



## IUCN position 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**

IUCN presents comments and considerations for CMS Parties on selected COP14 agenda items.

### **IV. Strategic and institutional matters** (agenda items 14-19)

Strengthening international and transboundary cooperation for the conservation of migratory species is imperative. Collaborative action among CMS Parties and between Range States is essential to improve the conservation status, achieve the recovery of threatened migratory species, as well as to create the enabling conditions for zoonotic disease identification, prevention, and response. This will support future pandemic preparedness, integrating the One Health approach into global conservation strategies and actions.

IUCN notes with concern the lack of progress for most of the Goals of the *Strategic Plan*



IUCN notes the of work the Working Group to develop a draft guidance on the use of the term “vagrant” (Doc.26/Rev.1/Annex). However, IUCN supports the recommendations of the Scientific 842.04 reW

- rigorous and transparent impact assessments are conducted based on comprehensive baseline studies;
- the Precautionary Principle and the 'Polluter Pays Principle' are implemented;
- policies incorporating circular economy principles to reuse and recycle minerals have been developed and implemented;
- mechanisms are in place to consult with the public throughout decision-making; and
- the governance of deep-sea mining is transparent, accountable, inclusive, effective and environmentally responsible.

IUCN further emphasizes the many possible potential negative effects from deep-sea mining activities as highlighted in the CMS submission, which would temper with the ability for the ocean to serve as the most critical climate regulator on the planet as well as limit the provision of its multiple benefits to biodiversity, humankind, and climate alike. In that regard, IUCN welcomes the increased recognition of deep seabed mining impacts and risks, notably in the recently adopted CBD [Resolution 15/24](#) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

Area-



The IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group cooperates with the CITES and CMS Secretariats and the ACI Coordinator on the implementation of the ACI Programme of Work, which amalgamates Resolutions and Decisions on African large carnivores of the two Conventions. After the 2nd ACI Range States Meeting in Uganda in May 2023, priority activities are advancing the conservation agenda for the cheetah especially in the north-eastern part of Africa (the subspecies *A. j. soemmeringii*), agreement on a joint African Lion Database, revision of the Guidelines for the Conservation of the Lion in Africa, implementation of the spatially explicit conservation action plan for the Northern lion (*P. l. leo*), and update of the Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa as a baseline document to develop regional conservation strategies. IUCN recommends the adoption of the draft decisions.

*Sahelo Saharan megafauna (29.2)*

The IUCN SSC Antelope Specialist Group Co-Chairs collaborated

This is an important first step, but it will be critical for management authorities, local administrators and communities, and scientists to have workshops and discussions concerning the demarcation and management of potential protected areas. Surveys funded by CMS and Basel Zoo have determined that African wild ass persist in Djibouti and Somaliland. More surveys and monitoring are needed to ensure appropriate management of conservation of the African wild ass.

*Initiative for the Jaguar (29.6.2)*

With increasing information on illegal trade in jaguar parts, including by the IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group, several NGOs, and range States, both CITES and CMS Parties are increasing their attention to the improved protection and conservation of this large cat, and prevention of illegal killing and illegal trade. In line with its [Resolution 7.090](#), IUCN supports and welcomes the joint CITES-CMS Jaguar Initiative proposed in the Resolution in Doc.29.6.2/Rev.1/Annex 1 and recommend its adoption and the adoption of the draft decisions.

### **30. Crosscutting conservation issues**

*Priorities for addressing Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Migratory Species (30.1.1)*

IUCN supports the recommended actions presented in Doc.30.1.1/Rev.1 and strongly encourages CMS Parties to







migrates in large schools seasonally. Information on the scale of these migrations is limited but is likely that this species crosses national jurisdictional boundaries. The species meets the criteria for inclusion in the relevant CMS Appendices, and IUCN recommends adoption of this proposal. IUCN considers that this species needs joint international conservation efforts and would benefit from a CMS listing.

*Proposals for the inclusion of the Gilded Catfish (*Brachyplatystoma rousseauxii*) and the the Laulao Catfish or Piraqueta (*Brachyplatystoma vaillantii*) (31.4.13 – 31.4.14)*

IUCN welcomes the two proposals for the inclusion of two freshwater fish: the Gilded Catfish (*Brachyplatystoma rousseauxii*) and the Laulao Catfish or Piraqueta (*Brachyplatystoma vaillantii*) in Appendix II of the Convention and recommends the adoption of both proposals. IUCN commits to supporting the implementation of the

