

## 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the AEWA European Seaduck International Working Group

24-26 March 2020 – Vilm, Germany

### GENERAL INFORMATION FOR MEETING PARTICIPANTS

#### Meeting date and venue

The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the AEWA European Seaduck International Working Group will be hosted by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation. The logistical arrangements for the meeting will be carried out by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

The meeting itself will take place on **Wednesday, 25 March and Thursday, 26 March on the Island of Vilm, Germany at the [International Academy for Nature Conservation](#).**



## Excursion

On Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of March there will be a guided walk around the Island of Vilm with good chances of seeing waterbirds – so please bring your binoculars! The walk will start at 13:30 after the lunch break and will take approx. 1 ½ - 2 hrs. Comfortable and waterproof shoes are recommended.

## Meeting contacts

In case of any questions or if you require assistance, please contact the meeting organizers:

- Nina Mikander (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat) at: +49 151 656 112 40 ([nina.mikander@unep-aewa.org](mailto:nina.mikander@unep-aewa.org));
- Jeannine Dicken (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat – particularly in relation to logistical arrangements for funded delegates) at: +49 228 815 2455 ([jeannine.dicken@unep-aewa.org](mailto:jeannine.dicken@unep-aewa.org));
- Oliver Schall (Federal Ministry of Environment) at: +49 228 305 2632 ([oliver.schall@bmu.bund.de](mailto:oliver.schall@bmu.bund.de));
- Richard Hearn (WWF) at: +44 1453 891185 ([richard.hearn@wwf.org.uk](mailto:richard.hearn@wwf.org.uk))

## Accommodation and Meals

When registering, **all participants** are requested to book their rooms (65€ per person/night for a single room or 50€ per person/night for a double room) as well as full board (28€ per person/day) via the following link, which is the same link as for the registration:

[https://www.bfn.de/en/int-academy/anmeldeformular-2.html?tx\\_blitzcalendar\\_pi1%5Bcid%5D=4228](https://www.bfn.de/en/int-academy/anmeldeformular-2.html?tx_blitzcalendar_pi1%5Bcid%5D=4228)

### **NOTE: cancellation policy and payment instructions:**

**Participants who cancel their participation 3 days or less ahead of the conference will be charged 80% of the accommodation and board costs for the whole conference if they do not name a replacement. Participants arriving later than announced have to cover the originally appointed services.**

**Payment by cash will not be possible! The Academy accepts Maestro Card (EC-Card). Payment by credit card and bank transfer is possible in case you do not have a Maestro Card.**

For funded delegates: Please refer to the information sheet for funded delegates (ES IWG Inf. 1.1).

## Arrival to and from Vilm

All non-funded delegates are kindly requested to make their own travel arrangements to Vilm. Detailed information on how best to arrange travel to the island is contained in the additional information sheet provided by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (ES IWG Inf. 1.3). We recommend that all participants familiarize themselves with the details provided therein.

**NOTE:** When booking flights, please make sure that you do not arrive later than at 12:00 o'clock at either of the Berlin airports on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of March. Otherwise, you will not have sufficient time for the train travel to *Lauterbach Mole* and the subsequent onward travel to Vilm by ferry. The ferries are available at no cost - please refer to the travel information sheet for details on departure/arrival times.

Departures are foreseen to take place on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of March after breakfast – again, please refer to the travel information sheet for details on departure/arrival times. The earliest possible flight that can be reached in Berlin on Friday will be at 14:00 o'clock.

Should you require an overnight stay in Berlin, one hotel option is the Motel One Berlin Hauptbahnhof, which is very close to Berlin Central Station.

Travel for funded delegates will be arranged by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. Funded delegates are kindly requested to see the relevant information document (ES IWG Inf. 1.1) for more details.

### Meeting language and documents

The meeting language will be English. All meeting documents will be made available online on the AEWA website in English:

<https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/meeting/1st-meeting-aewa-european-seaduck-international-working-group>

Hard paper copies of the meeting documents **will not** be distributed before or during the meeting.

### Currency

The German currency is the Euro (EUR) with a US Dollar exchange rate of 0.909 as of 1 December 2019.

### Official language and local time

The official language is German. Germany is in the Central European Time Zone (CET) and is GMT/UTC + 1h.

### Weather

The weather in March on the Island of Vilm is generally expected to be chilly and rainy with average temperatures between 6.0°C and 10.0°C during the day. It can cool off significantly at night.

### Electricity and water

In Germany the standard voltage is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz, utilizing 2-pin plugs (see image).



Tap water is generally considered safe to drink in Germany.

### Travel and health insurance

Participants are responsible for their own travel and health insurance. It is recommended that all participants take out comprehensive policies before arriving in Germany. Concerning emergencies or need for hospital services, citizens of EU are covered through their national health programmes.

### Safety and emergency numbers

The **emergency numbers** in **Germany** are **110 (Police)** and **112 (Fire Brigade & Ambulance)**. You can dial free of charge from any public call box. Note that you cannot call 112 with a phone without SIM card. Through the 112 number, you can call for an ambulance (Krankenwagen).