



## 6<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

9-14 November 2015, Bonn, Germany

*“Making flyway conservation happen”*

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### CMS 44<sup>TH</sup> STANDING COMMITTEE DECISION ON ENHANCING SYNERGIES AND COMMON SERVICES AMONG THE CMS FAMILY INSTRUMENTS

*Mindful* of the legal autonomy of each of the CMS Family Instruments;

*Recalling* Resolution CMS 11.3 “Enhancing Synergies and Common Services Among the CMS Family Instruments” and the role of the Standing Committee in moving the issue forward during the intersessional period between meetings of the COP including by establishing the benefits and disadvantages based on the independent analysis, to consider the outcomes of meetings of decision-making bodies of other CMS Family Instruments, and in taking the appropriate decisions in accordance with these outcomes with a view to realizing enhanced synergies such as through sharing services in common service areas and report to COP12;

*Recalling* also the decision of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee that requests the Executive Secretary of AEWA and the Executive Secretary of CMS to develop further synergies between AEWA and CMS and take actions to merge common services and common areas in an effort to redirect the focus of the Secretariats towards strengthening implementation support;

*Welcoming* the independent analysis and report on the legal, financial, operational, and administrative implications of actions to enhance synergies, such as through sharing services in common service areas to the decision-making bodies of the wider CMS family;

*Noting* that the independent analysis contains important information of the potential of common services that can be achieved within the CMS Family and that it highlights the general advantages and disadvantages of strengthened cooperation, while also noting that other types of synergies could be important with CMS Instruments based outside of Bonn;

*Emphasizing* that the goal of sharing services among CMS instruments is to fill gaps, be mutually reinforcing, produce efficiencies and increase output and that sharing common services should be aimed at strengthening the implementation of the instruments involved and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels;

*Decides* to take a stepwise approach with the Bonn-based instruments and notes that the potential common service areas which the independent analysis suggests could benefit the most from joint approaches include capacity-building, cross-cutting implementation issues, conference services and fundraising;

*Convinced* that the best approach to implementing common services between the CMS and AEWA Instruments, and subject to the decision of the AEWA MOP, is through the Executive Secretaries mutually agreeing on potential services in consultation and with the advice of UNEP and proposing agreed services to the Standing Committees for approval, and regular reporting on progress, lessons learned, and financial cost savings to the Standing Committees;

*Agrees* that any proposed common services should not have any additional financial requirements on the Secretariats and should preserve the Secretariats’ identity and improve efficiency;

*Invites* the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of Parties of AEWA to consider the independent analysis and this decision by the CMS Standing Committee and to consider strengthening further common services with CMS;

*Invites* the Chair of the CMS Standing Committee, who concurrently is also the Chair of the AEWA Standing Committee, to communicate the outcomes of the 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CMS Standing Committee on enhancing common services to the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of Parties of AEWA for its consideration;

*Invites* other CMS Family instruments, starting with the Bonn-based Instruments, to consider developing common services and synergies with the CMS Family through appropriate decisions of their respective governing bodies and to report these decisions to the CMS Standing Committee for the development of a way forward on common services proposals.