



[MOP9/D1] DEVELOPMENT OF NEW EAAFP STRATEGIC PLAN (AWSG)

Summary:

At its 6th Meeting of the Partners in March 2012, Palembang, Indonesia, the Meeting of the Partners adopted the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership Implementation Strategy 2012-2016.

The Implementation Strategy provides a framework to guide Partners on the execution of the Partnership's goal and objectives. The Strategy is due to cease at the end of 2016 so it is timely to review the Strategy and develop a new framework for implementation of the Partnership goal and objectives.

The 'Independent Review of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership' recommended a new strategy be adopted by Partners. The Independent Review made a number of recommendations in relation to a revised strategy that would continue to deliver progress on the Partnership's goal and objectives. To date, reporting by Partners that captures data on the implementation of the Strategy's 11 Outcomes has been mixed.

Given the current Implementation Strategy ends in 2016, and noting the recommendations in the Independent Review, Partners are asked to extend the life of the existing Strategy until 2019. Partners are also asked to establish a Task Force that will review the existing Strategy, develop a new framework to guide Partners delivery of the Partnership's goal and objective and seek adoption at the 10th Meeting of the Partners.

EAST ASIAN – AUSTRALASIAN FLYWAY PARTNERSHIP IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY 2012-2016:

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND, REVIEW AND UPDATE

(Prepared by the Australasian Wader Studies Group)

Implementation Strategies are one of the most useful guiding documents of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) and has influenced many aspects of its activity since 2006. It is also used as the basis for the annual work plan of the Partnership Secretariat and 35 Partners. Furthermore, it provides the structure for the reports which are provided by Partners to the Secretariat for analysis and summary in the lead up to each Meeting of the Partners.

The first Implementation Strategy of the EAAFP was adopted at the 1st Meeting of the Partners in Bogor, Indonesia in November 2006 and refers to the period 2007-2011.

Linked to the Partnership document, it outlines the EAAFP five objectives and 14 expected outcomes, with considerable detail under each section.

Recognising that the Implementation Strategy would be due for review with a new version to be considered by Partners before the end of 2011, the 5th Meeting of Partners in Siem Reap, Cambodia (MOP5) discussed a process for review and any necessary update.

Partners agreed that a Task Force be established to conduct a review of the EAAFP Implementation Strategy 2007-2011 and that the Secretariat facilitate a workshop during 2011 for this purpose, with emphasis on progress of the Partnership towards implementing the five objectives that are set out in the Partnership document.

Partners asked the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) to initiate the Task Force and CMS arranged to hold a meeting of interested Partners at the close of MOP5.

Representatives of Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, CMS, Ramsar and Wetlands International offered to join the Task Force.

Subsequently the Secretariat, in consultation with the Task Force, appointed a consultant, *Nature Management Services*, to assist meeting the Task Force's Terms of Reference through preparation of a report and facilitation of a workshop.

The report "*Review of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership Implementation Strategy 2007-2011*" was distributed to the Task Force, and presented and discussed at a *Workshop on the Review of the EAAFP Implementation Strategy* on 12-14 October 2011 at the EAAFP Secretariat in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

The report provided material for the review of the Task Force, including proposals for consideration in the preparation of the Implementation Strategy 2012-2016.

At the 6th Meeting of the Partners in March 2012, Palembang, Indonesia, the Meeting of the Partners adopted the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership Implementation Strategy 2012-2016.

The Partnership's second Implementation Strategy, contains 11 outcomes based on the five EAAFP objectives in the Partnership document. For each outcome, a series of Key Result Areas were endorsed, with responsibilities identified and set measurable targets that could be monitored during the reporting period.

To date, reporting by Partners that captures adequate data on the implementation of the Strategy's 11 Outcomes has been mixed.

The 'Independent Review of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership' identified issues with the Implementation Strategy 2012-2016 as described in Governance Challenge #3 – *“Lack of a rigorous framework to review and monitor the delivery of the Objectives linked to the Implementation Strategy 2012 – 2017 does not allow the Partnership to assess the impacts of the Strategy”*.

The Independent Review recommended a new strategy be adopted by Partners at the 9th Meeting of the Partners. The Independent Review also made a number of recommendations in relation to a revised strategy that would continue to deliver progress on the Partnership's goal and objectives.

The Independent Review states:

“The recommendations from this review take a medium-term perspective (5-10 years) to create a basket of governance and financing actions through which short-term ‘interim’ objectives can be defined, delivered and assessed. These objectives and actions should be captured in the Implementation Strategy 2017 – 2021. Actors at each level have the opportunity to develop innovative solutions to the problems they face and this in turn, may contribute to delivering one of more of the outcomes in the Implementation Strategy. The active involvement of all Partners is essential to making this vision a reality because of their frontline role in the management of the flyway.” (p.46).

However, the Independent Review incorrectly assumes a revised strategy will be presented at the 9th Meeting of the Partners, Singapore and emphasizes the need to link the strategy to the budgeting process, including a *“report on the financing opportunities and challenges to delivering the 2012-2017 Implementation Strategy”*.

Given the current Implementation Strategy ends in 2016, and noting the recommendations in the Independent Review, Partners are asked to extend the life of the existing Strategy until MOP10 in January 2019.

Partners are also asked to establish a Task Force in accordance with Paragraph 9(9) of the Partnership document to review the existing Implementation Strategy, develop a new framework to guide Partners delivery of the Partnership's goal and objective and to seek adoption of the new plan at the 10th Meeting of the Partners in January 2019.

Terms of Reference for the Task Force are at **Attachment 1**.

A proposed timeline indicating key milestones is at **Attachment 2**.

The financial implications of preparing a new strategy will be minimised by working inter-sessionally via electronic communication. If financial resources were available, face-to-face meeting(s) and engaging a suitable consultant to assist the task force achieve its objective will be considered.

Action requested from the Meeting of the Partners:

Agree to extend the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership Implementation Strategy 2012-2016 for another two years until the 10th Meeting of the Partners in January 2019.

Agree to establish an EAAFP Strategic Plan Task Force to review the Implementation Strategy (2012-2016) and to develop a new framework to guide Partner delivery of the Partnership's goal and objectives.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

EAST ASIAN – AUSTRALASIAN FLYWAY PARTNERSHIP IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY 2012-2016:

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND, REVIEW AND UPDATE

(Prepared by the Australasian Wader Studies Group)

Recalling the adoption of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership Implementation Strategy 2012 – 2016 at the 6th Meeting of the Partners in March 2012, Palembang, Indonesia.

Aware that the Implementation Strategy 2012-2016 is overdue for its review and update.

Acknowledging that Partners require a framework to guide their decisions on implementing the Partnership's goal and objectives.

Noting that the 'Independent Review of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership' identified a number of recommendations to improve future versions of an Implementation Strategy.

The 9th Meeting of the Partners

of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership:

1. *Agrees* to extend the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership Implementation Strategy 2012-2016 for two years until the 10th Meeting of the Partners
2. *Agrees* to develop a strategic plan and *confirms* the need for intersessional work on its elaboration;

3. *Agrees* to establish a Task Force to review the Implementation Strategy 2012-2016 and to draft the Strategic Plan for consideration by Partners at the 10th Meeting of the Partners. The Terms of Reference of the Task Force are annexed to this Resolution;
4. *Requests* the Task Force to submit progress reports to each Management Committee meeting;
5. Instructs the Task Force to take into account the findings of the independent review.
6. *Invites* Partners to join the Task Force and actively engage in the development of the Strategic Plan;
7. *Requests* Partners provide financial assistance for the implementation of this Resolution.

Attachment 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN TASK FORCE

Objectives

1. The main objective of the Task Force will be to elaborate the EAAFP Strategic Plan for the period 2019 – 2029. The new Strategic Plan will be presented for adoption at MOP10.
2. To this end, the Task Force will take into account the Implementation Strategy 2012-2016. It will also take into account the conclusions of MOP9 and the recommendations of the Independent Review.
3. The Task Force will further take into account strategic documents of relevant global biodiversity related multinational environmental agreements and any other relevant documents that the Task Force may consider appropriate.
4. The Task Force will consider and propose a procedure for the assessment of the status of implementation of the Strategic Plan 2019-2029 by Partners and the Secretariat.
5. The Task Force will keep the Management Committee informed of its work through reports to each of the meetings of the Committee.

Composition of the Task Force

The Task Force shall be composed of 14 EAAFP Partners. The Chief Executive of the EAAFP Secretariat shall be an ex-officio member of the Task Force. The Task Force may identify individuals who can add valuable knowledge and experience and invite them as observers to the Strategic Plan Task Force meetings.

Partners shall be consulted at each step of the process.

The Task Force shall invite the views of and work in cooperation with all other task forces and working groups established under Paragraph 9(9) of the Partnership document.

The composition of the Task Force shall be agreed upon by consensus at MOP9 and be dissolved once the Strategic Plan has been adopted.

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be chosen among the members of the Task Force at their first meeting to be held no later than two months after the end of MOP9.

The work of the Task Force will be facilitated by the EAAFP Secretariat.

Attachment 2

Proposed Timeline of Work

Date	Task	Responsible Party
Jan. 2017 (MOP9)	Establish Task Force	Partners and Secretariat
Feb/April 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare a brief review of relevant material from the Independent Review, relevant MOP9 resolutions and other appropriate material. 2. Evaluate existing strategic planning frameworks for migratory waterbird conservation and identify an approach to recommend to Partners. 3. Prepare a short document for Partners (WG & TF) on proposed development process for the Strategic Plan 2019 – 2029. 4. Prepare a questionnaire on the outcomes of the Implementation Strategy 2011 – 2016, ~5 key points for inclusion in the Strategic Plan and the proposed planning process. 	Strategic Plan Task Force
May 2017	5. Seek feedback on documents 1 – 4 from Partners and Chairs of WG/TF.	Partners
June 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Summarize feedback from Partners and WG/TF Chairs. 7. Develop Draft Vision for Strategic Plan (10 years). 	Strategic Plan Task Force
July 2017	8. Provide Partners and Chairs of WG/TF with the summary of feedback (Docs. 1-4) and seek feedback on the Draft Vision for Strategic Plan.	Partners
Aug. 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Prepare a summary of feedback from Step 8. 10. Populate the selected planning framework with the revised draft Vision and Objectives and circulate to partners. 	Strategic Plan Task Force
Sept. 2017	12. First consultation workshop/s with Partners on the draft Strategic Plan. This will develop a first draft of the Targets, for the Strategic Plan.	Partners, Strategic Plan Task Force
Oct. 2017	13. Consolidation of the input from workshop/s and develop the first draft of the full Strategic Plan.	Strategic Plan Task Force
Nov. 2017	14. Seek feedback on the first draft of the Strategic Plan	Partners

Dec. 2017	15. Review feedback and develop the second draft of the Strategic Plan	Strategic Plan Task Force
Feb. 2018	16. Workshop with a smaller group of Partners to refine the Draft Strategic Plan.	Sub-group of Partners, Strategic Plan Task Force
March 2018	17. Seek feedback on the Draft Strategic Plan	Strategic Plan Task Force
April 2018	18. Compile Final Draft for MoP 10	Strategic Plan Task Force
June 2018	19. Preparation of MOP agenda documents	Task Force
Jan. 2019	20. Seek endorsement of MoP of the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2029	Partners and Secretariat