



**CONVENTION ON  
MIGRATORY  
SPECIES**

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Agenda Item 28.5

**ACTION PLANS FOR BIRDS**

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

Summary:

This document reports on progress to implement Resolution 05.09 (Rev.COP12) *Endorsement of Action Plans for selected Appendix I and II Migratory Birds*, and Resolution 12.12 (Rev.COP13) *Action Plans for Birds*, as well as the related Decisions 13.47 and 13.48 *Action Plans for Birds*, including the finalization of the Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting.

Rev.1 makes consistent the language in Decisions.

## ACTION PLANS FOR BIRDS

### Background

1. Three CMS Resolutions call for action on specific migratory bird species:
  - In [Resolution 05.09 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) *Endorsement of Action Plans for selected Appendix I and II Migratory Birds*, the Conference of the Parties (COP) requests the Secretariat and the Scientific Council to support Range State Parties to implement existing bird species action plans.
  - In [Resolution 11.17 \(Rev.COP13\)/Rev.1](#) *Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region* (AEMLAP; see [UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.28.2](#)), COP requests the Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds and the CMS Scientific Council, in liaison with the Secretariat, the Migrant Landbird Study Group (MLSG) and the Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan (FLAP), to support the implementation of Action Plans for the European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*)<sup>1</sup> and the European Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*).<sup>2</sup> It also requests these groups and bodies to continue to develop action plans for declining populations of migratory buntings, including the Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*).
  - Through [Resolution 12.12 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) *Action Plans for Birds*, COP13 endorsed action plans for several species,<sup>3,4</sup> and called for relevant action from Parties to implement these plans.
2. To this end, COP13 also adopted Decisions 13.47-13.48 *Action Plans for Birds*, which read as follows:

#### **13.47 Directed to the Secretariat**

*The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *bring the action plans to the attention of all Range States and relevant intergovernmental organizations, invite those Range States that are not yet Parties to ratify or accede to the Convention (or at least support the relevant action plan) and to report on the implementation of these action plans, and monitor the implementation of these action plans during the intersessional period up to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP14);*
- b) *coordinate with the Secretariat of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) regarding the implementation of the Action Plans for Baer's Pochard, the Far Eastern Curlew, the Dalmatian Pelican and the White-headed Duck and with the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the Action Plans of the Dalmatian Pelican and the White-headed Duck during the intersessional period up to COP14.*

#### **13.48 Directed to the Standing Committee**

*Following consultation with the Scientific Council, the Standing Committee is authorized to adopt the Yellow-breasted Bunting Action Plan or Multi-species Action Plan for Eurasian migratory species under the genus Emberiza (Buntings) in an unfavourable conservation status, in the intersessional period between the COP13 and COP14.*

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1 Adopted through Resolution 12.12 (Rev.COP13) *Action Plans for Birds*.

2 Adopted by the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee in line with Decision 12.21.

3 Far Eastern Curlew ([UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.7](#)), Baer's Pochard ([UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.8](#)); European Roller ([UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.9](#)).

4 Pursuant to the mandate from the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the COP also acknowledges the adoption of Action Plans by the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee: [UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18](#) *Adoption of Bird Species Action Plans*; including the action plans for the White-headed Duck ([UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18/Annex 1](#)), the European Turtle Dove ([UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18/Annex 2/Rev.1](#)) and the Dalmatian Pelican ([UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18/Annex 3](#)).

**13.49 Decision directed to: Parties, IGOs & NGOs, Others**

*Parties and non-Parties, particularly those being Range States of the Indian Skimmer (Rynchops albicollis), together with relevant organizations and stakeholders, are encouraged to make rapid progress on the development of a single species action plan and its implementation including further investigation of the status of the species, and to report progress and options for future action under CMS for consideration at COP14.*

Activities to implement Resolution 12.12 (Rev.COP13) and Decisions 13.47-13.48

3. The Secretariat has supported the implementation of action plans for birds adopted under CMS through various processes, in cooperation with Parties and other non-Party Range States and stakeholders. In line with Decision 13.47 (b), the Secretariat has been coordinating with the EAAFP Secretariat on the Action Plans for the Baer's Pochard, the Far Eastern Curlew, the Dalmatian Pelican and the White-headed Duck, and with the AEWA Secretariat on the Action Plans for the Dalmatian Pelican and the White-headed Duck, through regular (online) meetings and correspondence. Key activities have been undertaken with regard to the following action plans:

[Baer's Pochard \(Aythya baeri\)](#)

Activities are coordinated with the help of the EAAFP Baer's Pochard Task Force. As illegal taking of the species is a significant threat, a major activity delivering on this Action Plan has been the establishment of the new Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (there are proposals to change the name to the Asia Pacific Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force; see UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.28.1 Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds. This document also provides more information on the process).

[Dalmatian Pelican \(Pelecanus crispus\)](#)

In line with Decision 13.47 (b), the Secretariat has been coordinating with the AEWA Secretariat on the implementation and monitoring of this Action Plan. The Avian Influenza (AI) outbreak in south-eastern parts of Europe in late 2021/early 2022 has led to a dramatic decline in the Dalmatian Pelican population particularly at the Small Prespa Lake (Greece and Albania). In Greece, more than 2,000 Dalmatian Pelicans fell victim to the AI (see external report here). Thanks to the rapid and well-planned actions of the authorities and NGOs in the affected countries, the outbreak was brought under control. In 2021, 5,200 Dalmatian Pelicans were counted in the Balkans, compared to only 3,222 in 2022, a decrease of almost 40 per cent. To address outbreaks in other countries in late 2021, the Scientific Task Force on Avian influenza and Wild Birds, co-convened by FAO and the CMS Secretariat, had already taken the initiative, monitoring the situation, and publishing a statement including recommendations on the CMS website on 24 January 2022.

With regard to the population in East Asia, which is threatened by illegal taking, the establishment of the new Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the EAAF (see above) can be considered as a major step towards implementing priority actions to tackle this threat.

### [Far Eastern Curlew \(\*Numenius madagascariensis\*\)](#)

An initial study, including surveys and an analysis of the impacts of shorebird hunting in the Russian Far-East, was conducted by BirdsRussia in Kamchatka, the Russian Federation, in 2019, thanks to voluntary contributions from the Government of Australia. Two further studies on the same topic were undertaken through small-scale funding agreements with BirdsRussia: in Sakhalin in 2020, and in Khabarovsk and Amur regions in 2021/2022. The first two studies indicated that hunting of shorebirds was deeply rooted in local hunting communities. The impact was assessed as significant; in Sakhalin shorebird hunting was on an even larger scale than in Kamchatka in 2019. Informal interviews showed that the intentional taking of Far Eastern Curlew was taking place. Other large, medium-sized and small shorebirds were also regularly shot, and interviewees had observed declines in the abundance of various species in recent years. Collateral damage to non-targeted species was also reported. The projects highlighted the need for changes in hunting legislation, and temporary limitations or suspension of hunting to protect Far Eastern Curlews as well as other non-targeted species killed by accidental shooting; and education and awareness activities, including on how to identify different species. As further outputs, recommendations for further research were made with regard to the status and trends of populations of the studied shorebird species. The reports are available from the Secretariat. At the time of writing, the report of the third study conducted in Khabarovsk and Amur was being finalized.

Another project, *Exploratory surveys to clarify the status of the Endangered Far Eastern Curlew on the Sarawak coastline in Borneo, Malaysia*, was, at the time of writing, being implemented through a small-scale funding agreement with the Malaysian Nature Society, thanks to voluntary contributions from the Government of Australia. The results of the study are expected to feed into several objectives of the Action Plan.

### [White-headed Duck \(\*Oxyura leucocephala\*\)](#)

An International Species Working Group on the White-headed Duck exists under AEWA. In the intersessional period, due to the lack of resources and capacities, the CMS Secretariat itself was not able to undertake any specific activities in support of its implementation.

## Activities to implement Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP13)/Rev.1 with regard to single species action plans

4. In implementing the relevant provision of Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP13)/Rev.1 *Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African Eurasian Region (AEMLAP)*, the Secretariat supported the implementation of the international single species action plans for the European Turtle Dove, and for the European Roller, and the finalization of the Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting.

### [European Roller \(\*Coracias garrulus\*\)](#)

Dedicated activities to promote the Action Plan have been included in the new [Programme of Work \(POW\) 2021-2026](#) of the Working Group on Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEML WG). Several organizations, including BirdLife partners (e.g., MME Hungary), are actively involved in implementing this Action Plan at local and national levels.

### European Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*)

In 2020 and 2021, several workshops were organized by the European Commission to support the development of an Adaptive Harvest Management Model for the European Turtle Dove. The model acts a tool for the management of the species based on a participatory decision-making process underpinned by science. A zero-quota approach to harvesting for a specific period was discussed, with the aim of allowing the compilation of solid data on population trajectories and harvesting being gathered in all regions of the European Turtle Dove's flyway. The Secretariat supported the European Commission in its efforts to convene the Range States for these workshops, and has continued promoting the Action Plan. This included a call for the collection of robust and accurate hunting bag data, and annual reporting to the Turtle Dove Harvest Working Group, to calculate yearly hunting bag statistics. Several Range States implemented a temporary hunting moratorium. The Secretariat supported efforts towards ensuring that any hunting of the species is sustainable and fully in line with the Action Plan, promoting the mandate and the efforts among Range States and relevant organizations through a letter sent in May 2021. Activities for this Action Plan have been included in the new POW 2021-2026 of the AEML WG. In 2021 and 2022, a hunting moratorium for Turtle Doves was introduced in France, Spain and Portugal and parts of Italy, while Greece and Cyprus have halved Turtle Dove hunting quotas.

### Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*)

The Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*) used to be one of the most abundant songbirds in the northern Palearctic region. Its global population was estimated at hundreds of millions of individuals and, prior to the 1980s, its breeding range covered more than 15 million km<sup>2</sup>, stretching from Scandinavia to the Pacific coast. The population declined by 84.3–94.7 per cent between 1980 and 2013, and the species' range retracted eastwards by about 5,000 km in just under 25 years. The Yellow-breasted Bunting was listed in Appendix I of CMS at COP9 in 2008 and is categorized as 'Critically Endangered' by IUCN.

The development of an International Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting was undertaken under the responsibility of the AEML WG, with Birdlife International taking the lead in its capacity as a member of the Working Group, the MLSG and FLAP. The development of the Action Plan was coordinated by Mr. Simba Chan from the Wild Bird Society of Japan. Consultations with governmental representatives and experts of the Range States on the draft plan were held at various round-table events at international ornithological congresses, and dedicated national workshops and meetings were convened to discuss priorities for research and conservation of the Yellow-breasted Bunting.

A path forward towards concluding the Action Plan and its potential adoption under CMS was presented in Document [UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC5/Doc.6.1.1](#) to the fifth meeting (online) of the CMS Scientific Council, held from 28 June to 9 July 2021. On 13 July 2022, the Secretariat, in cooperation with the coordinator and the Chair of the AEML WG, organized a meeting (online) of the compilers and key actors in the Range States to discuss the status of and next steps for consultations and endorsement of the Action Plan. A tentative timeline for consultations with the Range States, the AEML WG, the CMS Scientific Council and the submission to the CMS Standing Committee for adoption, as mandated by Decision 13.48, was agreed. At the time of writing, the draft Action Plan was under revision based on comments received from the AEML WG. As per the agreed timeline, the endorsement process is expected to be completed by the middle of 2023.

### Activities to implement Resolution 05.09 (Rev.COP12) related to other action plans

5. In addition to the abovementioned action plans, the Secretariat has supported the implementation of other existing action plans on an ad hoc basis and subject to available capacities. Among those are species which are covered by specific instruments – e.g., the Great Bustard.

#### Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*)

In the context of the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Middle-European Population of the Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*)*, in March 2023, the Secretariat attended an online meeting organized by Austria, Hungary, Slovakia and Germany to discuss options for the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Signatories to the MOU, tentatively planned for September 2023.

Furthermore, the Secretariat has been in regular contact with coordinators of the [Concerted Action for the Asian Population of the Great Bustard \(\*Otis tarda\*\)](#). A revision of the previous Action Plan for Great Bustards in Asia and the preparation of a new Action Plan had been foreseen under the framework of this Concerted Action. A draft of the new Action Plan has been submitted by the Government of Mongolia to COP14 for adoption (see [UNEP/CMS/COP14/COP14/Doc.28.5.3 Action Plan for the Great Bustard in Asia](#)). In 2022, the Eurasian Bustard Alliance and the Ornithological Society of the Middle East (OSME) published a series of scientific articles based on the proceedings of the workshop held in Ulaanbaatar in 2017, and new data and results since then. It was found that the regional Central Asian population of *Otis tarda tarda* has dropped to perhaps 500 individuals, which is less than 1 per cent of the global population. The updated assessment of the global population of *Otis tarda* reported a 40 per cent reduction from the previous one in 2014. In July 2022, a notification was sent to all Parties and partner organizations regarding opportunities for securing small grants for projects, issued and coordinated by OSME and the Eurasian Bustard Alliance.

#### Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*)

The European Species Action Plan for the Cinereous Vulture was developed in 1993 and adopted in 1996 by the European Union and the Bern Convention, and by CMS COP5 in 1997. The Action Plan has not been revised since. Its implementation has been reviewed four times – in 2000 (Gallo-Orsi, 2001), 2004 (Nagy and Crockford, 2004), 2010 (Barov and Derhé, 2010) and most recently in 2017 by the Vulture Conservation Fund. The short-term target of the Plan has been achieved as the European breeding population has increased overall. A Cinereous Vulture Flyway Action Plan (CVFAP) – contained in Annex 5 of the Vulture Multi-species Action Plan – covering all 64 Range States was endorsed by CMS Resolution 12.10. The CVFAP aims to integrate the European action framework, including the implementation of best practice, into the global frame of activities, and to propose a coordinated and coherent framework for the conservation of the species across its entire distribution range. A review of the CVFAP is scheduled for 2024/25.

### Other action plans and related development processes proposed for endorsement

#### Christmas Island Frigatebird (*Fregata andrewsi*)

The Government of Australia has developed a draft Action Plan for the Christmas Island Frigatebird. The species is listed in Appendix I of CMS, and as ‘Critically Endangered’ by the IUCN. In July 2022, the Secretariat circulated the draft Action Plan, on behalf of the Chair of the CMS Scientific Council, to the Scientific Councillors of the Range States

for their comments. The other Members and Observers of the Scientific Council were also notified about the process. The revised draft Action Plan was presented jointly by the Government of Australia and the Government of the Philippines for adoption by the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP MOP11), held in Brisbane, Australia, in March 2023, where it was unanimously supported. Further details of the process, as well as the draft Action Plan proposed for adoption by COP14, can be found in Document [UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.28.5.2](#) *Action Plan for the Christmas Island Frigatebird*.

### Sooty Falcon (*Falco concolor*)

This species breeds in hyper-arid deserts in North Africa and West Asia and in uninhabited islands around the Arabian Peninsula, and winters mostly in Madagascar. According to the most recent estimates, the species has a population of between 2,800 and 4,000 individuals, but many areas are poorly monitored, and declines are registered in most surveyed populations.

The Sooty Falcon is listed in Appendix II of CMS, and as 'Vulnerable' by the IUCN. It is also listed as a Category 1 species<sup>5</sup> in Table 1 of the Action Plan of the Raptors MOU. An International Single Species Action Plan is being developed by the Raptors MOU following a mandate from MOS1. A Working Group composed of experts and representatives of the Range States has been established and a first draft is being circulated (expected date of circulation by 30 May 2023). A final draft is expected to be ready by September 2023.

### Discussion and analysis

6. A considerable range of activities to support the implementation of existing bird species action plans and development processes for new action plans has been undertaken since COP13. These activities included concrete projects facilitated through small-scale funding agreements with implementing partners, delivering on specific actions proposed in the plans – e.g., for the Far Eastern Curlew.
7. Despite the challenges related to the Covid-19 pandemic, which hampered implementation on various levels, significant progress has been recorded in international cooperation on single species action plans, including via online workshops (e.g., EU workshops for the European Turtle Dove) as well as implementation on national and regional levels.
8. In the context of Decision 13.48 related to the finalization and endorsement of the Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting, the Secretariat cooperated closely with the compiler of the draft Action Plan, and has been supporting, with considerable capacity, the consultations with the Range States and the Working Group on African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds – including by organizing an online meeting with key actors and relevant stakeholders in the Range States. At the time of writing, it was steering the process for the endorsement of the Action Plan by the Scientific Council and the Standing Committee.
9. It is also important to recognize the efforts made by Parties and stakeholders in developing new action plans for threatened species in urgent need of conservation actions, such as the Christmas Island Frigatebird, the Great Bustard in Asia and the Sooty Falcon, as well as the cooperation among Range States and among relevant international frameworks (e.g., between CMS and the EAAFP).

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<sup>5</sup> Globally threatened and Near Threatened species.

10. The main challenge is to secure funding for international coordination, implementation and monitoring of and awareness-raising for single (and multi-) species action plans. The Secretariat does not have sufficient capacities or funds in place to establish adequate coordination, monitoring and awareness-raising mechanisms for each of the action plans endorsed under the Convention. Progress in implementing conservation actions largely depends on the engagement of stakeholders, as does the monitoring of actions and achievements, which is based on information actively shared by Parties and stakeholders. Significant support is only possible through voluntary contributions, which allow for establishing funding agreements with implementing partners. The majority of species with action plans endorsed under CMS are in urgent need of conservation actions, but with the capacities currently in place, many of the relevant threats can only be addressed and action promoted through overarching thematic initiatives (e.g., for addressing illegal taking, barriers to migration related to infrastructure, etc.) at the international level.
11. In relation to Decision 13.49, at the time of writing, the Secretariat was not aware of any progress made in the development of the Action Plan for the Indian Skimmer. As such, COP14 may consider renewing the amended Decision contained in Annex 2 of this document.

#### Recommended actions

12. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
  - a) adopt the draft amendments to Resolution 12.12 (Rev.COP13) contained in Annex 1 of this document;
  - b) adopt the draft Decisions as contained in Annex 2 of this document.



## ANNEX 1

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION 12.12 (Rev.COP13)

*NB: Proposed new text is underlined. Text to be deleted is ~~crossed-out~~.*

**ACTION PLANS FOR BIRDS**

*Recalling* Resolution 11.14<sup>6</sup> *Programme of Work for Migratory Birds and Flyways*, which recommends the development, adoption and implementation of species action plans for priority species in line with CMS priorities for Concerted and Cooperative Action, including the Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*), Baer's Pochard (*Aythya baeri*) and Far Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*),

*Further recalling* Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP12)<sup>7</sup> *Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region*, which requests the Landbirds Working Group and the Scientific Council, with the support of the CMS Secretariat, to develop as an emerging issue Action Plans for the Yellow-breasted Bunting, European Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*) and European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*),

*Noting that the Far Eastern Curlew was designated for Concerted Actions during 2015-2017 through Resolution 11.13<sup>28</sup> ~~Concerted and Cooperative Actions~~,*

*Further noting* that the Baer's Pochard Action Plan was adopted by the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Partners of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) in Japan in 2015; that the Far Eastern Curlew Action Plan was adopted by the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Partners of EAAFP in Singapore in 2017, that the Dalmatian Pelican Action Plan was adopted by the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Partners (MOP10) of EAAFP in Changjiang, China in 2018, ~~and~~ that the Action Plans for the White-headed Duck and for the Dalmatian Pelican were adopted by the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) in Durban, South Africa, in 2018, and that the Christmas Island Frigatebird Action Plan was adopted by EAAFP MOP11, in Brisbane, Australia, in 2023,

*Further noting* the EuroSAP project, sponsored by the European Commission and coordinated by BirdLife International, under which the action plans for the European Turtle Dove, for the Dalmatian Pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*) and for the White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*), were finalized in early 2018,

*Additionally noting* that the CMS Standing Committee adopted the Action Plans for the European Turtle Dove, White-headed Duck and Dalmatian Pelican at its 48<sup>th</sup> meeting,

*Acknowledging* the progress made in the development of the Action Plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting, including the sound scientific and participatory process towards its successful finalization and implementation, ~~and~~

*Concerned* about the conservation status of the Indian Skimmer (*Rynchops albicollis*) and its riverine and coastal habitats and noting the possible extinction of the species in South-East Asia as well as the severe population decline in South Asia detected in early 2020, and welcoming the initiative of the Governments of India and Bangladesh to develop a proposal

<sup>6</sup> Now ~~consolidated in~~ The Resolution was repealed and consolidated into Resolution 12.11 *Flyways*, which was amended at COP13.

<sup>7</sup> The Resolution was amended by COP13.

<sup>8</sup> Now ~~consolidated in~~ Resolution 12.28 *Concerted Actions*

for listing of the species under CMS as well as to lead on the development of an international single species action plan for the species together with other relevant Range States and stakeholders.

*The Conference of the Parties to the  
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

*Adopts* the following species action plans as submitted to COP12:

UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.7.- Action Plan for the Far Eastern Curlew;

UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.8.- Action Plan for the Baer's Pochard;

UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.9.- Action Plan for the European Roller;

1. bis...Adopts the following species action plans as submitted to COP14:

UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.28.5.2 - International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Christmas Island Frigatebird;

UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.28.5.3 - Action Plan for the Great Bustard in Asia;

*Acknowledges* the adoption of the Action Plans for the White-headed Duck, the European Turtle Dove and the Dalmatian Pelican by the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee, as submitted in documents, pursuant to its mandate from the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18 *Adoption of Bird Species Action Plans;*

UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18/Annex 1 *International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the White-headed Duck;*

UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18/Annex 2/Rev.1 *International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the European Turtle Dove;*

UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18/Annex 3 *International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Dalmatian Pelican;*

*Urges* Parties and *invites* non-Party Range States to implement relevant provisions of all of the action plans for birds that have been adopted by the Conference of the Parties to date;

*Encourages* other Parties to provide technical and/or financial support to activities outlined in the action plans;

*Requests* Parties to report on progress in the implementation of the action plans at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties via their national reports, including with regard to the Yellow-breasted Bunting Action Plan and the Sooty Falcon Action Plan upon ~~its~~ their finalization.

## DRAFT DECISIONS

## ACTION PLANS FOR BIRDS

***Directed to Parties and Non-Parties, IGOs, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders***

14.AA Parties and non-Parties, particularly those being Range States of the Indian Skimmer (*Rynchops albicollis*), together with relevant organizations and stakeholders, are encouraged to make rapid progress on the development of a single species action plan and its implementation including further investigation of the status of the species, and to report progress and options for future action under CMS for consideration at COP15.

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

14.BB Following consultation with the Scientific Council, the Standing Committee shall consider and adopt the Yellow-breasted Bunting Action Plan or Multi-species Action Plan for Eurasian migratory species under the genus *Emberiza* (Buntings) with an unfavourable conservation status, in the intersessional period between COP14 and COP15.

14.CC Following consultation with the Scientific Council, the Standing Committee shall consider and adopt the Sooty Falcon Action Plan upon its finalization, in the intersessional between COP14 and COP15.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

14.DD The Secretariat shall:

- a) bring the action plans to the attention of all Range States and relevant intergovernmental organizations, invite those Range States that are not yet Parties to ratify or accede to the Convention (or at least support the relevant action plan) and to report on the implementation of these action plans, and monitor the implementation of these action plans during the intersessional period up to the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15);
- b) coordinate with the Secretariat of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) regarding the implementation of the Action Plans for Baer's Pochard, the Christmas Island Frigatebird, the Far Eastern Curlew, the Dalmatian Pelican and the White-headed Duck and with the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the Action Plans of the Dalmatian Pelican and the White-headed Duck during the intersessional period up to COP15.