



**19<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**  
*27 September 2021, Virtual Meeting Format*

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DRAFT RESOLUTION Ex.1 (StC/DR1)

**POSTPONING THE 8<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE  
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO AEWA**

*Recalling* Article VI, paragraph 2 of the Agreement, which states that the Agreement Secretariat shall convene ordinary sessions of the Meeting of the Parties, in consultation with the Convention Secretariat, at intervals of not more than three years, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise,

*Further recalling* the decision of the Contracting Parties through Resolution 7.13 to hold the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2021,

*Noting* that the Contracting Parties in the same Resolution welcomed and accepted with great appreciation the offer from Hungary to host the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds,

*Appreciating* the extraordinary efforts made by the host Government and the Secretariat on MOP8 preparations,

*Noting* the decision made by the Standing Committee on basis of a survey sent to all Parties and a thorough analysis which concluded that an in-person meeting in October 2021 would prevent most of the African delegates and others from attending the MOP,

*Acknowledging* that MOP8 cannot take place in 2021 as planned due to the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic,

*The Meeting of the Parties:*

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Hungary for its commitment to host MOP8 in Hungary in the framework of the 'One with Nature' international exhibition in 2021;
2. *Decides* to postpone the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties to the second half of 2022;
3. *Requests* the Secretariat to identify a host country and/ or venue for MOP8 in 2022; and
4. *Further requests* the Standing Committee to decide on the exact timing of MOP8 in close consultation with the Secretariat and the potential host country.