1. Introduction

As outlined in Rule 32 of the Modus Operandi adopted at the 1st Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG) in December 2016, reports on the implementation of the AEWA International Species Management and Action Plans within the remit of the EGM IWG shall be prepared by each Range State, according to a format agreed by the EGM IWG and presented at each face-to-face meeting of the EGM IWG.

These National Reports are also expected to provide the basis for the reporting obligations of the EGM IWG to the AEWA bodies (Modus Operandi Rule 33).

As such, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has drafted the following suggestions for the establishment of National Reporting under the Working Group.

2. Establishment of National Reporting under the AEWA EGM IWG

2.1. Format

National reporting under the AEWA Pink-footed Goose International Working Group was previously carried out in the form of oral reports by each Range State at Working Group Meetings. Following the establishment of the European Goose Management Platform (EGMP) and the EGM IWG - bringing together an extended scope of Range States, as well as species, oral reporting is no longer practical.

It is thus suggested to set-up online reporting under the EGM IWG using the CMS Family online reporting system, which is already used for the submission of the triennial National Reports to the Sessions of the AEWA Meeting of the Parties. Following a decision by the EGM IWG to establish National Reporting, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will produce a reporting template for each of the Action and Management Plans covered by the EGMP, as well as a template for other general, non-species-specific reporting, and will circulate these draft templates to the relevant Range States for approval during the autumn of 2017 via email correspondence.
The approved templates will then be inserted into the online reporting system and access as well as guidance will be provided to the designated government representatives by the end of 2017.

2.2. Content

In the National Reports, countries will be requested to report on implementation progress made regarding the International Action and Management Plans to which they are a Principle Range State. It should be noted that the data required for the adaptive harvest management processes running under the EGMP will not be included in the template. All metadata on the population numbers, harvest level etc. – which is required annually – will be submitted separately directly to the EGMP Data Centre. The scope of the National Reports will be on the activities foreseen in the respective Action and Management Plans as well as the implementation of adaptive harvest management programmes.

In addition, the National Reports will include reporting on other tasks as decided by EGM IWG in terms of implementation, as necessary.

2.3. Timing and deadlines

It is suggested that National Reports on the implementation of the relevant International Species Action and Management Plans be submitted to the EGM IWG every year, as the national data needed for the adaptive harvest management will also be reported to the EGMP Data Centre annually.

The deadline for submission of the reports to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat is recommended to be set at three months before the meeting of the EGM IWG in a reporting year, to allow the Secretariat sufficient time to compile an overview on implementation progress made for each species population. The first National Reports are suggested to be submitted to the 3rd Meeting of the EGM IWG in 2018.

Action Requested from the EGM IWG

The EGM IWG is invited to review and to approve the suggested modalities of National Reporting as outlined above.