



## Born Free Foundation Briefing Paper

### Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (COP14), 12-17 February 2024, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

#### **BORN FREE STATEMENT (Agenda Item 10.4)**

Born Free is a UK-based international wildlife protection charity. We promote compassionate conservation to enhance the survival of threatened species in the wild and protect natural habitats, while respecting the needs and safeguarding the welfare of individual animals. As a leading wildlife charity, we oppose the exploitation of wild animals in captivity and campaign to keep them where they belong – in the wild.

We have been attending CMS meetings since 2014, and were proud to become a CMS Partner Organisation in 2018 with the endorsement of the late and greatly missed Bradnee Chambers.

We thank the Government of Uzbekistan for hosting this meeting, the CMS Secretariat for its coordination, and the Parties, CMS bodies and other stakeholders who have worked on and submitted proposals and documents.

We regard CMS as being a vitally important and progressive Convention. In particular we value highly the work of the Convention on a wide range of cross-cutting conservation issues, including habitat connectivity, animal culture and social complexity, wildlife crime and trafficking, the health of migratory species, and the interconnection between biodiversity protection and climate. CMS also plays a vital role in the implementation of globally agreed mechanisms, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Sustainable Development Agenda.

While we support the proposals to list additional species on the Convention's Appendices, we emphasise the value of accompanying listings with Concerted Actions aimed at ensuring the effectiveness of the listings. We also appreciate the documents examining the significance of the risks posed to CMS-listed species by direct use and trade.

We have a challenging agenda ahead of us. That said, the publication of the report on the State of the World's Migratory Species will act as a timely reminder of the vital importance of the work of the Convention, and its significance to wider efforts to halt and reverse the global decline in biodiversity and address the crisis facing the natural world.

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AGENDA ITEM, TITLE & LINK	KEY FEATURES	BORN FREE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
STRATEGIC AND INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS		
<p>14.1 - <a href="#">Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Provides a final progress assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) 2015-2023.</p> <p>Invites COP14 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-take note of the assessment of progress towards the achievement of SPMS, and comment as appropriate;</li> <li>-delete Decisions 13.1 – 13.3.</li> </ul>	<p>Assessing the implementation of any global plan is a complex and difficult process, dependent on varying levels of reporting among the 133 Parties.</p> <p>Born Free welcomes the progress made but remains concerned at the decline in migratory species overall and heartened that CMS listing is associated with a smaller decline or in some cases recovery.</p>
<p>14.2 - <a href="#">New Strategic Plan for Migratory Species</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on progress in implementing CMS COP Decisions 13.4 to 13.5 <i>Options for a Follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023</i>, and the Decision of the 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the CMS Standing Committee, UNEP/CMS/StC53/Outcome 2.</p> <p>Includes a proposed new Resolution and draft Decisions for consideration and adoption.</p>	<p>Born Free supports the 2024-2032 Strategic Plan for Migratory Species and recommends support for the draft resolution and Decisions in Annex 1 and 2.</p>

<p>17 - <a href="#">CMS contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on the contribution of CMS to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).</p> <p>Proposes the adoption of new Decisions and the consolidation of three Resolutions on CMS collaboration with CBD and its processes into a single Resolution.</p>	<p>The GBF and related CBD Decisions include many of the key CMS priorities set out in the Gandhinagar Declaration adopted at CMS COP13 (2020) and will contribute to addressing key conservation needs and threats to migratory species.</p> <p>In the development of the GBF, the most important priority for the conservation needs of migratory species identified by CMS related to the concept of ecological connectivity. The work of CMS is closely aligned to the following GBF goals and targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal A (protect and restore ecosystems, species, genetic diversity)</li> <li>• Target 4 (halt species extinction, protect genetic diversity, and manage human-wildlife conflicts)</li> <li>• Target 5 (ensure sustainable, safe and legal harvesting and trade of wild species)</li> <li>• Target 9 (manage wild species sustainably to benefit people)</li> </ul> <p>While the concept of ecological connectivity is key to the successful achievement of the GBF, other work done by CMS including on animal culture and social complexity is also very relevant to GBF implementation and should be promoted more broadly within the CBD and other relevant policy forums.</p> <p>Born Free urges COP14 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the adoption of the draft consolidated resolution and draft Decisions on CMS engagement in CBD processes including the implementation of the GBF (contained in Annexes 2 and 3 of Doc.17).</li> <li>• Extend the scope of CMS contributions to the GBF and its monitoring framework to include work on animal culture and social complexity.</li> </ul> <p>CMS can also make an important contribution to the development and utilisation of the indicators and monitoring framework for the GBF,</p>
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		<p>particularly through its working relationships with members of the CBD Ad Hoc Technical Working Group on Indicators.</p> <p>Born Free would be interested in joining the CMS Family Working Group on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (formerly known as the Working Group on CMS Family inputs to the post-2020 GBF).</p>
<p>18.2 - <a href="#">Cooperation with IPBES</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on progress on the implementation of Resolution 10.8 (Rev.COP13) and Decisions 13.12 and 13.13 with regard to cooperation with IPBES.</p> <p>Also proposes amendments to Resolution 10.8 (Rev.COP13), the deletion of Decisions 13.11 - 13.13, and the adoption of new Decisions.</p>	<p>Born Free supports CMS contributions to the new IPBES assessment on ecological connectivity, and the second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services.</p> <p>COP14 should adopt the proposed revisions to Resolution 10.8 (Rev. COP13) in Annex 1 of Document 18.2, and the draft Decisions in Annex 2.</p> <p>CMS should promote its work on animal culture and social complexity in the context of its engagement with IPBES.</p>

AGENDA ITEM, TITLE & LINK	KEY FEATURES	BORN FREE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS		
<p>21 Rev 1 – <a href="#">Conservation status of migratory species</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Provides a summary of progress in implementing Decisions 13.17–13.18 <i>Application of Article III of the Convention Regarding International Trade in Appendix I-listed Species</i>, and Decisions 13.24 and 13.26 b) <i>Conservation Status of Migratory Species</i></p> <p>Proposes next steps in a draft Resolution and draft Decisions.</p> <p>Rev.1 adds in paragraph 20 of the document the deletion of relevant COP13 Decisions as a recommended action.</p>	<p>Born Free encourages COP14 to adopt the draft Resolution in Annex 1 of the document with the following change: While we agree with the proposal to update the conservation status of migratory species report on a regular basis as new information comes to light, but we consider the proposal in the draft Resolution in Annex 1 of the document that updates be made at every other CoP to be inadequate - the speed of change and rate of decline of some species necessitates a more frequent updating mechanism.</p> <p>The draft Decisions in Annex 2 should be adopted.</p>
<p>21.1 - <a href="#">State of the World's Migratory Species</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>The report State of the World's Migratory Species will be launched at CMS COP14 on Monday, 12 February 2024.</p>	<p>Born Free looks forward to the launch of this landmark report.</p>

<p>21.2 - <a href="#">Assessment of the risk posed to CMS Appendix I-listed species by direct use and trade</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Accompanies Doc.21 (Conservation Status of Migratory Species), following consideration by the Scientific Council.</p>	<p>Born Free welcomes the Assessment, and is deeply concerned with the findings that 88% of the 180 taxa on CMS Appendix I are in direct use and trade at domestic and/or international levels, with 30% of these considered to be at higher risk of over-harvesting for direct use/trade.</p> <p>Born Free supports the suggestions that in order to address this threat, Party Range States should ensure that the taking of these taxa is prohibited by national/territorial legislation, and that further in depth review - through for example case studies - of these taxa be carried out in order to better understand the level of threat posed to them.</p> <p>To this, Born Free would add a recommendation to improve enforcement measures domestically and to engage more effectively with enforcement agencies of both Parties and non-Parties along the entire trade chain.</p> <p>Since the vast majority of CMS Parties are also Party to CITES, we strongly urge them to note the findings and conclusions of this Assessment, and to ensure they are meeting their obligations under both Conventions in relation to CMS Appendix I-listed species.</p> <p>CMS should refrain from language referring to the promotion of sustainable use, and instead focus on <b><i>ensuring use is sustainable</i></b>.</p>
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AGENDA ITEM, TITLE & LINK	KEY FEATURES	BORN FREE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
INTERPRETATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION		
<p>26 - <a href="#">Definition of the terms 'Range State' and 'Vagrant'</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Scientific Council.</p>	<p>Reports on the results of discussions to implement Decision 13.140 addressed to the Scientific Council.</p>	<p>While defining these terms is useful, the key word in this document is 'dynamic'. Given the changes in rainfall patterns and extreme weather events, species distribution are likely to change and adapt to changing conditions.</p> <p>Therefore, today's vagrant may become tomorrow's migratory species seeking new habitat on a seasonal or predictable basis.</p> <p>Born Free appreciates the work in seeking to define these terms but considers that imposing random numerical values to determine exact definitions on a sliding scale is premature. Monitoring and reporting over the coming years will likely provide clarity to the situation on a species by species basis.</p>
<p>27.3.1 - <a href="#">Recreational in-water interactions</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on implementation of Decisions 13.66-13.68 on Marine Wildlife Watching.</p> <p>Proposes amendments to Resolution 12.16 on Recreational In-water Interaction with Aquatic Mammals.</p> <p>Presents Guidelines for Recreational In-Water Interactions, and proposes draft Decisions for adoption.</p>	<p>Born Free welcomes the document. We participated in the webinar in February 2023 on the draft Guidelines for Recreational In-Water Interactions with Marine Wildlife and we are pleased to see that many of our recommendations have been incorporated. However, we remain concerned that references to generic minimum interaction distances such as "body length of the animal or 3 metres" may lead to inappropriate close-range interactions with many species, and that there should be a clear emphasis on the need to adopt a highly precautionary approach when considering what might constitute 'safe distances' that take full account of species-specific behaviours and local habitats and circumstances.</p> <p>Born Free urges COP14 to adopt the draft recommendations to Resolution 12.16 contained in Annex 1 with the following suggested addition to Paragraph 2:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Urges Parties, in whose areas of jurisdiction recreational in-water interactions with aquatic <u>wildlife mammals</u> take place, to adopt appropriate <b>and precautionary</b> measures, such as national guidelines, codes of conduct, and if necessary, national legislation, binding regulations or other regulatory tools, to address the consequences of, and carefully regulate, all such activities;</i></li> </ul> <p>Born Free also urges COP14 to endorse the Guidelines for Recreational In-Water Interactions with Marine Wildlife contained in Annex 2 with the incorporation of a more precautionary approach to generic minimum interaction distances, and to adopt the draft Decisions contained in Annex 3.</p> <p>Decisions 13.66-13.68 should be deleted.</p>
<p>29.1 - <a href="#">Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat and the Scientific Council.</p>	<p>Reports on progress to implement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decisions 13.86 – 13.87 <i>Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivores Initiative;</i></li> <li>• Decisions 13.88 – 13.91 <i>Conservation and Management of the African Lion (Panthera leo);</i></li> <li>• Decisions 13.92 – 13.95 <i>Conservation and Management of Cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus) and African Wild Dog (Lycaon pictus);</i> and</li> </ul>	<p>Born Free welcomes this document.</p> <p>With regard to Paragraph 23, it is also important to recognise that NGOs themselves often provide financial resources for carnivore conservation, and that cooperation should be strengthened between Range State governments, donor agencies, <b>and NGOs.</b></p> <p>Born Free urges CMS Parties to respect Article III Paragraph 5 of the Convention, which requires that <i>Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall prohibit the taking of animals belonging to such species.</i></p> <p>Born Free also urges Parties to incorporate consideration of Culture and Social Complexity among ACI species, particularly lions and wild dogs, and the impacts of threats to the social stability of these species, into regional and national conservation action plans.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decisions 13.96 – 13.97 <i>Conservation and Management of the Leopard (Panthera pardus) in Africa</i>.</li> </ul> <p>Proposes new Decisions for adoption, and the deletion of the Decisions listed above.</p>	<p>Born Free recommends that COP14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adopts the draft Decisions in the Annex to document 29.1;</li> <li>supports the need for a further meeting of the Range States of the ACI in 2025; and</li> <li>considers the need to extend the ACI POW beyond 2025 and at least until COP15, with appropriate periodic consideration of its implementation by the CMS Secretariat and Standing Committee in collaboration with appropriate CITES bodies.</li> </ul> <p>Parties should consider whether Decision 13.88(d), which calls on the CMS Secretariat jointly with CITES to undertake a comparative study on African Lion population trends and conservation and management practices, such as Lion hunting, within and between countries, including the role, if any, of international trade, should be retained. Given the particular threats to and conservation requirements of cheetahs and African wild dogs, Parties should also consider whether elements of Decisions 13.92 and 13.93 are sufficiently incorporated in the POW of the ACI, and whether they should be retained, particularly Decision 13.92 paragraphs (a)(iv) and (b), and Decision 13.93 paragraph (b) (c) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) and (k).</p>
<p>29.4.1 - <a href="#">African Elephant Action Plan</a></p> <p>Prepared by Cameroon and Zimbabwe.</p>	<p>Proposes amendments to Resolution 12.19 for the endorsement of the revised and updated African Elephant Action Plan (2023), recognising the role of the CMS Secretariat as an <i>ex officio</i> member of the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund.</p>	<p>Born Free recommends that COP14 adopts the proposed amendments to Resolution 12.19 contained within Document 29.4.1.</p>
<p>29.4.2 - <a href="#">West African Elephant</a></p>	<p>Reports on the implementation</p>	<p>Born Free supports the decision of West African Range States to</p>

<p><a href="#">MOU</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>of Decisions 13.99 -13.100 and recommends their deletion.</p>	<p>adopt the African Elephant Action Plan as the core strategy for African Elephant conservation under the MOU, replacing the Medium-Term International Work Programme concerning Conservation Measures for the West African Populations of both species of the African Elephant (<i>Loxodonta africana</i> and <i>L. cyclotis</i>) 2012-2014, and implementing the AEAP and the African Elephant Fund structure.</p> <p>Born Free will continue to support elephant conservation in this region and work with Rebalance Earth to develop innovative finance models based on payment for ecosystem services attributable to forest elephants.</p>
<p>29.6.1 - <a href="#">Jaguar Conservation Measures</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on activities carried out by the Secretariat in response to a request by the Government of Costa Rica on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay to support their implementation of CMS obligations.</p>	<p>Born Free supports adoption of the draft Decisions, which support the adoption of conservation measures relating to the Appendix II listing of jaguar at COP13, and which have also been supported by the Scientific Council.</p>
<p>29.6.2 - <a href="#">Initiative for the Jaguar</a></p> <p>Prepared by Costa Rica, Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Paraguay</p>	<p>Presents a draft Resolution and draft Decisions in respect of establishing a CMS Jaguar Initiative and a Joint CITES-CMS Jaguar Initiative with its Programme of Work.</p>	<p>Born Free supports the adoption of the draft Resolution and Decisions.</p>

AGENDA ITEM, TITLE & LINK	KEY FEATURES	BORN FREE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
CROSSCUTTING CONSERVATION ISSUES		
<p>30.1.1 - <a href="#">Priorities for addressing illegal and unsustainable intentional take</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Examines growing trends in illegal and unsustainable take of migratory species. Proposes an amendment to Resolution 11.31 and Decisions to address these issues.</p>	<p>Born Free agrees that the alarming levels of illegal or unsustainable taking of migratory species requires the issue to be addressed through the mechanisms identified in paragraph 40 of the document.</p> <p>We strongly recommend that CMS Parties respect Article III Paragraph 5 of the Convention, which requires that <i>Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall prohibit the taking of animals belonging to such species</i>, and ensure measures to do so are reflected in national legislation and policy through their enforcement and implementation.</p> <p>Born Free encourages CMS Parties to actively support efforts to develop regional and international binding agreements to tackle wildlife trafficking, including the Council of Europe’s draft Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law, and proposals to develop a global agreement on tackling wildlife trafficking under the auspices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, with a preference for the development of a protocol on wildlife trafficking under the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime.</p> <p>Born Free also encourages CMS Parties and non-Parties to implement the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions relating to wildlife trafficking, including by making wildlife trafficking a serious and predicate crime.</p> <p>CMS COP14 should adopt the proposed changes to Resolution 11.31 in Annex 1 of Document 30.1.1, with the following additions:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggested additional preambular paragraph: <b><u>Noting that the UN General Assembly has adopted six Resolutions on wildlife trafficking, most recently Resolution 77/325 Adopted on 25 August 2023 on Tackling Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife which, <i>inter alia</i>, calls upon Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora a serious crime, and to review and amend national legislation, as necessary and appropriate, so that offences connected to the illegal trade in wildlife are treated as predicate offences;</u></b></li> <li>• Suggested additional preambular paragraph: <b><u>Welcoming the discussions taking place under the auspices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on Strengthening the international legal framework for international cooperation to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife;</u></b></li> <li>• Suggested edit to operative paragraph 8: Encourages Parties, where relevant and appropriate, to enhance cooperation for the repatriation of live, illegally-traded wildlife, <b><u>with due consideration for the welfare of live wild animals</u></b>, and promote the establishment of legal frameworks in recipient countries that ensure a timely and cost-efficient repatriation of live animals and eggs, ensuring that any such framework is consistent with Parties' obligations under CITES and subject to relevant biosecurity and environmental concerns and policies, <b><u>including relevant IUCN Guidelines for the management of confiscated, live organisms;</u></b></li> <li>• Suggested edit to operative paragraph 12: Suggests the enacting of national laws that prohibit the possession and sale of illegally obtained wildlife specimens and products, <b><u>including those obtained in contravention of legislation in their country of origin,</u></b> other than those that have been confiscated;</li> </ul>
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		<p>Note that Paragraph 14 and 19 of the revised Resolution are identical.</p> <p>COP14 should adopt the draft Decisions contained in Annex 2 of Document 30.1.1 with the following suggested changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggested amendment to Paragraph 14.AA(d): Increase monitoring and enforcement of legislation, regulations and other measures related to taking of migratory species, and strengthen the capacity and training of enforcement, <b>prosecutorial</b>, judiciary and conservation management personnel;</li> <li>• Suggested amendment to Paragraph 14.AA(h): Collaborate with other Parties and stakeholders to develop <b>international and</b> regional action approaches and plans for addressing illegal and unsustainable taking of migratory species;</li> </ul>
<p>30.1.3 - <a href="#">Terrestrial and avian wild meat</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on the implementation of Decisions 13.109-13.112 <i>Addressing Unsustainable Use of Terrestrial and Avian Wild Meat of Migratory Species of Wild Animals</i>.</p> <p>Proposes the adoption of new Decisions.</p>	<p>Born Free agrees that the taking of terrestrial species for wild meat is an increasing and hitherto under-reported threat for many CMS-listed species. Much of the focus on wild meat has been on international trade in CITES-listed species but domestic consumption of seasonally abundant migratory species is common in many parts of the world.</p> <p>CMS is well placed to help Parties find solutions to this unsustainable and often illegal offtake.</p> <p>Born Free supports the recommendations in the Document, noting our comments on Document 30.1.1.</p>

<p>30.2.1.1 - <a href="#">Ecological connectivity</a> – policy aspects.</p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on progress on the implementation of Decision 13.115 and on policy-related provisions of Resolution 12.26 (Rev.COP13) <i>Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species</i>, and of Resolution 12.07 (Rev.COP13) <i>The Role of Ecological Networks in the Conservation of Migratory Species</i>.</p> <p>Proposes the consolidation of Resolution 12.26 (Rev.COP13), Resolution 12.7 (Rev.COP13), and the adoption of new Decisions.</p>	<p>Born Free appreciates the vital work of CMS as the primary specialized intergovernmental framework for cooperative efforts on the issue of ecological connectivity in relation to the conservation needs of migratory species, and in particular the efforts of CMS to ensure the incorporation of ecological connectivity in key elements of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework under the auspices of the Convention on Biological Diversity.</p> <p>Born Free urges COP14 to adopt the draft consolidated Resolution and draft Decisions in Annex 2 and 3 respectively, noting that in the face of climate change and other threats, the migratory routes of some migratory species may change over time, and that any such changes must be taken into account when considering ecological network management and connectivity. In this respect, we urge Parties to consider Born Free’s comments on Document 26 <i>Definition of the terms ‘Range State’ and ‘Vagrant’</i>.</p>
<p>30.2.2 - <a href="#">Transfrontier conservation areas</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on the implementation of Decisions 13.116 and 13.117 <i>Transfrontier Conservation Areas</i>.</p> <p>Proposes the deletion of these Decisions and the adoption of a new set of Decisions.</p>	<p>Trans-frontier conservation areas are at the heart of effective conservation of species that migrate across borders in contiguous habitat shared by neighbouring countries.</p> <p>Born Free urges COP14 to adopt the draft Decisions in Doc.30.2.2/Rev.2/Annex and stands ready to assist in assessment of the UNEP-WCMC pilot Transboundary tool in those East and Southern African countries in which we have projects.</p>

<p>30.2.3 - <a href="#">Community participation and livelihoods</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on progress to implement Decisions 13.119 – 13.121 <i>Community participation and livelihoods</i>.</p> <p>Proposes the adoption of a new Resolution and Decision.</p>	<p>Born Free is supportive of efforts to fully involve local communities in the conservation and management of migratory species, and the mitigation of human-wildlife conflict.</p> <p>It is vital to take into account the potential impacts on migratory species of their utilisation at specific points along their migration routes, and ensure that management practices aimed at benefiting local communities through the utilisation of migratory species do not result in detrimental impacts which could adversely affect their conservation status, and by extension their habitats, the wider ecosystems of which they are a part, and other local communities, at different stages along those routes.</p> <p>CMS provides the logical platform through which to foster collaboration between all stakeholders along the migration routes of listed species, to ensure that management practices at one point in the migration route do not adversely impact conservation measures at another.</p> <p>Born Free recommends that COP14 adopts the draft Resolution in Annex 1 of Document 30.2.3, with the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional text for operative Paragraph 3: Requests Parties and other stakeholders to make information available to communities about migratory species to emphasize how individuals of a species may have shared value across a migration route, <b>and to foster collaboration between communities along migration routes and other stakeholders to secure the conservation of migratory species, the connectivity of their migration routes, and the long-term sustainability of their shared value among all relevant communities;</b></li> <li>• Amendment to Paragraph 5 of the Annex to the Resolution: Replacing:</li> </ul>
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		<p>“Achieving sustainable use of migratory species is challenging, requiring range-wide information on species population status.” With <b>“Ensuring that any use of migratory species is sustainable</b> is challenging, requiring range-wide information on species population status.”</p> <p>COP14 should adopt the draft Decisions in Annex 2.</p>
<p>30.4.1 - <a href="#">Climate Change and Migratory Species</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Scientific Council.</p>	<p>Reports on implementation of Resolution 12.21 and Decision 13.128.</p> <p>Proposes a revision of Resolution 12.21 to update it, and new Decisions for the triennium following COP14.</p>	<p>Climate change, exacerbated by biodiversity loss and pollution, leading to ecosystem collapse, poses an existential threat to humans and many other species, including those that migrate. However, these species are not just victims of climate change, they are also part of the solution.</p> <p>Born Free supports the revisions to Resolution 12.21 and the recommendations made by the Scientific Council.</p> <p>In particular, Born Free welcomes the emphasis on the valuable role played by migratory species in helping to mitigate dangerous climate change where their populations are allowed to recover, optimising the ecosystem services of their habitat through processes such as carbon sequestration and storage.</p> <p>Payment for these services holds the promise of bridging the ‘biodiversity funding gap’.</p>



<p>30.4.3 - <a href="#">Wildlife disease</a></p> <p>Prepared by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Summarises CMS work on wildlife diseases since COP13.</p> <p>Proposes changes to Resolution 12.6, a new Resolution on HPAI, and draft Decisions for consideration and adoption.</p>	<p>Born Free fully supports the CMS approach to wildlife diseases. In particular, we welcome the recognition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the synergies between the drivers of species population decline and disease emergence;</li> <li>• the role of climate change and human activities in increasing the risk of disease emergence;</li> <li>• the impacts of a range of diseases (both infectious and non-infectious) on migratory species;</li> <li>• the need for a strong emphasis on preventing pathogen spillover at source through a focus on maintaining intact and well-managed ecosystems, the identification and mitigation of high-risk activities such as wildlife trade, intensive livestock production, and the associated human-wildlife-domestic animal interfaces; and</li> <li>• the need to develop and adopt preventative One Health approaches.</li> </ul> <p>The complexity of disease dynamics and associated costs for migratory species and the ecological roles they play, alongside the profound impacts of human activities on migratory species, make the focus on the health of migratory species particularly important. The recognition of the current gaps in knowledge, and in prevention, preparedness and response strategies, is important, and reflects the need for increased investment in wildlife disease surveillance and research, and for the adoption of a precautionary approach, moving away from the current anthropocentric approach to One Health.</p> <p>CMS should do all it can to promote the incorporation of a holistic and inclusive cross-departmental and cross-sectoral One Health approach, a strong focus on preventing pathogen spillover at source, and the need to avoid inappropriate responses to disease emergence, in the Pandemic Instrument being negotiated under the auspices of the WHO.</p>
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		<p>Born Free supports the proposed amendments to Resolution 12.6 in Annex 2 of the document with the following suggested changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Edit to suggested new preambular paragraph 12: <i>Further noting</i> that transmission of disease from wildlife is often related to changes in human activities and, while <b>the majority of emerging infectious diseases are believed to originate in wildlife, transmission to people often occurs via novel or unusual zoonotic pathogens of wildlife pose a pandemic or other risks to people, the source of the majority of zoonotic infections is from livestock and/or companion animals,</b></li> <li>• Suggested additional preambular paragraph: <b><i>Cognisant that crowding, stress and injury among wild animals in trade provide the perfect environment for pathogens to spread and mutate, and their close proximity to people during capture, farming, transportation, butchering and trade creates many opportunities for transmission between animals and potentially to people.</i></b></li> <li>• Suggested additional preambular paragraph: <b><i>Further acknowledging the importance of the work on animal culture and social complexity being conducted by CMS, and the relevance of this work to the health and well-being of migratory species;</i></b></li> <li>• Suggested edit to proposed operative paragraph 1. <i>Urges Parties</i> to recognize the links between the drivers of population decline and disease emergence and urgently enhance actions to address the drivers of migratory species population decline by, inter alia, reducing habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation; addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation; <b><i>identifying and mitigating the risk of pathogen emergence and spillover resulting from wild animal exploitation for trade and other purposes, and adopting a highly precautionary approach to such risks;</i></b> preventing</li> </ul>
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		<p>pollution; preventing the spread of invasive non-native species; and addressing high-risk agricultural and aquacultural practices;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suggested edit to proposed operative paragraph 12: <i>Urges</i> the Secretariat and Parties to engage with the WHO intergovernmental negotiating body to ensure that <b>mechanisms to prevent pathogen emergence at source and One Health</b> approaches are reflected in the WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response under negotiation;</li></ul> <p>Born Free also supports the adoption of the proposed new Resolution on Avian Influenza contained in Annex 3.</p> <p>Born Free urges Parties to adopt the Decisions contained in Annex 4, with the following suggested amendment to Decision 14:AA(b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• engage with WHO in developing a new instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, <b>and promote the incorporation of the key elements of operative paragraph 12 and other key elements of the operative section of Resolution 12.6 into the instrument.</b></li></ul>
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<p>30.5 - <a href="#">Conservation implications of animal culture and social complexity</a></p> <p>Prepared by Scientific Council and its Expert Working Group on Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity and the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Reports on progress to implement Decisions 13.102-105.</p> <p>Contains proposals for the adoption of new Decisions directed to Parties, the Scientific Council, the Expert Working Group on Animal Culture and Social Complexity, and the Secretariat.</p>	<p>Born Free welcomes this report on this unique and vitally important CMS workstream. Parties and other stakeholders should note the reports referenced in the document and the recommendations that emerged from the workshops of the Expert Working Group on Animal Culture and Social Complexity contained in Annex 1, and should consult with the Expert Working Group on an ongoing basis when developing and implementing Concerted Actions and other conservation interventions for socially complex CMS-listed migratory species (adopting a precautionary approach by considering cultural processes as relevant for the conservation of all species for which there is evidence of social learning), to ensure the integration of appropriate measures into related conservation and management activities that account for the cultural and social needs of the species involved.</p> <p>Parties should also consider animal culture and social learning when designing measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict involving CMS-listed migratory species, as well as following the <a href="#">International consensus principles for ethical wildlife control</a>.</p> <p>The Expert Group should consider developing a Motion for submission to the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress, promoting recognition of the importance of considering animal culture and social complexity in the design and implementation of conservation activities involving socially complex species, and seek support from IUCN member organisations.</p> <p>We recommend that COP14 adopts the draft Decisions contained in Annex 2 and deletes Decisions 13.102-13.105.</p>
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<p>30.6 – <a href="#">Ecotourism and migratory species</a></p> <p>Prepared by the United Kingdom.</p>	<p>Reports on implementation of Decision 13.136 <i>Sustainable Tourism and Migratory Species</i>. Summarises a review of definitions and impacts of ecotourism, and includes an overview of selected case studies, which highlight both risks and good practice. Summarizes the review in UNEP/CMS/COP14/Inf.30.6, proposes updates to preambular paragraphs and the addition of a new operative paragraph to Resolution 12.23, and the addition of an Annex to provide guidance to Parties and other stakeholders.</p>	<p>Born Free recommends that Parties take note of the document. The draft amendments to Resolution 12.23 contained in Annex 1 should be adopted with the following correction:</p> <p>The 14<sup>th</sup> preambular paragraph should be corrected to read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming Resolution 11.29 (Rev.COP12) on Sustainable Boat-based Marine Wildlife Watching, <del>and Resolution 11.23 on Conservation Implications of <b>Getacean Culture Animal Culture and Social Complexity</b>, adopted by CMS Parties at the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the CMS in Quito, November 2014</del> and <u>Resolution 12.16 on Recreational In-water Interaction with Aquatic Mammals</u>,</li> </ul> <p>Parties should endorse the Guidelines contained in Annex 2.</p> <p>Decisions 13.135-13.136 should be deleted.</p>
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AGENDA ITEM, TITLE & LINK	BORN FREE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
LISTING PROPOSALS	
<p>31.4.1 - <a href="#">Proposal for the inclusion of the Eurasian Lynx (<i>Lynx lynx</i>) in Appendix II and Balkan Lynx (<i>Lynx lynx balcanicus</i>) in Appendix I of the Convention</a></p> <p>Proposed by North Macedonia, Uzbekistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania.</p>	<p>Born Free considers that the proponents have made a strong case for the listing of the Eurasian and Balkan lynx, including evidence that the species meets the interpretation of ‘migratory’ in Resolution 13.7 (via sub-adult dispersal and through often cyclical/seasonal movements through their large home ranges), and that the species would benefit from international cooperation, particularly given that viable population of lynx almost always extend across international boundaries, the lack of robust information on the status of the species across its Asian range, and the separation of the species into six distinct subspecies some of which are threatened with extinction. As the proposal notes, connectivity across international borders is very important to maintain the viability and genetic integrity of lynx populations.</p> <p>COP14 is therefore urged to adopt this proposal.</p>
<p>31.4.2 - <a href="#">Proposal for the inclusion of the Pallas’s Cat (<i>Felis manul</i>) in Appendix II of the Convention</a></p> <p>Proposed by Kazakhstan, and supported by Uzbekistan.</p>	<p>Born Free considers that the proponents have made a strong case for the listing of Pallas’s cat in Appendix II and have adequately addressed the comments of the Scientific Council in their revised proposal. The species meets the interpretation of ‘migratory’ in Resolution 13.7 by virtue of the transboundary nature of many of the populations, and the common movements of individuals across large distances in pursuit of prey populations or in response to habitat disturbance. The species would clearly benefit from increased international cooperation. Given that most of its range lies within the region covered by the CMS Central Asian Mammals Initiative, CMS is in a strong position to coordinate mechanisms to foster that collaboration through the initiative.</p> <p>COP14 is therefore urged to adopt this proposal.</p>
<p>31.4.3 - <a href="#">Proposal for the inclusion of the Guanaco (<i>Lama guanicoe</i>) in Appendix II of the Convention</a></p> <p>Proposed by Bolivia, Chile,</p>	<p>Born Free considers that the proponents have made a compelling case for the listing of the guanaco in Appendix II. The species clearly meets the interpretation of ‘migratory’ in Resolution 13.7, and traditionally migrates in response to seasonal, spatial and climatic variations and the availability of resources. Moreover, as the proponents emphasise, animal migrations, and in particular those of guanacos, are among the most threatened biological processes, and are at significant risk of being lost.</p>

Paraguay and Peru.	<p>The species would also benefit from increased international cooperation. It suffers a wide albeit fragmented distribution, with some isolated populations of low population size. It plays a vital ecological role and is of highly significant cultural and economic value to local communities. The inclusion of the species in Appendix II has the potential to benefit the global conservation of the guanaco, by maintaining the integrity of populations throughout their distribution, and ensuring connectivity between cross border populations for their conservation and revival.</p> <p>COP14 is therefore urged to adopt this proposal. Born Free also encourages the proponents to work with range states and wider stakeholders to develop a comprehensive Concerted Action for the species, in accordance with Resolution 12.28 (Rev.COP13) and its associated guidelines.</p>
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AGENDA ITEM, TITLE & LINK	KEY FEATURES	BORN FREE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<b>CONCERTED ACTIONS</b>		
<p>32.2.1 - <a href="#">Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Nut-Cracking populations of the Chimpanzees (<i>Pan troglodytes verus</i>) of West Africa</a></p> <p>Submitted by the IUCN SSC PSG SGA Working Group on Chimpanzee Cultures (WGCC).</p>	<p>Reports on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Nut-Cracking Populations of the Chimpanzees (<i>Pan troglodytes verus</i>) of West Africa, UNEP/CMS/Concerted Action 13.1.</p>	<p>Whilst hampered by Covid restrictions, this Concerted Action led to the involvement of the IUCN SSC PSG SGA Working Group on Chimpanzee Cultures, which represents an engagement with more than 50 wild chimpanzee populations and local stakeholders across ten Range States. This CA was limited to just four range states, three of them CMS Parties, but following a workshop, outreach activities, research and extensive discussions, Born Free agrees that one of the most important outcomes of this CA is the proposal for a new CA on cultural diversity across all 21 chimpanzee range states.</p>
<p>32.2.2 - <a href="#">Report on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Giraffe (<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>)</a></p> <p>Prepared by Niger.</p>	<p>Reports on the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Giraffe (<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>).</p>	<p>Born Free is disappointed that the activities planned under the Concerted Action were not implemented due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and a lack of funding.</p> <p>COP14 should endorse the adjusted timelines in the Concerted Action implementation table provided in Paragraph 5, and encourage funders to provide the necessary funding to enable the identified activities to progress as per the proposed implementation timetable, with an emphasis on implementing key elements of Target 4 (<i>Implement current/existing national strategies in consultation with Range States</i>) and Target 9 (<i>Increase profile and awareness of giraffe conservation across different levels of management and within the public sphere</i>) and sharing results and challenges across all Range States as a priority.</p>



<p>32.3.1 - <a href="#">Proposal for a Concerted Action for Chimpanzee (<i>Pan troglodytes</i>) Behavioural Diversity and Cultures already listed on Appendix I and II of the Convention</a></p> <p>Prepared by the CMS Expert Working Group on Animal Culture and Social Complexity and the IUCN SSC PSG SGA Working Group on Chimpanzee Cultures.</p>	<p>Proposes a Concerted Action for Chimpanzee (<i>Pan troglodytes</i>) Behavioral Diversity and Cultures in accordance with the process elaborated in Resolution 12.28 (Rev.COP13).</p>	<p>Born Free strongly supports the proposed Concerted Action for Chimpanzee Behavioural Diversity and Cultures, recognising the importance of cultural learning in chimpanzee society and its likely role in helping this keystone species adapt to changes in its habitat owing to climate change.</p> <p>Born Free also welcomes the active participation of primatologists and members of the IUCN SSC PSG SGA Working Group on Chimpanzee Cultures.</p>
<p>32.3.3 – <a href="#">Proposal for a concerted action for the Pallas’s cat (<i>Felis manul</i>)</a></p> <p>Prepared by the IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group, the Manul Working Group, and the Pallas’s Cat International Conservation Alliance.</p>	<p>Proposes a Concerted Action for the Pallas’s Cat <i>Felis (Otocolobus) manul</i> in accordance with the process elaborated in Resolution 12.28 (Rev.COP13).</p>	<p>Born Free urges COP14 to adopt the proposed Concerted Action, which covers the addition of the Pallas’s Cat to the Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI), the development of an associated Programme of Work aligned with the Pallas’s Cat Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2028, and effective implementation of the Concerted Action and Programme of Work to enhance the conservation status of the species.</p>
<p>32.3.4 - <a href="#">Proposal for a concerted action for the Eurasian lynx (<i>Lynx lynx</i>) proposed for listing on Appendix II (and I for <i>L. l. balcanicus</i>) of the Convention</a></p> <p>Prepared by the IUCN SSC (Cat Specialist Group) and Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention.</p>	<p>Proposes to develop, in cooperation with the Range States, explicit conservation plans for the European subspecies <i>L. l. balcanicus</i> and <i>L. l. carpathicus</i>.</p> <p>For the Asian subspecies <i>L. l. isabellinus</i> and <i>L. l. dinniki</i>, robust baseline surveys are foreseen, combined with</p>	<p>Born Free urges COP14 to adopt the proposed Concerted Action, which focusses on actions aimed at improving the conservation status of the four subspecies that are considered conservation dependent and in need of transboundary cooperation for their long-term conservation, and improving information on the conservation status of those subspecies for which information is currently lacking.</p>

	<p>building range-wide conservation cooperation and training of local experts to advance future conservation activities.</p> <p><i>L. l. isabellinus</i> is suggested to be included in CMS CAMI.</p>	
<p>Concerted action for Asian elephants</p>	<p>In February 2020, the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to CMS adopted a <a href="#">Concerted Action for the Asian Elephant (<i>Elephas maximus indicus</i>)</a>, to complement the listing of Asian elephants on Appendix I of the Convention adopted at the same meeting. Unfortunately no associated report has been submitted for consideration at COP14. Born Free considers Concerted Actions to be vital tools in the implementation of CMS Appendix I listings and urges COP14 to support the maintenance of the Concerted Action for the Asian Elephant, and to encourage Range State Parties to report on its implementation at upcoming meetings of the CMS Standing Committee and at COP15, seeking assistance from the Scientific Council and other stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	