

**8<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES**  
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*“Strengthening Flyway Conservation in a Changing World”*

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## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADDRESSING CAUSES OF WATERBIRD MORTALITY**

### **Introduction**

Under Objective 1 of the AEW A Strategic Plan 2019-2027 (*To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality*) Target 1.6 foresees the integration of AEW A priorities relating to four causes of unnecessary additional mortality and other key threats to migratory waterbirds and their habitats in key multilateral processes. The four causes identified in the Strategic Plan are energy infrastructure (especially powerlines, wind turbines); illegal taking & killing; fisheries bycatch; and invasive alien species.

Under actions 1.6(a) and 1.6(b) the Technical Committee was mandated to identify those multilateral processes that can contribute most to progressing AEW A priorities and identify strategic opportunities for positively influencing these processes (meetings of technical bodies, working groups etc.) in order to ensure, as far as possible, that AEW A’s views are represented.

In response to this mandate, task 4.1 was added to the Technical Committee workplan 2019-2021/22. Due to lack of capacity this task could not be addressed until very late in the intersessional period.

With the financial support of the Government of the United Kingdom, in early 2021 the Secretariat commissioned the compilation of an overview of the opportunities available to address the four causes of waterbird mortality in the framework of other multilateral processes. Due to the postponement of MOP8 from October 2021 to September 2022, this document could be finalised for submission to MOP8.

The document was compiled in close consultation with and input from the Technical Committee through its online Workspace. The Technical Committee reviewed drafts of the document and approved the final and agreed version for submission to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee approved by correspondence the document for submission to MOP8.

### **Action Requested from the Meeting of the Parties**

The Meeting of the Parties is requested to review the document and consider its recommendations for implementation (see also Draft Resolution 8.15).

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## Introduction and Purpose of this Document

The five objectives in the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 include (as No.1) “*To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality*”. Target 1.6 in the Plan foresees that “*AEWA priorities relating to four causes of unnecessary additional mortality and other key threats to migratory waterbirds and their habitats are integrated in key multilateral processes*”.

The “four causes” are given as:

- energy infrastructure (especially powerlines, wind turbines);
- illegal taking & killing;
- fisheries bycatch; and
- invasive alien species.

Examples of relevant multilateral processes are mentioned in the Plan as including, but not being limited to:

- The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (including the Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs);
- The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
- The Convention on Migratory Species (CMS);
- The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention);
- Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs); and
- The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

This is linked to AEWA MOP Resolution 6.12 (2015) on “*Avoiding additional and unnecessary mortality for migratory waterbirds*”, which lists a range of previous MOP Resolutions and other initiatives on individual threats and mortality causes, urges Parties to give priority to making use of those, and makes a connection in particular to related Resolutions and working arrangements under the Convention on Migratory Species, concerning poisoning and illegal killing. A general mandate is also contained in the Agreement itself, in Article III.2(e) which provides that Parties shall “*investigate problems that are posed or are likely to be posed by human activities and endeavour to implement remedial measures, including habitat rehabilitation and restoration, and compensatory measures for loss of habitat*”.

The aim of the present document is to identify opportunities for influencing Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and other multilateral processes to address the named priority causes of unnecessary additional mortality of migratory waterbirds. This responds to Action 1.6 (a) in the Strategic Plan which is to “identify those multilateral processes that can contribute most to progressing AEWA priorities” and Action 1.6 (b) which includes “identify[ing] strategic opportunities for positively influencing these processes (meetings of technical bodies, working groups etc.)”. Other actions are specified which lie beyond the scope of the present document but will in due course be supported by it, concerning advocacy in relevant fora (including by Parties) of AEWA’s priorities in coherent and mutually reinforcing ways.

The overview that follows below is largely limited to the four mortality causes named in the Plan and listed above. Some consideration will also be given to others such as poisoning, including lead poisoning; but causes that are specifically covered by other targets in the Strategic Plan (such as non-energy developments, habitat loss, climate change and unsustainable hunting/harvesting) are beyond the scope. The MEAs and multilateral processes considered include those listed above as well as others where appropriate.

## What do we Mean by Influencing?

“Influencing” in this context can be pursued in a variety of ways by players of many types of roles in the AEWA system. The Secretariat has coordination and synergistic dealings with the Secretariats of other MEAs, and individual experts in science, policy, law and communications as well as non-governmental partner organisations with skills and capacity in these areas are able to promote the interests of AEWA in other multilateral fora.

A key part of this picture however also rests with the national government agencies of States that are Contracting Parties to the Agreement and are also Parties (or Signatories, or Members) of the other multilateral agreements and processes covered by this review. Internal coordination in each country between the respective Focal Points and Ministry Departments responsible for each of the identified opportunities below will be important for success here.

A typical opportunity in an MEA context might be in the intergovernmental decision-making meetings (such as periodic meetings of a Convention's Conference of Parties or Standing Committee) where formal Resolutions, guidance documents and work programmes are agreed; or in the processes of scientific and technical subsidiary bodies where guidance is developed, and technical assessments are planned and undertaken. More "operational" contexts at programme and project level are also relevant but limited for present purposes mainly to multi-country situations.

Multilateral processes of relevance include not only Conventions and other treaty systems, but also international funding programmes (both those that are biodiversity-related and others that have environmental safeguarding regimes) and regulatory and standard-setting bodies.

Among the opportunities identified in the tables that follow below are some measures adopted in the legal and policy framework of the European Union. Good implementation of these will support AEWA's objectives and should be encouraged. These situations are of a slightly different character to the others described here however, in that the European Union is a Party to AEWA in its own right, and therefore already under an obligation to follow AEWA MOP decisions and other mandates. "Influencing" in this case is more a matter of ensuring that these existing obligations are upheld.

"Success" can be interpreted at two main levels. At one level, it might be considered that success has been achieved when AEWA principles, standards, ideas and suggestions are taken up and reflected in the policies and decisions of other multilateral processes. This can perhaps be viewed as success for AEWA *inputs*. This may be all that Target 1.6 in the Strategic Plan expects, in that it refers to AEWA priorities being "integrated" in these other processes, with the two suggested indicators for the target being (i) the "*number of issues for which AEWA priorities have been formally communicated to the most relevant multilateral process(es)*" and (ii) the "*number of relevant decisions, actions, recommendations and guidance under these processes that incorporate AEWA priorities*".

It might be possible to consider also however whether success is accomplished at the level of *outcomes*, which would refer to instances where, as a consequence of the integration of inputs as described above, tangible steps towards AEWA objectives concerning the *resulting conservation status* of migratory waterbirds and their habitats are achieved (and verified by evidence) *through* the actions of other multilateral processes that have been influenced. Target 1.6 might in fact partly contemplate this by its reference in the second suggested indicator to "actions" (by others) that incorporate AEWA priorities; but a true expression of it might require indicators more akin to those for the "purposes" in the Plan (P1-P6), if the outcomes concerned could in some way be attributed to the actions of a particular category of actor. This may be possible in some cases at a project scale, but addressing it more widely is perhaps a longer-term challenge. Achieving favourable conservation status itself may be a long-term process, but evidence of "threat removal" in the interim, and/or associated positive trends exhibited by affected species, would be a basis at least for indicating good progress.

## **How Opportunities for Influencing have been Prioritised for this Review**

Each of the "four causes" is addressed in turn in the sections that follow below, followed by a fifth section touching on some additional issues. Each section contains two tables. Table (a) identifies opportunities derived from "existing AEWA orientations". These orientations refer to sources including Resolutions of the MOP, Action Plans, guidance documents and other materials or initiatives generated under the auspices of the Agreement. Nothing is included here however that is a process or initiative of AEWA itself or is a joint initiative where AEWA takes a leading role, or is a request or recommendation made by AEWA to another body. This is because AEWA's own activities are not targets for "influencing" in the "externally directed" sense foreseen in Strategic Plan Target 1.6.

The second table in each section, Table (b), identifies opportunities derived from other relevant contexts which have not yet been formally highlighted in existing AEWA sources. In many cases this is simply because they arise from decisions or initiatives that are more recent than the latest AEWA MOP Resolutions or Agreement publications on the subject.

Both lists in each section may be regarded as a sample of the most relevant items, informed *inter alia* by consultative input from the AEWA Technical Committee (during 2022). The lists do not in any way purport to be a comprehensive inventory: instead, the selection has been made according to where the most concrete basis for an influencing opportunity is seen to lie. This is necessarily a matter of subjective judgement; but it is a starting point for developing the more specific steps that might be considered in each case. The overall picture will continue to evolve as well, as external processes develop further and as this assessment of opportunities is updated and broadened in future (see “Conclusions” section below).

## The Opportunities Relating to each Mortality Cause

### 1. Energy Infrastructure

#### (a) Existing AEWA orientations

AEWA has produced two publications in its series of MOP-approved “Conservation Guidelines” that address this issue:

- Guidelines No. 11 (2008) on how to avoid, minimise or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds - <https://www.unep-awea.org/en/publication/awea-conservation-guidelines-no-11-guidelines-how-avoid-minimize-or-mitigate-impact> ;
- Guidelines No. 14 (2012) on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region - <https://www.unep-awea.org/en/publication/awea-conservation-guidelines-no-14-guidelines-how-avoid-or-mitigate-impact-electricity> .

The MOP has to date also adopted three relevant Resolutions:

- Resolution 5.11 (2012) on Power lines and migratory waterbirds - <https://www.unep-awea.org/en/document/power-lines-and-migratory-waterbirds> ;
- Resolution 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds - <https://www.unep-awea.org/en/document/renewable-energy-and-migratory-waterbirds-1> ;
- Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds - <https://www.unep-awea.org/en/document/addressing-impacts-renewable-energy-deployment-migratory-waterbirds-2> .

Key multilateral processes/platforms identified in these that may offer an entry-point for influence, and some others, are summarised in the table below.

Multilateral process / platform	Where identified by AEWA	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>► Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</b>		
CMS COP Resolution 7.4 (2002) on The electrocution of migratory birds	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 5.11 (2012) on Power lines and migratory waterbirds Mentioned also in AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 14 (2012) on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> <li>• Support for leveraging action in other fora/industry groups.</li> </ul>
CMS “Suggested Practices for Bird Protection on Power Lines” - Document Inf.7.21 for CMS COP 7 (2012)	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 5.11 (2012) on Power lines and migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review extent/quality of implementation.</li> </ul>
CMS Resolution 10.11 (2011) on Power lines and migratory birds	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 5.11 (2012) on Power lines and migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> <li>• Support for leveraging action in other fora/industry groups.</li> </ul>
CMS Resolution 7.5 (2002) on Wind turbines and migratory species	Noted in preambles of MOP Resolutions 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds and 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> <li>• Support for leveraging action in other fora/industry groups.</li> </ul>

CMS Resolution 10.11 (2011) on Wind turbines and migratory species	Noted in preambles of MOP Resolutions 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds and 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds <sup>1</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> <li>• Support for leveraging action in other fora/industry groups.</li> </ul>
CMS Resolution 11.27 (2014) on renewable energy and migratory species	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> <li>• Support for leveraging action in other fora/industry groups.</li> </ul>
CMS Energy Task Force (Task Force on Reconciling Selected Energy Sector Developments with Migratory Species Conservation)	Operative section of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds - instructs the AEWa Secretariat to stay involved in the Task Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct involvement in Task Force, influencing joint positions/actions.</li> </ul>
<b>► Joint guidelines</b>		
“Guidelines on How to Avoid or Mitigate the Impact of Electricity Power Grids on Migratory Birds in the African-Eurasian Region” adopted by CMS COP10 (2011), AEWa MOP5 (2012) and the CMS Raptors MoU MOS1 (2012)	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review extent/quality of implementation.</li> <li>• Promote to other fora/industry groups.</li> </ul>
“Renewable Energy Technologies and Migratory Species: Guidelines for Sustainable Deployment” adopted by AEWa MOP Resolution 6.5 (2015) were also previously endorsed by CMS COP11 (2014)	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review extent/quality of implementation.</li> <li>• Promote to other fora/industry groups.</li> </ul>
<b>► Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>		
CBD Article 14 requires Parties to have procedures for carrying out Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) for projects likely to have a significant adverse impact on biodiversity. CBD COP adopted voluntary EIA guidelines (Decision VII/7 in 2004, superseded by Decision VIII/28 in 2006)	Described in AEWa Conservation Guidelines No. 11 (2008) on how to avoid, minimise or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds; and guidance referred to in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess adequacy of national legislation against the standards in the guidelines.</li> <li>• Invoke guidelines in advocating good practice.</li> <li>• Suggest review of any need to update guidelines.</li> </ul>
SBSTTA Recommendation XVI/9 (2012) on “Technical and regulatory matters on geoengineering in relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity”. (Led to CBD COP Decision XI/20 (2012) on Climate-related geoengineering).	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up action/ reporting on implementation of the CBD COP Decision.</li> </ul>
National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) under the CBD	Operative sections of MOP Resolutions 5.11 (2012) on Power lines and migratory waterbirds and 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When NBSAPs are being developed or updated, advocate inclusion of the measures defined in these two AEWa Resolutions</li> </ul>
<b>► Bern Convention</b>		

<sup>1</sup> (The AEWa Resolutions both refer to this as CMS Resolution 10.9, but the correct number is 10.11. Res 6.11 then also makes a separate correct reference to CMS Res 10.11.).



Bern Standing Committee Recommendation No. 110 (2004) on Minimising the adverse effects of above-ground electricity transmission facilities (power lines) on birds; (and implementation report presented to the Committee in 2010)	Operative section of MOP Resolution 5.11 (2012) on Power lines and migratory waterbirds instructs the AEWA Secretariat, in close cooperation with the CMS Secretariat, to consult the Secretariat of the Bern Convention in order to regularly update the examples of possible mitigation measures adopted as an appendix to Recommendation No. 110 of 2004, as appropriate, and to disseminate these to their respective Parties. Mentioned also in AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 14 (2012) on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collate and disseminate / promote examples of evolving innovations in mitigation techniques, and examples of successful implementation.</li> </ul>
Bern Convention Report “Effects of Wind Farms on Birds”	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and update scientific knowledge.</li> </ul>
Bern Standing Committee Recommendation No. 109 (2004) on minimising adverse effects of wind power generation on wildlife	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collate and disseminate / promote examples of evolving innovations in mitigation techniques, and examples of successful implementation.</li> </ul>
Bern Convention document T-PVS/Inf (2013)15: “Wind farms and birds: an updated analysis of the effects of wind farms on birds, and best practice guidance on integrated planning and impact assessment”	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds; and in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and update scientific knowledge and advice on best practices.</li> </ul>
Bern Standing Committee Recommendation No. 110 (2004) on minimising adverse effects of above-ground electricity transmission facilities (power lines) on birds	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collate and disseminate / promote examples of evolving innovations in mitigation techniques, and examples of successful implementation.</li> </ul>
<b>► Ramsar Convention</b>		
Ramsar Resolution X.25 (2008) on wetlands and biofuels	Operative section of MOP Resolution 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds calls on AEWA Parties to address potential impacts of biofuel production on waterbirds, building on approaches established in Ramsar Resolution X.25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ramsar Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future Ramsar COPs.</li> </ul>
Draft Ramsar Technical Report “Wetlands and energy issues: a review of the possible implications of policies, plans and activities in the energy sector for the wise use of wetlands” (summary provided to COP11 (2012) in DOC. 28, but Technical Report itself never issued?)	Draft noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up attention at Ramsar COP and via Ramsar Scientific &amp; Technical Review Panel</li> </ul>
Ramsar Resolution VII.24 (1999) on Compensation for lost wetland habitats and other functions	Operative section of MOP Resolution 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds calls on AEWA Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ramsar Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future Ramsar COPs.</li> </ul>



	to consider compensation for damage resulting from renewable energy installations in accordance with Ramsar Resolution VII.24	
Ramsar Resolution VIII.20 (2002) on General guidance for interpreting “urgent national interests” under Article 2.5 of the Convention and considering compensation under Article 4.2	Operative section of MOP Resolution 5.16 (2012) on Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds calls on AEWa Parties to consider compensation for damage resulting from renewable energy installations in accordance with Ramsar Resolution VIII.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggest review of instances of application of these provisions in renewable energy development contexts.</li> </ul>
Ramsar Resolution XI.10 (2012) providing “Guidance for addressing the implications for wetlands of policies, plans and activities in the energy sector”	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.11 (2015) on Addressing impacts of renewable energy deployment on migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggest Ramsar STRP review possible need to update the guidance.</li> </ul>
Ramsar Resolution X.17 (2008) on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment - updated scientific and technical guidance	Noted in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess adequacy of national legislation against the standards in the guidelines.</li> <li>• Invoke guidelines in advocating good practice.</li> <li>• Suggest review of any need to update guidelines.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ Espoo Convention</b>		
UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention, 1991) requires its Parties to consult with other Parties if a plan or programme may have significant transboundary effects. Supplemented by a Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (2003).	Referred to in AEWa Conservation Guidelines No. 11 (2008) on how to avoid, minimise or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Espoo Parties accounting for action; synthesis reports of implementation?</li> </ul>
<b>➤ European Union</b>		
EU Directive on Environmental Assessment – initially Directive 85/337/EEC (1985) and amended several times since (latest version Directive 2011/92/EU (2011) with amendments in Directive 2014/52/EU (2014))	Referred to in AEWa Conservation Guidelines No. 11 (2008) on how to avoid, minimise or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation/ compliance reviews at EU level.</li> </ul>
EU Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment (2001)	Referred to in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation/ compliance reviews at EU level.</li> </ul>
EU guidance document on Wind energy developments and Natura 2000 (2011) (subsequently updated in 2021 as Wind energy developments and EU legislation)	Referred to in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote awareness and application of the more recent update of the guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ OECD</b>		
OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Guidance on SEA: Applying Strategic Environmental Assessment. Good Practice Guidance for Development Co-operation (2006).	Referred to in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess application of guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ World Bank</b>		
World Bank working paper “Good dams and bad dams: environmental criteria for site selection of hydroelectric projects (2003)	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 5.16 (2012) on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess application of criteria.</li> </ul>

	Renewable energy and migratory waterbirds <sup>2</sup>	
<b>► International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA)</b>		
Recommended that all impact assessment should follow the Best Practice Principles for Impact Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Biodiversity in Impact Assessment provided in an IAIA toolkit in 2005	Referred to in AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 11 (2008) on how to avoid, minimise or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggest IAIA review best practices and update international principles.</li> <li>• Promote renewed collaboration between IAIA and MEAs.</li> </ul>
<b>► International Energy Agency</b>		
Guidelines for the mitigation of the construction and decommissioning of hydropower facilities (2006, 2012)	Referred to in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess application of the guidelines.</li> </ul>
<b>► World Commission on Dams</b>		
Dams and development: a new framework for decision making (2000)	Referred to in “Renewable energy technologies and migratory species: guidelines for sustainable deployment” (AEWA MOP document 6.37, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess application of the framework.</li> </ul>

In addition, some individual Species Action Plans under AEWA may contain relevant ideas.

**(b) Other relevant contexts**

Multilateral process / platform	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>► Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</b>	
CMS Resolution 7.2 (Rev.COP12) on Impact assessment and migratory species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> </ul>
CMS Resolution 10.11 (Rev.COP13, 2020) on Power lines and migratory birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Influence implementation by CMS Parties of provisions in the Resolution relating <i>inter alia</i> to sensitivity mapping, establishing bird data baselines for mitigating and monitoring and mitigating impacts, and including relevant measures in NBSAPs and legislation.</li> </ul>
<b>United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)</b>	
UNEA Resolution 5/9 (2022) on Sustainable and resilient infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invoke the Resolution’s encouragement for integrating UNEP’s <i>International Good Practice Principles for Sustainable Infrastructure: Integrated, Systems-Level Approaches for Policymakers</i> (2021) into national legislation, to ensure such integration throughout the Agreement area.</li> <li>• Oversight of follow-up through future sessions of UNEA.</li> </ul>
<b>► European Union</b>	
European Commission guidance document on Energy transmission infrastructure and EU nature legislation (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and monitor implementation in EU countries.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> (The title of the World Bank document is rendered slightly inaccurately in the AEWA Resolution but has been corrected where it appears in the table here).

## 2. Illegal Taking & Killing

### (a) Existing AEWA orientations

The AEWA MOP-adopted Conservation Guidelines No. 6 (2005) on regulating trade in migratory waterbirds (<https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/aewa-conservation-guidelines-no-6-guidelines-regulating-trade-migratory-waterbirds-ts-no>) identified some multilateral processes/platforms that may offer entry-points for influence. These and some others are summarised in the table below.

Multilateral process / platform	Where identified by AEWA	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>➤ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)</b>		
Where international trade affects migratory waterbirds, CITES (via UNEP-WCMC) provides the best source of data on this problem. (Only small numbers of migratory waterbirds are affected in the AEWA area however, with domestic trade being much more significant. Data are also based only on CITES-listed species, and they exclude pre-export mortality, which may be significant).	Referred to in AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 6 (2005) on regulating trade in migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting and assessment of CITES implementation data.</li> </ul>
CITES Parties required to regulate trade in Appendix-listed species	AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 6 (2005) on regulating trade in migratory waterbirds recommends that States join CITES, to monitor and regulate trade in endangered and vulnerable species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Join the Convention, if not already a Party.</li> <li>Mechanisms to ensure/improve compliance.</li> </ul>
CITES species listings are dynamic, and Parties need to keep them up to date. Twelve species with the highest conservation status in the AEWA Action Plan (Category 1, Column A, Table 1) and 3 species listed in Appendix I of CMS, were not listed at the time of the 2005 Guidelines referred to here (position requires updating)	Mentioned to in AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 6 (2005) on regulating trade in migratory waterbirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Align CITES species listings with AEWA priorities.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</b>		
Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT) established under CMS COP Resolution 11.16, 2014 (Rev. COP13, 2020) on the illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds (IKB)	Task Force convened by the CMS Secretariat in conjunction with the AEWA Secretariat and others. Referred to in the Plan of Action to address bird trapping along the Mediterranean coasts of Egypt and Libya (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influence the agenda and work of the Task Force.</li> </ul>
Funding to be provided by members of the Task Force (see above) as feasible, or to be raised from governments and other donors	For implementation of the Plan of Action to address bird trapping along the Mediterranean coasts of Egypt and Libya (2014) (mentioned in the Action Plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Press for adequate provision of funding.</li> </ul>
Research on socioeconomics of bird trapping, with methodology coordinated with EEAA EGA, BirdLife International, NCE and LSB	Result 1.2 in the Plan of Action to address bird trapping along the Mediterranean coasts of Egypt and Libya (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete the analysis and publication of the data collected for Egypt and Libya. Invite cooperation to pursue application of the same approach in sub-Saharan Africa and the Arctic.</li> </ul>

(International) identification of migration patterns of (selected) trapped species	Result 1.5 in the Plan of Action to address bird trapping along the Mediterranean coasts of Egypt and Libya (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote further research work.</li> </ul>
Pooling lessons learned from initiatives addressing bird trapping in the Mediterranean basin and other regions	Result 1.6 in the Plan of Action to address bird trapping along the Mediterranean coasts of Egypt and Libya (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of lessons and development of follow-up actions.</li> </ul>
<b>► Bern Convention</b>		
Standing Committee Recommendation No. 155 (2011) on the illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds	AEWA Articles II.1 (addressing poisoning, taking and trade of birds) and III.2(b) (ensuring that any use of migratory waterbirds is sustainable) are referred to in the Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up/ assessment by Standing Committee of implementation</li> </ul>
Standing Committee Recommendation No. 164 (2013) on the implementation of the Tunis Action Plan 2013-2020 for the eradication of illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds	Provisions of AEWA Agreement text, and synergies between the Bern Convention and AEWA, are mentioned in the preamble to the Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up/ assessment by Standing Committee of implementation</li> </ul>
<b>► European Union</b>		
Wild Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) - Articles 5, 6 and 8 provide for prohibitions on the killing, taking and trade of wild birds	Strategic Plan 2019-2027 Action 3.2 (a) - to develop a monitoring framework for the AEWA flyway site network in coordination with other processes including reporting under the Birds Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member States accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>Implementation/ compliance reviews at EU level.</li> </ul>
European Commission Roadmap towards eliminating illegal killing, trapping and trade of birds (2012, revised 2017)	AEWA is referred to in the Roadmap as one of the lead bodies to undertake activities to communicate best practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggest European Commission reviews progress and makes further recommendations</li> </ul>

In addition, some individual Species Action Plans under AEWA may contain relevant ideas.

**(b) Other relevant contexts**

Multilateral process / platform	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>► Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	
Draft post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Target 5, on ensuring that harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input to development of appropriate indicators for Target 5, including via the post-COP15 Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the GBF Monitoring Framework.</li> </ul>

### 3. Fisheries Bycatch

**(a) Existing AEWA orientations**

Annex 3 to the Agreement (the Action Plan) includes two items (4.3.7 and 4.3.8) that urge Parties to take appropriate actions nationally or through the framework of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and relevant international organisations to minimise the impact of fisheries on migratory waterbirds, including from bycatch. Bycatch may occur in both freshwater and marine environments, and both are considered in AEWA orientations. To date, two MOP Resolutions have focused specifically on seabirds:

- Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/improving-conservation-status-african-eurasian-seabirds-3> ;
- Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/priorities-conservation-seabirds-african-eurasian-flyways-1> .

Multilateral processes/platforms identified in these that may offer an entry-point for influencing threats from fisheries bycatch are summarised in the table below. Resolution 6.9 notes that AEWA's priority should be those species, regions, or threats not already the subject of relevant frameworks, e.g. tropical seabirds or those impacted by small or artisanal fisheries not regulated by RFMOs. The Resolution requested the AEWA Technical Committee to advise on the most urgent priorities.

Multilateral process / platform	Where identified by AEWA	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>► <i>Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</i></b>		
CMS COP Resolution 10.14 (2011) on Bycatch of CMS-listed species in gillnet fisheries	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> </ul>
CMS COP Resolution 12.22 (2017) on Bycatch of CMS-listed species	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> </ul>
International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the White-headed Duck <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> – activities 2.3, 2.6, 2.7 and 5.8 address the threat of bycatch in fishing nets	AEWA is joint publisher of the Action Plan (AEWA Technical Series No. 8, 2006) together with CMS and the EU, with the aim of assisting fulfilment of obligations under AEWA, CMS and the EU Wild Birds Directive, consistent with Article III.2(e) of the Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of progress in implementation.</li> </ul>
International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Ferruginous Duck <i>Aythya nyroca</i> – activities 2.3, 2.9, 2.10 and 3.8 address the threat of bycatch in fishing nets	AEWA is joint publisher of the Action Plan (AEWA Technical Series No. 7, 2006) together with CMS, with the aim of assisting fulfilment of obligations under AEWA and CMS, consistent with Article III.2(e) of the Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of progress in implementation.</li> </ul>
<b>► <i>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)</i></b>		
Joint issues of concern and potential synergies between AEWA and ACAP	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds; and in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore scope of opportunities for collaboration/ synergy in further detail.</li> <li>• Encourage design and application of measures to reduce bycatch of albatrosses and petrels in ways which also address other seabirds.</li> </ul>
Albatross Task Force, led by BirdLife International (supporting ACAP)	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Influence the agenda and work of the Task Force.</li> </ul>
<b>► <i>UN Food &amp; Agriculture Organisation (FAO)</i></b>		
International Plan of Action (1999) for Reducing incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries (“IPOA-Seabirds”)	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring implementation of the IPOA.</li> </ul>
<b>► <i>UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development / Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</i></b>		
SDG 14 on the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources, and in particular Target 14.4 on effectively regulating harvesting and ending overfishing, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and destructive fishing practices	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and reporting against indicators for Target 14.4.</li> </ul>
<b>► <i>European Union</i></b>		



EU Common Fisheries Policy goal to achieve sustainable fisheries across the EU by 2020 and beyond	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy reviews.</li> </ul>
EU Action Plan (2012) for reducing incidental catches of seabirds in fishing gears	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds; and referred to in Species Action Plan for Velvet Scoter (see below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of progress in implementation.</li> <li>Influence work towards the new EU Action Plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems, as foreshadowed under the EU Biodiversity Strategy.</li> </ul>
Joint issues of concern and potential synergies between AEWAs and the EU	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore scope of opportunities for collaboration/ synergy in further detail, including at national level between AEWAs Focal Points and lead offices responsible for implementing EU fisheries legislation.</li> </ul>
International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Velvet Scoter ( <i>Melanitta fusca</i> ) W Siberia & N Europe/ NW Europe population (AEWA Technical Series No. 67, 2018)	This is a joint AEWAs/ EU Species Action Plan, with the aim of assisting fulfilment of obligations under AEWAs and the EU Wild Birds Directive, consistent with Article III.2(e) of the Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of progress in implementation.</li> </ul>
(See also the International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the White-headed Duck <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> in the section on CMS above – is a joint plan with the EU)	(See under CMS section above)	(See under CMS section above)
<b>► Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs)</b>		
The central role and responsibilities of RFMOs to minimise catch of non-target species in their fisheries, as established in the UN Fish Stocks Agreement	Paragraphs 4.3.7 and 4.3.8 of Annex 3 of the Agreement (the Action Plan) urge Parties to take appropriate actions through RFMOs to minimise the impact of fisheries on migratory waterbirds. Also noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 6.9 (2015) on Improving the conservation status of African-Eurasian seabirds; and in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways. Operative section of Resolution 7.6 identifies priorities for Parties including regular representation on priority RFMOs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification of priority RFMOs from the AEWAs perspective. Identify potential representatives for AEWAs on each of these, and secure representation.</li> </ul>
<b>► Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission/ Helsinki Commission (HELCOM)</b>		
HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (2007, updated 2021)	Preamble (reference to potential synergies) and operative section (request to Secretariat to increase AEWAs engagement, collaboration and synergies) of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of progress in implementation.</li> </ul>
<b>► OSPAR Convention</b>		
OSPAR collaboration with HELCOM on bycatch	Preamble (reference to potential synergies) and operative section (request to Secretariat to increase AEWAs engagement, collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek (strengthened) AEWAs engagement on bycatch issues.</li> </ul>

	and synergies) of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways	
<b>► Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)</b>		
CAFF Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative	Preamble (reference to potential synergies) and operative section (request to Secretariat to increase AEWa engagement, collaboration and synergies) of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek (strengthened) AEWa engagement on bycatch issues.</li> </ul>

In addition, some individual Species Action Plans under AEWa may contain relevant ideas. The International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) (AEWA Technical Series No. 57, 2015) is one example where bycatch is particularly relevant.

**(b) Other relevant contexts**

Multilateral process / platform	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>► Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	
Draft post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Target 5, on ensuring that harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input to development of appropriate indicators for Target 5, including via the post-COP15 Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the GBF Monitoring Framework.</li> </ul>
<b>► European Union</b>	
EU Regulation 2019/1241 (June 2019) on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Press for application by Member States of the Technical Conservation Measures provided for in the Regulation, including joint actions on a regional basis. Ensure adequacy of the triennial implementation reports compiled by the European Commission.</li> </ul>

## 4. Invasive Alien Species

**(a) Existing AEWa orientations**

Under Article III.2 (g) of the Agreement, Parties are required to prohibit the deliberate introduction of non-native waterbird species, to take measures to prevent the unintentional release of such species, and to take measures to prevent them becoming a threat if they have already been introduced. These obligations are elaborated further in Annex 3 (the Action Plan), in paragraphs 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 3.3, 4.3.10 and 4.3.11.

To date, the MOP has adopted two Resolutions that relate to this subject:

- Resolution 4.5 (2008) on Introduced non-native waterbird species in the Agreement Area - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/introduced-non-native-waterbird-species-agreement-area-0> ;
- Resolution 5.15 (2012) on Impact of invasive alien aquatic weeds on waterbird habitats in Africa - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/impact-invasive-alien-aquatic-weeds-waterbird-habitats-africa-1> .

AEWA’s MOP-adopted Conservation Guidelines No.10 (2006) on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species (<https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/aewa-conservation-guidelines-no-10-guidelines-avoidance-introductions-non-native> ) have identified some multilateral processes/platforms that may offer entry-points for influence. These are summarised in the table below.

Multilateral process / platform	Where identified by AEWa	Possible opportunity for influence
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<b>➤ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>		
CBD Article 8 commits its Parties to: “(h) Prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species; (k) develop or maintain necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species or populations; (l) Where a significant adverse effect on biological diversity has been determined...regulate or manage the relevant process and categories of activities...”	In AEWa Conservation Guidelines No. 10 (2006) on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National reports, and attention at COP and SBSTTA.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)</b>		
CITES is focused on controlling international trade in endangered species; but in theory it could be used for “black listing” trade in invasive species	In AEWa Conservation Guidelines No. 10 (2006) on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore options for application of CITES in this context.</li> </ul>
Under Regulation 338/97 that implements CITES in the EU, control of the introduction of species into the EU through trade can apply not only to endangered species but also those that present an ecological threat to indigenous wild species of fauna and flora. [As of 2006] this has only been applied to two reptile species, but was being considered for Ruddy Duck at the time of the 2006 Guidelines referred to here (position requires re-checking).	In AEWa Conservation Guidelines No. 10 (2006) on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check potential scope of relevant opportunities, and update understanding re Ruddy Duck in this context.</li> </ul> <p>(“Imports” here are only into the EU from outside, and the 2006 AEWa Guidelines cite WAZA as saying that almost every potentially invasive species that can be imagined is already kept somewhere within the relevant European area).</p>
<b>➤ Bern Convention</b>		
Article 11(2) of the Bern Convention states that Contracting Parties undertake: “(b) to strictly control the introduction of non-native species”.	In AEWa Conservation Guidelines No. 10 (2006) on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversight of implementation through Standing Committee.</li> </ul>
Revised Action Plan (2021–2025) for the eradication of the Ruddy Duck <i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i> in the Western Palaearctic	Collaboration with AEWa is included as part of Action 9 in the Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of progress in implementation.</li> </ul>

In addition, some individual Species Action Plans under AEWa may contain relevant ideas.

**(b) Other relevant contexts**

<b>Multilateral process / platform</b>	<b>Possible opportunity for influence</b>
<b>➤ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	
Draft post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Target 6, on preventing introduction, controlling or eradicating invasive alien species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input to development of appropriate indicators for Target 6, including via the post-COP15 Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the GBF Monitoring Framework.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ European Union</b>	
EU Regulation 1143/2014 (October 2014) on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Press for/support complete implementation by Member States and periodic overview reporting by the European Commission.</li> <li>Input to the associated EU Invasive Alien Species Expert Group and the European Alien Species Information Network.</li> </ul>

## 5. Other Issues

### (a) Existing AEWA orientations

Other relevant issues identified in AEWA texts include lead pollution, agrochemicals, marine pollution/debris and emergency situations. The MOP-adopted Conservation Guidelines No. 2 (2005) on identifying and tackling emergency situations for migratory waterbirds (<https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/aewa-conservation-guidelines-no-2-guidelines-identifying-and-tackling-emergency> ) are relevant, as is the Technical Series publication “Non-toxic Shot - A Path Towards Sustainable Use of the Waterbird Resource” (TS No. 3, 2009 - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/non-toxic-shot-path-towards-sustainable-use-waterbird-resource-ts-no-3> ).

Relevant MOP Resolutions include:

- Resolution 2.2 (2002) on Phasing out lead shot for hunting in wetlands - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/phasing-out-lead-shot-hunting-wetlands-2> ;
- Resolution 4.1 (2008) on Phasing out lead shot for hunting in wetlands - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/phasing-out-lead-shot-hunting-wetlands-3> ;
- Resolution 5.12 (2012) on Adverse effects of agrochemicals on migratory waterbirds in Africa - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/adverse-effects-agrochemicals-migratory-waterbirds-africa-1> ;
- Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways - <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/priorities-conservation-seabirds-african-eurasian-flyways-1> .

Multilateral processes/platforms offering possible entry-points for influence on these are mentioned in the texts highlighted below.

Multilateral process / platform	Where identified by AEWA	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>► Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</b>		
CMS COP Resolution 10.26 (2011) on Minimising the risk of poisoning to migratory birds.	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 5.12 (2012) on Adverse effects of agrochemicals on migratory waterbirds in Africa. Operative section of the Resolution requests AEWA Technical Committee and Secretariat to collaborate with the CMS Scientific Council Working Group on poisoning of migratory birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> </ul>
CMS COP Resolution 7.3 (2002) (Rev COP12, 2017) on Oil pollution and migratory species.	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> </ul>
CMS COP Resolution 12.20 (2017) on the Management of marine debris.	Noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>• Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> </ul>
<b>► Ramsar Convention</b>		
Recommendation 9 on Promotion of Hunting Research and Education, agreed by of the International Conference on the Conservation of Wetlands and Waterfowl, 1971 (together with adoption of the Ramsar Convention).	In AEWA Technical Series No. 3 (2009) on Non-toxic shot: a pathway towards sustainable use of the waterbird resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore scope of opportunities for collaboration/ synergy and updating of Ramsar perspectives on this issue.</li> </ul>
<b>► Bern Convention</b>		

Bern Standing Committee Recommendation No. 28 (1991) on the use of non-toxic shot in wetlands.	In AEWA Technical Series No. 3 (2009) on Non-toxic shot: a pathway towards sustainable use of the waterbird resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversight of implementation through Standing Committee.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants</b>		
The Convention Provides for prohibitions and restrictions on the production, trade and use of POPs, and for preventing their release into the environment.	Operative section of MOP Resolution 5.12 (2012) on Adverse effects of agrochemicals on migratory waterbirds in Africa invites Stockholm Convention Secretariat to cooperate with AEWA Secretariat to strengthen capacity of African countries on issue of agrochemicals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring and assessment of implementation, with attention to implications for waterbirds.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)</b>		
UNEA Resolutions 1/6 (2014), 2/11 (2016) and 3/7 (2017) on Marine plastic litter and micro plastics; and Resolution 3/4 (2017) on Environment and health.	All (except 3/4) noted in preamble of MOP Resolution 7.6 (2018) on Priorities for the conservation of seabirds in the African-Eurasian flyways.	(See opportunities defined under UNEA in Table (b) “Other relevant contexts” below).
<b>➤ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)</b>		
OECD Environment Ministers Declaration on risk reduction for lead (1996); and “status report monograph” on lead (1999).	In AEWA Technical Series No. 3 (2009) on Non-toxic shot: a pathway towards sustainable use of the waterbird resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review impact/ follow-up of the Declaration.</li> </ul>
<b>➤ European Commission</b>		
In the EU, Emergency Response Notification System (ERNS)-related activities should always be linked to MARS (Major Accident Reporting System) at the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre.	In AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 2 (2005) on identifying and tackling emergency situations for migratory waterbirds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of the use of the notification and reporting systems, and explore with JRC any need/ scope for enhancements.</li> </ul>

In addition, some individual Species Action Plans under AEWA may contain relevant ideas.

**(b) Other relevant contexts**

Multilateral process / platform	Possible opportunity for influence
<b>➤ Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</b>	
CMS Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP13, 2020) on Preventing poisoning of migratory birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influence implementation by CMS Parties of provisions in the Resolution relating <i>inter alia</i> to applying the adopted Guidelines to Prevent the Risk of Poisoning to Migratory Birds, monitoring impacts and evaluating the effectiveness of measures to address the issue.</li> </ul>
Preventing Poisoning Working Group, established by Resolution 10.26 (2011) and continued by Resolution 11.15 (2011, latest revision Rev.COP13, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to assessing threats, exchanging knowledge, addressing knowledge gaps, developing action recommendations. AEWA Technical Committee is represented on the Working Group.</li> </ul>
Intergovernmental Task Force on phasing out the use of lead ammunition and lead fishing weights – established by Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP13, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in the work of the Task Force to secure phase-out of lead ammunition and fishing weights.</li> </ul>
CMS Resolution 13.5 (2020) on Light pollution guidelines for wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and monitor implementation of the Guidelines.</li> </ul>
CMS Resolution 12.6 (2017) on Wildlife disease and migratory species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CMS Parties accounting for action via national reports.</li> <li>Follow-up attention at future CMS COPs.</li> </ul>
Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds (co-convened by CMS and FAO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in the work of the Task Force, to secure effective scientific assessments and promotion of timely and appropriate guidance and policy advice to governments and others.</li> </ul>

<b>► <i>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</i></b>	
Draft post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Target 7, on reducing pollution, including pesticides and plastics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input to development of appropriate indicators for Target 7, including via the post-COP15 Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the GBF Monitoring Framework.</li> </ul>
<b>► <i>United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)</i></b>	
UNEA Resolution 5/7 (2022) on Sound management of chemicals and waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pursue the Resolution’s proposal for governments and others to put in place an improved enabling framework to address the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.</li> </ul>
UNEA Resolution 5/8 (2022) on a Science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek engagement as appropriate with the Panel.</li> </ul>
UNEA Resolution 5/14 (2022) on Ending plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee charged with developing an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment, and decisions at UNEA6.</li> </ul>
<b>► <i>European Union</i></b>	
EU Regulation 2021/57 (January 2021) on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) as regards lead in gunshot in or around wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutinise implementation, monitoring and enforcement (from entry into effect February 2023) and press for highest standards in these.</li> <li>• Use EU example to press for similar bans on use of lead shot for hunting and or around wetlands elsewhere in the Agreement area.</li> </ul>
European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)/ REACH proposal for restrictions on use of lead in outdoor shooting and fishing in the EU (anticipating decision 2023/24).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support ECHA proposal on restricting use of lead ammunition and fishing weights.</li> <li>• (Assuming new restrictions agreed and formalised), scrutinise implementation, monitoring and enforcement, and press for highest standards in these.</li> <li>• Use EU example to press for similar restrictions elsewhere in the Agreement area.</li> </ul>

## Conclusions and Future Steps

Decisions by AEWPA Parties, and the products of technical work undertaken at international level under the Agreement, have collectively (in different ways) identified an array of multilateral processes, beyond AEWPA itself, that may be relevant in helping to tackle causes of unnecessary mortality of waterbirds in the Agreement area, including the four priority causes that are highlighted in the Strategic Plan.

This variety of differently-identified and sometimes generically-expressed linkages has been extracted and brought together for the first time in this report, specifically with a view to signposting the avenues for potential influence that might seek to secure “scaled-up” gains for the Agreement’s objectives. The bulk of the material here has therefore arisen from AEWPA’s own existing processes.

A second main component however adds some selected items of equivalent potential relevance that have not yet featured in formal AEWPA sources. This component must be regarded as merely an initial sample. A full trawl of possible opportunities across all relevant biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements and regional initiatives is beyond the scope of this exercise, but is a concept that could very usefully be the focus of further in-depth work in future.

The items listed in the “Possible opportunity for influence” columns of the tables presented above are similarly only illustrative of the potential scope that could exist. One important use of this document, as a next step, will be to devise more detailed propositions for each of these suggestions, and thus to develop them (or a selection of them) into a concrete activity agenda.

As noted earlier, the landscape of potential opportunities will continue to evolve, as various relevant international processes develop new decisions or launch new initiatives. The inventory of possibilities begun

with this report should be updated from time to time with input from Parties, the Standing Committee, the Technical Committee, the Secretariat and partner organisations, and the resulting information made available to the MOP. The range of instruments and processes considered in this report is itself only a starting point, and the scope will usefully be widened in future to consider others, including at the regional level and in fields beyond the biodiversity-related sector.

Other issues for future attention, mentioned in earlier sections of this report, include methods for evaluating (in advance) the cost-effectiveness of any particular planned intervention, assessing (subsequently) the degree of success achieved, and the critical importance of publishing such assessments so as to learn lessons from experience.

Target 1.6 in the AEWA Strategic Plan aspires for AEWA's priorities relating to the four causes of unnecessary waterbird mortality (and other key threats) to be "integrated in" key multilateral processes. The suggestions drawn together in this document provide an initial Agreement-wide road-map towards that objective. The true outcome at stake however should hopefully be seen as advancing beyond the notion of "integration", to the achievement of (greater) *impact through* the identified opportunities for influence. All concerned with this are invited to consider how they may be able to use the information presented here in contributing towards this aim.