

**3rd Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of
Understanding on the Conservation of Southern South American
Migratory Grasslands Bird Species and their Habitat**

Florianópolis, Brazil, 2 - 4 December 2024

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**COORDINATION MECHANISM OF THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON GRASSLAND BIRDS**

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

1. The First Meeting of Signatories to the MOU took place in Asunción, Paraguay, on 14 December 2010. During this meeting, it was agreed that the Guyra Paraguay Association and BirdLife International would provide coordination services for the MOU on an interim basis until the next meeting of signatories, in the context of the Grassland Partnership Programme. This coordination would consist of supporting the Secretariat and the Signatory Countries in tasks related to the implementation of the MOU. However, this coordination mechanism was not definitively operational due to lack of financial resources.
2. The Second Meeting of Signatories of the MOU took place in Florianópolis (Brazil) on 24 and 25 July 2018 and during this meeting a coordination mechanism was agreed so that the host country of the Meeting of Signatories would assume the coordination until the next meeting. This coordination mechanism is [available at this link](#).
3. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the timeline proposed at that document has not been met and a revised version of the coordination mechanism may be needed.

Recommended action

Signatory countries to the MOU are requested to review and approve an updated version of the Coordination Mechanism as per Annex 1 of this document.

**COORDINATION MECHANISM OF THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON GRASSLAND BIRDS**

1. The Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Grassland Bird Species of Southern South America and their Habitats does not establish a clear coordination mechanism for the implementation of the MOU. However, paragraph 12 establishes that the CMS Secretariat will act as the Secretariat of the MOU, and may use the services of recognized bodies in the field to support the coordination of the MOU.
2. The Third Meeting of the MOU signatories took place in Florianopolis (Brazil) on 2-3 December 2024 and agreed to review the Coordination Mechanism approved at the Second Meeting of Signatories.
3. The Signatories agree that MOU coordination shall be with the competent agency for the conservation and management of grassland birds in the country concerned, and that the authorities of that country shall provide the CMS Secretariat with the name of the person or administrative unit that will exercise such coordination, as well as the name of the alternate coordinator. In this way, it will be a signatory country that assumes the role of coordination in an intersessional manner.
4. The Signatories agree to establish a rotational coordination following the calendar below:

2025-2029	Argentina
2029-2034	Bolivia
2034-2038	Paraguay
2038-2042	Uruguay
2042-2044	Brazil
5. The CMS Secretariat will support this coordination within the mandate provided and subject to the availability of resources.
6. The Coordinator's duties include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Maintain regular contact with MOU focal points and the CMS Secretariat;
 - Maintain regular contact with NGOs and research organizations;
 - Liaise with international organizations;
 - Monitor the implementation of the MOU and Action Plan and distribute information regularly to all stakeholders;
 - Coordinate research and conservation projects;
 - Promote the exchange of information and examples of good practices for grassland bird conservation;
 - Promote education and awareness campaigns;
 - Organize meetings and workshops on technical aspects of the MOU and the Action Plan and contribute to the organization of the meeting of signatory countries;
 - Raise funds for the implementation of the MOU and Action Plan.