

## MEDIA ADVISORY

**What:** 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties (AEWA MOP7) to the UN Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA), administered by UN Environment

**When:** 4 – 8 December 2018

**Where:** [Olive Convention Centre](#), Durban, South Africa

**Website:** [www.unep-aewa.org/mop7](http://www.unep-aewa.org/mop7)

[For information on media accreditation, please click here](#)

AEWA is an intergovernmental treaty dedicated to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, Greenland and the Canadian Archipelago.

Seventy-seven countries and the European Union have signed the environmental treaty, which will be holding its triennial decision-making meeting (the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties – MOP7) in the South African city of Durban from 4 to 8 December 2018. The theme of the meeting is “**Beyond 2020: Shaping flyway conservation for the future**”.

At MOP7, Contracting Parties to AEWA will take stock of international conservation efforts over the last ten years and decide on the future focus of agreed transboundary measures under the treaty.

Waterbirds such as pelicans, cranes, storks, ducks and waders face a wide range of threats, including habitat loss and degradation, illegal killing, pollution, climate change, bycatch, collision with powerlines and wind turbines, as well as disease. Actions to address these threats will be the focus of the conference.

MOP7 Key Topics:

- **Strategic Plan & Plan of Action for Africa**  
Adoption of a new Strategic Plan (2019 – 2027) plan to guide future conservation efforts;
- **Presentation of the AEWA Waterbird Conservation Awards**
- **Seabirds** - Priority actions to address plastic pollution, oil spills, mining, human disturbance, wind turbines, overfishing, bycatch, invasive predators, climate change
- **Plastics and Waterbirds** : Incidence and impacts (presentation of a new report)
- **Climate change and waterbirds**: establishing climate resilient migration routes
- **Conservation Status Report**, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition: overview of 254 AEWA species
- Priority actions against the **decline of waterbirds**:  
**International Species Action Plans** for the Dalmatian Pelican, White-headed Duck and Velvet Scoter will be tabled for adoption by Parties.

AEWA is considered one of the most focused environmental treaties, where activities implemented under the AEWA Action Plan directly contribute to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

### For more information, please contact

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