



CMS AND THE 2010 TARGETS



1. At its 26th Meeting in July 2003, the CMS Standing Committee agreed that CMS should contribute to the work being led by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to develop a set of global indicators to measure the achievements of the CBD's 2010 target to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biological diversity in a manner that contributes to reducing poverty. The Twelfth Meeting of the CMS Scientific Council held in 2004 also discussed the 2010 target in two contexts: (i) in the context of the draft CMS Strategic Plan, where it was recommended that CMS's achievement of the 2010 targets should figure more prominently; and (ii) it undertook a limited discussion on the progress made by CBD Secretariat in developing targets, objectives and global indicators for the achievement of the 2010 target and made a number of recommendations, including that the CMS Secretariat liaise with the CBD Secretariat to clarify the best inputs that CMS could make into its process.
2. Explicit reference to the relation between the 2010 target and the CMS Strategic Plan is given at the level of introduction of the document, where it is stated that "This Strategic Plan, together with future associated implementation plans for the various CMS bodies, represents the Convention's planned contribution to achieving the 2010 target, ...", thus indicating that the Strategic Plan will be the primary framework through which the Convention will contribute to achieving the target.
3. The revised draft Strategic Plan's logical framework makes reference to indicators and milestones. For example the achievement of the Plan's high level goal – To ensure the favourable conservation status of migratory species thereby contributing to global sustainability – would be measured by the number of Appendix I species whose conservation status has improved as indicated by a CMS global index. Directly relevant to this and the development of indicators is to identify the needs of management and processing of information to facilitate assessment of progress towards the 2010 target, and communication of this assessment. The CMS migratory species index is envisioned to be a direct contribution to the CBD process and the work being undertaken in its framework to identify and use a series of regional and global indicators.
4. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) meeting convened by CBD in October 2004 is of particular relevance to CMS. The AHTEG meeting proposed two species-related indicators, the Living Planet Index and the Red List Index, while noting that these should be used in conjunction with other information on species trends. These indicators were subsequently endorsed by the CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) at its 10th Meeting (Bangkok, February 2005).

5. Given the adoption of the Strategic Plan of CMS at the eighth Conference of the Parties (Nairobi, 20-25 November 2005), it is time to revisit the commitments made by CMS to contribute to the CBD targets on reducing biodiversity loss using the agreed set of indicators. The CMS COP-9 to be held in Rome from 1 to 5 December 2008 will provide an opportunity for Parties to CMS to re-dedicate themselves to the 2010 commitment. In this regard, it is useful to focus on the following key issues that are of relevance to CMS and CBD work programmes:

- There is a need to assess the implementation of national programmes of action under CBD and CMS that link species, habitats and people so that the targets are not only met for conservation purposes, but also to secure the local livelihoods of people;
- Suggest ways and means, using the CMS National Reports, of how countries are progressing towards maintaining important habitats.
- Recognize the need to enhance focus on requirements of human needs and community needs in maintaining and promoting goals and objectives of CMS.
- Enhance the focus on traditions and cultures of indigenous communities and local people in maintaining the habitats of migratory species, sustainable use options in place - in a manner that links to realizing the CBD objectives under 2010, as well as its programme of work under Article 8 (j) on Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices.
- Increase co-operative governance structures and mechanisms between all relevant MEAs including CBD, Ramsar and the related so that implementation of national actions under each of them contribute to realizing the elements of CMS Strategic Plan.

6. In order to achieve the above, the following can be considered to ensure better realization of the 2010 targets:

Promote synergistic implementation of MEAs

7. With explicit links between MEAs in achieving the 2010 targets to enhance human livelihoods, it is important that synergies at national level are enhanced in the way countries are implementing their obligations under each of the MEAs, use of information across MEAs to ensure there is no

duplication of work or information and promote better participation of diverse stakeholders in achieving the 2010 targets.

Enhance support to implementation of CMS and its family

8. With its explicit links to CBD and its contribution to achieving the 2010 targets under CBD, more support will be needed to effectively implement the CMS and its family of agreements and MoUs. Linkages between the work programmes and decisions under these instruments will be needed to ensure a comprehensive and holistic focus under CMS to contribute to achieving the 2010 targets using the agreed indicators. Strengthening CMS and its family will contribute significantly to national and regional level efforts on reducing biodiversity loss.

Support regional and transboundary actions under MEAs to support CMS

9. While implementation of CMS and its family of agreements is better understood and acted upon at regional and transboundary levels, there is a need for better guidance to other MEAs of relevance to CMS to enhance their efforts in dealing with regional and transboundary options to implement their individual work programmes. Support will be needed to enhance focus on regional and transboundary means of implementing programme of work under other related MEAs so that CMS can achieve its objectives better and in a timely manner.

Link CMS to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

10. With the inclusion of 2010 target as a target under MDG 7 (target 7B), CMS has moved a step forward to linking its work programme and achieving its objectives using a combination of conservation and livelihood platform. With its increasing focus on linking its work programmes to livelihoods, CMS and its family now is better placed to achieving the MDG target. Efforts should be enhanced to link national level action on achieving MDG 7 and related MDGs using CMS work programmes. Support to national level stakeholders working towards achieving MDGs will have to be timely and consistent so that the MDG targets are met using the 2010 targets to reduce biodiversity loss aimed to alleviate poverty.