submitted to the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Committee and agreed. This work resulted in proposals for</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.14</p> <p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.3</p>

	<p>amendment of one of the Table 1 classification criteria and a new criterion for Categories 3 of Column A and 2 of Column B. These proposal for amendments will be formally submitted to MOP7 by a Contracting Party.</p> <p>The Technical Committee compiled a draft resolution on the adoption of amendments in the interpretation of terms use in the context of Table 1 of the AEWA Annex 3.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.4</p>
<p><b>7.2 Other international reviews</b>  Guide the process of preparation of:  a) <b>updated review of information from surveys</b> (Action Plan 7.4b);  b) <b>updated review of pertinent hunting and trade legislation</b> (Action Plan 7.4d) and  c) <b>updated review of re-establishment projects</b> (Action Plan 7.4f)</p>	<p>At its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting, the Technical Committee briefly discussed the potential need to review the necessity and scope as well as frequency of the mandatory reviews outlined in the AEWA Action Plan. The TC agreed that the reviews should be kept at their current frequencies and should be produced when resources are available to do so.</p> <p>No progress was made on the review of information on surveys. This task will be included in the next work plan.</p> <p>The Technical Committee produced draft Terms of Reference for the updated review of pertinent hunting and trade legislation, but no funding was available to conduct the review this triennium. This task will be included in the next work plan.</p> <p>The updated review of re-establishment projects was put on hold this triennium and will be added to next work plan.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>7.3 Information on Column A species</b>  Develop national lists of Column A populations for all Parties in the Middle East, Europe and Central Asia and communicate these with the respective countries to assist any necessary</p>	<p>Not a task for the Technical Committee and will be excluded from the next work plan. This will be added to the Secretariat work plan as a rolling task.</p>	<p>No</p>

<p>process of national legislative revision for the species concerned.</p>		
<p><b>7.4 Revision of format for plans</b>  Revise the format for International Single Species Action Plans (ISSAPs) and consider the need for such a format for International Single Species Management Plans and International Multi-Species Action Plans.</p>	<p>During this triennium, the Technical Committee prepared and adopted a revised format and guidance for AEWA International Single and Multi-Species Action Plans. A first draft was presented to the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee in early 2017 for preliminary approval and the format was subsequently used in the production of the ISSAPs for the Dalmatian Pelican, Velvet Scoter and the White-headed Duck. The final format and guidance will be submitted to MOP7 for approval.</p> <p>As foreseen in the new AEWA Strategic Plan, the Technical Committee will produce a format for conservation guidance during the next triennium. A specific format and guidance for AEWA International Single and Multi-Species Management Plans will also be developed during the next triennium.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.22</p>
<p><b>7.5 Overview of ISSAPs</b>  Continue monitoring the implementation of ISSAPs and present proposals for the revision or retirement of specific plans to each MOP.</p>	<p>This task was completed (also see task 2.10 above).</p> <p>A first proposal on the revision, retirement or extension of AEWA ISSAPs was discussed at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Technical Committee in March 2016, and an update on progress made was presented to the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee in early 2017. The Technical Committee subsequently reviewed and adopted a revised version of the proposal at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in March 2018. This draft document also includes an overview on the status of preparation of International Action and Management Plans under the Agreement.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.21</p>

<p><b>7.6 Review and reformatting of existing Conservation Guidelines</b>  Review AEWA Conservation Guidelines (CG) Nos. <b>1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9</b> to ensure they continue to reflect best conservation practice. Ensure that revision of CG 9 on waterbird monitoring covers guidance on a) colonial waterbird monitoring, and b) demographic monitoring.  Submit any revised CGs to MOP7.</p>	<p>The Technical Committee undertook a widescale review of the AEWA conservation guidelines, with 154 responses from 50 countries received to the circulated questionnaire survey. The review of AEWA’s Conservation Guidelines: Format and Future Priorities was presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Technical Committee, which took place on the 14-17 March 2016 in Israel. The revised format for AEWA Conservation Guidelines was subsequently submitted to the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee for approval in early 2017 (<a href="#">Doc. AEWA/StC 12.15</a>).</p> <p>The Conservation Guidelines on a Waterbird Monitoring Protocol (CG Nr. 9) are being revised under the framework of the Waterbird Monitoring Partnership and will be submitted to MOP7 for adoption.</p> <p>No progress was made on the foreseen revision of the Guidelines on National Single Species Action Plans (CG Nr. 1), Preparation of Site Inventories (CG Nr. 3), Management of Key Sites (CG Nr. 4), Ecotourism (CG Nr. 7) or Reducing crop damage, damage to fisheries, bird strikes and other forms of conflict (CG Nr. 8), due to limited capacity and resources. This task will be included in the next work plan.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.35</p>
<p><b>7.7 Guidance on look-alike species</b>  Complete work on the Guidance on Dealing with Accidental Shooting of Look-alike Species in the Western Palearctic and present a revised and extended version for consideration by MOP7.</p>	<p>This task is completed.</p> <p>Guidance on look-alike species has been incorporated into the revised Critical Site Network tool. At its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting, the Technical Committee decided that reference to this should be included in a draft Resolution to MOP7.</p> <p>In addition, this should be promoted by the Secretariat through the AEWA website with a targeted link to the CSN tool.</p>	<p>No</p>

<p><b>7.8 Overview of the procedure for amending listing of populations in AEWA Table 1</b></p> <p>Prepare with existing resources, an information document summarizing and explaining the current procedure of introducing changes in species conservation status to the AEWA Action Plan, including relevant consultation and review processes as well as timelines and data dependencies.</p>	<p>This is not a Technical Committee task and will be removed from the work plan. The Secretariat will try to produce this early in the next triennium.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>7.9 Advice on AEWA priorities for seabird conservation</b></p> <p>Provide advice to MOP on which are the most urgent seabird conservation priorities in the context of the implementation of the Agreement.</p>	<p>The development of advice of AEWA priorities for seabird conservation has been outsourced to RSPB and the BirdLife International Global Seabird Programme. The Technical Committee engaged in a first guiding discussion on the structure of the advice at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018, and adopt the final draft before submission to MOP7.</p> <p>The outcomes of the prioritisation paper will also be taken into account in the MOP7 Draft Resolution on Seabirds, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.29</p> <p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.6</p>
<p><b>7.10 Non-native species risk assessment</b></p> <p>Contribute to the development of internationally-agreed standards and guidance for risk assessment with respect to non-native waterbirds in order to facilitate the implementation of the Agreement and related legal instruments.</p>	<p>The Secretariat will collate available national and international criteria for risk assessment of non-native species by the end of 2018, on the basis of which the TC will discuss this issue during the next triennium.</p> <p>This task will be carried over into the next triennium.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>7.11 Climate change adaptation guidance</b></p> <p>Continue to periodically update AEWA's Guidance framework for climate change adaptation to ensure that it summarises contemporary knowledge and, especially to seek both relevant guidance in French, and that which is relevant to non-European situations.</p>	<p>French references have been provided to the Secretariat for inclusion in the climate change adaptation guidance and will be incorporated therein.</p> <p>At its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting, the Technical Committee agreed that a mandate should be requested from the MOP to make such guidance documents</p>	

	<p>available online, which will better accommodate the need for rolling updates, as necessary.</p> <p>This task will be retired from the TC work plan.</p> <p>The Technical Committee compiled a draft resolution of climate resilient flyways based on the results of the Wetlands International-led project that was launched at MOP6.</p>	Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.9
<b>7.12 Naturalisation of non-native species</b>	<p>Draft guidance for countries on AEWA’s provisions on non-native species, including on how to deal with the naturalisation of non-native species, was produced and approved at the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Technical Committee in Bonn, Germany on the 10-13 April 2018 for submission to StC13 and MOP7.</p> <p>The Technical Committee compiled a draft resolution on the adoption of guidance in the context of implementation of the AEWA Action Plan.</p>	Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.33  Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.8
<b>7.13 Revision of the Format of the International Implementation Tasks (IITs)</b>	<p>No action undertaken. The International Implementation Tasks (IITs) will no longer exist as a stand-alone priority list following the adoption of the new AEWA Strategic Plan and revised Plan of Action for Africa, which each provide for a prioritisation of international implementation activities under the Agreement. As such, this activity will be removed from the TC work plan.</p>	No
<b>7.14 Mapping populations occurring in Contracting Parties with different Table 1 statuses</b>	<p>This is not a TC task, but rather something routinely carried out by the Secretariat. It will be removed from the TC work plan for the next triennium.</p>	No

## Strategic, reporting, emerging and other issues (Working Group 8)

Task	TC tasks/actions undertaken	Relevant MOP7 documents
<p><b>8.1 Update of Strategic Plan</b> Input to the revision of the updated Strategic Plan to go to MOP7.</p>	<p>The Technical Committee provided input to the revised AEWA Strategic Plan during various stages of the drafting process.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.15</p>
<p><b>8.2 Strategic Plan Targets</b> Further consider how to assess progress towards reaching Strategic Plan (2009-2017) Targets 3.4 and 5.8.</p>	<p>The Technical Committee developed and approved a “Guidance on taking a systematic approach to responding to waterbird declines: A checklist of potential actions” at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018, for which best practices for waterbird conservation programmes were collated, but have not yet been incorporated.</p> <p>An assessment of whether AEWA is being recognized by other MEAs as an indicator for sustaining biodiversity has not yet been undertaken, but will possibly be covered in the scope of the report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2009-2018 to MOP7.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.34</p> <p>[Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.10]</p>
<p><b>8.3 Revision of PoAA</b> Input to the revision of the Plan of Action for Africa.</p>	<p>The revision of the Plan of Action for Africa is ongoing. Several Technical Committee members have been involved in the development process thus far as members of the PoAA Working Group. The PoAA Working Group is currently reviewing the first draft. This draft is submitted to StC13 and the final version will be submitted to MOP7 for adoption.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.11</p>
<p><b>8.4 National Reports</b> Revise the national report format and make the necessary adjustments on the basis of received feedback after the MOP6 reporting cycle and address necessary changes following</p>	<p>The National Report Format was revised by the TC and approved at the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee for use in the MOP7 reporting cycle (<a href="#">Doc. AEWA/StC 12.7</a>).</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.17</p>

<p>MOP6, including work to develop an initial reporting format related to the draft revised Strategic Plan.</p>	<p>The draft revised National Report Format for the next cycle (reporting to MOP8) based on the draft Strategic Plan 2019-2027 is also completed and was approved at the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Technical Committee in April 2018 for submission to StC13 and MOP7.</p> <p>This task will be carried forward to the next work plan with respect to the revisions to the National Report Format that will, again, be necessary for the following cycle (i.e. reporting to MOP9).</p> <p>The TC compiled a draft resolution that includes aspects of approval and revision of the National Report Format.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP7 DR.1</p>
<p><b>8.5 Population status module for national reports</b> Further develop a modular approach to national reporting with modules reported at different intervals including development of a module on population status for MOP7 national reports.</p>	<p>This task will be completed by the end of 2018 and will be carried over to TC15 for discussion and approval in 2019.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>8.6 Delivery of Aichi Targets</b> Continue to assess progress on issues relevant to the Aichi Targets, and to present triennial assessments of AEWA's contribution to each of the relevant Aichi Targets, elaborating further needs as necessary and appropriate</p>	<p>The Technical Committee prepared and subsequently approved a Draft Resolution on AEWA's contribution to delivering the Aichi 2020 Biodiversity Targets at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018.</p> <p>The Aichi targets expire in 2020, but there will need to be another process to report against the SDGs. A final report should be considered on how AEWA delivered against the Aichi targets up until 2020.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.2</p>
<p><b>8.7 Harmonisation of reporting</b> Continue to promote synchronised timing and other synergies with the reporting cycles of CMS, Ramsar, EU Birds Directive (Article 12) and others as opportunities permit.</p>	<p>This task has been partially completed. The Technical Committee has engaged through the Secretariat with the European Commission regarding reporting synergies, but not with other international bodies.</p> <p>The Technical Committee also provided comments on the new EU Birds Directive Article 12 report format.</p>	<p>No</p>

<p>Focus on species reporting: Bern Convention, EU, CAF, HELCOM, OSPAR</p>	<p>This task will be carried forward to the next work plan.</p>	
<p><b>8.8 Implementation</b> On request, assist with Parties implementation of the Agreement including possible participation in Implementation Review Process missions.</p>	<p>The Technical Committee provided input on all potential new as well as running IRP cases during the triennium, as requested.</p> <p>This is a rolling task and will be carried over to the next work plan.</p>	<p>Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.18</p>
<p><b>8.9 Emerging diseases</b> Continue to participate in the CMS Scientific Task Force on Wildlife and Ecosystem Health and the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds.</p>	<p>The AEWA Technical Committee is represented by the Regional Representative for North and South-Western Europe, Dr. Ruth Cromie, in the CMS Poisoning Working Group.</p> <p>An Avian Influenza Task Force Situation Update on the H5N8 highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak in the winter of 2016/17 (which involved wild birds) was produced and circulated to remind agencies and Parties of their obligations under AEWA and CMS and the guidance provided by FAO and OIE.</p> <p>This is a rolling task and will be carried over to the next work plan.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>8.10 Common implementation indicators</b> Consider developing common implementation indicators for AEWA and Ramsar, if appropriate, based, for example on the TEMATEA tool (Resolution 5.19).</p> <p>Ramsar comment will be addressed under a different working group – related to monitoring and data collection.</p>	<p>No action was required by the Technical Committee.</p> <p>This task will be retired.</p>	<p>No</p>

<b>8.11. AEWA and NBSAPs</b>	The action foreseen was to assess whether the Ramsar STRP is engaged in the NBSAP process, and if yes to align approaches between AEWA and Ramsar. As the STRP is not engaged in the NBSAP process, no action was required by the Technical Committee. This task will be retired.	No
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