



AEWA BLACK-TAILED GODWIT INTERNATIONAL  
WORKING GROUP



**1<sup>ST</sup> REGIONAL MEETING FOR RANGE STATES WITH WINTERING  
LIMOSA LIMOSA LIMOSA IN THE EAST ATLANTIC FLYWAY**

13-14 November 2017– Dakar, Senegal

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## Meeting Report

**Day 1: November 13th, 2017**

### *Opening of the meeting*

#### **Welcome notes and opening introductions**

M. Theo Peters, the Dutch Ambassador to Senegal, welcomed participants to his residence where this meeting of the AEWA, Black-tailed Godwit Working group was hosted. In a brief introduction he referred to the interest for the Black-tailed Godwit, as the national bird, in the Netherlands before expressing the pleasure he has in hosting this meeting at his residence. He concluded by wishing the meeting to have good discussions and concrete and relevant conclusions to help the conservation of the species.

Nina Mikander (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat) thanked the Ambassador for hosting the meeting. She then emphasized the overall purpose of this meeting, which concerns the ongoing revision of the AEWA International Species Action plan for the Black-tailed Godwit adopted 10 years ago. She encouraged the participants to generate ideas for the conservation of the species and work towards a workplan.

Wilmar Rimmelts (Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV), the Netherlands) thanked the Senegalese authorities for accepting and co-organizing the meeting. She mentioned that the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit plan is very important as the numbers of Black-tailed Godwits are declining. The Dutch Ministry therefore facilitated the appointment of a new coordinator for this Action plan. The new coordinator is Marc van Roomen from Sovon Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology. He has been responsible for organizing and facilitating this workshop. She concluded by inviting participants to good and rewarding discussions for the conservation of the Black-tailed Godwit throughout its range and migration zone.

Colonel Lamine Kane, Director of National Parks (Ministry of the Environment, Senegal) welcomed all the participants and thanked them for their availability to attend the meeting. After words of thanks to the Netherlands and the AEWA Secretariat for the financing and the selection of Senegal to host the meeting, the Director, on behalf of his Minister, officially opened the meeting.

#### **Chair of the meeting**

After a consultation between the authorities present and the meeting organizers, Col. Lamine Kane, representative of the Ministry of the Environment of Senegal was proposed and accepted by the participants as chairperson of the meeting in order to conduct/supervise the meeting activities

*Decision:* Col. Lamine Kane was mandated by all of the participants to lead works during the two (02) meeting days.

### **Admission of observers**

Marc van Roomen (Coordinator BtG-IWG) gave a short presentation about the structure and organization of the working group. He then asked that the observers present would be allowed to continue participating in the work and the discussions.

*Decision:* The participants unanimously accepted and admitted the participation of the observers to the meeting.

### **Adoption of the program**

The chairman introduced the two-day meeting agenda as a whole, before asking participants if there were any comments or changes to include.

*Decision:* In the absence of comments or amendments, the program was adopted as proposed to participants at the beginning of the meeting.

## **Update of status of the Black-tailed Godwit**

### **Update of the flyway population**

A key note on the current status of the Black-tailed Godwit in East-Atlantic- Flyway was presented by Jos Hooijmeijer (University of Groningen, NL, Presentation 1) based on his research findings. This presentation addressed also the threats, the needed conservation measures and the identification of knowledge gaps.

Nina Mikander (UNEP / AEWA Secretariat, Presentation 2) briefed the audience on the aims and purposes of the AEWA International Species Action Plans and the Species Working Groups. In particular, she explained the process of prioritizing species, developing and revising plans, and the role of the International Working Groups at AEWA level.

Marc van Roomen (SOVON, presentation 3), after recalling the necessity and the importance of joint actions for the survival of the species, he gave a brief presentation of the global action plan as a whole and its status in terms of implementation. He then insisted on the details to explain clearly what we are going to do during the meeting (eg: revision of priorities, of time scales and the figures in updating the conservation actions, etc.)

### **Update from countries**

During the meeting, various information relating to the status of the Black-tailed Godwit (population evolution, threats they face, conservation actions and measures taken, lack of knowledge about the species, etc.) were shared through updates from the countries represented. Thus, we had the presentations from

Portugal (Afonso Rocha, Center for Environmental and Marine Studies, University of Aveiro, Portugal, presentation 4),

Morocco (Abdeljebbar QNINBA, Scientific Institute of Rabat and GREPOM, presentation 5),  
the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (Zeine El Abidine Sidatt, Diawling National Park, presentation 6),

Senegal (Khady Gueye, Direction Parcs Nationaux, presentation 7),

The Gambia (Nuha Jammeh, DPWM, AEWA Technical Focal Point, presentation 8 ),

and Guinea-Bissau (Hamilton Monteiro, ODZH, presentation 9),

The summary of the significant information from the country presentations was made and presented by Marc van Roomen (presentation 10). This presentation was followed by a discussion session during which clarifications were made on certain questions relating to numbers and trends, threats, conservation actions, gaps to be filled in terms of research and finally implementation actions in the field.

*Decision:* All the presentations will be compiled and shared in PDF format with all participants present at the meeting.

### *Draft workplan for the wintering region*

A first step in the drafting of the workplan took place in the form of brainstorming, in 4 different working groups, based on the information provided by the country updates. Through these small group discussions, the participants aim to deepen their reflections in order to highlight the most important aspects to consider in the management and conservation of the species; the best solutions or conservation actions to take into account and also the most important knowledge gaps that must be tackled.

### **Day 2 : November 14th, 2017**

#### *Field visit*

The whole morning of this day was devoted to a field trip that allowed participants to visit and make bird watching at the Technopole site, an urban wetland on the outskirts of Dakar city

#### *Vision sharing on the conservation and monitoring of the species in the region*

With the presence of representatives from different countries in the region, the meeting was also a good opportunity for International NGOs working in the region, in this case Wetlands International (Gabin Agblonon, presentation 11) and BirdLife International (Geoffroy Citegetse, presentation 12), to share their vision of Black-tailed Godwit conservation and monitoring within the region. The opportunity was also used to remind and show the various actions they have had led or supported in the past for the conservation of this species.

#### *Finalization of the draft workplan for the wintering region*

The working groups set up the day before presented the results of their work through information cards with the facilitation of Col. Abdoulaye Ndiaye. Nina Mikander (AEWA Secretariat), Djibril Diallo (Nature Mauritanie, Mauritania), Mamadou Welle (DPN, Senegal) and Mohamed Noaman (High Commissioner for Water and Forests and the fight against desertification, Morocco) were the reporters for the working groups.

After plenary discussion on the results presented, each country was invited to complete the work plan template prepared for the purpose by Marc Van Roomen. At the end of the working session dedicated to filling in the templates, the following decisions were made:

*Decision 1:* Draft country Workplans will be revised made coherent and then shared with the different countries for additional inputs to allow for their compilation and sharing.

*Decision 2:* A draft meeting report will be circulated to all participants at the meeting.

*Decision 3:* The meeting report and any other relevant information will be published on the AEWA website. Countries and contacts at national level are also urged to share information through the use and postings on this website.

## **Expectations**

In terms of expectations regarding the workplan and the working group, the participants aspire to:

- an implementation of the actions within three (03) years
- hopefully have this meeting every three every 03 years
- identify which country to host the 2ng regional meeting

## ***Meeting closure***

The closing ceremony was led by M. Theo Peters, ambassador of the Netherlands in Senegal. But before his closing address, Wilmar Remmelts and Col. Lamine Kane thanked the participants for their presence and contribution. The words of thanks were also addressed to the Dutch Embassy for hosting the meeting, the reception and the excellent food to Wetlands International for organizing and logistics and finally to the host country authorities, Senegal, for accepting and leading the meeting activities.

<b>LISTE PARTICIPANTS</b>			
<b>Country</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Email</b>
Gambia	Nuha Jammeh	National gov. focal point BtG AEWA SAP	jammeh05@gmail.com
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G-Bissau	Hamilton Monteiro	Observer (expert)	cotchicotchi@yahoo.com.br
Germany	Nina Mikander	AEWA representative	nina.mikander@unep-aewa.org
Maroc	Mohamed Noaman	National gov. focal point BtG AEWA SAP	noaman_md@yahoo.fr
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Mauritania	Zeine El Abidine SIDATT	Observer (expert)	zbidine@yahoo.fr
Mauritania	Djibril Diallo	Observer (expert)	djibinec@yahoo.fr
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Netherlands	Marc van Roomen	Convener workshop	marc.vanroomen@sovon.nl
Netherlands	Wilmar Remmells	Gov representative The Netherlands	w.j.remmelts@minez.nl
Portugal	Afonso Rocha	National gov. focal point BtG AEWA SAP	afonso.rocha@gmail.com
Senegal	Theo Peters	Dutch Ambassador	theo.peters@minbuza.nl
Senegal	Lamine Kane	National gov. focal point BtG AEWA SAP	dpn@sentoo.sn kanelamine@hotmail.com
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Senegal	Ibrahima Gueye	Conservateur Parc du Djoudj	gueyeibrahima@gmail.com
<b>RESOURCE PERSONS</b>			
Senegal	Col. Abdoulaye Ndiaye	Facilitator	
Senegal	Gabin Agblonon	Support / Reporting	
Senegal	Interpreters		
Senegal	Antonio Arujo	MAVA Foundation	
Senegal	Col. Issa Sylla	In particular during 1st day	
Senegal	Jasper Hondelink	Embassy focal point	



**1st Regional meeting of the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group**  
- for Range States with wintering *Limosa limosa* in the East Atlantic Flyway-

13-14 November 2017–Dakar, Senegal

**Annotated Agenda**

**Dates:** 13-14 November 2017

**Venue:** **Dutch Ambassador's residence**, Avenue des Ambassadeurs, Fann Résidence  
Dakar, Senegal. (See map below)

**Main Objectives:**

- Review of the current status including monitoring, research and conservation of the East Atlantic Flyway population *Limosa limosa*;
- Updates on the status, threats and conservation actions in range states for wintering *Limosa limosa* in the East Atlantic Flyway;
- Overview on the status of implementation of the prioritized activities for the region in the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Action Plan;
- Development and adoption of a regional work plan for conservation, management and research activities for the next inter-sessional period.

**Meeting languages:** Meeting documents will be provided in French and English. The meeting languages will be French and English with simultaneous translation.

DAY 1–Monday 13 November 2017				
Time	Agenda item	Document	Lead	Comments
8.20	Leaving Hotel le Djoloff, a bus will be ready			
8.30 - 9:00	Registration at Ambassador's residence and workshop	-	-	
9.00 – 9:30	Welcome and opening	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome note by the Dutch Ambassador (M. Theo Peters)</li> <li>• Address note from the representative of UNEP/AEWA (Nina Mikander)</li> <li>• Address note from the representative of the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature &amp; Food – LNV (Wilmar Remmelts)</li> <li>• Address and opening note from Representative of the Senegalese Ministry of Environment (Director of Department of Parks - Col. Lamine Kane)</li> </ul>

9.30-9.35	Announcement of the Chair			
9.35-9.40	Adoption of Agenda	Agenda	Chair	
9.40 – 10.00	Admission of observers and introduction of participants	Participants-list	Chair and Abdoulaye Ndiaye	
<i>10.00 -10.30 Coffee/teaand group photo</i>				
10.30 -11.00	Keynote talk on the current status of the Black-tailed Godwit in East Atlantic Flyway including threats, needed conservation measures and identification of gaps in knowledge		Jos Hooijmeijer, University Groningen, NL	
11:00 - 11.20	Aims and purposes AEWA International Species Action Plans and Species Working Groups		Nina Mikander, AEWA	
11:20 - 11.45	Content and status of implementation of AEWA SAP for Black-tailed Godwit and introduction to this workshop	-	Marc van Roomen Coordinator ad interim	
11:45 – 12.10	Update on status, threats and Conservation on the Iberian Peninsula	-	Representative Portugal	
12:10 - 12:30	Update on status, threats and conservation in Morocco	-	Representative Morocco	
12: 30 - 12.50	Update on status, threats and conservation in Mauritania	-	Representative Mauritania	
<i>13:00 – 14.30 Lunch (residence)</i>				
14.30 – 14.50	Update on status, threats and conservation in Senegal	-	Representative Senegal	
14.50 – 15.10	Update on status, threats and conservation in Gambia	-	Representative Gambia	
15.10 – 15.30	Update on status, threats and conservation in Guinea Bissau	-	Representative Guinea Bissau	
15.30 – 15.50	Update on status, threats and conservation in Mali	-	Representative Mali	<i>tbc</i>
<i>15.50–16:20 Coffee/Tea</i>				
16:20 – 16:40	Summary of status in winter and threats/conservation issues	-	Marc van Roomen & Abdoulaye Ndiaye	- discussion
16.40 – 17.10	Draft workplan for the wintering region	-	Marc van Roomen & Abdoulaye Ndiaye	- discussion
17.10 – 17.15	Information on the excursion tomorrow.	-	Gabin Agblonon, WI	
17.25	Leaving of Bus to Hotel			
19.45	Leaving of Bus to Embassy for Dinner			
<i>20.00 – 21.30 Dinner(residence)</i>				

### DAY 2–Tuesday 14 November 2017

Time	Agenda item	Document	Lead	
8.00 Morning field excursion	- Technopole, Dakar. Leaving from Hotel Djolofat 08:00	-	DPN & NCD&WI	
11:30	Leaving from Technopole to Hotel			

12:45	Leaving from Hotel to Ambassador's residence			
13:00 – 14.00 Lunch(residence)				
14:00 – 14:25	Vision of Wetlands International on conservation and monitoring/research BtGin the region.	-	Representative Wetlands International	-
14.25 – 14.45	Vision of BirdLife International on conservation and monitoring/research BtG in the region.	-	Representative BirdLife International	
14.45 – 15.30	Finalising Draft workplan (1) for the wintering region	-	Marc van Roomen & Abdoulaye Ndiaye.	- discussion
15.30 – 16:00 Coffee/tea				
16:00 – 16:30	Finalising Draft workplan (2)	-	Marc van Roomen & Abdoulaye Ndiaye	- discussion
16.30 – 16.40	Summary and conclusions		-	
16.40 – 16.50	Any other business, next meetings	-	-	-
16.50 – 17.00	Closing remarks	-	-	-
17.15	Leaving of Bus to Hotel			
20.00 – 21.30 ClosingDinner at Hotel le Djolof				

Map of the venue of the workshop (please note that this address is different from indicated in the earlier writing)

