

**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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CENTRAL EURASIAN ARIDLAND MAMMALS

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Ninth Meeting (Rome 1-5 December 2008)

Recognising that the large mammal fauna of the arid lands of Eurasia and North Africa have many species with threatened populations that are in a profoundly unsatisfactory state of conservation;

Conscious that the arid lands, with their exceptional natural and cultural heritage and their unique migration phenomena, are a crucial area for the action of the Convention;

Grateful to the Republic of Mongolia for drawing attention to the particular plight of the fauna of the temperate arid lands of Eurasia;

Welcoming the support of the other Parties situated within the temperate desert, semi desert, steppe and associated mountains of Eurasia;

Recalling that several species found in that biome are on Appendix I of the Convention;

Recalling also that several more species are on Appendix II of the Convention;

Noting that Recommendation 8.23 adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Eighth Meeting (Nairobi, 20-25 November 2005) requested that the Scientific Council, in cooperation with the Secretariat, the Republic of Mongolia and other concerned Parties initiate a **CENTRAL EURASIAN ARIDLAND CONCERTED ACTION** and associated Cooperative Action, that would in due course cover all threatened migratory large mammals of the temperate and cold deserts, semi-deserts, steppes and associated mountains of Eurasia;

Noting with satisfaction the progress made by this **CENTRAL EURASIAN ARIDLAND CONCERTED ACTION**;

Further noting with satisfaction the progress made by single-species Convention instruments operating in the region;

Taking into account the intersessional process on the future shape of CMS, and *conscious* that the development of new instruments is to be linked to this process; and

Acknowledging the recommendation of the 14th and 15th meetings of the Scientific Council that the **CENTRAL EURASIAN ARIDLAND CONCERTED ACTION** and associated Cooperative Action be continued and further reinforced;

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

1. *Requests* the Scientific Council, in cooperation with the Secretariat, the Republic of Mongolia and other concerned Parties to pursue the CENTRAL EURASIAN ARIDLAND CONCERTED ACTION and associated Cooperative Action, that will in due course cover all threatened migratory large mammals of the temperate and cold deserts, semi-deserts, steppes and associated mountains of Central Asia, the Northern Indian sub-continent, Western Asia, the Caucasus and Eastern Europe. The Action will include an Action Plan and status reports for all species concerned, and will initially be centred on *Camelus bactrianus*, *Bos grunniens*, *Uncia uncia*, *Cervus elaphus bactrianus* and, subject to its inclusion on Appendix I, *Acinonyx jubatus*, for the Concerted Action; and on *Equus hemionus* s.l., *Gazella subgutturosa*, *Procapra gutturosa* and, subject to its inclusion on Appendix II, *Saiga tatarica* s.l. for the Cooperative Action. The action will also take into account, and link to, other existing Convention instruments as well as actions already taken by Range States and Convention partners;
2. *Encourages* Range States and other interested Parties to prepare, in cooperation with the Scientific Council and the Secretariat, the necessary proposals to include in Appendix I or Appendix II threatened species that would benefit from the Action;
3. *Encourages* the Secretariat to pursue efforts to bring into the Convention Range States of the Central Eurasian fauna that are not yet Parties, and to liaise with other concerned Conventions to enhance synergies;
4. *Urges* non-Party Range States to support the Action, in recognition of its global significance;
5. *Appeals* to Range States and other interested Parties to support the development of a Memorandum of Understanding or other binding or non binding instruments to complement the CENTRAL EURASIAN ARIDLAND CONCERTED ACTION and its Action Plan;
6. *Encourages* the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to envisage, in consultation with the Parties concerned, an extension of the action area to the South-western Eurasian hot deserts and associated biomes; and
7. *Requests* the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to report on the progress of the action to the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.