



AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF
AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS

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“Making flyway conservation happen”

UNEP/CMS Resolution 11.3

**ENHANCING SYNERGIES AND COMMON SERVICES
AMONG CMS FAMILY INSTRUMENTS**



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

Distribution: General

UNEP/CMS/Resolution 11.3

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ENHANCING SYNERGIES AND COMMON SERVICES AMONG CMS FAMILY INSTRUMENTS

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th Meeting (Quito, 4-9 November 2014)

Mindful of the legal autonomy of each of the CMS Family instruments;

Recalling Resolution 10.9 of the CMS Conference of the Parties “Future Structure and Strategies of the CMS and CMS Family”;

Bearing in mind the greater international picture arising from Rio+20 and other processes stressing the importance of developing further synergies among MEAs;

Recalling also the decision of the 9th Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee that requests the Executive Secretary of AEWA and the Executive Secretary of CMS to develop further synergies between AEWA and CMS and take actions to merge common services and common areas in an effort to redirect the focus of the Secretariats towards strengthening implementation support;

Further recalling the decision of the 41st Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee to support the decision of the 9th Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee and providing for the Executive Secretaries of CMS and AEWA to conduct a shared services pilot phase and report the results to COP11;

Recalling decision 1/12 of the 1st UNEA on the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements and referring in particular to the task team established on the effectiveness of administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements administered by UNEP;

Recognizing that CMS instruments include a broad range of Agreements and MoUs but share common objectives to conserve migratory species throughout their range;

Further recognizing that many functions provided by secretariats in the CMS Family of instruments are similar in scope and nature and could therefore create a higher potential for synergies;

Recognizing that synergies, such as through sharing services in common service areas among CMS instruments can assist to fill gaps, be mutually reinforcing, produce efficiencies and increase output;

Urging that actions taken to enhance synergies, such as through sharing services in common service areas, among CMS Family instruments should be aimed at strengthening the implementation of the instruments involved and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels;

Noting the information provided in the analysis by the CMS Executive Secretary on common services in the CMS Family instruments and the potential approaches to common services outlined in the paper; and

Recognizing the lessons learned from the experience between the ASCOBANS and CMS joint Secretariat as well as the pilot phase on common communication, information and outreach services between the AEWA and CMS Secretariats, and noting that additional information from an independent analysis is required to make an informed decision on a comprehensive sharing of common services among CMS instruments;

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary in consultation with the relevant Secretariats of CMS family instruments, to submit an independent analysis and report on the legal, financial, operational, and administrative implications of actions to enhance synergies, such as through sharing services in common service areas to the decision-making bodies of the wider CMS family before the 44th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee and COP12 in order to establish their benefits and disadvantages;
2. *Invites* the relevant governing bodies of CMS instruments to consider the report and to take a decision on strengthening synergies, such as through sharing services in common service areas;
3. *Invites* the Meeting of the Parties to AEWA at its 6th Session (MOP6) to consider the independent analysis and report and take a decision on the way forward, as regards synergies such as through sharing services in common service areas;
4. *Requests* the CMS Standing Committee to consider the outcome of the 6th Session of the Meeting of Parties to AEWA (MOP6) and to take the appropriate decision in accordance with this outcome with a view to realising enhanced synergies such as through sharing services in common service areas and report to COP12;
5. *Requests* the CMS Standing Committee to consider the outcomes of the Meetings of decision-making bodies of other CMS Family Instruments and to take the appropriate decisions in accordance with these outcomes with a view to realising enhanced synergies such as through sharing services in common service areas and report to COP12;

6. *Instructs* the Executive Secretary of CMS to work in close cooperation with the Executive Secretaries and Coordinators of the CMS Family Instruments in implementing the outcomes of the decisions of the Standing Committee;
7. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report the outcomes of these decisions to UNEP in view of the ongoing process under UNEP on the effectiveness of administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and a number of multilateral environmental agreements in order to ensure the necessary administrative support to promote coherent and effective implementation of the CMS; and
8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary in close consultation with the Executive Secretary of AEWA to report the outcomes of the pilot phase and the implementation of this Resolution to COP12.