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FOURTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE
CONSERVATION OF AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS (AEWA)
12-13 MAY 2003, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

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

INTRODUCTION

Since the last Technical Committee meeting (Arusha, Tanzania 2002) the Secretariat spent nearly all its time in the preparations for MOP2. Due to this workload not much time was left to seek additional funds for implementation of the International Implementation Priorities (IIP) AEW/TC 4.8 2000-2004. MOP2 reviewed the existing IIP and adopted the IIP 2004-2007 by Resolution 2.4.

The following overview shows the progress that has been made so far.

ACTIONS REQUESTED FROM THE TC

The Technical Committee is requested to review the current situation regarding the implementation of the IIP 2003-2007.

REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE AEW INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES PLAN

nr	Name of the project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
IIP 2000-2004				
1.	Guideline on National Legislation for Migratory Waterbird Conservation	Netherlands and AEW	IUCN-ELC	Adopted by MOP2 as interim guidelines; still need to be published as soon as possible.
3	Develop new international single species action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Snipe • Black-winged Pratincole • Sociable Plover • Dark-bellied Brent Goose 	AEWA, Netherlands	BirdLife International	With exemption of the Dark-bellied Brent Goose all plans were adopted by MOP2 by Resolution 2.13. In due course publication of these plans will take place under the AEW Technical Series. The D-b Brent Goose Plan was approved by Recommendation 2.1 and needs to be adopted by the Standing Committee in close cooperation with the Technical Committee. The AEW Secretariat is working on the development of special page on the AEW Website on the D-b Brent Goose.
4	Guideline on Avoidance of Introductions of Non-native Migratory Waterbird Species	UK and AEW	Just Ecology	Guideline has been discussed at MOP. Brochure ready for printing
14.	Review of the use of agrochemicals in Africa, and their impacts on migratory waterbirds	France, Switzerland, FAO and AEW	CERES/ FAO	Project is on scheme and final report expected to be ready by end of 2003.
24.	Study on potential impacts of marine fisheries of migratory waterbirds	Netherlands and UK	ADU	Interim progress report September 2002, project runs without major problems. Final report ready by end of 2003.

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25.	Rehabilitation of important sites for migratory waterbirds, which have been degraded by invasive aquatic weeds	UK and AEWA	IUCN (regional offices in Africa)	Report of the desk study will be ready end of 2003.
28.	Exchange of know-how on traditional approaches of wetland and waterbird management in Africa	The Netherlands and AEWA	IUCN (regional offices in Africa)	Report of the desk study ready by the end of 2003
32.	Development on the Agreement's Website	Germany and AEWA	UNEP-WCMC and AEWA Secretariat	Ongoing project, main developments are ready. AEWA Secretariat will rearrange some of the information in 2003.
IIP 2003-2007				
1	Implement existing international single species action plans			Next Meeting of the Brent Goose Working Group is scheduled to take place end of 2003.
2.	Development of new international single species action plans for the <i>Athya nyroca</i>	FRANCE, CMS and BirdLife International	BirdLife International Romania	Workshop took place November 2002, starting point for drafting an Action Plan. Proceedings will be published soon.
3.	Identify all sites of international importance for AEWA species			Will be part of the GEF project
4.	Creating an interactive tool that presents information on important sites for migratory waterbirds			Will be a part of the GEF project
5.	Identify priority areas for further survey work			Will be a part of the GEF project
6.	Identify priority areas for better 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			

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10.	Review of the use of non-toxic shot for waterbird hunting	Ill Nibbio, CIC and AEWA Secretariat		Workshop is planned (funded partly by the UK) to take place in Italy late 2003. Also ideas for addressing the issue of lead shot at ONCFS workshop to be hold in Dakar late 2003. In 2002 a special Newsletter on this matter was published and also some articles were drafted and submitted to the National Hunters organizations in Europe. These articles were also put on the AEW Website. The Secretariat is currently finalizing a Reader on this issue to be used at future workshops.
11.	Evaluation of socio-economic impacts of waterbird hunting			
12.	Evaluation of waterbirds as agricultural pests in Africa			
13.	Guidelines on minimizing/ 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 poorly known areas			In 2002 as well as in 2003 some small grants have been provided by the AEW Secretariat to do some survey work in Iran, Yemen, Morocco and Tunisia, particular looking for the Slender-billed Curlew but at the same time training local people in monitoring of birds. The project will be a part of the GEF project.

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16.	International Waterbird Census-special gap-filling survey			To stimulate some African countries to collect data for the African Waterbird Census 2003 a small grant was given by the AEW Secretariat to Wetlands International that is coordinating the AfWC Will be also part of the GEF project
17.	Publication of an Atlas of Wader Populations	Belgium, The Netherlands, France, AEWA and the EU	Wetlands International	Early 2003 a voluntary contribution was received which will be transferred as soon as possible to Wetlands International. It seems to be that necessary funds are secured and that the Atlas could be finalised in 2003/ 2004 before the Global Flyway Conference.
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 AEW	ADU	Funds have been secured for this project and a project proposal has been received. The latter will be reviewed during the 4 th Meeting of the Technical Committee and if approved work could be contracted out as soon as possible.
20.	Ringling recoveries in atlases			
21.	Coordination of waterbird ringing schemes, particularly in Africa	France and AEW	ADU	Funds have been secured for this project and a project proposal has been received. The latter will be reviewed during the 4 th Meeting of the Technical Committee and if approved work could be contracted out as soon as possible.
22.	Guideline on the use of satellite tracking for migratory waterbirds			
23.	Telemetry in migratory waterbirds			

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24.	Report on the status and trends of populations for the Meeting of the Parties at its third session			To be discussed with TC the usefulness of updating the report on status and trend every triennium.
25.	Actions for the conservation of colonial waterbirds	France and AEWA	Tour-du-Valat	The AEWA Secretariat is in the process to contract this work out to Tour-du-Valat. The necessary funds have been secured already.
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)			
30.	Field guide for Central Asia and adjacent countries			Will be part of the GEF project.
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 wetlands 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			
35.	Analysis of the 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 AEWA/Ramsar flyways project that will be submitted at the end of 2003
36.	Regional training programmes in Africa for implementation of the Agreement			Will be part of the GEF project.
37.	Publication of waterbird monitoring manuals			Will be part of the GEF project.
38.	Establish a clearing house for training materials for the Agreement			

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39.	Develop and implement a communications strategy for the Agreement	UK and AEWA		Funds have been secured for drafting a communication strategy and quotes have been received. The proposal for such a strategy will be reviewed during the 4 th Meeting of the Technical Committee and if approved work could be contracted out as soon as possible.
40.	Regional Workshop for promotion of the Agreement			<p>The AEWA Secretariat launched the idea to organise a special workshop on promoting accession and or implementing of CMS Agreements in Eastern Europe. This workshop will probably take place in second half of 2003. A first step has been taken to draft a reader on AEWA</p> <p>Another workshop is foreseen to take place in Burundi in close cooperation with CMS. The first discussion on this has taken place during the last COP of Ramsar in Valencia, Spain.</p> <p>For both meetings funds have still to be secured.</p>
41.	Communicating the importance of a network of critical sites for migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project.