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## DATE, VENUE AND FUNDING OF MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AND OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Eighth Meeting (Nairobi, 20-25 November 2005)

Recalling Article VII, paragraph 3, of the Convention, which states that the Secretariat shall "convene ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties at intervals of not more than three years, unless the Conference decides otherwise";

*Recognising* the benefits that may accrue to the Convention and to Parties, particularly those with developing economies, that host meetings of the Conference of the Parties and Scientific Council in different regions of the world; and

Conscious that it may be advantageous for the Scientific Council to meet several months prior to the meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to allow ample time for the Scientific Council's recommendations to be considered and that such an arrangement might also make it easier for some Parties to host smaller gatherings of the Scientific Council or Conference of the Parties;

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

- 1. *Instructs* the Secretariat to evaluate the cost and personnel implications of organising separately the meetings of the Scientific Council and Conference of the Parties, and requests the Standing Committee to decide whether or not the meetings should be decoupled, on an experimental basis, taking into account the Secretariat's assessment:
- 2. *Invites* Parties that may have an interest in hosting the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and/or the proximate meeting of the Scientific Council, to inform the Secretariat accordingly no later than 31 December 2006; and
- 3. *Instructs* the Standing Committee at its first meeting following the 31 December 2006 deadline to review the offers received and, subject to receipt of sufficient information, to decide upon the most suitable venue(s).