



AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF  
AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS

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## AEWA International Species Expert Group

### Terms of Reference

#### Goal

(as defined in the International Single Species Action Plan for the [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME])

e.g. To maintain the [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME] at its [YEAR] level (i.e. #,000 birds) in the long-term.

*Indicator:* Five year minimum of counts exceeds #,000 individuals.

#### Purpose

- e.g. Halt ongoing decline, and if possible, begin recovery of the population to its [YEAR] level. *Indicator:* Average population size by [YEAR] exceeds ##,000 individuals (i.e. the [YEAR] levels).

#### Role

The role of the AEWA [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME] International Expert Group will be to:

- coordinate and catalyse the implementation of the AEWA [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME] Single Species Action Plan (SSAP);
- stimulate and support Range States in the implementation of the SSAP; and
- monitor and report on the implementation and the effectiveness of the SSAP.

#### Remit

The AEWA [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME] International Expert Group will:

- Develop an International Single Species Action Plan for the [SPECIES/POPULATION NAME] if not already developed, in liaison with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and in accordance with the AEWA Action Planning Guidelines and consistent with the agreed process;
- Set priorities for action and implement them (this step and later steps can happen while an SSAP is still under development or awaiting formal approval);
- Coordinate the overall international implementation;
- Raise funds for implementation;
- Assist Range States in producing national action plans;
- Ensure regular and thorough monitoring of the species populations;
- Stimulate and support scientific research in the species necessary for conservation;
- Promote the protection of the network of critical sites for the species;
- Facilitate internal and external communication and exchange of scientific, technical, legal and other required information, including with other specialists and interested parties;
- Assist with information in determination of the population size and trends of the species;
- Regularly monitor the effectiveness of implementation of the SSAP and take appropriate action according to the findings of this monitoring;
- Regularly report on the implementation of the SSAP to the AEWA Meeting of the Parties by submitting reports to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat; and
- Revise the international SSAP by [DATE] and update it in [DATE] or as required.

#### Membership

- The AEWA [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME] International Expert Group will be open to (1) representatives of Governmental bodies of all key Range States relevant to the implementation of AEWA, (2) representatives of

national expert and conservation organisations from all key Range States, (3) representatives of international organisations, and (4) other experts as required.

### **Countries forming the International Expert Group**

[LIST KEY RANGE STATES]

### **Officers**

A full-time or part-time Coordinator post will ideally be based in an institution or an organisation, ideally from one of the major Range States. The Coordinator will be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the International Expert Group and shall act in close consultation with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

### **Meetings**

The AEWA [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME] International Expert Group should aim to hold face-to-face meetings once every three years. Other face-to-face meetings may be arranged as circumstances allow (e.g. back-to-back meetings with other international fora). Between meetings, business will be conducted electronically via the Expert Group's website and list server/intranet.

### **Reporting**

A thorough report on the implementation of the SSAP will be produced according to a standard format with contributions from all Range States and submitted for inclusion into the general International Review on the Stage of Preparation and Implementation of Single Species Action Plans to the AEWA Meeting of the Parties. Reports shall also be prepared by each Range State to a format agreed by the Expert Group and presented at each face-to-face meeting of the Expert Group. Other reports will be produced as requested by the AEWA Technical Committee or the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

### **Financing**

AEWA [SPECIES / POPULATION NAME] International Expert Group activities will be funded by its members.