



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

Distr: General

UNEP/CMS/SC-6/2
8 May 2007

Original: English

SIXTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES
FOR THE SIBERIAN CRANE (*Grus leucogeranus*)
Almaty, Kazakhstan, 15-19 May 2007
Agenda Item 4.0

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND MEETING SCHEDULE

**SIXTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR
THE SIBERIAN CRANE (*Grus leucogeranus*)**

Almaty, Kazakhstan, 15-19 May 2007

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND MEETING SCHEDULE (as at 8 May 2007)

Date/Time	Agenda items and Activities	Documents	Annotations
Monday 14 May			
All Day	Delegates arrive in Almaty Registration of Delegates	Fact sheet	http://www.cms.int/species/siberiancrane/6th_siberiancrane_range_states_meeting.htm
Evening	Heads of Delegations Meeting	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/Inf/8	This very brief 30-minute meeting will discuss <i>inter alia</i> chairmanship of the meeting, rules of procedure, meeting flow and other organisational matters. Venue and time: To be announced
	Meeting of the interim WCASN-SC Site Network Review Working Group		The interim WCASN-SC Site Network Review Working Group was established by the Meeting to Endorse the Proposed Western/Central Asian Site Network for the Siberian Cranes (and other waterbirds), New Delhi, 13 June 2005. The interim Working Group will meet to review officially nominated sites for the WCASN-SC Site Network Venue and time: To be announced
Tuesday 15 May	Day 1		
08.30-9.00	Registration of Delegates		
Morning	Agenda items 1.0 – 7.0		Coffee break from 9.45-10.00

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09.00-13.00			
9.00-9.15	1.0 Welcoming remarks		Mr. Khairbek Mussabayev, Vice Chairman, Forestry and Hunting Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan, will open the meeting. Mr Douglas Hykle (Convention on Migratory Species) and Dr George Archibald, International Crane Foundation will provide some introductory remarks.
9.15-10.00	2.0 Signing ceremony and other formalities		The MoU will be opened for signature to Wetlands International and Cracid and Crane Breeding and Conservation Center as collaborators. Photos will be taken of the signing ceremony as well as a group photo of all meeting participants. After the signing ceremony the meeting will adjourn briefly for tea and interviews with mass media representatives. Expected outcome: Representatives of CBCC and Wetlands International will sign the Siberian Crane MoU.
10.00-10.05	3.0 Election of officers		The meeting will be invited to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from among the representatives of the Signatory States in attendance. Expected outcome: Chairpersons are elected.
10.05-10.10	4.0 Adoption of the agenda and meeting schedule	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/1 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/2 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/3 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/Inf/2	The meeting will be invited to agree informal rules of procedure. The meeting will also be invited to review the provisional agenda and schedule, and to make any proposals for amendment prior to their adoption. The documents list for the meeting will be introduced. A provisional list of participants will be circulated to collect any additional information/updates. Expected outcome: Informal rules of procedure agreed; agenda and meeting schedule adopted; document list introduced; provisional list of participants circulated and updated.
10.10-10.20	5.0 Opening statements		Signatories may wish to make brief opening statements (no more than 2-3 minutes) to indicate any support or assistance (financial or in-kind) their country has provided or intends to provide towards the MoU's implementation. Collaborating organisations that have signed the MoU will also be invited to make short (2-3 minute) interventions. NOTE: It is <i>not</i> envisaged to have presentations of national activities at this stage of the meeting.

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	6.0 Report of the Secretariat		
10.20-10.25	6.1 Status of signatures	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/4 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/Inf/1	The meeting will be invited to consider the Secretariat's brief report concerning the status of signatures and recruitment efforts. Organizations meeting the criteria listed in Document 4 will be invited to express their interest in signing the MoU in the future as a collaborating organization. Expected outcome: The meeting takes note of the Secretariat's report; potential collaborating organisations express their interest to sign the MoU.
10.25-10.30	6.2 List of designated competent authorities and national focal points	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/4 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/Inf/3 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/Inf/4	The meeting will be invited to consider a provisional list of officially designated competent authorities and national focal points and provide any updated information. Expected outcome: The meeting takes note of the updated list of officially designated competent authorities and national focal points.
	7.0 Review of MoU and Conservation Plan implementation		
10.30-12.00	7.1 Conservation status of Siberian Cranes within the agreement area	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/5 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/5/Add.1	ICF representative, Claire Mirande, as technical advisor to CMS, will introduce this portion of the Secretariat's Overview Report addressing the conservation status of the Siberian Crane (<i>Grus leucogeranus</i>) for the eastern, central, and western populations. Signatories, collaborating organisations and observers will be invited to contribute their comments. Conclusions will be drawn. Expected outcome: The meeting takes note of the Secretariat's Overview Report; additional information and guidance on how it could be improved if necessary; information shared on the conservation status of the three populations of <i>Grus leucogeranus</i> .
12.00 - 13.00	7.2 Status of implementation	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/5 UNEP/CMS/SC-6/5/Add.1	On behalf of the Secretariat ICF will introduce a summary of the information received and available as of 14 May 2007 with regard to the status of the MoU and Conservation Plans' implementation. NOTE: This agenda item will be continued after lunch break to allow Range States and other MoU partners to present their most significant achievements and problems.

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13.00 - 14.00	Lunch break		
Afternoon 14.00 - 18.00	Agenda items 7.2 (continued.), 8.1 and 8.2		Working coffee break from 15.00 (people get up, take what they need, and return to conference table).
14.00 - 16.30	7.2 Status of implementation (cont.)		<p>The Siberian Crane Range States and MoU partners will be invited to make brief verbal reports (no more than 10 minutes each) to share (a) highlights on their Siberian Crane-related activities in support of the MoU and Conservation Plans' implementation, (b) major problems/gaps in their implementation and (c) their priority activities for the next 3 years. The MoU signatories will be provided with a Power Point presentation template (5-6 slides) approximately 10 days before the meeting, to assist them in compiling their brief presentations.</p> <p>The meeting will be invited to consider how best to measure progress under the MoU and Conservation Plans and, in particular, whether the Overview Report's present format is appropriate.</p> <p>Finally, the meeting will be invited to provide guidance on whether additional tools are necessary to implement the MoU and Conservation Plans in order to achieve desired conservation and management outcomes for the Siberian Crane, keeping in mind that the draft Conservation Plans for 2007-2010 will be discussed and finalized under agenda item 8.5.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Information shared on the status of MoU and Conservation Plan implementation within the agreement area and at national levels; confirmation that activities are underway nationally; implementation gaps by country and possible means to fill gaps are identified; country-level priorities for the next 3 years identified; suggestions provided on how best to measure progress under the MoU and Conservation Plans and the extent to which the present Overview Report format is appropriate or needs to be improved; guidance given on whether additional tools are needed to implement the MoU and Conservation Plans.</p>
	8.0 Future implementation and further development of the MoU and Conservation Plans		
16.30 - 17.30	8.1 New Conservation Plan structure	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/6	The Siberian Crane Flyway Coordinator, Elena Ilyashenko, will

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			<p>present a short introduction to the proposed new Conservation Plan structure. The new structure would have 6 programmes instead of 4 and would be easier to work with, especially when the transition to on-line reporting is completed. It will also help avoid redundancies and produce more concise Conservation Plans.</p> <p>Expected outcome: New Conservation Plan structure endorsed by the meeting.</p>
17.30 - 18.00	8.2 Reporting and information management	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/7 + Annex	<p>MoU Paragraph 5 refers to reporting. ICF and the Secretariat have developed for the consideration of the meeting a comprehensive draft national report format that could be used as the basis for future reporting on the MoU and Conservation Plans' implementation. It is envisioned that this template would form the basis for future national reporting to be undertaken on-line perhaps in time for the Seventh Meeting of the MoU Signatories.</p> <p>The CMS Secretariat will introduce the general concepts of national reporting and information management including on-line reporting, and the possible creation of a projects database and e-library. ICF will make a short presentation to introduce the new report format in more detail.</p> <p>The meeting will be first invited to consider the draft national report format, provide feedback on its usefulness and suggest any needed revisions in anticipation of its endorsement by the Signatories. The concept of on-line reporting will be discussed. Finally, the meeting will be invited to consider the general issue of information management including the creation of a projects database and e-library.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Endorsement of the draft national report format as amended; a request to the Secretariat to further explore the on-line reporting concept; guidance provided on the general issue of information management including the further exploration of a projects database and e-library.</p>
Evening	Reception		Hosted by the CMS Secretariat and Forestry and Hunting

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18.00 - 19.30			Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
19.30 - 20.00	Presentation “Siberian Crane in a Suitcase”		Presented by Alexandre Sorokin
20.00 - 21.30	Presentation on Avian Influenza Presentations of slides and video films on Siberian Crane activities		
Wednesday 16 May	DAY 2		
Morning 09.00 - 13.00	Agenda Items 8.2 (continued), 8.3 and 8.4		Coffee break from 11:15-11.30.
09.00 - 09.45	8.2 Reporting and information management (cont.)		The previous day’s discussion continues.
09.45 – 11.15	8.3 Western/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Crane and Other Waterbirds (WCASN-SC)	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/8 + Annexes UNEP/CMS/SC-6/8/Add.1	The Siberian Crane Flyway Coordinator, Elena Ilyashenko, will give an update on the development of the WCASN on the basis of information received from Range States that have responded to the Secretariat’s 26 January 2007 letter and nominated their sites. During this presentation Range States will be invited to provide their comments on their nominations. Any site nominations received for review will be discussed, as well as plans for nominations during the coming triennium. Expected outcome: WCASN site list and plans for nominations during the coming triennium endorsed by the meeting.
	8.4 Relationship with other processes and initiatives		
11.30 - 12.00	8.4.1 UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project (SCWP)		The SCWP Technical Advisor, Crawford Prentice, will present a brief report on the progress in SCWP implementation. Plans for phasing out SCWP after the end of the project in 2009, and the implications of a transition to the CMS MoU, will be discussed. Expected outcomes: Delegates are informed about activities and plans under UNEP/GEF SCWP in support of the MoU. Discussion of plans and implications of transition back to the MoU after completion of SCWP.
12.00 - 12.20	8.4.2 East-Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP)	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/9	Taej Mundkur of Wetlands International will make a short presentation on the EAAFP. Building cooperative links between the EAAFP and the MoU, including the development

Date/Time	Agenda items and Activities	Documents	Annotations
			<p>and implementation of the East Flyway Conservation Plan will be discussed.</p> <p>Expected outcomes: Delegates are aware of the objectives, scope and operational procedures of EAAFP, and its relation to the MoU.</p>
12.20 - 12.40	8.4.3 Central Asian Flyway		<p>The CMS Secretariat will summarise the status of the CAF Action Plan and the establishment of the interim coordination mechanism. Building cooperative links between the CAF Action Plan and the MoU, including the development and implementation of the Conservation Plans for the Siberian Crane's West and Central Flyways, will be discussed.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Delegates are aware of the current status of the CAF Action Plan and interim coordination mechanism.</p>
12.40 - 12.50	8.4.4 Ninth Meeting of the CMS Conference of the Parties		<p>The CMS Secretariat will confirm the dates and location of the meeting. The meeting will discuss possible MoU and UNEP/GEF SWCP inputs into the CMS COP.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Possible MoU and SCWP inputs into the CMS COP meeting are identified.</p>
12.50 - 13.00	8.4.5 World Migratory Bird Day		<p>The CMS Secretariat will announce the date of World Migratory Bird Day < http://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/ > and its goals. The meeting will discuss how the MoU and the UNEP/GEF SWCP could make a contribution to the event.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Possibilities for MoU and SCWP inputs into the World Migratory Bird Day activities are identified.</p>
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch Break		
Afternoon 14.00 - 18.00	Agenda item 8.5		Coffee break from 16.00 – 16.15.
14.00 - 18.00	8.5 Conservation Plan (2007-10) development	UNEP/CMS/SC-6/6	<p>Participants will split into three flyway level working groups corresponding to the three Siberian Crane populations to discuss specific activities and priorities for their populations. A draft flyway level conservation plan (in the new structure) will be distributed to each group, instructions will be given; working group members will be identified; a facilitator, reporter, and timekeeper will be identified for each WG.</p>

Date/Time	Agenda items and Activities	Documents	Annotations
			Expected outcome: Each working group revises draft flyway level conservation plans for each population. Comprehensive lists of activities for 2007-10 developed for all 3 populations along with corresponding priorities defined.
18.00 - 19.00	Dinner		
19.00 - 21.00	Roundtable discussion on crane releases		Details to be developed.
Thursday 17 May	DAY 3		
Morning 09.00 - 13.00	Agenda item 8.5 (continued)		Coffee break from 10.30 – 10.45.
09.00 - 13.00	8.5 Conservation Plan (2007-10) development – Flyway level working group reports		Each working group will present its revised conservation plan to the meeting in a session of the plenary. Meeting participants will comment.
13.00 - 13.45	Lunch Break		
Afternoon 14.00 - 18.00	Agenda item 8.5 (continued)		Coffee break from 15:45-16.00.
14.00 – 15.45	8.5 Conservation Plan (2007-10) development – Incorporation of revisions into drafts for each flyway		The working groups will complete their conservation plans based on the feedback received during the morning session.
16.00 - 18.00	8.5 Conservation Plan (2007-10) development – Finalization		Presentations of completed conservation plans on future activities by flyway discussion groups. Meeting participants endorse the revised conservation plans. Expected outcome: Conservation plans endorsed by meeting.
18.00 - 19.00	Dinner		
19.00 - 20.00	Presentations on Siberian Crane activities around the distribution range		The Kazakhstan hosts will present a video film “Crane Day Celebration at Kazakhstan SCWP sites”. Other videos may be also presented. In addition, Alexandre Sorokin will make presentation on “The Siberian Crane is a Secret Bird of West Siberia”. Other presentations to follow
Friday, 18 May	DAY 4		

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Morning 09.00 - 13.00	Agenda items 9.0-12.0		
09.00 - 09.30	9.0 Next Meeting of the Signatories		<p>The Signatories will be invited to consider the desirability of continuing to hold future stand-alone MoU meetings. Financial implications will be considered. The periodicity of meetings and a possible date for the next meeting of the Signatories will be discussed. Finally, expressions of interest to host the next MoU meeting will be considered, along with any other pledges for financial or in-kind support. Before scheduling the next meeting, the participants will consider relevant meetings scheduled for 2009-2010, to avoid conflicts or to use the possible opportunity to hold back-to-back meetings.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Recommendations made on whether the next meeting should be a stand-alone meeting; cost implications noted; the general periodicity of MoU meetings considered; tentative date set for the next meeting of the Signatories and any expressions of interest to host the next meeting reviewed welcomed along with any other pledges for financial or in-kind support.</p>
09.30 - 10.00	10.0 Launch Ceremony for Western/Central Asian Site Network for the Siberian Crane and Other Waterbirds		
10.00 - 12.00	11.0 Review of Meeting Outcomes		<p>Presentation on key outcomes for review and endorsement by participants.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Endorsement of outcomes. Outstanding issues identified as well as any follow-up actions required.</p>
12.15 - 12.30	12.0 Any other business		<p>The meeting will be invited to raise and discuss other issues not covered under the former agenda items.</p> <p>Expected outcome: Other issues discussed and decisions are made in regard of those.</p>
12.30 - 13.00	13.0 Closure of the Meeting		
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch		

Date/Time	Agenda items and Activities	Documents	Annotations
14.00 - 15.00	Session to finalize any outstanding issues, as needed		Should any business of the meeting remain incomplete, the meeting may reconvene briefly in the afternoon.
15.00 - 18.00	Follow-up meeting of organizers		
Saturday, 19 May	FIELD TRIP		All day trip to Charinskiy Canyon National Park (sponsored by CMS Secretariat). Bus will leave from resort at 08.00, and return at approximately 20.00.
Sunday, 20 May	Departure of delegates and Internal Meeting of the SCWP RCU		

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