



Council of the
European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council

Subject: Draft Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the seventh Meeting of the Parties of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds with regard to certain amendments to Annex 3 to the Agreement
- Adoption

1. The Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) ('the Agreement') aims to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats across Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, Greenland and the Canadian Archipelago. It was concluded by the Union by Council Decision 2006/871/EC and entered into force on 1 October 2005.
2. The Meeting of the Parties (MOP) is the principal decision-making body of the Agreement and has powers to amend its Annex 2 (species to conserve) and Annex 3 (Action Plan for priority species).

3. With a view to the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP 7) (South Africa, 4-8 December 2018), third Parties to AEWA have submitted proposals to amend the annexes to the Agreement. On 30 October 2018, the Commission submitted its proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union with regard to certain amendments to Annex 3 to the Agreement.
4. The Working Party on International Environment Issues (WPIEI (Biodiversity)) and the Working Party on the Environment (WPE) considered the Commission's proposal for a Council Decision at their meetings on 5 and 8 November, respectively. Discussions held at these meetings showed that there was a qualified majority in favour of the Commission's proposal.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is, therefore, invited to recommend to the Council to:
 - a) adopt, by qualified majority, the draft Council Decision set out in document 14175/18 (text finalised by the Jurist-Linguists) as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming sessions;
 - b) decide not to publish the Decision in the Official Journal; and
 - c) decide to inform the European Parliament of the adoption.
