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**FORMAT FOR REPORTS**

**OF THE PARTIES**

**AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY  
WATERBIRDS (The Hague, 1995)**

**Implementation during the period 2002-2004**

**Contracting Party: Sweden**

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## 1. Overview of Action Plan implementation

### 1.1 *Summary of progress to date*

The International Action Plan for the Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*) is being implemented, pending the preparation of a National Action Plan (see para 2.3).

The number of Ramsar sites has been increased from 30 to 51 (see para 3.2). Sweden now holds 509 SPAs, which will be given adequate legal protection in the near future (see para 3.2 and 3.3).

During 2004, a nationwide inventory of Sweden's freshwater wetlands has been completed. During the last two decades, all large wetlands have been studied on aerial photographs. Roughly 10 % of the objects have been visited in the field and observed bird species have been recorded. (See para 3.1)

The use of lead shots is banned in wetlands, but additional banning measures are planned over the next three years, by decision by the Swedish Parliament (see para 4.1 and the separate report on lead shot).

Several NGOs has recently presented a joint National Strategy for Wetlands and Wetland Management.

### 1.3 *Outline of priorities for international co-operation over the next three years*

Additional efforts will be made to increase co-operation on the conservation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*).

### 1.2 *Outline of planned actions for national implementation over the next three years*

National Single Species Action Plans for Corncrake (*Crex crex*), Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*) and Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*) are scheduled for 2005. Action Plans are also under way for Dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii*) and Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia caspia*), and will be finished at the latest in 2010 (see para 2.3).

A National Strategy for Wetland Conservation and Management will be developed until 2005 (see para 3.7).

## 2. Species conservation

### Legal measures

2.1 Has a national policy/strategy or legislation to protect and conserve species covered by the Agreement (Table 1: column A; column B) and their supporting important areas been developed? If so:

- a. What are the main features of the policy/legislation?
- b. Which organisations are responsible for implementation?
- c. How does it relate to other national initiatives (e.g. national Biodiversity Action Plans)?

2.1 a. Sweden has no policy that specifically involves species covered by the Agreement. However, all but three of the nearly 50 species in columns A and B that have reference to Sweden, are legally protected according to the Swedish Hunting Act and the Ordinance of Protection of Species. The Ordinance includes e.g. the implementation of the EU Birds and Habitat Directives in Sweden.

Many of the supporting areas are protected as bird sanctuaries, where e.g. public access is prohibited during parts of the year, in accordance with the Swedish Environmental Code.

To protect White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*), an open season on Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) has been introduced during the whole year.

2.1 b. The regional authorities (County Administrative Boards).

2.1 c. Sweden has 15 environmental quality objectives which were adopted by the Swedish Parliament in 1999. The objectives define the state of environment which environmental policy aims to achieve and also provide a framework for environmental programmes and initiatives at national, regional and local level. For a number of the environmental quality objectives, interim targets state that action programmes shall be prepared and introduced for threatened species that are in need of targeted measures. The Single Species Action Plans that concern species covered by the AEWa Agreement are included in this context.

Sweden ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993, and in 1994 the Swedish Parliament adopted a national strategy on biodiversity where ecosystems and different nature types are in focus. In accordance with this strategy the responsibility of conserving biological diversity lies on each sector of the society.

In 2005, the Swedish Parliament will consider a 16<sup>th</sup> comprehensive environmental quality objective concerning biological diversity. The proposed interim targets of this objective has been proposed to embrace Action Plans for the restoration of biotopes such as wetlands, as well as for red-listed species.

2.2 What legal measures or practices has your country developed to prohibit or regulate for the following (refer also to section 4 on hunting):

- a. Taking of, and trade in birds listed in Column A and B of Table 1 (where utilization or trade contravenes the provisions set out in paragraphs 2.1.1 (a) and 2.1.2 of the Action Plan)?

- b. *Methods of taking?*
- c. *Setting of taking limits and monitoring these limits?*
- d. *Sustainable hunting of species listed in Categories 2 and 3 (and marked by an asterisk) in Column A only?*
- e. *Exemptions to the provisions set out in paragraphs 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3?*

- 2.2 a. Of the species listed in columns A and B, Swedish legislation allows hunting only of *Melanitta nigra*, *M. fusca* and *Larus canus*, in accordance with the EU Birds Directive. The Birds Directive stipulates that restricted trade is allowed for *M. nigra* after consultation with the European Commission, but it is not likely that any trade will take place.
- 2.2 b. Methods of taking are regulated by the EU Birds Directive and the Swedish Hunting Act.
- 2.2 c. There are no taking limits but hunting is restricted to part of the year. The huntable species are included in a national monitoring scheme. The Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management presents bag statistics each year.
- 2.2 d. Not applicable.
- 2.2 e. Concerning paragraph 2.1.1: none of the species listed in column A are huntable. Concerning paragraph 2.1.2: hunting is restricted in time and only allowed during part of the year. Concerning paragraph 2.1.3: no exemptions have been given.

### Single Species Action Plans

2.3 *Of the species covered by the Agreement (species listed in Table 1: column A), which spend part or all of their life history in your country, which have formal international (Category 1, species marked with an asterisk) or national (column A) Single Species Action Plans:*

- a. *Proposed?*
- b. *In preparation?*
- c. *Being implemented?*

*Please append a list of species and their action plan status. (For international plans indicate which other countries are involved in plan development/implementation.)*

- 2.3 a. Steller's Eider (*Polysticta stelleri*) has an International Action Plan, but no National Action Plan has been developed for the species, since it only to a very limited extent occurs in Swedish waters. For Bittern (*Botataurus stellaris*) an International Action Plan exists, but no National Plan has been developed or is planned so far. However, the Swedish EPA has funded inventories of Bittern, as well as habitat improvements and information efforts.
- 2.3 b. Of the species listed in column A there are national Single Species Action Plans in preparation for Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*) and Corncrake (*Crex crex*) which will be ready for implementation in 2005 or 2006, as well as for Dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii*) and Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia caspia*), which will be finished at the latest in 2010. There is also a national Action Plan under way for Great

Snipe (*Gallinago media*; listed in column B), which should be adopted in 2005. This species is also subject to an International Action Plan prepared by BirdLife International in 2002.

- 2.3 c. The International Action Plan for the Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*) is being implemented. The Swedish EPA has given financial support to AEWA for the revision of the Plan.

### **Emergency measures**

*2.4 Describe any bilateral or multilateral co-operative action that your country has undertaken to develop and implement emergency measures to conserve species in response to unfavourable or endangering conditions occurring in the Agreement area.*

Swedish EPA has supported one Finnish-Norwegian project aiming at reducing hunting pressure on Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*) along the migration routes and also provided financial assistance to WWF-Sweden for a project on the same species in Kazakhstan. Furthermore, the Swedish EPA has presented a proposal for co-operation on Lesser White-fronted Goose to the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature management and Fisheries in the Netherlands.

The Swedish Ornithological Society supports activities on Malta, designed to increase protection of many species included in the Agreement.

### **Re-establishments**

*2.5 Has a policy on species re-establishments been developed in your country? If yes, please outline the main features of the policy and give details of any re-establishment programmes for species covered by the Agreement.*

Sweden has no national policy on re-establishment of species; assessments are made of each project individually. There are ongoing breeding and reintroduction projects for two species covered by the Agreement: Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*) and White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*).

### **Introductions**

*2.6 Has your country developed and implemented legal measures to prohibit the introduction of nonnative species? Please provide details, particularly describing measures to control the release or introduction of non-native species (please indicate which species and their status).*

Swedish legislation strictly regulates introduction of species. Import of non-native mammals and birds that might reproduce in the wild in Sweden is prohibited according to the Swedish Hunting Ordinance. The Ordinance of Protection of Species prohibits import (and export) of birds and eggs of wild species from the EU's European territory.

### **3. Habitat conservation**

#### **Habitat inventories**

*3.1 Has your country developed and published inventories of important habitats for species covered by the Agreement? If yes, please provide details, including any provisions to maintain or update these inventories.*

There has not been a habitat survey directly related to the Agreement. However, during the last two decades Sweden's freshwater wetlands have been subject to a systematic nationwide inventory, covering approximately 34,000 wetlands. The objectives include mapping the distribution of wetlands throughout the country, as well as studying their environmental assets and the extent to which they have been affected by human activities.

All large wetlands have been studied on aerial photographs and approximately 10 % of the objects have been visited in the field. Observed bird species are recorded. All the data is collected in a database soon to become available to the public. The aim is to update the inventory on a regular basis and in a few counties this work has recently been initiated.

*3.2 Has your country undertaken a strategic review of sites to develop a national network of important sites or areas for species covered by the Agreement? Please append a list of identified sites of international importance.*

In 2001, Sweden designated 21 new Ramsar-sites, so that the country now holds 51 wetlands of international importance (see Appendix 2). During the period 2002-2004 another 67 SPAs were nominated to the EU network Natura 2000, leaving Sweden with 509 SPAs. There are also 73 IBAs in Sweden approved by BirdLife International (of which 35 are marine areas), as well as 41 proposed IBAs.

Since 1994 there is ongoing work aiming at protecting 374 mires, covering 210,000 hectares, as nature reserves, as part of a National Mire Protection Plan. Furthermore, those wetlands that were classified as having high values in the national wetland inventory (above) should not be in question for any exploitation.

#### **Conservation of areas**

*3.3 Describe the legal frameworks and other measures through which sites (including transfrontier sites) including of international importance gain practical protection. (Please append a list of internationally important protected sites.)*

Site protection is based on regulations in the Environmental Code of 1999. Swedish legislation provides several different types of area protection, which, together with regulations regarding species protection, aims at preserving biological diversity. For example, sea-shores and the shores of all lakes and watercourses are protected in a buffer zone of normally 100 metres on either side. The aim is to prevent exploitation and certain measures, such as construction of new buildings, is prohibited in riparian areas. Some small habitats, such as ponds and wetlands on agricultural land, are specifically and automatically protected by law.

Local and regional authorities may issue regulations restricting access or hunting and fishing in order to protect animals and plants in a certain area. Sweden has approximately 1,000 such bird sanctuaries, where admittance is prohibited during part of the year. The



majority of these sanctuaries are situated on lakeshores or along the coastline.

There is also the possibility of declaring large areas as being of national interest for nature conservation, as well as setting aside national parks or nature reserves. Nature reserves may be designated by local or regional authorities on private or public-owned land. The formation of nature reserves is the most common form of area conservation in Sweden, and provides solid legal protection adjusted to the characteristics of the area. Many of Sweden's more than 2,300 nature reserves have been designated on account of birds. The Environmental Code states that nature areas listed in accordance with international undertakings, such as conventions or EU directives, shall be given priority in future protection measures.

Out of a total of 51 Ramsar sites (see Appendix 2), 45 sites have been selected on bird criteria. About 85 % of the total area of these sites is classified as SPA. Many of the sites are protected as nature reserves and two are national parks. Of the Natura 2000-sites in Sweden, including 509 SPAs covering 2.9 million hectares, about 60 % enjoys legal protection at present. Ongoing work is aiming at protecting all Natura sites as e.g. nature reserves or wildlife sanctuaries.

*3.4 Has your country developed a management planning process for protected sites? If yes, please outline the types of management plans and organisations responsible for development and implementation.*

The Environmental Code states that each nature reserve should have a management plan, adopted by the regional authority (the County Administrative Board). The County Administrative Board is responsible for the implementation, but can make agreements with other authorities, NGOs or landowners. The Swedish EPA is responsible for the strategic planning of management on the national level. The Swedish EPA has published manuals dealing with formulation of conservation aims and the drawing-up of management plans. The aims and conservation measures are always adapted to the character and the natural values of each individual area.

*3.5 How many protected sites have formal management plans (please append a list of sites and their management planning status):*

- a. Proposed?*
- b. In preparation?*
- c. Being implemented?*

So far, more than 80 % of the Ramsar sites selected on bird criteria or part of them have a management plan. Management plans are also under way for all Natura 2000-sites. So far about 2 100 nature reserves out of a total of 2 500 have management plans which are implemented.

*3.6 What measures does your country have in place to ensure the wise use of wetland habitats and to prevent habitat degradation e.g. pollution control and managing water resources? Please provide examples of best practice initiatives particularly involving cross-sectoral co-operation or public participation.*

The national environmental quality objective "Thriving wetlands", adopted by the Swedish parliament in 1999, states that "*The ecological and water conserving function of wetlands in the landscape must be maintained and valuable wetlands preserved for the future*". One of the five interim targets states that a National Strategy for Wetland Conservation and

Management should be developed not later than 2005.

The Environmental Code includes quite extensive legislation relating to sustainable management of land and water, chemical products, waste and so on. The Swedish government has the right to declare an area an environmental protection zone if a large land or water area is susceptible to pollution, or if an environmental quality objective has not been met in a certain area. Also, a land or water area that is used or is likely to be used for water catchments may be declared a water protection area by local or regional authorities.

Environmental impact statements are required to accompany any application for a permit relating to environmentally hazardous activities, water operations and quarrying operations. There is a general ban on land drainage in the southern parts of Sweden, where a large proportion of the original wetlands have been destroyed or degraded.

Sweden has recently started implementing the EU's Water Framework Directive. Five regional authorities have been given the responsibility of managing the water quality in their respective catchment area.

## **Rehabilitation and restoration**

*3.7 Does your country have a policy for the identification, rehabilitation and restoration of wetlands important for species covered by the Agreement? Please provide examples of rehabilitation and restoration projects and initiatives undertaken.*

The Swedish EPA, together with other authorities, is currently working on a National Strategy for Wetland Conservation and Management, which will be presented to the Swedish government in October 2005. This strategy will include guidelines for restoration and rehabilitation of different wetland habitats. In general, Sweden has taken an ecosystem-based view on species conservation.

One of the interim targets of the national environmental quality objective "Thriving wetlands" is to establish or restore at least 12,000 hectares of wetlands and ponds on agricultural land by 2010. During the period 2000-2004 approximately 3,600 hectares were established or restored.

There are a number of examples of restoration projects initiated in Sweden during the 1980's and 1990's, many of them aiming at recreating wetland habitats for birds, for example Lake Hornborga, Lake Hjälstaviken and Lake Tysslingen. The result has by large been very positive in terms of wetland bird populations. Many of the restoration projects are joint ventures between governmental authorities and NGOs. Currently a few middle-sized restoration projects are being planned or implemented.

## 4. Management of human activities

### Hunting

*4.1 Outline the main features of legislation or legal measures in your country to control hunting of the species covered by the Agreement (e.g. use of lead shot and poisoned baits, and to eliminate illegal taking).*

Hunting is regulated under the Swedish Hunting Act and the Swedish Hunting Ordinance. Basically all bird species are protected and only those which are specifically listed in the Hunting Ordinance could be subject to hunting. In 1998, hunting of geese and ducks with lead shots was banned. On the initiative of *i.a.* the Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management all use of lead shots in wetlands was prohibited in 2002. Additional banning measures are planned over the next four years, by decision by the Swedish government. From January 2006 lead shots will be completely banned, and from 2008 the ban will also include bullets containing lead.

*4.2 Does your country monitor hunting levels? If so, how is this information collated and reported?*

The Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management reports each year data based on random sampling.

*4.3 Describe action undertaken by hunting clubs and organisations to manage hunting activity e.g. cooperative action, issuing of licenses and proficiency testing of individual members.*

The Swedish EPA cooperates with The Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management in educating hunters on good hunting practices and game preservation. Since 1985, it is mandatory that a person given a permit to own a hunting weapon must first pass a hunting examination. The examination includes testing of both theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

### Eco-tourism

*4.4 What is the status of eco-tourism programs or initiatives in your country? Please provide examples of projects with an indication of the significant outcomes.*

The Swedish Ecotourism Association promotes sustainable nature tourism and gathers hundreds of tour operators actively supporting nature conservation. At present, 55 of these operators are guaranteed to meet the stricter ecotourism criteria set up under the label "Nature's Best".

*4.5 What social and economic benefits accrue to the local communities from the conservation of important waterbird sites?*

Wetland sites well-known for having a rich bird fauna such as Ottenby, Lake Hornborga and Getterön (all Ramsar sites) attract large numbers of visitors, thereby having a positive effect on local economy in parts of the year.

## Other human activities

*4.6 Does your country carry out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of activities potentially affecting protected sites or areas important for species covered by the Agreement? If yes, briefly describe the main features of your EIA policy and procedures.*

The Environmental Code requires that environmental impact assessments shall be carried out for any planned activity or exploitation that involves for example water operations, quarrying operations or potential environmental hazard. An environmental impact statement must be prepared by an operator before submitting a permit application and must be attached to the application. The cost of preparing environmental impact statements is borne by the operator. Together with a regulated consultation process the assessment should provide the best possible decision guidance data from the point of view of the environment and health. In connection with the consultation process, which takes place prior to the drafting of an environmental impact statement the operator, must obtain and compile available data and consult the other parties, authorities and organisations concerned, as well as the public. The project must be modified in the light of the consultation process both as regards the choice of alternatives and preventive measures. The process eventually results in a document – the environmental impact statement – that describes the effects of the planned operation on human health and the environment and on the management of natural resources.

*4.7 Please describe the main features of your planning policy and provide examples of practical implementation (e.g. activities to minimizing disturbance of species populations or limit the impact of species populations on crops or fisheries). Please summarize any land-use conflicts especially emphasizing successful solutions to problems encountered in promoting the wise-use of waterbirds and their habitats.*

Planning is regulated in the Planning and Building Act and the Planning and Building Decree. In planning, regional and local authorities should take into account *i.a.* areas, which have been classified as being of national interest for among other things nature conservation. Consideration has to be taken to the fundamental principles laid down in the Environmental Code. The provisions concerning land management take into account both conservation interests and utilization interests. Areas where conservation interests exist, and which should therefore be protected, are large unspoiled areas, areas that are particularly sensitive from an ecological point of view, areas with great natural and cultural assets and areas that are particularly valuable for recreation purposes.

An example of actions meant to minimize damages caused by birds is the local setting aside of areas designed to attract geese and cranes, which is practiced near some of the wetlands important to large number of birds. Currently efforts are made to reduce damages on fisheries caused by cormorants, for example by developing cormorant-friendly fishing gear. In addition, significant number of cormorants are shot and some colonies controlled.

## 5. Research and monitoring

### Status of research and monitoring programmes for species

*5.1 How are priorities for research identified in your country? Please briefly describe your country's research programmes, including any bilateral or multilateral co-operative action, for wetland habitats and for species covered by the Agreement (e.g. studies into species population, ecology and migratory patterns). Please append a list of research activities initiated, ongoing or completed in the last three years.*

Money for research is allocated from several governmental bodies, Universities and a few NGOs. The Swedish EPA is one of the financiers, spending about €1 million in 2004. For example, the Swedish EPA supports research on the disturbing effects of hunting.

Primarily at the Universities, there are research projects concerning individual bird species or species groups. In a joint project, Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage in France and the University of Kristianstad are studying the ecology of dabbling ducks.

In the archipelago of Stockholm, a long-term study of the effect of American mink on waterbird population is being carried out. The Alvin Fund supports research and conservation measures on Crane (*Grus grus*), divers, Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*), Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*), White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), Smew (*Mergus albellus*) and Jack Snipe (*Gallinago media*).

*5.2 What monitoring activities does your country undertake, including any bilateral or multilateral cooperative action, of wetland areas and species covered by the Agreement (e.g. national monitoring schemes, International Waterfowl Census)? Please append a list of monitoring activities or programmes initiated, ongoing or completed in the last three years*

Scientific bird ringing in Sweden has been conducted since 1911, and so far more than eight million individual wild birds have been ringed and more than 120 000 of them have been recovered. Bird ringing activities are performed by local bird societies and observatories, and national coordination and administration is handled by the Bird Ringing Centre at the Swedish Museum of Natural History. The Bird Ringing Centre publishes, on an annual basis, a report with maps and comments on interesting recoveries, ringing statistics and a comprehensive list of recoveries in full detail. This gives valuable knowledge about reproduction, migration and survival rates in many bird species.

The Swedish EPA is responsible for the national environmental monitoring, which includes several sub-programmes relating to wetlands:

- National Wetland Inventory. During the last two decades Sweden's freshwater wetlands have been subject to a systematic nationwide inventory (the National Wetland Inventory, VMI), covering approximately 34,000 wetlands (see 3.1). National Inventory of Landscapes in Sweden. Spot-check monitoring of wetland biodiversity is included in a nationwide programme, the National Inventory of Landscapes in Sweden (NILS), which commenced in 2003. Distribution and changes in different biotopes, as well as occurrence of individual species, is monitored through aerial photo interpretation and field-based measurements.
- Satellite monitoring of wetlands. Methods for studying vegetation changes in wetlands by means of satellite images have been developed during the last few years. It is expected that satellite-based monitoring of wetlands will come into operation in 2005-2006.

- Swedish Waterfowl Count. Since 1967, Sweden participates in the International Waterfowl Census in midwinter (January) each year. Counts of waterfowl are made at about 600 sites that are grouped in about 70 reference areas covering representative areas of Swedish waterfowl habitats, with the exception of offshore waters. The winter survey is supplemented by inventories of 200 important areas in southern Sweden in September. Lund University has been commissioned by the Swedish EPA to be responsible for the census.
- Migratory bird count at Falsterbo. Population trends of Swedish bird species are monitored by annual counting of migrating birds on the SW-most peninsula in Sweden during August-November, under the responsibility of Lund University.
- Bird count and ringing at Ottenby. During the spring and autumn migration seasons counting and ringing of primarily passerine birds and waders is performed at Ottenby Bird Observatory on the island of Öland in the Baltic Sea. The Observatory is run by the Swedish Ornithological Society and primarily funded by the Swedish EPA.
- Nesting Bird Inventory. Monitoring of nesting birds, and also non-migratory birds during wintertime, mostly on a voluntary basis. The method is based on point counts, but a new scheme combining point counts and line transects is gradually introduced. In total, around 1000 routes are visited annually for nesting bird counting, while another 350-400 routes are visited 1-5 times per year for winter counts of non-migratory birds.

## **6. Education and information**

### **Training and development programmes**

*6.1 Describe the status of training and development programmes which support waterbird conservation and implement the AEWA Action Plan.*

Apart from general information on birds at Information Centers, no specific programme linked to AEWA exists in Sweden.

*6.2 What bilateral or multilateral co-operative action is your country undertaking to develop training programmes and share examples of good practice?*

There has been exchange of study visits between several countries around the Baltic Sea in the area of wetland conservation and restoration.

### **Raising public awareness**

*6.3 Describe activities to raise public awareness of the objectives of the AEWA Action Plan. Please outline any particular successes generating public interest in, and securing support for, waterbird and wetland conservation (e.g. campaigns, information notes or other initiatives)?*

In the absence of a Swedish translation of the Agreement, no specific public awareness activities have been carried out. However, the overall awareness of nature conservation issues, including bird conservation, is high in Sweden. The Swedish Ornithological Society promotes people's interest in bird conservation through a number of different activities, for example the national Bird Watching Day which has been carried out each year since the late 1980's.

The internet reporting system (Species Gateway) developed in Sweden has received even international attention and has promoted the reporting of observations of birds and other organisms significantly (see [www.artportalen.se](http://www.artportalen.se)).

## **7. Final comments**

### *7.1 General comments on the implementation of the AEWA Action Plan*

Bird conservation is strongly endorsed in Sweden, but the implementation of the AEWA Action Plan has not specifically been given a high priority. However, through the implementation of other international commitments, such as the EU Birds Directive and the Ramsar Convention, the objectives of the Action Plan are fulfilled to a large extent.

### *7.2 Observations concerning the functions and services of the various AEWA bodies*

- a. The Agreement Secretariat*
- b. International organisations*
- c. AEWA NGO partners*

The Secretariat should consider reducing the format of the Report of the Parties. Some of the information, e.g. concerning Ramsar sites and IBAs are available from other sources.

### *7.3 How might the Action Plan be further developed as a practical aid for national and international conservation of migratory waterbirds?*



## **8. Progress to implement Resolutions and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Parties**

***Please summarize progress to implement decisions of previous Meetings of the Parties.***

*Resolution 2.2 (lead shot):* See para 4.1 above.

*Resolution 2.3 (conservation guidelines):* Sweden financially supported the Waterbirds Around the World Conference in 2004, and also the printing of the proceedings. Furthermore, the printing of BirdLifes publication *Birds in Europe* has been given support.

*Resolution 2.4 (implementation priorities):* The Swedish EPA has committed to partly fund the GEF African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Flyway project with €27,000.

Resolution 2.13 (Great Snipe): See para 2.3 above.

## **9. OPTIONAL SECTION – Planned and future actions**

Contracting Parties are invited to outline below any further information regarding the aims of the Agreement, for example, planned actions or other informative examples.

1. Species conservation
2. Habitat conservation
3. Management of human activities
4. Research and monitoring
5. Education and information

## **List of abbreviations and acronyms used in the report**

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

IBA Important Bird Area

SPA Special Protection Area

## Appendices

### **Appendix 1: Status of Single Species Action Plans**

Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*)

International Action Plan being implemented

National Action Plan in preparation, scheduled for 2005

Corncrake (*Crex crex*)

National Action Plan in preparation, scheduled for 2005

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii*)

National Action Plan in preparation, scheduled for not later than 2010

Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia caspia*)

National Single Species Action Plan in preparation, scheduled for not later than 2010

Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*)

National Single Species Action Plan in preparation, scheduled for 2005

Steller's Eider (*Polysticta stelleri*)

International Action Plan exists, but no National Action Plan is planned

For Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*)

International Action Plan exists, but no National Action Plan is planned

## Appendix 2: List of sites of international importance

**Ramsar sites:** 51 sites covering about 5,152 km<sup>2</sup>. 45 of these sites are classified on the basis of bird criteria.

Falsterbo	Kävsjön	Sulsjön
Åsnen	Stockholms yttre skärgård	Gammelstadsviken
Västra Roxen	Mörrumsån	Nordre älv
Klingavälsån	Gotlands ostkust	Persöfjärden
Träslövsläge	Svartån	Asköviken
Södra Bråviken	Blekinge skärgård	Tärnasjön
Helgeån	Hornborgasjön	Dalälven
Stigfjorden	Hovranområdet	Tjälmejaure
Dumme Mosse	Lundåkrabukten	Storkölen
Ottenby	Tåkern	Laidaure
Dättern	Umeälvens delta	Tysjöarna
Komosse	Skälderviken	Sjaunja
Ölands ostkust	Kvismaren	Oldflån
Östen	Tönnersjöheden	Tavvavouma
Emån	Hjälstaviken	Aloppkölen
Getterön	Fylleån	Mossaträsk
Kilsviken	Ånnsjön	
Kallgate		

## Swedish IBAs: 73 sites

Tavvavouma	Tämnaren	Hornborgasjön
Påkketanjaure	Flororna	Stigfjorden
Laidauredeltat	Hjälstaviken	Torslandaviken
Sjaunja	Gräsö skärgård	Kungsbackafjorden
Tjälmejaure-Laisdalen	Dannemorasjön	Ralången
Persöfjärden	Tärnan-Riala	Kävsjön-Store Mosse
Getterön	Stockholms ytterskärgård	Solgen
Skvolpen	Östra Styran	Karlsöarna
Vindelfjällen	Hanveden-Hemfosa	Gotlands Ostkust
Umeälvens delta	Sandemar	Båtafjorden
Holmöarna	Tysslingen	Gammelstadsviken
Bonden	Rynningeviken	Åsnen
Gnäggen	Kvismaren	Ölands Ostkust
Ånnsjön	Storhjälmaren	Ottenby
Hovranområdet	Kilsviken	Kullaberg
Svartåområdet	Tåkern	Skälderviken
Dalälven-Färnebofjärden	Svensksundsviken	Nordöstra Skånes skärgårdskust
Båtfors	S:t Annas skärgård	Lundåkrabukten
Ledskär	Dättern	Lommabukten
Björns skärgård	Östen	

Falsterbo-Foteviken  
Klingaälvsån-Krankesjön  
Helgeån  
Torö-Muskö

Hoburgs bank  
Norra Midsjöbankarna  
Södra Midsjöbankarna  
Oskarshamn

Kalmar - Mönsterås  
Ystad Hörte  
Lilla Middelgrund  
Blekinge skärgård

**~~Appendix 3: Status of management plans for sites of international importance~~**

**~~Appendix 4: List of research and monitoring programmes and projects~~**

**Appendix 5: List of national institutions involved in migratory waterbird conservation**

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency  
Swedish Ornithological Society  
Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management  
World Wide Fund for Nature Sweden  
Swedish Wetland Fund  
Swedish Museum of Natural History  
Swedish Species Information Centre  
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation

In addition, National Action Plans are developed by all 21 County Administrative Boards, some plans being of relevance to AEWA.

**Appendix 6: List of relevant World Wide Web addresses for national institutions involved in migratory waterbird conservation**

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	<a href="http://www.naturvardsverket.se">www.naturvardsverket.se</a>
Swedish Ornithological Society	<a href="http://www.sofnet.se">www.sofnet.se</a>
Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management	<a href="http://www.jagareforbundet.se">www.jagareforbundet.se</a>
World Wide Fund for Nature Sweden	<a href="http://www.wwf.se">www.wwf.se</a>
Swedish Wetland Fund	<a href="http://www.vatmarksfonden.com">www.vatmarksfonden.com</a>
Swedish Museum of Natural History	<a href="http://www.nrm.se">www.nrm.se</a>
Swedish Species Information Centre	<a href="http://www.artdata.slu.se">www.artdata.slu.se</a>
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation	<a href="http://www.snf.se">www.snf.se</a>

**~~Appendix 7: List of relevant migratory waterbird and habitat conservation projects initiated, ongoing or completed in the last three years~~**