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MIGRATORY SPECIES AND COOPERATION WITH THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

Note by the Executive Secretary

Addendum

POSSIBLE ELEMENTS FOR A JOINT WORK PROGRAMME BETWEEN THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

I. BACKGROUND

- 1. The present note sets out possible elements for a joint work programme between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) at its sixth meeting.
- 2. The Executive Secretary prepared this addendum taking into account the programmes of work under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the work programmes of the CMS instruments, as well as the four objectives of the CMS Strategic Plan (2000-2005) adopted by the CMS Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting, held in Cape Town in 1999 (CMS resolution 6.4).
- 3. The cross-cutting issues identified in decision V/21 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity provide the framework for the organization of the possible elements for the joint work programme (Section II below). The first part of this section focuses on general activities. The second part presents activities relating to specific cross-cutting issues including references to the appropriate thematic areas. Activities relating to education and awareness are incorporated within the other cross-cutting issues outlined in decision V/21. Sustainable use and ecosystem approach are combined, and include sustainable tourism activities.

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II. POSSIBLE ELEMENTS FOR A JOINT WORK PROGRAMME

1. General

Objective

To develop joint approaches between the secretariats of the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) that will ultimately lead to better implementation of both conventions with respect to migratory species and their diversity.

Activities

- (a) Activity 1: Provide examples of best practices on the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species and their habitats for Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and encourage Parties to report through their national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity on the extent to which they address migratory species at the national level, and on their cooperation with other range States.
- (b) Activity 2: Encourage Parties to both conventions to include the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species and their habitats in projects submitted for funding pursuant to Articles 20 and 21 of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- (c) Activity 3: Compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity relevant case-studies illustrating the occurrence and importance of migratory species in all thematic areas and cross-cutting issues under the Convention on Biological Diversity, including in particular the ecosystem approach.
- (d) Activity 4: Promote with regard to migratory species the programme elements on education and public awareness (EPA) being developed with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a follow-up to decision V/17, paragraph 2, of the Conference of the Parties. These programme elements include: management of education/communication networks, management of knowledge on education and communication, capacity-building through stakeholder approaches, and demonstration projects.
- (e) Activity 5: Consider how the Global Register of Migratory Species (GROMS) can contribute to the programmes of work under the Convention on Biological Diversity, including in particular element A of the programme of work on inland waters biodiversity, element 1 on the work programme for forest biological diversity and assessment of status and trends in forest biodiversity, the element on assessment in the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity, the Global Taxonomy Initiative, and the development of regional and global overviews (e.g., the Global Biodiversity Outlook).

Expected outputs

- (a) Output 1: Documentation indicating ways of integrating the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), taking into consideration the extent to which migratory species are currently addressed.
- (b) Output 2: Migratory-species considerations included in projects submitted for funding through the financial mechanism.

- (c) Output 3: Relevant case-studies concerning migratory species in all thematic areas and cross-cutting issues under the Convention on Biological Diversity disseminated through the clearing-house mechanism to enhance awareness.
- (d) Output 4: Inclusion of migratory-species issues in the handbook produced as a result of the implementation of the programme on education and public awareness.
- (e) Output 5: GROMS contributing to relevant programmes of work under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

2. Cross-cutting issues

2.1. Protected areas

Objective

To encourage the protection of habitats important for migratory species through the development of networks of protected areas, taking into account the ecosystem approach.

Activities

- (a) Activity 1: Identification of important sites and criteria for establishing and managing protected areas, including networks of protected areas, which meet the special needs of migratory species, such as sea turtles, cetaceans, seals, migratory fish and birds (operational objective 3.2 of marine and coastal programme of work; elements 1 and 4 of the work programme for forest biological diversity).
- (b) Activity 2: Identification of pilot projects and research initiatives assessing the effect of protected areas on the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species (operational objective 3.2 of marine and coastal programme of work; elements 1 and 4 of the work programme for forest biological diversity), and dissemination of relevant information through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- (c) Activity 3: Inclusion of information about the special needs of migratory species in the desk study on "The value and effects of marine and coastal protected areas on marine and coastal biological diversity" being prepared by Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity for consideration of the ad hoc technical expert group on marine and coastal protected areas, including review of CMS instruments to support operational objective 3.1 of the marine and coastal programme of work.
- (d) Activity 4: Inclusion of information about the special needs of migratory species in the work of the ad hoc technical expert group on forest biological diversity.
- (e) Activity 5: Encouragement of research on the effects of protected areas or closed areas on population size and dynamics (operational objective 3.1 of marine and coastal programme of work).
- (f) Activity 6: Preparation of a report to identify inland water, agricultural, marine and coastal, forest, dry and sub-humid land, and mountain ecosystems important for migratory species and include a list of endangered migratory species associated with these ecosystems. This report will contribute to the further elaboration or development of the programmes of work on the biological diversity of these ecosystems.

Expected outputs

- (a) Output 1: Background documents and draft guidelines on establishing and managing protected areas that take into account the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species.
- (b) Output 2: A database of pilot projects and ongoing research initiatives assessing the effects of protected areas, or networks of protected areas, on the conservation of biological diversity, including the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species. Potential development of linkages to this database from both the secretariats' websites, with on-line query capabilities.
- (c) Output 3: Completed desk-study incorporating migratory species information, where appropriate.
- (d) Output 4: Report of the working group on forest biodiversity containing migratory-species information as appropriate.
- (e) Output 5: Increased future understanding on the issue of protected areas and population dynamics.
- (f) Output 6: A report on ecosystems important for migratory species.

2.2. Sustainable use and the ecosystem approach

Objective

To develop a harmonized approach between the secretariats on the issues of sustainable use and the ecosystem approach as they relate to programmes of work under all thematic areas.

Activities

- (a) Activity 1: Identification of linkages between conservation and sustainable use of migratory species as they relate to all thematic programmes of work under the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- (b) Activity 2: Exploration of possibilities for future cooperation in implementing CMS resolution 6.2 on by-catch under objective 2.1 of the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity, including compilation of case-studies and information (possibly including a commissioned study) about the known impacts of by-catch on migratory species in order to assist SBSTTA in prioritizing the magnitude of the problem (decision V/3, paragraph 13, of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).
- (c) Activity 3: Review of CMS instruments for their relevance to:
 - (i) Integrated marine and coastal area management (IMCAM) to support operational objective 1.1 of the programme of work in marine and coastal biological diversity ("To review the existing instruments relevant to IMCAM and their implication for the implementation of the Convention"); and
 - (ii) Integrated holistic and inter-sectoral ecosystem approaches to forest biological diversity to support element 1 of work programme on forest biological diversity.
- (d) Activity 4: Promotion of awareness-raising, information-sharing and training on the issue of migratory species for stakeholders involved in sustainable tourism, and implementation of a flexible mix of instruments in sustainable tourism development, such as integrated planning and multi-stakeholder dialogue that also includes indigenous people, as it relates to the development of guidelines for sustainable tourism in vulnerable ecosystems important to migratory species

- (decision V/25, paragraph 2, of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).
- (e) Activity 5: Making available to the Convention on Biological Diversity and, in particular, its clearing-house mechanism guidelines and reviews generated by CMS instruments, such as the Afro-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) (relevant to programme of work in inland waters biodiversity); the AEWA guidelines to reduce damage to fisheries and other forms of conflict between waterbirds and human activities (relevant to programme of work in agricultural biodiversity); and guidelines generated by the CMS instruments relevant to the work programme on forest biodiversity, such as the guidelines on bat-friendly forestry practices under the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe (EUROBATS).
- (f) Activity 6: Provision of case-studies on the relationship between migratory species and agricultural practices (programme of work in agricultural biodiversity); migratory species and the prevention of introduction, eradication or control of alien invasive species (pursuant to the format annexed to decision V/8 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity); the ecosystem approach and the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, taking into consideration the migratory-range approach; and on the implementation of the ecosystem approach in conservation and sustainable use of forest ecosystems (element 1 of the programme of work on forest biological diversity).
- (g) Activity 7: Facilitate the further development of the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy and the subsequent development under CMS of a formal multilateral agreement among the States of the region (programme of work in inland waters biodiversity); the CMS Agreement on Albatrosses and Petrals in the Southern Hemisphere; and implementation of CMS agreements addressing the needs of marine mammals (programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity).
- (h) Activity 8: Determination of how the CMS instruments and the Convention on Biological Diversity can best cooperate with regard to the creation of migratory corridors across dry and sub-humid lands during seasonal periods, as stated in activity 7 (l) of part B of the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands (decision V/23, annex I), and facilitating the development of an initiative for migratory waterbirds of the Central Asian-Indian flyway, and the further development of the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy and the East Asian-Australian migratory waterbirds flyway. (Programmes of work on inland waters biodiversity, marine and coastal biological diversity, biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands, and forest biodiversity.)

Expected outputs

- (a) *Output 1:* Inclusion of migratory-species issues, as appropriate, in documents issued within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- (b) Output 2: Case-studies and possible document relating to by-catch.
- (c) *Output 3*: Consideration, where appropriate, of migratory species issues in documents under the Convention on Biological Diversity relating to IMCAM.
- (d) Output 4: Inclusion of migratory-species issues in all documents, brochures and leaflets on sustainable tourism and a separate brochure developed by CMS on the issue of sustainable tourism and migratory species.
- (e) Outputs 5 and 6: Case-studies and guidelines distributed through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

- (f) Output 7: A methodological guide for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to conservation and sustainable use of migratory species.
- (g) Output 8: Draft strategy development on migratory corridors and flyways.

2.3. Indicators, assessment and monitoring

Objective

To support efforts undertaken by Parties and international organizations to increase the use of migratory species as indicators of biological diversity; to include migratory species as an important group in biodiversity assessments; to promote increased understanding of the effects of habitat degradation on migratory species; and the development of methodologies for assessment and monitoring of habitats important for migratory species.

Activities

- (a) Activity 1: Exchange of case-studies, best practices, reports and data on the use of migratory species as indicators of biological diversity and their use in assessment and monitoring programmes. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will develop a set of principles, key set of standard questions and a list of available and potential indicators (decision V/7, paragraph 1, of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity). Input and data series on the use of migratory species in this context will be required, including, in particular, contributions to:
 - (i) The development of element C of the programme of work on inland water ecosystems, related to the review of methodologies for assessment of biological diversity of inland water ecosystems;
 - (ii) The development of element 3 of the work programme for forest biological diversity;
 - (iii) Understanding of the relationship between migratory species and the assessment components of thematic work programmes under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and to support the regional process of workshops on indicators.
- (b) Activity 2: Collection of information and case-studies on the relationship between migratory species, coral bleaching and physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs and associated habitats (decision V/3 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).
- (c) Activity 3: Dissemination, in particular through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity, of guidelines developed by the CMS instruments, such as EUROBATS (Guidelines on the recommended methodologies to be employed for the monitoring of bat species in Europe) and AEWA (Guidelines for a waterbird monitoring protocol) to inform work under the Convention on Biological Diversity on indicators relevant to monitoring.

Expected outputs

- (a) Output 1: A progress report on the use of migratory species as indicators of biological diversity and their use for assessment and monitoring of status and trends of biological diversity.
- (b) Outputs 2 and 3: Guidelines and case-studies on assessment and monitoring of migratory species and their habitats disseminated through the clearing-house mechanism.

2.4. Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI)

Objectives

To develop taxonomic data on the invertebrate organisms of principal significance as food items for birds which use mangrove systems as a stop-over on their migratory routes. Mangroves are a priority ecosystem in the draft GTI programme of work (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/10).

Activities

- (a) Activity 1: Identification of key players in this aspect of mangrove taxonomy and ecosystem research to maximize the effectiveness of subsequent projects. These players might include the International Society for Mangrove Ecology, the East Asian-Australian Shorebird Site Network, Wetlands International, and project on coastal biodiversity in Ranong funded by the European Union.
- (b) Activity 2: Organization of workshops involving key players to facilitate development of pilot project proposals. Workshops in 2001 on mangrove systems in Africa, Asia and the neotropics are already planned under the draft GTI work plan.
- (c) Activity 3: Identification of experts on migratory species from the rosters of experts under the Convention on Biological Diversity and CMS to participate in short-term GTI activities.

Expected outputs

- (a) Output 1: List of key players in mangrove taxonomy and ecosystem research.
- (b) Output 2: Taxonomic guides to mangrove invertebrates of particular importance to migratory birds, including possible indicators; personnel trained through workshops able to undertake identification and monitoring; and use of data on invertebrate fauna in assessment of suitability of sites and protocols for site management.
- (c) Output 3: Increased consideration of migratory species within the GTI programme of work.
