

Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2015-2017

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2015-2017 was approved at the 12th meeting of the Standing Committee (31 January – 01 February 2017, Paris, France). This format has been constructed following the AEWA Action Plan, the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2018 and resolutions of the Meeting of the Parties (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. By Resolution 6.14 of the MOP the deadline for submission of National Reports to the 7th session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP7) was set at 180 days before the beginning of MOP7, which is scheduled to take place on 4 – 8 December 2018 in South Africa; therefore **the deadline for submission of National Reports is Wednesday 7 June 2018.**

The AEWA National Reports 2015-2017 will be compiled and submitted through the CMS Family Online National Reporting System, which is an online reporting tool for the whole CMS Family. 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.

To contact the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat please send your inquiries to: aewa.nr@unep-aewa.org

1. General Information

Name of reporting Contracting Party

> Ghana

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

> 01/10/2005

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

> Wildlife Division (Forestry Commission)

Name and title of the head of institution

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Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2015-2017

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

The National Focal Point for AEWA Technical Committee (NFPTC) matters has been designated as the National Respondent

Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2015-2017

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.

> Mr. Isaac Charles Acquah, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Accra, Ghana

Pressures and Responses

3. Species Conservation

3.1 Legal Measures

1. Please confirm whether all populations listed on AEWA Table 1, Column A which occur in your country are protected by your country's national legislation (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.1), in particular:

African Pygmy-goose / *Nettapus auritus* / West Africa / Column A / Category 1c

1.1. Taking of birds and eggs is prohibited

Yes

Common Little Bittern / *Ixobrychus minutus* / minutus, W Europe, NW Africa/Subsaharan Africa / Column A / Category 2

1.1. Taking of birds and eggs is prohibited

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

> The Wild Animals Preservation Act, 1961 (Act 43): Section 11 The President may by legislative instrument make regulations for the administration of this Act and in particular for the (q): protection of eggs of such birds as may be specified in the regulations made under this section

L. I. 1659, Wetland Management (Ramsar Sites) Regulations, 1999

Clause 7 (d): hunt, capture, harm deliberately disturb any wild animals including roosting, breeding and nesting birds, fledglings, turtles or their eggs except as provided for by the Minister.

1.2. Deliberate disturbance that would be significant for the conservation of the population concerned is prohibited

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

> L. I. 1659, Wetland Management (Ramsar Sites) Regulations, 1999

Clause 7 (d): hunt, capture, harm deliberately disturb any wild animals including roosting, breeding and nesting birds, fledglings, turtles or their eggs except as provided for by the Minister.

1.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.1. (a), as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

> Wildlife Conservation (Amendment) Regulations, 1983 L. I. 1284. 1) The Wildlife Conservation Regulation, 1971 (L. I. 685) is hereby amended as follows: (a) by the substitution for regulation 1 thereof, of the following new regulation - (1) No person shall at any time hunt, capture, destroy or be in possession of any of the species specified in the First Schedule of these Regulations: {SERIES C of the first Schedule lists the Birds which include most waterbirds}

Squacco Heron / *Ardeola ralloides* / ralloides, SW Europe, NW Africa (bre) / Column A / Category 1c

1.1. Taking of birds and eggs is prohibited

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

> Wild Animals Preservation Act, 1961 (Act 43): Regulations 11. The President may by legislative instrument make regulations for the administration of this Act and in particular for the (q) protection of eggs of such birds as may be specified in the regulations made under this section;

Wetland Management (Ramsar Sites) Regulations, 1999:

Restricted Activities:

No person shall within a Ramsar Site - (d) hunt, capture, harm or deliberately disturb any

The appropriate legislation applies throughout the whole country

1.2. Deliberate disturbance that would be significant for the conservation of the population concerned is prohibited

Yes

1.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.1. (a), as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited

Yes

Roseate Tern / *Sterna dougallii* / dougallii, Europe (bre) / Column A / Category 1c

1.1. Taking of birds and eggs is prohibited

Yes

1.2. Deliberate disturbance that would be significant for the conservation of the population concerned is prohibited

Yes

1.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.1. (a), as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited

Yes

2. Please confirm whether hunting of any populations listed under AEWA Table 1, Column 1, category 2 or 3 with an asterisk or category 4 is allowed in your country.

Black-tailed Godwit / *Limosa limosa* / limosa, Western Europe/NW & West Africa / Column A / Category / 4

Is there an open hunting season for Black-tailed Godwit / *Limosa limosa* / limosa, Western Europe/NW & West Africa / Column A / Category / 4 ?

No

Please explain.

> There is no law that grants open hunting season in the country

3. Please confirm whether the taking of all populations listed on AEWA Table 1, Column B which occur in your country is regulated (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2), in particular:

Common Little Bittern / *Ixobrychus minutus* / payesii, Sub-Saharan Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

Yes

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Spotted Redshank / *Tringa erythropus* / N Europe/Southern Europe, North & West Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> The Wildlife Conservation Regulation, 1971 (L. I. 685) is hereby amended as follows: (a) by the substitution for regulation 1 thereof, of the following new regulation - (1) No person shall at any time hunt, capture, destroy or be in possession of any of the species specified in the First Schedule of these Regulations: {SERIES C of the first Schedule lists the Birds which include most waterbirds}

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

> (h) prohibition of the hunting of wild animals including birds, by any persons except holders of licences issued by the competent Government authority on such terms as shall by the regulations be prescribed

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Royal Tern / *Thalasseus maximus / albidorsalis*, West Africa (bre) / Column B / Category 2a

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

4. Please indicate which modes of taking are prohibited in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

Please select from the list below.

- Snares
- Limes
- Hooks
- Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys
- Tape recorders and other electronic devices
- Electrocuting devices
- Artificial light sources
- Mirrors and other dazzling devices
- Devices for illuminating targets
- Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter
- Explosives
- Nets
- Traps
- Poison
- Poisoned or anesthetic baits
- Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition
- Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea)
- Other non-selective modes of taking
- No modes of taking have been prohibited

Please specify

> Nets are allowed for research purpose with written permission from the appropriate authorities.

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and information on whether the prohibitions apply to the entire country or only to particular states/provinces thereof.

> Entire country

5. 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))

Yes

Please select from the list below those prohibited means of taking for which your country has granted

exemptions:

Nets

Please provide further details on the exemption(s) granted from the prohibition of nets
> Nets are allowed for research purpose with written permission from the appropriate authorities.

6. Were any exemptions granted to the prohibitions required by paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the AEWA Action Plan? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.3)

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

No

7. 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)?

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

No

Please explain the reasons.

> Process of review on-going an parliament.

8. Has your country used the AEWA 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.

No

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

> I know the AEWA Guidelines on National Legislation for the Protection of Species of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats has not been used. However, I have no idea as to what other guideline was used.

3.2. Species Action and Management Plans

9. 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. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2)

Please report on all listed ISSAP, ISSMP and IMSAP

Great Snipe / Gallinago media

National Plan for Great Snipe / Gallinago media

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

> Continue to rely on existing registrations on birds protection

Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa

National Plan for Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

> Continue to rely on existing registrations on birds protection

Black-winged Pratincole / Glareola nordmanni

National Plan for Black-winged Pratincole / Glareola nordmanni

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

> Continue to rely on existing registrations on birds protection

10. 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

11. 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?

> Ghana is yet to develop any SSAP. When ready the AEWA ISSAP guidelines will be used.

3.3 Emergency Measures

12. 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

13. 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

14. Has your country used the AEWA 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?

> There is no national emergency response notification system specific to waterbirds. Ghana's national oil spill contingency plan takes into consideration the needs of waterbirds.

3.4 Re-establishments

15. 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

> There has not been any such project or endeavour in Ghana

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

No

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

No

18. Has your country used the AEWA 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.

No

3.5 Introductions

19. 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, but not being enforced properly or at all

20. 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.

> Regulations for the enforcement of introduction of non-native plants and animal species into the country are various and several under the management and control authorities of a number of institutions in the country including the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission, Plant Protection Unit of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the Customs, Excise and Preventive Services, etc.

21. Does your country have in place a National Action Plan for Invasive Species (NAPIS) (in the framework of other MEAs, such as CBD, Bern Convention, and GISP (Global Invasive Species Programme) (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 5)?

Yes, but not being implemented properly or at all

22. 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

> The need to eradicate any non-native waterbird species has never arisen in Ghana.

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

Yes

Please list the non-native species for which relevant action has been undertaken

> Alien Species

1. *Cyperus rotundus* (sedge)
2. *Cyprinus carpio* (fish)
3. *Eichhornia crassipes* (aquatic plant)
4. *Gambusia affinis* (fish)
5. *Mimosa pigra* (shrub)
6. *Poecilia reticulata* (fish)
7. *Salvinia molesta* (aquatic plant, herb)
8. *Vibrio cholerae* (micro-organism)
9. *Batrachomyces dendrobatidis* (fungus)
10. *Oxycaryum cubense* (aquatic plant, sedge)

Native Species

1. *Clarias gariepinus*
2. *Estrilda astrild* (bird)
3. *Lates niloticus* (fish)
4. *Panicum repens* (grass)
5. *Porphyrio porphyrio* (bird)
6. *Tilapia mariae* (fish)
7. *Tilapia zillii* (fish)

24. 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?

> The need to eradicate any non-native waterbird species has never arisen in Ghana.

Pressures and Responses

4. Habitat Conservation

4.1 Habitat Inventories

25. 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)

Partially

Please describe the progress

> Network of sites of international importance have been identified in the coastal areas of Ghana. Some potential sites in the inland areas are yet to be fully identified.

Field for additional information (optional)

> A number of sites of importance for migratory waterbird species have been identified but only 6 of the have been listed under national or international guidance as Ramsar Sites.

26. If your country has identified or is currently identifying the networks of sites of international and national importance, were the AEWA 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.

Yes

4.2. Conservation of Areas

27. 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 reason

> No such activity has formally been undertaken

For the national protected area network

No

Please explain the reasons.

> No such activity has formally been undertaken specifically for protected areas in the country

28. 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 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

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

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Wildlife Protected Areas in Ghana.doc](#) - Wildlife Protected Areas

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

> 6

Total area (ha)

> 176,134

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

> 6

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

> 176,134

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

> 6

Area (in ha)

> 176,134

Internationally important sites with management planning 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

> 6

Area (in ha)

> 176,134

29. Has your country developed a national action plans for filling gaps in designation and/or management of internationally and nationally important sites? (Resolution 5.2)

DESIGNATION GAP FILLING

No

MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

No

30. Has your country developed a strategic plan (independently or as part of your country's overarching biodiversity or protected area policy document) to maintain or increase the resilience of the ecological network (for waterbirds), including resilience to climate change, and to conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species? (Resolution 5.2, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

No

31. Has your country used the AEWA 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.

No

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

> RAMSAR

32. Has the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area been accessed and used in your country?

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

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.2. Conservation of Areas

> All the Sites of international importance have mangagement plans, which are however old and requires revision.

Pressures and Responses

5. Management of Human Activities

5.1. Hunting

33. Does your country have an established system for the collection of harvest data, which covers the species listed in Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Harvest activity is controlled under various regulations under different national institutions

34. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4)

No

Please explain the reasons and barriers to introduction of legislation

> There is no statutory ban on the use of lead shot for hunting in the country. Hunting is allowed with the use of lead shot with permit from the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission. There are legal measures, in respect of "importation of arms and ammunitions" and on "hunting of wild animals" though there is weak monitoring and capacity to enforce these regulatory measures.

Has your country introduced self-imposed and published timetable for banning fully the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands?

No

Please explain the reasons

> No reason.

35. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6)

Yes

How would you rate the effectiveness of the measures?

Low

Please provide details

> There are laws to control illegal taking in Protected Areas (national or international) and off-reserves though there is insufficient logistics and weak capacity on the part of the law enforcement agencies to enforce these regulatory measures.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

36. Are legally binding best practice codes and standards for hunting (e.g. bird identification) considered a priority or appropriate for your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 2, Target 2.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> No legally binding best practice codes and standards for hunting exists in the country

37. Has your country used the AEWA 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.

No

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

> CITES regulations generally apply

Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 5.1. Hunting

> None

5.2. Other human activities

38. 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 56 in chapter 6 - Research and monitoring.

No

If appropriate, please provide further details.

> None

39. 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)

Yes and being implemented

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

Entire country

Please provide details

> The law applies in the entire country

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

Yes

Please provide details

> The SEA/EIA process requires information on flora and fauna and their habitat as well as mitigation measures.

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

> The SEA/EIA process is subject to public consultation and hearing

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

40. 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)

Partially (some projects only)

Please provide information on the projects where potential impact on migratory birds has not been assessed

> No such records. All projects that potentially have impact on fauna, including waterbirds are always subject to SEA/EIA process

41. Has your country used the AEWA 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.

No

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

42.1. 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?

Partially

42.2. 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

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

No

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

No

42.5. 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

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

Partially

42.7. 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?

No

42.8. 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?

Partially

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

Partial

42.10. 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

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

Yes

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

No

44. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.16 on Renewable Energy and Migratory Waterbirds.

44.1. 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?

No

44.2. 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?

No

44.3. Is post-construction monitoring being undertaken of the renewable energy installations and

associated infrastructure in your country?

No

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

No

44.5. Please indicate whether any of the following measures have been put in place to reduce the potential negative impact of terrestrial and marine windfarms on migratory waterbirds:

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

Yes

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.

No

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.

No

44.6. 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

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

No

45. Has your country used the following AEWA 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.

No

46. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8)

No Information

When and how do you intend to fill this information gap?

> When the Wildlife Division develops and implements waterbird monitoring scheme, which to be in place by the end of 2013.

47. 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)

No

48. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.12 on Adverse Effects of Agrochemicals on Migratory Waterbirds in Africa (this question is applicable only to Contracting Parties in Africa).

48.1. Have relevant government authorities developed and implemented regulations on the trade and application of agrochemicals known to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on waterbirds?

No

48.2. Is the use of such agrochemicals regulated around nationally and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds, particularly in wetlands, also taking into account run-offs from agriculture affecting aquatic ecosystems?

No

48.3. Are there any steps undertaken to control or reduce the use of avicides in areas frequented by

populations listed in Table 1 of the Agreement?

No

Pressures and Responses

6. Research and Monitoring

49. Does your country have waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species in place? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.2)

No

50. Has your country supported, technically or financially, other Parties or Range States in designing appropriate monitoring schemes and developing their capacity to collect reliable waterbird population data? (Resolution 5.2)

Yes

Which country(ies) were supported?

> Undertakes annual waterbird monitoring among West African states as operated and supported by WI

51. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for a waterbird monitoring protocol?

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

> Monitoring of waterbirds is conducted according to applicable AEWA monitoring protocol.

52. Have any research programmes been established in your country in the last 5 years to address waterbird conservation priorities in accordance with the AEWA strategies and plans? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.3)

No

53. List (or provide links to lists) of research related to waterbirds and their conservation that has been undertaken or results published in the past triennium (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.5)

> GHANA WILDLIFE SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 13252, ACCRA, GHANA

Accra Conservation Education Centre,

Efua Sutherland Children's Park, Accra

Tel.: +233 (0)30 2665197 / +233 (0)30 2670610

E-mail: ghanawild@vodafone.com.gh

Website: www.ghanawildlifesociety.org

In collaboration with some international partners, including BirdLife International, Africa Bird Club and West African Ornithological Society a field Guide Book on "Birds of Ghana" was published in 2010.

54. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census at international or national level? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.1)

No

Please explain the reasons

> The government does not make funding allocation for waterbird census.

55. Has your country donated funds to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership Fund in the past triennium (Resolution 6.3)?

No

56. 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 38 in chapter 5 - Management of human activities.

No

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

No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6. Research and Monitoring

> Ghana has no national coordinated waterbird monitoring scheme. The Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission has the responsibility of managing and protecting all wildlife resources, including waterbirds, in

the the country. However, the Division has no institutionalised research and monitoring scheme of its own and has to relying on data and information from the Ghana Wildlife Society particularly for waterbirds.

Pressures and Responses

7. Education and Information

7.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

57. 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)

Yes, being implemented

Please describe the awareness programmes which have been developed. Please upload any relevant sample materials which have been developed and add contact details of a contact person for each programme.

> 1)

Brochures and posters on protected waterbirds in Ghana

Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission

P. O. Box MB 239

Ministries Post Office

Accra

Tel: +233 289115499 / +233 24401210

E-mail: info@fcghana.com

Contact person: THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2)

A field Guide Book on Birds of Ghana by:

GHANA WILDLIFE SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 13252, ACCRA, GHANA

Accra Conservation Education Centre,

Efua Sutherland Children's Park, Accra

Tel.: +233 (0)30 2665197 / +233 (0)30 2670610

E-mail: ghanawild@4u.com.gh

Website: www.ghanawildlifesociety.org

Contact person: MR. AUGUSTUS ASAMOAH

Does the programme specifically focus on AEWA and the provisions of its Action Plan?

No

58. Has a National AEWA Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) been nominated by your country? (Resolution 5.5)

Yes

Is the National CEPA Focal Point from the government or non-governmental sector?

Government

Has the AEWA CEPA Focal Point begun coordinating national implementation of the Communication Strategy?

Yes

How can the cooperation between the appointed AEWA CEPA Focal Point and the Ramsar CEPA Focal Points be described?

There is very close cooperation

Field for additional information (optional)

> Work in the same organisation and share the same office

59. 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

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

Yes

61. 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? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Strategic Plan 2009- 2017, Objective 4, Target 4.1 and Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5)

No

Please explain the reasons

> The government has never provided funding specific for implementation of AEWA Communication Strategy.

62. In Resolution 3.10 the Meeting of the Parties encouraged Contracting Parties to host AEWA Exchange Centres for their respective regions. Has your country considered/shown interest in hosting a Regional AEWA Exchange Centre? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 2 and Resolution 3.10)

Other

Please provide details on the answer given above

> Ghana is interested and is currently considering hosting, at least, a regional meeting in the near future, though this has not been formalised or communicated to the AEWA Secretariat.

63. Training for CEPA (Communication, Education and Public Awareness) at national level is supposed to be conducted by staff who have been trained in the framework of an AEWA Training of Trainers programme. Have staff who were trained as part of a Training of Trainers workshop conducted national CEPA training in your country in the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.2)

No

Please explain the reasons

> There has not been funding allocation from the government for such training in the past triennium.

Pressures and Responses

8. Implementation

64. Has your country approached non-contracting party range states to encourage them to accede to the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10)

Report only on activities over the past triennium

No

Please explain the reasons

> There has not been an opportunity such as a transboundary waterbirds project that could encourage or facilitate such approach

65. Has your country supported/developed international co-operation projects for the implementation of the Agreement, according to the priorities outlined in the AEWA International Implementation Tasks (IIT) for the current triennium? (Resolution 6.13).

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

> There has not been an opportunity for international co-operation project such as a transboundary waterbirds project.

66. 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 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.7)

Yes, it is operational on a regular basis

Please provide details

> Ghana has set up the GHana International Convention Coordinating Authority under the Ministry of Environment Science and Technology to coordinate the activities of all the biodiversity MEAs including AEWA.

67. 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)

No

68. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes to implement and to assess delivery of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011 - 2020 including the Aichi targets?

Yes

69. Are the AEWA priorities incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) and other strategic planning processes (Resolution 6.3)?

69.1 NBSAP

Yes

69.2 Other strategic planning processes

Yes

70. Please report any activity undertaken to promote with the development agency of your country or other appropriate governmental body the relevance of AEWA implementation in the context of SDG-delivery and to stress the need to better integrate actions for waterbird and wetland conservation within relevant development projects (Resolution 6.15).

AEWA relevance for SDG implementation WAS promoted

71. 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?

> Contracting Parties must be encouraged to set up coordinating body at the national level to facilitate the promotion of biodiversity MEAs to which the country is a Contracting Party.

72. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund over the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Ghana would have wished to resource the AEWA Small Grant Fund but it is currently not the position to do so.

73. Has your country donated other funding or provided in-kind support to activities coordinated by the Secretariat?

No

74. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 6.21 on Resource mobilisation for the implementation of AEWA.

74.1 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

74.2 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

74.3 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 2012-2017? Under this question please report for support provided outside of formal and established intergovernmental cooperation. For the latter, please refer to the next question 74.4.

No

74.4 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

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

No

74.6 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?

Yes

Pressures and Responses

9. Climate Change

75. 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

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 27 in Section 4, sub-section 4.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

No relevant activities

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

No relevant activities

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

No relevant activities

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 28 in Section 4, sub-section 4.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

No relevant activities

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

No

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

No

Pressures and Responses

10. Avian Influenza

77. 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?

77.1 List challenges

> Lack of information

Insufficient educational materials and logistics to reach all corners of the country

Lack of inter-ministerial or institutional cooperation

Lack of laboratory facilities - samples have to be taken abroad

Human capacity not readily available

77.2 List required further guidance or information

> No

11. 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 2015-2017 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

> May 29, 2018