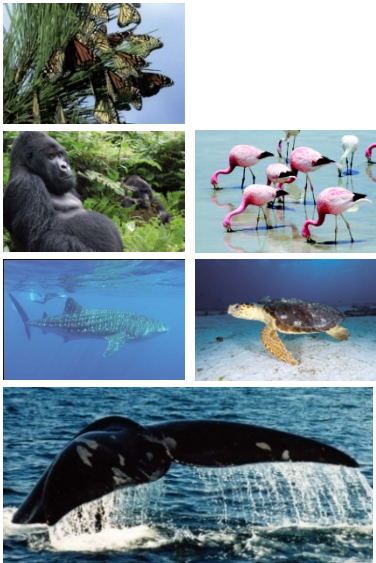




# CMS Framework and Trilateral Wildlife Committee Executive Table



**Ottawa  
17 May 2016**

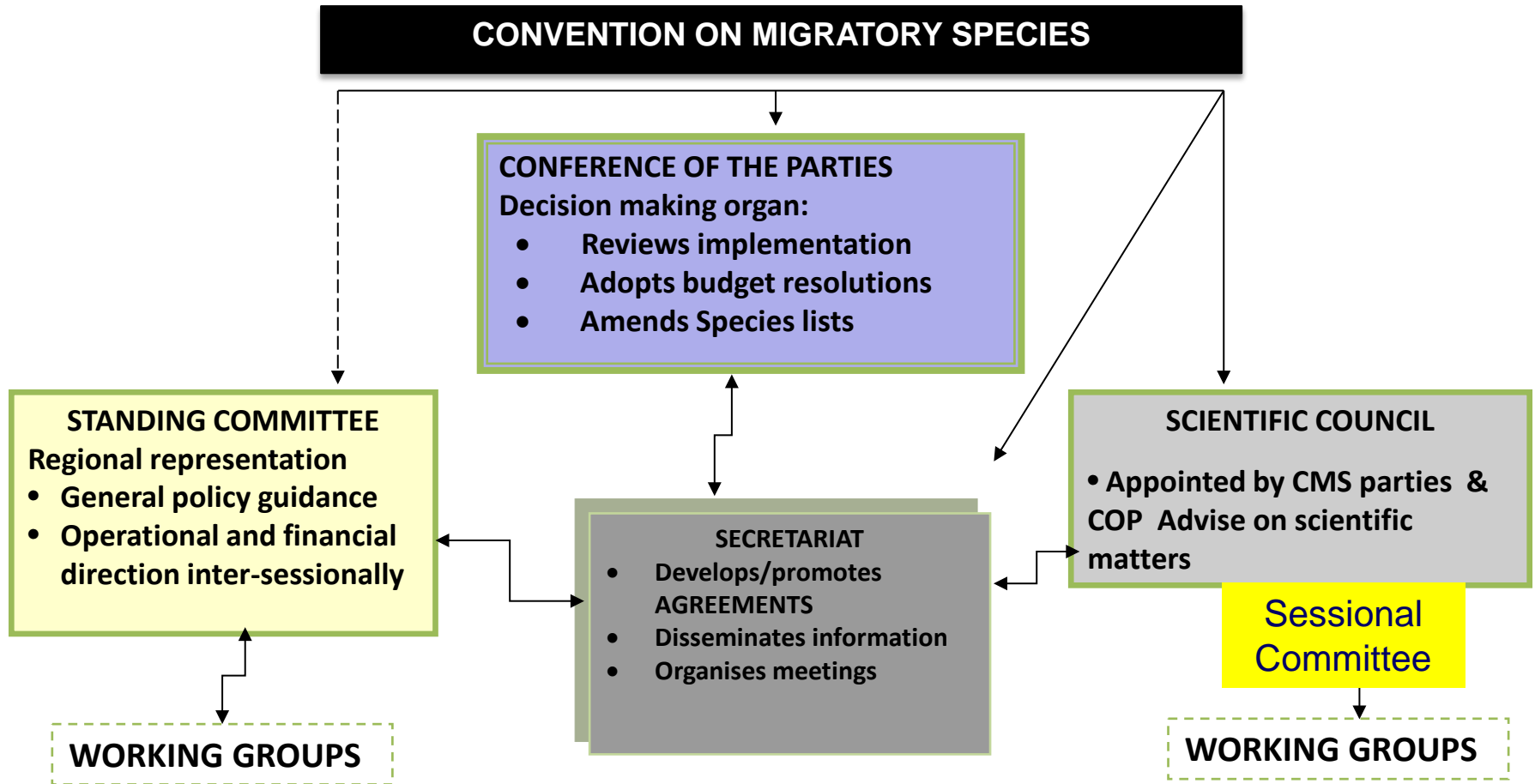
**Dr. Bradnee Chambers**  
UNEP/CMS Secretariat

United Nations Environment Programme/ Convention on Migratory Species

# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

- **Global** Convention
- Part of the United Nations Environment Programme (**UNEP**)
- Governed by the governments (Parties) and administered by the Secretariat
- HQ in Bonn, Germany since 1979
- To date, **124 countries** are Party to CMS

# Bodies of the CMS and its Instruments



# Agreements and MOUs

## Legally Binding



## Non-Legally Binding



# Why do we need CMS?

- **Migratory Species** are:
  - *Common biological resources (shared by all Range States)*
  - *Vulnerable (subject to different threats in different states)*
- Animal migrants can only survive when their entire territories are included in conservation measures and each threat is tackled jointly
- CMS coordinates the conservation of migratory species through creating a framework for **cooperation across the migratory range**
- CBD decision VI/20 recognizes **CMS as the lead partner** in conserving and sustainably using migratory species over their entire range





# Why we Need CMS

## Migratory Species Most threatened

- 50 per cent of migratory and potentially migratory species are threatened, compared with just 27 per cent of non-migratory ones.
- Waterbirds at the global level, 40 per cent of known populations are declining.
- Nearly half of the 95 migratory species of sharks are at high risk. Some shark species such as the hammerheads, porbeagles and oceanic whitetips have declined by over 90 per cent since the 1950s.
- Whales, with the exception of a few species, have been on the decline for years.
- There are seven species of giant sea turtle, and five of them are listed on the IUCN Red List of Endangered Species as either "endangered" or "critically endangered"
- In recent years we have seen serious spikes of wildlife crime driven by development and linked to organized crime and terrorism.

# How does CMS Work?

- Coverage All Migratory Wild Animals
  - Whales to Butterflies
  - Habitat and Species
- Two Appendices
  - Appendix 2 requires a management plan for the species along the whole range
  - Appendix 1 obligations for No Takings (some exceptions)
  - Reservations can be made on species
  - Listings can be according to population or whole species
  - Provisions for concluding new instruments under CMS



# CMS Implementation

- CMS is **implemented through national strategies**:
  - Specific national strategy dedicated to migratory species, as **part of the NBSAPs**
  - A specific implementation national action plan
- Such strategies can be **reinforced, mainstreamed or supplemented** by other measures, *e.g.*:
  - Laws and regulations (*i.e.* migratory species law or act)
  - Economic incentives
  - Education policies and programmes
  - Enforcement programmes and frameworks





## Types of issues affecting MS CMS is active

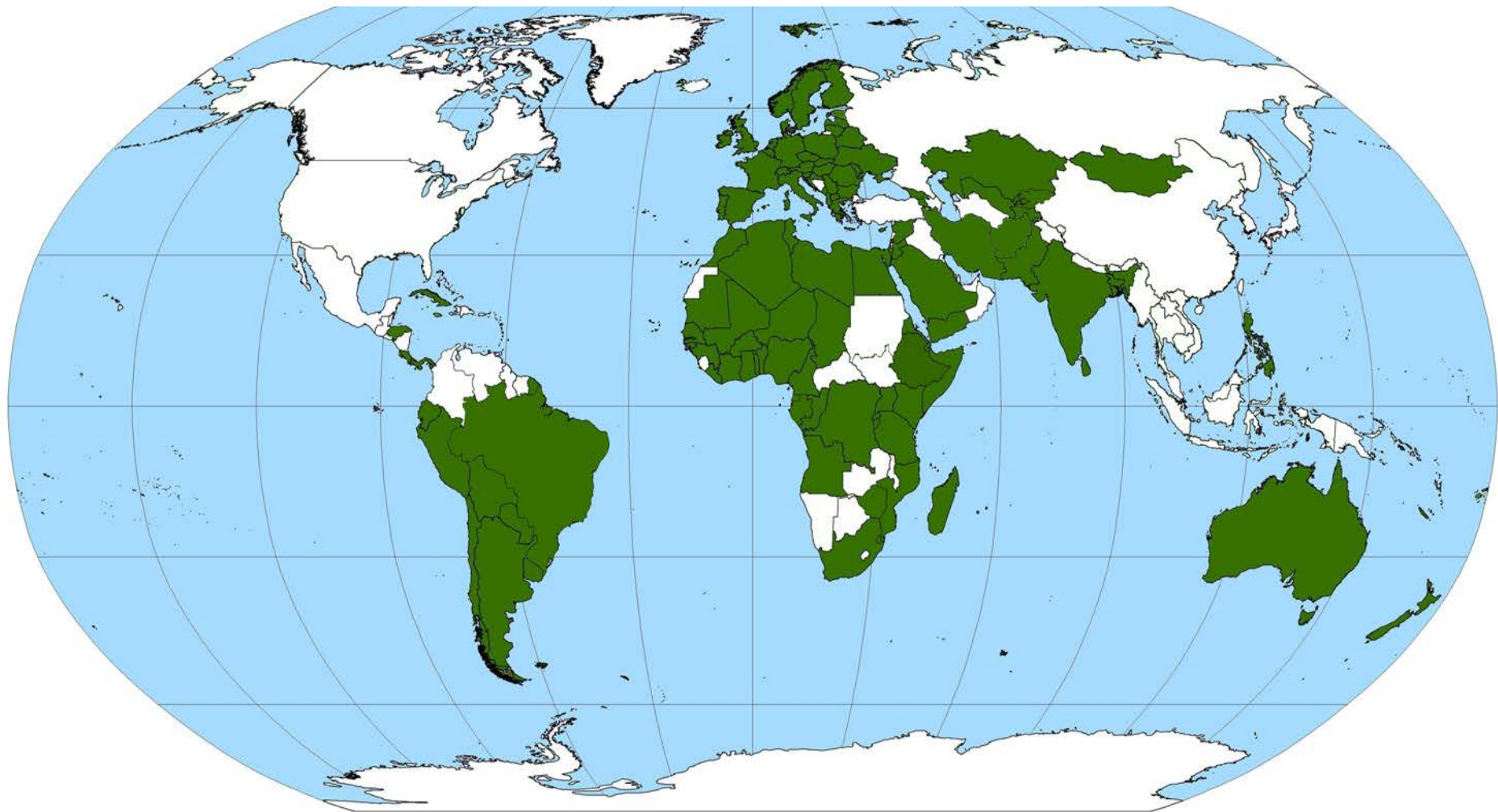
- Illegal killing
  - Trapping, hunting, poisoning (illegal trade is coordinate with CITES in the lead)
  - Bushmeat, domestic trade
- Barriers to Migration
  - Mining, road building, railways, infrastructure
  - Renewable energy
- Alien Species
- Climate Change
- Marine Debris, underwater noise, unexploded ordinance
- Bycatch
- Disease (i.e. avian flu)
- Sustainable use (wildlife watching, monitoring etc)
- SDGs

# Recent Relevant CMS Resolutions

- **Illegal killing**
  - Resolution 11.16 creates a Task Force on illegal killing in the Mediterranean, as a model to be replicated elsewhere. South and Central America and the Caribbean are mentioned in the Resolution as areas where ad hoc Task Forces could be established
- **Habitat loss**
  - Americas Flyways Framework calls for promotion of sustainable and productive landscapes that are compatible and beneficial to migratory birds (Action 5). It also calls for the conservation of high priority sites and habitats, including networks of protected areas (Action 10)
- **Pesticides**
  - Resolution 11.15 on Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds include Guidelines which address the problem of pesticides in particular
- **Renewable Energy Guidelines**
  - 11.27 safe deployment renewable energy IEA, legislation

# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

**CMS Membership 124 Parties (May 2016)**



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

The final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

 CMS Party  
 Non-Party

2000 0 2000 KM  


## CMS - Parties and Non-Parties in the American Region

### Central America and the Caribbean



JS map by amCharts

### South America



JS map by amCharts

# Relevant Migratory Species to Canada Mexico and USA

## Land Birds:

- Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*). Included in **Appendix I of CMS**. Breeds in Canada and USA and migrates through the Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama, and winters from Colombia and Venezuela south, mainly east of the Andes, to Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia
- Also Bobolink Appendix II (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)
- Canada Warbler Appendix II (*Cardellina Canadensis*) Cerulean Appendix I & II

## Grassland Birds

- Buff breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*). Breeds along the Arctic from central Alaska to Devon Island, Canada. Birds winter in eastern South America including Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia after passing through the Greater and Lesser Antilles or around the Gulf coast of Central America. Semipalated Sandpiper Appendix I They are protected under the **CMS Southern South American Grassland Birds MOU**

## Petrels and albatrosses

- **ACAP protects 31 species of albatrosses, petrels and shearwaters.** An example is the Laysan Albatross (*Phoebastria immutabilis*) that breeds in the Trilateral area (México and USA)

## Shore Birds

- Coastal birds: Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*). The *rufa* subspecies is included on **Appendix I of CMS**, it breeds in the Canadian low Arctic and winters on the coasts of south Florida, Texas, northern Brazil and southern South America



# Relevant Migratory Species to Canada Mexico and USA

## Raptors

- Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). Highly migratory species included in [Appendix II of CMS](#). In the past largely affected by pesticides in its wintering grounds in Argentina. Here you can mention the Raptors MOU as a potential model for replication in the Americas and the poisoning Guidelines as a tool to address intoxication from pesticides.

## Bats and Butterflies

- Hoary Bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*). Widespread from Canada to South America. Currently assessed as “Least Concern” in IUCN Red Data List, however recent evidence (a scientific paper on the subject is being peer-reviewed for publication) of severe mortality in interactions with wind turbines suggests that this should need to be revised.
- Free Tailed Bat [Appendix 1](#)
- Monarch butterflies: [CMS Appendix 2](#)

# Relevant Migratory Species to Canada Mexico and USA

## Aquatic Species

- **Sharks and Rays:**

- CMS/Shark Species common to all 3 countries: Common thresher, Shortfin Mako, Spiny dogfish
- Mantas, white and whale sharks only in USA and Mexico.
- Grey Sharks, Basking sharks, porbeagles and a few others, only in USA and Canada.

- **Cetaceans:**

- Numerous, but most notable the humpback whales which migrate along both coastlines from Mexico to Canada. Also blues, fin whales etc.
- Iconic Arctic species like Polar Bear and narwhal are found only USA and Canada, obviously.

- **Marine Turtles**

- All 7 species of Marine Turtles are Appendix 1 we are very active in Latin American

- **Polar Bear**

- Appendix II

- **American Eel**

- CMS relevant already European Eel listed



# Advantages of Membership

- Legally binding framework between range states for cooperation of ranges states;
- One coherent framework for all international work on MS instead of fragmented or piece meal approaches.
  - There are over 35 migratory bird-focused/flyways-based initiatives and instruments for the conservation of migratory birds in the Americas, ranging from multilateral treaties to voluntary multi-sector partnerships focused on single species. This excludes initiatives that are focused primarily on monitoring of bird populations (at least 10) or on providing information on migratory species (at least 4).



# Advantages of Membership

- Strong and growing membership in LAC
  - 95% South America (Colombia advanced in process)
  - Growing membership in Central America Caribbean
    - Membership is growing and CMS is actively engaged and recruiting (EU grant for membership drive in region, COP 11 Quito)
- Growing membership with Pacific countries (Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Samoa. Engaging others)



# Advantages of Membership

- Scientific Council with councilors in every country but with a very active sessional committee of regional scientific councilors and highly respected leading scientists as COP appointed Councilors.
- Works through mainstream international systems for implementation (UN, regional organizations, MEAs, UNEP, UNDP etc)
- Coordinates activities between all other global wildlife and biodiversity conventions (Aichi Targets aligned strategic plans joint work programmes)





# Advantages of Membership

- Allows specialization of ranges specific arrangements for managing species (action plans, programmes, MOUs, agreements) while still being backed up by a legally binding treaty.
- Contributes overall to Global Heritage of mankind migratory species around the world. Icon species that we all would like see protected (elephants, lions, saiga antelope, sharks, whales, cranes, etc)



## Advantages of Membership

- Administratively a very lean secretariat shares resources within CMS Family instruments (i.e. common administration, common services)
- Not top heavy staffing raises one third of its budget and nearly all its activity money.
- Accountable IPSA international standards, responsive and active in ensuring donor needs are met.



## Non-Member engagement in CMS

- All CMS processes (COP, Standing Committee, Scientific Council working groups) are normally open to observers countries.
- Rules for non-members apply non-voting, i.e speak after members etc. “open and participatory policy”
- Non-Members can join CMS family agreements and MOUs without joining the parent convention of CMS.
- There are no rules prohibiting non-Members from participating in action plans or actions taken by other members.
- If necessary MOUs have proven to an effective instrument to engage non-parties and parties

## Example of Non-Member Engagement

- Shark MOU
  - Global MOU includes non CMS members like the US.
  - US is highly engaged in the Shark MOU, second largest donor
  - Very supportive and active in pursuing programme of work on sharks, listings, including fining identification, sustainable fisheries, by-catch issues.
  - Strong and positive interaction with secretariat
  - MOU has had different rules of procedure which has led to some adoption issue
  - IOSEA another good example

## Looking to the Future

- Vision for the Migratory Species for the next 100 years to go beyond the 3 countries and include a strong framework for the whole hemisphere
- CMS could be a cost efficient and effective framework for cooperation between NA and LAC offering many advantages to current separate approaches.
- Become global partners in struggle of iconic species the world is concerned and working to protect
- From practical point of view given the advanced and historic work in NA wildlife protection the CMS is a relatively easier convention to ratify and would likely only need ratifying legislation and would not alter existing legislation





**UNEP/CMS COP12 to be held  
in Manila, The Philippines  
October 2016 .**

**Thank you!**

[www.cms.int](http://www.cms.int)

