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COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION AND OUTREACH PLAN

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 12th Meeting (Manila, October 2017)

Aware of the importance of communication as a central and cross-cutting element for implementing the Convention and its Agreements,

Underlining the urgent need to raise greater public awareness of migratory species, the multiple threats they face, the obstacles to their migration and the important role communication can play in encouraging actions to mitigate these threats both nationally and internationally,

Recalling Article IX, paragraph (j) of the Convention which states that it is a function of the Secretariat "to provide the general public with information concerning this Convention and its objectives",

Considering the important contribution that the Convention and its Agreements will make towards achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted by the Tenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular with regards to Target 1 on making people aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably,

Recognizing the essential role communication will play in implementing the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 adopted at the 11th Meeting of the CMS Conference of the Parties, in particular with regard to Target 1 of the updated Plan, which calls for actions that will make people aware of the multiple values of migratory species and their habitats and migration systems, and the steps that can be taken to conserve them and ensure the sustainability of any use,

Acknowledging the importance of the Future Shape Process initiated through CMS Resolution 10.9, aiming to increase efficiency and enhance synergies in the whole CMS Family within the wider context of international environmental governance arising from Rio+20 and other processes stressing the need to develop further synergies among MEAs,

Recalling the decision of the 9th Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee that requests the interim Executive Officer of AEWA and the Executive Secretary of CMS to develop further synergies between AEWA and CMS and take actions to merge common services and common areas, and

Further recalling that the 41st Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee supported the AEWA Standing Committee's request that a pilot phase be conducted on common services between the Secretariats.

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

- Urges Parties, CMS Family Instruments, UNEP and all partners and stakeholders working
 for the conservation of migratory species, actively to assist in the implementation of the
 Communication, Information and Outreach section of the Programme of Work for 20182020 and to provide both voluntary contributions and in-kind support, particularly for the
 priority activities identified in the Plan;
- 2. Welcomes the initiative of the CMS Executive Secretary and the Executive Secretary of AEWA to establish a joint Communication, Information Management and Awareness-raising Unit serving the CMS and AEWA Secretariats as a pilot demonstrating enhanced synergies within the CMS Family through joint services in the area of communications;
- 3. Recognizes the need to provide adequate resources in the CMS Budget to support the implementation of activities described in the Communication, Information and Outreach section of the Programme of Work for 2018-2020 and the effective operation of the Joint Communication, Information Management and Awareness-raising Unit;
- 4. Requests the CMS Executive Secretary to continue to work closely with the AEWA Executive Secretary to guide the work of the joint CMS and AEWA Communication, Information Management and Awareness-raising Unit;
- 5. Requests Parties to provide voluntary contributions towards the implementation of ongoing communication activities being carried out by the Secretariat, giving priority to the activities proposed in the CMS Programme of Work for 2018-2020; and
- 6. Repeals Resolution 8.8 and Resolution 10.7.