

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: GUIDING INSTRUMENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SADC VULTURE CONSERVATION STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

No.	Name of Instrument	Importance
INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS		
1	Multi-Species Action Plan for African-Eurasian Vultures of the CMS (Vulture MsAP) of 2017	Developed under CMS, this action plan aims to halt the decline of vultures through coordinated action across range states.
2	Mid-term Implementation Review of the Multi-Species Action Plan for African-Eurasian Vultures of 2021	Is an evaluation process aimed at assessing the progress made in achieving the objectives outlined in the action plan since its adoption in 2017.
3	The Raptors MoU (Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia)	The primary goal of the Raptors MoU is to promote the conservation of migratory birds of prey (raptors) that are vulnerable or at risk due to various threats, including habitat loss, poisoning, collision with human-made structures, and illegal hunting.
4	African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)	This agreement aims to maintain migratory waterbird populations, including those of vultures, and supports the management of their habitats.
5	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	This treaty regulates international trade in endangered species, including various vulture species listed under its appendices. For example - African White-backed Vulture, <i>Gyps africanus</i> and Rüppell's Vulture, <i>Gyps rueppelli</i> .
6	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)	This agreement aims to conserve migratory species and their habitats. It includes several vulture species under specific Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), such as the African-Eurasian Vulture Multispecies Action Plan.
7	Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	This treaty provides a framework for conserving biodiversity, including the protection and sustainable use of vulture habitats.
8	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands	While primarily focused on wetlands, this convention helps protect critical habitats that may be important for certain vulture species, particularly in areas where wetlands provide food resources.
9	IUCN Red List of Threatened Species	As maintained by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, this tool helps assess the conservation status of vulture species and guides policy-making and conservation actions.
10	Birds of Prey and Owls Conservation Strategy:	While not a formal binding agreement, various international NGOs, including BirdLife International, have developed strategies for the conservation and management of birds of prey, which includes vultures.
CONTINENTAL INSTRUMENTS		
1	African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (1968)	This treaty aims to promote the protection of the environment and sustainable development in Africa. It provides a framework for countries to conserve biodiversity, including vulture species, and encourages the establishment of protected areas.

No.	Name of Instrument	Importance
REGIONAL INSTRUMENTS		
1	SADC Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement	This protocol, developed by the Southern African Development Community (SADC), addresses wildlife conservation and management in the region. It includes measures to protect endangered species, including vultures, and promote sustainable use.
2	SADC Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy (2016-2021)	This strategy provides a coordinated framework for SADC member states to combat wildlife crime and poaching through enhanced law enforcement, capacity building, and regional cooperation, crucial for the protection of vulnerable species, including vultures.
3	SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) Programme: 2023-2033.	This programme aims to facilitate cross-border conservation efforts and sustainable resource management in key biodiversity areas, promoting habitat connectivity and collaborative strategies that enhance the conservation of species such as vultures that traverse national boundaries.
4	SADC TFCA Financing Facility	This financing mechanism provides sustainable funding for conservation and management actions in Transfrontier Conservation areas in the SADC and the implementation of the VCSAP within Member States can benefit from this facility.
5	SADC Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2035	This strategy outlines a comprehensive framework aimed at enhancing biodiversity conservation across Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states, ensuring the protection of critical ecosystems and species, including vultures, over the next decade.
6	Minutes of the SADC Joint meeting of Ministers responsible for Environment, Natural Resources, and Tourism of 2023	These minutes document the decisions and commitments made by SADC ministers, emphasizing collaborative approaches to address environmental challenges, including the urgent need for vulture conservation and management strategies.
7	SADC Situation Analysis of vulture conservation First Draft September 2024	This draft report provides a critical assessment of the current state of vulture populations in the SADC region, identifying key threats and outlining necessary conservation actions to ensure the survival of these ecologically significant species.
8	The SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2020-2030)	It emphasizes sustainable development and biodiversity conservation while also promoting infrastructure development for regional growth. Vulture conservation is linked to this initiative by advocating for the integration of environmental considerations into infrastructure projects. By ensuring that these projects incorporate wildlife corridors and protect vulture habitats, the RISDP supports both the conservation of vulture populations and the sustainable use of natural resources, thereby enhancing ecological integrity across the SADC region.
9	KAZA Bird Conservation Strategy	The strategy focuses on protecting Important Bird Areas and vulnerable species within the KAZA region, while improving bird habitat protection and ecological integrity. By implementing these conservation approaches, the KAZA Bird Conservation Strategy supports vulture conservation through the protection of both their habitats and the species themselves.
MEMBER STATE NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS		
1	Vulture Action strategies	The frameworks are designed to address the decline of vulture populations and promote long-term survival through tackling specific threats identified in each Member State. These include Tanzania and Zimbabwe's vulture action plans, South Africa's Biodiversity Management Plan, Lesotho and South Africa's Maloti-Drakensberg Vulture project, and various strategies and actions across the region. Member states also have National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans from which vultures can benefit.