

on the move to
2010

MEMORANDUM OF CO-OPERATION

between

**the Secretariat of the Convention
on the Conservation of Migratory Species
of Wild Animals (CMS Secretariat)**

and

**the Secretariat of the
Pacific Regional Environment Programme
(SPREP)**

SPREP and the CMS Secretariat,

Recognizing that wild fauna are important components of biological diversity that fulfil a variety of human and ecological needs, and that these valuable biological resources are increasingly threatened by human activities such as habitat destruction, unsustainable harvesting, trade and other threats;

Acknowledging that species of wild animals migrating across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries are particularly vulnerable to conflicting conservation and use objectives for the same population, and that they require concerted and coordinated actions by all States across their migratory range in order to maintain or restore a favourable conservation status as a prerequisite to shared sustainable use;

Noting that the Preamble of the Agreement Establishing SPREP, 1993, highlights the role of the SPREP constituents as custodians of natural resources of global importance and stresses the need for co-operation with competent international organizations to ensure co-ordination and co-operation in efforts to protect the environment and use the natural resources of the region on a sustainable basis;

Recalling that Article IX of CMS requires the CMS Secretariat to maintain liaison with, *inter alia*, international organizations concerned with migratory species, that Resolution 7.9 had emphasized "the need for CMS to strengthen orderly institutional linkages with partner organizations, and to define the scope of their responsibility and the ways to improve, in the most efficient way, their tasks and to enhance their synergetic effect" and that operational principle 2 of the CMS Strategic Plan (2006-2011) calls for close cooperation with relevant MEAs and key partners and capturing of synergies in pursuit of shared targets;

Acknowledging that CMS and SPREP pursue common goals in the conservation of ecosystems and the protection of migrating species, which can only be successfully met by enhanced and concerted actions on different levels and between all sectors;

Aware that of the SPREP member countries, only 3 are to date Parties to CMS, and that therefore there is a need to raise awareness of conservation needs of migratory species in the Pacific Region through enhanced collaboration between the organisations;

Taking into account the high importance of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in migratory species conservation and the significant part the migrating animals play in local cultures and livelihoods; and

Realizing that activities under SPREP concern migratory species and issues that also are covered by CMS or Agreements concluded under its auspices,

AGREE as follows:

Article 1 Policy Compatibility

1. The Secretariats will cooperate to the extent practicable in the preparation of mutually relevant documents for each others' major meetings, such as the CMS Conference of the Parties or the SPREP Meeting and their subsidiary bodies.
2. The Secretariats will liaise on key issues to promote the compatibility of their respective policy decisions, particularly in relation to other MEAs, IGOs and NGOs.
3. The Secretariats will coordinate on matters relevant to their administrative and programmatic relationships with relevant agencies of the United Nations.
4. The Secretariats will liaise on how best to complement each other in promoting their organisations' shared goals of supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use through their respective competences on international wildlife conservation, and transboundary concerted and cooperative actions on migratory species and their habitats.

Article 2 Institutional Cooperation

1. Each Secretariat will invite the other to be represented regularly in meetings of the Parties of the other organisation, and other meetings covering matters of mutual interest.
2. Each Secretariat will identify the possibilities for subsidiary bodies of its organisation to participate as observers at meetings of the other organisation.
3. The Secretariats will inform the respective focal points for each constituent of their cooperative activities. In cases where their constituents have different focal points for the organisations, the Secretariats will seek to promote consultation and cooperation between them.
4. The Secretariats, where they have scientific bodies, shall provide each other with the details of their scientific bodies' respective work programmes and, where appropriate, invite the chairpersons or representatives of these bodies to participate as observers in their scientific bodies' respective meetings.

Article 3 Exchange of Experience and Information

1. The Secretariats will regularly exchange information of mutual interest. The CMS Secretariat will encourage the Secretariats of Agreements concluded under CMS auspices to regularly share information of mutual interest with SPREP.

2. The Secretariats will develop a data exchange system on species of common concern. This will draw on planned or existing platforms such as the CMS Information Management System and SPREP databases, while involving partners such as the Agreements concluded under CMS auspices, UNEP-WCMC and IUCN as needed.
3. The Secretariats shall link their respective Internet sites.

Article 4 **Coordination of Programmes of Work**

1. For purposes of this MoC, the focal point for SPREP is the Director, Mr. Asterio Takesy, and the focal point for the CMS Secretariat is the Executive Secretary, Mr Robert Hepworth.
2. The Secretariats will regularly consult and brief each other on their respective activities and plans. They will also decide on joint programme of work activities that will be attached as Annexes to this MoC.

Article 5 **Joint Conservation Action**

1. The Secretariats will consult their constituents with a view to encouraging them to integrate the special requirements of migratory species into their national strategies, plans or programmes. This would include international co-operation among Range States for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species.
2. The CMS Secretariat will support the development and implementation of Agreements to conserve and, where appropriate, sustainably use migratory species to support the co-operative schemes that have been established by SPREP.
3. SPREP will promote accession to the Convention on Migratory Species and seek to promote implementation of the Convention among its member countries.
4. The Secretariats will consult their constituents with a view to increasing the level of co-operation between the bodies, governmental and non-governmental, responsible for the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions.
5. The Secretariats will endeavour to co-ordinate their activities in research, training and public awareness activities.

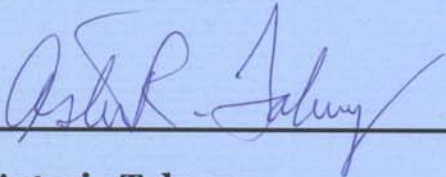
Article 6 **Consultation, Reporting and Further Guidance**

1. The Secretariats shall institute measures to consult on the implementation of this Memorandum of Co-operation. They will report accordingly to their respective governing as well as advisory bodies and seek further guidance on new areas of co-operation and action.

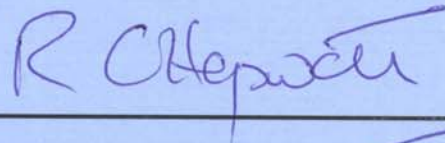
**Article 7
General Provisions**

1. This Memorandum shall take effect upon signature by both Secretariats. It shall remain in force unless terminated by 30 days' written notice served by one Secretariat upon the other, or replaced by another agreement.
2. This Memorandum can be amended in writing by mutual consent of the Secretariats.
3. Neither Secretariat shall be legally or financially liable in any way for activities carried out jointly or independently.

Done in the English language on the 21st day of November 2005.



Asterio Takesy
Director
Pacific Regional Environment
Programme



Robert Hepworth
Executive Secretary
Convention on the Conservation of
Migratory Species of Wild Animals