



**CONVENTION ON
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Agenda Item 24.1.5

ACTION PLAN FOR THE YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

Resolution 11.14 on a Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways recommends the development of a Species Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting in Asia. This species is considered to be Endangered by IUCN.

This document describes the situation regarding the development of the Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING

1. Resolution 11.14 on a Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways recommends the development, adoption and implementation of a Species Action Plan (SAP) for the Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*) in Asia, in line with CMS priorities for Concerted and Cooperative Action. This species is listed in Appendix I and is considered Endangered by IUCN.
2. Resolution 11.17 on the Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region requests the Landbirds Working Group and the Scientific Council, in liaison with the Migrant Landbirds Study Group and the Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan, with the support of the Secretariat, to develop as an emerging issue Action Plans for a first set of species including the Yellow-breasted Bunting.
3. An International Workshop on the Yellow-breasted Bunting and Migratory Landbird Conservation took place 2-4 November 2016 in the city of Guangzhou, in the province of Guangdong, China. The meeting was organized by the Sun Yat-sen University and BirdLife International Asia Division, with support from the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society and the Guangdong Institute of Applied Biological Sciences.
4. After the workshop, a preliminary version of the Action Plan was compiled in May 2017 by the Asia Division of BirdLife International. However, the compilers of the Action Plan have come to the conclusion that the final version of the document will not be ready for adoption by the Conference of the Parties in 2017 and that they will need more time to finalize the Action Plan.
5. According to the Asia Division of BirdLife International, the reason for this delay is that more work needs to be done in China to reach a consensus among different Government Departments on the conservation measures to be taken; and there are also knowledge gaps in some wintering countries that must be filled in before the Action Plan can be finalized.
6. In order not to wait three more years until the next Conference of the Parties to be held in 2020 before the Action Plan can be adopted, a draft Decision is included in UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.11 authorizing the Standing Committee to adopt the Action Plan intersessionally once the document is ready.

Recommended actions

7. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
 - a) Take note of the state of development of the Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting as described above.
 - b) Adopt the draft Resolution and Decisions contained in UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.11 on Action Plans for Birds.