



# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



## FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE SAIGA ANTELOPE (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*)

AND

### TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

*Sanatorium "Alatau", Almaty, Kazakhstan, 23-26 September 2006*

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## FACT SHEET

### I. Conference venue and background to the meetings

The MoU Meeting and the Technical Workshop will take place in the Sanatorium "Alatau", Almaty, Kazakhstan. The Sanatorium "Alatau" is located in the suburbs of Almaty, in the foothills of the Zailiyskii Alatau, next to the thermal mineral spa.

#### *Address*

Sanatorium "Alatau"  
Kazakhstan, Almaty 050076

Tel: (+7 3272) 549 694

Fax: (+7 3272) 549 697

#### *MoU Meeting*

The MoU Meeting is an official intergovernmental meeting of the signatories to the Saiga MoU. It will take place 25-26 September 2006 and is hosted by the Forestry and Hunting Committee of Kazakhstan's Ministry of Agriculture. The objectives of the meeting include evaluating implementation of the Saiga MoU and Action Plan and to make recommendations for future implementation.

Meeting documentation will be available from the CMS website (see below).

#### *Technical Workshop*

A one-and-a-half-day Technical Workshop will precede the MoU Meeting. The Technical Workshop will take place on 23 and 24 September 2006. This meeting of governmental and non-governmental Saiga experts and interested organisations will be convened by the Antelope Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission on behalf of the CMS and CITES Secretariats. The experts will be asked for their advice and recommendations with regard to:

- The Saiga's conservation status (*relates to MoU Ag item 7.1*);
- The development of a tabular summary of Saiga-related projects and activities within and outside the Range States (*relates to MoU Ag item 7.2*); and

- Priority activities under the Action Plan that could form the basis for a medium term international work programme (*relates to MoU Ag item 8.3*).

The workshop agenda and programme will be available as an information document on the website for the MoU Meeting (see below). There will be three MoU Meeting documents for the Technical Workshop to consider:

- Overview Report (doc. CMS/SA-1/5/Add.1);
- Summary of Saiga-related Project Activities (CMS/SA-1/Inf/6); and
- Draft Medium Term International Work Programme (CMS/SA-1/8).

## **II. Opening and registration**

The MoU Meeting will be opened at 09.00 on 25 September 2006. Delegates are encouraged to arrive at 08.30 to pick up any registration materials.

The Technical Workshop will begin at 09.00 on 23 September 2006. Delegates are encouraged to arrive at 08.30 to pick up any registration materials.

## **III. Airport transfer to the Sanatorium “Alatau”**

A taxi from the airport to the Sanatorium will cost approximately US\$ 40.00.

The organizers will provide a shuttle service from and to the airport to the Sanatorium “Alatau”.

Airport transfer will be pre-arranged for sponsored delegates. Other participants should provide their date and time of arrival, airline and flight number on the airport transfer/hotel booking form available from the CMS website (see below) and returned by **31 August 2006**, along with any questions, to:

Mr. Viltaly Gromov  
“Ohotzoo”  
Academik Bartold Street 157 A,  
Almaty 050028  
Kazakhstan

Tel/Fax: (+7 3172) 906 278

E-mail: [ohotzoo@online.ru](mailto:ohotzoo@online.ru); [vgrom@mail.ru](mailto:vgrom@mail.ru)

## **IV. Hotel accommodation for sponsored delegates and other participants**

The organizers have block-booked hotel rooms for sponsored delegates and other participants in the Sanatorium “Alatau”. A limited number of single and double rooms is available.

### *Sponsored delegates*

Accommodation will be booked and pre-paid by the organisers for sponsored delegates. **Because the number of single rooms available is very limited sponsored delegates are kindly requested to**

**consider sharing a double room with another participant and confirming this when contacted by the CMS Secretariat.**

#### *Other participants*

Other participants must contact the organisers to reserve a room in the Sanatorium. A hotel booking form must be submitted to the organisers no later than **31 August 2006**. Scroll down on the CMS website to find the hotel booking form:

< [http://www.cms.int/species/saiga/1st\\_saiga\\_range\\_states\\_meeting.htm](http://www.cms.int/species/saiga/1st_saiga_range_states_meeting.htm) >.

A single room costs approximately US\$91 per day. A double room costs approximately US\$128 per day. **Because the number of single rooms available is very limited please consider sharing a double room with another participant.** This can be indicated on the hotel booking form.

The price of the room includes 3 meals a day. Payment for accommodation is by cash (Tenge) or credit cards (VISA, MasterCard). Please note that reservations may be cancelled up to 7 days in advance of the date of check-in without penalty.

The hotel booking form should be returned to:

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“Ohotzoo”  
Academik Bartold Street 157 A,  
Almaty 050028  
Kazakhstan

Tel/Fax: (+7 3172) 906 278  
E-mail: [ohotzoo@online.ru](mailto:ohotzoo@online.ru); [vgrom@mail.ru](mailto:vgrom@mail.ru)

The Sanatorium “Alatau” is located at the outskirts of Almaty, in the foothills of the Zailiyskii Alatau Mountains, next to the thermal mineral spa. The complex has a well-being centre and provides different social and cultural programmes.

The accommodation will be in a single or double-room equipped with telephone, TV, refrigerator, mini-bar, shower and WC. The price of the hotel room includes 3 meals a day, the use of the swimming pool and fitness club.

Other services in the hotel: hair-dresser, pharmacy, change, library, movie-theatre, tennis, golf-course, paintball, artificial lake, summer-café, billiard, sauna, public transportation, parking, safe, conference room, renting of technical equipment.

## **V. Social events**

The Forestry and Hunting Committee has invited all MoU Meeting participants to attend a dinner in national style the evening of 26 September 2006. The dinner will take place in the restaurant “Jeruyik”. An excursion around the city and its surroundings is being planned for the afternoon of 24 September 2006, after the closing of the Technical Workshop, also at the invitation of the Forestry and Hunting Committee.

IUCN, CITES and CMS invite all participants to a reception the evening of 24 September at the Sanatorium.

More details on social events, including times, will be provided to participants closer to the meetings.

## **VI. Weather**

The average temperature in Almaty in September is moderately warm (18 – 22 degrees Celsius), with a possibility of rain.

## **VII. Currency**

The national currency of Kazakhstan is Tenge. The exchange rate is about 1 US\$ = 120 Tenge. Credit cards are NOT commonly accepted, with the exception of some stores and hotels in town (mainly in the centre of the city).

## **VIII. Visas**

The participants from Russia and Uzbekistan do not require an entry visa.

The participants from Mongolia, Turkmenistan and European countries should arrange for their own visas.

For further questions about visas, please contact the organizers (no later than one month before entering the country):

Mr. Viltaly Gromov  
“Ohotzoo”  
Academik Bartold street 157 A,  
Almaty 050028  
Kazakhstan

Tel/Fax: (+7 3172) 906 278  
E-mail: [ohotzoo@online.ru](mailto:ohotzoo@online.ru); [vgrom@mail.ru](mailto:vgrom@mail.ru)

## **IX. Electricity**

The electric current for Kazakhstan is 220V. Western European (continental) plugs can be used in Kazakhstan.

## **X. Communication**

The hotel and the conference centre both have a business centre, equipped with modern communication systems such as computers, national and international telephone connection and Internet. The participants shall pay individually for the use of the business center, telephone and Internet connection.

## **XI. Food**

The accommodation in Sanatorium “Alatau” includes daily meals (national and European gastronomy). Participants needing a special diet should communicate their requirements to the organizers either on the hotel booking form or directly to:

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“Ohotzoo”  
Academik Bartold street 157 A,  
Almaty 050028  
Kazakhstan

Tel/Fax: (+7 3172) 906 278  
E-mail: [ohotzoo@online.ru](mailto:ohotzoo@online.ru)

## **XII. Official language of Kazakhstan and working language of the meetings**

The official language of Kazakhstan is Kazakh. Russian language is widely spoken. Both meetings will be held in English and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

## **XIII. Documents**

All documentation for the meetings will be exclusively available from the CMS website:

< [http://www.cms.int/species/saiga/1st\\_saiga\\_range\\_states\\_meeting.htm](http://www.cms.int/species/saiga/1st_saiga_range_states_meeting.htm) >.

## **XIV. Additional information and queries**

All additional information and further questions should be addressed to:

Mr. Viltaly Gromov  
“Ohotzoo”  
Academik Bartold street 157 A,  
Almaty 050028  
Kazakhstan

Tel/Fax: (+7 3172) 906 278  
E-mail: [ohotzoo@online.ru](mailto:ohotzoo@online.ru); [vgrom@mail.ru](mailto:vgrom@mail.ru)

or

Mr. Bakytbek Duisekeev  
Forestry and Hunting Committee  
Astana 010000  
Kazakhstan

Tel: (+7 3172) 32 82 33  
Fax: (+7 3172) 93 57 05  
E-mails: [cites@minagri.kz](mailto:cites@minagri.kz); [saiga@minagri.kz](mailto:saiga@minagri.kz)