



6th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

9-14 November 2015, Bonn, Germany

“Making flyway conservation happen”

RESOLUTION 6.2

ADOPTION OF THE NEW ARABIC VERSION OF THE AGREEMENT TEXT

Recalling that in accordance with Article XVII of the Agreement, the original of this Agreement, in the Arabic, English, French and Russian languages, each version being equally authentic, have been deposited with the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in its capacity as Depositary of the Agreement, and that certified copies of these versions have been transmitted to all States,

Noting that the Secretariat has commissioned a new translation in the framework of the AEWA project on “*Strengthening waterbird and wetland conservation capacities in North Africa*” (WetCap) in 2009 to replace the Arabic text,

Recalling that the new translation was circulated for comments among Arabic-speaking Parties and non-Party Range States to AEWA in 2011, and approved by the 7th Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee for submission to the 5th Session of the Meeting of the Parties to AEWA (MOP5) for adoption, and finally submitted for adoption to MOP5,

Further recalling that MOP5 decided not to approve the new translation as further adjustments were still required, and entrusted the AEWA Standing Committee with the finalization of the text,

Acknowledging the effort that has been made by the Arabic-speaking countries in reviewing the Arabic version that was submitted to MOP5,

Noting that the translation has been finalised in consultation with the Arabic-speaking Parties and approved by the AEWA Standing Committee by correspondence in April 2015,

Also noting that certified copies of the finalised translation have not been transmitted to all States by the Depositary after internal consultation with the Depositary’s translation bureau, but that the Depositary instead kindly offered to provide a new translation through its translation bureau.

The Meeting of the Parties:

1. *Welcomes and accepts* the kind offer of the Depositary to provide a new Arabic translation of the Agreement text and its annexes, requests it to finalise the new translation through its translation bureau and to incorporate all approved amendments to Annexes 2 and 3 to the Agreement as adopted in Resolution 6.1 into this new Arabic language version, according to resources available and in close consultation with the Secretariat and the Arabic-speaking countries;
2. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate the final draft to Arabic-speaking Contracting Parties for clearance before its submission to the Standing Committee;
3. *Mandates* the Standing Committee to approve the finalised translation as the new Arabic text;
4. *Invites* the Depositary to transmit certified copies of the new Arabic version to all Range States in accordance with Article XVII of the Agreement upon approval by the Standing Committee;

5. *Urges* all Contracting Parties to replace the former official version by this new translation with respect to AEWA-related matters at all levels, *invites* Non-Party Range States to take note of the new official Arabic text and to use it as official text for the purpose of acceding to AEWA and *instructs* the Secretariat to publish and disseminate the new Arabic language (online and hard copy) version in a timely manner, as soon as it becomes available.