



**9<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**  
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**REPORT ON PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN  
INITIATIVE FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 2012 - JULY 2013**

*Compiled by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat*

## **Introduction**

The AEWA African Initiative, adopted through Resolution 4.9 by the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties to AEWA (MOP4), in Antananarivo, Madagascar in September 2008, aimed to advance the implementation of the Agreement in the African region. Activities under the AEWA African Initiative were launched in 2009, and have significantly boosted the implementation and visibility of AEWA in the region (see MOP5 report on the African Initiative<sup>1</sup> and the MOP5 flyer on the African Initiative<sup>2</sup>). One of the main activities under the AEWA African Initiative was the development of a Plan of Action for the implementation of AEWA in Africa.

The "*AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2012-2017: A guide to the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 in the African Region*", was adopted by MOP5 through Resolution 5.9 on the Implementation of the African Initiative<sup>3</sup>. This Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) presents an operational guideline for the implementation of the African Initiative for the period 2012-2017. It provides a series of tangible activities agreed upon by the African Contracting Parties to AEWA, for advancing the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the region.

Res. 5.9 provides for mechanisms and actors to support the implementation of the African Initiative and the PoAA, including a coordination mechanism to be based at the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. The current report provides an update on the efforts and activities of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat towards the implementation of the Agreement in the African region, particularly with regard to the implementation of Resolution 5.9, including the PoAA 2012-2017, in the period between May 2012 and July 2013.

## **Section 1: Implementation of Resolution 5.9 by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat**

### **1.1 Coordination of the African Initiative**

#### ***Mandate:***

Through Resolution 5.9, the AEWA Contracting Parties approved the continued coordination of the African Initiative based in the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat in Bonn, Germany, strengthened by sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators to be identified among the AEWA National Focal Points in each sub-region, who will guide implementation at the sub-regional level and who will receive technical support from the Technical Support Unit (TSU), provided by the French Government. The same Resolution instructs the UNEP/AEWA

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<sup>1</sup> MOP5 Report on the African Initiative: [http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/mop/mop5\\_docs/pdf/mop5\\_32\\_ai\\_implementation\\_report.pdf](http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/mop/mop5_docs/pdf/mop5_32_ai_implementation_report.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> MOP5 Flyer\_African Initiative: [http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/africaninitiative/publication/ai\\_leaflet\\_en\\_web.pdf](http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/africaninitiative/publication/ai_leaflet_en_web.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> AEWA Resolution 5.9: [http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/mop/mop5\\_docs/final\\_res\\_pdf/res\\_5\\_9\\_african\\_initiative.pdf](http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/mop/mop5_docs/final_res_pdf/res_5_9_african_initiative.pdf)

Secretariat and the AEWA Standing Committee (StC) to establish the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the management of the above-mentioned coordination mechanism and the technical support provided by the French Government.

Furthermore, Resolution 5.21 of MOP5<sup>4</sup> approved the establishment of a part time (50%) post for an African Coordinator based at the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, and instructed the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to secure additional voluntary funding to extend this post beyond 50%, as appropriate. Moreover, the same resolution requested the AEWA Standing Committee to assess the need to establish the post of a Programme Assistant for the African initiative before voluntary contributions are sought for it.

**Activities:**

With regard to the above mandates, the draft ToRs for the post of a Coordinator for the African Initiative and a part-time Programme Assistant for the African Initiative, along with justifications for the need of the latter, were prepared by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and submitted to the AEWA StC for review and comments in July 2012. The ToRs were explicitly supported or did not raise objections from members of the StC. However, the Government of France requested to examine them in conjunction with the ToR of other components of the support mechanism, notably the TSU, before their finalization and approval.

Following up the review by the StC, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat hosted a meeting in Bonn, Germany, on 6 November 2012, with the main aim to further discuss the ToR of the three components of the support to the implementation of the African Initiative (that is, the Coordination unit based within the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, the Sub-regional National Focal Point Coordination and TSU to the initiative provided by the French Government). The meeting was attended by the Chair of the AEWA StC, an African representative from the AEWA StC, representatives from the Government of France and the French TSU and representatives from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. Draft ToRs for the French TSU and the Sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators, prepared by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat were submitted to this meeting for review and comments. The outcomes of the meeting are summarized in Annex I to this report.

Consultations have been maintained between the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and the French TSU on the activities led by each of these components of the Coordination of, and support to the African Initiative. These have been in the form of meetings, teleconferences as well as online correspondence.

The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has also engaged actively in searching for financial resources to supplement the cost of the coordination of the African Initiative within the Secretariat (as recommended by Resolution 5.9), as well as for the implementation of AEWA activities in the African region.

**Outcomes:**

*a) Coordination of the African Initiative within the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat*

The ToRs for the post of Coordinator for the African Initiative were revised in August 2012, taking into consideration comments from the email consultations with the AEWA StC. In July 2013, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat was successful in securing voluntary funds from the Swiss Government (Federal Office for the Environment – FOEN) to supplement the funds in the AEWA core budget for the post of the Coordinator for the African Initiative up to a full-time position (100%). The agreement signed between the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and the Swiss Government covers the needs for the year 2013 and confirms the readiness of the donor to consider further financial support for subsequent years. At the time of writing, a request from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to establish and advertise the post of Associate Programme Officer - African Coordinator is being processed by the competent services at UNEP and UNON<sup>5</sup>.

Following questions raised during the email consultation with the StC regarding the need for the post of the part-time Programme Assistant for the African Initiative, the issue was further discussed at the meeting on 6 November 2013, in Bonn, Germany. Following the discussions and deliberations of this meeting, it was agreed that the ToR for the position were approved and the position could be funded through a voluntary

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<sup>4</sup> AEWA Resolution 5.21: [http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/mop/mop5\\_docs/final\\_res\\_pdf/res\\_5\\_21\\_fin\\_and\\_admin\\_matters.pdf](http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/mop/mop5_docs/final_res_pdf/res_5_21_fin_and_admin_matters.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> United Nations Office in Nairobi

contribution. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat succeeded in securing funding for the position from the Government of Germany, for the period of November 2012 to December 2015. It was also concluded that this issue should then be revisited at the AEWA MOP6.

The ToRs for the above two positions within the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat were thus considered approved. They are attached to this report as annexes II and III. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat was also permitted to proceed with the establishment of the post for the Coordinator for the African Initiative within the UNEP System.

*b) The Technical Support from the French Government for the implementation of the AEWA PoAA*

The report from the French Government and TSU during the meeting in Bonn on 6 November 2012 confirmed the establishment of the TSU within the Tour du Valat Research Centre in the Camargue, France. Some details on the related arrangements including the complement of staff can be found in the summary of the outcomes of this meeting (Annex I).

The draft ToR for the TSU prepared by the Secretariat continued to be developed by email correspondence among the participants at the November meeting. The final version of the ToR, as attached to this report (Annex IV) is submitted to the Standing Committee for its endorsement.

The French TSU has meanwhile been involved in implementing activities in the African region, which contribute to the implementation of the AEWA PoAA, some of which are mentioned in the sections which follow.

The ToR for the TSU also provides for the establishment of a Steering Group, aimed at facilitating planning and monitor progress in the implementation of activities supported by the TSU. It is composed of:

- representatives of the TSU based at Tour du Valat in France;
- representatives of the Government of France;
- representatives of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat;
- a designated representative of the African AEWA Parties.

Two meetings of this Steering Group have taken place so far:

- an informal meeting in Paris in April 2013 (which brought together representatives from the Government of France, the TSU and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat);
- a second meeting in June 2013 at Tour du Valat (which brought together a similar combination of participants, including an African Representative from the AEWA StC). These meetings have contributed to sharing information about progress in the activities led by each component and planning for future joint activities;

In consultations between the UNEP/CMS and UNEP/AEWA Secretariats and the French Government, the possibility of establishing a Fundraising Committee for the African Initiative was also raised.

*c) The Sub-regional National Focal Point Coordination for the implementation of the AEWA PoAA*

During the meeting of November 6, 2012 (Bonn, Germany) the Government of France and the French TSU proposed the idea of launching the activities of the French TSU through sub-regional National Focal Point (SrNFP) meetings, for the five African sub-regions. These SrNFP meetings aim to identify priority activities for each sub-region within the AEWA PoAA, particularly those which could benefit from the expertise and support of the TSU. The meetings are expected to serve additional purposes, such as the election of SrNFP Coordinators among the AEWA National Focal Points in each sub-region, who will be responsible for guiding the implementation of the AEWA PoAA at the sub-regional level. The idea was retained by the meeting, and in subsequent contacts the convening of three sub-regional meetings, to be jointly organized by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and the TSU, was agreed (Northern Africa; Eastern and Southern Africa; Central and Western Africa).

The Sub-regional meeting for Northern Africa took place in El Kala, Algeria, in June 2013, back-to-back with a meeting of national IWC coordinators for northern African countries, thanks to funding from the

French Government and the MAVA Foundation, and at the kind invitation of the Government of Algeria. Waterbird monitoring was identified as a priority need in the region and it was agreed that a regional project will be developed and that funds would be raised for it. The AEWA National Focal Point for Algeria (M. Ammar Boumezbeur) was elected as the SrNFP Coordinator for the North African region. The meeting also provided some comments on the draft ToR for SrNFPs.

The SrNFP meeting for Southern and Eastern Africa is scheduled to take place in Johannesburg, South Africa from 27-28 October 2013, back to back with a workshop for National Focal Points of CMS, AEWA and other CMS instruments (referred to as the *CMS Family National Focal Points*). The sub-regional meeting for West and Central Africa is planned for the end of 2013, with some co-funding already provided by the French Government.

A revised draft of the ToRs for the SrNFP Coordinators prepared by the Secretariat after the meeting in El Kala has been submitted for consultation to African Parties through the African members of the Standing Committee. It is attached to this report as Annex V. A final draft incorporating possible comments from African Parties will be presented to the AEWA StC for consideration and endorsement.

## **1.2 Collaboration in the framework of the implementation of the AEWA African Initiative**

### ***Mandate:***

The AEWA Resolution 5.9 instructs the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to collaborate closely with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), relevant AEWA Parties including the European Union, the TSU, other partner organisations active in Africa, as well as with the private sector, for the implementation of the AEWA PoAA.

### ***Activities and outputs:***

#### ***a) The UNEP/CMS Secretariat***

The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has maintained strong collaboration with the UNEP/CMS Secretariat for the implementation of the CMS/AEWA Capacity Building project entitled “*Effective Implementation of CMS, AEWA and Other CMS Family Instruments across Various Regions and Languages through Capacity Building during the Period 2012-2014*”. More information on this project is provided in section 2.3(c) of this document.

#### ***b) The Technical Support Unit for the implementation of the AEWA PoAA***

The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has worked in collaboration with the TSU for the implementation of relevant activities under the AEWA PoAA (see section 1.1(b) of this document).

The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has also maintained or initiated contact with other relevant partners such as:

#### ***c) BirdLife International***

In the framework of the BirdLife/MAVA Foundation project on *Strengthening networks for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats along the west coast of Africa* (CMB Project), the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has followed-up and provided advice with regard to national Single Species Action Plans (SSAPs) in the framework of this project, notably for some AEWA Species such as the African Spoonbill, the Black Crowned Crane, the Black-tailed Godwit and Lesser Flamingo.

#### ***d) Der Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU)***

NABU, the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (BirdLife Partner in Germany), is one of the collaborators in the development of an International Single Species Action Plan (ISSAP) for the Grey Crowned Crane (*Balearica regulorum*). The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat is working closely with the Africa Working Group of NABU. One outcome was the securing from NABU of some necessary co-funding to support the organisation of the SSAP multi-stakeholder workshop for the development of the ISSAP for the Grey Crowned Crane (see section 2.1(a) for further information on this workshop).

e) *UNEP Regional Office for Africa*

In the framework of collaboration with the UNEP/CMS Secretariat for promoting collaboration between the National Focal Points of CMS, CBD and CITES for national implementation of these MEAs, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat represented the UNEP/CMS Secretariat at a workshop which aimed at improving the capacity of Francophone African National Focal Points in identifying indicators and integrating CMS and CITES objectives into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) (Douala, Cameroon, from 25-28 June 2013). During this workshop, contact was also made with some AEWA National Focal Points and Contact Persons on various issues (Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire and Togo)

## **Section 2: Implementation of the PoAA**

### ***Mandate:***

Resolution 5.9 of MOP5 instructs the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to make every endeavour to secure the necessary financial and other resources for the implementation of the Plan of Action for Africa, with the focus on the highest priority activities. The AEWA PoAA 2012-2017 identifies a series of concrete activities targeted by the African Parties and aimed at contributing towards achieving the objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017.

### ***Activities:***

Following the AEWA MOP5, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has made efforts towards the implementation of activities prescribed by the AEWA PoAA, giving priority to those activities for which it was assigned a lead role. This section describes the activities conducted by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat during the period from June 2012 to July 2013 and indicates their contribution towards achieving the expected results of the AEWA PoAA.

### **2.1 Activities and outputs which contribute to attaining objective one of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017** (*Conservation measures aimed at improving or maintaining the conservation status of waterbird species and their populations*)

#### **a. *Development of International Single Species Action Plans (ISSAPs) for Priority AEWA species occurring in Africa (PoAA Result 1.4.1)***

The AEWA PoAA provides a list of nine priority species for the development of ISSAPs in Africa. Following the successful acquisition of voluntary contributions from the Swiss Government towards the development of International Single Species Action Plans (ISSAPs) for the Shoebill (*Balaeniceps rex*) and Grey Crowned Crane (*Balearica regulorum*), the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has invested efforts towards the organisation of ISSAP multi-stakeholder action planning workshops for the development of ISSAPs for these species.

The AEWA ISSAP multi-stakeholder workshop for the Shoebill took place in Entebbe, Uganda, from 9 to 12 October 2012<sup>6</sup>. It was kindly hosted by the Ugandan Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities and was locally organized by NatureUganda (the Ugandan BirdLife International partner). It brought together governmental representatives and experts from seven range states for the species (Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Rwanda, South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) as well as representatives from relevant partner organizations (BirdLife International African Partnership Secretariat, the Shoebill Stork Foundation in Uganda and the Stork Technical Advisory Group at the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria - EAZA).

Immediately following this workshop, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, in collaboration with the facilitator for the Shoebill ISSAP workshop (Tim Dodman), organized a Shoebill Round Table Discussion (RTD) at the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Pan African Ornithological Congress (PAOC13, 14 - 21 October 2012, Arusha, Tanzania). During this RTD the outcomes of the AEWA Shoebill ISSAP action planning workshop in Entebbe were presented and further input and ideas from experts were sought. The first draft of the SSAP for

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<sup>6</sup> AEWA Shoebill SSAP workshop: [http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news\\_elements/2012/shoebill\\_workshop\\_uganda.htm](http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2012/shoebill_workshop_uganda.htm)

the Shoebill was available in March 2013 and was circulated among the workshop participants, Governments of the Shoebill ranges states and AEWA Technical Committee for review and comments. The final draft of the ISSAP is submitted to the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee for preliminary adoption (Doc. StC 9.17).

The ISSAP multi-stakeholder workshop for the Grey Crowned Crane is currently being organised by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Crane Conservation Programme (ACCP: a partnership between the International Crane Foundation (ICF) and Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)). It is scheduled to take place from 10-13 September 2013, in Musanze, Rwanda, at the kind invitation of the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA). The consultative compilation of the draft ISSAP is expected to be completed by the end of 2014.

*b. Establishment and operationalization of international coordination mechanisms for AEWA SSAPs relevant for Africa (PoAA Result 1.4.2)*

Information on activities related to the coordination of ISSAPs in the African region is available in the report on the “current state of AEWA Single Species Action Plan and AEWA Species Management Plan production and coordination of implementation”, document StC 9.16. In addition, information on the development of websites to facilitate the work of AEWA International Single Species Action Plan Working Groups is reported in Section II of the report to the AEWA StC regarding the implementation and revision of the Communication Strategy (document StC 9.14).

**2.2 Activities and outputs which contribute to attaining objective four of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 (Improving Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) for migratory waterbird species, their flyways, their role in alleviating poverty, threats to them and the need for measures to conserve them and their habitats)**

*a) Designation of CEPA Focal Points in the African region (PoAA Result 4.3.1)*

In accordance with the AEWA PoAA as well as AEWA Resolution 5.5 on the "Implementation and revision of the Communication Strategy", the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has solicited the designation by AEWA Contracting Parties, including the African Parties, of their National CEPA Focal Points. To date, the National CEPA Focal Points for Algeria, Benin, Chad, Madagascar, Niger, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe have been designated and officially communicated to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat continues to solicit further designations from African Parties. More details can be found in Section II of the document StC 9.14.

*b) Organisation of one major World Migratory Bird Day event in the Eastern African region (PoAA Result 4.3.2)*

The World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) campaign has been recognized as a key global awareness-raising tool in the framework of AEWA. As such, the AEWA PoAA requests the Secretariat to lead the organisation of one major WMBD event per year in Africa, in a different sub-region each year. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat thus initiated the organisation of the first ever major sub-regional WMBD event in Africa, to commemorate the 2013 WMBD campaign, under the global theme "Networking for migratory birds". The event was organised by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), in close collaboration with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and took place at Lake Elementeita on 11 May 2013. The event was attended by over 300 guests, including representatives from 13 Eastern and Southern African countries, including the participants of an AEWA Training of Trainers (ToT) course on the Flyway approach to the Conservation and Wise Use of Waterbirds and Wetlands in Naivasha, Kenya, from 6-10 May 2013.

The event included lively and inspiring performances from school children and community entertainers, speeches from various dignitaries and the award of certificates and trophies to individuals and community-based organisations engaged in migratory waterbird conservation in Kenya – all highlighting the importance of migratory waterbird conservation in the country and the surrounding Lake Elementeita area. Funding for this major WMBD event was provided by KWS and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

More information on the celebration of the 2013 WMBD campaign in the AEWA region, including Africa, can be found in document StC 9.14.

### **2.3 Activities and outputs which contribute to attaining objective 5 of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 (Improving the capacity of Range States for international cooperation and capacity towards the conservation of migratory waterbird species and their flyways)**

#### *a) Expanding the membership of the Agreement in Africa (PoAA Result 5.1.1)*

Resolution 5.9 calls on the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and the AEWA Contracting Parties to continue putting emphasis on the recruitment of new Contracting Parties from the African region. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has thus invested efforts in maintaining contact with African countries which are not yet Parties to the Agreement and providing support in the form of information, advice and financial resources, to help advance the process of their accession to AEWA.

As a result, during the period of May 2012 to July 2013, the accession process was completed for the following countries:

<b>No.</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Date of entry into force of AEWA</b>
1	Gabon	01-12-2012
2	Morocco	01-12-2012
3	Swaziland	01-01-2013
4	Cote d'Ivoire	01-06-2013
5	Burkina Faso	01-10-2013

For some other countries, the accession process is quite advanced and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat is working closely with these Governments to further advance the process. They include Burundi, Cameroon, Comoros, Mauritania, Rwanda, South Sudan and Zambia.

#### AEWA accession workshops and missions:

Result 5.1.1 of the AEWA PoAA foresees the organisation of regional and national AEWA accession workshops, aimed at encouraging the accession of new Parties to AEWA.

In this light, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat had secured some funding from the Swiss Government and is currently in the process of organising an AEWA accession workshop in Botswana, aimed at facilitating the accession of the country to AEWA. The workshop will bring together representatives from relevant national governmental and non-governmental institutions as well as regional and international organisations (e.g. the Southern African Development Community - SADC and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat). The workshop will serve to deliberate on the implications of accession to AEWA based on a policy document to be prepared for this purpose and prepare some draft national papers for advancing the accession process. It will also provide a forum to discuss other relevant AEWA-related issues in the country.

#### *b) Promoting the implementation of the AEWA Small Grants Fund in Africa (PoAA Result 5.4.1)*

The AEWA Small Grants Funds (SGF) supports the implementation of AEWA in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. It became operational in 2010 and has so far been implemented in the African region only, due to the limited funding available to run this programme.

Since May 2012, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has been involved in completing the process of evaluation, ranking and selection of project proposals submitted for the 2012 cycle of the AEWA SGF, which was launched in April 2012. For this SGF cycle, out of the 22 proposals submitted from 15 African countries, six were eligible for evaluation under the AEWA SGF. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat conducted a three-phase evaluation and selection process, including a pre-evaluation and ranking by the Secretariat, followed by consultations with the AEWA Technical Committee (in December 2012) and Standing Committee (in January 2013). This led to a decision on projects to be funded and the distribution of available funding for these projects. As a result the following two projects were funded:

- the sustainable management of the Tocc Tocc Community Natural Reserve located in northern Senegal, funded for the amount of 22,692 Euros and to be implemented for 12 months;

- the conservation of the Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*) in the Queen Elizabeth conservation area in South-Western Uganda, funded for 22,690 Euros and to be implemented for 12 months;

Contracts between the project-implementing organisations and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat have been established for these projects and their implementation is underway. The support for the implementation of these two projects was made possible thanks to the funding allocated in the AEWA core budget for SGF projects in Africa, as well as a voluntary financial contribution from the United Kingdom.

The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat is in the process of preparing a call for project proposals from Africa for the 2013 cycle of the AEWA SGF and expects to launch this by September 2013.

In addition, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has proposed amendments to the operational guidelines for the AEWA SGF, based on lessons learned from the operation of the last three SGF cycles (2010-2012). These will be presented to the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA StC for review, comments and approval (Doc. StC 9.13).

Meanwhile, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat continued to monitor progress in the implementation of projects from past SGF cycles. This included the evaluation of progress and final reports and provision of advisory services to the project implementers. As a result, two projects on the conservation of the Madagascar Pond Heron (*Ardeola idae*), funded under the 2010 cycle of the AEWA SGF, came to successful completion at the end of 2012.

- The first of these projects was implemented in Kenya, in the non-breeding range of the species and was run by the National Museums of Kenya. It resulted in the identification of 16 new wetlands used by the species, for which there was no previous documented occurrence, an increase in knowledge on the distribution, ecology and habitat requirements of the species. It also resulted in trained monitors and volunteers on identification of the species as well as awareness raising on the conservation of the species.
- The second project was implemented in the species' major breeding grounds in Madagascar, led by Asity Madagascar, the country's BirdLife International's partner. The project resulted in the establishment and maintenance of a database for the species' distribution and ecology as well as a national experts' network for data exchange on the species. Two new breeding sites were identified for the species (Lakes Ravelobe and Mataborimena), an identification guide was developed in the local language and key persons were trained on the identification of the species. Awareness raising was also conducted for the general public.

Interim reports were also reviewed for the AEWA SGF projects currently being implemented in Ethiopia, Egypt and Gambia (for the 2010 cycle), and for a project in Tanzania (for the 2011 cycle).

c) *Increasing the capacity of national staff to implement AEWA through training mechanisms (PoAA Result 5.7.1)*

The AEWA PoAA requests the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to lead the process of developing a training module on the implementation of the Agreement, targeting staff of the national implementing authorities, as well as to organise training workshops for the AEWA National Focal Points and Technical Focal Points. The need for Capacity Building for national implementation was also highlighted in surveys conducted by the UNEP/CMS and UNEP/AEWA Secretariats amongst their National Focal Points.

Thanks to some voluntary funding secured in 2012 under the ENRTP SCA between the EC - DG Environment and UNEP, the UNEP/CMS and UNEP/AEWA Secretariats have been working jointly on a Capacity Building Project entitled "*Effective Implementation of CMS, AEWA and Other CMS Family Instruments across Various Regions and Languages through Capacity Building*".

This project includes the development of a manual and e-community platform for the National Focal Points of CMS, AEWA and other CMS instruments (CMS Family National Focal Points), aimed at guiding them on their roles and responsibilities towards implementation and providing them with a forum for communication and sharing of information and expertise. The process of developing the draft manual and e-community platform has been highly consultative, involving the CMS Family National Focal Points, relevant partner



organizations and the staff of the Secretariats of CMS, AEWA and other CMS instruments. The task was partly outsourced to a non-profit environmental research and policy analysis consultancy firm (Ecologic Institute<sup>7</sup>). The draft manual and outline for the e-community platform were reviewed during a meeting of a working group consisting of National Focal Points from the different regions, including Africa, as well as partner organisations (the Ramsar Secretariat, BirdLife International, and Wetlands International). This workshop took place from 1-2 November 2012, in Bonn, Germany<sup>8</sup>. The final draft manual is under revision by the UNEP/CMS and UNEP/AEWA Secretariats.

The final draft manual will be tested for the first time at a workshop aimed at improving the capacity of National Focal Points of the CMS Family, using this manual as the key training instrument. This two-day workshop for the CMS Family National Focal Points will be kindly hosted by the Government of South Africa, in Cape Town, from 29-31 October 2013 and will target the participation of the National Focal Points of CMS, AEWA and some other CMS instruments from African Parties. The CMS Family National Focal Point Manual will be further revised taking into consideration the comments from this workshop.

*d) Increasing the capacity and expertise of Range States on the flyway approach to the conservation and wise use of waterbirds and wetlands (PoAA Results 3.2.1, CT/4.1, CT/4.3 and CT/4.4)*

In response to the mandate of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 on improving national capacity for the implementation of the Agreement through proper training mechanisms, a Flyway Training Kit (FTK) on the flyway approach to the conservation and wise use of waterbirds and wetlands was developed under the UNEP/GEF African-Eurasian Wings Over Wetlands Flyway Project (WOW project). The AEWA PoAA requests the Post-WOW Partnership (which includes the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, Ramsar Secretariat, BirdLife International and Wetlands International), to organize Training of Trainers (ToT) workshops using this FTK, in each sub-region in Africa.

Thanks to funding secured in 2012 from the ENRTP SCA between the EC - DG Environment and UNEP, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat organized an AEWA ToT workshop using the WOW FTK, for experts from the Southern and Eastern African sub-regions. This workshop was kindly hosted by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and took place from 6-10 May 2013, in Naivasha, Kenya<sup>9</sup>. It brought together 19 experts from 13 Eastern and Southern African countries, covering a wide variety of fields of expertise. The process of selection of trainees was intensive and involved the National Focal Points, available National CEPA Focal Points, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and the Lead Trainer for this ToT course. It is expected that these trained trainers will in turn design and conduct similar national and regional training courses, thus passing on the skills and knowledge acquired.

In addition to the knowledge and skills passed on through this ToT workshop, each participant was presented with a bird field guide for their institution, while binoculars were presented to some of these institutions. It is hoped that these materials will contribute to increasing the capacity of these institutions for waterbird identification and monitoring, thereby contributing to achieving result 3.2.1 of the AEWA PoAA.

The workshop involved the participation of some prominent wildlife training institutions in the sub-regions (e.g. the College of African Wildlife Management - Mweka, Endangered Wildlife Trust - EWT, University of Dar Es Salam, the Eritrea Institute of Technology, National Museums of Kenya, and the KWS Training Institute - KWSTI, which has already adopted the FTK in its curricula). It is hoped that the participation and involvement of these training institutions will contribute to encouraging the incorporation of the FTK into their curricula, thereby further contributing to achieving result CT/ 4.3 of the AEWA PoAA (that is, ensuring the incorporation of the FTK into the curricula of at least five wildlife training institutions in Africa).

A similar AEWA ToT course is currently being planned for the five Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa, in the framework of the same ENRTP project. It is scheduled to take place by the end of 2013 or early 2014.

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<sup>7</sup> Ecologic Institute: <http://www.ecologic.eu/>

<sup>8</sup> CMS Family NFP manual workshop: [http://www.cms.int/news/PRESS/nwPR2012/11\\_nov/nw\\_051112\\_cb\\_ws.html](http://www.cms.int/news/PRESS/nwPR2012/11_nov/nw_051112_cb_ws.html)

<sup>9</sup> AEWA FTK ToT course: [http://www.unep-awea.org/news/news\\_elements/2013/tot\\_workshop\\_naivasha.htm](http://www.unep-awea.org/news/news_elements/2013/tot_workshop_naivasha.htm)

In addition to promoting the use of the WOW FTK, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has initiated discussions with EWT on the possibility of developing a distant learning course (e-learning course) based on the WOW FTK, in order to contribute to achieving Result CT/4.4 which was tasked to the Post-WOW Partnership. The discussions currently seem positive and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will need to secure funding for further work on this.

## Annex I

### **Summary: Minutes of the Meeting to Progress the Development of the Terms of Reference Concerning the Coordination of, and Technical Support to the AEWA African Initiative**

**Meeting date:** 6 November 2012

**Participants:** Marianne Courouble (France), Akankwasah Barirega (Uganda), Jean-Yves Mondain-Monval (France), Øystein Størkersen (Norway), Pierre Defos du Rau (France), Marco Barbieri (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat), Sergey Dereliev (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat), Evelyn Moloko (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat)

**Goal:** This meeting aimed to contribute to the task assigned to the AEWA Standing Committee (StC) by the 5th session of the AEWA Meeting of Parties (MOP5) regarding the development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the three components aimed at coordinating/supporting/guiding the implementation of the AEWA African Initiative (i.e. the Coordination unit based in the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, the Technical Support Unit (TSU) based in Tour du Valat (TdV) in France and the African Sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators - SrFPC), as well as how the coordination of activities between these three components will work.

The meeting was chaired by the Chair of the AEWA Standing Committee (StC), Øystein Størkersen, being in the framework of the AEWA StC mandate.

The main topics, key outcomes and key action points of the discussions are outlined below:

#### **1. Review of progress on the development of the ToRs concerning the coordination of the AI**

These discussions were centred on the post-MOP5 consultation process by the AEWA StC members on the ToRs for the Coordinator for the AEWA African Initiative (AI) and part-time Programme Assistant (PA) for the AI, and the issue of the status and need for the latter as per remarks from French government. The ToRs for both positions had been circulated by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, revised as applicable and considered as approved.

It was clarified that the French government had proposed assessing the need for the position of part-time PA for the AI based on the actual need following the functioning of the AI Coordinator and TSU, and prioritizing the channelling of limited financial resources for activities on the ground.

Considering the new voluntary contribution from the Government of Germany for the position of a general staff within the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and recalling the MOP5 discussion on the issue of part-time PA based on the availability of funding, it was concluded that with these financial resources now available, the position could be approved for funding (up to 2015) and could be further re-assessed at MOP6.

***Action points: The Chair of the StC will send a formal communication to the AEWA StC on the adoption of both ToRs, thereby permitting the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to proceed with the formalities for the recruitment of the AI Coordinator.***

#### **2. Progress in institutional arrangements concerning the TS to the AI offered by the French Government**

The French team provided feedback on the meeting between the TdV management unit and the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (MEDDE). Their meeting concluded on:

- A three-year support to the implementation of the AI, including 50% of two staffs' time (Jean-Yves and Pierre), a field ornithologist to be recruited as of January 2013, support from the pool of experts in TdV and support from the French Ministry particularly for fund-raising;

- Using the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) 2012-2017 as the basis for determining the TSU's activities to support the AI based, in relation to their expertise - relevant on-going activities/projects of the TSU had also been identified for mainstreaming into the implementation of the AI (see annex 1);
- A road map for the highest priority activities in the AEWA PoAA to be supported by TSU (see annex 2);
- The launching of the French TSU through technical, brainstorming sub-regional meetings with the AEWA National Focal Points (NFPs) in each sub-region - the meetings will also serve to identify sub-regional priorities, elect SrFPC, conduct training and fundraise, and could be done back to back with other meetings;
- The proposal of regular meetings between the TSU and the other components of the support to the AI;

There was brainstorming on the ToRs for the TSU using the draft ToRs prepared by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat which focused on the link between the TSU and the other components of the support to the AI implementation, the reporting lines between these, their roles and types of activities. The discussions also clarified the kind of expertise and support the SrFPC and NFPs could expect from the TSU.

***Action point(s): The French representatives will provide comments and feedback on the preliminary draft ToRs in the course of November 2012) and the job description for the new ornithologist in the TSU based in TdV will be posted on the AEWA TC workspace.***

### **3. Development of ToRs for the sub-regional coordination for the Implementation of the AI**

The preliminary draft elements of the roles for the SrFPC, prepared by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat were used for the brainstorming on this subject. The discussions covered the following key points:

- The AEWA African NFPs should be mainly responsible for developing the ToRs for the SrFP Coordinators;
- The African representatives on the AEWA StC should take the leading role in the development of these ToRs;
- The SrFPC should be elected amongst existing AEWA NFPs and each SrFPC should be elected by the NFPs in the respective sub-region, thereby ensuring their mandate and authority to speak on behalf of these NFPs;
- The SrFPC's role should be seen as advisory ("Sub-regional advisors/facilitators") and to be covered under their existing staff time (sponsored by their government) ;
- The SrFPCs should be involved in the identification and establishment of sub-regional priorities and monitoring of the implementation of the AI in collaboration with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and TSU.
- Some facilitation for non-routine support to the work of the SrFPC could be considered based on their imminent roles/activities (but not to cover staff time or office space);

***Action point: Feedback will be provided to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat on the draft ToRs for the SrFPC by early 2013, and the revised version will be translated to French and circulated to the African NFPs by their representatives on the AEWA StC or by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat on behalf of the latter, early 2013.***

### **4. Any other business**

- Meetings were suggested as the main tool for guiding the relation between the different components of the support to the implementation of the AI - the frequency will be determined upon clarification of the SrFPC;
- The proposed African sub-regional technical brainstorming meetings to launch the French TSU should be implemented as soon as possible, funding permitting, but should not slow down/hinder progress

with the implementation of the AI in the sub-regions. The representative of the French Government informed the participants of the allocation of funding to run the North African meeting and probably the West African meeting;

**Action points:**

- ***The French team will draft a concept paper for these sub-regional technical brainstorming meetings, including their purpose, draft agenda, draft budget and the possibilities of organising them back to back with other planned meetings/workshops - this will be circulated for comments/inputs from the members of the current meeting and used for the purpose of fund-raising for these meetings;***
- ***The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will inform the TSU about the possibility of mainstreaming some meetings/workshops planned in the AEWA PoAA with up-coming NFP training workshops under the CMS/AEWA ENRTP project.***
- ***The TSU and UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will each develop work plans on their contribution to activities in the AEWA PoAA based on their respective competences;***
- ***A summary of the outcomes of this meeting will be formally circulated by the Chair of the StC and UNEP/AEWA Secretariat to the African CPs.***

**Annex 1: Relevant on-going activities of the Technical Support Unit for the AEWA African Initiative, for mainstreaming into the implementation of the African Initiative**

- Training courses incorporating the Flyway Training Kit (FTK) & the ONCFS-TdV training kit;
- IWC project to improve waterbird monitoring in North Africa, done by TdV in collaboration with ONCFS & Wetlands International and supported by the MAVA Foundation and French Ministry (during which the AEWA NFPs highlighted the need for a regional meeting on AEWA and Training of Trainers workshops);
- Project on the development of a manual for waterbird identification with a CD on waterbird monitoring in 3 languages, equally supported by the French Ministry and the MAVA Foundation;
- Development of a bigger project funded by the French Ministry and targeting the FFEM Funds (in collaboration with CIRAD, OMPO, Wetlands International Africa and TdV).

**Annexe 2: Road map for the highest priority activities in the AEWA PoAA to be supported by the TSU**

<b>Expected results for implementing targets of priority objectives of the PoA for Africa (Annex I of Res 5.9)</b> <b>Indicative selection of most relevant expected results for TSU</b>	<b>Priority for TSU</b> <b>(1: highest)</b>
1.2.1 All CPs have identified and recognised key sites that contribute to a comprehensive network of sites for migratory waterbirds	1
1.2.2 All CPs have provided protection status or other designation to the sites within the network	3
1.2.3 All CPs have put in place site management plans that cater for the needs of waterbird conservation, and implement them for the key network sites	2
2.2.1: Report on Harvest Regimes in Africa (including proposals for management and monitoring options) which informs the revision and update of the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on sustainable harvest of migratory waterbirds	1
3.1.1: Increased quantity and quality of waterbird population data from Africa is available	1
CT/4.1: At least two trainers in each African Range State have been trained on delivering training through the Flyway Training Kit (FTK)	2
CT/4.3: The FTK has been incorporated into the curricula of at least five wildlife training institutions in Africa	1

## **Annex II**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **PROGRAMME ASSISTANT for the African Initiative of AEW**

The Assistant for the African Initiative (AI) will work under the direct supervision of the Coordinator for the African Initiative and under the overall supervision of the AEW Executive Secretary.

#### **Responsibilities**

##### **Secretarial duties in support of the African Initiative**

- Perform routine secretarial work in support of the activities of the AI Coordinator such as drafting correspondence, processing incoming and outgoing mail, replying to general enquiries, proofreading and formatting correspondence and documents, keeping track of deadlines for action;
- Undertake informal translations and reviews of texts such as letters and articles; arrange for the translation of documents as necessary, ensuring that deadlines are met; keep records on work performed;
- Assist with ensuring an update in contact information for national Focal Points and other contact persons in the African region;
- Maintain and update hard copy files and electronic folders for activities related to the African Initiative;
- Arrange appointments on behalf of the Coordinator for the African Initiative.

##### **Administrative assistance in connection with African Initiative projects, including Small Grants Fund (SGF) projects**

- Assist with correspondence to African National Focal Points in relation to the SGF (launching and monitoring);
- Draft and format Small Scale Funding Agreements (SSFAs) with project partners;
- Keep track of project activities and deadlines for action, deal with reminders to contractors;
- Process payments relating to SSFAs.

##### **Assistance with the organization and servicing of meetings / workshops / seminars in connection with the African Initiative**

- Prepare and distribute relevant mailings and documents such as invitations, information sheets and pre-session documents;
- Ensure adequate logistical arrangements are in place regarding venue, equipment etc.
- Arrange travel for missions of the Coordinator for the African Initiative including arrangements with travel agents, confirmation of accommodation and transport, security clearances, visa procedures; make travel arrangements for delegates, as necessary;
- Make appointments and plan schedules for meetings;
- Process travel claims and mission reports.

##### **Assistance with the preparation and dissemination of African Initiative information material**

- Support the preparation of African Initiative print publications and other information material, including the preparation of drafts and layouts for brochures and leaflets;
- Assist with the compilation of recruitment letters and country profiles;
- Assist with drafting and editing African Initiative-related articles for the AEW e-newsletter;
- Draft, edit and update texts for the AEW webpages relating to the African Initiative and the Small Grants Fund;
- Carry out research, including Internet research, to collect information of interest to the African Initiative.



## **Annex III**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **COORDINATOR for the African Initiative of AEWA**

The Coordinator for the African Initiative (AI) will work under the overall supervision of the Executive Secretary.

#### **Responsibilities**

##### **Coordinate and promote the implementation of the African Initiative, including the Plan of Action for the Conservation of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats in Africa:**

- Liaise with the expert team (staff provided by France and based in Tour du Valat, and providing technical support for the development of the African Initiative), to follow-up on the technical support to be provided to the sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators in Africa towards the implementation of the Plan of Action for Africa;
- Liaise with the designated sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators in Africa to assist them in their function of stimulating, and providing guidance towards the timely implementation of activities in the Plan of Action in each sub-region;
- Liaise with the National Focal Points (NFPs) in Africa to promote national implementation of the Plan of Action for Africa;
- Liaise with the relevant officers in the AEWA Secretariat (Technical Officer, Communication Officer) as well as out-sourced support partners (such as the Coordinators for Single Species Action Plans that cover Africa), for the implementation of cross-cutting issues;
- Prepare reports to the relevant bodies of the Agreement (Standing Committee (StC), Meeting of the Parties (MOP) and donors, on the implementation of the African Initiative and the Plan of Action for Africa;
- Provide regular updates on AEWA activities in Africa, through the AEWA website and African Initiative web page.

##### **Support with securing funding for the implementation of activities under the African Initiative and particularly the Plan of Action for Africa:**

- Identify and contact possible donors for AEWA activities in Africa;
- Prepare funding proposals targeting activities under the African Initiative, particularly the Plan of Action for Africa;
- Liaise with the UNEP/CMS Secretariat and other possible partner organizations for joint fund-raising for activities in Africa.

##### **Provide Advisory Services to AEWA Contracting Parties in Africa:**

- Ensure effective regular correspondence between the Secretariat and the AEWA National Focal Points, as well as other AEWA contact persons in Africa;
- Provide timely reminders for African Contracting Parties regarding the payment of annual contributions to the AEWA Trust Fund, and follow-up on payments with NFPs;
- Provide guidance to Contracting Parties in Africa in the case of threats to AEWA species and their habitats;
- Support with updating the contacts' data base for AEWA National Focal Points and other contact persons in Africa.

##### **Strengthen existing cooperation and identify new synergies with relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements, non-African AEWA Parties and other organizations concerned with migratory waterbird conservation in Africa:**

- Identify relevant activities/programmes by non-African AEWA Parties and AEWA partner organizations for possible collaboration, particularly in the framework of the Plan of Action for Africa;
- In collaboration with the expert team in Tour du Valat, cooperate with other existing and new partners which provide technical and scientific support for AEWA activities in Africa; Promote joint implementation of activities with AEWA partner organizations;

- Identify and initiate new partnerships with relevant organizations concerned with migratory water bird conservation in Africa;
- In collaboration with the expert team based in Tour du Valat and providing technical support, promote the development of joint projects for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in Africa;
- Support the implementation of joint capacity building activities in Africa with the UNEP/CMS Secretariat and other partner organizations;
- Participate in relevant meetings/ workshops of AEWA partners in Africa and mainstream AEWA issues into their activities/ projects/ programmes.

**Promote the implementation of the AEWA Small Grants Fund (SGF) in Africa:**

- Support with the launching of the SGF cycles for the African region;
- Provide advisory services to project proponents from Africa;
- Review project proposals from Africa and support with the selection of feasible projects;
- Monitor the implementation of on-going SGF projects in Africa;
- Assist with fund-raising for the AEWA SGF programme in Africa.

**Organize and service AEWA meetings/ workshops in Africa:**

- Initiate the organization of the African regional preparatory meetings for the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) (pre-MOP meetings);
- Liaise with the UNEP/CMS and Ramsar Secretariats for possible joint organization of the African pre-MOP/COP meetings;
- Support with securing funding for the organization of the AEWA pre-MOP meetings;
- Support with organizing and servicing other AEWA meetings/ workshops in Africa (e.g. Single Species Action-Planning workshops) and securing funding for these.

**Promote the accession of new Contracting Parties from Africa:**

- Maintain regular contact with AEWA contact persons in non-member African countries support with promoting the accession process;
- Assist in organizing sub-regional and national AEWA promotion workshops to encourage accession of new African countries to AEWA;
- Network with relevant government and non-government representatives of non-member states in Africa whenever possible to promote accession.

**Support with supervising personnel concerned with the African Initiative:**

- Supervise the Programme Assistant for the African Initiative;
- Supervise any other temporary staff and/or interns in the Secretariat, concerned with activities related to the African Initiative.

**Perform other duties as assigned by the Executive Secretary.**

The above Terms of Reference and duties of the African Coordinator may be reviewed, as appropriate, once the technical support provided by France and based in Tour du Valat is defined and in collaboration with the sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators in Africa and the expert team based in Tour du Valat.

## Annex IV

### Terms of Reference

#### **Technical Support Unit offered by the Government of France to support the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) 2012-2017 on the ground**

The Technical Support Unit based in the Tour du Valat Research Station will directly report to the Government of France, directly liaise with the sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators and AEWA National Focal Points in Africa and maintain regular contact and coordinate with the AEWA Secretariat for activities aimed at supporting the implantation of the AEWA PoAA 2012-2017 on the ground.

In order to facilitate planning and monitor progress in implementation of activities supported by the Technical Support Unit based in the Tour du Valat, a Steering Group will be set up, composed of:

- representatives of the technical support unit based in Tour du Valat,
- representatives of the Government of France,
- representatives of the AEWA Secretariat,
- a designated representative of the African AEWA Parties.

The Steering Group will meet twice a year. In case representatives cannot attend, other means of communication (teleconference, Skype, etc.) should be used.

#### **Responsibilities**

##### **Provision of technical support to the sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators to be identified among the AEWA National Focal Points (NFPs) in each sub-region and who will guide implementation at the sub-regional level:**

- Provide technical advice to African sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators for the implementation of activities pertaining to the given sub-region;
- Keep the relevant sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators informed about activities and support provided at the national level to countries in their sub-region;
- Seek advice and support from the relevant sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators in the planning, development and implementation of projects/activities aimed at supporting the implementation of the AEWA PoAA on the ground;
- Support the **sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators** with fund-raising proposals aimed at supporting the implementation of activities in the PoAA, in liaison with the fund-raising activities of the AEWA Secretariat.

##### **Provision of technical support to the AEWA African National Focal Points for the implementation of activities prescribed in the AEWA PoAA 2012-2017**

- Liaise with the AEWA National Focal Points and other relevant stakeholders at the national level, for planning, development and implementation of activities and projects which contribute to the implementation on the ground of the AEWA PoAA 2012-2017, particularly those activities to be led by the National Focal Point (such as those linked to surveys and monitoring, national inventories, etc.)
- Boost the existing network of the AEWA National Focal Points to promote effective circulation of information and capitalize the achievements and results.

**Communication with the AEWA Secretariat for activities conducted in the framework of the AEWA African Initiative:**

- Have regular bilateral contacts with the AEWA Secretariat about the planning, development and implementation of activities conducted with the sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators and AEWA National Focal Points in Africa, to support the implementation of the AEWA PoAA on the ground;
- Maintain a regular exchange of information with the AEWA Secretariat about public awareness activities in relation to the support for the implementation of the AEWA PoAA on the ground.

**Activities aimed at supporting the implementation of the AEWA PoAA 2012-2017 on the ground (see table below):**

- The activities will be planned and developed based on the priorities outlined in the AEWA PoAA 2012-2017, in collaboration with the African sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators and with the knowledge of the AEWA Secretariat (in order to avoid duplication of activities);
- The above activities will be organized and implemented directly with the sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators and/or AEWA National Focal Points, as relevant;
- The support provided will focus on activities specified in the AEWA PoAA 2012-2017, particularly those related to supporting and improving national capacity for survey and monitoring, inventorying, site twinning, etc. (see table below).

**Highest priority activities in the AEWA PoAA to be supported by the TSU**

<b>Expected results for implementing targets of priority objectives of the PoA for Africa (Annex I of Res 5.9)</b>	<b>Priority for TSU</b>
<b>Indicative selection of most relevant expected results for TSU</b>	<b>(1: highest)</b>
<b>1.2.1 All CPs have identified and recognised key sites that contribute to a comprehensive network of sites for migratory waterbirds</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.2.2 All CPs have provided protection status or other designation to the sites within the network</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.2.3 All CPs have put in place site management plans that cater for the needs of waterbird conservation, and implement them for the key network sites</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2.2.1: Report on Harvest Regimes in Africa (including proposals for management and monitoring options) which informs the revision and update of the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on sustainable harvest of migratory waterbirds</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3.1.1: Increased quantity and quality of waterbird population data from Africa is available</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CT/4.1: At least two trainers in each African Range State have been trained on delivering training through the Flyway Training Kit (FTK)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CT/4.3: The FTK has been incorporated into the curricula of at least five wildlife training institutions in Africa</b>	<b>1</b>

## Annex V

### Draft Terms of Reference for the African Sub-regional National Focal Point Coordinators

The African Sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators to be identified among the AEWA National Focal Points in each sub-region, in accordance with the AEWA Resolution 5.9 on the “*Implementation of the African Initiative for the Conservation of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats in Africa*”, will be appointed by the AEWA National Focal Points in their respective region; will have the full support of their respective Government and/or host institution to enable them execute the responsibilities assigned to them (including their time, availability and if applicable, funds for attending relevant meetings<sup>1</sup>); and will have the necessary language skills to ensure effective communication with the AEWA National Focal Points in their respective sub-regions.

They will play an advisory, motivating and guiding role for promoting the implementation of the AEWA African Initiative, particularly the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) 2012-2017 at the level of their respective sub-regions, through the following:

- Liaise with the AEWA Secretariat and the Technical Support Unit based in the Tour du Valat Research Station in France, to provide guidance and information for the planning and development of activities aimed at implementing the AEWA PoAA in their respective sub-regions, and engaging actively in the implementation and reporting of these activities through encouraging the engagement of the AEWA National Focal Points in their respective sub-regions as relevant, encouraging the engagement of other relevant stakeholders within their sub-region, facilitating access to data and information in their sub-region, as appropriate and feasible;
- Liaise with the AEWA National Focal Points in their respective sub-regions to identify priorities for the sub-region and provide them guidance as relevant and appropriate on activities which are coordinated and/or led by the AEWA Secretariat, Technical Support Unit in France and/or other AEWA Partners involved in supporting the implementation of the AEWA PoAA;
- Promote the implementation and reporting of activities in the AEWA PoAA by the Range States within their respective sub-regions;
- Stimulate and encourage the development and reporting of sub-regional and/or transboundary activities and initiatives aimed at implementing the AEWA PoAA within their sub-region.

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<sup>1</sup> General rules and criteria for eligibility to travel support as defined by the Meeting of the Parties will be applicable to Sub-regional National Focal Point Coordinators when attending AEWA meetings in their coordinator capacity.