

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Seventy-third meeting of the Standing Committee
Online, 5-7 May 2021

Strategic matters

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

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS).

Background

2. At its 13th meeting (CoP13, Bangkok, 2004), the Conference of the Parties adopted Resolution Conf. 13.3 on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)*. This Resolution directs the Standing Committee to keep under regular review the Memorandum of Understanding concluded on 18 September 2002 between the CITES and CMS Secretariats, which was presented at the 49th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC49, Geneva, April 2003) (see the Annex to document [SC49 Doc. 6.2](#)).
3. Resolution Conf. 16.4 on *Cooperation of CITES with other biodiversity-related conventions* welcomes the decisions taken by CMS on cooperation, coordination and synergies with CITES, and encourages Parties to consider further opportunities to strengthen the cooperation, coordination and synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at all relevant levels.
4. Resolution Conf. 18.3 on *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030* states that strategic Goal 5, *Delivery of the CITES Strategic Vision is improved through collaboration*, aims to use existing or new partnerships or alliances to help achieve its Strategic Vision, which could include work within existing partnerships, such as other conventions. The aim of such collaborations is mutually supportive, where CITES Parties can also help advance other international goals or targets by simultaneously advancing the achievement of CITES goals. This is reflected in Objective 5.1 under Goal 5: *Parties and the Secretariat support and enhance existing cooperative partnerships in order to achieve their identified objectives*.
5. Article 4 b) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the CITES and CMS Secretariats states that "The Secretariats will meet annually to brief each other on their respective activities and plans. They will also decide on joint activities". In fulfilment of this agreement, the Secretariats have proposed and undertaken programmes of joint activities since 2005, which were reviewed and approved by the CITES Standing Committee as follows:
 - At its 53rd meeting (SC53, Geneva, July 2005), the Standing Committee adopted a list of joint CITES/CMS activities for 2005-2007 on the basis of a proposal put forward in document SC53 Doc. 9.
 - At its 57th meeting (SC57, Geneva, July 2008), the Standing Committee approved a list of revised joint CITES/CMS activities for 2008-2010, which was extended to cover the year 2011 at its 59th meeting (SC59, Doha, March 2010).
 - At its 62nd meeting (SC62, Geneva, July 2012), the Standing Committee endorsed a CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2012-2014.

- At its 65th meeting (SC65, Geneva, July 2014), the Standing Committee welcomed the cooperation between the Secretariats of CITES and CMS, and endorsed the CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020 in Annex 2 to document [SC65 Doc. 16.2](#).

Implementation of the CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020

6. The status of implementation of the CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020 is presented in Annex 1 to the present document.
7. The Secretariats have made good progress in most areas of the Joint Work Programme 2015-2020, with frequent collaboration, exchanges of information and joint activities. This was greatly facilitated by the recruitment of a CITES/CMS joint Programme Officer from 2015 to 2017, funded by Germany, to promote synergy between CMS and CITES in the context of CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme for 2015-2020.
8. During the programme period, two meetings of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, and two meetings of the Conference of the Parties to CMS took place¹. Parties agreed for CITES and CMS to collaborate on an increasing number of species-specific matters, adopting for example similar or parallel Decisions with complementary activities for saiga antelopes, lions and the African Carnivores Initiative. This wish for synergy was also reflected in the amended Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Conservation and management of sharks* and Resolution Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP18) on *Conservation of and trade in great apes*, and through the adoption by CMS Parties of Resolution 12.19 on *Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan*, Resolution 13.3 on *Chondrichthyan species (Shark, rays, skates and chimaeras)*, and Resolution 13.4 on *Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivores Initiative*. All these Resolutions contain provisions that recognize or encourage collaboration between CITES and CMS. The implementation of the CMS-CITES joint work programme resulted in more coordinated approaches for States that are Parties to both Conventions, and in close collaboration between both Secretariats on activities they were directed to jointly implement.

Draft CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2021-2025

9. A draft CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2021-2025 is presented in Annex 2 to the present document.
10. The CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2021-2025 is modelled and structured similar to the preceding 5-year work programme, and comprises a non-exhaustive list of joint activities organized around five themes:
 - A. Harmonization of species-specific information
 - B. Joint activities addressing shared species
 - C. Joint activities on issues of common interest
 - D. Implementation and fundraising
 - E. Outreach and capacity-building

Recommendations

11. The Standing Committee is invited to note the present document and its Annex 1 and endorse the draft CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2021-2025 in Annex 2.

¹ CITES: 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016)
18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18, Geneva, 2019)
CMS: 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP12, Manila, 2017)
13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP13, Gandhinagar, 2020)

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CMS CITES JOINT WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2020

A. Harmonization of species-specific information

Description of joint activities	Results
<p><u>Harmonization of species-specific information contained in related databases</u></p> <p>A1. Harmonize and link databases containing species-specific information (such as taxonomy, nomenclature, species common names, range States, conservation and legal status), taking into account the respective requirements of the two Conventions.</p>	<p>The Species+ website (www.speciesplus.net), created in 2013 and maintained by UNEP-WCMC, provides comprehensive information on globally protected species, including all species covered by CITES and CMS. Since its launch, species-specific features have been added such as CITES CoP proposals to amend the Appendices, Animals and Plants Committee documents relating to the CITES Review of Significant Trade process, non-detriment finding documents, and identification materials from the CITES Identification Manual and identification materials hosted on the CITES Virtual College.</p>
<p><u>Harmonize nomenclature</u></p> <p>A2. Pursue efforts to harmonize the nomenclature in the Appendices of the two Conventions with the long-term aim of complete alignment across all taxa.</p>	<p>CMS adopted Resolution 12.27 on <i>Taxonomy and nomenclature</i>, similar to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Standard nomenclature</i>, which facilitated discussions on nomenclature issues. The CITES and CMS Secretariats exchanged information on standard nomenclature references for mammals and birds.</p> <p>The Secretariats undertook efforts to better align the taxonomy of species listed or proposed for listing under both Conventions, including Argali <i>Ovis ammon</i>, Saiga antelopes <i>Saiga tatarica</i> and <i>borealis</i> and Asian elephants <i>Elephas maximus</i>.</p> <p>At CoP17 and CoP18, several Decisions were taken that resulted in greater harmonization of the nomenclature applied in both Conventions. Results are detailed in documents CoP17 Doc. 81.1 and CoP18 Doc. 99.</p>

B. Joint activities addressing shared species and issues of common interest

Description of joint activities	Results
<p><u>Argali</u></p> <p>B1 Coordinate the development and, once adopted, joint implementation of the Argali Action Plan, focusing on species management and sustainable trade components.</p>	<p>The Secretariats exchanged information on the Argali Action Plan, adopted at CMS COP11 (2014). This included a follow-up on the publication “<i>Framework for CITES non-detriment findings for hunting trophies with a focus on Argali Ovis ammon</i>” (CITES, 2013), and information on argali hunting for a training workshop on CITES implementation in central Asia (Bishkek, 2018).</p>
<p><u>Saiga antelope</u></p> <p>B2 Ensure collaboration on the implementation of the Medium-Term International Work Programme under the Saiga MoU and its revisions; including regular exchange of technical and other relevant information, coordinated reporting, capacity-building,</p>	<p>The Secretariats jointly organized the third meeting of the signatory States to the Saiga MoU (Tashkent, 2015), and an international workshop for the review of the Medium-Term International Work Programme 2015-2020, and the development of a new Medium-Term International Work Programme 2020-2025 (Vilm, 2019).</p>

Description of joint activities	Results
<p>fundraising efforts, outreach activities aimed at range States where appropriate, dialogue between consumer and range States, and population restoration and conservation efforts. Activities which both Secretariats shall facilitate include strengthening anti-poaching efforts and implementing trade measures.</p> <p>B3 Collaborate on and jointly fundraise for the organization of meetings of the signatories of the Saiga MoU, including for expert participation at these meetings.</p> <p>B4 Collaborate with regional, national and local Saiga antelope conservation initiatives.</p>	<p>The CITES and CMS collaboration was effective, and generated new saiga Decisions at CoP17 and CoP18, encouraging continued cooperation. Results are presented in documents CoP17 Doc. 70 and CoP18 Doc. 86.</p>
<p><u>Big cats</u></p> <p>B5 Ensure collaboration on the conservation and management of big cats, including regular exchange of technical and other relevant information, attendance of each other's meetings, capacity building, joint fundraising and collective reach-out to range States where appropriate.</p> <p>B6 Maximize the synergies between CMS and the CITES MIKES programme in Africa, as appropriate.</p>	<p>The Secretariats collaborated on the conservation and management of big cats [lion <i>Panthera leo</i>, cheetah <i>Acynonix jubatus</i>, leopard <i>Panthera pardus</i>, snow leopard <i>Panthera uncia</i>], <i>inter alia</i> by organizing meetings of range States of the African lion to facilitate discussions at CoP17 (Entebbe, 2016); and of the African Carnivores Initiative (ACI) (Bonn, 2018), resulting in significant follow-up activities including the development of a draft Joint Programme of Work for the ACI, and CMS Parties adopting Resolution 13.4 on <i>Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivores Initiative</i>.</p> <p><u>African lion</u>: Outcomes can be found in documents CoP18 Doc. 76.1 (Rev. 1) and 76.2, and AC31 Doc 28.</p> <p><u>Leopard</u>: Outcomes are described in document AC31 Doc. 29.1.</p> <p><u>African Carnivores Initiative</u>: Activities and outcomes are described in document CoP18 Doc. 96 and information document CoP18 Inf. 9.</p>
<p><u>Great apes</u></p> <p>B7 Maximize synergies between CMS, CMS Gorilla Agreement and the CITES MIKES programme on Great Apes in Africa.</p> <p>B8 Coordinate contributions to great ape policy mechanisms, such as GRASP.</p> <p>B9 Cooperate on trade and enforcement issues relating to Great Apes, including through the sharing of relevant information and cooperation with the International Consortium for Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC).</p>	<p>The CITES and CMS Secretariats are members of the Executive Committee of the Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP). They coordinated their inputs and participation in Executive Committee meetings. CITES and CMS collaborated in the revision of Resolution Conf. 13.4 (CoP18) on <i>Conservation of and trade in great apes</i>.</p> <p>Activities and results can be found in documents CoP17 Doc. 61 and CoP18 Doc. 73.</p>
<p><u>African elephant</u></p> <p>B10 Ensure collaboration on the conservation and management of African elephants, including regular exchange of technical and other relevant information, attendance of each other's meetings, capacity-building, joint fundraising and collective outreach activities aimed at elephant range States, where appropriate. Activities which both Secretariats shall facilitate include management of human-elephant conflicts and addressing the illegal trade in specimens.</p> <p>B11 Collaborate on the coordination and implementation of the CMS MoU on the West African elephant, with a focus on MIKE sites</p>	<p>The CITES and CMS Secretariat collaborated regularly in the context of MIKE and the CMS MoU on West African elephants.</p> <p>CMS COP12, in Resolution 12,9, endorsed the African Elephant Action Plan, developed by African elephant range States and agreed in the margins of CITES CoP15 in information document CoP15 Inf. 68, as the principal planning strategy for elephant range States that are Parties to CMS. This further aligned CMS and CITES in the context of the conservation of African elephants.</p> <p>The CITES and CMS Secretariats acted as <i>ex officio</i> members to the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee, which guides the implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan.</p>

Description of joint activities	Results
<p>and facilitation of transboundary connectivity amongst elephant populations in West Africa.</p> <p>B12 Maximize synergies between CMS and the CITES MIKES programme on elephant conservation in Africa, recognizing the particular role that CMS can play with regard to managing transboundary populations.</p> <p>B13 Ensure connectivity with the African Elephant Action Plan and the associated African Elephant Fund.</p>	<p>Activities are described in reports to the Standing Committee, and in documents CoP17 Doc. 57.1 and CoP18 Doc. 69.1 and 69.2.</p>
<p><u>Saker falcon</u></p> <p>B14 Collaborate closely on the implementation of the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP), specifically on activities relating to the management and sustainable use of the species, including application of the non-detriment finding protocol and by exchanging information concerning legal and, where known, illegal trade in Saker falcons.</p> <p>B15 Collaborate to review implementation of the SakerGAP in 2017, and in the case of a sudden major change liable to affect one or more Saker falcon populations.</p>	<p>The Secretariats worked closely together in the context of the CMS Saker Falcon Task Force, established to guide on the implementation of the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP). CMS organized, and CITES attended the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th meetings of the Saker Falcon Task Force, <i>inter alia</i> to develop an adaptive management framework for the sustainable use of the species.</p>
<p><u>Marine turtles</u></p> <p>B16 Maximize the synergies between the CMS and the CITES MIKES programme concerning marine turtles, including within the framework of the CMS turtle instruments, as appropriate.</p>	<p>CITES and CMS collaborated in undertaking and acting on the study <i>Status, scope and trends of the legal and illegal international trade in marine turtles, its conservation impacts, management options and mitigation priorities</i>. The study and its recommendations informed a series of CoP18 Decisions on marine turtles, <i>inter alia</i> calling for further collaboration between CMS and CITES. Activities and outputs are described in documents CoP17 Doc. 59, CoP18 Doc. 70 and AC31 Doc. 24.</p>
<p><u>Sharks and rays</u></p> <p>B17 Optimize the effectiveness of actions taken by Parties to both CMS and CITES concerning sharks and rays, and strengthen synergies with FAO, RFMOs and other relevant bodies.</p> <p>B18 Cooperate on capacity building regarding the implementation of regulations of both Conventions related to sharks and rays.</p>	<p>The CITES Secretariat participated in the 2nd and 3rd meeting of the signatories to the CMS MoU on the conservation of migratory sharks in 2016 and 2018. Regular cooperation and exchange of information took place regarding the implementation of existing and new measures of the Conventions relating to sharks and rays.</p> <p>An instruction for the Secretariat to collaborate closely with CMS to improve coordination and synergies in the implementation of CITES provisions for CITES-listed shark species was added to Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Conservation and management of sharks</i>, at CITES CoP18 and in the corresponding new CMS Resolution 13.3 on <i>Chondrichthyan species (Shark, rays, skates and chimaeras)</i> adopted in 2020.</p> <p>Activities and results are summarized in documents CoP17 Doc. 56.1, CoP18 Doc. 68.2, and in reports to the Animals and Standing Committees [most recently in document AC31 Doc. 25].</p>

Description of joint activities	Results
<p><u>Other species issues</u></p> <p>B19 Collaborate closely on the implementation of the Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI), initiated by CMS Parties.</p> <p>B20 Exchange information on the differences in the criteria for inclusion of species in respective Appendices and the reasons/justifications for which they are listed in order to improve alignment of policies under both treaties.</p> <p>B21 Develop a formal process within CMS for providing CoP comments to CITES on proposals to amend the latter's Appendices and to seek comments from CITES on proposals to amend the CMS Appendices.</p>	<p>The Secretariats monitored progress with CAMI, focusing on the Central Asian mammal species of joint interest [Saiga antelope <i>Saiga tatarica</i> and <i>borealis</i>; argali <i>Ovis amon</i>; urial <i>Ovis vignei</i>; snow leopard <i>Panthera uncia</i>].</p> <p>Information on CITES listing criteria was exchanged with CMS.</p> <p>CMS adopted Resolution 13.7 on <i>Guidelines for Preparing and Assessing Proposals for the Amendment of CMS Appendices</i>, which provides CMS listing criteria, and incorporates provisions for the CMS Secretariat to consult other relevant intergovernmental bodies, including CITES, about amendment proposals [previously in Resolution 11.33].</p> <p>As a statutory consultee under Article XV 2 (b), CMS commented on relevant CoP17 and CoP18 proposals to amend the CITES Appendices in relation to marine species [see document CoP17 Doc. 88.3 (Rev.), Annex 4 and CoP18 Doc. 105.3, Annex 2].</p> <p>The CITES Secretariat was formally invited to comment on COP12 and COP13 proposals, and submitted comments on those that concerned CITES-listed animal species [see UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.25.1/Add.2 and UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.27.1/Add.2]</p> <p>In the course of this Joint Work Programme, CITES and CMS collaborated on other species of common interest, based on instructions from their respective Conference of Parties. These included:</p> <p><u>Eels</u>: Results can be found in documents CoP17 Doc. 51, CoP18 Doc. 63 and AC31 Doc. 22.</p> <p><u>Black sea dolphins</u>: Results are be found in documents CoP17 Doc. 41 and CoP18 Doc. 90.</p> <p><u>West African vultures</u>: Results can be found in documents CoP18 Doc. 97 and AC31 Doc. 20.</p> <p><u>African wild dogs</u>: Results can be found in document CoP17 Doc. 63.</p>

C. Implementation and fundraising cooperation

Description of joint activities	Results
<p>Secretariat coordination meetings</p> <p>C1. Organize an annual coordination meeting between the two Secretariats, as well as regular teleconference calls as required, to discuss the implementation of the Joint Work Programme, and for ensuring continued cooperation and organization of joint activities.</p>	<p>Annual coordination meetings took place in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Additionally, the Secretariat regularly discussed coordination of, and progress with the activities in the joint work programme with peers in the CMS Secretariat.</p> <p>The organization of joint activities was facilitated by the CITES/CMS joint Programme Officer, who also ensured frequent communication between the Secretariats.</p>
<p><u>Exchange information</u></p> <p>C2. Facilitate the exchange of information among the Secretariats, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calendars of meetings; - Meeting invitations; - Lists of administrative and scientific focal points and Authorities in Parties; - Pertinent draft documents in advance of Convention meetings, including strategic plans; - Details of procedural and administrative developments; and - Guidelines whose joint adoption is mutually supportive. 	<p>Regular exchange of information took place as part of the above meetings.</p>
<p><u>Staffing</u></p> <p>C3 Engage inter-Secretariat staff loans at key moments to optimize support to respective Parties and build skills of staff complement.</p> <p>C4 Jointly explore possibilities for secondments and loans from Parties in order to support shared work.</p>	<p>Following a joint approach by the CITES and CMS Secretariats, the German government agreed to fund a CITES/CMS joint Programme Officer from 2015 to 2017 to promote synergy between CMS and CITES in the context of CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme for 2015-2020. This support greatly facilitated all the work described in this Annex.</p> <p>The postholder was based in the CMS Secretariat offices, with supervision shared between the Secretariats.</p> <p>Staff from CMS was loaned to the CITES Secretariat to support the conduct of CoPs.</p>
<p><u>Fundraising</u></p> <p>C5 Raise funds for joint projects already planned and those that will be proposed during the term of this Joint Work Programme.</p>	<p>In the context of their collaboration on African elephants and the MIKE programme, the CITES and CMS Secretariats (jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) applied for, and received funding from the European Commission to implement the project <i>Cross Regional Wildlife Conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean</i>. The project aims to enhance enforcement and cross-border collaboration between MIKE sites (CITES) and facilitate the establishment of Transfrontier Conservation Areas (CMS).</p>

D. Outreach and capacity-building activities (strengthening existing cooperation between Secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions)

Description of joint activities	Results
<p>D1 Investigate possibilities for coordinated outreach and joint capacity-building activities.</p> <p>D2 Jointly attend, or represent the other Secretariat, at meetings of inter-agency groups, including those listed below; collaborate with the follow-up to such meetings and actions as required; and encourage such groups to support the implementation of CMS and CITES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG); - Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) processes; - Environment Management Group (EMG) and the Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (IMG4); - Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW); and - 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. <p>D3 Encourage representation of one Secretariat by the other at events of mutual interest to reduce costs and promote synergies. This may include joint presentations and/or jointly approved statements and press releases.</p> <p>D4 Promote the dissemination and use of relevant information and CMS and CITES capacity-building tools amongst CITES Authorities and CMS Focal Points, such as the CMS Family Manual, CMS E-Community, Guidelines for NBSAPs, the CITES Virtual College, the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA).</p> <p>D5 Encourage the organization of regional and subregional meetings or workshops for CMS Focal Points and CITES Authorities in order to exchange experiences on issues such as the conservation and sustainable use of shared species, the integration of Action Plans and protected areas into relevant sectorial and spatial plans.</p>	<p>The Secretariats coordinated their participation in, and contributions to BLG, IPBES, EMG, CPW and CBD [Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and Aichi targets and development of the post -2020 Global Biodiversity Framework].</p> <p>Using the framework provided by the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative, the CITES and CMS Secretariats have benefitted from a number of joint activities, including sharing development of databases.</p> <p>In the run-up to CITES CoP17, CMS joined CITES in pre-CoP meetings for African Parties to explain the work undertaken jointly.</p> <p>The cooperation between the secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions, including the CMS and CITES Secretariats, is further described in documents SC66 Doc. 16.2, SC69 Doc. 19, SC70 Doc. 19, CoP17 Doc. 14.1 and CoP18 Doc. 15.1.</p>

DRAFT CMS-CITES JOINT WORK PROGRAMME 2021-2025

Introduction

The CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2021–2025 comprises a non-exhaustive list of joint activities. They are organized around five themes:

- A. Harmonization of species-specific information
- B. Joint activities addressing shared species
- C. Joint activities on issues of common interest
- D. Implementation and fundraising
- E. Outreach and capacity building

A. Harmonization of species-specific information

Joint activities in this area relate to (i) updating the species-specific information for species listed in the Appendices of the two Conventions, and the relevant species databases of the two Conventions, and (ii) aligning as much as possible nomenclature and taxonomy in the Appendices to ensure compatibility.

Description of envisaged joint activities
<p><u>Harmonization of species-specific information contained in related databases</u></p> <p>A1. Harmonize and link databases with species-specific information (such as taxonomy, nomenclature, species common names, distribution, range States, conservation status and legal status), taking into account the respective requirements and provisions of the two Conventions.</p>
<p><u>Harmonize nomenclature</u></p> <p>A2. Pursue efforts to harmonize as much as possible the nomenclature in the Appendices of the two Conventions, with the long-term aim of complete alignment across all taxa.</p> <p>A3. Seek exchanges on nomenclature expertise between both Conventions and promote mutual consultations prior to the adoption of new nomenclature at CoPs/COPs.</p>

B. Joint activities addressing shared species

The Secretariats will, as appropriate, jointly address species conservation and management issues of common interest, such as encouraging international collaboration for the conservation of shared species that are listed on the CMS and CITES Appendices, community-based management of wildlife, non-detrimental trade and use, encouraging best conservation and sustainable use practices for such species, habitat conservation and restoration as well as ensuring connectivity, and monitoring emerging threats such as climate change and zoonotic diseases.

Shared species of particular attention include:

- African and Asian elephant (Elephantidae)
- African-Eurasian vultures [with particular emphasis on West Africa and Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), white-headed vulture (*Trigonoceps occipitalis*), hooded vulture (*Necrosyrtes monachus*), whitebacked vulture (*Gyps africanus*), Rüppell's vulture (*Gyps rueppelli*) and lappet-faced vulture (*Torgos tracheliotos*)]
- Anguillid eels (*Anguilla anguilla*)
- Argali sheep (*Ovis ammon*)
- Big cats [snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*), lion (*Panthera leo*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*), cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) and jaguar (*Panthera onca*)]

- Great apes (Hominidae)
- Marine turtles (Cheloniidae and Dermochelyidae)
- Saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.)
- Saker falcon (*Falco cherrug*)
- Sharks and rays (Chondrichthyes)

The Secretariats will act upon recommendations, resolutions and decisions agreed by Parties or Signatories that are directed to both Secretariats, or pertain to joint CITES/CMS work, including those resulting from the implementation of CMS instruments (e.g. MoUs). Activities shall not be limited to those indicated below.

Description of envisaged joint activities
<p>B1. Ensure collaboration on the conservation and management of shared species of particular attention by the regular exchange of technical and other information, attendance at each other's meetings or workshops and, where appropriate, joint capacity-building, the development of project proposals, fundraising, and collective reach-out to range States.</p>
<p><u>Elephants</u></p> <p>B2. Maximize synergies between CMS and the CITES Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme on elephant conservation in Africa, recognizing the particular role that CMS can play with regard to managing and conserving transboundary populations, and promoting connectivity between populations.</p> <p>B3. Jointly support the implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan and take part as <i>ex officio</i> members in the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee.</p> <p>B4. Collaborate on conservation activities relating to Asian elephants, <i>inter alia</i> in the context of the CITES MIKE programme and the CMS Concerted Action on Asian Elephant.</p>
<p><u>African-Eurasian vultures</u></p> <p>B5. Collaborate on the implementation of the CMS Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vultures MsAP), specifically on activities to address key gaps in knowledge pertaining to biological and trade issues, with initial attention focused on West Africa and the six species mentioned in relevant CITES Decisions.</p> <p>B6. Collaborate by reporting to the respective Conferences of the Parties about the Vulture MsAP and propose aligned or complementary actions within respective fields of competence, where needed.</p>
<p><u>Anquillid eels</u></p> <p>B7. Maximise the synergies between CMS and CITES in the implementation of their respective decisions regarding <i>Anguilla</i> spp., and in the possible development of a CMS Action Plan for <i>Anguilla anguilla</i>.</p>
<p><u>Argali</u></p> <p>B8. Coordinate and jointly fundraise for the joint implementation and revision of the Argali Action Plan, focusing on species management and sustainable trade components.</p>
<p><u>Big cats</u></p> <p>B9. Collaborate on the development and deployment of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative, including the development of a Joint Programme of Work, organization of regular range State meetings and the establishment of a sustainable funding mechanism.</p> <p>B10. Collaborate on the conservation of jaguar, taking into account existing mandates, and ongoing efforts and initiatives in the region.</p> <p>B11. Assess whether and how outcomes of the CITES Big Cats Task Force can inform the work related to the species covered by both Conventions.</p>
<p><u>Great apes</u></p> <p>B12. Strengthen collaboration and develop synergies between the Secretariats in relation to the conservation of great apes.</p>
<p><u>Marine turtles</u></p> <p>B13. Maximize synergies between CMS and CITES on the conservation and management of marine turtles, including within the framework of the CMS turtle instruments, as appropriate.</p> <p>B14. Collaborate in the implementation of CITES and CMS decisions on marine turtles directed to both Conventions.</p>

Description of envisaged joint activities
<p><u>Saiga antelope</u></p> <p>B15. Collaborate on the implementation of the Medium-Term International Work Programme under the Saiga MOU and its revisions, including regular exchange of technical and other relevant information, coordinated reporting, capacity-building, outreach activities aimed at range States, where appropriate, dialogue between consumer and range States, and population restoration and conservation efforts.</p> <p>B16. Collaborate on, and jointly fundraise for the organization of meetings of the signatories of the Saiga MOU, including for expert participation at these meetings.</p>
<p><u>Saker falcon</u></p> <p>B17. Collaborate on the implementation of the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP), specifically on activities relating to the management and sustainable use of the species, including application of the non-detriment finding protocol, and by exchanging information concerning legal and, where known, illegal trade in Saker falcons.</p>
<p><u>Sharks and rays</u></p> <p>B18. Maintain close collaboration between the Secretariats to improve coordination and synergies regarding sharks and rays.</p> <p>B19. Encourage Parties that are member of CITES and CMS to improve coordination between their respective national focal points, where appropriate, and work through both Conventions to strengthen research, training and data collection.</p>
<p><u>Other species issues</u></p> <p>B20. Explore opportunities to transfer lessons learned from the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative to the CMS Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI).</p>

C. Joint activities on issues of common interest

Description of envisaged joint activities
<p>C1. Collaborate on addressing illegal trade in migratory birds, <i>inter alia</i> in the context of activities of CMS Intergovernmental Task Forces.</p> <p>C2. Collaborate on the revision and update of CITES Resolution Conf. 13.3 on <i>Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)</i> and explore the potential and value of developing a similar Resolution for CMS.</p> <p>C3. Provide comments to the other Secretariat, as requested, on proposals to list species of common concern.</p> <p>C4. Collaborate to implement relevant CITES Decisions on songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes).</p> <p>C5. Cooperate in the development of a list of species included both in CMS Appendix I and CITES Appendices.</p>

D. Implementation and fundraising

Joint activities in this area relate to implementing, coordinating and updating the work programme and matters of mutual interest, such as by exchanging experience and information. The Secretariats will cooperate in seeking opportunities for the development and funding of joint projects of mutual interest, where applicable.

Description of envisaged joint activities
<p><u>Secretariat coordination meetings</u></p> <p>D1. Organize an annual coordination meeting between the two Secretariats, as well as teleconference calls as required, to discuss the implementation of the joint work programme, and for ensuring continued cooperation and organization of joint activities.</p>
<p><u>Exchange information</u></p> <p>D2. Facilitate the exchange of information among the Secretariats, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendars of meetings; • Meeting invitations; • Draft documents that refer to the other Convention in advance of Convention meetings; and • Details of developments regarding the administration of the Conventions;

Description of envisaged joint activities
<p><u>Staffing</u></p> <p>D3. Engage inter-Secretariat staff loans at key moments and when feasible to optimize support to respective Parties and build respective staff skills.</p>
<p><u>Supporting implementation</u></p> <p>D4. When appropriate, jointly explore ways to support the implementation of this Programme of Work by developing proposals and other materials and identifying and approaching donors for relevant project activities.</p> <p>D5. Promote inclusion of activities of this joint work programme in the formulation of elements of advice for funding national priorities in the context of the development of the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the eighth and ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund (GEF-8 and GEF-9).</p>

E. Outreach and capacity building

Joint activities in this area relate for example to: representation of one Secretariat by the other at events of mutual interest to save participation costs; development of common positions of the respective Convention Parties to promote synergy; following up on work undertaken by inter-agency liaison groups; and sharing of information and know-how on capacity-building strategies and tools, including the enhanced interoperability of online resources, for example through the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA).

Description of envisaged joint activities
<p><u>Joint outreach</u></p> <p>E1. Work collaboratively in the organization of outreach opportunities related to joint activities in B above and other events of mutual interest, as appropriate.</p> <p>E2. Promote the dissemination and use of relevant information and CMS and CITES capacity-building tools amongst CITES Authorities and CMS Focal Points.</p>
<p><u>Participation in meetings</u></p> <p>E3. Coordinate attendance, or represent the other Secretariat, at meetings of mutual interest, including those listed below to reduce costs and promote synergies; prepare joint presentations and/or jointly approved statements and press releases; collaborate with the follow-up to such meetings and actions as required; and encourage such groups to support the implementation of CMS and CITES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG); • Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) processes; • Environment Management Group (EMG) and the Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (IMG4); • Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW); and • Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and related consultative fora.
<p><u>Capacity-building</u></p> <p>E4. Identify capacity-building opportunities relating to the implementation of this joint Programme of Work and undertake relevant activities as appropriate.</p>