



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

03 - 05 July 2018, The Hague, the Netherlands

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### SUMMARY OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF SPECIES ACTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN PRODUCTION AND COORDINATION WITH RECOMMENDATIONS TO MOP FOR EXTENSION, REVISION OR RETIREMENT

#### Introduction

The Agreement foresees both the conservation and sustainable use of migratory waterbirds by Parties and subsequently provides for the development and adoption of International Species Action and Management Plans for prioritized species/populations. A comprehensive overview on the status of preparation and implementation of Species Action and Management Plans was presented to the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2015 (AEWA Doc. MOP6.16 Rev.1).

This document provides an updated overview of the current status of the production of AEWA International Species Action and Management Plans, including progress made with regard to establishing international coordinating mechanisms for adopted Plans.

In addition, the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties adopted a procedure for the revision and possible retirement of AEWA Action Plans (AEWA Doc. MOP6.33 and Resolution 6.8 Annex 2) and instructed the Technical Committee to continue the monitoring of International Single Species Action Plans and to present proposals for their revision or retirement to each Session of the Meeting of the Parties, as appropriate.

The AEWA Technical Committee subsequently started an assessment of the AEWA International Single Species Action Plans which have either already reached the end of their foreseen tenure or which will reach the end of their validity by MOP7 in 2018. An update on progress made was presented to the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee in early 2017, including preliminary recommendations, and the final recommendations to MOP7 regarding how to proceed with these Plans as approved by the Technical Committee at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018 are presented below.

Following the consultations within the Technical Committee and with other stakeholders, the recommendations also include the proposal to revise the Action Plan retirement procedure adopted at MOP6, to include the possibility to extend the validity of Action Plans in addition to recommending their revision or retirement, which was also approved by the Technical Committee at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018.

MOP6 also requested the Technical Committee through Resolution 6.8 to produce a priority list and subsequent selection of species/populations for the development of International Single Species Management Plans or Multi-Species Action Plans at its first meeting after each MOP.

The Technical Committee adopted revised criteria for the prioritization of species/populations for Action and Management Plans at its 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting in March 2015. A first prioritization of species/populations for management-planning using the new criteria showed that these needed further refinement, in order to provide a more beneficial ranking of species for management-planning. The revised criteria adopted by the Technical Committee at its 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April 2018 are attached for information in Annex II.

### **Action Requested from the Standing Committee**

The Standing Committee is requested to take note of the current status of International Species Action and Management Plan preparation and coordination as well as of the revised criteria for species management planning as adopted by the Technical Committee.

Following the recommendations of the Technical Committee, the Standing Committee is further requested to review and approve the revised process for the retirement of Action Plans, as well as to review and approve the recommended treatment of the selected AEWA International Single Species Action Plans, for submission to the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties to AEWA in December 2018 for final approval.

## 1. Current status of preparation of AEWA International Species Action and Management plans

### 1.1. Introduction

A total of 24 International Single Species Action Plans, one International Multi-Species Action Plan and one International Single Species Management Plan have been adopted under the Agreement by the MOP to date.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties is expected to adopt another two new Action Plans, one revised Action Plan and two new Management Plans.

### 1.2. Action/Management Plans adopted under AEWA 2002-2015

The following table includes all International Species Action and Management Plans adopted under AEWA 2002-2015.

*Table 1: AEWA International Single Species Action and Management Plans adopted under the Agreement to date*

| Species   | Adopted      |
|---|--------------|
| Great Snipe ( <i>Gallinago media</i> )  | MOP2 in 2002 |
| Black-winged Pratincole ( <i>Glareola nordmanni</i> )   | MOP2 in 2002 |
| White-headed Duck ( <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> )<br>(revision expected to be adopted at MOP7)           | MOP3 in 2005 |
| Corncrake ( <i>Crex crex</i> )  | MOP3 in 2005 |
| Ferruginous Duck ( <i>Aythya nyroca</i> )   | MOP3 in 2005 |
| Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> )  | MOP3 in 2005 |
| Lesser Flamingo ( <i>Phoeniconaias minor</i> )  | MOP4 in 2008 |
| Eurasian Spoonbill ( <i>Platalea leucorodia</i> )   | MOP4 in 2008 |
| Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> )  | MOP4 in 2008 |
| Lesser White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser erythropus</i> )  | MOP4 in 2008 |
| Maccoa Duck ( <i>Oxyura maccoa</i> )  | MOP4 in 2008 |
| White-winged Flufftail ( <i>Sarothrura ayresi</i> )   | MOP4 in 2008 |
| Madagascar Pond Heron ( <i>Ardeola idae</i> )   | MOP4 in 2008 |
| Slaty Egret ( <i>Egretta vinaceigula</i> )  | MOP5 in 2012 |
| Bewick's Swan ( <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> )  | MOP5 in 2012 |
| Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> )                                   | MOP5 in 2012 |
| Red-breasted Goose ( <i>Branta ruficollis</i> )   | MOP5 in 2012 |
| Sociable Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus gregarius</i> )<br>(Revision of the 2002 ISSAP)                          | MOP5 in 2012 |
| Management Plan for the Svalbard Population of the Pink-footed Goose<br>( <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> ) | MOP5 in 2012 |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Shoebill ( <i>Balaeniceps rex</i> )   | MOP6 in 2015 |
| Grey Crowned-crane ( <i>Balearica regulorum</i> )   | MOP6 in 2015 |
| Taiga Bean Goose ( <i>Anser f. fabalis</i> )  | MOP6 in 2015 |
| Long-tailed Duck ( <i>Clangula hyemalis</i> )   | MOP6 in 2015 |
| Eurasian Curlew ( <i>Numenius a. arquata, N. a. orientalis and N. a. suschkini</i> )  | MOP6 in 2015 |
| Northern Bald Ibis ( <i>Geronticus eremita</i> ) (revision of the 2005 ISSAP)   | MOP6 in 2015 |
| Multi-Species Action Plan for Benguela Upwelling System Coastal Seabirds:<br>(Bank Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax neglectus</i> ), African Penguin ( <i>Spheniscus demersus</i> ), Cape Gannet ( <i>Morus capensis</i> ), Cape Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i> ), Crowned Cormorant ( <i>Microcarbo coronatus</i> ), Damara Tern ( <i>Sternula balaenarum</i> ), Caspian Tern ( <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i> ), Greater Crested Tern ( <i>Thalasseus bergii bergii</i> ), African Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus moquini</i> )) | MOP6 in 2015 |

### 1.3. Action Plans expected to be adopted at MOP7

The following table includes all International Species Action and Management Plans expected to be adopted at the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties in December 2018.

Table 2: AEWA International Species Action and Management Plans proposed for adoption at MOP7

| Species  |
|--|
| International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Dalmatian Pelican ( <i>Pelecanus crispus</i> )                                  |
| International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Velvet Scoter ( <i>Melanitta fusca</i> )  |
| International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the White-headed Duck ( <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> ) – revision of 2005 Action Plan |
| International Single Species Management Plan for the Barnacle Goose ( <i>Branta leucopsis</i> )  |
| International Single Species Management Plan for the Greylag Goose ( <i>Anser anser</i> )  |

### 1.4. Current plans for new AEWA International Species Action and Management Plans

Following the established procedure, the AEWA Technical Committee will prioritize species for action- and management planning at the beginning of the next triennium (2019-2021). At the time of writing, no concrete plans for the development of additional Action or Management Plans during the next triennium exist.

## 2. Current status of coordination of AEWA International Species Action and Management plans

### 2.1. Introduction

MOP3 instructed the Secretariat in Resolution 3.12 to establish mechanisms, resources permitting, to coordinate the international implementation of existing and future Action Plans. Much progress has been made in this regard due to the continued development of international coordination through the establishment of so-called AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups.

As further highlighted by MOP6 in Resolution 6.8., active international coordination is a key prerequisite for the successful implementation of International Species Action and Management Plans and there is an urgent need to step-up the work of the existing AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups and their coordination.

Efforts have therefore continued during this triennium (2016-2018) to establish as many International Species Working and Expert Groups as possible with International Species Coordinators providing facilitation for adopted Action and Management Plans. Much progress has been made, but major gaps still exist for a number of priority species mainly due to lack of funding and coordination capacity.

An overview of the current status of established international coordination is presented below.

### 2.2. Overview of established coordination for adopted Action and Management Plans

Table 3. Overview of status of international coordination established for adopted AEWA International Action and Management Plans

| Species   | AEWA International Working/Expert Group Convened | Coordination provided by | Comments   |
|---|--|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Great Snipe</b><br>( <i>Gallinago media</i> )                | NO   | n/a                      | Efforts underway to find coordinating organization/expert, after which IWG/IEG will be convened. |
| <b>Black-winged Pratincole</b><br>( <i>Glareola nordmanni</i> ) | NO   | n/a                      | Potentially to be retired, therefore no efforts to establish IWG/IEG                             |
| <b>White-headed Duck</b><br>( <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> )      | YES<br>IWG                                       | Ankara University        | n/a  |
| <b>Corncrake</b><br>( <i>Crex crex</i> )                        | NO   | n/a                      | Potentially to be retired, therefore no efforts to establish IWG/IEG                             |
| <b>Ferruginous Duck</b><br>( <i>Aythya nyroca</i> )             | NO   | n/a                      | Efforts underway to find coordinating organization/expert, after which IWG will be convened.     |

|   |            |  |  |
|---|------------|--|--|
| <b>Light-bellied Brent Goose</b><br><i>(Branta bernicla hrota)</i>          | NO         | n/a  | Potentially to be retired, therefore currently no efforts to establish IEG.  |
| <b>Lesser Flamingo</b><br><i>(Phoeniconaias minor)</i>                      | YES<br>IWG | <b>NO</b>  | Coordination initially provided by BirdLife Africa. Due to lack of funding and capacity, AEWA Secretariat is making efforts to find other interested coordinating organizations/experts. |
| <b>Eurasian Spoonbill</b><br><i>(Platalea leucorodia)</i>                   | YES<br>IEG | Tour du Valat  | n/a  |
| <b>Black-tailed Godwit</b><br><i>(Limosa limosa)</i>                        | YES<br>IWG | Sovon  | n/a  |
| <b>Lesser White-fronted Goose</b><br><i>(Anser erythropus)</i>              | YES<br>IWG | AEWA Secretariat   | n/a  |
| <b>Maccoa Duck</b><br><i>Oxyura maccoa</i>                                  | <b>NO</b>  | n/a  | Efforts underway to find coordinating organization/expert, after which IWG will be convened.   |
| <b>White-winged Flufftail</b><br><i>Sarothrura ayresi</i>                   | YES<br>IWG | BirdLife South Africa  | n/a  |
| <b>Madagascar Pond Heron</b><br><i>Ardeola idae</i>                         | YES<br>IWG | <b>NO</b>  | Coordination initially provided by BirdLife Africa. Due to lack of funding and capacity, AEWA Secretariat is making efforts to find other interested coordinating organizations/experts. |
| <b>Slaty Egret</b><br><i>Egretta vinaceigula</i>                            | YES<br>IWG | BirdLife Botswana  | Due to lack of funding and capacity, currently no ongoing activities.  |
| <b>Bewick's Swan</b><br><i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>                  | YES<br>IEG | The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT)  | n/a  |
| <b>Greenland White-fronted Goose</b><br><i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> | NO         | n/a  | Initial efforts to establish IEG not successful. Active Species Expert Group exists: Greenland White-fronted Goose Study (GWGS).   |
| <b>Red-breasted Goose</b><br><i>Branta ruficollis</i>                       | YES<br>IWG | Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds (BSPB)   | n/a  |
| <b>Sociable Lapwing</b><br><i>Vanellus gregarius</i>                        | YES<br>IWG | Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)   | n/a  |
| <b>Pink-footed Goose</b><br><i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>                     | YES<br>IWG | AEWA Secretariat   | Falls under the European Goose Management Platform and the AEWA EGM IWG  |
| <b>Shoebill</b><br><i>Balaeniceps rex</i>                                   | <b>NO</b>  | n/a  | Efforts underway to find coordinating organization/expert, after which IWG will be convened.   |
| <b>Grey Crowned-crane</b><br><i>Balearica regolorum</i>                     | YES<br>IWG | Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) in partnership with the International Crane Foundation (ICF) | n/a  |

|  |            |  |   |
|--|------------|--|---|
| <b>Taiga Bean Goose</b><br><i>Anser f. fabalis</i>   | YES<br>IWG | AEWA Secretariat                                 | Falls under the European Goose Management Platform and the AEWA EGM IWG   |
| <b>Long-tailed Duck</b><br><i>Clangula hyemalis</i>  | YES<br>IWG | The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT)              | AEWA European Seaduck International Working Group, which will also coordinate implementation of the Velvet Scoter ISSAP |
| <b>Eurasian Curlew</b><br><i>Numenius a. arquata, N. a. orientalis and N. a. suschkini</i> | YES<br>IWG | Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) | n/a   |
| <b>Northern Bald Ibis</b><br><i>Geronticus eremita</i>                                     | YES<br>IWG | BirdLife International                           | n/a   |
| <b>Benguela Coastal Seabirds</b>   | YES<br>IWG | BirdLife South Africa                            | n/a   |

Efforts are also underway to secure international coordination of the International Species Action and Management Plans expected to be adopted at MOP7, in order to ensure that coordinated implementation of these new Plans is launched as soon as possible.

*Table 4. Foreseen international coordination arrangements for new International Species Action and Management Plans expected to be adopted at MOP7*

| <b>Species</b>   | <b>AEWA International Working/Expert Group foreseen</b> | <b>Coordination provided by (<i>tbc</i>)</b>  |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Dalmatian Pelican</b><br><i>(Pelecanus crispus)</i> | YES<br>IWG  | Society for the Protection of Prespa/<br>Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS)                |
| <b>Velvet Scoter</b><br><i>(Melanitta fusca)</i>       | YES<br>IWG  | The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) - AEWA European Seaduck International Working Group       |
| <b>Barnacle Goose</b><br><i>(Branta leucopsis)</i>     | YES<br>IWG  | AEWA Secretariat -<br>Falls under the European Goose Management Platform and the AEWA EGM IWG |
| <b>Greylag Goose</b><br><i>(Anser anser)</i>           | YES<br>IWG  | AEWA Secretariat -<br>Falls under the European Goose Management Platform and the AEWA EGM IWG |

### **3. Extension, Revision or Retirement of AEWA International Single Species Action Plans**

#### **3.1. Introduction**

Recognizing the need for a process by which AEWA International Single Species Action Plans are assessed at the end of their tenure, the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties adopted a procedure for the revision and possible retirement of Action Plans (AEWA Doc. MOP6.33 and Resolution 6.8 Annex 2). MOP6 further instructed the Technical Committee to continue the monitoring of International Single Species Action Plans and to present proposals for their revision or retirement to each Session of the Meeting of the Parties, as appropriate.

Prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Parties, the action-planning process under AEWA did not foresee a procedure for the retirement of Action Plans from implementation by Parties. The changed status of species populations and/or the successful implementation of Action Plans may, however, warrant the retirement of selected Plans.

The AEWA Technical Committee subsequently started an assessment of the AEWA International Single Species Action Plans which have either already reached the end of their foreseen tenure or which are reaching the end of their validity by MOP7 in 2018, with the aim to make recommendations to MOP7 with regard to how these Plans should be dealt with going forward.

A first assessment was submitted for discussion and decision to the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Technical Committee, which took place on the 14-17 March 2016 in Israel. The Plans were assessed for the need for revision or retirement using the process adopted through Resolution 6.8 at the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties in November 2015. An initial overview including recommendations was presented to the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee in early 2017.

The final recommendations of the Technical Committee to MOP7 are presented below. These include an adjustment to the procedure for the retirement of Action Plans as adopted at MOP6, as well as which Action Plans should be considered to be revised, retired or extended.

#### **3.2. Adjustment of the Retirement Process adopted at MOP6 to include Action Plan Extension**

As mentioned above, the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the AEWA Parties adopted a procedure for the revision and possible retirement of Action Plans (AEWA Doc. MOP6.33 and Resolution 6.8 Annex 2).

The discussions which ensued within the Technical Committee during the course of this triennium, highlighted the need for a third option in the treatment of Action Plans at the end of their tenure in addition to their revision or retirement, namely the extension of the validity of Action Plans in their original adopted form.

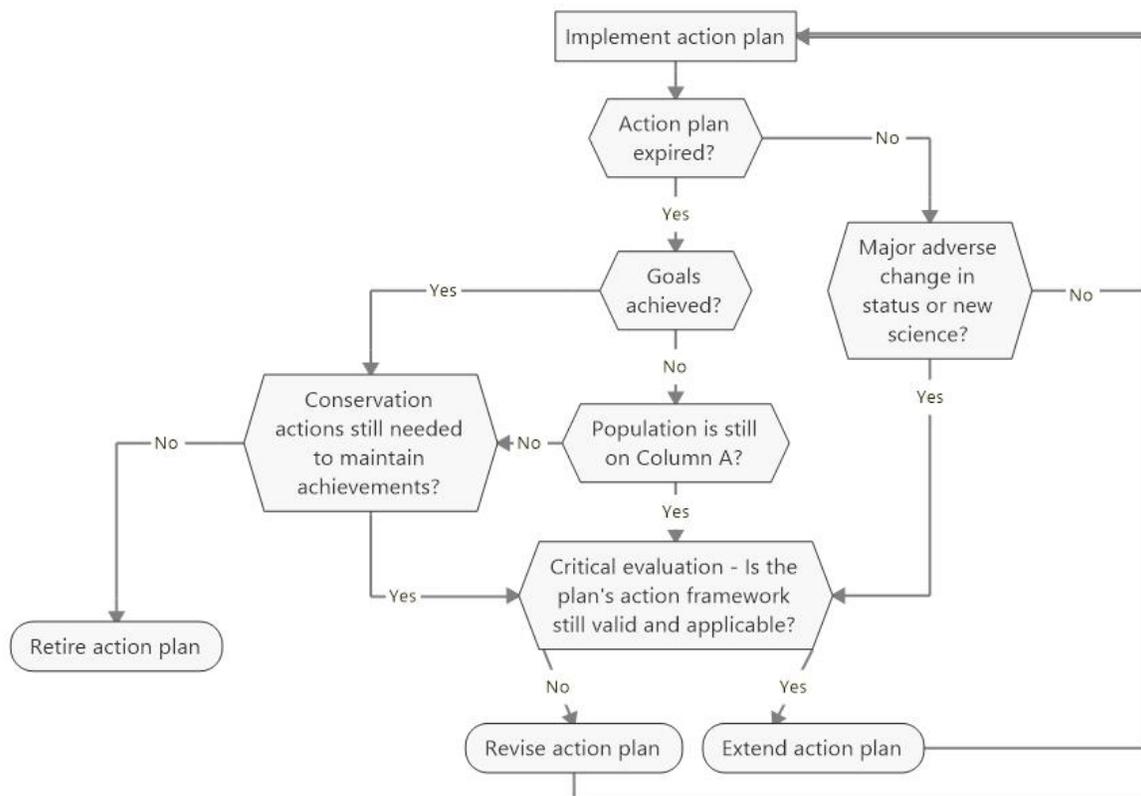
The Technical Committee concluded that many Action Plans remain completely valid in terms of their threat assessments, overall objectives and goals as well as following priority results and actions. Thus, rather than focusing scarce resources of Contracting Parties, stakeholders and the AEWA Secretariat on the

potentially costly and time intensive revision of Action Plans, it was generally agreed that the focus should rather be on encouraging the implementation of these existing Plans.

Extensions of existing Action Plans, which have reached the end of their tenure, should be issued for ten years as a general rule, with the possibility of exceptions on a species basis where appropriate and with the caveat that emergency reviews of any of these ISSAPs shall, of course, be undertaken if there are any sudden major changes liable to affect any of the species/populations in question.

In the case of such extensions, the Meeting of the Parties would be requested to confirm that the Action Plans in question remain valid and open for implementation by the Contracting Parties. This suggested third option for the treatment of outgoing Action Plans will require a slight amendment of the adopted process for the revision and retirement of AEWA Action Plans at MOP7.

*Figure 1. Revised decision-making process for the assessment of AEWA International Single Species Action Plans for revision, extension and retirement.*



### 3.3. Recommendation to MOP7 for the Extension, Revision or Retirement of AEWA International Species Action Plans

#### 3.3.1. Recommendations for retirement, revision and extension of ISSAPs to MOP7

- **Retire the AEWA/CMS/EU ISSAP for the Corncrake *Crex crex*, the AEWA ISSAP for the Light-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicla hrota* as well as the AEWA/Bern Convention ISSAP for the Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni* as the respective Action Plan goals have been achieved and the populations are increasing;**
- Apart from the one ISSAP for which the revision processes is already ongoing (White-headed Duck *Oxyura leucocephala*), **it is not recommended to undertake a revision of any additional ISSAPs at this stage.**
- **Extend the validity of the following nine ISSAPs for another 10 years (until 2028)** as the main threats as well as the corresponding goals, results and actions outlined in the respective ISSAPs remain valid and the species/populations in question will still benefit from the existence of an international flyway conservation framework:
  - Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*)
  - Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*)
  - Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*<sup>1</sup>)
  - Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*)
  - Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*)
  - Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*<sup>2</sup>)
  - Maccoa Duck (*Oxyura maccoa*)
  - White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothrura ayresi*)
  - Madagascar Pond Heron (*Ardeola idae*)

In order to increase much needed implementation of these Plans following the extension of their validity, specific recommendations for next steps with regard to each of the ISSAPs are outlined in the table in Annex I.

As is the case for all AEWA International Single Species Action Plans, emergency reviews of any of these ISSAPs shall, of course, be undertaken if there are any sudden major changes liable to affect any of the species/populations in question.

#### 3.3.2. Increase implementation of revised and extended Action Plans

Both for Action Plans where a revision is currently being undertaken and for which an extension of the validity is being recommended, measures are urgently needed to increase implementation.

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<sup>1</sup> To be confirmed following final pending consultations with Lesser White-fronted Goose range states.

<sup>2</sup> To be re-assessed by the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group in 2018, to take into account possible changes with regard to hunting regulations in France.

During the discussions within the Technical Committee it has been suggested that some of the Action Plans which are being extended may benefit from the production of a shorter conservation brief highlighting in particular any potential new scientific information and/or threats that may not have been captured in the original Plan. Such updated conservation advice could potentially be used to re-engage Contracting Parties and stakeholders to implement the Action Plans in question.

This may, in particular, be useful for Action Plans for which no international coordination mechanism exists, or where the established mechanism has not been active. Action Plans with active AEWA International Species Working or Expert Groups will likely not be in need of such additional conservation briefs, as the status of the species/populations as well as the implementation progress of the priority conservation activities is regularly monitored.

In addition, the possibility to establish international coordination mechanisms (either AEWA International Species Working or Expert Groups) for extended Action Plans should urgently be considered, in order to facilitate their implementation. For those Plans where such mechanisms have been convened by the AEWA Secretariat, but where they are currently inactive, increased efforts are needed to reactive these coordination mechanisms to increase implementation.

**Annex I: AEWA International Single Species Action Plans considered for extension, revision or retirement**

| AEWA ISSAP   | Adopted | Revision foreseen | IWG/IEG in place | IUCN status | Status of populations under AEWA                          | Threats and subsequent results & activities in ISSAP wrong/inadequate | Species trend*,**,*** | Notes  | Suggested TC recommendation and next steps  |
|--|---------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|---|---|-----------------------|--|---|
| <b>Great Snipe</b> ( <i>Gallinago media</i> )                | 2002    | 2005              | -                | NT          | Scandinavia/ West Africa<br><b>A 2</b>                    | NO  | STA?                  |  | <b>Extend</b><br>- Consider issuing short updated conservation advice – possibly with focus on declining population;<br>- Consider establishing AEWA Working or Expert Group. |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Western Siberia & NE Europe<br><b>A 4</b>                 |   | DEC?                  |  |   |
| <b>Black-winged Pratincole</b> ( <i>Glareola nordmanni</i> ) | 2002    | 2005              | -                | NT          | SE Europe and Western Asia/ Southern Africa<br><b>A 4</b> | -   | INC                   | Action Plan goals achieved   | <b>Retire</b>   |
| <b>White-headed Duck</b> ( <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> )      | 2005    | 2015              | Yes              | EN          | West Med.<br>A 1a 1b 1c                                   | -   | STA                   | Revision is being undertaken under LIFE EuroSAP project (adoption MOP7); IWG has been convened | <b>Revision ongoing</b>   |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Algeria & Tunisia<br>A 1a 1b 1c                           |   | STA/FLU               |  |   |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | East Med., Turkey etc.<br>A 1a 1b 1c                      |   | DEC?                  |  |   |
| <b>Corncrake</b> ( <i>Crex crex</i> )                        | 2005    | 2015              | -                | LC          | Europe & Western Asia etc.<br><b>C 1</b>                  | -   | STA                   | Action Plan goals achieved   | <b>Retire</b>   |
| <b>Ferruginous Duck</b> ( <i>Aythya nyroca</i> )             | 2005    | 2015              | -                | NT          | West Med./North & West Africa –<br><b>A 1a 1c</b>         | NO  | INC                   |  | <b>Extend</b><br>- Consider issuing short updated conservation advice;<br>- Consider establishing AEWA Working or Expert Group.   |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Eastern Europe/ E Med. & Sahelian Africa<br><b>A 1a 4</b> |   | INC?                  |  |   |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Western Asia/ SW Asia, NE Africa – <b>A 1a 3c</b>         |   | UNC                   |  |   |

| AEWA ISSAP   | Adopted | Revision foreseen | IWG/IEG in place | IUCN status | Status of populations under AEWA                               | Threats and subsequent results & activities in ISSAP wrong/inadequate | Species trend*,** | Notes  | Suggested TC recommendation and next steps   |
|--|---------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|--|---|-------------------|--|--|
| <b>Light-bellied Brent Goose</b><br><i>(Branta bernicla hrota)</i> | 2005    | 2015              | -                | LC          | Canada, Greenland/<br>Ireland<br><b>A 3a</b>                   | -   | DEC               | Action Plan goals achieved   | <b>Retire</b>  |
| <b>Lesser White-fronted Goose</b><br><i>(Anser erythropus)</i>     | 2008    | 2013              | Yes              | VU          | NE Europe, Siberia etc.<br><b>A 1a 1b 2</b>                    | -   | DEC?              | IWG is active, activities are clear – no conservation note needed.   | <b>Extend</b>  |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Fennoscandian – <b>A 1a 1b 1c</b>                              |   | INC               |  |  |
| <b>Lesser Flamingo</b><br><i>(Phoeniconaias minor)</i>             | 2008    | 2018              | Yes              | NT          | West Africa<br><b>A 2</b>                                      | NO  | STA/INC?          | IWG established, but no coordination in place due to lack of funds.  | <b>Extend</b><br>- Increase efforts to reactivate AEWA IWG;<br>- Fundraising needed for coordination and implementation of urgent actions. |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Eastern Africa – <b>A4</b>                                     |   | DEC?              |  |  |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Southern Africa – <b>A 3a</b>                                  |   | INC?              |  |  |
| <b>Eurasian Spoonbill</b><br><i>(Platalea leucorodia)</i>          | 2008    | 2018              | Yes              | LC          | <i>Platalea l. leucorodia</i><br>(3 sub-species)<br><b>A 2</b> | NO  | INC<br>DEC<br>UNC | IEG is active, activities are clear – no conservation note needed.   | <b>Extend</b>  |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | <i>Platalea l. balsaci</i><br><b>A 1c</b>                      |   | DEC               |  |  |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | <i>Platalea l. archeri</i><br><b>A 1c</b>                      |   | DEC               |  |  |
| <b>Black-tailed Godwit</b> ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> )                | 2008    | 2018              | Yes              | NT          | Western Europe etc.<br><b>A 4</b>                              | NO  | DEC               | Possible ISSAP revision to be reviewed by IWG in 2018.<br><br>IWG is active, activities are clear – no conservation note needed. | <b>Extend</b>  |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Eastern Europe etc.<br><b>A 3c</b>                             |   |                   |  |  |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | West-central Asia<br><b>A 4</b>                                |   | INC               |  |  |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | <i>Limosa islandica</i><br><b>A 4</b>                          |   |                   |  |  |
| <b>Maccoa Duck</b> ( <i>Oxyura maccoa</i> )                        | 2008    | 2018              | No               | VU          | Eastern African<br><b>A 1c</b>                                 | NO  | DEC               |  | <b>Extend</b><br>- Consider issuing short updated conservation advice;<br>- Consider establishing AEWA Working Group;                      |
|  |         |                   |                  |             | Southern African <b>A 1c</b>                                   |   |                   |  |  |

| AEWA ISSAP  | Adopted | Revision foreseen | IWG/IEG in place | IUCN status | Status of populations under AEWA                                      | Threats and subsequent results & activities in ISSAP wrong/inadequate | Species trend*,** | Notes   | Suggested TC recommendation and next steps   |
|---|---------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|---|---|-------------------|---|--|
|   |         |                   |                  |             |   |   |                   |   | - Fundraising needed for coordination and implementation of urgent actions.  |
| <b>White-winged Flufftail</b><br><i>(Sarothrura ayresi)</i> | 2008    | 2018              | Yes              | CR          | Ethiopia<br><b>A 1a 1b 1c</b><br>Southern Africa<br><b>A 1a 1b 1c</b> | NO  | Unknown           | IWG is active, activities are clear – no conservation note needed.  | <b>Extend</b>  |
| <b>Madagascar Pond Heron</b><br><i>(Ardeola idae)</i>       | 2008    | 2018              | Yes              | EN          | Madagascar & Aldabra/Central & Eastern Africa<br><b>A 1a 1b 1c</b>    | NO  | INC?              | IWG established, but no coordination in place due to lack of funds. | <b>Extend</b><br>- Increase efforts to reactivate AEWA IWG;<br>- Fundraising needed for coordination and implementation of urgent actions. |

\*CSR7

\*\***DEC** – Decreasing, **INC** – Increasing, **FLU** – Fluctuating, **STA** – stable, **UNC** - Uncertain

## **Annex II: Criteria for Prioritizing AEWA Populations for Management Planning**

Objective: AEWA also provides for the regulation of human taking of species/populations listed under the Agreement. AEWA Management Plans therefore have the objective to restore or to maintain species/populations for which human interaction exists, in a favourable conservation status. Management Plans can be developed for species/populations listed in Columns B or C of Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan.

There are two types of management plans under the Agreement – those with a recovery objective and those that aim to manage populations causing significant damage to agriculture or fisheries whilst maintaining a favourable conservation status.

The criteria listed below are used to prioritise populations for management planning. For each of the two types of management plans there are two sets of criteria – the first ranking them according to their population size and trend (quantitative criteria) and the second one by applying a list of qualitative criteria with different weights. The two sets are applied consecutively.

### **1. Management plans with a recovery objective**

This category applies to species/populations listed in Column B Category 2c (showing significant long-term decline) and 2d (showing large fluctuations in population size or trend) of which taking occurs and which may or may not cause damages.

#### Criteria A (quantitative) – apply consecutively

**A.1. Population size estimate** – in descending order from lowest to highest estimate. The estimates are to be taken from the latest Conservation Status Review (CSR). Where the population size estimate has been given by a range (e.g. 1-10,000) the geometrical mean has been used for the ranking (i.e. 5,000). Populations with exact size estimates (e.g. 5,000) have been ranked higher than populations whose size estimates are presented by a range and the geometrical mean is equal to the size of the populations with an exact estimate (e.g. 5,000 as an exact population estimate is ranked higher than 5,000 as a geometrical mean of the estimate from 1-10,000).

When two or more populations have the same population estimate, those belonging to less numerous species within the Agreement area have been ranked higher.

**A.2. Population trend estimate** – in descending order: Declining, Fluctuating, Unknown. The estimates are to be taken from the latest CSR.

Criteria B (qualitative) – calculate overall score of weights

| Criterion                                     | Description  | Weight |
|---|--|--------|
| <b>B.1 Trend and consequences of inaction</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where in the absence of a recovery management plan, declines are likely to continue</li> </ul>  | 3      |
| <b>B.2 Past failure to stop decline</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where past attempts at stopping and reversing the decline have failed</li> </ul>  | 3      |
| <b>B.3 Geographical extent</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where the development of a recovery management plan would be applicable in multiple Range States</li> </ul>   | 2      |
| <b>B.4 Resourcing and implementation</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where there are relevant actors willing to champion and lead the development and implementation of a recovery management plan</li> </ul>                            | 2      |
| <b>B.5 Stakeholder engagement</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where stakeholders are already engaged in species conservation and management and are likely to become active partners in implementing a management plan</li> </ul> | 2      |
| <b>B.6 Benefits to related species</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where development of a single recovery management plan is likely to benefit more than one species</li> </ul>  | 1      |
| <b>B.7 Positive biodiversity outcomes</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where there are likely positive outcomes for other biodiversity as a result of recovery management plan implementation</li> </ul>                                   | 1      |

The final priority ranking is concluded by applying the overall score of weights of the applicable Criteria B to the ranking resulting from Criteria A.

**2. Management plans that aim to manage populations causing significant damage to agriculture or fisheries whilst maintaining a favourable conservation status**

This category applies to species/populations listed on Columns B or C which are causing significant damage.

Criteria A (quantitative) – apply consecutively

**A.1 Population trend estimate** - in descending order from highest to lowest: Increasing, Stable and Unknown. The estimates are to be taken from the latest CSR.

**A.2 Population size estimate** – in descending order from highest to lowest estimate. The estimates are to be taken from the latest Conservation Status Review (CSR). Where the population size estimate has been given by a range (e.g. 1-10,000) the geometrical mean has been used for the ranking (i.e. 5,000).

Populations with exact size estimates (e.g. 5,000) have been ranked higher than populations whose size estimates are presented by a range and the geometrical mean is equal to the size of the populations with an exact estimate (e.g. 5,000 as an exact population estimate is ranked higher than 5,000 as a geometrical mean of the estimate from 1-10,000).

Criteria B (qualitative) – calculate overall score of weights

| Criterion                                     | Description  | Weight |
|---|--|--------|
| <b>B.1 Extent of conflict</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where there are wide-scale conflicts, of major magnitude, with human interests</li> </ul>   | 3      |
| <b>B.2 Economic impacts</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where conflicts are causing significant socio-economic impacts, and/or risk to life</li> </ul>  | 3      |
| <b>B.3 Geographical extent</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where such conflicts occur in multiple countries</li> </ul>   | 3      |
| <b>B.4 Trend and consequences of inaction</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where in the absence of management actions, such conflicts are likely to spread in extent, and/or increase in severity</li> </ul>                 | 3      |
| <b>B.5 Resourcing and implementation</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where there are relevant actors willing to champion and lead the development and implementation of a management plan</li> </ul>                   | 2      |
| <b>B.6 Stakeholder engagement</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where stakeholders are already engaged in seeking solutions and are likely to become active partners in implementing a management plan</li> </ul> | 2      |
| <b>B.7 Positive biodiversity outcomes</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where there are likely positive outcomes for other biodiversity as a result of resolving conflicts</li> </ul>                                     | 2      |
| <b>B.8 Past failure to resolve</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where past local, or un-coordinated, attempts at finding solutions to conflicts have failed</li> </ul>  | 1      |
| <b>B.9 Transferability of solutions</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>where solutions to conflicts are likely to apply to other species or related situations</li> </ul>  | 1      |

The final priority ranking is concluded by applying the overall score of weights of the applicable Criteria B to the ranking resulting from Criteria A.