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THIRD MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
04 - 05 July 2005, Bonn, Germany

**REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE
AEWA INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES PLAN
2003-2007**

INTRODUCTION

The implementation of the International Implementation Priorities for AEWA 2003-2007 (IIP 2003-2007) is fully dependent on voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties. Since 2001 till 31 May 2005 a total amount of roundabout US \$ 940,000 has been accrued.

Currently most Parties are confronted with the impact of the economic recession on their budget. Nonetheless the difficult economic situation the Secretariat has been able to secure for 2004 an amount of US \$ 110,000 for the implementation of the IIP 2003-2007. For 2005, most of the funds that have been accrued so far have to be allocated for the MOP3.

The fact that the US dollar has lost around 25 percent of its purchasing power is worth mentioning. When IIP 2003-2007 was adopted by MOP2 in 2002 the exchange rate of US dollar towards the EURO was 1 : 1. With the lost of 25 percent of its purchase power the figures as laid down in the IIP 2003-2007 no longer suffice to cover the real costs of the projects that have been contracted out. Up to the end of 2003, it was possible to cover these gaps with the leftover of previous years. It is expected that the with increasing salary costs due to the fall of the dollar exchange rate the Secretariat will be confronted with shortfalls. This means that the Secretariat is no longer in the position to compensate for the shortfall in funds needed for a project from its own resources.

At its 6th meeting the Technical Committee has reviewed the current situation on the implementation of the IIP 2003-2007 and took note of the progress made so far.

The following overview shows progress made so far.

ACTIONS REQUESTED FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee is requested to review the current situation regarding the implementation of the IIP 2003-2007 and to provide guidance/ advice to the Secretariat in seeking further support for IIP 2003-2007.

REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE AEWA INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES PLAN

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
1.	Implementation of existing international single species action plans (SSAP)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of migration route of the Northern Bald Ibis (NBI) population in Syria 	AEWA	RSPB	Project could not be successfully executed due to any permission being granted to use transmitters.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of possible breeding areas of the NBI in Somalia/ survey of wintering areas of the Moroccan population of NBI 	AEWA	SEO/ RSPB	Due to the political situation, the project could not be executed, so instead funds were used to install satellite transmitters on NBI in Morocco.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the factor determining the breeding habitat requirements and breeding success of Sociable Lapwing in 3 sites in Kazakhstan 	AEWA	BirdLife-European Div.	Study was carried out in 2004, BirdLife submitted a fieldwork report in December 2004. Final report is due in 2005.
2	Development of new international single species action plan (SSAP)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark-bellied Brent Goose 	AEWA, Netherlands	AEWA	Finalisation of this SSAP depends on receiving comments from all Key countries. Special page on Website on the Dark-bellied Brent Goose Action Plan will be created end of 2005/2006.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light-bellied Brent Goose (EACHA) 	WWT	WWT	Comments received from all Range States and text has been amended accordingly by WWT. SSAP will be submitted to MOP3 for adoption.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Bald Ibis 	AEWA	SEO	Finalisation of the SSAP is foreseen to take place in due course. SSAP will be submitted to MOP3 for adoption.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corncrake 	EU, CMS, AEWA	BirdLife International	Finalisation of the SSAP is foreseen to take place in due course. SSAP will be submitted to MOP3 for adoption.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White-headed Duck 	EU, CMS, AEWA	BirdLife International	Finalisation of the SSAP is foreseen to take place in due course. SSAP will be submitted to MOP3 for adoption.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferruginous Duck 	EU, CMS, AEWA	BirdLife International	Finalisation of the SSAP is foreseen to take place in due course. SSAP will be submitted to MOP3 for adoption.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maccoa Duck 	Switzerland, AWEA	Agred (South Africa)	Contract for drafting SSAP released in January 2005.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi Species Action Plan for southern African coastal seabirds 	AWEA	ADU	Contract for drafting of this multi species action plan released in August 2004.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociable Lapwing • Great Snipe • Black-winged Pratincole 		BirdLife International	Action Plans for the Sociable Lapwing, Black-winged Pratincole and Great Snipe were published and launched in November 2004.
3.	Identifying all sites of international importance to AWEA species			Will be part of the GEF project
4	Creating an interactive tool to present information on important sites for migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project
5.	Identifying priority areas for further survey work			Will be part of the GEF project
6.	Identifying priority areas for improved protection			Will be part of the GEF project
7.	Habitat priorities for Waterbirds, particularly in Africa and South-west Asia			
8.	Restoration and rehabilitation techniques for waterbird habitats, particularly in Africa			
9.	Evaluation of waterbird harvest in the Agreement Area			
10.	Review of the use of non-toxic shot for waterbird hunting			Regular update (every three years) of the report on phasing out lead shot is not seen as a high priority.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting the use of non-toxic shot in southern Europe 	Ill Nibbio, CIC and AWEA Secretariat		Workshop was planned to take place in Italy late 2003. However, no response has been received from counterparts.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting sustainable hunting in western Africa 	ONCFS, CIC, Switzerland and AWEA Secretariat	Wetlands International and ONCFS and AWEA Secretariat	Successful AWEA workshop took place in Bango, Senegal from 22-27 October 2004.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop to promote the use of non-toxic shot in Portugal 	Portugal	Portugal	A workshop will take place on 25 June 2005 to promote the use of non-toxic shot.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop to promote sustainable hunting in Middle-East 	EU Life Fund, AWEA	AWEA/ RSPB	An AWEA workshop is planned for late 2005 to take place in Lebanon.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop to promote sustainable hunting in North Africa 	EU Life Fund, AWEA	AWEA/ RSPB	An AWEA Workshop is planned for late 2006 to take place in Tunisia.
11.	Evaluation of socio-economic impacts of waterbird hunting			
12.	Evaluation of waterbirds as agricultural pests in Africa			

13.	Guidelines on minimising/ mitigating the impacts of infrastructural (and disturbance-related) developments affecting waterbirds			
14.	Improving survey and monitoring capacity for migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project.
15.	Survey of little-known areas			Will be a part of the GEF project.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey work in Tunisia 2003 	AEWA	AAO	Training was organised by the Association “Les Amis des Oiseaux” for this North African country to recognise Slender-billed Curlews and monitor birds in general. Some areas were surveyed in Tunisia.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey work in Albania and Libya 2005 	RAC/ SPA; AEWA	RAC/ SPA	In 2005 survey work was done in Albania and Libya with a special focus on the Slender-billed Curlew.
16.	International Waterbird Census: stop-gap survey			Will be part of the GEF project.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Waterbird Census in Africa in 2003 	AEWA	Wetlands Int.	To encourage some (particularly African) countries to collect data for the 2003 International Waterbird Census, a small grant was given by the AEWA Secretariat to Wetlands International.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Waterbird Census in Africa in 2004 	AEWA	Wetlands Int.	See above
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Waterbird Census 2005 	AEWA	Wetlands Int.	Contract released end 2004/ 2005
17.	Publication of an Atlas of Wader Populations	Belgium, The Netherlands, France, AEWA and the EU	Wetlands International	Early in 2003, a voluntary contribution was received and transferred to Wetlands International. It seems that necessary funds are secured and that the Atlas could be finalised in 2005.
18.	Publication of flyway atlases for gulls, terns, herons, ibises, storks and Rallidae			
19.	Pilot study/ review of potential from waterbird ringing recovery analyses for the Agreement area	France and AEWA	ADU	
20.	Atlas of ringing recoveries			
21.	Coordination of waterbird ringing schemes, particularly in Africa	France and AEWA	ADU	
22.	Guideline on the use of satellite tracking for migratory waterbirds			
23.	Telemetry in migratory waterbirds			
24.	Report on status and trends of populations for the 3 rd Meeting of the Parties			The TC is discussing a new format for this report.
25.	Actions for the conservation of colonial waterbirds	France and AEWA	Wetlands International	Contract released early in 2005.
26.	Population trends in migratory waterbirds			
27.	Causes of population changes in migratory waterbirds			

28.	Migratory waterbirds and climatic changes			
29.	Flyway population catalogue (or register)	UK	Wetlands International	Contract will be released in due course.
30.	Field guide for Central Asia and adjacent countries			Will be part of the GEF project.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field guide for Uzbekistan 	Switzerland, World Bank, Uzbekistan		Project has been contracted out to Institute of Zoology and guide will be printed in 2005.
31.	Compiling flyway information (in digital format) for use in conjunction with existing waterbird count data and site information			Will be part of the GEF project.
32.	The use of wetland sites by migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project.
33.	Migratory waterbirds as indicators			
34.	Development of a density-dependent population model for the Dark-bellied Brent Goose	UK		<p>A small grant has been received from the UK. The Dark-bellied Brent Goose Working Group is investigating whether this project could be linked to an existing project under the 5th Framework of the EU, which could lead to large savings.</p> <p>ALTERRA received a grant for work on Geese and proposed to link the population model to this. Waiting for a concrete proposal.</p>
35.	Analysis of training needs for migratory waterbird conservation			Study has been done in GEF preparation and development facility (category B) Flyways project. Further analysis, development of subregional programmes and their implementation will take place in the full GEF AEW/Ramsar Flyways.
35.	Regional training programmes in Africa for implementation of the Agreement			Will be part of the GEF project.
36.	Publication of waterbird monitoring manuals			Will be part of the GEF project.
37.	Establishing a clearing house for training materials for the Agreement			
38.	Development and implementation of a communications strategy for the Agreement	UK and AEW	SPAN Consultant	Draft Communication Strategy ready for submission to MOP3.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reorganization and redesign of the Agreements Website 	AEWA	AEWA	New website launched on 1 March 2005.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of E-Newsletter 	AEWA	AEWA	Expected to be ready by 1 August 2005.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and printing of accession guide 	Luxembourg; AEW	Luxembourg; AEW	Accession guide drafted by the AEW Secretariat was printed by Luxembourg and delivered in March 2005. Guide is available in English, French, Russian and Arabic.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and printing of other outreach materials 	Luxembourg; AEWA	Luxembourg, AEWA	By mid-March 2005, pins, reference CD-ROMS. Stickers and Posters were printed and delivered.
39.	Regional Workshop for promotion of the Agreement			A first step towards a future workshop has been taken by drafting a reader on AEWA, to be published in the second half of 2005.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop to promote accession of Chad to AEWA 	AEWA	Min of Env.	Small grant was given in 2004 for a workshop to sensitize the Government of Chad to join AEWA.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop to promote accession of Madagascar to CMS and AEWA 	CMS; AEWA	Min of Env.	Small grant was given by CMS and AEWA for a workshop to sensitize the Government of Madagascar to accede to CMS and AEWA.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Workshop to promote accession of Burundi to CMS and AEWA 			A request has been received from Burundi to sensitise the authorities by holding a workshop. So far, no agreement has been reached on when this workshop will take place.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop on promoting AEWA in Russia 			In close cooperation with some Russian experts and Wetlands International, the possibility of holding a workshop on promoting AEWA is being considered.
41.	Communicating the importance of a network of critical sites for migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project.

PROJECTS FROM THE PREVIOUS INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AEWAs 2000-2004				
1	Review of the use of agrochemicals in Africa and their impacts on migratory waterbirds	France, Switzerland, FAO and AEWAs	CERES/ FAO	Final report received mid May 2005 and submitted to TC for comments.
2	Study on potential impacts of marine fisheries on migratory waterbirds	Netherlands and UK	ADU	First results were presented at the Global Flyway Conference. Final report expected by mid-2005.
3.	Rehabilitation of important migratory waterbird sites that have been degraded by invasive aquatic weeds	UK and AEWAs	IUCN (regional offices in Africa)	Final report received end of 2004.
4.	Exchange of know-how on traditional approaches to wetland and waterbird management in Africa	The Netherlands and AEWAs	IUCN (regional offices in Africa)	First results presented at the Global Flyway Conference in 2004. Final report expected by mid-2005.
5	Guideline on National Legislation for Migratory Waterbird Conservation (IIP '00-'04; project 1)	Netherlands and AEWAs	IUCN-ELC; AEWAs	Adopted by MOP2 as interim guidelines; however some editing and reformulation is still needed. The Secretariat plans to finalise it by end of 2005.
6.	Guideline on avoiding the introduction of Non-native Migratory Waterbird Species	UK and AEWAs	Just Ecology/ AEWAs	Guideline has been discussed at MOP2. Comments have been received on Guidelines and Brochure from Aviculture Associations. Agreement has been reached with the World Association on Aquaria and Zoos for financial support for publication of these documents. Due to limited human resources in the Secretariat, finalisation of the documents could not take place.