

Convention on Biological Diversity

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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

Third meeting

Venue and dates to be determined

Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM: SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED FROM BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 9 OF DECISION XIII/21

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. In decision XII/30 on the financial mechanism, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to enhance coordination among their respective biodiversity-related convention national focal points, in order to identify national priorities in support of the implementation of the various biodiversity-related conventions that are aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and with the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to incorporate them into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (para.1). The governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions were invited to provide elements of advice, as appropriate, concerning the funding of the national priorities that could be referred to the Global Environment Facility through the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (para. 2). The Executive Secretary was requested to include any advice received into the documentation for the appropriate agenda item, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties (para. 3).
2. In decision XIII/21, the Conference of the Parties invited the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions, further to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of decision XII/30, to repeat the exercise described therein for the development of strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity at its fifteenth meeting.
3. The annex to the present note provides, for the benefit of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting, a compilation of the submissions and advice in the form they were received from the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

* CBD/SBI/3/1.

Annex

SUBMISSIONS AND ADVICE FROM BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS

I. CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

Resolution of the Standing Committee with regard to elements of advice concerning the funding of national priorities for CMS for the development of the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the eighth replenishment period of its Trust Fund (GEF-8)

1. Letter of the Executive Secretary to convey the resolution of the Standing Committee, August 2020



**Convention on the Conservation of
Migratory Species of Wild Animals**



Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 1N9
Canada

Bonn, 21 August 2020

Subject: Advice on CMS priorities for the Global Environment Facility

Dear Ms. Mrema,

I am pleased to transmit the elements of advice for the funding of national priorities under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), for the development of strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF-8, 2022-2026). Based on the communications on this topic between our two Secretariats, I trust that these inputs are timely for inclusion in the pre-session documentation for consideration at the upcoming third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI-3).

The Conference of the Parties to CMS, through Resolution 10.25 (Rev.COP12), delegated to the CMS Standing Committee the authority to develop guidance on priorities for the GEF and requested the CMS Secretariat to convey this advice on its behalf. This Resolution continues in force. For CMS Parties, therefore, the guidance developed by its Standing Committee fully meets the requirements of paragraph 2 of CBD COP Decision XII/30(A), and paragraph 10 of CBD COP Decision XIII/21(B).

Accordingly, the Chair of the CMS Standing Committee initiated a process to invite inputs from Parties on their national priorities through the respective regional representatives of the Standing Committee. The Secretariat issued a notification to all Parties to support this process.

In line with your guidance, this advice has been formulated at a strategic level, mindful of the GEF's mandate, the common objectives of CMS and CBD, as well as the leading role of CMS in addressing the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species of wild animals and their habitat.

On behalf of CMS Parties, I therefore kindly request that this advice be included in the relevant documentation for consideration by SBI-3, and subsequently for the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CBD in 2021.

Kind regards,



Amy Fraenkel
Executive Secretary

Copy to:

Mr. Soumitra Dasgupta
Chair, CMS Standing Committee
Inspector General of Forests (WL)
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

2. *Resolution of the Standing Committee*

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



Resolution of the Standing Committee with regard to elements of advice concerning the funding of national priorities for CMS for the development of the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the eighth replenishment period of its Trust Fund (GEF-8)

Noting that the global biodiversity assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) showed that we are losing species of plants and animals at an unprecedented rate, and that one million species face extinction in the near term unless more actions are taken;

Taking note of the preliminary report on the Status of Migratory Species presented at the Thirteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP13) which recognized that the populations of most migratory species covered by CMS are declining, despite reported success stories in the management and recovery of some species;

Noting that migratory species are an integral part of biodiversity and ecosystems, and that the conservation of migratory species and their habitats are essential contributions to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

Further noting that many migratory species are in decline and in danger of extinction, with habitat loss and unsustainable direct use posing the greatest risks to migratory species;

Recognizing the mandate of CMS with regard to wildlife diseases including zoonoses, and the role of CMS in reducing the risk of future zoonotic outbreaks through a better management of the migratory species and their habitats;

Acknowledging the potential of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to facilitate the implementation of CMS and *conscious* that this potential is currently not realized in full;

Noting that, although the GEF is not a financial mechanism for CMS, advice on national priorities for the implementation of CMS can be provided through the CBD;

Further noting that [CMS Resolution 10.25 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) requested, on an ongoing basis, the CMS Standing Committee to develop this advice and the Executive Secretary to refer it to the GEF through the CBD COP;

Recalling that CBD [Decision XIII/21](#), invited the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions, including CMS, to repeat the exercise described in [Decision XII/30](#) for the development of strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF-8) in time for consideration by CBD COP15;

Noting that CBD Decision [XIV/23](#) called for the priorities of CBD for GEF 8 be aligned with the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, for consideration by CBD COP15;

Further noting that the [Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023](#) (CMS Resolution 11.2 (Rev. COP12)) will overlap with the initial period of GEF8, and is aligned to and complements the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, by adding the necessary specificity for and focus on migratory species conservation;

Underscoring that the [Gandhinagar Declaration](#) (CMS Resolution 13.1) agreed on CMS priorities for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;

Recalling CBD [Decision X/20](#) in which CMS is recognized as the lead partner in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species over their entire range;

Noting that migratory species have large ranges which extend beyond individual protected areas, and beyond national and regional borders and that therefore conservation for these species needs to take into account entire migratory systems;

Acknowledging that GEF-7 has recognized the importance to promote integrated approaches for transformational change in a set of key systems to tackle the drivers of environmental degradation;

Noting the possibility of GEF funding for National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in eligible countries, and *stressing* the importance for national focal points collaborating to include priority actions on migratory species in the NBSAPs in line with Resolutions [11.10 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) and [13.1](#);

The Standing Committee:

1. *Notes with thanks* that the GEF supported migratory species conservation through past projects including the African Eurasian Flyways Project "Wings over Wetlands" and the Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project;
2. *Invites* the GEF to support programmes, projects and initiatives that contribute to the conservation of migratory species and their habitats and mitigate their unsustainable use in the eighth replenishment of its Trust Fund;
3. *Invites* the GEF to continue consulting with the CMS Secretariat to maximize synergies with CMS priorities in its programming;
4. *Invites* the Third Meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 3) and subsequently CBD COP15 to consider the following elements in the development of the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for GEF-8. These elements, which derive from the [Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023](#) (Resolution 11.2 (Rev.COP12), the [Gandhinagar Declaration](#) (Resolution 13.1) and other key CMS COP Resolutions, support the common objectives of CMS and CBD especially with respect to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by:
 - Improving monitoring, data collection and data analysis of species population sizes and trends, migration patterns and distribution, habitats and critical sites as well as of drivers of population changes;
 - Supporting countries in setting up, strengthening and enforcing their legal frameworks for the conservation of wildlife and their habitats, including through addressing capacity needs, in particular by integrating the commitments of CMS Parties in the revision and updating of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and other national planning processes and development plans and related budgets;
 - Restoring and maintaining ecological connectivity, especially for the conservation and sustainable management of migratory species and their habitats, which has been defined as the "*unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth*", as outlined in Resolutions [12.26 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) and [12.7 \(Rev.COP13\)](#);
 - Supporting regional or global programmes and integrated approaches that support species migration systems;

- Supporting activities to reduce risk of the emergence of zoonotic diseases by addressing habitat fragmentation and destruction and risks from the direct use of migratory species;
 - Supporting Governments and all other stakeholders including CMS, in their specific role and contributions to the effective implementation, monitoring, and review of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
 - Promoting international cooperation through regional and transboundary mechanisms and initiatives;
 - Addressing the drivers of loss of wild migratory animals, especially habitat destruction and fragmentation, invasive alien species, and overexploitation of wild migratory animals, which can be responsible for the transmission of infectious diseases from wild animals to humans;
 - Reducing the adverse impacts on wild migratory animals from energy installations and linear infrastructure, including roads, railways, fences, and pipelines as outlined in Resolutions [11.24 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) and [11.27 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) and integrate migratory wildlife considerations into any spatial planning including in strategic and environmental impact assessments;
 - Combatting wildlife crime and strengthening anti-poaching efforts, including through regional approaches for tackling the illegal killing, take and trade of birds, including trapping, as outlined in Resolution [11.31](#) and [11.16 \(Rev.COP13\)](#);
 - Advancing the implementation of projects that are mutually supportive of various treaties as well as joint programmes such as the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative, as outlined in [Resolution 13.4](#);
 - Implementing concerted actions for the conservation of iconic species including the Regional Plan for the conservation of the Jaguar which addresses direct and indirect threats through collaboration both at institutional and scientific levels;
 - Restoring and maintaining global flyways, as outlined in the Programme of Work as outlined in [Resolution 12.11 \(Rev.COP13\)](#);
 - Reducing threats to wild animals, including poisoning of wildlife caused by use of pesticides, poison bait, veterinary pharmaceutical treatments, lead in ammunition and fishing weights and light pollution and pollution in the marine environment from marine debris, noise and unexploded ordinance, as outlined in [Resolution 12.20](#), [Resolution 11.15 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) and [Resolution 13.5](#);
 - Minimizing bycatch of CMS-listed marine species and reducing post-release mortality as outlined in [Resolution 12.22](#) and elsewhere;
 - Supporting sustainable tourism activities that are beneficial to the conservation of wild animals, as outlined in [Resolution 12.23](#) and [Resolution 11.29 \(Rev.COP12\)](#);
 - Mitigating threats to freshwater fish, such as habitat degradation, barriers to migration and overexploitation, as outlined in [Resolution 10.12](#);
 - Supporting conservation strategies that promote the establishment and maintenance of networks of climate resilient sites for migratory species, as outlined in [Resolution 12.21](#);
 - Addressing insect decline and support scientific research on its impact on migratory insectivorous animal populations [Resolution 13.6](#).
5. *Invites* CBD SBI 3 and COP15 to recognize the important role of CMS in the implementation of CBD's mandate, as per CBD Decision X/20, its role as the lead authority on the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species and their habitats, and its role in this regard in the implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

II. CONVENTION ON WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE ESPECIALLY AS WATERFOWL HABITAT

Decision of the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee at its intersessional virtual sessions of 23 and 25 June 2020 on elements of advice for the GEF concerning the funding to support the objectives and priorities of the Convention, for the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund

1. *Letter of the Secretary General to convey the decision of the Standing Committee, July 2020*



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

From the Secretary General

Ms
Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on
Biological Diversity
413 St. Jacques Street West, Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec
H2Y 1N9, Canada

Gland, 17 July 2020
SG-56/MRU/MR

Dear Ms Maruma Mrema,

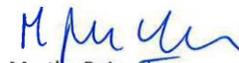
Dear Elizabeth,

In response to notification, SCBD/IMS/SEC/JMF/NP/YX/SM/88503 find attached the decision of Standing Committee 58 with the elements of advice concerning the funding of national priorities that may be referred to the Global Environment Facility for the eight replenishment period (July 2022-June 2026) of the Global Facility Trust Fund and for inclusion in documentation to be prepared for the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and CBD COP15.

The report and decisions of the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee at its intersessional sessions can be consulted in this link:

<https://www.ramsar.org/document/report-and-decisions-of-the-58th-meeting-of-the-standing-committee-at-its-intersessional>

Yours sincerely,


Martha Rojas Urrego

2. *Decision of the Standing Committee (Decision SC58-25)*¹

Decision SC58-25: The Standing Committee decided to request that the following elements of advice be submitted by the Secretariat to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity:

The Convention on Wetlands appreciates the invitation of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions to provide their input to help develop strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund.

In response the Ramsar Convention would like to draw the attention of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the following considerations:

- a. Wetlands are the most threatened of all ecosystems with 87% of the planet's wetlands having been lost, 35% of which between 1970-2015 at a rate three times faster than forests; and 81% of the populations of freshwater species have declined globally, that is a higher percentage than for other species;
- b. Wetlands provide significant benefits and services to people, including most freshwater for consumption, protection from floods, droughts and other disasters, food and livelihoods for millions of people, and more effective storage of carbon than any other ecosystem.
- c. The Convention on Wetlands is highly relevant to the post-2020 biodiversity framework, especially with respect to the achievement of no net loss in the area and integrity of freshwater and marine and coastal ecosystems as well as other goals and targets;

In light of these considerations the Convention on Wetlands invites the CBD to include in its COP-15 guidance to the Financial Mechanism:

- i. An invitation to continue to support projects in the Biodiversity Focal Area that mainstream wetlands and its biodiversity across sectors, landscapes – including inland waters – and seascapes; to address direct drivers to protect wetland habitats and species, including through protected areas systems such as the Wetlands of International Importance designated by Contracting Parties under the Convention on Wetlands; and to further develop biodiversity policy and institutional frameworks, including policy making and review, monitoring, spatial planning, incentives, and strategic establishment of protected areas, and protected areas management and restoration.
- ii. An invitation to the GEF to continue to address the drivers that cause the loss of habitat and species and include under the current priority cluster on addressing direct drivers to protect habitats and species a programme priority to “Reduce pressures on freshwater ecosystems” besides the current one on “Reduce pressure on coral reefs and other vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems”. This would reflect the level of threat and the multiple benefits derived from wetlands, including freshwater wetlands that are not currently covered in the International Waters portfolio, such as peatlands existing in national territories.
- iii. An invitation to the GEF to enhance support towards the integration of wetlands in the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and other national development plans, national budgets and priorities;
- iv. An invitation to the GEF under the International Waters Focal Area, to continue the support to projects and activities to sustain healthy coastal and marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and to enhance regional and national cooperation on shared freshwater surface and groundwater basins;
- v. An invitation to the GEF to continue to undertake further projects on Multifocal Areas Programmes on wetlands, which address the critical importance of wetlands for the multiple benefits these ecosystems deliver to nature and people, and cost effectiveness of investments that achieve

¹ The following text is extracted from the “Report and Decisions of the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee at its intersessional virtual sessions of 23 and 25 June 2020” that was conveyed with the letter of the Secretary General, <https://www.ramsar.org/document/report-and-decisions-of-the-58th-meeting-of-the-standing-committee-at-its-intersessional>

biodiversity, water, climate and livelihoods objectives, while addressing systematic inclusion of gender equality, which Parties to the Convention are mainstreaming in accordance with Resolution XIII.18;

- vi. An invitation to the GEF to include contributions to the biodiversity-related Conventions as part of the Focal Areas of the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the eighth replenishment period (July 2022 to June 2026).

The Convention on Wetlands appreciates the support of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in advocating for these areas of shared interest and mutual benefit to our respective Parties and to the environment.

Reference: Report and Decisions of the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee at its intersessional virtual sessions of 23 and 25 June 2020, <https://www.ramsar.org/document/report-and-decisions-of-the-58th-meeting-of-the-standing-committee-at-its-intersessional>

III. INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Resolution of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture at its eighth session, 11-16 November 2019: Elements of advice contained in Resolution 11/2019 - Cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity

Paragraph 5 of Resolution 11/2019

The Governing Body,²

5. **Thanks** the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity for its invitation to the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions to develop strategic guidance, in accordance with CBD COP Decision XIII/21, for the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund, in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity at its fifteenth meeting, and **provides** the elements of advice in the following paragraphs;

- a) **Notes** that in the process of updating the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty, the GEF has been identified as one of the key international mechanisms, funds and bodies that support the implementation of the International Treaty, and **invites** the GEF to continue giving priority through the GEF-8 to support programs, projects and initiatives that conserve and sustainably use plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, in particular in relation to *in situ* conservation of crop wild relatives and on-farm management and farmers' sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity;
- b) **Emphasizes** the continuous importance of GEF's financial support to mainstream biodiversity within the agricultural sector;
- c) **Invites** the GEF to enhance support towards the integration of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and other national development plans, national budgets and priorities, which is one of the strategic priorities of the updated Funding Strategy of the International Treaty;
- d) **Notes** that the GEF is increasingly supporting projects and programs which address in an integrated manner food security, sustainable agriculture and climate change adaptation and, acknowledging the important role of the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture for the achievement of sustainable agriculture and food systems, **invites** the GEF to more clearly articulate such role within such integrated programmes in the GEF-8 programming framework;
- e) **Invites** the GEF to continue supporting projects to promote the mutually supportive implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;
- f) **Thanks** the GEF for having noted in the GEF-7 Biodiversity Strategy that results from certain GEF-7 investments may generate important co-benefits for the International Treaty and invites the GEF to continue to do so in the formulation of the GEF-8 Biodiversity Strategy;
- g) **Notes** that the formulation and implementation of the GEF-8 will coincide in time with the implementation of the updated Funding Strategy, and **recommends** FAO and other GEF partners to increase the priority and attention given to the implementation of the International Treaty through the GEF-8, in order to make an important contribution to the achievement of the financial target for the Funding Strategy established by the Governing Body; furthermore, **suggests** that as part of the GEF-8, activities should focus on *in situ* conservation of crop wild relatives, wild crop foods and on-farm management of farmers' landraces;
- h) **Requests** the Secretary to submit the elements of advice made by the Governing Body for the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity for transmission to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on

² The following text is extracted from Resolution 11/2019, <http://www.fao.org/3/nb789en/nb789en.pdf>

Biological Diversity and *requests* the Secretary, together with the Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilisation and the Bureau, to develop further inputs relevant to the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund that will reflect developments during the biennium, including in relation to the implementation of the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty and the development of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;

Reference: Resolution 11/2019 - Cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity, <http://www.fao.org/3/nb789en/nb789en.pdf> and Report of the Eighth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Rome, Italy, 11–16 November 2019 (IT/GB-8/19/Report), <http://www.fao.org/3/nb918en/nb918en.pdf>
