



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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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 7.0

REVIEW OF MOU AND CONSERVATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

(Note prepared by the Secretariat)

1. Every meeting of the Signatories is to review the conservation status of the Siberian Crane (*Grus leucogeranus*,) and the implementation of the conservation plans for the western, central and eastern populations, taking into consideration reports submitted by the Signatories of the Range States, the Secretariat's Overview Report, other sources of available information as well as any recommendation or scientific advice relating to the Siberian Crane that may have been made by the CMS Conference of the Parties or the Scientific Council (CMS Articles III (6), VII (5) (e) and VIII (5) (a)).
2. Pursuant to MoU paragraph 5, and with the assistance of the International Crane Foundation (ICF) and the Siberian Crane Flyway Coordinator (SCFC), the Secretariat has prepared an overview report compiled on the basis of information at its disposal. The Overview Report is provided as document UNEP/CMS/SC-6/5/Add.1.
3. The Secretariat has transmitted the Overview Report to each of the Range States and the co-operating organizations that have signed the MoU, as well as those organizations intending to sign the MoU during the meeting. The Secretariat has also communicated available national reports received to date.
4. Agenda item 7.0 will be considered in two parts during the meeting: (1) conservation status of the Siberian Crane and (2) status of implementation of the MoU and conservation plans.

Conservation Status of the Siberian Crane

5. The Overview Report provides a brief summary of the Siberian Crane's conservation status within the agreement area.
6. "Conservation status" is not defined in the MoU. But it is defined in the Convention as "the sum of influences acting on the migratory species that may affect its long-term distribution and abundance" (CMS Article I (1) (b)).
7. The meeting is invited to consider the Overview Report's treatment of the Siberian Crane's conservation status and provide comments or any other additional information.

Action requested:

The Signatories, and where appropriate other meeting participants, are requested to:

- Take note of that section of the Secretariat's Overview Report addressing the conservation status of the Siberian Crane and provide additional information not yet reflected.

Status of Implementation of the MoU and Conservation Plans

8. The MoU and the respective conservation plans for the three populations provide the general substantive framework for action within the agreement area. The MoU's substantive provisions are found in paragraph 1 (provide strict protection for Siberian Cranes and identify and conserve the wetland habitats essential for their survival), paragraph 2 (implement the Conservation Plan(s) subject to the availability of resources), and paragraph 3 (facilitate the exchange of scientific, technical and legal information; co-operate with recognized scientists of international organizations and other Range States).

9. At their core, all three conservation plans aim to: (1) reduce mortality in the remaining populations; (2) protect and manage habitats; and (3) enhance co-operation among the Range States and other concerned agencies. The plans for the western and central populations strive also to increase numbers and genetic diversity. Each Range State should have reported on the status of implementing those actions associated with the objectives that are most relevant to its circumstances.

10. The Secretariat's Overview Report broadly summarizes the information received from the available Range State reports. This information was supplemented by information generally available to ICF, the SCFC and the Secretariat, through their networks. The Overview Report attempts to create a general picture of the status of implementation of the MoU and the conservation plans and, where possible, their effectiveness.

11. In order to maximise the very limited time available during the meeting it is proposed that in lieu of presenting a full summary of their national report and activities, each of the eleven Siberian Crane Range States will be invited to make a brief PowerPoint presentation (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 Range States will be provided with a Power Point Presentation template (5-6 slides).

12. The meeting may wish 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 a draft of the Conservation Plans for 2007-2010 will be discussed and finalized under agenda item 8.

13. Finally, the meeting may also wish to consider the adequacy of how progress has been measured to date under the MoU and conservation plans in anticipation of the discussion on the proposal for a new national report format under agenda item 8.2 and an improved conservation plan structure under agenda item 8.1.

Action requested:

The Signatories, and where appropriate other meeting participants, are requested to:

- Share additional information on the status implementation of the MoU and conservation plans.
- Identify implementation gaps by country and the possible means to fill the gaps.
- Identify country-level priorities for the next 3 years.
- Provide comments on the adequacy of how progress has been measured to date under the MoU and conservation plans.
- 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.