



Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2009-2011

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2009-2011 was approved at the 4th session of the Meeting of the Parties (15-19 September 2008, Antananarivo, Madagascar) by Resolution 4.7. Further amendments were endorsed by the Standing Committee in August 2011 in accordance with operative paragraph 11 of Resolution 4.7. 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 5th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP5) is taking place on 14-18 May 2012 in La Rochelle, France; therefore **the deadline for submission of National Reports is 14 January 2012.**

The AEWA National Reports 2009-2011 will be compiled and submitted through the CMS Family Online Reporting Facility, which is an online reporting tool for the whole CMS Family. However, AEWA will be the first of the CMS-related treaties to use the CMS Family Online Reporting System for its reporting to MOP5. 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.

As a new product, the system may still need some refining and improving, we therefore request your understanding: any feedback or suggestions on your side would be greatly appreciated.

The online reporting system offers flexibility and versatility superior to the previously used paper-based reporting and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat hopes that the Parties will find it to be more convenient and efficient. In particular, it will make information more easily accessible and also enhance ways of using it. In this context, Resolution 4.7 also requests UNEP to assist in the development of an analytical tool and calls upon Parties to support this initiative and provide financial resources and thus strengthen the online format for national reporting in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC. The online reporting system brings national reporting to a different level, enabling the information provided to be used much more effectively; it also serves as a tool for self-assessment by Parties. In addition, it can help to enhance cooperation and coordination between various stakeholders in your country by making the national reporting more of a collective, collaborative and continuous process.

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

1. General Information

Name of reporting Contracting Party

> United Kingdom

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

> 04.11.1999

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

> None

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

> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Name and title of the head of institution

> The Rt Hon Caroline Spelman MP

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> PS.caroline.spelman@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Website

> <http://www.defra.gov.uk>

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

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/> - DEFRA web-site

Designated National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters

Name and title of the NFP

> Ms. Elaine Kendall

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> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

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Designated National Focal Point for AEWA Technical Committee (NFPTC) matters

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Website

> <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk>

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

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/> - Joint Nature Conservation Committee

Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2009-2011

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

The National Focal Point for AEWA Technical Committee (NFPTC) matters has been designated as the National Respondent

Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2009-2011

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

> UK national reports to AEWA are subject to consultation with relevant UK stakeholders.

Population status information is developed from jointly funded surveillance programmes involving the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, British Trust for Ornithology, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust and the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust, with the input of other specialist groups and contributors. Information on waterbird populations reported depends on the voluntary efforts of many thousands of volunteer ornithologists who monitor waterbirds in the UK throughout the year.

Pressures and Responses

4. Species Conservation

4.1 Legal Measures

1. 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)

Yes

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

> Exemptions are granted through specific licences issued on behalf of the UK government by the country agencies. The issuance of a licence does not necessarily mean that the activities licenced are undertaken.

The legislation that controls such exemptions is the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Wildlife Order 1985 (Northern Ireland).

Information on derogations permitted by UK authorities from 2000-2008 are available on Natural England's web-site (link attached). It is not feasible to report separately on each derogation.

[Note that a list of species for which exemptions were provided (although without specific details which are given via the link below) was given but this does not seem to have been saved by the on-line reporting system].

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

[Derogation reports for UK: 2000-2008](#) - Web-site with links to UK licensing statistics and derogation reports

4.2 Single Species Action Plans

2. 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 clarify the relevance of the AEWA International Single Species Action Plans or the other recognised plans (Dalmatian Pelican, Pygmy Cormorant, Red-breasted Goose, Marbled Teal, Slender-billed Curlew and Audouin's Gull) to your country

At least one of the International Single Species Action Plans is relevant

Please report on each relevant ISSAP

National Single Species Action Plan for *Platalea leucorodia* / Eurasian Spoonbill

For *Platalea leucorodia* / Eurasian Spoonbill

No NSSAP

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

[Crex crex Biodiversity Action Plan](#)

Please explain the reasons

> Species is subject to wide range of conservation actions related to habitats and legal protection.

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

[UK Priority Species statement for Black-tailed Godwit](#)

National Single Species Action Plan for *Oxyura leucocephala* / White-headed Duck

For *Oxyura leucocephala* / White-headed Duck

No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> Eradication of Ruddy Ducks *Oxyura jamaicensis* being undertaken.

National Single Species Action Plan for *Branta bernicla hrota* / Light-bellied Brent Goose

For *Branta bernicla hrota* / Light-bellied Brent Goose

No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> Species is subject to wide range of conservation actions related to habitats and legal protection.

National Single Species Action Plan for *Crex crex* / Corncrake

For *Crex crex* / Corncrake

NSSAP in place and being implemented

When was the plan approved and published? Please provide a web link or attach a file, if available. Please provide contact details for any person or organisation coordinating its implementation. Please list any activities and/or achievements over the past triennium.

> Species is subject to a UK Biodiversity Action Plan

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

[Crex crex Biodiversity Action Plan](#)

National Single Species Action Plan for *Limosa limosa* / Black-tailed Godwit

For *Limosa limosa* / Black-tailed Godwit

No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> Species is subject to wide range of conservation actions related to habitats and legal protection. Species has status of UK BAP Priority Species: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/_speciespages/2382.pdf

3. Do you have in place or are you 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)

Yes

Please provide information on each species for which relevant action has been undertaken

National Single Species Action Plan for *Gavia immer* / Great Northern Diver

For *Gavia immer* / Great Northern Diver

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Podiceps auritus* / Slavonian Grebe

For *Podiceps auritus* / Slavonian Grebe

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Botaurus stellaris* / Great Bittern

For *Botaurus stellaris* / Great Bittern

NSSAP in place and being implemented

Please provide details

> Species is subject to a UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/_speciespages/159.pdf

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

[UK Biodiversity Action Plan for *Botaurus stellaris*](#)

[UK Biodiversity Action Plan for *Melanitta nigra*](#)

[UK Biodiversity Action Plan for *Phalaropus lobatus*](#)

[UK Biodiversity Action Plan for *Sterna dougallii*](#)

National Single Species Action Plan for *Cygnus cygnus* / Whooper Swan

For *Cygnus cygnus* / Whooper Swan

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Anser albifrons* / Greater White-fronted Goose

For *Anser albifrons* / Greater White-fronted Goose

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Branta leucopsis* / Barnacle Goose

For *Branta leucopsis* / Barnacle Goose

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Melanitta nigra* / Common Scoter

For *Melanitta nigra* / Common Scoter

NSSAP in place and being implemented

Please provide details

> Species subject to a UK Biodiversity Action plan first published in 1998.

http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/_speciespages/444.pdf

National Single Species Action Plan for *Mergellus albellus* / Smew

For *Mergellus albellus* / Smew

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Pluvialis apricaria* / Eurasian Golden Plover

For *Pluvialis apricaria* / Eurasian Golden Plover

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Lymnocyptes minimus* / Jack Snipe

For *Lymnocyptes minimus* / Jack Snipe

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Limosa limosa* / Black-tailed Godwit

For *Limosa limosa* / Black-tailed Godwit

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Calidris alpina* / Dunlin

For *Calidris alpina* / Dunlin

NSSAP in place and being implemented

National Single Species Action Plan for *Phalaropus lobatus* / Red-necked Phalarope

For *Phalaropus lobatus* / Red-necked Phalarope

NSSAP in place and being implemented

Please provide details

> Species is subject to a UK Biodiversity Action Plan first published in 1998.

http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/_speciespages/510.pdf

National Single Species Action Plan for *Sterna dougallii* / Roseate Tern

For *Sterna dougallii* / Roseate Tern

NSSAP in place and being implemented

Please provide details

> Species is subject to a UK Biodiversity Action Plan first published in 1998.

http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/_speciespages/444.pdf

National Single Species Action Plan for *Sterna albifrons* / Little Tern

For *Sterna albifrons* / Little Tern

NSSAP in place and being implemented

4. Did you use the AEWA Guidelines for the preparation of National Single Species Action Plans for migratory waterbirds?

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the preparation of NSSAPs?
> Plans pre-date AEWA guidance. Principles are the same.

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

> Some non-governmental organisations (e.g. RSPB & WWT) have well-established action plans for many AEWA species covering the conservation requirements of these species, and which are used to guide the programmes of work of these organisations including management of relevant protected areas.

4.3 Emergency Measures

5. 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

Emergency situation has occurred

Please provide information on each emergency situation which occurred

Extreme weather

Indicate when the emergency situation took place

> Periods of prolonged col weather in the winters of 2008/09, 2009/10 and especially 2010/11.

Indicate where the emergency situation took place (including geographical coordinates)

> UK

Indicate the estimated magnitude of impact (e.g. number of individuals per species/population that suffered/died, area of habitat(s)/site that was affected, etc.)

> Not possible to assess precisely. Additional mortality of birds was reported as a consequence of prolonged snow cover and extreme cold temperatures.

Have emergency measures been implemented?

Yes

Please provide details

> 2008/09: Call for shooting restraint by representative body for wildfowling (British Association for Shooting and Conservation - BASC).

2009/10: Call for shooting restraint by BASC.

2010/11: Call for shooting restraint by BASC.

Field for additional information (optionally you can provide additional information on the emergency case)

> More information on procedures used to suspend hunting of (water)birds in periods of prolonged severe weather is available at <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-2894>

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

[JNCC web-page on statutory suspensions of shooting in periods of prolonged cold weather](#)

6. Are there any other emergency measures, which were not mentioned above, but were developed and are in place in your country?

No

7. Did you use 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?

> UK procedures for responding to prolonged periods of severe winter weather pre-date these guidelines (and are referred to by them).

4.4 Re-establishments

8. Is there a regulatory framework for re-establishments of species, including waterbirds, in

your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)?

Partial

Please provide details

> Some aspects of the re-establishment of species which are native to the UK are subject to regulation (legal permission to hold birds in captivity prior to release).

The act of release itself is not regulated for native species, although it is for non-native species or those listed in Schedule 9 of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended): <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/609/made/data.pdf>

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

[Schedule 9 of Wildlife & Countryside Act as amended](#)

9. Are you 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

> No re-establishment projects for waterbirds being undertaken or planned.

10. 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

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

> The JNCC has agreed policy regarding translocations ('Biological Translocations: a Conservation Policy for Britain' <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1746>), which includes guidance on conducting translocations for conservation purposes. It conforms published international guidelines issued by The World Conservation Union (IUCN).

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

[Biological Translocation Policies in the UK](#)

4.5 Introductions

11. Does your country have legislation in place, which prohibits the introduction of non-native species of animals and plants, which may have a detrimental effect? (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

> The introduction of non-native animal species is prohibited by Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, in Great Britain, and Section 15 of the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985.

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

[Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981](#)

12. Has your country introduced requirements to zoos, private collections, etc. in order to avoid the accidental escape of captive birds belonging to non-native species? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.2)

Yes, and being enforced

Field for additional information (optional)

> Captive non-native birds are the responsibility of their curators who must ensure that they do not escape into the wild further to the legal requirements of Section 14 of the 1981 Wildlife & Countryside Act.

13. 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, and being implemented

Has consideration been given to waterbirds in the NAPIS?

Yes, fully

14. Has an eradication programme been considered, developed or implemented for any non-native waterbird species in your country?

Yes

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

[UK eradication programme for *Oxyura jamaicensis*](#)

15. Did you use 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?

> Eradication programme pre-dates AEWA guidance but principles are the same.

Pressures and Responses

5. Habitat Conservation

5.1 Habitat Inventories

16. 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)

Partially

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

[2001 SPA Review](#) - Review of the UK's network of EU Special Protection Areas (2001)

Please describe the progress

> A national review of the UK's network of Special Protection Areas classified further to the EU Directive on the Conservation of wild birds was published in 2001. See previous UK national reports for further details.

A review of the network is currently underway.

17. 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?

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the inventory?

> There is no single inventory of sites of national importance for waterbirds in the UK. The 2001 SPA review includes most, but not all, sites of international importance.

5.2. Conservation of Areas

18. 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? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1)

Please report on both internationally and nationally important sites

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

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

No

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

> Extensive national policies and procedures exist related to the management of nationally and internationally protected areas for migratory waterbirds. These generally follow well established management planning methodologies.

20. Have you accessed and used the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area?

Yes

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

> The extent of protected area networks in the UK means that it is not feasible, with current resources, to report on management planning under Question 18 above. Statistical information on protected areas in the UK are given via the links below.

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

[JNCC web-page on SPAs](#) - SPAs in the UK

[JNCC web-page on Ramsar Sites](#) - Ramsar Sites in the UK and its OTs & CDs

[Natural England web-page on SSSIs](#) - SSSIs in England

[Scottish Natural Heritage web-page on SSSIs](#) - SSSIs in Scotland

[Countryside Council for Wales web-page on SSSIs](#) - SSSIs in Wales

[Northern Ireland Environment Agency web-page on ASSIs](#) - ASSIs in Northern Ireland

Pressures and Responses

6. Management of Human Activities

6.1. Hunting

21. 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

Field for additional information (optional)

> Annual monitoring of the shooting, by BASC members, of all huntable waterbirds is conducted throughout the UK by BASC's Waterbird Shooting Survey. Some information is collected by the Game Conservancy Trust's (GCT) National Game Bag Census.

22. 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?

> In September 1999, the Government introduced legislation in England to prohibit the use of lead shot over the foreshore, all wetlands of importance for waterbirds and for shooting of certain waterfowl species. Similar legislation are in place in Wales (came into force on 1 September 2002), in Scotland (31 March 2005) and in Northern Ireland (1 September 2009).

23. 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?

Other

Please provide details

> Effectiveness of measures is unknown.

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

No

6.2. Other human activities

25. 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

> The requirement for EIA legislation in the UK comes from Council Directive 85/337/EEC, as amended by Council Directive 97/11/EEC.

Please provide details

> Planning processes in the UK include public participation.

26. In the last three years, has your country used SEA/EIA for all relevant projects 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)

Yes, all proposed projects

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

Yes

28. 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)

Yes

Pressures and Responses

7. Research and Monitoring

29. Does your country have waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species in place? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 2)

Yes

Covering the breeding period

Fully

Please provide details

> The Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) - is the main monitoring scheme for breeding birds in the UK.

Seabird 2000 - is the third in a series of comprehensive surveys of the breeding seabirds of Britain and Ireland and has been organised from 1998-2002.

Seabird Monitoring Programme - the regular monitoring of selected seabird colonies (initiated in 1986) provides information on the trends of breeding seabirds in the UK between major population re-assessments such as Seabird 2000.

- Statutory Conservation Agency/RSPB Annual Breeding Bird Scheme. Rare Breeding Birds Panel.
- The Waterways Bird Survey.
- Waterways Breeding Bird Survey

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

[Seabird Monitoring Programme](#)

[Breeding Bird Study](#)

[Seabird 2000](#)

[Waterways Breeding Bird Survey](#)

[Wetland Bird Survey](#)

[Rare Breeding Birds Panel](#)

Covering the passage/migration period

Partially

Please provide details

> The Wetland Bird Survey monitors UK waterbirds in all months of the year.

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

[Wetland Bird Survey](#)

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Fully

Please provide details

> The Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) is the UK's main scheme for monitoring the status of non-breeding waterbirds. Co-ordinated counts are made monthly. An integrated database system is operated by the British Trust for Ornithology on behalf of the WeBS partnership.

The Low Tide Count Atlas: Estuarine Waterbirds at Low Tide.

30. Have you used the AEWA Guidelines for a waterbird monitoring protocol?

No

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

> UK monitoring programmes for waterbirds pre-date AEWA guidance (although are compatible with it).

31. 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 5)

> Large amounts of research on waterbirds is undertaken within the UK by statutory conservation organisations, non-governmental organisations, universities and others. It is not feasible to summarise this in this national report. Further information is available via web-links elsewhere in this section.

32. 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 1)

Yes

Nationally

Yes

Please provide details

> WeBS is co-funded by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee on behalf of the UK government.

Internationally

Yes

Please provide details

> JNCC provided resources to review the IWC in 2009/10 so as to help develop a more sustainable financial basis for the scheme.

Pressures and Responses

8. Education and Information

8.1. AEWA Communication Strategy

33. Has your country developed and implemented programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3 and AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 6.1-6.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> There is a broad range of education and awareness raising related to wetlands, waterbirds and other aspects of biodiversity conservation in the UK, and a specific CEPA programme for waterbirds is not envisaged.

34. Has your country provided funding and other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources), secured for the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 1 and Resolution 3.10)

No

35. 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)

Yes, considered, but is not interested

Pressures and Responses

9. Implementation

37. 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

38. 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 3.11)

Yes

Please list grants provided to IIT projects, or list all undertaken initiatives and briefly provide any relevant information

> UK has provided support for joint AEWA - Ramsar work on extractive industries and wetlands being reported to MoP 5 and CoP 11

39. Has your country resourced the AEWA Small Grants Fund over the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5)

No

40. 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 8)

Yes, it is operational on a regular basis

Please provide details

> Co-ordination between officials responsible for the UK's implementation of relevant MEAs is standard working practice. Additionally, the Natura 2000 and Ramsar Forum, and other UK and country-level committees provide opportunities for discussion with stakeholder organisations.

41. How would you 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?

> The current system of co-ordination within the UK is effective. However, there is no routine dialogue with the relevant Overseas Territories or Crown Dependancies on AEWA related issues.

Pressures and Responses

10. Avian Influenza

42. 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?

List challenges

> There have been no cases of HPAI H5N1 in the UK in the last triennium.

The main challenge is ensuring that the experiences learnt (and processes established) during the period of outbreaks in Europe (2006-2008) is not lost as a consequence of staff turn-over with government departments and within other organisations.

43. Have you visited and used as a reference the AIWEb (the Avian Influenza, Wildlife and the Environment web site)?

Yes

Field for additional information (optional)

> AIWEb should continue to be maintained as a valuable source of information.

