

## Concept note for the development of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027

*Approved by the AEWA Standing Committee (20 October 2016)*

### **Background**

The first AEWA Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) was adopted by the 5<sup>th</sup> AEWA Meeting of the Parties (MOP5) in 2012, through Resolution 5.9. This Plan of Action provides an operational guideline for the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan in Africa, and establishes a series of tangible actions contributing to relevant targets of the AEWA Strategic Plan as well as some complementary targets specific to the African region. The PoAA was originally valid for the period of 2012-2017, in line with the AEWA Strategic Plan.

The AEWA MOP6, in November 2015, taking into account that the AEWA MOP7 was scheduled to take place in 2018, decided to extend the current AEWA PoAA until 2018 through Resolution 6.14, in line with the extension of the AEWA Strategic Plan to 2018 by the same resolution. Resolution 6.14 also instructs the AEWA Standing Committee (StC), working with the AEWA Technical Committee (TC) and supported by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, to revise the AEWA PoAA alongside the revision of the AEWA Strategic Plan. A draft PoAA for the period 2019-2027 is to be presented to the AEWA MOP7 for consideration and adoption.

### **Modalities for the development of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027**

#### ***Summary of the Approach***

An independent consultant/s will be recruited for the purpose of developing the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027. A Working Group for the development of the AEWA PoAA will be established to provide essential input. One workshop for this PoAA Working Group will be organized and facilitated by the consultant/s in order to initiate the PoAA development process. The consultant/s will develop a first draft of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027, then a second draft based upon feedback from the PoAA Working Group, and a final draft – for submission to MOP7- based upon feedback from AEWA African Contracting Parties and other stakeholders in the region. Details on the different steps of the process and expected outputs are outlined in **Table 1** below.

#### ***Working Language***

English and French will be the working languages throughout the revision process of the AEWA PoAA, in order to enable all African Contracting Parties, Anglophone as well as Francophone ones, to effectively participate.

#### ***Resources***

As no funding has been allocated in the AEWA core budget 2016-2018 for the development of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027, the revision process relies fully on the availability of voluntary contributions. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will send out funding requests to all AEWA Contracting Parties through a Notification to the Parties. Targeted funding requests will also be sent to other potential donors. Depending on the venue of the Working Group workshop, a minimum amount of EUR 97,000<sup>1</sup> is estimated to be required for the entire process of developing the draft AEWA PoAA 2019-2027.

More funding will be required should the Working Group workshop take place away from Bonn, in an African country. Subject to the availability of funding, financial support will be provided to one representative per eligible<sup>2</sup> African Contracting Party to participate in the Working Group workshop. Financial support will also be provided to support the participation of relevant representatives of the AEWA TC, funding permitting.

<sup>1</sup> Estimate based on the assumption that the working group workshop will take place in Bonn, with no travel for Secretariat staff

<sup>2</sup> In accordance with paragraph 9 of the AEWA Resolution 6.18

[http://www.unep-aewa.org/sites/default/files/document/aewa\\_mop6\\_res18\\_financial\\_admin\\_en.pdf](http://www.unep-aewa.org/sites/default/files/document/aewa_mop6_res18_financial_admin_en.pdf)

### **Administration**

The PoAA development process will be administered by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. The compilation of the draft PoAA will be outsourced to the independent consultant/s, along with the facilitation of the Working Group workshop.

### **Stakeholder involvement**

The AEWA MOP6 has mandated the AEWA StC to lead the development of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027, working with the AEWA TC and supported by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. Both committees shall therefore form the basis for the constitution of the PoAA Working Group. The Working Group will constitute a total of ca. 34 representatives (including the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat). Representation will be limited to 1 person per Contracting Party and/or per organization. A limited number of other AEWA Parties and partner organizations involved in migratory waterbird conservation in Africa will be invited to join the Working Group as observers.

The composition of the Working Group will be as follows:

*African Contracting Parties who are AEWA StC members (3)*: Uganda (for Eastern and Southern Africa), Ghana (for Western and Central Africa) and Libya (for the Middle East and Northern Africa).

*Other African Contracting Parties (6)*: A maximum of six African Contracting Parties will be included in the Working Group, taking into account sub-regional and language balance, and at a ratio of not more than one representative for every 5 African Contracting Parties (irrespective of the Standing Committee regional representatives).

The Contracting Party representatives for each African sub-region should preferably be the respective AEWA Sub-Regional Focal Point Coordinators (SRFPCs), or should be selected under the guidance of the SRFPCs. The selected representatives should be communicated to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat by an indicated deadline. The choice of African Contracting Party representatives should also take into consideration their eligibility to receive financial support to participate in AEWA meetings as stipulated in AEWA Resolution 6.18 (cf. footnote 2). It should also, as much as possible, take into consideration representation in the AEWA Strategic Planning Working Group, in order to ensure continuity and alignment with the overall AEWA strategic planning process. **Table 2** provides details on the African Contracting Parties per sub-region to facilitate the selection process for representatives in the Working Group; further guidance from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will be provided to the AEWA SRFPCs.

*Other non-African Contracting Parties interested in supporting the AEWA African Initiative (3)*: All AEWA Contracting Parties outside the African region will also be notified of the possibility to join the Working Group, at their own cost. Past and potential donor Contracting Parties to the AEWA African Initiative will be strongly encouraged to join the Working Group. The first 3 non-African Contracting Parties to register their interest with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will be considered as observers of the Working Group.

*AEWA Technical Committee (11)*: This will include the 4 technical experts from the African region (Northern Africa, Western Africa, Eastern Africa and Southern Africa), the 4 thematic experts (environmental law, rural economics, game management and CEPA), and 3 NGO representatives (IUCN, Wetlands International and CIC).

*Partner organizations as observers of the Working Group (7)*: This will include the UNEP Regional Office for Africa, the UNEP/CMS Secretariat, the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, the Technical Support Unit (TSU) for the AEWA African Initiative, BirdLife International, the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative, the MAVA Foundation West Africa Programme, and OMPO.

*UNEP/AEWA Secretariat (4)*: Each of the four units of the Secretariat will be represented by one Professional staff member.

The Working Group will be chaired by the Chair of the AEWA Standing Committee. It will be convened by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat by correspondence as soon as possible after the approval of the current concept note.

**Table 1: Timeline and deliverables for the development of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Actions and responsibility</b>	<b>Expected deliverable</b>
Oct 2016- Jun 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Approval of the concept note by the AEWA StC</li> <li>- Convening of the Working Group;</li> <li>- Fundraising by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for the PoAA development;</li> <li>- Contracting of consultant(s) for the compilation of the draft AEWA PoAA 2019-2027 and facilitation of the Working Group workshop;</li> <li>- Launch of workshop preparations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concept approved by the AEWA StC;</li> <li>- Working Group established;</li> <li>- Funding secured for the development of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027;</li> <li>- Consultant(s) contracted;</li> <li>- Preparations for the Working Group workshop initiated.</li> </ul>
Jul – Sep 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consultant(s) prepare(s) the Working Group workshop, in close collaboration with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat;</li> <li>- Conduct of the workshop (planned early September 2017) at a cost-effective venue to be determined (in Africa or Bonn).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working Group workshop successfully conducted.</li> </ul>
Sep – Nov 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compilation of the first draft AEWA PoAA by the consultant/s, under the supervision of and with guidance from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat;</li> <li>- Translation of the first draft into French/English.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- First draft of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027 available in English and French.</li> </ul>
Dec 2017 - Jan 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Circulation of the first draft PoAA to the Working Group for consultation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comments and feedback received from the Working Group.</li> </ul>
Feb 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Production of the second draft AEWA PoAA, based on feedback from the Working Group;</li> <li>- Translation of the second draft into French/English.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Second draft of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027 available in English and French.</li> </ul>
Mar - May 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Second draft AEWA PoAA circulated to all AEWA Contracting Parties in Africa and other key stakeholders working in the region for consultation and review;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comments and feedback received from the AEWA African Contracting Parties and stakeholders;</li> </ul>
Jun 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Production of final draft AEWA PoAA and submission to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final draft of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027 available;</li> </ul>
Jul 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Submission of the final draft AEWA PoAA to the AEWA MOP7 for consideration and approval.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final draft AEWA PoAA submitted to the AEWA MOP7.</li> </ul>

**Table 2: AEWA African Contracting Parties in each sub-region and proposed number of representatives on the AEWA PoAA Working Group**

No.	Sub-region / Country (*SRFPCs in bold)	AEWA StC representatives (members of the PoAA Working Group)	AEWA Strategic Plan Working Group members	Current eligibility for sponsorship to attend AEWA meetings	Proposed number of representatives for the AEWA PoAA Working Group
1	Northern Africa	<b>Algeria*</b>		Yes	Maximum of one additional representative on the AEWA PoAA Working Group for the five Contracting Parties in the sub-region
2		Egypt		Yes	
3		Libya	Yes	No	
4		Morocco		Yes	
5		Tunisia		No	
1	Eastern Africa	Burundi		Yes	Maximum of one additional representative on the AEWA PoAA Working Group for the eight Contracting Parties in the sub-region
2		Djibouti		No	
3		Ethiopia		Yes	
4		Kenya		Yes	
5		Rwanda		Yes	
6		Sudan		No	
7		Tanzania		Yes	
8		<b>Uganda*</b>	Yes	Yes	
1	Southern Africa	Madagascar		Yes	Maximum of one additional representative on the AEWA PoAA Working Group for the five Contracting Parties in the sub-region
2		Mauritius		Yes	
3		South Africa		No	
4		<b>Swaziland*</b>		Yes	
5		Zimbabwe		Yes	
1	Western Africa	Benin		Yes	Maximum of two additional representatives on the AEWA PoAA Working Group for the 13 Contracting Parties in the sub-region
2		<b>Burkina Faso*</b>		No	
3		Côte d'Ivoire		Yes	
4		Gambia		Yes	
5		Ghana	Yes	Yes	
6		Guinea		Yes	
7		Guinea-Bissau		No	
8		Mali		No	
9		Mauritania		Yes	
10		Niger		No	
11		Nigeria		Yes	
12		Senegal		No	
13		Togo		Yes	
1	Central Africa	Chad		No	Maximum of one additional representative on the AEWA PoAA Working Group for the four Contracting Parties in the sub-region
2		<b>Congo*</b>		No	
3		Equatorial Guinea		Yes	
4		Gabon		No	