

Agenda Item 12.2

National Reporting

Revision to National Reporting Format

Document 12.2

**Revision of the Annual National
Reporting Format**

Action Requested

- Take note
- Give guidance
- Consider providing resources necessary to enlist the help of consultants

Submitted by

Secretariat



**NOTE:
DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED
TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**

Revision of the Annual National Reporting Format

1. The 7th Meeting of the Parties (October 2012, Brighton, United Kingdom) had endorsed the immediate move to online national reporting. While for the time being the existing reporting format, as adopted at MOP6 in 2009, was to be transferred to the online system (in use since the 2012 reporting cycle), Parties acknowledged that this format was not ideally suited for use in an online system and did not offer many opportunities for analysis of the data submitted. Accordingly, Resolution 7.2 on Activities of the Advisory Committee and Work Plan in Annex 1 Activity 20 requested the AC to consider revisions to the national reporting format and make recommendation to MOP8 (2016). The plenary decided that an Inter-sessional Working Group would handle this task.
2. At the 20th Meeting of the Advisory Committee (August 2013, Warsaw, Poland), this topic was further discussed. Three major objectives of the revision were agreed:
 - a) Seeking to make use of synergies among CMS Family treaties by aligning the format more closely to the format used in CMS, AEWAs and EUROBATS, as well as reports prepared by EU member states under the EC Habitats and MSFD Directives
 - b) Covering all necessary information for assessing progress in the implementation of the Agreement and its Action Plans, including information at sub-regional level
 - c) Allowing more sophisticated analysis of the data by making use of a professionally designed survey form
3. At AC20, Parties endorsed the suggestion to take a two-step approach (AC20 Action Point 28):
 - a) The Secretariat was requested to lead a consultation process with key players, including the chairs of the intersessional working groups, to determine the content of the new format.
 - b) The resulting list of issues to be reported on should subsequently be transformed into an effective survey form lending itself to analysis.
4. Capacity in the Secretariat was not sufficient to address this request in-house in the period since AC20. The Secretariat is therefore seeking voluntary contributions in order to be able to enlist the help of consultants; one to assist with consultations on the content of the new reporting form, and one professional survey designer for the development of the analytical online reporting form in the second step. Total estimated costs for this activity, including the UNEP PSC charge, are at approximately € 18,000. Details can be found in [AC21/Doc.6.2.b](#) on Activities Requiring Funding.