



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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RANGE STATE MEETING ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION AND REVISION OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLAN
FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE ARGALI (*Ovis ammon*)
Almaty, Kazakhstan, 12-13 September 2024

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE ARGALI (*Ovis ammon*)

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Background

The International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Argali (SSAP) for 2014-2024 was adopted by the CMS Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting (COP11) through Resolution 11.24 on the Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI).

Argali Range States¹ are: AFGHANISTAN, China, INDIA, KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, MONGOLIA, Nepal, PAKISTAN, the Russian Federation, TAJIKISTAN, and UZBEKISTAN.

A revision of the SSAP, as per Action 4.1.9. *Review and adapt or revise the action plan at regular intervals*, took place during the Range State meeting on the Implementation and Revision of the Argali SSAP in Almaty, Kazakhstan, 12-13 September 2024. It was organized by the CMS Secretariat and hosted by the Forestry and Wildlife Committee (FWC) of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan with financial support from the Central Asian Mammals and Climate Adaptation (CAMCA) project funded by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Government of Germany.

The participating seven Range States² adopted the new Action Plan for the Conservation of the Argali for 2024-2032 ('Action Plan'). It follows a different structure than previously in order to implement CMS Decision 14.167 (d) adopted at COP14 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan in February 2024, which requested the revision of the CAMI Programme of Work with the aim of streamlining its actions to focus on cross-cutting activities that benefit multiple species and to reflect updated CMS mandates relevant to the region. Cross-cutting activities concerning not only Argali, but also other CAMI species are, therefore, included in the next CAMI POW for 2026-2032, whereas the current Argali Action Plan is focused on activities of special relevance for specific conservation units of Argali.

Mandate for the development of Terms of Reference

At the meeting the CMS Secretariat was mandated to develop Terms of Reference (ToRs) for an organization to support the implementation of the Action Plan.

¹ CMS Parties in capital letters.

² INDIA, KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, MONGOLIA, the Russian Federation, TAJIKISTAN, and UZBEKISTAN

Terms of Reference (ToRs) for supporting the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of the Argali for 2024-2032

Objective: To effectively support the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of the Argali (*Ovis ammon*) from 2024 to 2032 by Range States and the CMS Secretariat.

Activities:

In close consultation with the CMS Secretariat:

1. Develop a robust monitoring framework to assess the effectiveness of implemented conservation measures of the Argali Action Plan and develop recommendations for their enhancement, as necessary.
2. Facilitate communication and knowledge sharing among Range States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders to harmonize the implementation of conservation measures contained in the Action Plan.
3. Fundraise and/or support fundraising efforts of other stakeholders for the implementation of conservation measures contained in the Argali Action Plan in close cooperation with the Range States.
4. Support the development of the Argali Range State reporting template, agreed by the meeting.
5. Coordinate the collection and support the analysis of Argali Range State reports for the preparation of future Overview Reports.
6. Support updating the CMS Argali webpage, e.g., by providing up-to-date content on species' status, maps, etc.
7. Explore Argali population survey and monitoring methodologies that could serve as a standardized framework across the Range States in collaboration with the IUCN SSC Caprinae Specialist Group (CSG).
8. Create brochures, guides, and online resources highlighting Argali conservation and best practices tailored for various audiences.
9. Raise awareness about the importance of the conservation of Argali and its habitat through social media, local events, and partnerships with schools.
10. Support capacity-building at the local level, necessary for the implementation of the Action Plan e.g., through the organization of regional workshops on best practices for species conservation.

The organization shall work in English and Russian languages and report annually to the Range States about the support provided.