

MEDIA ADVISORY

- What:** 7th Meeting of the Parties (AEWA MOP7) to the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA), administered by UN Environment
- When:** AEWA MOP7, 4 – 8 December 2018
- Where:** [Olive Convention Centre](#), Durban, South Africa
- Website:** www.unep-aewa.org/mop7

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.

76 countries and the European Union have signed the environmental treaty, which will be holding its triennial decision-making meeting (the 7th Meeting of the Parties – MOP7) in the South African city of Durban from 4-8 December 2018.

At MOP7, AEWA's Contracting Parties will take stock of international conservation efforts over the last ten years and decide on the future focus of agreed conservation efforts under the treaty. The theme of the meeting is "***Beyond 2020: Shaping flyway conservation for the future***".

Waterbirds such as Pelicans, Cranes, Storks and Geese face a wide range of threats, including habitat loss and degradation, illegal killing, pollution, climate change, collision with powerlines and windfarms, as well as disease. Actions to address these threats will be the focus of the conference.

Key topics at MOP7 will be:

- **Strategic Plan & Plan of Action for Africa** – Adoption of a new strategic plan to guide future conservation efforts under the treaty as well as a dedicated plan for Africa;
- **Conservation Status Report**, 7th Edition
- **Seabirds** - Priority actions to address plastic pollution, overfishing, bycatch, entanglement and ingestion of plastic.
- **International Species Action Plans** - Dedicated 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, whereby activities implemented under the AEWA Action Plan directly contribute to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Website: www.unep-aewa.org

For more information, please contact

Florian Keil, Coordinator of the Common Information Management, Communication and Outreach Team of the UNEP/CMS and UNEP/AEWA Secretariats, tel: +49 (0)228 815 2451
Veronika Lenarz, Public Information, UNEP/CMS Secretariat, tel: +49 (0)228 815 2409
E-mail: press@unep-aewa.org