



6th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

9-14 November 2015, Bonn, Germany

“Making flyway conservation happen”

**INTENDED PROPOSAL FOR SUBMISSION TO THE MEETING COMMITTEE OF
MOP6 BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY¹**

*(In accordance with Rule 35 of the Rules of Procedure for the sessions of the
Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement, Document AEWA/MOP6.2)*

SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE UNEP/AEWA SECRETARIAT AND UNEP/CMS SECRETARIAT

Mindful of the legal autonomy of each of the CMS Family Agreements;

Recognizing the well-established synergetic operations between the UNEP/AEWA and UNEP/CMS Secretariats and the efficiencies and mutual benefits that have been achieved through their cooperation;

Recalling the decision of the 9th 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”;

Acknowledging the establishment in January 2014 of a CMS/AEWA Common Information Management, Communication and Awareness-raising Team as a pilot for common services;

Taking note of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat report on the CMS/AEWA Common Information Management, Communication and Awareness-raising Team (Doc AEWA/MOP6.10) and lessons learned from this pilot arrangement;

Recalling also Resolution CMS 11.3 “Enhancing Synergies and Common Services Among the CMS Family Instruments”;

Welcoming the CMS 44th Standing Committee’s invitation to the 6th Session of the Meeting of Parties of AEWA to consider the independent analysis and the decision by the CMS Standing Committee and to consider strengthening further common services with CMS;

Further welcoming, the CMS 44th Standing Committee’s invitation to 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;

Noting 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 (Doc AEWA/MOP Inf 6.9);

Further 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;

¹ Submitted to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat on 26 October 2015

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;

The Meeting of the Parties:

1. *Agrees* to continue the pilot Common Information Management, Communication and Awareness-raising Team taking into consideration lessons learned by both CMS and AEWA secretariats, and based on the following relevant terms;
2. *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;
3. *Further Decides* that the best approach to implementing common services between the AEWA and CMS Instruments is through the Executive Secretaries mutually agreeing on potential services in consultation and with the advice of UNEP and proposing agreed services to both Standing Committees for approval, and regular reporting on progress, lessons learned, and financial cost savings to the Standing Committees;
4. *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;
5. *Decides* that the recommendation of the 9th Meeting of the Standing Committee to consider a joint Executive Secretary between the CMS and AEWA is not at present a desired possibility.