

18th MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
14-16 March 2023, Bonn, Germany

WORK PLAN FOR THE AEWA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE 2023-2025¹

Introduction

1. This section provides explanatory notes concerning the two attached documents (Appendix II, Parts 1 and 2).
2. Part 1 provides a summary list of proposed top priority scientific and technical tasks for the 2023-2025 triennium. This is drawn from Part 2 which provides a summary of the full list of proposed scientific and technical tasks for the work of the Technical Committee in 2023-2025.
3. Themes relate largely to the structure of the AEWA Action Plan as follows:
 - a) **Field of application**
 - issues of the taxonomic and geographic scope of the Agreement
 - b) **Species conservation**
 - including issues of legal regulation of taking; international single species action plans and their implementation; emergency measures; re-establishments; and introductions
 - c) **Habitat conservation**
 - including issues of habitat and site inventories; conservation of areas; habitat conservation, rehabilitation and restoration; and climate change adaptation and mitigation
 - d) **Management of human activities**
 - including hunting (including lead issues); disturbance; species-conflicts and management of other human activities (e.g. impacts of energy generation and transmission, development, etc.)
 - e) **Research and monitoring**
 - including planning and funding of surveys and monitoring
 - f) **Education and information**
 - including all Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) issues
 - g) **Implementation**
 - including Conservation Guidelines; Action Plan para 7.4 international reviews; and other implementation issues
 - h) **Strategic, reporting, emerging and other issues**
 - including strategic, reporting and other planning issues; emerging issues and horizon scanning
4. The 26 top priority tasks listed in Part 1 below have been identified from the full range of proposed scientific and technical tasks listed in Part 2. These include all 'Essential' tasks and a few additional 'High' priority tasks.

¹ As adopted by the 8th Session of the Meeting of the Parties through Resolution 8.11.

5. The provisional figure for the total estimated funds needed for full implementation of the recommended 2023-2025 top priority tasks over the triennium is at least € 2,457,000, whilst the total cost of the implementation of the full Work Plan is at least € 2,540,000.
6. Part 2 provides further details of all proposed scientific and technical implementation support tasks for the Technical Committee during 2023-2025. It provides a summary description of each task with its anticipated outcomes and outputs and provisional estimated costs.
7. As indicated in Part 2, a number of the tasks listed are either ongoing or have been carried forward from the work plans adopted by previous MOPs, but for which capacity or funding has been insufficient in the previous triennia to undertake or complete them.
8. Provisional estimated costs in Part 2 are based on each task requiring the engagement of an expert (or experts) to undertake the work required. These provisional estimated costs have been prepared by the Technical Committee and the Secretariat to provide Contracting Parties with an initial assessment of delivery needs (also some of them are referred to in document AEWA/MOP 8.43 - *Resource Needs for International Coordination and Delivery of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019–2027*) – more precise costings and the scope and ways and means for the delivery of each of the tasks will be developed at the beginning of the 2023-2025 cycle and reported to the Standing Committee at that time.

It is recognised that much of the funding estimated as being needed to enable further scientific and technical implementation support for the Agreement will need to be found from sources other than the Agreement's core budget.

9. Please note that some significant tasks and costings given, relate to the work involved in developing Terms of Reference for the respective project (including the assessment of full costs), not the cost of delivery of the project for which funding will need to be sought.

Appendix II - Part 1

Recommended Top Priority Scientific and Technical Tasks for the 2023-2025 Triennium

Recommended Top Priority Tasks 2023-2025 (Summary of tasks only)	Indicative cost
1. Field of application	
1.1. Taxonomy & nomenclature. Maintain overview of taxonomic and nomenclatural issues and advise on the need to update Annex 2 to the Agreement as necessary.	-
1.2. Population definition. Early in the triennium, consider evidence supporting the delineation of current population boundaries for identified species as well as potential others, as necessary.	-
1.3. Review of Table 1 in Annex 3 to the Agreement. Prepare proposals for revision of Table 1 in Annex 3 for submission to MOP8.	-
1.4. Review of intended proposals for amendments to the Agreement. Review the submission by Contracting Parties of intended proposals for amendments to the Agreement and its annexes and provide its advice on the text of the proposed amendments and the reasons for it to the submitting Contracting Party for its consideration not later than 180 days before the opening of the session of the Meeting of the Parties.	-
1.5. Definition of the term “livelihood”. In the context of implementation of the Agreement, in particular paragraph 2.1.2 of Annex 3 (Action Plan), propose a definition of the term “livelihood” for consideration by MOP9.	-
1.6. Guidance of Favourable Reference Values. Develop more detailed guidance on the interpretation and establishment of Favourable Reference Values building on existing definitions and ongoing work under other relevant international frameworks.	€20,000
2. Species Conservation	
2.1. Priority list for species action and management planning. Review and update, as necessary, the list of priority species/populations for new Single Species Action and Management Plans and for retirement, revision or prolongation of existing plans.	-
2.2. Conservation and management guidance for AEWA populations. Compile new or improved conservation and management guidance for priority species/population with no action or management plan in place, in particular the Lesser White-fronted Goose, and disseminate that guidance.	€413,000
2.3. ISSAP Conservation Briefs. Facilitate the production of a conservation brief of the ISSAP for the Greenland White-fronted Goose.	€2,000
2.4. Sustainable harvests and the socio-economic importance of waterbirds. Increase knowledge and understanding of the extent of traditional and other harvests; their modes of regulation; the conditions under which harvests are sustainable; and the significance of these harvests in the context of food security and human development.	€50,000
2.5. Priorities for seabird conservation. Review the seabird conservation priorities approved by MOP7 and provide guidance on their delivery.	€20,000
2.6. Guidance on adaptive harvest management. Prepare simple guidance drawing on existing knowledge, experience and processes.	€20,000
3. Habitat Conservation	
3.1. Site inventory framework. The TC is to be involved in reviewing submissions of site inventories by Contracting Parties.	-

<p align="center">Recommended Top Priority Tasks 2023-2025 (Summary of tasks only)</p>	<p align="center">Indicative cost</p>
<p>3.2. Site monitoring framework. Develop the monitoring protocol set out in the Site Monitoring Framework adopted by MOP8 and, where appropriate, guidance for Contracting Parties on reporting on the status of, threats to, and the effectiveness of conservation measures at their flyway network sites.</p>	<p align="center">€200,000</p>
<p>3.3. Status of principal waterbird habitats. Conduct Agreement-level assessment of the status of principal waterbird habitats in the wider environment. <u>(A joint project with CMS and Raptors MoU covering all relevant bird taxa and respective habitats in the African Eurasian flyways)</u></p>	<p align="center">€1,072,000</p>
<p>3.4. Sea-level rise impact. Increase understanding of the consequences of sea-level rise on the Critical Site Network and the waterbird populations dependent on coastal habitats.</p>	<p align="center">€100,000</p>
<p>3.5. Habitat conservation action plan. On the basis of the assessment under the previous task, develop an action plan, identifying priorities, opportunities and a set of recommended actions.</p>	<p align="center">Included in task 3.3 above</p>
<p>4. Management of human activities</p>	<p align="center">-</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>
<p>4.6. Harvest data estimates from non-Party Range States Establish informed estimates of harvest of AEWA-listed waterbird species from non-Party Range States.</p>	<p align="center">€50,000</p>
<p>4.7. Sustainability of harvest. Undertake a rapid assessment of sustainability of harvest of declining quarry populations.</p>	<p align="center">€200,000</p>
<p>6. Education and Information</p>	<p align="center">-</p>
<p>6.2. Experience sharing – AEWA priorities integration into NBSAPs Support Parties in compiling and sharing successful examples, best practice and guidance for the integration of AEWA priorities into NBSAPs and other national processes.</p>	<p align="center">-</p>
<p>7. Implementation</p>	<p></p>
<p>7.1. Conservation Status Review 8. Guide the process of preparation of Conservation Status Review 9 for submission to MOP9.</p>	<p align="center">€100,000</p>
<p>7.2. Other international reviews. Guide the process of preparation of a) updated review of information from surveys, b) updated review of pertinent hunting and trade legislation, and c) updated review of the preparation and implementation of Single Species Action Plans.</p>	<p align="center">€150,000</p>
<p>7.3. Conservation Guidelines. Review Conservation Guidelines nos. 3, 4, 7 and 8 to ensure they continue to reflect best conservation practice and reformat as necessary following conclusion of ongoing review of format.</p>	<p align="center">€40,000</p>
<p>8. Strategic, reporting, emerging and other issues</p>	<p></p>
<p>8.1. National reports. Revise, amend and enhance the national report format for 2021-2024 and make the necessary adjustments following MOP8 and particularly to review the reporting templates and frequency of reporting on the site network in line with the framework for the monitoring of the AEWA site network as well as with respect to addressing identified international priorities for capacity gaps and capacity needs. Prepare the draft national report format for MOP10 (2025-2027) to be submitted for consideration by MOP9.</p>	<p align="center">-</p>

Recommended Top Priority Tasks 2023-2025 (Summary of tasks only)	Indicative cost
8.2. Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) module for national reports. Prepare the draft module on the Plan of Action for Africa for MOP10 (2025-2027) national reports for consideration by MOP9.	-
8.3. Monitoring of implementation of the Strategic Plan and the PoAA (2019-2027). Develop as a priority indicators for measuring implementation of the PoAA; further develop the concept for the monitoring of the implementation of the SP and the PoAA with respect to assessing trend in implementation rate and undertake work to improve the assessment of the SP.	-
8.5. AEWA's contribution to relevant global frameworks. Finalise document AEWA/MOP 8.36 once the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework has been adopted by CBD COP15. Compile concise triennial summaries of AEWA's contributions to the relevant global frameworks, particularly with the view of promoting the relevance of AEWA amongst development and aid agencies.	€20,000
Total estimated budget for recommended top priority tasks	€2,457,000

Appendix II – Part 2

Summary of Scientific and Technical Tasks for the AEWA Technical Committee: 2023-2025

- A. The scientific and technical tasks for the Technical Committee are organised under eight broad themes, as follows:
- 1) Field of application
 - 2) Species conservation
 - 3) Habitat conservation
 - 4) Management of human activities
 - 5) Research and monitoring
 - 6) Education and information
 - 7) Implementation
 - 8) Strategic, reporting, emerging or other issues
- B. Prioritisation of tasks is as follows:
- Essential** (highest priority) – other MOP or Strategic Plan processes depend on the task being undertaken *e.g.* reporting to MOP9
- High** – important to progress before MOP9 i.e. to start work within the next two years
- Other** – important but initiation could take place on a longer timescale
- Rolling** – important and ongoing or soon-to-be-launched long-term activity
- C. The categorisation of types of tasks is coded in the tables below as follows:
1. New or revised guidance for Contracting Parties
 2. Technical support and advice – ongoing and *ad hoc*
 3. Advice on new and emerging issues
 4. Input to scientific or technical products/initiatives undertaken by other relevant organisations
 5. Review of knowledge as a basis for developing guidance for Parties and others
- D. Note that costs are significantly approximate and not derived from detailed costing of the specific tasks. Costs are for broad planning purposes only at this stage and will be further refined.

Theme 1: Field of application					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€) – see note above
<p>1.1. Taxonomy & nomenclature Maintain overview of taxonomic and nomenclatural issues and advise on the need to update Annex 2 to the Agreement as necessary (<i>Resolution 6.1</i>) (carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018).</p>	Essential Rolling task	2	CMS Scientific Council	Strategic Plan: Objective 5	–
<p>1.2. Population definitions Early in the triennium, consider evidence supporting the delineation of current population boundaries for the following species as well as potential others, as necessary. TC18 to make any recommendations to the 23rd Standing Committee meeting for interim approval such that any changes can be included within work to develop proposals for MOP9 (<i>CSR9 and proposed changes to Table 1 of AEWA's Action Plan</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maccoa Duck (<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>) (review of the boundary delineation of the E Africa population); - Tundra Swan (<i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>) (potential splitting of the Northern Siberia/Caspian population into a Central Asian (w) and a Black Sea (w) one); - Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) (potential splitting of the Central Europe/North Africa population because it represents a mixture of two ssp (<i>anser</i> and <i>rubrirostris</i>); - Bean Goose (<i>Anser fabalis</i>) (taxonomic revision of ssp <i>johanseni</i>); - Glossy Ibis (<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>) (potential merging of the SW Asia/E Africa population with the S Asia population); - Eurasian Shag (<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>) (review the currently Table-1-listed Adriatic population vis-à-vis the other populations in the Mediterranean as well as other populations in the Agreement area that are possibly qualifying for listing); - Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) (potential splitting of ssp <i>taymyrensis</i> Central Siberia/South & SW Asia & Eastern Africa population based on morphological differences); - Caspian Tern (<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>) (Baltic (bre) population – potential revision of the wintering range). 	Essential Rolling task	2	Wetlands International and its relevant Specialist Groups	Strategic Plan: Objective 5	-

Work with Specialist Groups to review waterbird population definitions more widely using contemporary data and information, including that derived from ringing atlases and tracking studies.	Rolling	2, 4	Wetlands International and its relevant Specialist Groups	Strategic Plan: Objective 5	-
1.3. Review of Table 1 in Annex 3 to the Agreement Prepare a proposal for revision of Table 1 in Annex 3 for submission to MOP9 (<i>AEWA Article VII.3 (b)</i>).	Essential Rolling task	2		Strategic Plan: Objective 1	-
1.4. Review of intended proposals for amendments to the Agreement Review the submission by Contracting Parties of intended proposals for amendments to the Agreement and its annexes and provide its advice on the text of the proposed amendments and the reasons for it to the submitting Contracting Party for its consideration not later than 180 days before the opening of the session of the Meeting of the Parties (<i>Resolution 8.1</i>).	Essential Rolling task	2		Strategic Plan: All objectives	-
1.5. Definition of the term “livelihood” In the context of implementation of the Agreement, in particular paragraph 2.1.2 of Annex 3 (Action Plan), propose a definition of the term “livelihood” for consideration by MOP9 (<i>Resolution 8.3</i>)	High	2		Strategic Plan: Objective 2	-
1.6. Guidance of Favourable Reference Values Develop more detailed guidance on the interpretation and establishment of Favourable Reference Values building on existing definitions and ongoing work under other relevant international frameworks (<i>Resolution 8.4</i>)	High	2	European Commission, CMS Scientific Council	Strategic Plan: Targets 1.2 & 2.4	[€20,000]

Theme 2: Species conservation					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€)
2.1. Priority list for species action and management planning Review and update at its first meeting after each MOP, as necessary, the list of International Species Action and Management Plans required for priority species/populations, involving adaptive harvest management processes where relevant, taking into account the possible need to develop new plans and retire, revise or extend existing plans (<i>Resolution 6.8; Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>).	Essential Rolling	2		Strategic Plan: Targets 1.2 & 2.4	-
2.2. Conservation and management guidance for AEWA populations Compile new or improved conservation and management guidance for priority species/population with no action or management plan in	Essential	2		Strategic Plan: Target 1.3	[€413,000]

place and disseminate that guidance (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>); Compile conservation guidance for the Lesser White-fronted Goose (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022; Resolution 8.4</i>). TC to consider how to optimise the approach to producing such guidance.					
2.3. ISSAP Conservation Briefs Facilitate the production of a conservation brief of the ISSAPs for the Greenland White-fronted Goose and circulate drafts of these to Range States or input (<i>Resolution 8.4</i>)	High	2		Strategic Plan: Targets 1.2	[€2,000]
2.4. Sustainable harvests and the socio-economic importance of waterbirds Increase knowledge and understanding of the extent of traditional and other harvests; their modes of regulation; the conditions under which harvests are sustainable; and the significance of these harvests in the context of food security and human development. Initial work should compile Terms of Reference for a modular programme, identifying possible collaborating individuals and organisations as well as funding possibilities that will progressively address the following issues: - Identifying those geographical areas where harvesting waterbirds for subsistence and/or commercial purposes is prevalent and the species concerned; - Information, as available, on trends in prevalence of harvesting for socio-economic motivations; - Identification of case studies demonstrating good practice in the sustainable management and regulation of waterbirds harvests; and - Options to highlight the importance of sustainable and well-regulated waterbird harvest within the context of development and aid programmes, notably in the context of national delivery of Aichi target 2 and the Sustainable Development Goals. <i>(Resolutions 6.4; 6.15 and 7.2; CMS Flyways Programme of Work, Resolution 12.11, Annex 1) (carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018)</i>	High	1	CMS, CBD, CMS Flyways Working Group, FAO/FFEM/EU “RESSOURCE” project Linked to task 3.6.	Strategic Plan: Objectives 2 & 5	[€50,000]

2.5. Priorities for seabird conservation Review the seabird conservation priorities approved by MOP7 and provide guidance on their delivery (<i>Resolutions 7.6</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022</i>).	High	2		Strategic Plan: Objectives 1, 2, 3 & 4	[€20,000]
2.6. Guidance on adaptive harvest management (AHM) Prepare simple guidance on AHM drawing on existing knowledge, experience and processes and submit to Standing Committee as interim guidance ahead of MOP9 (<i>Resolution 8.8</i>).	High	1	European Goose Management Platform and others		[€20,000]
2.7. Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Participate in the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and disseminate its guidance to Parties and others via the Secretariat (<i>Resolution 8.15</i>)	High, Rolling	2,4	CMS Scientific Council, FAO, Ramsar STRP, OIE and others	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1 & 5	No direct costs, possible T&S need for meetings [€2,000]

Theme 3: Habitat conservation					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€)
3.1. Site inventory framework [Develop a simple framework for use by the Parties to review and confirm the inventory of known nationally and internationally important sites. This framework should include provision of brief guidance on interpreting AEWA Action Plan references to “ <i>sites of international or national importance</i> ” and “ <i>internationally accepted criteria of international importance</i> ”. It should also take into account existing site network criteria, including those used to identify EU SPAs, Ramsar Sites, Emerald Network Sites and IBAs]. Task implemented in inter-sessional period 2019-2022. In the following triennium 2023-2025 the TC is to be involved in reviewing submissions of inventories by Contracting Parties (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022</i>).	Essential	1, 2	Wetlands International, BirdLife International	Strategic Plan: Target 3.1	-
3.2. Site monitoring framework Develop the monitoring protocol, including data entry tools, set out in the Site Monitoring Framework adopted by MOP8 and, where appropriate, guidance for Contracting Parties on reporting on the status of, threats to, and the effectiveness of conservation measures at their flyway network sites. (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027; Resolution 8.6</i>)	Essential	1, 2	Wetlands International, BirdLife International	Strategic Plan: Target 3.2	[€200,000]
3.3. Status of principal waterbird habitats Conduct Agreement-level assessment of the status of principal waterbird habitats in the wider environment, drawing on existing studies wherever possible (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>) (<i>carried over</i>	Essential	5	CMS, Raptors MoU	Strategic Plan: Target 4.1	[€1,072,000]

<i>from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022) (A joint project with CMS and Raptors MoU covering all relevant bird taxa and respective habitats in the African Eurasian flyways)</i>					
3.4 Sea-level rise impact Increase understanding of the consequences of sea-level rise on the Critical Site Network and the waterbird populations dependent on coastal habitats (<i>Resolution 7.9</i>) (carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022).	High	5	Ramsar Convention STRP	Strategic Plan: Target 3.2	[€100,000]
3.5. Habitat conservation action plan On the basis of the assessment under the previous task (3.3), develop an action plan (identifying priorities, opportunities and a set of recommended actions), taking into account regional and sub-regional differences in key habitat types and threats/drivers and identify which international policy mechanisms AEWA should focus its attention on to maximise delivery of the prioritised actions (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>) (carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022).	Essential	2	CMS, Raptors MoU	Strategic Plan: Target 4.1	[cost included in the budget for task 3.3 above]
3.6. Socio-economic importance of waterbirds Explore the potential to develop a number of case studies summarising the socio-economic benefits (including food security) accruing to local populations from the sustainable management of wetlands and the sustainable use of the waterbirds that depend on these areas (<i>Resolution 5.13</i>) (carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018).	Other Rolling task	4	Linked to task 2.4. FAO/FFEM/EU "RESSOURCE" project	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1, 2, 3 & 4	[€5,000]

Theme 4: Management of human activities					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€)
4.1. Tackling the four causes² of unnecessary additional mortality and other threats (a) Explore how information could be gathered from Parties and others on lack of/poor implementation of guidance on reducing mortality, such that strategies for better support, including regional and/or sector-based initiatives, may be developed; pilot such an assessment on energy infrastructure and report to MOP9 conclusions on improving guidance implementation. (b) assess national reporting processes under other multilateral and/or international processes (e.g. Ramsar, CMS, CBD, EU) to assess sources of relevant information on waterbird mortality additional to information within AEWA national reports, and make	High	2	Relevant multilateral processes	Strategic Plan: Target 1.6	[€15,000]

² Causes of unnecessary additional mortality and other key threats include: energy infrastructure (especially powerlines, wind turbines); illegal taking & killing; fisheries bycatch; and invasive alien species.

<p>recommendations as to how this information could be routinely summarised.</p> <p>(c) update the list of AEWA and CMS decisions and guidelines relevant to avoiding additional and unnecessary mortality contained in Appendix 1 of Resolution 6.12 as well as including the inventory of relevant multilateral instruments and processes summarised in document AEWA/MOP 8.40 and make this synthesis available on AEWA's website in a form that can be regularly updated and broadened including with material and opportunities from fields beyond those motivated by biodiversity conservation. (<i>Resolution 8.15</i>).</p>					
<p>4.2. Reducing energy impacts – Energy Task Force Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.27 on <i>Renewable energy and migratory species</i>. Task includes participation in the CMS Energy Task Force to provide further guidance and support in relation to the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.27.</p>	Other Rolling	2	CMS Scientific Council and others	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1 & 5	[€10,000] (T&S for meetings)
<p>4.3. Poisoning and agrochemicals Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15 on <i>Preventing poisoning of migratory birds</i>. Task includes participation in the CMS Preventing Poisoning Working Group to provide further guidance and support in relation to the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15 (<i>Resolution 6.12; CMS Flyways Programme of Work, Resolution 12.11, Annex 1</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018</i>).</p>	High Rolling	2	CMS Scientific Council and others	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1 & 5	[€5,000] (T&S for meetings)
<p>4.4. Poisoning by lead shot Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15 on <i>Preventing poisoning of migratory birds</i>. Task includes participation in the CMS Preventing Poisoning Working Group to provide further guidance and support in relation to the implementation of CMS Resolution 11.15 (<i>Resolution 6.12</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018</i>).</p>	High Rolling	2	CMS Scientific Council and others	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1, 2 & 5	{Costs included in poisoning and agrochemicals task above }
<p>4.5. Illegal killing Collaborate on implementation of CMS Resolution 11.16 on the prevention of illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds. Task includes participation in the Intergovernmental Task Force to Address Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean and technical support for implementation of the Plan of Action to Address Bird Trapping Along the Mediterranean Coasts of Egypt and Libya (<i>Resolution 6.12</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018; Resolution 8.15</i>).</p>	High Rolling	2	CMS Scientific Council and others	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1, 2 & 5	[€8,000] (T&S for attendance at Task Force meetings)
<p>4.6. Harvest data estimates from non-Party Range States Establish informed estimates of harvest of AEWA-listed waterbird species from non-Party Range States (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>).</p>	Essential	2		Strategic Plan: Target 2.1	[€50,000]

4.7. Sustainability of harvest Undertake a rapid assessment of sustainability of harvest of declining quarry populations (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022</i>).	Essential	2		Strategic Plan: Target 2.4	[€200,000]
4.8. World Coastal Forum Note WCF and assess the significance of its knowledge products for AEWA	Rolling	5	World Coastal Forum		-

Theme 5: Research and monitoring					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€)
5.1. Horizon scanning Periodically undertake horizon scanning exercises (for knowledge needs and gaps) working with others, as appropriate, and report the findings to the Meeting of Parties (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027; Resolution 8.7</i>)	Other	2		Strategic Plan: Target 5.1	[€10,000]

Theme 6: Education and information					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€)
6.1. Communication Strategy implementation Provide advice and prioritisation on the ongoing implementation of the Communication Strategy (<i>Resolution 6.10</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018</i>).	Other Rolling	2		Strategic Plan: All objectives	-
6.2. Experience sharing – AEWA priorities integration into NBSAPs Support Parties in compiling and sharing successful examples, best practice and guidance for the integration of AEWA priorities into NBSAPs and other national processes (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027</i>).	Essential	2		Strategic Plan: Target 5.5	-

Theme 7: Implementation					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€)
<p>7.1. Conservation Status Review 9 Guide the process of preparation of Conservation Status Review 9 (Action Plan 7.4a) while taking into account reporting needs on the AEWAs Strategic Plan 2019-2027(AEWA Annex 3, paragraph 7.4).</p>	Essential	2, 5	Wetlands International and its Specialist Groups	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1,2 & 5	[€100,000]
<p>7.2. Other international reviews Guide the process of preparation of a) updated review (of gaps) of information from surveys (Action Plan 7.4b) – never compiled so far; b) updated review of pertinent hunting and trade legislation (Action Plan 7.4d) – last produced for MOP4 in 2008, next one was due for MOP7 in 2018; c) updated review of the preparation and implementation of Single Species Action Plans (Action Plan 7.4e) – last produced for MOP6 in 2015, next one was due for MOP8 in 2021 (AEWA Annex 3, paragraph 7.4).</p>	Essential	2, 5		Strategic Plan: All objectives	[€150,000] 7.4b) [€40,000] 7.4d) [€60,000] 7.4e) [€50,000]
<p>7.3. Review and reformatting of existing Conservation Guidelines Review AEWAs Conservation Guidelines (CG) nos. 3, 4, 7 and, 8³ to ensure they continue to reflect best conservation practice.</p> <p>Undertake any necessary updates or revision and reformat in the context of any new CG format agreed by Standing Committee 11 (following the current review of CG format). Prioritise CG no.7 in particular considering issues of local community benefit in the context of the SDGs and other international targets. Submit any revised CGs to MOP 9 (Resolutions 7.5 and 8.16) (carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022).</p>	High	1	Wetlands International and others	Strategic Plan: All objectives	[€40,000] 4 x [€10,000]
<p>7.4. Non-native species risk assessment Contribute to the development of internationally-agreed standards and guidance for risk assessment with respect to non-native waterbirds in order to facilitate the implementation of the Agreement and related legal instruments (Resolution 6.4) (carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018).</p>	Other	2, 5		Strategic Plan: Objectives 1 & 5	-
<p>7.5. Revision and update of Conservation Guidelines Implement its rolling programme to revise and update existing conservation guidelines and guides to guidance (Resolutions 6.5; 7.6 and 7.8) (carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018).</p>	High Rolling	1		Strategic Plan: All objectives	-

³ Guidelines = 3. Preparation of Site Inventories; 4. Management of Key Sites; 7. Ecotourism; and 8. Reducing Crop Damage, Damage to Fisheries, Bird Strikes and other Forms of Conflict.

7.6. Information supplementary to Conservation Guidelines Proactively research for relevant information supplementary to Conservation Guidelines and disseminate it to the Contracting Parties following the concept approved by the 16 th meeting of the Standing Committee (<i>Resolution 8.8</i>).	Other Rolling	5		Strategic Plan: All objectives	-
7.7. Register of conservation interventions Consider how information in national reports concerning conservation interventions may best be synthesised so as to build over time, a simple searchable register of shared experience which will support actions by Parties and others (<i>Resolutions 8.7</i>).	Other	5		Strategic Plan: All objectives	-

Theme 8: Strategic, reporting, emerging and other issues					
Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Collaboration with other organisations	Supports Strategic Plan Objective/Target:	Provisional estimated cost (€)
8.1. National Reports Revise, amend and enhance the national report format for 2021-2024 and make the necessary adjustments following MOP8 and particularly to review the reporting templates and frequency of reporting on the site network in line with the framework for the monitoring of the AEWA site network as well as with respect to addressing identified international priorities for capacity gaps and capacity needs (incl. national level assessments, qualitative self-assessment of level of knowledge and capacity, etc.) (<i>Resolutions 7.1, 8.3 and 8.6</i>). Prepare the draft national report format for MOP10 (2025-2027) to be submitted for consideration by MOP9 (<i>Resolution 8.3</i>).	Essential	2		Strategic Plan: All objectives	-
8.2. Plan of Action for Africa module for national reports Prepare the draft module on the Plan of Action for Africa for MOP10 (2025-2027) national reports to be submitted for consideration by MOP9 (<i>Resolution 8.3</i>).	Essential	2		Strategic Plan: Objective 5	-
8.3. Monitoring of implementation of the Strategic Plan and the PoAA (2019-2027) Develop as a priority indicators for measuring implementation of the PoAA (<i>Resolution 8.3</i>); further develop the concept for the monitoring of the implementation of the SP and the PoAA with respect to assessing trend in implementation rate (<i>Resolution 7.1</i>) and undertake work to improve the assessment of the SP (plan for the assessment of the 22 postponed target-level indicators and the other target-levels	Essential	2		Strategic Plan: All objectives	-

indicators where need of additional or improved data has been identified, as well as purpose-level indicator P4) (<i>Resolution 8.3</i>).					
8.4. Harmonisation of reporting Continue to promote synchronised timing and other synergies with the reporting cycles of CMS, Ramsar, EU Birds Directive (Article 12) and others as opportunities permit, in particular with respect to reporting on the status of species/populations and contribute to the StC report to MOP8 on this matter (<i>Resolution 7.1</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018</i>).	High Rolling	2	CMS Secretariat and Scientific Council; Ramsar Secretariat and STRP; European Commission and others	Strategic Plan: Objective 5	-
8.5. AEWA's contribution to relevant global frameworks Finalise document AEWA/MOP 8.36 once the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework has been adopted by CBD COP15 and subsequently prepare a mid-term assessment of AEWA's contribution for MOP10. Compile concise triennial summaries of AEWA's contributions to the relevant global frameworks, i.e. SDGs, Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, etc, that can be used by Parties, StC and TC members, and the Secretariat to highlight at national and international levels the role of AEWA, particularly with the view of promoting the relevance of AEWA amongst development and aid agencies (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027; Resolution 8.9</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2019-2021/2022</i>).	Essential Rolling	2		Strategic Plan: Target 5.4	[€20,000]
8.6. Emerging diseases Continue to participate in the CMS Working Group on Migratory Species and Health (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018</i>).	High Rolling	2	CMS Scientific Council, FAO, Ramsar STRP, OIE and others	Strategic Plan: Objectives 1 & 5	No direct costs, possible T&S need for meetings [€2,000]
8.7. Implementation On request, assist Parties with implementation of the Agreement including review of possible Implementation Review Process (IRP) cases and possible participation in IRP missions, as well as other advisory services, as needed (<i>Strategic Plan 2019-2027; CMS Flyways Programme of Work, Resolution 12.11, Annex 1</i>) (<i>carried over from Work Plan 2016-2018</i>).	High Rolling	2	Contracting Parties	Strategic Plan: Targets 2.2 and 3.5	[€30,000] per IRP case
8.8. Other international guidance relevant to AEWA Review, contribute to (as appropriate) and disseminate to Parties and others, relevant guidance from other multilateral fora (<i>Resolution 8.8</i>)	Rolling	2,5	Other multilateral environment agreements and international actors		-