

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS



6th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

9-14 November 2015, Bonn, Germany

"Making flyway conservation happen"

RESOLUTION 6.21

RESOURCE MOBILISATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN EURASIAN WATERBIRD AGREEMENT (AEWA)

(Submitted by South Africa)

Recalling Resolution 4.7 through which, inter alia, the AEWA Meeting of the Parties adopted the AEWA Strategic Plan for the period 2009-2017, as well as called on Contracting Parties, other donors and stakeholders to provide financial resources to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan, as well as to assist developing countries, countries with economies in transition and Small Island Developing States with the implementation of this Strategic Plan,

Also recalling Resolution 5.9 through which the AEWA Meeting of the Parties, *inter alia*, adopted the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa for the period 2012-2017, as well as called on the Contracting Parties and other donors to provide financial and other in-kind resources to support the implementation of the African Initiative and the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa,

Aware of the different circumstances faced by Parties such as issues of livelihoods and conservation in developing countries,

Aware of the economic situations facing both developed and developing countries,

Recognising that eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development for developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing states and countries with economies in transition,

Recalling the obligations of the Parties to implement the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement,

Further recalling that implementation of this Agreement can be made more effective through the provision of assistance to some Range States for research, training, implementation and monitoring of migratory waterbird species and their habitats, for the management of those habitats as well as for the establishment or improvement of scientific and administrative institutions for the implementation of this Agreement,

Acknowledging the role of the core budget as being a critical component for promoting the overall implementation of the Agreement,

Expressing appreciation to the Contracting Parties which have so far ensured the timely payment of their assessed contributions to the AEWA General Trust Fund, thereby contributing to the smooth functioning of the Agreement's activities which rely on these contributions,

Recognising with appreciation the various financial and other in-kind contributions that have so far been made by Contracting Parties, donors and other stakeholders towards the implementation of the Agreement at the national, regional and Agreement level,

Appreciating the importance of sharing information on the resources mobilised in the framework of the implementation of the Agreement both at the national, regional and international level, through various information sharing and reporting mechanisms,

Recognising the need for adequate, predictable and timely financial and other resources to promote the effective implementation of AEWA at the national, regional and Agreement levels.

The Meeting of the Parties:

- 1. *Urges* all Contracting Parties to provide, in accordance with their capabilities, 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 their national plans, priorities and programmes;
- 2. Requests Parties and other donors to consider providing voluntary contributions towards implementation of the Communication Strategy and invites all Parties, Range States and other stakeholders to support its implementation with the expertise, networks, skills and resources they have at their disposal;
- 3. Requests all AEWA Contracting Parties, especially those which are consistently in arrears with the payment of their assessed contributions to the AEWA General Trust Fund, to ensure the payment of the outstanding contributions as soon as possible, and to liaise with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for any support or guidance needed to facilitate the payment process;
- 4. *Encourages* developed country Parties and other Parties in a position to do so, and invites other governments, financial institutions and other partners to facilitate funding from all sources, to support and enhance the implementation by developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, of their obligations under this Agreement, and the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2012-2017;
- 5. *Encourages* all Parties to utilise platforms such as South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation to enhance financial and technical support for the successful implementation of AEWA activities;
- 6. *Requests* the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to identify global funding mechanisms and make that information available to Parties to enhance cooperation;
- 7. *Encourages* all Parties to use innovative financing mechanisms for implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan such as a Migratory Waterbirds Fund;
- 8. *Urges* Parties to incorporate measures to implement this Agreement at the national or subnational level into their national plans and strategies such as the National biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) to increase visibility and enhance consideration and recognition when setting national priorities eligible for national budget allocations;
- 9. *Urges* Parties to enhance synergies in their respective countries between biodiversity-related conventions to facilitate 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 to enable efficient use of resources;
- 10. *Urges* Contracting Parties to report on the progress of implementing this resolution through their national reports to each Meeting of the Parties.