

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

> Czech Republic

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

> 1st September 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.

> Not relevant.

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 the Environment of the Czech Republic

Name and title of the head of institution

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Designated National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters

Name and title of the NFP

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

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

Name and title of the CEPA NFP

> no CEPA NFP has been designated yet

Affiliation (institution, department)

> not relevant

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> not relevant

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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 (NFP) 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.

> Agency of Nature Conservation

Czech Society for Ornithology (NGO)

Muzeum Komenského v Přerově

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:

Tundra Swan / *Cygnus columbianus* / *bewickii*, Western Siberia & NE Europe/North-west Europe / 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.

> Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92, adopted by the Parliament in 1992; valid for the whole country

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.

> Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92, adopted by the Parliament in 1992; valid for the whole country

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.

> Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92, adopted by the Parliament in 1992; valid for the whole country

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.

Eurasian Curlew / *Numenius arquata* / *arquata*, Europe/Europe, North & West Africa / Column A / Category / 4

Is there an open hunting season for Eurasian Curlew / *Numenius arquata* / *arquata*, Europe/Europe, North & West Africa / Column A / Category / 4 ?

No

Please explain.

> Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92, adopted by the Parliament in 1992); Hunting Act No. 449/2001, adopted by the Parliament in 2001; and successive intimations; valid for the whole 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.

> Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92, adopted by the Parliament in 1992); Hunting Act No. 449/2001, adopted by the Parliament in 2001; and successive intimations; valid for the whole country

Great Snipe / Gallinago media / Western Siberia & NE Europe/South-east Africa / Column A / Category / 4

Is there an open hunting season for Great Snipe / Gallinago media / Western Siberia & NE Europe/South-east Africa / Column A / Category / 4 ?

No

Please explain.

> Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92, adopted by the Parliament in 1992); Hunting Act No. 449/2001, adopted by the Parliament in 2001; and successive intimations; valid for the whole 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:

Whooper Swan / Cygnus cygnus / North-west Mainland Europe / 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.

No

Please explain the reasons

> Taking is totally prohibited according to Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92, adopted by the Parliament in 1992); and by Hunting Act No. 449/2001, adopted by the Parliament in 2001; both are valid for the whole country

The same is for: all species of Ciconiiformes, loons, grebes, rails, waders, gulls, terns, Somateria mollissima, all Melanitta, Tadorna species, Netta rufina,

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> see 3.1.

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

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

> see 3.1.

Greylag Goose / Anser anser / anser, Central Europe/North 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 hunting is possible only during autumn time, until January 1st; before GG return to their breeding grounds

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.

> see 3.1.

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

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

> see 3.1.

Common Pochard / Aythya ferina / Central & NE Europe/Black Sea & Mediterranean / Column B / Category 2c

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

> Hunting of this species (the same for Aythya fuligula, Anas platyrhynchos and Fulica atra) is possible only between September 1st - November 30th.

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.

> see 3.1.

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

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

> According to Nature and Landscape Conservation Act 114/92.

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)

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.

> The most important legislative measures: Nature and Landscape Conservation Act, adopted by the Parliament in 1992); Hunting Act No. 449/2001, adopted by the Parliament in 2001; valid for the whole 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))

No

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

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.1. Legal Measures

> No additional information.

3.2. Species Action and Management Plans

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?

> Single species action plans for selected species are prepared under the guidelines of the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic in cooperation with the Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection. Those guidelines were prepared before the Czech Republic signed AEWA.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.2. Single Species Action Plans

> No additional information.

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.

Yes

Please provide details

> Removal of carcasses during outbreaks of botulism is an integral part of management plans for some wetland sites under particular protection (reserves), including Ramsar sites.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.3. Emergency Measures

> No additional information.

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)

Yes

Please provide details on the register

> Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (state body under the Ministry of Environment) is responsible for this register.

16. 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

> Guidelines for preparation of action plans for threatened plant and animal species were published by the Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (see above) in 2002

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

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

> No such situation occurred.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.4. Re-establishments

> No additional information.

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, 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.

> According to the Nature and Landscape Conservation Act it is prohibited to introduce non-native species of animals intentionally. The act was adopted in 1992 by Parliament of the Czech Republic. The Act is enforced by the Czech Environmental Inspection.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Internal ZOOs regulations deals with this topic. No way to influence in this topic private collectors.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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)?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of financial sources and mainly personal capacity. But there is a good view on the situation concerning invasive/alien species in CR: see below for 2 important liter. sources.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Mlíkovský J. & Stýblo P., eds., 2006: Nepůvodní druhy fauny a flóry ČR. /Non-native animal and plant species in the Czech Republic. Praha, ČSOP, 496 pp.

Pyšek P., Sádlo J. & Mandák B., 2002: Catalogue of alien plants of the Czech Republic. – Preslia, Praha, 74: 97-186.

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 populations of non-native waterbird species (e.g. *Branta canadensis*, *Alopochen aegyptiacus*, *Aix sponsa*, *A. galericulata*) are very low, no problem has been indicated with these species so far.

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)

No

Please explain the reasons

> No such problem occurred.

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?

> Introduction of non-native waterbird (as well as other animal and plant species) is forbidden by law (Nature and Landscape Conservation Act, adopted by the Parliament in 1992)

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.5. Introductions

> The introductions are problems much more in plants world within the Czech Republic, some animal group are also heavily affected (e.g. fish communities, crayfish), but not waterbirds.

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 was identified during preparation of list of Special Protection Areas according to EU Birds Directive. All sites from this list are now protected as SPAs. Information on these sites of international importance were published in: Chvátal M. (ed.) 2009: Special Protection Areas of the Czech Republic (in Czech).

The formal list of sites of national importance for migratory waterbirds was not created. The list of all identified wetlands of regional, national and international importance was published in: Chytil J. et al. (eds.) 1999: Wetlands of the Czech Republic (in Czech). This list is nowadays under evaluation from the view of present status of them, using the financial sources from Norway (Project: Conservation, research and sustainable use of wetlands in the Czech Republic).

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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.

No

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

> Sites of international importance were identified for every species of birds, not only for migratory waterbirds. Therefore criteria for identification of Important Bird Areas were used: Heath M.F., Evans M.I. (eds.) 2000: Important Bird Areas in Europe: Priority sites for conservation. 2 vols. BirdLife International. Also Ramsar Convention Criteria for Ramsar Sites were used.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 4.1. Habitat Inventories

> No additional information.

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

> Insufficiency data, lack of personal capacity.

For the national protected area network

No

Please explain the reasons.

> Insufficiency data

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
- Reporting on designation and management of nationally important sites
- Reporting on establishing buffer zones around waterbird sites (as an approach for maintaining or increasing resilience of ecological networks, including resilience to climate change)

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

> 15

Total area (ha)

> 98352

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

> 10

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

> 75799

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

> 10

Area (in ha)

> 75799

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

> 10

Area (in ha)

> 75799

All sites of national importance

Total number

> 40

Total area (ha)

> 11485

Has your country identified around which nationally or internationally important sites the establishment of buffer zones is needed to maintain or increase resilience?

- Yes

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)

> Very good management of National Nature Reserve in Nymburk district; very good management of Nature Reserve Vrbenske rybniky (nearby Ceske Budejovice);

Nowadays "Josefovské louky" under Czech Society for Ornithology/BirdLife partner in the Czech Republic are managed mainly for waterbirds. Kozmické louky nearby Opava are excellent example of newly established wetland.

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

Please explain the reasons

> No such plan is necessary at present. See also question 20; the project mentioned below will deal also with this question.

MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not relevant

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)

Yes

Please provide full reference or a web link, as well as details concerning the process and the status of this plan

> The updated State Programme of the Nature and Landscape Conservation for period 2010 - 2020 was approved by the government of the Czech Republic in December 2009. The Programme includes also measures for wetland ecosystems.

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?

> National guidelines for management of nature reserves and other types of protected areas have been used. Their principles and rules are very similar to AEWA Guidelines.

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.

Yes

Please give examples of how you have used the CSN Tool

> CSN Tool was presented on meetings of conservationists and ornithologists, they were encouraged to use it as an information source.

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

> All IBAs have their patronage groups with various number of member, consisting of local managers, owners, researches, local ornithologists and administrative authorities. Monitoring of the areas, preparation of management plans (and their evaluations), negotiations with owners are, among others, the main activities of them. Other way concerning monitoring of Ramsar sites (the most important AEWA sites in the Czech Republic) is the system of guarantors designated for each of the Czech Ramsar sites. Guarantors are members of the Expert group of the Czech Ramsar Committee. Once a year, before the meeting of Czech Ramsar Committee, they fill in the questionnaire concerning situation, changes and potential danger in Ramsar site that they are responsible. Questionnaires are then discussed individually at the meeting of the Czech Ramsar Committee.

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)

Yes

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

All AEWA species occurring in your country

> Yearly hunting bags of three species of geese (A.anser, A.fabalis and A.albifrons) are reported together.

Only some AEWA species occurring in your country

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

The whole territory of your country

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

All harvesting activities

Field for additional information (optional)

> All hunting clubs are obliged to report the yearly bag of game to regional authorities (County Councils). The regional reports are summarized and published annually.

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

Fully

When was lead shot use in wetlands banned?

> The use of lead shots for hunting of waterfowl is banned since 31st December 2010. Hunting Act No. 449/2001 was adopted by the Parliament of the Czech Republic in 2001. It is enforced by the hunting authorities, i.e. Ministry of Agriculture, regional and municipal offices.

What legislation is in place?

> see above.

Who enforces this legislation?

> The Ministry of Agriculture.

Has assessment of compliance with the legislation been undertaken?

No

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

> Lack of human capacity.

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.

> Lack of human capacity.

Field for additional information (optional)

> no additional information

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?

High

Please provide details

> Cases of illegal taking of migratory waterbirds are rare comparing to deaths caused by collisions with power

lines. More important is e.g. the illegal taking of fish, quite widespread in our country, which could be connected with higher disturbance of breeding/migrating waterbirds.

Field for additional information (optional)

> no additional information

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

> It was not the priority, because only 7 species of migratory waterfowl are hunted in the country (3 species of geese - *A. anser*, *A. albifrons*, *A. fabalis*, 3 species of ducks - *A. platyrhynchos*, *A. ferina*, *A. fuligula*, and Coot). The possible misidentifications deal only with *Anser erythropus* and *A. brachyrhynchus*; both these geese species are very rare in our country, and according to hunting practices there is clearly no possibility for appropriate identification of this species during hunting. The same situation concerns possible hunting on misidentified *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* instead of *Phalacrocorax carbo*, which could be exceptionally hunted with a special permission from responsible state nature conservation authorities.

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?

> All seven hunted species of migratory waterfowl are hunted in low numbers, with the exception of *Anas platyrhynchos*. This species is bred in very high numbers by hunters' clubs and released before autumn hunting season.

Sustainability of waterbird harvest is (traditionally) regulated by the time of possible harvest: in the last seasons, the possible time of waterbirds hunting is as follows: geese (*Anser anser*, *A. albifrons*, *A. fabalis*): 16.8. - 15.1., *Anas platyrhynchos*, *Aythya fuligula*, *Aythya ferina* and *Fulica atra*: 1.9. - 30.11. Moreover, the hunting time is regulated also through possible days of hunting: for geese those days are Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, for ducks and Coot Wednesday and Saturday. The possible reduction of both interval of hunting and days of hunting could be applied in the case of too high harvest of any species.

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

> The biggest problem concerning hunting and the protection of waterbirds together seems to be the releasing of very high numbers (tens of thousands) of non-native Mallards every year. These ducks are of very unclear origin (different geographical and genetic origin, including strange colour hybrids). The problem is also their very untypical behaviour, disturbing other waterbirds at localities. More than 95% of them are hunted during autumn season, but some of them are surviving, with all negative aspects influencing wild waterbird species, namely wild Mallards (including the erosion of gene pool of natural populations).

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.

> Not important from the point of waterbird protection in our country.

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 Act No. 326/2017 (EIA) has been adopted by the Parliament of the Czech Republic and is valid within the

whole territory of the country.

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

Yes

Please provide details

> The main principle of EIA legislation in the Czech Republic is that investors who plan construction of some specific, mainly large projects, such as large industrial projects, infrastructure, large agricultural projects (for instance large husbandry farms, drainage on a large scale) have to make an assessment of a potential impact of the project on surrounding environment including wetlands and waterfowl.

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

> Relevant authority is obliged to publish all relevant informations during every step of the EIA process on internet, public can apply objections and comments and relevant authority has to deal with them. The whole process has strict rules according to EIA Act (No. 326/2017).

Field for additional information (optional)

> no additional information

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

> The SEA/EIA process has to be applied only during the construction of new very high voltage lines (VVN lines), not during the reconstruction of old VVN lines and also not during (re)construction of high voltage lines (VN).

The SEA/EIA process is obligatory in large-scale protected areas (National parks, Protected Landscape Areas), where the majority of Czech SPA lies.

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?

Yes

Please describe the measures put in place

> The main measure is the vizualisation of the lines, using (mainly) "big red balls".

Field for additional information (optional)

> no additional information

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

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

> Very similar rules to AEWA Guidelines, nearly identical, are included in our legislation concerning nature protection (Act No. 114/92 on the Nature and Landscape Protection).

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

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

> The methodology concerning the (re)construction of high voltage lines (the most important from the number of collisions of waterbirds) exists: it was prepared by the Agency for Nature and Landscape Protection and might be used during the process of preparation of such (re)construction. The responsible bodies (municipalities with wider responsibility) sometimes does not use it - from different reasons (unfamiliarity with relevant methodology and rulings e.g.).

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?

Partially

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

Partially

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

> No such project with the possible significant effect on waterbirds occurred.

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?

Yes

Please provide details

> The main measure is the visualization of the lines, using (mainly) "big red balls" (very high voltage lines), in high voltage lines are newly designed pillars, friendly to birds, used.

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?

Yes

Please provide details

> Such sections were identified mainly from the view of birds of prey, several lines also from the view of mortality of waterbirds (majority deals with *Ciconia ciconia* and *Cygnus olor*).

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

Please provide details.

> Much more important are in our country collisions of birds of prey, in comparison with the numbers of affected waterbirds.

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

Please provide details.

> Partly ensured by some projects of the Agency for the Nature and Landscape Protection, newly also through the working group under Raptors MOU.

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?

Partial

Please provide details.

> see 42.9. Regular monitoring is not ensured - lack of human capacity.

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

Please provide details

> These measures are included both at newly developed documents concerning strategic plan of nature conservation in the Czech Republic and also at relevant legislation concerning (re)construction of electricity lines.

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

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

> Not exactly, but similar approach is used in landscape planning, nature protection documents and also guidelines for planning/construction of electricity lines.

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?

Yes

Please provide details

> Majority of areas of migratory waterbirds importance are particularly protected areas according to national legislation on birds/nature protection. Such areas have their zoning with the possible/forbidden activities including prospective renewable energy developments.

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?

Yes

44.3. 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?

> Lack of personal capacity and financial resources.

44.4. 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?

> Lack of financial sources; unclear process to calculate real damages and finances for compensation..

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:

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.

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

> Theoretically yes, but no such case occurred.

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

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

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

> No such problem occurred.

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?

Yes

Please provide details

> The measures are not directly mentioned in National Biodiversity Strategy, but they are included in Action Plans for individual SPAs. All the plans concerning power lines also have to be evaluated from the view of Act. No. 114/1992 On the protection of nature and the landscape.

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.

Not Applicable

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

Not applicable

Please explain

> No such problem - no by-catch fishing occur.

Field for additional information (optional)

> no additional information

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)

Not applicable

Please explain

> No such problem - no seabirds occur.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information

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)

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.

> Some systematic groups (part of waders e.g.) or places are not fully covered - not enough people

Covering the passage period

Partially

Please provide details.

> not enough training people for such monitoring

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Fully

Guidance: Coverage is full when all internationally and nationally important non-breeding/wintering sites are covered at least by one comprehensive annual count.

Please provide details.

> All such places are counted during IWC

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of personal capacity. On the other hand, Czech Ornithological Society is together with Catalonia the body responsible for managing the whole work on a new European Breeding Atlas of Birds, including the preparation of the methodology. Dr. Voříšek is the first author of outstanding methodology concerning monitoring of birds in Europe (Voříšek et al. 2008: Best practise guide for wild bird monitoring schemes. CSO/RSPB).

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

> International Waterbird census methods are used for monitoring of wintering birds, monitoring of breeding and migrating waterbirds is based on similar relevant principles used in AEWA Guidelines.

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)

Yes

Please list those programmes and indicate which AEWA priorities they are addressing

> e.g. grant No. 20124218 of the Czech University of Life Sciences: The risks of breeding lost in agriculture landscape and the possibility of their reduction. See the list under 47: Kubelka et al. 2012; Kubelka, Šálek 2013.

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)

> see attached list of publications

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

Literature_2012-2014.doc

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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

> Lack of financial sources; other priorities of the Government.

Field for additional information (optional)

> The IWC has been supported in the last triennium by the Czech University of Life Sciences.

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

Please provide reason(s)

> Lack of financial sources; we do not see this question as a priority

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

> No additional information. There is a long tradition in the Czech Republic concerning research and monitoring of waterbirds, which is documented also by a long series of publications. Up-to-date information concerning IWC are available to every counter also by newly established journal Aythya, devoted mainly to IWC reports and other publications dealing and/or arising from IWC.

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, but not being implemented

Please explain the reasons

> We have developed the AEWA Communication Strategy in 2017 and we are looking for suitable financial resources for its implementation.

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

No

Field for additional information (optional)

> The programme is focused on CEPA.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> AEWA NFP for CEPA has not been designated yet due to lack of financial resources to support her/his work. However the designation is planned.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of financial resources. However some education and information activities have been implemented independently by NGO as Czech Society for Ornithology.

60. 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

> There is a longterm tradition (since 1992) to organise a Dawn Chorus Day on the first Sunday of May. To celebrate this day the Czech Society for Ornithology organises birdwatching walking, lectures, show the ringing, promote the bird protection at almost 100 places in the country. The programme is focused on waterbirds too. There is no capacity to organise both the WMBD and Dawn Chorus Day.

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

> Communication Strategy is already prepared. We are looking for suitable financial resources for implementation of the objectives and targets.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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)

Yes, considered and is interested

Please provide details on the answer given above

> We have to discuss this idea with Czech Society for Ornithology that should be a strategic partner of this project.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information

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

> The participation at the training programme is planned.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Not relevant

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 7.1. AEWA Communication Strategy

> No additional information

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

> No opportunity

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information

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

> Other priorities of the MoE.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information

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

> Coordination mechanism is ensured by regular meetings of Working group for CMS that has been established in 2007 by CMS NFP. The WG covers all agreements and MoUs of CMS family in which the CR is a contracting party.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information

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

Please explain the reasons

> The discussion on this topic is planned in future. There is lack of both capacity and financial resources at the moment.

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

Please provide details

> Partially. Coordination of CBD Strategic plan is responsibility of CBD NFP.

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

Please provide details

> Partially. The AEWA Priorities are incorporated into measures concerning both species and wetlands protection.

69.2 Other strategic planning processes

No

Please explain the reasons

> No other strategic planning process.

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 NOT promoted

Please explain the reasons

> Other priorities of the MoE.

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?

> The link between biodiversity MEAs has been guaranteed by membership of NFPs and Scientific Advisors for MEAs in Working groups as CMS WG and Czech Ramsar Committee. NFP for CMS is simultaneously NFP for AEWA.

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

> Lack of financial sources for donation, other priorities.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> There is a focus on projects in national level especially.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No additional information.

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?

Yes

Please describe the resources provided

> The MoE provides small financial resources for implementation of MEAs resolutions every year. NFP are requested to ask for small projects that will be implemented during one or two years.

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

Please explain the reasons

> Development cooperation is coordinated by MFA and has other priorities.

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

Please explain the reasons

> Other priorities.

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

Please explain the reasons

> Not relevant. There is no national Migratory Waterbirds Fund in the country and other system of innovative financing mechanisms also missing.

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?

No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 8. Implementation

> No addition information.

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

Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

> See the attached list of publications. Some studies of dr. Jiří Reif (Institute of Environmental studies, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague) deals with birds and climate change from the global view.

Global Change Research Institute (www.czechglobe.cz) of the Czech Academy of Science studies also climate change and various problems dealing with it.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Birds_and_climate_change_publ..docx](#)

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

Please explain the reasons

> Waterbirds in the Czech Republic use mainly habitats where assessment of climate change to them was evaluated as low.

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of personal capacity.

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

> Waterbirds in the Czech Republic use mainly habitats where assessment of climate change to them was evaluated as low.

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

Please explain the reasons

> Waterbirds in the Czech Republic use mainly habitats where assessment of climate change to them was evaluated as low.

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

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

> Lack of personal capacity.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 9. Climate Change

> Czech Ramsar Committee, 2011: Mokřady a klimatická změna. Konference ke 40. výročí Ramsarské úmluvy./ Wetlands and climate change. Conference to 40th anniversary of Ramsar Convention/. Proc. conf. Blansko, 2.-5.2.2011. Altogether 96 lectures and posters, 145 participants. One lecture concerns the possible influence of climate change on numbers of waterbirds during IWC (P. Musil).

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

> The National Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza is established under the State Veterinary Institute (working under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic). Among others, there are several web pages reporting up-to-date situation in the Czech Republic - see 67.2.) and basic information concerning AI. Active and passive surveillance both for farms and wild waterbirds is ensured by this Nat. Ref. Laboratory. No case of AI in the last triennium 2015-2017.

77.2 List required further guidance or information

> Some basic information dealing with avian influenza:

http://eagri.cz/public/web/file/239190/info_verejnost_chovatele.pdf;

<http://eagri.cz/public/web/svs/portal/zdravi-zvirat/ptaci-chripka/ptaci-chripka-cr/nakazova-situace-v-cr.html>
(the present data concerning avian influenza in the Czech Republic)

77.3 Field for additional information (optional)

> In the last triennium, highly pathogenic bird influenza has been detected at the beginning of 2017. The occurrence of type HPAI was probably caused by severe frosts and waterbird migration. In total, virus was found in 51 wild bird specimens and at 39 poultry places. In majority cases, HPAI of subtype H5N8 was detected, only in one case was detected subtype H5N5. Outside of all adopted safeguards, State Veterinary Service also forbids the exhibitions and concentrations of poultry, cage birds and pigeons in the whole territory of the Czech Republic. Thanks to these measures HPAI was eradicated and the Czech Republic was proclaimed as a country without bird influenza on June 23, 2017.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 10. Avian Influenza

> In the last triennium, highly pathogenic bird influenza has been detected at the beginning of 2017. The occurrence of type HPAI was probably caused by severe frosts and waterbird migration. In total, virus was found in 51 wild bird specimens and at 39 poultry places. In majority cases, HPAI of subtype H5N8 was detected, only in one case was detected subtype H5N5. Outside of all adopted safeguards, State Veterinary Service also forbids the exhibitions and concentrations of poultry, cage birds and pigeons in the whole territory of the Czech Republic. Thanks to these measures HPAI was eradicated and the Czech Republic was proclaimed as a country without bird influenza on June 23, 2017.

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.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Letter_approval_NR_Czech.pdf](#) - Letter of approval_CzechRepublic

Date of submission

> 11 June 2018