



AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF
AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS



4th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES
15 – 19 September 2008, Antananarivo, Madagascar

“Flyway Conservation at Work – Review of the Past, Vision for the Future”

RESOLUTION 4.12

**ADOPTION OF GUIDANCE FOR INTERPRETATION OF CRITERIA USED IN TABLE 1
OF THE AEWA ACTION PLAN**

Recalling Resolution 3.3 that adopted guidance on the interpretation of the term “significant long-term decline” in the context of Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan and the call of the Meeting of the Parties upon the Technical Committee to develop guidance for the interpretation of the other three criteria used in Table 1,

Thanking the Technical Committee for its work over the past triennium in developing guidance for the remaining three criteria, and

Aware of the guidance presented in document AEWA/MOP 4.25, and *noting* the need for additional work and external assistance on developing guidance on the interpretation of the term “extreme fluctuations in population size or trend”.

The Meeting of the Parties:

1. *Adopts* the following definitions of criteria used in the context of Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan:
 - a) The criterion related to a population which “*concentrates onto a small number of sites at any stage of its annual cycle*” shall be defined as a population of which 90% or more is localised in 10 or fewer sites in a particular stage of annual cycle;
 - b) Terms in the criterion “*dependence (of a waterbird population) on a habitat type which is under severe threat*” shall be defined as follows:

Severe threats to species’ habitats are those which result in changes to a large proportion of habitat, especially where those changes are irreversible (or where the changes are only reversible over very long time-scales), and where such changes will or are likely to negatively impact species’ populations that are ecologically dependent on those habitats. The application of this criterion is especially to be considered when species have a specialised ecology and/or behaviour linking them to particular habitats at any stage of their life cycles;
2. *Recognises* the further guidance on the use of these Criteria presented in document AEWA/MOP 4.25; and
3. *Requests* the Technical Committee, using external assistance as necessary and appropriate, and resources permitting, to develop guidance for interpretation of the term “*extreme fluctuations in population size or trend*” used in Table 1 of the Action Plan.