



7th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

04-08 December 2018, Durban, South Africa

“Beyond 2020: Shaping flyway conservation for the future”

DRAFT RESOLUTION 7.5

**ADOPTION, REVISION, RETIREMENT, EXTENSION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
INTERNATIONAL SPECIES ACTION AND MANAGEMENT PLANS**

Recalling that paragraph 2.2.1 of the Action Plan of the Agreement states that the Parties shall cooperate with a view to developing and implementing International Single Species Action Plans, as a priority for those populations in Category 1 on Column A of Table 1 and those marked with an asterisk,

Further recalling that although International Species Action Plans are not directly binding, Parties are under a legal obligation to cooperate with a view to implementing such plans and that they are, therefore, not merely recommendations, and that Parties shall make every effort to implement such plans as an extension of their obligations under the Agreement,

Noting that in accordance with target 1.2 of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, all priority species/populations shall be covered by effectively implemented International Species Action Plans at flyway level,

Recalling paragraph 4.3.4 of the Action Plan of the Agreement, whereby Parties shall also cooperate with a view to developing action plans for populations which cause significant damage, in particular, to crops and fisheries,

Further recalling that in accordance with target 2.4 of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, adaptive harvest management regimes are to be established and effectively implemented at flyway level in the framework of International Species Action or Management Plans for all prioritised quarry populations and ‘conflict’ species,

Welcoming the establishment of the AEWA European Goose Management Platform (EGMP) as requested by the Parties in Resolution 6.4 on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Migratory Waterbirds,

Following the positive recommendations from both the Technical and Standing Committees concerning the need to approve and implement a further two new International Single Species Action Plans, one revised International Single Species Action Plan, and two International Single Species Management Plans,

Noting in conjunction with the AEWA International Single Species Action Plan for the Velvet Scoter, the urgent need identified at the 5th Pan-European Duck Symposium's seminar on marine renewables and seaducks, held in Scotland on 16th April 2018, for guidance on the coordinated implementation of marine management, particularly in relation to strategic spatial planning and the assessment of cumulative impact, in order to effectively manage the rapid growth in use of the marine environment by multiple sectors, including renewable energy and shipping, and to ensure better outcomes for threatened seaducks and other marine waterbirds at a flyway scale,

Further noting the current status of AEWA International Species Action and Management Plan production and coordination, including the Technical Committee recommendations for extension, revision or retirement of AEWA International Single Species Action Plans, as outlined in document AEWA/MOP 7.21,

Recognising the progress made in establishing AEWA International Species Working Groups and AEWA International Species Expert Groups to coordinate the implementation of International Species Action Plans and the, so far only, International Single Species Management Plan and the increased implementation of these Plans, as a result of the operations of such International Species Working and Expert Groups,

Also recognising the need to further develop the action- and management planning process under the Agreement including the adoption of a revised format for AEWA International Single and Multi-Species Action Plans as well as adopting a revised process for the revision, retirement and extension of International Single Species Action Plans,

Acknowledging that despite progress made, continued efforts are necessary to ensure the long-term conservation and/or sustainable use of prioritized species/populations,

Thanking all Parties for the funding provided towards the development of new Action and Management Plans as well as the work of AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups to implement existing International Species Action and Management Plans,

Further thanking all governmental and non-governmental organisations which provide support to the development, coordination and implementation of International Species Action and Management Plans,

The Meeting of the Parties:

1. *Adopts* the International Single Species Action Plans for the following species/populations:
 - a) Dalmatian Pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*) (document AEWA/MOP 7.25),
 - b) Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) - Western Siberia & Northern European/NW European population (document AEWA/MOP 7.23),
 - c) White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*) - revision of the 2005 ISSAP (document AEWA/MOP 7.24);

2. *Adopts* the International Single Species Management Plans for the following species/populations:
 - a) Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) (document AEWA/MOP 7.26),
 - b) Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*) - Northwest/Southwest European population (document AEWA/MOP 7.27);

3. *Calls on* Parties to implement these and previously adopted International Species Action and Management Plans pursuant to paragraphs 2.2.1 and 4.3.4 of the Agreement's Action Plan;
4. *Encourages* Range States that are not yet Contracting Parties to the Agreement to also implement these, as well as, previously adopted International Species Action and Management Plans;
5. *Adopts* the amendment to the decision-making process for the revision and retirement of International Single Species Action Plans to include the extension of the validity of Action Plans as outlined in Appendix 1 and in document AEWA/MOP 7.21;
6. *Retires* the International Single Species Action Plans for the following species as the respective Action Plan goals have been achieved and the populations are increasing as outlined in document AEWA/MOP 7.21, and instructs the AEWA Technical Committee to continue to monitor these species as part of its triennial prioritisation of AEWA-listed species/populations for action- and management-planning:
 - a) Corncrake (*Crex crex*),
 - b) Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*),
 - c) Black-winged Pratincole (*Glareola nordmanni*);
7. *Extends* the validity of the following International Single Species Action Plans for another ten years (2019-2028) as the main threats, as well as the corresponding goals, objectives, results and actions outlined in the respective Action Plans remain valid and the species/populations in question will still benefit from the existence of an international flyway conservation framework, as outlined in document AEWA/MOP 7.21:
 - a) Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*),
 - b) Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*),
 - c) Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*),
 - d) Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*),
 - e) Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*),
 - f) Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*),
 - g) Maccoa Duck (*Oxyura maccoa*),
 - h) White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothrura ayresi*),
 - i) Madagascar Pond Heron (*Ardeola idae*);
8. *Calls upon* all Range States, relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations and bilateral and multilateral donors to provide assistance for the coordination and implementation of International Species Action and Management Plans that have been adopted and extended, in particular through active participation in, and funding of, AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups;
9. *Encourages* Parties and Range States that are not yet Party to the Agreement, as well as relevant non-governmental organisations and bilateral and multilateral donors to continue providing assistance for the development of new International Species Action and Management Plans as prioritised by the Technical Committee;
10. *Instructs* the Secretariat to disseminate these new International Species Action and Management Plans to relevant Parties and organisations, to monitor the implementation of all adopted International Species Action and Management Plans, and to report to the Meeting of the Parties as specified in paragraph 7.4 of the Agreement's Action Plan and through the international review on the stage of preparation and implementation of single species action plans;

11. *Adopts* the revised format for AEWA International Single and Multi-Species Action Plans as outlined in document AEWA/MOP 7.22, and encourages the Technical Committee to develop such a format for International Species Management Plans;
12. *Encourages* the Technical Committee to revise the AEWA conservation guidelines on the preparation of National Single Species Action Plans for Migratory Waterbirds;
13. *Invites* the AEWA European Seaduck International Working Group and the Wetlands International / IUCN SSC Duck Specialist Group to develop Conservation Guidelines on 'Marine Spatial Planning and the Conservation of Seaducks', in close collaboration with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and the AEWA Technical Committee, as well as other relevant stakeholders including other international organizations such as ICES, HELCOM and OSPAR, to be presented to the next session of the Meeting of the Parties to AEWA for adoption;
14. *Reiterates the request to Parties*, as well as the AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups to continue to follow, as appropriate, the adopted AEWA conservation guidelines when implementing International Species Action and Management Plans, stressing the need for this best practice, and *stresses* in particular the obligation to inform the Secretariat in advance of any re-establishment programmes for populations listed in Table 1 of the Action Plan.

APPENDIX 1. Revised decision-making process for the assessment of AEWA International Single Species Action Plans for revision, extension and retirement (as outlined in document AEWA/MOP 7.21)

