



Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2012-2014

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2012-2014 was approved at the 9th meeting of the Standing Committee (18-19 September 2013, Trondheim, Norway) by Doc StC 9.11. This format has been constructed following the AEWA Action Plan, the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 and resolutions of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP).

In accordance with Article V.1(c) of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, each Party shall prepare to each ordinary session of the MOP a National Report on its implementation of the Agreement and submit that report to the Agreement Secretariat not later than 120 days before the session of the MOP. The 6th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP6) is taking place on 9-14 November 2015 in Bonn, Germany; therefore the deadline for submission of National Reports is 12 May 2015.

The AEWA National Reports 2012-2014 will be compiled and submitted through the CMS Family Online Reporting Facility, which is an online reporting tool for the whole CMS Family. The CMS Family Online Reporting System was developed in 2010-2011 by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in close collaboration with and under the guidance of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

To contact the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat please send your inquiries to aewa_national_reporting@unep.de

1. General Information

Name of reporting Contracting Party

> Swaziland

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

> 1 January 2013

List any reservations that the Contracting Party has made (if any) upon deposition of its instruments of accession on provisions of the Agreement or its Action Plan in accordance with Article XV of AEWA

> N/A

2. Institutional Information

Please update information on the National AEWA Administrative Authority, the National Focal Points, the Designated National Respondent and the other contributors to this report.

Designated National AEWA Administrative Authority

Full name of the institution

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Name and title of the head of institution

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Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2012-2014

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

The National Focal Point (NFP) has been designated as the National Respondent

Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2012-2014

Please list the names and affiliations (institution, organisation) of the other contributors to this report

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> University of Swaziland

Swaziland Environment Authority

Status

3. Non-native Waterbird Species Status

Are there non-native waterbird species occurring in your country?

If you respond **negatively** to this question, please skip this chapter and proceed to chapter 4. Species Conservation. If you respond **positively** to this question, please select from the drop-down list below only the **non-native** species that occur in your country and fill out the required information.

Yes

AEWA Species - *Anas platyrhynchos* / Mallard

English Common name(s):

Common Mallard, Mallard

French Common name(s):

Canard colvert



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country

The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country

Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected

Breeding

Species Status - Breeding

Latest population estimate

Year

> 2014

Population unit

Pairs

Minimum

> 400

Maximum

> 500

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

Occasionally recorded, most likely natural vagrants

Population data quality

Poor

Source of information

> Professor Ara Monadjem (personal communication)

No information

No information

Previous population estimate

Year

> 2010

Population unit

Pairs

Minimum

> 200

Maximum

> 300

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

Occasionally recorded, most likely natural vagrants

Population data quality

Poor

Source of information

> Professor Ara Monadjem (personal communication)

No information

No information

Population trend

Population trend

Increasing

Trend data quality

Good

Source of information

> Professor Ara Monadjem (personal communication)

No information

No information

Species Status - Field for additional information (optional)

Optionally you can provide additional information on the status of the species in the country

> Species needs to be closely monitored as it is showing signs of increasing.

Legal Status

Does the species have any legal status?

No

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status?

No

Risk or potential risk posed by the non-native species

Please select all relevant risks from the list below

- Competitive exclusion of native species, or aggressive to native species
 Hybridisation with native species

Which species are excluded or are subject of aggressive behavior?

> Most other indigenous waterbirds who share the same niche and resources.

Is aggression and exclusion a regularly observed behavior?

No

Please provide details and references, where available

> N/A

Which species does it hybridise with?

> Yellow-billed Duck, and to a lesser extent with Cape Shoveler and African Black Duck

Is hybridisation regularly occurring?

No

Are hybrids produced?

No

Do hybrids reproduce themselves?

No

Is the hybrid population increasing?

No

Please provide details and references, where available

> Professor Ara Monadjem (personal communication)

Pressures and Responses

4. Species Conservation

4.1 Legal Measures

1. Please indicate which modes of taking are prohibited in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

Please select from the list below.

- Snares
- Limes
- Hooks
- Electrocuting devices
- Artificial light sources
- Mirrors and other dazzling devices
- Devices for illuminating targets
- Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter
- Explosives
- Nets
- Traps
- Poison
- Poisoned or anesthetic baits
- Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition
- Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea)

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation

> The Wild Birds Protection Act of 1914
Game (Amendment) Act of 1991

2. Has your country granted exemptions from any of the above prohibitions in order to accommodate livelihoods uses? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

- No

3. Were any exemptions granted to the prohibitions laid down in paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the AEWA Action Plan? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.3)

- No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.1. Legal Measures

> Permits are required to hunt within specified conditions albeit on a sustainable basis.

4.2 Single Species Action Plans

4. Please report on the progress of turning the International Single Species Action Plans (ISSAP), for species whose populations are listed on Column A of Table 1, developed under or recognised by AEWA, into National Single Species Action Plans (NSSAP). (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2)

Please report on each relevant ISSAP for Swaziland

National Single Species Action Plan for *Crex crex*

(Corncrake)

- NSSAP in development

Please provide starting date and expected finalisation date

> June 2015 - May 2016

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

5. Does your country have in place or is your country developing a National Single Species Action Plan for any species/population for which an AEWA ISSAP has not been developed? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2.2)

- No

6. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for the preparation of National Single Species Action Plans for migratory waterbirds?

Yes

Please provide details
> These are under development.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.2. Single Species Action Plans

> N/A

4.3 Emergency Measures

7. Please report on any emergency situation that has occurred in your country over the past triennium and has threatened waterbirds. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.3)

Please indicate whether an emergency situation threatening waterbirds, such as botulism, chemical pollution, earthquake, extreme weather, fire, harmful algal bloom, infectious disease, introduction of alien species, lead poisoning, nuclear accident, oil spill, predation, volcanic activity, war or other emergency (please specify), has occurred in the country over the past triennium.

No emergency situation has occurred

8. Are there any other emergency measures, different from the ones reported above, but were developed and are in place in your country?

No

9. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on identifying and tackling emergency situations for migratory waterbirds?

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with emergency situations?

> No emergency situation has arisen yet

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.3. Emergency Measures

> N/A

4.4 Re-establishments

10. Is your country maintaining a national register of re-establishment projects occurring or planned to occur wholly or partly within your country? (Resolution 4.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not yet initiated the process

11. Is there a regulatory framework for re-establishments of species, including waterbirds, in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not in place, will be developed in the near future as part of the National Action Plan

12. Has your country considered, developed or implemented re-establishment projects for any species listed on AEWA Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)

No

13. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on the translocation of waterbirds for conservation purposes?

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue?

> There has not been any need to undertake translocations of this nature.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.4. Re-establishments

> N/A

4.5 Introductions

14. Does your country have legislation in place, which prohibits the introduction into the environment of non-native species of animals and plants which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.1)

Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of legislation, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it

> Plant Control Act of 1981 - Ministry of Agriculture, Swaziland National Trust Commission
Animal Disease Act of 1965 - Ministry of Agriculture

Field for additional information (optional)

> Limited capacity for wild animal disease and health monitoring

15. Does your country impose legislative requirements on zoos, private collections, etc. in order to avoid the accidental escape of captive animals belonging to non-native species which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.2)

Yes, but not being enforced properly or at all

Please provide the following details: title of the document, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it, including reasons for non-enforcement

> Animal Disease Act of 1965 - Ministry of Agriculture

Field for additional information (optional)

> Not adequate to cover paragraph 2.5.2 and limited capacity

16. Does your country have in place a National Action Plan for Invasive Species (NAPIS) (in the framework of other MEAs, such as CBD, Bern Convention, and GISP (Global Invasive Species Programme) (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 5)?

Yes, but not being implemented properly or at all

Please explain the reasons

> Limited resources is inhibiting full implementation.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

17. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate non-native species of waterbird so as to prevent negative impacts on indigenous species? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

> No resources as yet.

18. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate other non-native species (in particular aquatic weeds) so as to prevent negative impacts on migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3 and Resolution 5.15)

Yes

Please list the species for which relevant action has been undertaken

> A National Alien Invasive Plant Control Strategy was developed in 2009 aimed at controlling or eradicating 18 priority invasive alien plants: Chromolaena odorata, Lantana camara, Psidium guajava, Solanum mauritianum, Rubus spp, Caesalpinia decapetala, Acacia mearnsii, Pinus spp, Eucalyptus spp., Senna didymobotrya, Melia azedarach, Sesbania punicea, Jacaranda mimosifolia, Opuntia spp, Cereus jamacaru, Poplar spp.

Please provide further information for each relevant programme

> Limited resources to fully implement the programme nationally

19. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species?

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue?

> There are plans to develop such guidelines for invasive organisms.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.5. Introductions

> N/A

Pressures and Responses

5. Habitat Conservation

5.1 Habitat Inventories

20. Has your country identified the network of all sites of international and national importance for the migratory waterbird species/populations listed on Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.1.2)

Yes

Please provide full reference, e.g. title, year, authors, etc. or a web link

> This was done as part of the Ramsar sites survey and other national surveys.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

BCPD - Biodiversity Conservation and Participatory Development Project

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

21. If your country has identified or is currently identifying the networks of sites of international and national importance, have you used the AEWA Guidelines on the preparation of site inventories for migratory waterbirds?

Yes

Please provide details

> A combination of Ramsar criteria, literature and site surveys were undertaken

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 5.1. Habitat Inventories

> N/A

5.2. Conservation of Areas

22. Has your country assessed the future implications of climate change for protected areas and other sites important for waterbirds (i.e. resilience of sites to climate change)? (Resolution 5.13)

For one or more single sites

Yes

Please give details as to where relevant information about these assessments have been published (either as publications or web-link).

> A National Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystems - 2014

For the national protected area network

Yes

Please give details as to where relevant information about these assessments have been published (either as publications or web-link).

> These have not yet been published but will be in the near future.

23. Which sites that were identified as important, either internationally or nationally, for Table 1 migratory waterbird species/populations have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented, including with the aim to increase resilience to the effects of climate change? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

Please report separately on internationally important sites, nationally important sites and buffer zones.

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

All sites of international importance

Total number

> 3

Total area (ha)

> 847

Out of the above total: number of protected sites

> 2

Out of the above total: protected area (ha)

> 712

Number of protected sites with management plans in place which are being implemented

> 2

Area under protection (in ha) covered by management plans which are being implemented

> 712

Examples of best practice (optional)

If any site, in your opinion, represents an outstanding process of management planning or implementation, please highlight it as an example of best practice (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

> Sand River Dam and Hawane Dam

24. Has your country developed a national action plans for filling gaps in designation and/or management of internationally and nationally important sites? (Resolution 5.2)

Being developed

Please provide starting date and expected date of finalisation

> June 2015 - May 2016

25. Has your country developed a strategic plan (independently or as part of your country's overarching biodiversity or protected area policy document) to maintain or increase the resilience of the ecological network (for waterbirds), including resilience to climate change, and to conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species? (Resolution 5.2, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

Yes

Please provide full reference or a web link, as well as details concerning the process and the status of this plan

> This is art of the revised NBSAP

26. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on the management of key sites for migratory waterbirds?

Yes

Please provide details

> Being implemented at Hawane Nature Reserve and partially at Sand River Dam

27. Has the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area been accessed and used in your country?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not yet in the process of doing the assessment

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 5.2. Conservation of Areas

> N/A

Pressures and Responses

6. Management of Human Activities

6.1. Hunting

28. Does your country have an established system for the collection of harvest data, which covers the species listed in Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limited capacity and resources

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

29. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4)

Fully

When was the lead shot use in wetlands banned? What legislation is in place? Who does enforce this legislation?

> This has always been banned in the country through the Game (Amendment) Act of 1991 and Wildbirds Protection Act of 1914

Has assessment of compliance with the legislation been undertaken?

No

Please explain the reasons for not doing this

> It is not a problem in the country

Has measurement of impact of the legislation been undertaken i.e. where there was a problem of lead poisoning in waterbirds, has this been reduced?

No

Please explain the reasons for not doing this

> This issue is of very little concern in the country

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

30. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6)

Yes

How would you rate the effectiveness of the measures?

High

Please provide details

> The Game (Amendment) Act is one of the strongest pieces of legislation the region due to stipulated penalties.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

31. Are legally binding best practice codes and standards for hunting (e.g. bird identification) considered a priority or appropriate for your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 2, Target 2.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Bird hunting is not a big concern in the country.

32. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on sustainable harvest of migratory birds?

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> None as yet

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.1. Hunting

> N/A

6.2. Other human activities

33. Have restrictions on use of lead fishing weights been introduced in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12)

Yes

Please describe what restrictions are in place, when they were introduced and whether they are considered to have worked (i.e. reduced the impact of lead poisoning). Please attach any published or unpublished references.

> This has always been banned in the country through the Game (Amendment) Act of 1991 and Wildbirds Protection Act of 1914

34. Does your country have legislation in place, which provides for Strategic Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA/EIA) of activities potentially negatively affecting natural habitats or wildlife? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1)

Yes and being implemented

Do the SEA/EIA processes consider waterbirds and habitats on which they depend?

Yes

Please provide details

> Wetlands are considered sensitive habitats by the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations of 2000 and hence projects likely to impact such are given the highest category thereby requiring a full EIA and Comprehensive Mitigation Plan.

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

> This is stipulated in the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations of 2000

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

35. In the last three years, has your country used SEA/EIA for all relevant projects, including energy sector projects such as renewable energy developments and power lines installation, to assess the impact of proposed projects on migratory waterbird species listed on Table 1 and/or habitats/sites on which they depend? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1, Resolution 5.11 and Resolution 5.16)

Yes, all proposed projects

Please provide information on the outstanding cases

> This is a legislative requirement in the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations of 2000

Where an SEA/EIA has identified a likelihood of significant negative impacts on migratory waterbirds, have steps been taken to avoid these impacts, including avoidance of protected areas and other sites of importance for migratory waterbirds?

Yes

Please describe the measures put in place

> In most cases, complete avoidance of a wetland is the final option

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

36. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on how to avoid, minimize or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds?

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> To be included in the review of the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations of 2000.

37. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.11 on Power Lines and Migratory Waterbirds.

37.1. Are relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, scientific bodies, nongovernmental organisations and the energy sector, being regularly consulted in order to monitor jointly the impacts of power lines on waterbirds and to agree on a common policy of action?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> This is yet to be implemented.

37.2. Have a baseline of waterbird distribution, population sizes, migrations and movements (including those between breeding, resting and feeding areas) been established as early as possible in the planning of any power line project, over a period of at least five years, and with particular emphasis on those species known to be vulnerable to electrocution or collision; and, if such studies identify any risks, has every effort been made to ensure these are avoided?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Limiting resources. This problem is also of little concern currently.

37.3. Have the location, route and direction of new power lines been designated on the basis of national zoning maps; and has, wherever possible, the construction of power lines along major migration flyways and in habitats of conservation importance* been avoided, where such construction is likely to have significant effects on waterbirds?

* such as Special Protection Areas under the EU Birds Directive, Important Bird Areas, protected areas, Ramsar sites, the West/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Crane and other waterbirds and other critical sites as identified by the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the African-Eurasian region.

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Limiting resources. This problem is also of little concern currently.

37.4. Are bird-safe designs in the construction of new power infrastructure, including measures designed to reduce electrocution and collisions been used in your country?

Yes

Please provide details

> High voltage powerlines are constructed in manner that reduces negative bird impacts including bird perching peak at every single monopole structure.

37.5. Have those sections of existing power lines that are causing relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision been identified and modified as a matter of priority?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Information not yet available from utility company

37.6. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the impact of power lines on waterbird populations at the national scale, as well as of the effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to minimise the impact of power lines on waterbird populations?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Limiting resources and capacity

37.7. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

Yes

Please provide details

> These have been included in the revised National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan

38. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region?

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> This will be incorporated in the reviewed Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations.

39. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.16 on Renewable Energy and Migratory Waterbirds.

39.1. Has a national sensitivity and zoning mapping to avoid overlap of renewable energy developments with areas of importance for migratory waterbirds been developed in your country?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Plans are in place to develop this.

39.2. Please describe what international environmental guidelines, recommendations and criteria are being followed in your country for renewable energy developments impact assessment and the utilization of renewable energy sources.

> IRENA, World Bank

39.3. Is post-construction monitoring being undertaken of the renewable energy installations and associated infrastructure in your country?

Yes

Has adverse effect on migratory waterbirds and their habitats been identified?

No

39.4. Where damage cannot be avoided or mitigated, has compensation for damages to biodiversity been provided?

Not applicable

Please explain

> it is not yet provided for in the legislation.

39.5. Please indicate whether any of the following measures have been put in place to reduce the potential negative impact of terrestrial and marine windfarms on migratory waterbirds:

Other - Please specify

> No windfarms currently exists on the country

39.6. Have any specific measures been put in place to assess, identify and reduce potential negative impacts of biofuel production on migratory waterbirds and their habitats?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Its implicitly included in the draft National Biofuels Strategy

39.7. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

Yes

Please provide details

> Elements of 5.1 are included in the draft NBSAP.

40. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8)

No

Please provide details

> Fishing is a very small industry in the country especially that which could result in by-catches.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

41. Has your country undertaken steps towards the adoption/application of measures to reduce the incidental catch of seabirds and combat Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing practices in the Agreement area? (Resolution 3.8)

Not applicable

Please explain

> Country is landlocked.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

42. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.12 on Adverse Effects of Agrochemicals on Migratory Waterbirds in Africa (this question is applicable only to Contracting Parties in Africa).

42.1. Have relevant government authorities developed and implemented regulations on the trade and application of agrochemicals known to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on waterbirds?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources and capacity

42.2. Is the use of such agrochemicals regulated in the vicinity of nationally and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds, particularly in wetlands, also taking into account run-offs from agriculture affecting aquatic ecosystems?

No

Please explain the reasons

> No policy and legal framework in place as yet

42.3. Are there any steps undertaken to control or reduce the use of avicides in areas frequented by populations listed in Table 1 of the Agreement?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources and capacity

42.4. Have education and training activities been implemented for relevant target groups on the proper use of agrochemicals that may have possible adverse effect on waterbirds?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources and capacity

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.2. Other Human Activities

> N/A

Pressures and Responses

7. Research and Monitoring

43. Does your country have waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species in place? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.2)

Yes

Covering the breeding period

Partially

Please provide details

> These are done through intermittent waterfowl surveys and by independent researchers

Covering the passage/migration period

Partially

Please provide details

> These are done through intermittent waterfowl surveys and by independent researchers

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Partially

Please provide details

> These are done through intermittent waterfowl surveys and by independent researchers

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

44. Has your country supported, technically or financially, other Parties or Range States in designing appropriate monitoring schemes and developing their capacity to collect reliable waterbird population data? (Resolution 5.2)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limited capacity and resources

45. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for a waterbird monitoring protocol?

Yes

Please provide details

> Currently being used in ongoing research and monitoring activities

46. Have any research programmes been established in your country in the last 5 years to address waterbird conservation priorities in accordance with the AEWA strategies and plans? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.3)

Yes

Please list those programmes and indicate which AEWA priorities they are addressing

> A strategic partnership exists between the University of Swaziland and the Swaziland National Trust Commission focusing on research including waterbirds and wetlands.

47. List (or provide links to lists) of research related to waterbirds and their conservation that has been undertaken or results published in the past triennium (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.5)

> None

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

48. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census at international or national level? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.1)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limited resources

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

**49. Has the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds been investigated in your country?
(AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12)**

No

Are there plans to investigate the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds in your country?

No

Please provide reason(s)

> It is not a problem in the country.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 7. Research and Monitoring

> N/A

Pressures and Responses

8. Education and Information

8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

50. Has your country developed and implemented programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA specifically? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.3 and AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 6.1-6.4, Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5)

Yes, being implemented

Please describe the awareness programmes which have been developed. Please upload any relevant sample materials which have been developed and add contact details of a contact person for each programme.

> Weekly radio programmes also include messages on the protection and conservation of waterbirds and their habitats

Does the programme specifically focus on AEWA and the provisions of its Action Plan?

No

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

51. Has a National AEWA Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) been nominated by your country? (Resolution 5.5)

Yes

Is the National CEPA Focal Point from the government or non-governmental sector?

Government

Has the AEWA CEPA Focal Point begun coordinating national implementation of the Communication Strategy and/or supported the revision process for the Communication Strategy?

No

Please explain reasons

> They were recently nominated

How can the cooperation between the appointed AEWA CEPA Focal Point and the Ramsar CEPA Focal Points be described?

There is very close cooperation

Field for additional information (optional)

> The AEWA CEPA Focal Point and the Ramsar CEPA Focal Points work together

52. Have measures been taken by your country to implement the provisions related to "Education and Information" in the AEWA Action Plan over the last triennium? (AEWA Action Plan, Paragraphs 6.1-6.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources and the fact that the CEPA focal point was recently nominated

53. Have World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) activities been carried out in your country during this reporting cycle? (Resolution 5.5)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources and the fact that the CEPA focal point was recently nominated

54. Has your country provided funding and/or other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources) towards the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Strategic Plan 2009- 2017, Objective 4, Target 4.1 and Resolution 3.10,

Resolution 5.5)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources and capacity

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

55. In Resolution 3.10 the Meeting of the Parties encouraged Contracting Parties to host AEWA Exchange Centres for their respective regions. Has your country considered/shown interest in hosting a Regional AEWA Exchange Centre? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 2 and Resolution 3.10)

It is currently considering

Please provide details on the answer given above

> Under consideration.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

56. Training for CEPA (Communication, Education and Public Awareness) at national level is supposed to be conducted by staff who have been trained in the framework of an AEWA Training of Trainers programme. Have staff who were trained as part of a Training of Trainers workshop conducted national CEPA training in your country in the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.2)

Applicable only for countries in regions where Training of Trainers programme has taken place (for Eastern and Southern African countries in Naivasha, Kenya, May 2013, and for Lusophone African countries in Luanda, Angola, January 2014)

Being planned

When is it being planned for? Please provide contact details of a contact person.

> Planned for July 2015

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 8.1. AEWA Communication Strategy

> N/A

Pressures and Responses

9. Implementation

57. Has your country approached non-contracting parties to encourage them to ratify the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10)

Report only on activities over the past triennium

No

Please explain the reasons

> The country is still at the early stages of implementation having recently acceded and most efforts have been on setting up the institutional structure and compiling baseline data on waterbirds.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

58. Has your country supported/developed international co-operation projects for the implementation of the Agreement, according to the priorities outlined in the AEWA International Implementation Tasks (IIT) for the current triennium? (Resolution 5.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

> The country is still at the early stages of implementation having recently acceded and most efforts have been on setting up the institutional structure and compiling baseline data on waterbirds.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

59. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund over the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

60. Has your country donated other funding or provided in-kind support to activities coordinated by the Secretariat?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Limiting resources

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

61. Does your country have in place a national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA, possibly linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.7)

Yes, it is operational on a regular basis

Please provide details

> A National Wetlands Working Group has been established and is also responsible for the AEWA issues in the countries. In addition some members of this Committee are also members of the Biodiversity Programme Implementation Committee, which is overlooking CBD implementation.

Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

62. Has your country concluded, or considered concluding, site twinning schemes with other countries, the sites of which share common migratory waterbirds or conservation issues? (Resolution 5.20)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Plans are in place to do this together with South Africa.

63. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes to implement and to assess delivery of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011 - 2020 including the Aichi targets?

Yes

Please provide details

> They are members of the Biodiversity Programme Implementation Committee, which is overlooking CBD implementation.

64. How would your country suggest promoting further links between the biodiversity MEAs to which your country is a Contracting Party, so as to make your work more efficient and effective?

> None

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 9. Implementation

> None

Pressures and Responses

10. Climate Change

65. Please outline relevant climate change research, assessments and/or adaptation measures that are relevant to migratory waterbirds and which have been undertaken or planned in your country. (Resolution 5.13)

a. Research and studies of climate change impacts on waterbirds

Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

> National vulnerability and adaptation assessment for biodiversity and ecosystems - 2014

b. Assessment of the potential vulnerability to climate change of key habitats used by waterbird species (including those outside protected area networks) (Please note that the question asks about habitats, rather than sites. Question 22 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

> National vulnerability and adaptation assessment for biodiversity and ecosystems - 2014

c. Assessment of the potential vulnerability of waterbird species to climate change.

Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

> National vulnerability and adaptation assessment for biodiversity and ecosystems - 2014

d. Review of relevant national conservation policies relevant to waterbirds and climate change.

Planned

Please provide details

> Planned as part of GEF-funded project on strengthening protected areas beginning in June 2015.

e. National Action Plan for helping waterbirds adapt to climate change (as a separate implementation process or as part of a larger national framework for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Please note that Question 23 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

Planned

Please provide details

> Planned as part of GEF-funded project on strengthening protected areas beginning in June 2015.

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

No

66. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on measures needed to help waterbirds to adapt to climate change?

Yes

Please provide details

> Partially, in the vulnerability and adaptation assessment for biodiversity and ecosystems - 2014

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 9. Implementation

> N/A

Pressures and Responses

11. Avian Influenza

67. What issues have proved challenging in responding nationally to the spread of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the last triennium and what further guidance or information would be useful in this respect?

67.1 List challenges

> N/A

67.2 List required further guidance or information

> N/A

67.3 Field for additional information (optional)

> N/A

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 10. Avian Influenza

> N/A

12. Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

In addition a scanned copy of an official letter from the relevant state institution, approving the report for submission, can be attached.

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2012-2014 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

> 18 May 2015