



## Convention on Migratory Species (CMS or Bonn Convention)

### Milestones in the implementation of the agreement

**1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment:** Among the Conference's main outcomes was the recognition that an international instrument was needed to protect migratory species

**1974:** Germany was mandated by UNEP to draft an appropriate text for such an instrument

**1979:** the CMS was adopted in Bonn, Germany

**1983:** the CMS entered into force on 1 November 1983

**2019:** the CMS celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary

### Principles in the Rio Declaration covered by this CMS include:

- Wild animals in their innumerable forms are an irreplaceable part of the Earth's natural system which must be conserved for the good of mankind; (Principle 1)
- Each generation of man holds the resources of the earth for future generations and has an obligation to ensure that this legacy is conserved and, where utilized, is used wisely; (Principle 3 and 21)
- States are and must be the protectors of the migratory species of wild animals that live within or pass through their national jurisdictional boundaries; (Principle 2)

### Ratifying the CMS: reservations and declarations

Reservations upon ratification or accession to the CMS are not provided for – however, under international law, a country ratifying or acceding to a treaty may make a declaration where they express their understanding of some matter or the interpretation of a particular provision.

Unlike reservations, declarations merely clarify the country's position and do not modify the legal effect of a treaty. Usually, declarations are made at the time of ratification or signature.

### Parties to the Agreement and stakeholder interests

- There are currently 133 Parties to the CMS
- Of these, 14 are SIDS and 4 are PSIDS (Cook Islands, Fiji, Palau, Samoa)
- Many more non-Party countries, including PSIDS (Kiribati, FSM, Nauru, Niue, PNG, RMI, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu Vanuatu) have entered into MOUs on or are considered Range States for specific migratory species
- Parties are allocated to regional groups, including Africa; Asia; Central, South America and the Caribbean; the EU; non-EU countries such as the Norway, Switzerland; and Oceania

This factsheet on the **Convention on Migratory Species (CMS or Bonn Convention)** is included in the comprehensive report: **Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)**, pp. 14–17