

**ACTION PLAN
FOR THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS OF PREY
IN AFRICA AND EURASIA**

(incorporates amendments to Table 1 adopted at the Second Meeting of Signatories in 2015)

1. General Aim

The general aim is to ensure that all populations of African-Eurasian migratory birds of prey (including owls) are maintained in, or returned to, Favourable Conservation Status within the meaning of Article 1(c) of the Convention.

2. Objectives

For the effective period of this Action Plan, the following objectives are set:

- a) To halt and reverse the population declines¹ of globally threatened (Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable) and Near Threatened birds of prey and alleviate threats to them such that they are no longer globally threatened or Near Threatened;
- b) To halt and reverse the population declines of other birds of prey with an Unfavourable Conservation Status within Africa and Eurasia and alleviate threats to them in order to return their populations to Favourable Conservation Status; and
- c) To anticipate, reduce and avoid potential and new threats to all bird of prey species, especially to prevent the populations of any species undergoing long-term decline.

3. Species Categories

- 3.1. The bird of prey species included in Annex 1 of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) are assigned within the following categories:

Category 1: Globally threatened and Near Threatened species as defined according to the latest IUCN Red List and listed as such in the BirdLife International World Bird Database;

Category 2: Species considered to have Unfavourable Conservation Status at a regional level within the Range States and territories listed in Annex 2 to the MoU; and

Category 3: all other migratory species.

¹ Population decline is taken to mean a reduction in abundance or range.

- 3.2. The species in Annex 1 of this MoU are assigned to the categories provided for in paragraph 3.1 as given in Table 1, for the effective period of this Action Plan, unless Table 1 is amended in accordance with a procedure to be agreed by the Signatories at the first session of the Meeting of Signatories.

4. Priority Actions

Taking into account the predicted impacts of threats and opportunities for reducing them, the actions for achieving the objectives given in paragraph 2 are considered to be:

- a. Protecting all species from unlawful killing, including poisoning, shooting, persecution, and unsustainable exploitation;
- b. Promoting, as far as possible, high environmental standards, including through Environmental Impact Assessments, in the planning and construction of structures to minimise their impact on species, particularly by collision and electrocution, and seeking to minimise the impact of existing structures where it becomes evident that they constitute a negative impact for the species concerned;
- c. Conserving bird of prey habitats by encouraging an Ecosystem Approach to sustainable development and sectoral land use practices, as envisaged in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Ecosystem Approach (CBD V/6 and VII/11);
- d. Protecting and/or appropriately managing important sites: especially where Category 1 species breed, and all migration bottlenecks (known important sites are listed in Table 3);
- e. Taking into account the needs of bird of prey conservation in sectors and related policies such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, industries, tourism, energy, chemicals and pesticides;
- f. Raising awareness about birds of prey, their current plight and the threats that they face, and the measures that need to be taken to conserve them;
- g. Assessing and monitoring of populations throughout the Range States to establish reliable population trends; conducting research to establish the impacts of threats on them and the measures that are needed to alleviate them; and, sharing information between Signatories and other Range States;
- h. Conducting research on species ecology and migratory behaviour, including analysing available data in order to describe flyway boundaries and migratory patterns, and routes, at the level of species' populations; and
- i. Building capacity for conservation actions (in relevant institutions and local communities) by developing knowledge and monitoring of birds of prey.

5. Implementation Framework

5.1. **Activities** The principal activities Signatories ought to undertake in order to implement the general provisions of the MoU and the specific issues addressed in this Action Plan are set out in Table 2. These activities will be addressed by the strategies, or equivalent documents, as envisaged by paragraph 12 of the MoU. The Coordinating Unit as envisaged by paragraph 16 of the MoU will assist signatories with implementation.

5.2. **Priorities** The activities in Table 2 are accorded the following orders of priority:

First: an activity needed to prevent global extinction of a species.

Second: an activity needed to prevent or reverse population declines in any globally threatened or Near Threatened species, or the majority of other species with an Unfavourable Conservation Status.

Third: an activity needed to restore populations of a globally threatened or Near Threatened species, or to prevent population declines in any species with an Unfavourable Conservation Status.

Fourth: an activity needed to restore populations in any species with an Unfavourable Conservation Status, or to prevent population declines in any species with a Favourable Conservation Status.

These priorities ought to be taken into account in the preparation of strategies, or equivalent documents, for birds of prey as envisaged under paragraph 12 of the MoU.

5.3. **Time schedule** The activities in Table 2 are accorded the following time schedules:

Immediate: an activity expected to be completed within two years from the date that the MoU has become effective for that Signatory;

Short term: an activity expected to be completed within three years from the date that the MoU has become effective for that Signatory;

Medium: an activity expected to be completed within five years from the date that the MoU has become effective for that Signatory;

Long term: an activity expected to be completed within seven years from the date that the MoU has become effective for that Signatory; and

Ongoing: an activity expected to be undertaken throughout the period that the MoU is effective for that Signatory.

5.4. **Responsibilities** The organisations expected to lead on the various activities are indicated in Table 2. Signatories are urged to encourage the full range of necessary organisations to participate in the implementation of this Action Plan whether or not they are currently Signatories to the MoU.

5.5. **Targets** The Coordinating Unit will monitor the progress and efficacy of this Action Plan according to the performance targets for certain activities given in Table 2.

6. Synergy with MEAs

Insofar as a Range State or a Regional Economic Integration Organisation (REIO) Signatory which is represented as a Signatory to this Memorandum of Understanding is also Contracting Party to one or more Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) that has or have provisions that achieve or otherwise assist the aims, objectives and activities of this Action Plan, such MEAs will be applied as appropriate and to their full extent in the first instance.

7. Progress Reports

Taking advice from Signatories on their progress in implementing this Action Plan as envisaged in paragraphs 12 and 14 of the MoU, the Secretariat will report on progress with implementing the Action Plan in accordance with paragraph 15 of the MoU.

8. Period of Effectiveness

This Action Plan comes into effect on the same date as the MoU for a period of seven years. At least two years before the expiry of this period, a full review of the Action Plan will be undertaken and a revised version prepared for the approval of the Signatories.

Table 1: Categorisation of African-Eurasian birds of prey covered by the Action Plan⁽¹⁾

(as amended by the Second Meeting of Signatories in 2015)

*Effective: 6 October 2015***Category 1**

Scientific name	Vernacular name	Global Red List status⁽²⁾
<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	Bearded Vulture	NT
<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Egyptian Vulture	EN
<i>Circaetus beaudouini</i>	Beaudouin's Snake-eagle	VU
<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	Red-headed Vulture	CR
<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>	White-headed Vulture	CR
<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	Hooded Vulture	CR
<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>	Himalayan Griffon	NT
<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	White-rumped Vulture	CR
<i>Gyps africanus</i>	White-backed Vulture	CR
<i>Gyps indicus</i>	Indian Vulture	CR
<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>	Slender-billed Vulture	CR
<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>	Cape Vulture	EN
<i>Gyps rueppelli</i>	Rüppell's Vulture	CR
<i>Aegypius monachus</i>	Cinereous Vulture	NT
<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>	Lappet-faced Vulture	EN
<i>Clanga clanga</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle	VU
<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	Steppe Eagle	EN
<i>Aquila adalberti</i>	Spanish Imperial Eagle	VU
<i>Aquila heliaca</i>	Eastern Imperial Eagle	VU
<i>Circus maurus</i>	Black Harrier	VU
<i>Circus macrourus</i>	Pallid Harrier	NT
<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>	Pallas's Fish-eagle	VU
<i>Haliaeetus pelagicus</i>	Steller's Sea-eagle	VU
<i>Milvus milvus</i>	Red Kite	NT
<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	Red-footed Falcon	NT
<i>Falco concolor</i>	Sooty Falcon	NT
<i>Falco cherrug</i>	Saker Falcon	EN

¹ Based on Annex 1 as amended by the Second Meeting of Signatories in 2015 and effective on 6 October 2015.² Globally threatened and Near Threatened species according to the Global Red List (2015) defined by IUCN and listed on BirdLife International's World Bird and Biodiversity Database (CR =Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near Threatened).

Category 2⁽³⁾

Scientific name	Vernacular name
<i>Chelictinia riocourii</i>	Scissor-tailed Kite
<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	European Honey-buzzard
<i>Aviceda jerdoni</i>	Jerdon's Baza
<i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>	Black Baza
<i>Nisaetus nipalensis</i>	Mountain Hawk-eagle
<i>Aquila rapax</i>	Tawny Eagle
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Hen Harrier
<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>	Pied Harrier
<i>Circus pygargus</i>	Montagu's Harrier
<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Shikra
<i>Accipiter soloensis</i>	Chinese Sparrowhawk
<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	Besra
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite
<i>Butastur rufipennis</i>	Grasshopper Buzzard
<i>Butastur indicus</i>	Grey-faced Buzzard
<i>Falco naumanni</i>	Lesser Kestrel
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Common Kestrel
<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Eurasian Hobby
<i>Falco cuvierii</i>	African Hobby
<i>Falco severus</i>	Oriental Hobby
<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	Lanner Falcon
<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	Brown Boobook
<i>Otus scops</i>	Eurasian Scops-owl
<i>Otus brucei</i>	Pallid Scops-owl
<i>Asio otus</i>	Northern Long-eared Owl
<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl
<i>Bubo scandiacus</i>	Snowy Owl

³ Species that are considered to have Unfavourable Conservation Status at a regional level within the area (defined in Annex 2) of the MoU. Effectively this comprises Annex 1 species which are Least Concern on the Global IUCN Red List, but are either:

- Listed as threatened or Near Threatened on the European Red List of Birds (2015); or,
- On the basis of BirdLife International data 2015, would meet criteria to be considered as Species of European Conservation Concern -SPEC1, SPEC2 or SPEC 3 (as in BirdLife International (2004) Birds in Europe: population estimates, trends and conservation status. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International Conservation Series No. 12); or,
- Have a declining global population trend according to the Birdlife International database 2015.

Category 3⁽⁴⁾

Scientific name	Vernacular name
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey
<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	Oriental Honey-buzzard
<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>	African Cuckoo-hawk
<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Snake-eagle
<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>	Black-chested Snake-eagle
<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	Brown Snake-eagle
<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	Griffon Vulture
<i>Clanga pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted Eagle
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden Eagle
<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>	Wahlberg's Eagle
<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Booted Eagle
<i>Hieraaetus ayresii</i>	Ayres's Hawk-eagle
<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Western Marsh-harrier
<i>Circus spilonotus</i>	Eastern Marsh-harrier
<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>	Levant Sparrowhawk
<i>Accipiter gularis</i>	Japanese Sparrowhawk
<i>Accipiter ovampensis</i>	Ovambo Sparrowhawk
<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Eurasian Sparrowhawk
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern Goshawk
<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	White-tailed Sea-eagle
<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	Rough-legged Buzzard
<i>Buteo auguralis</i>	Red-necked Buzzard
<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Eurasian Buzzard
<i>Buteo japonicus</i>	Japanese Buzzard
<i>Buteo trizonatus</i>	Forest Buzzard
<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	Long-legged Buzzard
<i>Buteo hemilasius</i>	Upland Buzzard
<i>Falco alopex</i>	Fox Kestrel
<i>Falco amurensis</i>	Amur Falcon
<i>Falco eleonora</i>	Eleonora's Falcon
<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Merlin
<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Gyr Falcon
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon
<i>Surnia ulula</i>	Northern Hawk-owl
<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Boreal Owl
<i>Otus sunia</i>	Oriental Scops-owl
<i>Asio capensis</i>	Marsh Owl
<i>Strix uralensis</i>	Ural Owl
<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Great Grey Owl

⁴ All other migratory species.

Table 2: Activities to be done under paragraph 5 of the Action Plan

Activities	Species	Countries	Priority Level	Time-scale	Organisations	Target
Activity 1: Improvement of legal protection						
1.1. Update CMS Appendix I to include all Category 1 species	Cat. 1	–	Second	Short	CMS Secretariat / CoP	CMS Appendix I amended
1.2. Review relevant legislation and take steps where possible to make sure that it protects all birds of prey from all forms of a) deliberate killing, b) deliberate disturbance at nest sites and communal roost sites (particularly in wintering grounds) where this is considered detrimental to the conservation of the species; and c) egg-collection and taking from the wild. Unless this is authorised by the competent body and only where the action is sustainable and not detrimental to the conservation status of the species concerned	All	All	First	Immediate	Governments	All birds of prey given full protection in the relevant legislation of all Range State Signatories and unsustainable taking of birds is prohibited
1.3 Review relevant legislation and take steps where possible to ban the use of exposed poison baits for predator control and those chemicals where they have been shown to cause significant avian mortalities	All	All	First	Immediate	Governments	The relevant legislation of all Signatories bans use of exposed poison baits and those chemicals that have been shown to cause significant avian mortalities
1.4 Review relevant legislation and take steps where possible to make sure that it requires all new power lines to be designed to avoid bird of prey electrocution	All	All	Second	Medium	Governments	The relevant legislation of all Signatories requires power line design to avoid electrocution
1.5 Strengthen the application of legal protection, and reporting of persecution, for birds of prey by ensuring appropriate penalties, training law enforcement authorities, and raising public awareness to boost surveillance and reporting of illegal activities	All	All	Second	Ongoing	Governments, law enforcement agencies and NGOs	Effective, proportionate and dissuasive penalties are implemented and a strategy to tackle illegal activities against birds of prey is introduced. Details are relayed to Secretariat and included in national reports

Activities	Species	Countries	Priority Level	Time-scale	Organisations	Target
1.6 Identify gaps in existing MEAs where bird of prey protection and conservation can be improved and draw these to the attention of the relevant Secretariat and other Parties	All	All	Third	Immediate	CMS Secretariat / Governments / NGOs	Provisions of existing MEAs strengthened with respect to bird of prey protection and conservation
Activity 2: Protect and/or manage important sites and flyways						
2.1 Designate nationally and internationally important sites (including those listed in Table 3) as protected areas with management plans or as appropriately managed sites taking bird of prey conservation requirements into account	All	All countries	Second	Medium	Governments, BirdLife International and site stakeholders	All important sites have conservation measures in place
2.2 Undertake EIAs in accordance with the CBD guidelines (CBD Decision VI/7A and any subsequent amendments) and CMS Resolution 7.2 on Impact Assessment and Migratory Species for any projects potentially adversely impacting sites listed in Table 3 and any other sites holding significant populations of Category 1 and 2 species	Cat 1 and 2	All	Third	Medium	Governments, forestry, energy and infrastructure sectors	National EIA regulations require EIAs for projects impacting bird of prey sites; results of specialist studies relating to the impacts on birds of prey in EIAs relayed to the Secretariat and included in national reports
2.3 Conduct risk analysis at important sites (including those listed in Table 3) to identify and address actual or potential causes of significant incidental mortality from human causes (including fire, laying poisons, pesticide use, power lines, wind turbines)	Cat. 1 and 2	All	Third	Ongoing	Governments and land managers	Incidental mortality of birds of prey reduced to insignificant levels
2.4 Conduct Strategic Environmental Assessments of planned significant infrastructure developments within major flyways to identify key risk areas	All	All countries with bottleneck sites	Third	Medium	Governments	SEAs carried out and results relayed to the Secretariat and included in national reports
Activity 3: Habitat conservation and sustainable management						
3.1 Survey, maintain and restore natural vegetation cover in former habitats (especially grasslands) in the range of globally threatened species	Cat. 1	All range states of Cat. 1 species	Third	Long	Government, land managers	Inventories of grassland areas supporting Cat. 1 species prepared and at least 30% of former grassland habitats having natural vegetation cover and under sustainable management

Activities	Species	Countries	Priority Level	Time-scale	Organisations	Target
3.2 Where feasible, take necessary actions to ensure that existing power lines that pose the greatest risk to birds of prey are modified to avoid bird of prey electrocution	All species	All	Second	Medium	Governments, energy and infrastructure sectors	Highest risk power lines modified to avoid bird of prey electrocution
3.3 Endeavour to facilitate feeding opportunities for necrophagous birds of prey as far as it is possible taking into account sanitary considerations	All relevant species	All relevant countries	Second	Short	Governments in collaboration with relevant NGOs	Feeding stations established as appropriate and feasible
3.4 Taking into account the needs of bird of prey conservation in sectors and related policies such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, industries, tourism, energy, chemicals and pesticides	All	All	Second	Ongoing	Governments and relevant sectors and organisations	Conservation of birds of prey is integrated in sectors and corresponding policies
Activity 4: Raise awareness of problems faced by birds of prey and measures needed to conserve them						
4.1 Develop a programme of public awareness, using electronic and print media to publicise the migrations undertaken by birds of prey, their current status, the threats to them and actions, including review of superstitions about them, that can be taken to conserve them	All species	All countries	Second	Short	Governments in collaboration with NGOs	Programme implemented, and conservation needs of birds of prey widely understood amongst public
4.2 Develop an awareness programme within forestry, agriculture, fisheries, energy, industry, transport and other relevant sectors to inform decision makers of the current status of birds of prey, the threats to them and the spectral actions that can be taken to conserve them	All species	All	Second	Medium	Governments in collaboration with NGOs	Programme implemented, and conservation needs of birds of prey widely understood amongst government departments
4.3 Develop a school educational programme and teaching resources to inform school children of the migrations undertaken by birds of prey, their current status, the threats to them and actions that can be taken to conserve them	All species	All countries	Third	Medium	Governments in collaboration with NGOs	Programme implemented, and conservation needs of birds of prey widely understood by teachers and taught in schools
4.4 Establish information notices and provide leaflets at bottleneck sites informing people of their importance for birds of prey and the measures that they can take to conserve them	All species	All countries with bottleneck sites	Second	Short	Governments and NGOs	Programme implemented, and conservation needs of birds of prey known within bottleneck sites

Activities	Species	Countries	Priority Level	Time-scale	Organisations	Target
4.5 Organise sub-regional and national training workshops to improve skills in the monitoring of birds of prey	All species	All countries	Second	Medium	Governments and relevant NGOs	Training programmes established
4.6 Educate and raise awareness of local communities to the importance of birds of prey, and the need to monitor and protect them	All species	All countries	Second	Medium	Governments and relevant NGOs	Training programmes established
Activity 5: Monitor bird of prey populations, carry out conservation research and take appropriate remedial measures						
5.1 Establish flyway-scale monitoring networks comprising a representative range of sites where systematic and coordinated monitoring of breeding populations, reproductive success and migration numbers (spring and autumn) can be undertaken	All	To be defined	First	Immediate	Governments, Birdlife International, national ornithological and relevant research organisations	Monitoring network established and adopted by Signatories
5.2 Design and undertake a coordinated monitoring programme and develop monitoring protocols based on the monitoring network established under 5.1	All	To be defined	First	Ongoing	Governments, Birdlife International, national ornithological and relevant research organisations	Monitoring guidelines / manual prepared for national and trans-boundary data collection; data relayed to the Secretariat and included in national reports; breeding and migratory population trends reliably established
5.3 Assess and then address the impacts of habitat loss on breeding, passage and wintering populations of birds of prey, and identify required measures to maintain Favourable Conservation Status	Cat. 1 and 2 species	All countries	Second	Medium	Appropriate NGOs and research organisations	Habitat problems and required mitigation measures identified and addressed
5.4 Assess and then address the impacts of the use of toxic chemicals, including heavy metals (for example lead in shot pellets), on breeding, passage and wintering populations of birds of prey, and their survival, identify and then implement appropriate measures to assist in achieving and maintaining Favourable Conservation Status	Cat. 1 and 2 species	All countries	First	Medium	Governments, appropriate NGOs and research organisations	Toxic chemical and heavy metal problems assessed and mitigation measures identified if required and addressed

Activities	Species	Countries	Priority Level	Time-scale	Organisations	Target
5.5 Monitor power line and wind farm impacts on birds of prey, including through analysis of existing data such as ringing data	All species	All relevant countries	First	Ongoing	Governments, NGOs, relevant research organisations, and energy sectors	Programmes established to monitor the impacts of power lines and wind farms
5.6. Undertake research into the desirability of re-introducing birds of prey, and implement appropriate conservation programmes (including those involving captive breeding), where this is shown to improve their conservation status in the wild, and where these are in accord with IUCN guidelines	All relevant species	All countries	Second	Short	Governments, NGOs and relevant conservation organisations	Re-introduction projects investigated and implemented where found to bring conservation benefit
5.7. Seek to promote appropriate programmes of captive breeding so as to alleviate the pressure of wild harvests on populations of birds of prey	Cat. 1 and 2 species	All relevant countries	Second	Long	Governments, NGOs and relevant conservation organisations	Appropriate programmes established
5.8. Assess the scale of harvests so as to evaluate the implications for the populations concerned	All species	All countries	Second	Medium	Governments, NGOs and relevant conservation organisations	Systems of recording and reporting harvests established
5.9 Undertake relevant surveillance for diseases which may pose a threat to birds of prey populations, so as to inform conservation and management responses	All species	All countries	Second	Medium	Governments and relevant research organisations	Effective disease surveillance programmes in place
5.10 Initiate collaborative research into the effects of climate change on birds of prey and their habitats, and implement appropriate adaptation measures	All species	All countries	Second	Medium	Governments, NGOs and relevant research organisations	Climate change impacts assessed and measures implemented to facilitate adaptation
Activity 6: Supporting measures						
6.1 Prepare National, Regional or Sub-Regional strategies, or equivalent documents, for birds of prey (taking into account the need for collaborative trans-boundary measures with adjacent Signatory States)	Cat. 1 and 2 species	All	Second	Immediate	Governments, national ornithological organisations	National, Regional or sub-regional strategies, or equivalent documents, describing how this Action Plan will be implemented with particular regard for Cat. 1 and Cat. 2 species, submitted to the Secretariat before the First Meeting of Signatories

Activities	Species	Countries	Priority Level	Time-scale	Organisations	Target
6.2 Prepare single species, or, if more appropriate, multi-species, action plans for all globally threatened species, taking account of existing international plans and where necessary extending them to cover the entire African-Eurasian range of each species	Cat. 1 species	All range states of Cat. 1 species	First	Medium	Governments, Birdlife International, national ornithological & relevant research organisations	Conservation plans developed, approved and being implemented for all globally threatened species
6.3 Update Tables 1 and 3 according to new information emerging from the monitoring programme	All	All	Third	Ongoing	Secretariat	On the basis of information collected and collated from the Signatories, the Secretariat proposes amendments to Tables 1 and 3 of this Action Plan for approval by the Signatories
6.4 Encourage Signatories to improve international cooperation through organising conferences, seminars and workshops concerning monitoring, scientific research and conservation activities	All	All	Second	Ongoing	Secretariat	Effective programmes of international cooperation established

Table 3: Provisional list of Important Bird Areas that are currently known to be important congregatory bird of prey sites in Africa and Eurasia

These include sites that qualify according to global and regional criteria for globally threatened species and congregations of migratory birds.

This indicative list should be treated as a minimum list of internationally important areas.

Armenia

Shirak plateau
Lori plateau
Gegama range
Sisian plateau
Pamlak-Sevan ranges

Azerbaijan

Gyzylagach
Goychay Bozdag Mountains
Zagatala
Goy-gol
Shahelili Cape

Bulgaria

Atanasovo Lake
Mandra-Poda complex

China (mainland)

Beidaihe
Changdao Islands
Changtang plateau
Laotieshan Nature Reserve

Denmark

Gilleleje area
Hellebæk
Korshage, Hundested and surrounding sea area
Marstal Bugt and the coast of south-west
Langeland
Skagen
Stevns

Djibouti

Kadda Guéini - Doumêra

Egypt

Ain Sukhna
El Qa plain
Gebel El Zeit
Ras Mohammed National Park
Suez

Finland

Merenkurkku archipelago

France

Basses Corbières
Col de l'Escrinet
Col de Lizarrieta
Etangs de Leucate et Lapalme
Etangs Narbonnais

Gorges de la Dordogne
Haute chaîne du Jura: défilé de l'écluse,
Etournel et Mont Vuache
Haute Soule : Forêt d'Irraty, Organbidexka
et Pic des Escaliers
Hautes Corbières
Hautes garrigues du Montpellièrais
Massif du Canigou-Carança
Montagne de la Clape
Montagne de la Serre
Monts et Plomb du Cantal
Pointe de Grave
Val d'Allier : Saint-Yorre-Joze
Val de Drôme: Les Ramières-printegarde
Vallée de la Nive des Aldudes-Col de
Lindux

Georgia

Batumi
Meskheti
Khevi

Gibraltar (to UK)

Rock of Gibraltar

Greece

North, east and south Kithira Island

Iraq

Samara dam

Israel

Cliffs of Zin and the Negev highlands
Hula valley
Jezre'el, Harod and Bet She'an valleys
Judean desert
Judean foothills
Northern Arava valley
Northern lower Jordan valley
Southern Arava valley and Elat Mountains
Western Negev

Italy

Aspromonte
Cape Otranto
Costa Viola
Maritime Alps
Mount Beigua
Mount Conero
Mount Grappa
Peloritani Mountains

Piave River

Jordan

Aqaba Mountains

Jordan valley

Petra area

Wadi Dana - Finan

Wadi Mujib

Kuwait

Al-Jahra Pool Nature Reserve

Latvia

Slitere Nature Reserve

Lebanon

Ammiq swamp

Lithuania

Kuronian spit

Madagascar

Analahjirofo

Itasy

Analamanga

Anosy

Melaky

Malta

Buskett and Wied il-Luq

Mongolia

Erdenesane

Eejkhad

Ikh Nart Nature reserve

Khomjil

Galba Gobi

Yazaar Mountain

Morocco

Cap Spartel - Perdicaris

Jbel Moussa

Palestinian Authority Territories

Jericho

Northern Lower Jordan Valley

Portugal

South-west coast of Portugal

Russia

Caucasus Biosphere Reserve

Chudsko-Pskovski Lake and adjacent areas

Delta of the River Don

Irendyk ridge

South Baikal migratory corridor

Teberdinski Nature Reserve

Saudi Arabia

Farasan

Wadi Jizan

Spain

Bujeo, Ojén, del Niño and Blanquilla

Mountain ranges

Cabras, Aljibe and Montecoche mountain range

Cadí mountains

Ceuta

De la Plata mountain range

Guadalquivir marshes

La Janda

Roncesvalles-Irati-Abodi mountain range

Tarifa

Sudan

Arqeet

Port Sudan

Al Allagi

Kasala

Al Faaw

Al Malha Neyala

Sweden

Bay of Skälderviken

Falsterbo-Bay of Foteviken

Switzerland

Pre-alpine region of Gurnigel

Syrian Arab Republic

Jabal Slenfeh

Tunisia

Djebel el Haouaria

Turkey

Bosporus

North-east Turkey

Nur Mountains

Yemen

Area of Al Kadan

Bab El Mendab – Dubab

Wadi Mawzii

Mafraq Al Makha

Wadi Rajaf

Wadi Toaz – Wadi Rasiane

Jabal Iref wa Kharaz