

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC6)

INITIATIVE FOR CENTRAL ASIAN FLYWAY

UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.28.4.2

(ScC-SC6 Agenda item 10.4.2)

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP14

The ScC-SC6 recommends to the COP to adopt the draft resolution and decisions, including amendments as suggested below.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

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COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

- Page 4, para. 1 (Annex 1; first preambular paragraph of draft resolution); editorial: the term 'Range States' should be capitalized.
- Page 4, Annex 1, draft resolution: It might be helpful to add some background and convey the urgency of the challenges facing species before going on to recognizing these efforts, in the preamble of the draft resolution.
- Page 4, operative paragraph 4. of the draft resolution: it is proposed to modify this para as following, for clarification:
"Agrees that the broad objectives of the Initiative are to enhance the conservation of migratory bird populations and their habitats across the CAF, including through protection, restoration and sustainable management, and to strengthen coordination and cooperation across the species' ranges in Central Asia, taking into consideration the needs and livelihoods of local communities, and research and capacity-building priorities."
- Page 5, operative para 5. of draft resolution:
 "a) Enhance cooperation and coordination between the Range States in the CAF region in the conservation of CAF species" and
 "e) enhance cooperation and promote synergies among the existing CMS and non-CMS instruments and partnerships, such as AEWA, Raptors MOU, AEMLAP, East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP)"
- Page 5, operative para 5. of draft resolution; sub para e)): As the CMS instruments and partnerships are listing, might it be helpful to also list the non-CMS ones as well.
- Page 5 operative para 8. of draft resolution: *"Calls upon* the Range States to strengthen their transboundary cooperation and provide support to the ICAF, *inter alia* by using other existing international and regional fora and thematic sub-initiatives;"

- Page 6, annex to draft resolution; Terms of Reference for the Central Asian Flyway Initiative under CMS, para 'Remit': add 'CMS' as following:
"a) identify, develop and implement a Programme of Work (POW) that includes internationally agreed conservation strategies for globally threatened migratory bird species and threatened populations of migratory birds of the CAF, listed under the different CMS frameworks and instruments;"
b) "ensure that the POW is aligned with existing plans of the other relevant CMS instruments and avoid duplication;
- Page 6, annex of draft resolution; para 'Remit':
f) develop and increase the capacity of Range States, stakeholders and local communities to conserve and manage, as well as monitor, populations of the migratory bird species and their habitats;
- Page 6, annex of draft resolution; para 'Remit': Deletion of sub-para g) is suggested.
- Page 7, annex of draft resolution; para 'Remit': amend as suggested here:
"h) assist in resource mobilization for priority actions, including through cooperation with international financial institutions and public and/or private organizations;"
"i) improve citizen science, education, and awareness on the need to conserve migratory birds and their habitats in the CAF;"
- Page 7, annex of draft resolution; para 'Membership': Suggest edits as following: "The membership of ICAF will be comprised of representatives of relevant governments and institutions in the field of environment, species management, and research institutions in countries Party to the participating MEAs in the CAF Region."
- Page 7, annex of draft resolution; para 'Membership', second sub-para: Might be helpful to say what the participating MEAs and frameworks are.
- Page 7, annex of draft resolution; para 'Membership', third sub-para: spell out 'EAAFP'.
- Page 7, annex of draft resolution; para 'Governance': deletion of the following is suggested: "Decision making will be done by seeking consensus, as much as possible, among the group."
- Page 7, annex of draft resolution, para 'Operation': Using the term 'coordination unit' instead of 'Secretariat' may be considered to prevent confusion.