



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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SECOND MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR
THE AQUATIC WARBLER (*Acrocephalus paludicola*)
Biebrza National Park, Poland, 13-15 May 2010
Agenda Item 5.0

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

(Prepared by the CMS Secretariat)

1. The CMS Secretariat acts as Secretariat for the Aquatic Warbler MoU pursuant to MoU paragraph 14. It also acts as the MoU Depositary (MoU Paragraph 13).
2. This note provides a brief overview of the Secretariat's responsibilities as Depositary and provides a summary of the status of signatures to the MoU and the Secretariat's recruitment efforts since the MoU's entry into effect. Section 2 briefly summarises efforts to maintain a list of designated contact points.

Status of Signatures and Recruitment Efforts to Date

3. The CMS Secretariat undertakes a number of activities as the MoU's Depositary. The primary activity is to keep track of the status of the MoU. It keeps the original version of the MoU on file, it notifies the signatories of new signatures and it transmits certified copies of the MoU to the various Signatory States and organisations that have signed the MoU.
4. Document UNEP/CMS/AW-2/Inf.1 notes that as of 7 May 2010 there were 12 Signatories to the MoU. The last signature was that of Belgium on 24 November 2006. In addition, two organisations – BirdLife International and the CMS Secretariat - have signed the MoU as collaborators.
5. The CMS Secretariat is active in recruitment efforts to increase membership in the MoU. It regularly requests the three remaining Range States to determine their ability to sign the MoU. The last request was made in March 2009. Of the original 15 Ranges States eligible to sign the MoU only three have not yet signed: FRANCE, THE NETHERLANDS and the Russian Federation. Upper case letters indicate a State is a CMS Party.
6. Individual contacts have been made with each country to ascertain their ability to sign the MoU. With a view to facilitating signature by France, the CMS Secretariat has produced in consultation with the French Government an official French translation of the original English version of the MoU.



List of Designated National Contact Points

7. MoU paragraph 5 invites Signatories to designate a competent authority to serve as a contact point for the other signatories. The CMS Secretariat promoted, at the occasion of the first meeting of the Signatories in 2006, the identification of a national contact point in each signatory state, tasked to deal with all matters relating to the MoU's implementation. Since the First Meeting of the Signatories, the CMS Secretariat has been maintaining an official list of national contact points. In particular, a comprehensive review of the list was undertaken in preparation for this meeting. By letter dated 28 October 2009 the Secretariat contacted Signatories, transmitted to them the Designated National Contact Point Form (UNEP/CMS/AW-2/Inf.2/Add.1), with the request to return it as soon as possible. A further reminder was sent out in November 2009.

8. As of 7 May 2010, 11 of the Signatories had provided the Secretariat with the name of their national contact point. The status of the list has been updated by the Secretariat and a list is presented to the meeting as document UNEP/CMS/AW-2/Inf.2. If the situation changes the document will be updated at, or shortly before, the meeting.

9. The Secretariat appeals to the Signatories that if they have not yet done so to please designate a national contact point and provide the information to the Secretariat as soon as possible. This should be done in writing from the minister of the ministry or the head of the authority competent for the Aquatic Warbler's conservation and management.

Action requested:

On the Status of Signatures:

- (a) The Signatories are invited to consider and take note of the Secretariat's report concerning the status of signatures and recruitment efforts.
- (b) Representatives of non-Signatory Range States eligible to sign the MoU are invited to inform the meeting of their Government's intentions vis-à-vis signature of the MoU.
- (c) The meeting is invited to consider ways and means to increase membership in the MoU.

On National Contact Point designation, the Signatories are requested to:

- (d) Take note of the list of designated national contact points.
- (e) Provide updated contact information at the meeting, in writing, if it has not been already forwarded to the Secretariat.