

# Wadden Sea Board

## WSB 28

14 March 2019  
Berlin, Germany



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<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>5.9 International Cooperation</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>MOU PNBA Mauritania</b>
<b>Document No.:</b>	<b>WSB 28/5.9/2</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>18 February 2019</b>
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>CWSS</b>

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The WSB endorsed the MoU Mauritania draft action plan for 2019. CWSS was requested to draft a list of objectives for the next WSB.

**Proposal:** The meeting is invited to take note of the list of actions and objectives planned in the framework of the MoU Wadden Sea – Parc National Banc d’Arguin Action Plan in 2019.

## International Cooperation - MoU Mauretania

### Detailed list of activities 2019

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Park National Banc d'Arguin (PNBA) - Wadden Sea draft action plan 2018-2020 has been submitted to WSB 27 for approval of planned activities in 2019 with a total budget of € 44,000. The trilateral share of the three projects is € 27,000 as indicated in the supplementary budget. The Mauritanian share is € 17,000.

CWSS started already first discussions and negotiations with PNBA on the detailed contents of the projects. The overall objectives of the activities are closely in line with the list of purposes (1.1 - 1.6, see Annex 1) of the MoU. More concretely formulated objectives will be developed between both partners in the further project planning phase when aims are more detailed adjusted.

Project 1 (detailed budget: TWSC - € 15,000; PNBA - € 10,000)

Assessment of impacts of climate change on birds at the two sites.

Experts from PNBA and Wadden Sea will be invited to assess the major effects of climate change on migratory bird habitats at the two sites. Both sites share the same migratory birds and the joint assessment can improve understanding of processes and developments in bird populations and can give monitoring and management valuable input for bird conservation at both sites. With regard to research on consequences of climate change along the whole East Atlantic Flyway (EAF) both sites can support on-going studies on wintering birds in PNBA, the refueling conditions in the Wadden Sea and breeding success in the Arctic area.

(Purposes 1.1, 1.5, 1.6 in Annex 1)

Project 2 (detailed budget: TWSC - € 5,000; PNBA - € 5,000)

Development of communication plan 2018 - 2020 with support of UNESCO

Wadden Sea, Banc d'Arguin and the Bijagós in Guinea-Bissau are the most important wintering and staging sites of Wadden Sea birds using the EAF. The project wants to communicate this fact by producing a documentary report on the importance of the three sites for the conservation of migratory birds. To reach as many people and to allow as many agencies as possible the joint communication media will be produced in four languages (Arabic, French, English, Portuguese). In this stage of project preparation UNESCO has not been contacted yet.

(Purposes 1.4, 1.2, 1.6 in Annex 1)

Project 3 (detailed budget: TWSC - € 7,000; PNBA - €2,000)

Publication of a joint report counting migratory birds 2018 English and French

Although it is well known that Wadden Sea and PNBA are sharing many migratory bird, results and details especially from the last WSFI flyway counts have not been directly compared and analysed yet. To show the intimate linkage between both sides the publication of a joint report on migratory birds in English and French is planned. The project shall organize, analyse and interpret the data collected at the complete flyway and site surveys of the last years.

(Purposes 1.1, 1.5 in Annex 1)

The objectives of the projects will be implemented following the working arrangements listed in the Memorandum of Understanding.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE WORLD HERITAGE SITES OF**  
**BANC D`ARGUIN AND THE WADDEN SEA**

The Banc d'Arguin World Heritage site, represented by the National Park Banc d'Arguin of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, and the Wadden Sea World Heritage site, represented by the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, hereinafter referred to as the Sides (Participants),

- bear in mind that the Banc d'Arguin and the Wadden Sea have been inscribed on the World Heritage List for their Outstanding Universal Value including their importance for global populations of migratory birds;
- recall the decision of the World Heritage Committee at its 33<sup>rd</sup> Session, on the inscription of the Wadden Sea on the World Heritage List, to request “the States Parties of Germany and the Netherlands to strengthen cooperation on management and research activities with States Parties on the African Eurasian Flyways, which play a significant role in conserving migratory species along these flyways”;
- recognise that the protection of World Heritage is the duty of the international community as a whole which requires international co-operation;
- bear in mind further that the two properties are intimately linked through the migratory birds on the African Eurasian Flyway, being the most important wintering and stop over areas on the East Atlantic Flyway;
- are convinced that a close cooperation between these two properties would strongly contribute to and reinforce measures to protect global populations of migratory birds and support the work of the World Heritage Convention including the World Heritage Marine Programme and other international and regional conventions and networks.

and therefore have reached the following understanding:

## **1. PURPOSE**

Both Sides intend to:

- 1.1 cooperate on monitoring and management on their shared migratory bird species constituting a biodiversity resource on a world-wide scale with the aim to contribute to the conservation of such species on the East Atlantic Flyway;
- 1.2 promote and support cooperation among State Parties along the flyway as well as relevant organizations working in the field of migratory bird conservation, within the framework of their respective competences;
- 1.3 share knowledge and experience on conservation, management and sustainable use of the properties with the aim to maintain and, where necessary, reinforce and enhance the integrity of the sites;
- 1.4 cooperate to support the World Heritage Convention in particular the World Heritage Marine Programme in the spirit of the Convention and to contribute to other relevant international and regional conventions and partnerships;
- 1.5 support research activities of institutes and organisations with a view to maintain and expand knowledge of tidal areas and their ecological functions including migratory birds in order to reinforce and promote the sharing of such knowledge;
- 1.6 enhance communication and awareness of the two properties with the aim to achieve an understanding of the necessity of conserving and managing migratory bird populations on a global scale.

## **2. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS**

In order to achieve the purpose named in section 1, both Sides strive to:

- 2.1 periodically exchange and assess the monitoring of migratory birds and disseminate the information both nationally and internationally also in the context of the World Heritage Convention;
- 2.2 organize exchange visits and the transfer of know-how of experts and site managers to promote and reinforce on-site management and use of state of the art management approaches;

- 2.3 support common scientific and management projects and other initiatives that will promote the conservation and management of the natural resources of the properties;
- 2.4 seek partnership with regional, national and international organizations to promote and enhance the best possible conservation and management measures;
- 2.5 ensure mutual participation of representatives of Banc d'Arguin and the Wadden Sea properties in important meetings and arrangements in the framework of this Memorandum;
- 2.6 explore the possibilities toward the establishment of a sustainable financing mechanism in support of the activities undertaken to implement the purpose of this Memorandum in the form of an international foundation, or other.

### **3. COORDINATION**

- 3.1 The Director of the Banc d'Arguin National Park and the Secretary of the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat are the designated focal points to assure the coordination of this Memorandum;
- 3.2 As necessary, the Sides will jointly decide on periodic work programmes in order to better structure purpose and working arrangements in the context of this Memorandum.

### **4. PRINCIPLES**

- 4.1 Nothing in this Memorandum will override the statutory duties and responsibilities of the Sides;
- 4.2 The Memorandum will be open for signing by other authorities, managing properties along the East Atlantic Flyway, which subscribe to its purpose and working arrangements;
- 4.3 This Memorandum is signed by the Director of the Banc d'Arguin National Park and the Secretary of the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat under the high patronage of the Ministries concerned.

## 5. COMING INTO EFFECT AND REVIEW

5.1 This Memorandum will come into effect upon signature;

5.2 This Memorandum will apply initially for three years. Its application can be renewed thereafter.

Signed in duplicate in the English and French languages.

Tønder, 4 February 2014

Tønder, 4 February 2014

For the Banc d'Arguin National Park  
Secretariat

For the Common Wadden Sea

*(Signature)*

*(Signature)*

*(Name, Title)*

Jens Enemark, Secretary  
General