



## Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2021-2024

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2021-2024 was approved by the 8th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP8, 26-30 September 2022, Budapest, Hungary) through Resolution 8.3 and modified by the Standing Committee at its 23rd and 24th meetings (June 2023 and July 2024, respectively) as mandated by the MOP. This format has been compiled following the AEWA Annex 3 (Action Plan), the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 and resolutions of the MOP.

In accordance with article V(c) of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, each Party shall prepare to each ordinary session of the MOP a National Report on its implementation of the Agreement and submit that report to the Agreement Secretariat. Through Resolution 8.3 the deadline for submission of national reports to the 9th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP9) was set at 180 days before the opening of the meeting. MOP9 is scheduled to take place on 10-14 November 2025; therefore, the deadline for submission of National Reports is **13 May 2025**.

As per Resolution 7.1 of the MOP, Chapter 3 of the National Report Format on the numbers and trends of native and non-native species of waterbirds was developed as a stand-alone online reporting module, which is due for submission to every second MOP session. The next submission of this module is scheduled for delivery to MOP10 and will take place in 2026-2027 through a stand-alone reporting process. Therefore, the current Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2021-2024 does not contain Chapter 3.

As per the decision of the 23rd meeting of the Standing Committee (26-27 June 2023), reporting of waterbird harvest data for the period 2019-2023 was undertaken as a stand-alone module of the national report and administered through a separate reporting process in the course of 2024.

The AEWA National Reports 2021-2024 were compiled and submitted through the AEWA Online National Reporting System, which is part of the broader CMS Family Online Reporting System. The CMS Family Online Reporting System was developed by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in close collaboration with and under the guidance of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

# 1. General Information

## **Name of reporting Contracting Party**

>>> Latvia

## **Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party**

>>> 01.01.2006

**List any reservations that the Contracting Party has made (if any) in respect of any population(s) listed in Table 1 of Annex 3 or any specific provision of the AEWA Action Plan - either upon deposition of its instruments of accession (per AEWA, Article XV) or subsequent to any amendment of Table 1 or the AEWA Action Plan, as adopted by a session of the Agreement's Meeting of the Parties (per AEWA, Article X.6).**

**EU member states should list also all reservations entered by the European Commission on behalf of the European Union.**

>>> None

## 2. Institutional Information

Please update information on the National AEWA Administrative Authority, the National Focal Points, the Designated National Respondent and the other contributors to this report.

### Designated National AEWA Administrative Authority

Full name of the institution

>>> Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development

Name and title of the head of institution

>>> Mr Edvins Balsevics, State Secretary

Mailing address - Street and number

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Website

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### Designated National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters

Name and title of the NFP

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Affiliation (institution, department)

>>> Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development , Nature Protection Department

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Website  
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### **Designated National Focal Point for AEWA Technical Committee (TC NFP) matters**

Name and title of the TC NFP  
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Affiliation (institution, department)  
>>> Biota Ltd.

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>>> Rīga

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E-mail  
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Website  
>>> None

### **Designated National Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA NFP) matters**

Name and title of the CEPA NFP  
>>> No

Affiliation (institution, department)  
>>> No

Mailing address - Street and number  
>>> No

P.O.Box  
>>> No

Postal code  
>>> No

City  
>>> No

Country

>>> No

Telephone

>>> No

Fax

>>> No

E-mail

>>> No

Website

>>> No

### **Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2021-2024**

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

The National Focal Point (NFP) has been designated as the National Respondent

### **Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2021 - 2024**

Please list the names and affiliations (institution, organisation) of the other contributors to this report. For Contracting Parties in which nature conservation is not an exclusive competence of national/federal government, Designated National Respondents are encouraged to seek input from other relevant levels of government.

>>> Latvian Ornithological Society

Institute of Biology Laboratory of Ornithology

# Pressures and Responses

## 4. Species Conservation

### 4.1 Legal Measures

**1. Following MOP8, was a review undertaken in your country of the relevant domestic legislation against the provisions of the latest version of the Agreement text and its annexes, including Table 1 in Annex III, taking into account all amendments adopted by MOP8? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.1 (a), 1.1 (b), 2.2(a) and 2.2(b))**

Yes

**Please indicate the outcome of this review**

Relevant national legislation was fully in line with the Agreement text and its annexes

**Field for additional information (optional)**

>>> No

**2. Was your country's national legislation reviewed following the Guidance on Measures in National Legislation for Different Populations of the Same Species, Particularly with Respect to Hunting and Trade (Resolution 6.7)?**

**See Appendix 1 / Appendix 2 / Appendix 3**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Did this require adjusting your national legislation?

No

Please describe how your current national legislation is compatible with the advice provided in the Guidance

>>> Full compliance

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> none

**3. Please confirm the protection status under your country's national legislation of each population listed in the Excel file linked below.** This list contains all the AEWA Table 1, Column A populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name.

(**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Latvia\\_Q3 AEWA NR 2021-2024 PopColA.xlsx](#)

**4. Please confirm for each population, listed in the Excel file linked below, whether there is an open hunting season (birds and/or eggs) in your country.** This list contains all the AEWA Table 1, Column A, category 2 or 3 with an asterisk or category 4 that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

**Guidance:** Open hunting season in the context of this inquiry means that the waterbird population is allowed to be hunted for a certain period in the year in accordance with the respective domestic legislation of the country. Some populations, even if huntable according to the legislation, in certain circumstances may be subject to a year-round closed season for management reasons.

### Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name.

(**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Latvia\\_Q4\\_AEWA\\_NR\\_2021-2024\\_PopColA-Cat2\\_3\\_4.xlsx](#)

**5. Please confirm for each population, listed in the Excel file linked below, whether taking is regulated in your country. This list contains all the AEWA Table 1, Column B populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).**

### Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name.

(**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Latvia\\_Q5\\_AEWA\\_NR\\_2021-2024\\_PopColB.xlsx](#)

**6. Please indicate which modes of taking are prohibited in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b); AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)**

One or more modes of taking have been prohibited

### Please provide details to each mode of taking in the list below:

Snares

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Law

Limes

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Law

Hooks

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Law

Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Tape recorders and other electronic devices  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Electrocuting devices  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Artificial light sources  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Mirrors and other dazzling devices  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Devices for illuminating targets  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Explosives  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Nets  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Traps  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Poison  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited  
>>> Hunting Law

Poisoned or anaesthetic baits  
 Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Law

Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Law

Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea)

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Law

Other non-selective modes of taking

Yes, fully

Please specify which other non-selective modes of taking have been prohibited

>>> Hunting Law

**7. Has your country granted exemptions from any of the above prohibitions in order to accommodate livelihoods uses? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b); AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)**

No

**8. Has a review of enforcement of and compliance with the domestic legislation relevant for AEWA implementation, [in particular the legislation which caters for the obligations under paragraphs 2.1 and 4.1 of the AEWA Action Plan], been undertaken in your country after MOP8? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.1(c) and 2.2(c))**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No necessary

Was a review undertaken before MOP8?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not necessary

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

**9. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on National Legislation for the Protection of Species of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Not Applicable

Please explain.

>>> Not necessary

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.1. Legal Measures**

>>> None

**4.2. Species Action and Management Plans**

**10. Please report on the progress of turning the International Single Species Action and Management Plans (ISSAP and ISSMP), as well as International Multi-species Action Plans (IMSAP), listed below, into National Action or Management Plans. If no**

**action or management plan is listed below, this is because your country is not considered to be a Principal Range State for any species currently covered by an AEWA plan. In such a case, please proceed to the next question. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.2 (d))**

**Please report on all listed ISSAP, ISSMP and IMSAP**

**Bean Goose / *Anser fabalis***  
**National Plan for Bean Goose / *Anser fabalis***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Birds in passage only

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**Ferruginous Duck / *Aythya nyroca***  
**National Plan for Ferruginous Duck / *Aythya nyroca***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Rare visitors, last record in 2014

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**Barnacle Goose / *Branta leucopsis***  
**National Plan for Barnacle Goose / *Branta leucopsis***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Small number of birds, visitors

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**Long-tailed Duck / *Clangula hyemalis***  
**National Plan for Long-tailed Duck / *Clangula hyemalis***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Birds during migration, wintering, marine area only

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Tundra Swan / *Cygnus columbianus***  
**National Plan for Tundra Swan / *Cygnus columbianus***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> No need for action plan

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Great Snipe / Gallinago media**  
**National Plan for Great Snipe / Gallinago media**

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Main breeding sites are included in Natura2000 sites. Actions covered by specific sites management plans

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa**  
**National Plan for Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa**

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Small number of birds during migration

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Velvet Scoter / Melanitta fusca**  
**National Plan for Velvet Scoter / Melanitta fusca**

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Birds during migration, wintering, marine area only

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**11. Has your country provided assistance for the coordination and implementation of International Species Action or Management Plans through funding of AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups? (Resolution 7.5)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Insufficient financial and human resources for this purpose

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**12. Has your country provided financial or in-kind assistance for the development of new International Species Action or Management Plans? (Resolution 7.5)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Insufficient financial resources for this purpose

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Strict financial regulations

**13. Has your country been involved in the development and/or implementation of any flyway-scale projects to implement Single or Multi-Species Action Plans? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.2(f))**

No

**14. Has a review and prioritization been undertaken in your country of the resources needed to develop national action plans in response to ISSAPs, implement those plans and coordinate their implementation? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.2(g))**

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No special review regarding waterbirds. Prioritization of all groups of species and habitats

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**15. Does your country have in place or is your country developing a National Single Species Action Plan for any species/population for which an AEWA ISSAP has not been developed? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2.2)**

No

**16. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for the preparation of National Single Species Action Plans for migratory waterbirds?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing **the Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the preparation of NSSAPs?

>>> National Single Species Action Plan are elaborated in accordance with Ministerial Order No 127 On Species and Habitats Conservation Plans (2015)

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.2. Single Species Action Plans**

>>> No

### 4.3 Emergency Measures

**18. Please report on any emergency situation that has occurred in your country over the past triennium and has threatened waterbirds. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.3)**

Please indicate whether an emergency situation threatening waterbirds, such as botulism, chemical pollution, earthquake, extreme weather, fire, harmful algal bloom, infectious disease, introduction of alien species, lead poisoning, nuclear accident, oil spill, predation, volcanic activity, war or other emergency (please specify), has occurred in the country over the past triennium.

No emergency situation has occurred

**19. Are there any other emergency response measures, different from the ones applied in response to the emergency situations reported above, that were developed and are in place in your country so that they can be used in future in emergency cases?**

No

**20. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on identifying and tackling emergency situations for migratory waterbirds?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with emergency situations?

>>> Cabinet of Ministers Order No 283

On the national contingency plan for oil, hazardous or noxious substances pollution incidents at sea (2010)

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.3. Emergency Measures**

>>> No

### 4.4 Re-establishments

**21. Is your country maintaining a national register of re-establishment projects occurring or planned to occur wholly or partly within your country? (Resolution 4.4)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No re-establishment projects planed

**22. Is there a regulatory framework for re-establishments of species, including waterbirds, in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)?**

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Species and Habitats Protection Law

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 1165 Order on issuance of permits for taking of non- game species, introduction and reintroduction.

**23. Has your country considered, developed or implemented re-establishment projects for any species/population listed on AEWA Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)**

No

**24. Has your country used the AEWA conservation Guidelines on the translocation of waterbirds for conservation purposes?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Not applicable

Please explain

>>> No translocation planed

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.4. Re-establishments**

>>> No

## 4.5 Introductions

**25. Does your country have legislation in place, which prohibits the introduction into the environment of non-native species of animals and plants which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.1)**

Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of legislation, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it. Please clarify whether legislation applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

>>> Species and Habitats Protection Law (adopted in 2000 by Parliament)

Animal Protection Law (adopted in 2000 by Parliament)

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 1165 Order on issuance of permits for taking of non- game species, introduction and reintroduction.(2010).

Nature Protection Board is responsible institution on issuance of permits and enforcement

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No application for introduction during reporting period

**26. Does your country impose legislative requirements on zoos, private collections, etc. in order to avoid the accidental escape of captive animals belonging to non-native species which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.2)**

Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of the document, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it. Please clarify whether legislation applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

>>> Animal Protection Law (adopted in 2000 by Parliament)

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations Nr 1033 "On requirement of wild species in zoo and requirement on establishment and registration of zoo" (2010)

Nature Protection Board is responsible on enforcement

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> 5 registered zoos

**27. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate non-native species of waterbird so as to prevent negative impacts on indigenous species? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No need for eradication program. Canadian goose included in the list of game species, small population.

**28. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate other non-native species (in particular aquatic weeds and terrestrial predators) so as to prevent negative impacts on migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 2.5.3 and 4.3.10 and Resolution 5.15)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific eradication programs for non-native species which have negative impacts to migratory waterbird species. Aquatic reed management in particular sites (Natura 2000 sites-Lake Engure, Lake Liepaja and Lake Pape) as site management activity

**29. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue?

>>> Prohibition for any introduction in wild set by Species and Habitats Protection Law (2000)

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.5. Introductions**

>>> No

## 4.6 Seabirds

**The country has maritime territories and the AEWA seabird conservation priorities are relevant for the country:**

Yes

**30. Does your country have comprehensive data on seabird by-catch? (Resolution 7.6)**

Partial Data

Please provide details (for example, but not limited to, the scale of by-catch and species affected), including references or attach a file, if available

>>> Obligation for fishermen report by-catch

When and how do you plan to fill remaining data gaps?

>>> Education of fishermen to improve data quality

**31. Have you assessed the impact of by-catch by artisanal fisheries to AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)**

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

When and how do you plan to do that?

>>> Not planned yet

**32. Have you assessed the impact of artisanal/recreational fisheries on seabirds' prey? (Resolution 7.6)**

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

When and how do you plan to do that?

>>> Not planned yet

**33. Has your country undertaken steps towards the adoption/application of measures to reduce the incidental catch of seabirds and combat Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing practices in the Agreement Area? (Resolution 3.8)**

Yes

Please provide short description of all actions

>>> Improvement of fishing tools, strict fishing control system in Baltic Sea, EU Fisheries Regulations

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**35. Have you assessed the extent and impact of hunting, egg harvesting, and any illegal taking (of birds and/or eggs) on AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)**

Extent of hunting

Impact of hunting

Extent of hunting:

Yes

Please provide details, including reference or attach a file, if available.

>>> Very small extent

Impact of hunting:

Yes

Please provide details, including reference or attach a file, if available.

>>> Very small game bag

**36. Have you identified those seabird colonies at risk from invasive non-native species? (Resolution 7.6)**

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No topical seabird colonies

**37. Have you identified the key coastal and at-sea areas where responses to oil spills would be most urgently required in relation to the presence of AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)**

Yes

Please provide details, including reference or attach a file, if available.

>>> Natura 2000 sites

Are AEWA seabirds and seabird sites adequately represented within existing oil spill response plans?

Yes

Please provide details, including references or attach a file, if available.

>>> All IBAs set as Natura 2000 sites

**38. (Applicable only to countries bordering the North or Baltic Sea) Has your country undertaken a program of data-collection to validate models of population level impacts of offshore windfarms in the North and Baltic Seas on AEWA seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)**

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No offshore windfarms

**39. Have you identified priority sites by filling gaps in the Critical Site Network for seabirds (breeding, non-breeding, pelagic and coastal areas)? (Resolution 7.6)**

Yes

Please provide details, including references or attach a file, if available.

>>> All sites included in Natura 2000

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.6 Seabirds**

>>> No

# Pressures and Responses

## 5. Habitat Conservation

### 5.1 Habitat Inventories

**40. Has your country identified the network of all sites of international and national importance for the migratory waterbird species/populations listed on Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.1.2)**

Yes

Please provide full reference, e.g. title, year, authors, etc. or a web link

>>> Report on progress and implementation of Birds Directive (Article 12 report) for 2013-2018  
"Important Bird Areas of European Union Importance in Latvia" Compiled by Edmunds Račinskis (2004)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**41. If your country has identified or is currently identifying the networks of sites of international and national importance, were the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on the preparation of site inventories for migratory waterbirds used?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the inventory?

>>> Network of sites of international and national importance was identified before AEWA Guidelines on the preparation of site inventories for migratory waterbirds adoption and update

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Natura 2000 network

**42. Has your country reviewed and confirmed to the AEWA Secretariat its inventory of the known nationally and internationally important sites through the process developed by the Technical Committee and launched by the Secretariat in August 2020? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.1(a))**

YES, it was accepted and concluded

Please indicate when it was submitted and when it was accepted

>>> 14 December 2020

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 5.1. Habitat Inventories**

>>> No

### 5.2. Conservation of Areas and Habitats

**43. Has your country assessed the future implications of climate change for protected areas and other sites important for waterbirds (i.e. resilience of sites to climate change)? (Resolution 5.13)**

**For one or more single sites**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific assessment on future implications of climate changes. Natura 2000 site monitoring for each site

**For the national protected area network**

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No specific assessment on future implications of climate changes. Natura 2000 site monitoring for each

site

**44. Which sites that were identified as important, either internationally or nationally, for Table 1 migratory waterbird species/populations have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented, including with the aim to increase resilience to the effects of climate change? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1, AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.3)**

Please report separately on internationally important sites, nationally important sites and buffer zones.

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

**All sites of international importance**

(sites recognized as having international importance for migratory waterbirds following criteria of, for instance, the AEWA Critical Site Network, the Ramsar Convention, the EU Birds Directive (SPAs), the Bern Convention Emerald Network, the BirdLife International's Important Bird Areas)

Total number

>>> 98

Total area (ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

>>> 98

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Please rate the effectiveness of the national protection designation

High

Please provide details and reasons for the high level of effectiveness.

>>> Long tradition of wetland protection. Natura 2000

Internationally important protected sites with a management plan in place which is being implemented

Number of sites

>>> 98

Area (in ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Please rate the effectiveness of the management measures

Moderate

Please provide details and reasons for the lower level of effectiveness.

>>> Not all sites requires specific management. Lack of human resources

Internationally important sites with a management plan in place which is being implemented and includes management objectives related to maintaining or increasing the resilience of existing ecological networks, including resilience to climate change

Number of sites

>>> 98

Area (in ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Please rate the effectiveness of the climate resilience measures

Moderate

Please provide details and reasons for the lower level of effectiveness.

>>> Difficulties to evaluate effectiveness of climate resilience measures

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

## Examples of best practice (optional)

If any site, in your opinion, represents an outstanding process of management planning or implementation, please highlight it as an example of best practice (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

>>> Lake Engure Nature Park, Lake Pape Nature Park

### DESIGNATION GAP FILLING

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> All internationally and nationally important sites are covered by Natura 2000 network, no need for such plan

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

### MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not relevant

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

## **46. Is the network of nationally and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds integrated into your country's water- and land-use policies and planning and decision-making processes? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.4)**

Yes, fully

Please provide details

>>> Natura 2000 network

If available, please provide best practice examples of integration of the flyway site network into your country's water- and land-use policies and planning and decision-making processes

>>> No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

## **47. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on the management of key sites for migratory waterbirds?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> For many of important areas under protection management plans are implemented, for several territories management plans are in development.

Several aspects from Guidelines used during site assessment, establishment of protected areas.

## **48. Has the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area been accessed and used in your country? (Resolution 7.9)**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please give examples of how you have used the CSN Tool

>>> CSN Tool was accessed, but not really used yet. Good use perspective for future.

## **49. Has your country identified priority measures required to maintain or increase the extent and quality of waterbird habitats in the wider environment? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 4.3(a))**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of human and financial resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**50. Following MOP7, has your country been involved in the establishment of innovative, international, multi-stakeholder partnerships to guide the development and implementation of habitat management, creation and restoration projects in the wider environment? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 4.4(a))**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No establishment of new relevant international projects during reporting period

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 5.2. Conservation of Areas and Habitats**

>>> Altogether in Latvia there are 682 specially protected nature areas certified by law or regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers "On Specially Protected Nature Territories."

4 national parks. Strict nature reserves are territories untouched by human activities or nearly natural, in which territories unhindered development of natural processes shall be ensured in order to protect and study rare or typical ecosystems and parts thereof. Strict nature reserves shall have zones in which all natural resources are completely excluded from economic and other activities.

1 biosphere reserve. Biosphere reserve are broad territory in which landscapes and ecosystems of international significance are located. The goal of establishing biosphere reserves is to ensure the preservation of natural diversity and to promote sustainable social and economic development of the territory.

42 nature parks. Nature parks are territories that represent the natural, cultural and historical values of a particular area, and that are suitable for recreation, education and the instruction of society. Organisation of recreation and economic activities in nature parks shall be carried out by ensuring the preservation of the natural, cultural and historical values located in such parks.

9 protected landscape areas. Protected landscape areas are territories remarkable for original and diverse landscapes and special beauty. The goals of such territories are to protect and preserve the cultural environment and landscapes characteristic of Latvia in all their diversity, as well as to ensure the preservation of environment appropriate for recreation of society and for tourism, and use of environment friendly management methods.

261 nature reserves. Nature reserves are nature territories little transformed or transformed in varying degrees by human activities, which territories include habitats of specially protected wild plant and animal species, and specially protected biotopes.

4 strict nature reserves. Strict nature reserves are territories untouched by human activities or nearly natural, in which territories unhindered development of natural processes shall be ensured in order to protect and study rare or typical ecosystems and parts thereof. Strict nature reserves shall have zones in which all natural resources are completely excluded from economic and other activities.

7 marine protected areas. Marine protected areas are locations in the territorial sea, exclusive economic zone or continental shelf of the Republic of Latvia, which are established for the protection of protected biotopes and specially protected species habitat, as well as migratory bird significant feeding and wintering places.

microreserves

Report

# Pressures and Responses

## 6. Management of Human Activities

### 6.1. Hunting

**51. Does the legislation of your country implement the principle of sustainable use of waterbirds, as envisaged in the AEWA Action Plan, taking into account the full geographical range of the waterbird populations concerned and their life history characteristics? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.2)**

Yes

Please provide details on how this is achieved and reference to the relevant legislation

>>> Law on Species and Habitat Protection (2000) Hunting Law (2003). Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/3941-law-on-the-conservation-of-species-and-biotopes>

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**52. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.2(d))**

Fully

When was lead shot use in wetlands banned?

>>> 16 February 2023

What legislation is in place?

>>> EU REACH Regulation

Who enforces this legislation?

>>> State Forest Service

Has assessment of compliance with the legislation been undertaken?

No

If appropriate, please explain the reasons for not doing this.

>>> Full ban of lead ammunition use in wetlands

Has measurement of impact of the legislation been undertaken i.e. where there was a problem of lead poisoning in waterbirds, has this been reduced?

No

If appropriate, please explain the reasons for not doing this.

>>> No data on lead poisoning

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**53. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.2(e))**

Yes

How would you rate the effectiveness of the measures?

High

Please provide details and reasons for the high level of effectiveness.

>>> No traditions for illegal taking (illegal methods or other forms of birds poaching)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**54. Is legally binding proficiency testing for hunters, including amongst other things bird identification, in place in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.8; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.2)**

Yes

Please provide details and reference to the relevant legislation

>>> Regulations on Training and Examination of Hunters and Hunting Managers, as well as Issuance and Cancellation of Hunting Documents (2014)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Birds identification skills are part of mandatory hunters candidates education program. Identification skills are included in the hunter's examination test. Education program and test approved by State Forest Service

**55. Are best practice codes and standards for hunting in place in your country in support of enforcement of hunting laws and regulations? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.7; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.3)**

Yes

What do these cover?

Club Affiliation

Emergency closure of hunting in cases of exceptionally unfavourable or endangering conditions

Other (please specify)

>>> Latvian Hunters Code of Ethics

Please provide details on each item selected above

>>> Two biggest hunters organizations- Latvian Hunters Association and Latvian Society of Hunters. Main part of hunters are members of hunting clubs which are members of hunters organizations.

Optional [Please upload links or examples]

>>> Placement of Duck Artificial Nests in Hunting Areas

Please rate the degree of application of these best practice codes and standards:

Medium (more applied than not applied)

Please provide details and reasons for non-application

>>> Regional differences. In some areas very limited interest to small game

Please rate the effectiveness of these best practice codes and standards in supporting enforcement of hunting laws and regulations:

Medium (effective to some extent in supporting enforcement of hunting laws and regulations)

Please provide details and reasons for lower effectiveness

>>> Placement of Duck Artificial Nests in Hunting Areas

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**56. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on sustainable harvest of migratory birds?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Sustainable harvest is general principle for setting of hunting seasons and rules

**Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 6.1. Hunting**

>>> No

**6.2. Ecotourism**

**57. Is wetland- and waterbird-related ecotourism integrated into your country's national tourism development strategies or other relevant national strategies? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.2.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.5(c))**

Yes

Please describe and provide details

>>> Tourism Development Policy Action Plan 2021-2027 year

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Action 1.4. Nature tourism development strengthening

**58. Are there existing ecotourism initiatives in your country specifically based on migratory waterbirds and their habitats? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.5)**

Yes

Please describe how many initiatives are in place and provide details for each of them (add links to relevant online resources or attach other available materials)

>>> Regional initiatives specific to particular wetlands (Lake Engure, Lake Kanieris etc).

Were any of the initiatives described above launched after 2018?

Yes

Please indicate which are those initiatives

>>> Baltic Coastal Hiking (Coastal trail in Latvia in - 581 km)

[https://baltictrails.eu/en/coastal/g/www/cms/c00002/Jurtaka\\_Image\\_de.pdf?lang=en](https://baltictrails.eu/en/coastal/g/www/cms/c00002/Jurtaka_Image_de.pdf?lang=en)

Please rank the degree to which these initiatives are designed to deliver both conservation and community benefits:

Medium

Please provide details

>>> Not all tourism oriented initiatives are nature and waterbirds friendly. Ecotourism also requires trade-offs between different interest groups

Please rank the degree to which these dual benefits are being delivered in practice:

Medium

Please provide details and the reasons for successful delivery and barriers to fuller delivery

>>> A compromise between nature conservation and sustainable use

Do you consider that any of these initiatives can serve as a strong model or an example for developing future ecotourism initiatives that beneficial for both waterbirds and local communities?

No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.2. Ecotourism

>>> The Forest Trail is a long distance hiking route, part of E11, in the Baltic States that leads through the most forested lands, regional, nature and national parks (in Latvia - 674 km)

### 6.3. Other human activities

**59. Have restrictions on use of lead fishing weights been introduced in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 80 in chapter 7 - Research and monitoring.**

No

If appropriate, please provide further details.

>>> Topic on lead fishing weights is less discussed and relatively new for anglers community.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**60. Does your country have legislation in place, which provides for Strategic Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA/EIA) of activities potentially negatively affecting natural habitats or wildlife? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.5)**

Yes and being implemented

Does this legislation apply to the entire country or only to particular states/provinces thereof?

Entire country

Please provide details

>>> Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (1998) Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 300 "Arrangements for assessing the impact on the special conservation area of European interest (NATURA 2000)" (2011)

Do the SEA/EIA processes consider waterbirds and habitats on which they depend?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Environmental impact assessment is carried out in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the "Law on Environmental Impact Assessment" The Law incorporate legal provisions resulting from the EU Directives 85/337/EEC, 97/11/EC, 92/43/EEC, 2001/42/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/147/EC. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations determine order of EIA procedure. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 300 "Arrangements for assessing the impact on the special conservation area of European interest (NATURA 2000)"

Do the SEA/EIA processes include cumulative impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Environmental impact assessment is carried out in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the "Law on Environmental Impact Assessment" The Law incorporate legal provisions resulting from the EU Directives 85/337/EEC, 97/11/EC, 92/43/EEC, 2001/42/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/147/EC. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations determine order of EIA procedure. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 300 "Arrangements for assessing the impact on the special conservation area of European interest (NATURA 2000)"

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Public participation is obligatory part of each EIA process

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**61. Are there any other legal and/or administrative measures in your country to avoid, mitigate and compensate for adverse impacts of development activities on the sites of national and international importance for migratory birds? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.5)**

Yes

Please describe each measure and provide details for each of them

>>> Environmental impact assessment is carried out in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the "Law on Environmental Impact Assessment" The Law incorporate legal provisions resulting from the EU Directives 85/337/EEC, 97/11/EC, 92/43/EEC, 2001/42/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/147/EC. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations determine order of EIA procedure. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 300 "Arrangements for assessing the impact on the special conservation area of European interest (NATURA 2000)"

Please rank the effectiveness of these measures:

High

Please provide details and the reasons for the high effectiveness

>>> Active public position in any development project at both local and regional level

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**62. In the last three years, has your country used SEA/EIA for all relevant projects, including energy sector projects such as renewable energy developments and power lines installation, to assess the impact of proposed projects on migratory waterbird species listed on Table 1 and/or habitats/sites on which they depend? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1, Resolution 5.11 and Resolution 5.16; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.5(b))**

Yes, all proposed projects

Please provide information on the outstanding cases

>>> No

Where an SEA/EIA has identified a likelihood of significant negative impacts on migratory waterbirds, have steps been taken to avoid these impacts, including avoidance of protected areas and other sites of importance for migratory waterbirds?

No

Please explain why not

>>> No such cases

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**63. Do you maintain a record of the cases of adverse impacts of development activities and other pressures on sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.5(a))**

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No such information

Estimated number of sites

>>> No information on such sites during reporting period

Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and observed impacts.

>>> No information on such sites during reporting period

Estimated number of sites avoided

>>> No information on such sites during reporting period

Estimated number of sites mitigated

>>> No information on such sites during reporting period

Estimated number of sites compensated

>>> No

Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and the impacts that have been addressed.

>>> No

Estimated number of sites

>>> No

Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and observed impacts.

>>> No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**64. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on how to avoid, minimize or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl** button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> All relevant information on minimization or mitigation of infrastructural development are used

**65. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.11 on Power Lines and Migratory Waterbirds.**

65.1. Are relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, scientific bodies, nongovernmental

organisations and the energy sector, being regularly consulted in order to monitor jointly the impacts of power lines on waterbirds and to agree on a common policy of action?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Regular consultation between Nature Protection Board and "Latvenergs"AS

65.2. Has a baseline of waterbird distribution, population sizes, migrations and movements (including those between breeding, resting and feeding areas) been established as early as possible in the planning of any power line project, over a period of at least five years, and with particular emphasis on those species known to be vulnerable to electrocution or collision?

Partially

Please provide details.

>>> Best available information used

65.3 If such studies, as described in the question above, have identified any risks, has every effort been made to ensure these are avoided?

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No such studies

65.4. Have the location, route and direction of new power lines been designated on the basis of national zoning maps?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Natura 2000 network with 98 Special Protection Areas for birds, covering 6 612,61 km<sup>2</sup> of terrestrial areas and 4 274,90 km<sup>2</sup> marine areas. EIA procedure for each project with potential negative impact to Natura 2000 network.

65.5. Has, wherever possible, the construction of power lines along major migration flyways and in habitats of conservation importance\* been avoided, where such construction is likely to have significant effects on waterbirds?

\* such as Special Protection Areas under the EU Birds Directive, Important Bird Areas, protected areas, Ramsar sites, the West/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Crane and other waterbirds and other critical sites as identified by the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the African-Eurasian region.

Yes

Please provide details.

>>> EIA procedures

65.6. Are bird-safe designs in the construction of new power infrastructure, including measures designed to reduce electrocution and collisions being used in your country?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Constructions to prevent electrocution and collision of White storks. Platforms for nests.

65.7. Have those sections of existing power lines that are causing relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision been identified?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Annual removal of old stork nests from most populated powerlines

65.8. Where sections of existing power lines have been identified to cause relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision, have they been modified as a matter of priority?

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No information on such power lines with high level waterbirds mortality

65.9. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the impact of power lines on waterbird populations at the national scale?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> No regular monitoring or evaluation of birds mortality. Lack of data. High pressure of predators (birds and mammals). No such monitoring in national scale.

65.10. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to minimise the impact of power lines on waterbird populations?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> Lack of data. High pressure of predators (birds and mammals). No such monitoring in national scale.

65.11. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> The Latvenergo AS is state owned. The key environmental principles of Latvenergo Group are laid down in the Environmental Policy. The basic principles in the Environmental Policy describing the environmental philosophy of Latvenergo Group and its attitude toward the environment are as follows: To reduce pollutant emissions into the environment; To use natural resources efficiently; To care for the preservation of biodiversity; To inform the public and stakeholders regularly and openly about environmental activities; To act in an environmentally friendly manner and encourage partners and the public to do the same. One of basic principles in Latvenergo AS Environmental Policy-take care and promote the conservation of biological diversity, evaluate and control the Group's impact on the specially protected natural areas, species and habitats. The plans and implements measures aimed at the conservation of biodiversity. The main direction in this area is the white stork protection.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

## **66. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> All relevant information on minimization or mitigation of infrastructural development are used

## **67. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.16 on Renewable Energy and Migratory Waterbirds.**

67.1. Has a national sensitivity and zoning mapping to avoid overlap of renewable energy developments with areas of importance for migratory waterbirds been developed in your country?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Nature Protection Board project "Evaluation of the potential windfarms potential impact on birds and bats" Project "Gulf of Riga as potential source of wind energy" (Latvian Fund for Nature)

67.2. Have any international environmental guidelines, recommendations and criteria been followed in your country for impact assessment of renewable energy developments and the utilization of renewable energy sources?

Yes

Please describe which guidelines, recommendations and criteria have been followed.

>>> EU EIA requirements

67.3. Is post-construction monitoring being undertaken of the renewable energy installations and associated infrastructure in your country?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> Post-construction monitoring is optional, but in some cases it is carried out as a research project in cooperation with the operator

67.4. Where damage cannot be avoided or mitigated, has compensation for damages to biodiversity been provided?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> No precise mortality data available

Operate wind farms in ways that minimise bird mortality, for example by introducing shortterm shutdowns during peak migration and minimising lighting in wind farms.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Guidelines for wind energy operations

Dismantling of wind turbines in existing installations, should waterbird mortality have an effect on the population status of a species and other mitigation measures have proved insufficient.

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

>>> No such cases

Focusing research efforts on alleviating the negative effects on waterbirds from wind farms, such as the mapping of the main migration corridors and migration crossings for waterbirds also allowing the optimising of wind farm layouts.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Main migration corridors and territories important for wind energy development are mapped

67.6. Have any specific measures been put in place to assess, identify and reduce potential negative impacts of biofuel production on migratory waterbirds and their habitats?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> No significant potential negative impact identified.

67.7. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.16. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> Measure not included in the Environmental Policy Principles (2021-2027)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

## **68. Has your country used the following AEWA Conservation Guidelines - Renewable Energy Technologies and Migratory Species: Guidelines for Sustainable Deployment (Resolution 6.11)?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> All available information used for EIA procedures

## **69. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8) (Please respond to this question only with respect to species, which are NOT considered seabirds. Seabird by-catch is dealt with in section 4.6 Seabirds)**

Yes

Please provide details (incl. the scale of by-catch and species affected)

>>> Limited fisheries in inland lakes and rivers. By-catch of waterbirds in coastal marine fisheries

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**71. Has any project / initiative been implemented in your country that promotes the integration of cultural and provisioning ecosystem services of migratory waterbirds into policy and decision-making affecting them or their habitats? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.6)**

Yes

Please provide details for each project / initiative

>>> Latvian Fund for Nature project "Green barometer" (indirect impact) Portal "DabasDati" (indirect impact)

Are there any other examples or case studies in your country of policies and/or decision making that takes into account cultural and provisioning ecosystem services of migratory waterbirds?

No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.3. Other Human Activities**

>>> No

# Pressures and Responses

## 7. Research and Monitoring

### 72. Does your country have in place waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.4(a) and 1.4(b))

Yes

#### Covering the breeding period

Guidance: Including pre- and post-breeding sites of concentration, such as moulting sites close to breeding areas

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))

>>> Environmental Monitoring Concept 2021-2027 State Environment Monitoring Program Biological Diversity Subprogram: 1) Natura 2000 sites monitoring program; 2) Background monitoring program; 3) Special monitoring program

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected? (Resolution 8.5; ref. document AEWA/MOP 8.27)

Yes

Please provide details

>>> <https://www.daba.gov.lv/lv/vides-monitoringa-programma>

Are demographic data (age and sex classes) also being collected? (Resolution 8.5; ref. document AEWA/MOP 8.27)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Demographic data collected in some cases

#### Covering the passage period

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))

>>> Main internationally and nationally important sites for passage birds covered, but not all of them

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected? (Resolution 8.5; ref. document AEWA/MOP 8.27)

Yes

Please provide details

>>> University of Latvia Laboratory of Ornithology. Research directions: Dynamics of Latvian avifauna Bird and bat migration and its influencing mechanisms Protection of birds and their habitats Measures to improve bird habitats Pape Ornithological Research

Are demographic data (age and sex classes) also being collected? (Resolution 8.5; ref. document AEWA/MOP 8.27)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Demographic data collected in some cases

#### Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))

>>> Main internationally and nationally important sites for non-breeding /wintering birds covered, but not all of them

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected? (Resolution 8.5; ref. document AEWA/MOP 8.27)

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Wintering waterbirds monitoring

Are demographic data (age and sex classes) also being collected? (Resolution 8.5; ref. document AEWA/MOP 8.27)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Demographic data collected in some cases

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Active volunteers involvement and data exchange [www.putni.lv](http://www.putni.lv) and [www.dabasdati.lv](http://www.dabasdati.lv)

**73. Have you undertaken after MOP8 a brief assessment of existing monitoring activities in your country against the priorities set out in document AEWA/MOP 8.27 in order to help identify ways in which they can best implement those recommendations? (Resolution 8.5)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> New State Environment Monitoring Programm 2021-2027

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**74. Are data collected through the International Waterbird Census or other relevant monitoring schemes being actively used in your country to inform national-level implementation of AEWA? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.5(a))**

Yes

Please provide details

>>> All relevant data used

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**75. Has your country supported, technically or financially, through bilateral or multilateral initiatives, other Parties or Range States requiring assistance and support in designing appropriate monitoring schemes, developing their capacity and overall strengthening of waterbird monitoring and population data collection? (Resolutions 5.2 and 8.5)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of human resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**76. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on waterbird monitoring?**

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> "Birds monitoring" is part of chapter Biological Diversity Monitoring Sub-Programm in State Environmental Monitoring Programm. Methodology of specialize birds monitoring. Natura 2000 sites monitoring methods. Involment of professionals as well as volunteers.

**77. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census and/or other waterbird monitoring scheme at international or national level? (Resolution 6.3)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**78. Has your country donated funds to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Fund in the past triennium (Resolution 6.3, 7.7 and 8.5)?**

**Notice:** Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reason

>>> Lack of resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**80. Has the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds been investigated in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 59 in chapter 6. Management of human activities.**

No

Are there plans to investigate the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds in your country?

No

Please provide reason(s)

>>> Relatively small fishing intensity. Limited funding and lack of methodology that would clearly identify the origin of lead

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**81. Has your country established partnerships and initiated joint research programmes at any level, with clear timeframes for delivery, to fill priority knowledge gaps as identified in document AEWA/MOP 8.30? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.1(a)).**

No, but initiative(s)/research programme(s) are being developed

Please provide details

>>> Latvian Ringing Center birds ringing

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**82. In this reporting period, have results of conservation and management interventions, whether successful or unsuccessful, been published in your country so as to inform future conservation and management actions? (Article III.2(k), Resolution 8.7)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No publications on unsuccessful management

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 7. Research and Monitoring**

>>> Latvian Ornithological Society and Latvian University Laboratory of Ornithology projects

# Pressures and Responses

## 8. Education and Information

### 8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

#### **83. Has your country developed and implemented programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA specifically? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.3 and AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 6.1-6.4, Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5; Resolution 6.10)**

Guidance: Such programmes should consist of a series of established, long-term communication activities, which are guided by clearly defined goals, target audiences and communication channels. A programme does not constitute a single, one-off communication activity, product or event. In other words, an established national programme to raise awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA would ideally be a number of targeted communication activities which are guided by a communication plan and are backed by sufficient human and financial resources.

Other

Please explain reasons

>>> Awareness raising on Nature and Natural Species (not particular to waterbirds). Waterbirds and migratory species are significant and important part of awareness raising on conservation of wildlife and natural habitats.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> - The Natural History Museum of Latvia gathers and maintains collections of natural specimens from Latvia and the world, does scientific research on the collections and popularizes them in permanent and temporary exhibits and other display activities.- Magazine "Putni dabā": information about birds, but also about environmental problems in general. For example, about logging, environment-friendly farming, Bird's watchers tournament "Tornu cinas" organized by LOB traditionally attracts interest of press and general public. Internet portal: [www.dabasdati.lv](http://www.dabasdati.lv) Internet portal: [www.putni.lv](http://www.putni.lv)

#### **84. Has a National AEWA Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) been designated by your country? (Resolution 5.5; Resolution 6.10)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of human resources. National focal point for AEWA only.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> The Nature History Museum, Nature Conservation Agency, The Latvian Ornithological Society and Latvian Fund for Nature are involved in awareness raising

#### **85. Have measures been taken by your country to implement the provisions related to "Education and Information" in the AEWA Action Plan over the last triennium? (AEWA Action Plan, Paragraphs 6.1-6.4)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> General education and information measures implemented. No special actions related to AEWA or to waterbirds.

#### **86. Have World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) activities been carried out in your country during this reporting cycle? (Resolution 5.5)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> None

#### **87. Has your country provided funding and/or other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources) towards the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy and/or towards priority CEPA activities in the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Resolution 6.10)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of finance resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No funding or support provided

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness**

>>> "Eiro Birdwatch " activities in organised by LOB, Nature Protection Board with financial suport by Latvian Environmental Protection Fund

## Pressures and Responses

### 9. Implementation

**88. Have you undertaken a national assessment of the resources needed for the delivery of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.6.(b))**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific resource for Strategic Plan Plan. Resources for whole nature conservation system

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**89. Has your country provided resources to address the resource needs as identified in document AEWA/MOP 8.43, for enabling and strengthening the international-level coordination and delivery of the Strategic Plan? (Resolution 8.3)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Resources provided to other activities

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

**90. Has your country approached non-contracting party range states to encourage them to accede to the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 5.2)**

Report only on activities over the past triennium

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of finance and human resources for international informal meetings with non-contracting parties. Less non-parties states.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Informal private discussions with non-party state experts and NGO.

**91. Does your country have in place a national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA, possibly linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)? (Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.3(b))**

**Guidance:** Such mechanism can be a dedicated cross-institutional working group, involving representatives of the civil society and other relevant stakeholders, aimed at planning, coordinating and reporting the implementation of the Agreement in the country. Alternatively, the implementation of AEWA at national level can be coordinated as an extension of larger national coordination mechanisms for other MEAs, such as National Ramsar Committees or CBD NBSAPs coordination.

Yes, it is operational on a regular basis

Please provide details

>>> Good coordination. One focal point for all CMS family agreements. Small number of involved person in nature conservation

Are priority capacity gaps addressed by the coordination mechanism?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Good cooperation

Please rank the effectiveness of the national coordination mechanism for AEWA implementation:

High

Please provide details and the reasons for the high effectiveness

>>> Small number of involved persons, good personal and professional relations

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**92. Have you undertaken a national assessment of the capacity needs for AEWA implementation? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.3.(e))**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Capacity needs for whole nature protection system, not only AEWA

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

93.1. Cooperate in launching regional initiatives, particularly in Africa, to address the implementation of capacity priorities, linking to the African Initiative, including scientific collaboration as well as a “younger generations” component, and including provision for actions to be further informed through country-specific needs assessments.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not relevant

93.2. Establish procedures for ensuring continuity of succession and transfer of knowledge and skills, when there are changes in personnel responsible for AEWA national implementation.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not relevant

93.3. Hold regional or sub-regional preparatory meetings before each ordinary session of the MOP, in particular for African Range States, and for such meetings to include an enhanced capacity-building component targeting priority needs identified by the Parties concerned.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not relevant

93.4. (For AEWA National Focal Points in the European Union (EU) only)

To cooperate with African National Focal Points, partner organisations and other stakeholders to explore opportunities for incorporating aspects of AEWA implementation capacity support in relevant existing projects and programmes in Africa, including the EU-funded NaturAfrica initiative and the Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial/EU-funded RESSOURCE sub-Saharan Africa project, as well as projects under the auspices of the wider CMS Family, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and UNEP.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> There is no previous experience of cooperation with the African region. Other purposes of using funding

**94. Has your country concluded, or considered concluding, twinning schemes between sites with other countries, the sites of which share common migratory waterbirds or conservation issues? (Resolution 5.20)**

Yes

Please provide details on each twinning arrangement

>>> Cooperation with Estonia in cross-border protected areas important for waterbirds (Ziemeļu purvi-Nigula)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**95. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation coordinated and engaged with national processes contributing towards the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))**

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Nature Protection Department is responsible on Impementation of AEWA and other CMS agreements as well as CBD, including strategic plan.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**96. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation coordinated and engaged with national processes contributing towards the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and the assessment of achieving these goals? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))**

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Nature Protection Department is part of Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development of Latvia. Involvement in development and assessment of processes

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**97. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation coordinated and engaged with national processes to implementation and assess the delivery of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024-2032? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))**

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Protection of species and habitats, including migratory bird species, integrated in nature conservation policy

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**98. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation coordinated and engaged with national processes contributing towards the Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2016-2024? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))**

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Both Agreements are coordinated by Nature Protection Department

**99. Are the AEWA priorities integrated into your county's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) and/or other similar national implementation mechanisms/processes for other international strategic plans and policies (Resolution 6.3; AEWA Strategic Plan, Targets 5.4 and 5.5)?**

99.1 The new generation of NBSAPs related to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in December 2022)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Environment Policy Concept 2021-2027 incorporate general principles, targets, actions (habitats and species protection)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

99.2 The relevant Sustainable Development Goals

Yes

Please provide details on which specific AEWA priorities, as per document AEWA/MOP 8.36, were integrated

>>> Improvement of communication, education and public awareness about biodiversity issues, including migratory species (also AEWA species) is one of duties of national state agencies. Farmland birds index is used as indicator for agriculture land biodiversity assessment. Use of agriculture chemicals and waste water

regulated. Trans boundary Ramsar site with Estonia. Prohibited introduction of species non-typical for Latvian nature. All important bird areas included in NATura 2000 network. Reduced use of lead in wetlands Restoration of Habitats for waterbirds.

Please rank the progress of implementation of the integrated AEWA priorities

Medium (Please provide details to support your ranking and the reasons for limited implementation)

>>> Lead use prohibition, Natura 2000 network

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

### 99.3 The Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024-2032

Yes

Please provide details on which specific AEWA priorities, as per document AEWA/MOP 8.36, were integrated

>>> Migratory species and actions for conservation of migratory species are significant part of nature protection

Please rank the progress of implementation of the integrated AEWA priorities

Medium (Please provide details to support your ranking and the reasons for limited implementation)

>>> Ongoing process

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

### 99.4 The Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2016-2024

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not relevant

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

### 99.5 Other international strategic plans and policies

Yes

Please name the other strategic planning processes

>>> National Programme on Biological Diversity (2000)

Please provide details on which specific AEWA priorities, as per document AEWA/MOP 8.36, were incorporated

>>> Species and Habitats conservation are priorities

Please rank the progress of implementation of the integrated AEWA priorities

Medium (Please provide details to support your ranking and the reasons for limited implementation)

>>> Ongoing process

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

Sustainable Development Goals

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No activities specific to waterbirds

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No activities specific to waterbirds

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024-2032

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No activities during 2024

Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2016-2024

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific activities during reporting period

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**101. How would your country suggest promoting further links between the biodiversity MEAs to which your country is a Contracting Party, so as to make your work more efficient and effective?**

>>> Develop close linkages and synergies, in particular with Ramsar. Closer cooperation between the treaties: Birds Directive has developed action plans for a number of quarry species of waterbirds with unfavourable conservation status in the EU. Although these have yet to be implemented, there is significant potential for collaboration in their development for the whole of the relevant biogeographical populations.

**102. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund over the past triennium? (Resolutions 7.1 and 8.3)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial resources. Restrictions

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**103. Has your country donated other funding or provided in-kind support to activities coordinated by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat?**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial resources. Restrictions

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**104. Has your country prioritised and allocated a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for Technical Committee support or for any other area of work? (Resolutions 7.11, 7.12, 8.11 and 8.12)**

Not Applicable: the country has no arrangement with the UN to provide JPOs

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

**105. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 6.21 on Resource mobilization for the implementation of AEWA.**

105.1 Did your country's government provide in the last triennium financial and/or in-kind resources to support national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of this Agreement, particularly those in line with the AEWA Strategic Plan including the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, and in accordance with your national plans, priorities and programmes?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial resources. Restrictions

105.2 Does your country's government have unpaid dues to the AEWA Trust Fund (annual assessed contributions to the Agreement's budget as approved by each session of the Meeting of the Parties)?

No

105.3 Has your country's government provided funding to support developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to meet their obligations under AEWA, and the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027? Under this question please report for support provided outside of formal and established intergovernmental cooperation. For the latter, please refer to the next question 105.4.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Insufficient financial resources for such purposes and strict financing constraints

105.4 Does your country's government participate in any South-South, North-South or triangular cooperation to enhance financial and technical support for the successful implementation of AEWA activities?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No participation in South-South, North-South or triangular cooperation to exchange financial and technical support

105.5 Does your country's government use innovative financing mechanisms for implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan such as a (national) Migratory Waterbirds Fund?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No innovative financing mechanisms used

105.6 Does the implementation of AEWA in your country benefit from synergies between biodiversity-related conventions at national level, amongst others, through information sharing on potential funding opportunities and sharing of financial resources such as the Desertification Fund, Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environmental Facility?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not relevant

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 9. Implementation**

>>> no

## Pressures and Responses

### 10. Climate Change

#### 106. Please outline relevant climate change research, assessments and/or adaptation measures that are relevant to migratory waterbirds and which have been undertaken or planned in your country. (Resolution 5.13)

a. Research and studies of climate change impacts on waterbirds

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific research, assessment or adoption measures relevant to migratory waterbirds. Main research in forestry sector.

b. Assessment of the potential vulnerability to climate change of key habitats used by waterbird species (including those outside protected area networks) (Please note that the question asks about habitats, rather than sites. Question 43 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

c. Assessment of the potential vulnerability of waterbird species to climate change.

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

d. Review of relevant national conservation policies relevant to waterbirds and climate change.

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

e. National Action Plan for helping waterbirds adapt to climate change (as a separate implementation process or as part of a larger national framework for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Please note that Question 44 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

No

#### 107. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on measures needed to help waterbirds to adapt to climate change?

**Notice:** Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

>>> All important waterbirds areas are Natura2000 sites. Sites Management plans for specific sites

#### 108. Has your country used the complementary Guidelines on climate change adaptation measures for waterbirds?

Not applicable

Please explain

>>> No priority species particularly vulnerable to climate change or populations particularly vulnerable to climate changes presented

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 10. Climate Change**

>>> Research activities related to forestry and grasslands

# Pressures and Responses

## 11. Avian Influenza

**109. What issues have proved challenging in responding nationally to the spread of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the last triennium and what further guidance or information would be useful in this respect?**

List challenges

>>> No specific need for guidance or information. Unknown situation on HPAI in Russian Federation and Belarus.

List required further guidance or information

>>> Information exchange between involved institutions.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

**110. Does your country have in place surveillance and rapid testing programmes for HPAI of dead birds so as to inform: any enhancements to monitoring of the species populations (Resolutions 8.2 and 8.7) and site-related management and biosecurity measures as needed (Resolution 8.15)?**

Yes

Please provide more information

>>> Test program for 50 species of wild birds.

During 2021 150 dead birds tested, 50 positive cases (43 Cygnus spp, 2 Anas platyrhynchos, 1 Ardea cinerea, 1 Branta canadensis, 1 Mergus spp, 1 Aythya marila, 1 Larus argentatus

During 2022 58 dead birds tested, 6 positive cases (6 Cygnus spp.H5N1)

During 2023 393 dead birds tested, 148 positive cases ( 103 Larus ridibundus, 11 Larus argentatus, 5 Sterna hirundo, 1 Podiceps cristatus, 1 Cygnus spp, 2 Larus canus, 1 Larus marinus, 1 Ciconia ciconia, 20 Larus spp, 1 Stercorarius spp, 1 Alca torda, 1 Uria aalge

During 2024 72 dead birds tested, 1positive case (Anser albifrons)

Has this information been submitted to international databases, e.g. the WOAAH WAHIS system

<https://wahis.woah.org/#/home>, which strive to improve understanding of the epidemiology of the disease and its impacts across borders (as called for by the CMS/FAO Co-convened Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds: see paragraph 2.3.1.6 of the 2023 statement of the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds on H5N1 high pathogenicity avian influenza in wild birds - unprecedented conservation impacts and urgent needs (available here)?

Yes (please clarify)

**111. Has your country adapted/changed in the last triennium monitoring and assessment of those species affected by avian influenza, particularly HPAI H5N1 outbreaks, as well as other diseases, as the basis for potentially implementing emergency measures envisaged by paragraph 2.3 of the AEWa Action Plan? (Resolutions 8.2 and 8.7)**

Not Applicable

Please explain why

>>> Ongoing monitoring

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Guidelines for hunters regarding avian influenza

**112. Have you established HPAI contingency plans nationally and at sites of significant importance to waterbirds, including coastal seabirds? (Resolution 8.15)**

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No need for such plans

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

**Optionally you can provide additional information on section 11. Avian Influenza**

>>> The Food and Veterinary Service is competent state institution regarding veterinary issues including Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. Actual information on HPAI in Food and Veterinary Service web page [www.pvd.gov.lv](http://www.pvd.gov.lv)

## **12. Confirmation**

### **Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission**

#### **Please confirm:**

In addition a scanned copy of an official letter from the relevant state institution, approving the report for submission, can be attached.

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2021-2024 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

#### **Date of submission**

>>> 19.03.2025