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FIFTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

30th March – 2nd April, North Berwick near Edinburgh, Scotland

REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE AEWA INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES PLAN 2003-2007

INTRODUCTION

The implementation of the International Implementation Priorities for AEW/TC 2003-2007 (IIP 2003-2007) is fully dependent on voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties. Unfortunately, due to the economic recess most of the Parties and particularly the Ministries involved in AEW/TC are faced with budget cuts. The Secretariat has observed that the total amount of voluntary contributions for 2003 was far less than expected. Luckily the situation for 2004 seems rather better. So far agreement has more or less been reached with a number of donor countries to provide voluntary contributions to AEW/TC. The amount secured for 2004 is currently US \$ 150,000. Hopefully more countries will consider supporting the implementation of IIP 2003-2007.

The following overview shows the progress that has been made so far.

ACTIONS REQUESTED FROM THE TC

The Technical Committee is requested to review the current situation regarding the implementation of the IIP 2003-2007.

REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE AEWA INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES PLAN				
No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
IIP 2000-2004				
1.	Guideline on National Legislation for Migratory Waterbird Conservation	Netherlands and AEWA	IUCN-ELC	Adopted by MOP2 as interim guidelines; however some editing and reformulation is still needed. The Secretariat plans to finalise this in first half of 2004.
3	Development of new international single species action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Snipe • Black-winged Pratincole • Sociable Plover • Dark-bellied Brent Goose 	AEWA, Netherlands	BirdLife International	With exemption of the Dark-bellied Brent Goose all plans were adopted by MOP2 and will be published during first half of 2004.
4	Guideline on Avoidance of Introductions of Non-native Migratory Waterbird Species	UK and AEWA	Just Ecology	Guideline has been discussed at MOP and will be published in due course. Brochure has been submitted to aviculture associations for comments.
14.	Review of the use of agrochemicals in Africa, and their impacts on migratory waterbirds	France, Switzerland, FAO and AEWA	CERES/ FAO	Final report is expected in early 2004. Results will be presented at the Global Flyway Conference.
24.	Study on potential impacts of marine fisheries on migratory waterbirds	Netherlands and UK	ADU	Final report ready early in 2004. Results will be presented at Global Flyway Conference.
25.	Rehabilitation of important migratory waterbird sites that have been degraded by invasive aquatic weeds	UK and AEWA	IUCN (regional offices in Africa)	Report on the desk study will be ready early in 2004. Results will be presented at the Global Flyway Conference.

28.	Exchange of know-how on traditional approaches to wetland and waterbird management in Africa	The Netherlands and AEWA	IUCN (regional offices in Africa)	Report on the desk study ready in early 2004. Results will be presented at the Global Flyway Conference.
No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
32.	Development of the Agreement's Website	AEWA	UNEP-WCMC and AEWA Secretariat	Ongoing project, main developments are ready. AEWA Secretariat will rearrange some of the information in 2004
IIP 2003-2007				
1	Implementation of existing international single species action plans			Third Meeting of the Brent Goose Working Group took place on 14 th January 2004 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. The AEWA Secretariat is working on the development of a special page on the AEWA Website on the D-b Brent Goose.
2 a	Development of new international single species action plans for the <i>Athya nyroca</i>	FRANCE, CMS and BirdLife International	BirdLife International Romania	Workshop in November 2002 was the starting point for drafting an Action Plan. Proceedings were published in late 2003. The Action Plan will be published in 2004.
2.b.	Development of international single species plan for the <i>Geronticus eremita</i>	AEWA	SEO	Workshop took place 7-11 January 2004 in Madrid, Spain. Action Plan probably ready during second half of 2004.
3.	Identification of all sites of international importance for AEWA species			Will be part of the GEF project
4.	Creating an interactive tool to present information on important sites for migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project
5.	Identification of priority areas for further survey work			Will be part of the GEF project
6.	Identification of priority areas for improved protection			Will be part of the GEF project
7.	Habitat Priorities for Waterbirds, particularly in Africa and South-west Asia			
8.	Restoration and rehabilitation techniques for waterbird habitats, particularly in Africa			
9.	Evaluation of waterbird harvest in the Agreement Area			

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
10 a.	Review of the use of non-toxic shot for waterbird hunting			Regular update (every three years) of the report on phasing out lead shot is not seen as a high priority.
10 b.	Promoting the use of non-toxic shot in southern Europe	Ill Nibbio, CIC and AEWA Secretariat		Workshop was planned to take place in Italy late 2003. However no response has been received from counterparts
10 c.	Promoting sustainable hunting in western Africa	ONCFS, CIC, Switzerland and AEWA Secretariat	Wetlands International and ONCFS and AEWA Secretariat	Agreement has been reached with ONCFS and Wetlands International to organise a workshop late 2004 in Senegal on sustainable hunting in western Africa.
11.	Evaluation of socio-economic impacts of waterbird hunting			
12.	Evaluation of waterbirds as agricultural pests in Africa			
13.	Guidelines on minimizing/ mitigating the impacts of infrastructural (and disturbance-related) developments affecting waterbirds			
14.	Improving survey and monitoring capacity for migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project.
15.	Survey little-known areas			<p>In 2003 the AEWA Secretariat provided some small grants for some survey work in Iran, Yemen, Morocco and Tunisia, particular looking for the Slender-billed Curlew, but also at the same time training local people in bird monitoring.</p> <p>The project will be a part of the GEF project.</p>

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
16 a	International Waterbird Census: stop-gap survey			To encourage some (particularly African) countries to collect data for the 2004 International Waterbird Census, a small grant was given by the AEWA Secretariat to Wetlands International. Will also be part of the GEF project
17.	Publication of an Atlas of Wader Populations	Belgium, The Netherlands, France, AEWA and the EU	Wetlands International	Early 2003 a voluntary contribution was received and transferred to Wetlands International. It seems that necessary funds are secured and that the Atlas could be finalised in 2004.
18.	Publication of flyway atlases for gulls, terns, herons, ibises, storks and rallidae			
19.	Pilot study/ review of potential from waterbird ringing recovery analyses for the Agreement area	France and AEWA	ADU	Funds have been secured and project has been contracted out to ADU.
20.	Atlas of ringing recoveries			
21.	Coordination of waterbird ringing schemes, particularly in Africa	France and AEWA	ADU	Funds have been secured and work has been contracted out to ADU.
22.	Guideline on the use of satellite tracking for migratory waterbirds			
23.	Telemetry in migratory waterbirds			
24.	Report on status and trends of populations for the 3 rd Meeting of the Parties			The TC is discussing a new format for this report.
25.	Actions for the conservation of colonial waterbirds	France and AEWA	Wetlands International	Funds have been secured and work will be contracted out in due course to Wetlands International ¹
26.	Population Trends in migratory waterbirds			

¹ Project was contracted out to Tour-du-Valat in 2002. Due to the project manager's becoming seriously ill before the project started, Tour-du-Valat decided to hand it back to the Secretariat.

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
27.	Causes of population changes in migratory waterbirds			
28.	Migratory waterbirds and climatic changes			
29.	Flyway population catalogue (or register)	UK	Wetlands International	Funds have been secured and project will be contracted out in due course.
30 a	Field guide for Central Asia and adjacent countries			Will be part of the GEF project.
30 b	Field guide for Uzbekistan	Switzerland, World Bank, Uzbekistan		Funds have been secured and a commitment letter regarding a small grant will be sent out in due course.
31.	Compiling flyway information (in digital format) for use in conjunction with existing waterbird count data and site information			Will be part of the GEF project.
32.	The use of wetland sites by migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project.
33.	Migratory waterbirds as indicators			
34.	Development of a density-dependent population model for the Dark-bellied Brent Goose	UK		A small grant has been received from the UK. The Dark-bellied Brent Goose Working Group is investigating whether this project could be linked to an existing project under the 5 th Frame Work of the EU, which could lead to large savings. Project will not start before 2005.
35.	Analysis of training needs for migratory waterbird conservation			Study has been done in GEF preparation and development facility (category B) Flyways project. Further analysis, development of subregional programmes and their implementation will take place in the full GEF AEWA/Ramsar Flyways Project, which will be submitted at the end of 2003.
36.	Regional training programmes in Africa for implementation of the Agreement			Will be part of the GEF project.
37.	Publication of waterbird monitoring manuals			Will be part of the GEF project.
38.	Establishing a clearing house for training materials for the Agreement			

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:	Remarks:
39.	Development and implementation of a communications strategy for the Agreement	UK and AEWA		Results of a brief survey have been published. Second phase of the communication strategy has been contracted out.
40 a.	Regional Workshop for promotion of the Agreement			A first step towards a future workshop has been taken by drafting a reader on AEWA, to be published in the second half of 2004.
40 b.	Regional Workshop on promoting AEWA and CMS in Burundi	AEWA/ CMS	AEWA. CMS	A request has been received from Burundi to sensitise the authorities by holding a workshop in late 2004. Aim of this workshop is promoting accession to CMS and AEWA.
40 c.	Workshop on promoting AEWA in Russia	AEWA	AEWA	In close cooperation with some Russian experts and Wetlands International the possibility of holding a workshop on promoting AEWA is under consideration.
41.	Communicating the importance of a network of critical sites for migratory waterbirds			Will be part of the GEF project.