



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 STATUS AND TRENDS OF POPULATIONS FOR MOP3

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with paragraph 7.4 of the AEWA Action Plan the Agreement Secretariat, in coordination with the Technical Committee, shall prepare a number of international reviews necessary for the implementation of this Action Plan, amongst others reports on status and trends of populations. In paragraph 7.5 it is laid down that the Secretariat shall endeavor to ensure that the reviews mentioned in paragraph 7.4 are updated at intervals of not more than three years. Paragraph 7.6 mentions that the Technical Committee shall assess the guidelines and reviews prepared under paragraphs 7.3 and 7.4, and shall formulate draft recommendations and resolutions relating to their development, content and implementation for consideration at sessions of the Meeting of the Parties.

With reference to the paragraphs mentioned-above, it is clear that the Meeting of the Parties expects from the Secretariat as well as from the Technical Committee that a report on Status and Trend of Populations of Migratory Waterbirds in the Agreement Area is submitted for their review during the third session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2005/2006.

At its second session the Meeting of the Parties adopted Resolution 2.1. 'Amendments to the Annexes to the Agreement'. In the operational part of this Resolution reference is made in paragraph 9 and 10 to the Report on the Conservation Status of Migratory Waterbirds in the Agreement Area. As stated in paragraph 9 the MOP noted that the second edition of the Report on the Conservation Status is the best available knowledge at the moment on this matters. In Paragraph 10 the Technical Committee is requested to develop, at its next meeting, proposals for enhancing the analytical content of the third edition of the AEWA Report on the Conservation Status of Migratory Waterbirds in the Agreement Area, and to consider how that information may be used to direct input to future reviews of the Agreement's Implementation Priorities.

MOP2 also requested the Secretariat to liaise with the Ramsar Convention Bureau to endeavor ensure in future, the timing of the AEWA MOP follows the Ramsar COP, thus facilitating the review of waterbird population estimated by AEWA and further encouraging a globally coordinated and effective process for the review of waterbird populations estimates.

PROPOSAL OF THE SECRETARIAT

As preparation for MOP3 the Secretariat would like to contract out the work for drafting the 3rd edition of the Report on the Conservation Status of Migratory Waterbirds in the Agreement Area, as soon as possible. Taking into account the above-mentioned paragraph 10 of Resolution 2.1 the Technical Committee is requested to discuss and to develop proposals for enhancing the analytical content of the 3rd edition of the Report and to give some guidance on work to be contracted out. The Secretariat proposes also to take into account that before the next MOP the Waterbird Populations Estimates (WPE III). 3rd edition will partially be updated. The issue to discuss is what is and should be the added value of the Report on the Conservation Status of AEWA species to WPE III.