

on the move to
2010

MEMORANDUM OF CO-OPERATION

between

**the Secretariat of the Convention
for the Protection and Development of the Marine
Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region
(Cartagena Convention) and its Protocols**

and

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

The Cartagena Secretariat and CMS Secretariat,

Aware that the Wider Caribbean Region contains a rich variety of complex ecosystems with a great abundance of plant and animal species - the greatest concentration of biodiversity in the Atlantic Ocean Basin-, and diverse and productive coastal and marine habitats and that many of the Caribbean islands in the region belong to major migration corridors and flyways;

Aware also that beside their intrinsic value, migratory species provide numerous benefits and services to communities and ecosystems in the Wider Caribbean Region and many of those are crucial for the subsistence and culture of local communities and are at the basis of other activities of economic, cultural and social value;

Recognizing also that species of wild animals that migrate 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 Cartagena Convention highlights the need for cooperation with competent international organizations to ensure co-ordinated and comprehensive development without environmental damage, such as CMS;

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 especially the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region (Kingston, 1990) supplementing the Cartagena Convention on a regional scale works toward the same goals as the Convention on Migratory Species;

Aware that the Cartagena Convention to date has 17 Signatories or Parties that are not Signatories or Parties to CMS, and therefore are striving to raise awareness of conservation needs of migratory species in the Wider Caribbean Region through enhanced collaboration between the Conventions;

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 Cartagena 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' Conference of the Parties and 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 (i) their Conventions' shared goals of supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use through their instruments' respective competences on international wildlife conservation; (ii) transboundary concerted and cooperative actions on migratory species and their habitats; and (iii) membership.

Article 2 Institutional Cooperation

1. Each Secretariat will invite the other to be represented regularly in meetings of the Conference of the Parties of the other Convention, and other meetings covering matters of mutual interest.
2. Each Secretariat will identify the possibilities for the subsidiary bodies of its Convention to participate as observers at meetings of the other Convention.
3. The Secretariats will inform the respective focal points for each Contracting Party of their cooperative activities. In cases where the Contracting Parties have different focal points for the Conventions, the Secretariats will seek to promote consultation and cooperation between them.
4. The Secretariats shall provide each other with the details of their scientific bodies' respective work programmes and, where appropriate, invite the chairpersons 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 the auspices of CMS to regularly share information of mutual interest with the Cartagena Secretariat.

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 Plan and Cartagena databases, while involving partners such as 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 the Cartagena Secretariat is the Co-ordinator and the focal point for the CMS Secretariat is the Executive Secretary.
2. The Secretariats will meet annually to brief each other on their respective activities and plans. They will also decide on joint activities and agree on a joint action plan on a yearly basis.

Article 5

Joint Conservation Action

1. The Secretariats will consult their Contracting Parties with a view to encouraging them to integrate the special requirements of migratory species in their national strategies, plans or programmes under the Cartagena Convention. This would include international co-operation among Range States for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species.
2. Efforts will be made by the Parties of this Memorandum of Cooperation to promote the implementation of regulatory mechanisms to protect habitats of migratory species through the international and co-operative schemes that have been set in place by SPAW, LBS and Oil Spills Protocols.
3. The Secretariats will consult their Contracting Parties 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.
4. Recognising that increased participation in both Conventions furthers the conservation goals of each, when promoting ratification of their respective Conventions, the Secretariats will seek to promote implementation of the other Convention/Protocol among its Contracting Parties.
5. The Secretariats will endeavour to co-ordinate their activities in research, training and public awareness activities.

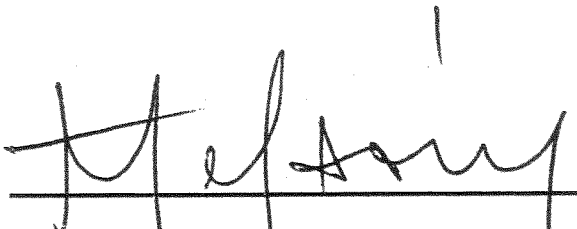
Article 6
Consultation, Reporting and further Guidance

1. The Secretariats shall institute measures to consult on the implementation of this Memorandum of Cooperation. 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 MoC 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 MoC 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.



Nelson Andrade Colmenares
Co-ordinator
Cartagena Convention



Robert Hepworth
Executive Secretary
Convention on Migratory Species