

RESOLUTION 1.4

INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES FOR 2000-2004

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds,

Aware that resources for the implementation of the Agreement (information, expertise and funds) are unequally distributed throughout the Agreement Area, and that an effective implementation of the Agreement will require strong international co-operation,

Considering that Contracting Parties, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, require a clear prioritization of activities in order to apply their limited resources most effectively,

Further considering that bilateral and multilateral donors will be greatly assisted in their allocation of funds for international co-operation, by a clear prioritization of needs,

Recalling that Article V, paragraph 4, of the Agreement encourages Parties to provide training and technical and financial support to other Parties on a multilateral and bilateral basis to assist them in implementing the provisions of this Agreement,

1. *Adopts* the international implementation priorities for 2000-2004, as contained in document, AEWA/MOP1.9, with amendments as listed in Annex I, as the medium-term priorities for international co-operation activities for implementation of the Agreement;
2. *Notes* the particular importance of identifying the key sites network and migration patterns of the species covered by the Agreement, and also how migratory waterbird conservation can contribute to sustainable development, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
3. *Urges* Contracting Parties and specialized international organizations to develop new international co-operation projects for the implementation of the Agreement, according to the priorities outlined in AEWA/MOP1.9 and Annex 1, and to keep the Agreement secretariat fully informed of progress;
4. *Further urges* Contracting Parties, the Agreement secretariat and specialized international organizations to seek innovative mechanisms and partnerships to enable implementation of the priorities listed in AEWA/MOP1.9 and Annex I, including joint ventures, twinning arrangements, secondment and exchange programmes, corporate sector sponsorships and species adoption programmes;
5. *Requests* bilateral and multilateral donors to provide financial assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of the Agreement, by supporting implementation of the priorities listed in AEWA/MOP1.9 and Annex I;
6. *Further requests* the support of the Global Environment Facility to assist eligible countries with the joint implementation of priority actions of the Agreement and the Convention on Wetlands for the network of critical wetlands used by migratory waterbirds in Africa/Eurasia;

7. *Instructs* the Agreement secretariat to disseminate the international implementation priorities for 2000-2004 (AEWA/MOP1.9 and Annex I), to coordinate closely with related conventions and international organizations for their implementation, to seek appropriate donors, and, following the recommendations of the Technical Committee, to bring to each future session of the Meeting of the Parties reports on progress with implementation and an updated list of priorities.

Annex I

Amendments to International Implementation Priorities for 2000-2004 (AEWA/sMOP 1.9)

The following new (additional) projects are to be added to the 30 projects listed in AEWA/MOP1.9:

Review of the use of agrochemicals in Africa, and their impacts on migratory waterbirds (AP 4.3.2, 4.3.3)

A wide range of agrochemicals are used, both legally and illegally, in Africa for agriculture and for pest control purposes. A number of these products are highly toxic to wetland fauna and flora, including to migratory waterbirds, and some of them have already been banned in other parts of the world. The impacts on migratory waterbirds may be either direct through impacts on survival or reproductive rates, or indirect through food-chain effects.

This project proposes a review of the use of such agrochemicals, and their impacts on migratory waterbirds. This may involve bibliographic studies, questionnaires and field studies in selected countries. The results will be published in a report to the AEWA Technical Committee and Secretariat, and may include recommendations for further work under the AEWA. A joint approach with the FAO or other organizations may be appropriate for this project.

Indicative budget: US\$ 60,000
Duration: 2 years
Activities: desk study, review, surveys, report and recommendations

Rehabilitation of important sites for migratory waterbirds, which have been degraded by invasive aquatic weeds. (AP 3.3)

A large number of wetlands (including many of international importance to migratory waterbirds), particularly in tropical Africa, have been degraded by invasions of species of aquatic weeds. Such weed infestations greatly affect the ecological character of these wetlands. The impacts on migratory waterbirds may occur either through the direct removal or alteration of their habitats, or by effects on the food chain.

This project will review the extent of the problem and the species involved (both aquatic weeds and migratory waterbirds), and will assess the likely impacts on migratory waterbirds. It will build on a literature review, questionnaire survey and possibly some field studies. The review will result in a report providing recommendations for further action under the AEWA. Partnerships with appropriate organizations and Conventions must be ensured in the execution of this project, to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

Indicative budget: US\$ 60,000
Duration: 2 years
Activities: desk study, review, surveys, report and recommendations

Exchange of know-how on traditional approaches to wetland and waterbird management in Africa. (AP 3.3, 4.2.2, 6.1, 6.2)

Rural communities in several African countries have developed traditional norms, regulations and technologies for the wise use of migratory waterbirds and their wetland habitats. Such approaches offer a valuable insight into options for sustainable development and utilisation of these resources by rural communities, which may be replicated in other countries.

This project proposes a review of such practices, to document traditional knowledge and make it available to others. The project will result in a report to the AEWA Technical Committee and Secretariat, containing detailed case studies, together with recommendations for future action under the AEWA (including training and awareness programmes).

Indicative budget: US\$ 60,000
Duration: 2 years
Activities: desk study, review, surveys, report and recommendations