

**Fifth Meeting of the Signatories  
of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and  
Management of the Middle-European Population of the Great  
Bustard (*Otis tarda*)**

*Bratislava, Slovakia, 18 – 21 September 2023*

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UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.3.b

**PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND MEETING SCHEDULE**

## PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND MEETING SCHEDULE

| Date/Time                         | Agenda items and Activities   | Documents | Annotations   |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|---|
| <b>Sunday, 17 September 2023</b>  |   |           |   |
| <b>15.00-22.00</b>                | <b>Arrival of participants</b>  |           | Please see <a href="#">fact sheet</a>   |
| <b>15.00-22.00</b>                | <b>Registration</b>   |           | Sign-in of registered participants. Personal identification document required for all participants.   |
| <b>19.00-20.00</b>                | Meeting between the Host Country organizers, Chairs and lecturers of the Scientific Symposium and the CMS Secretariat |           | This meeting will discuss <i>inter alia</i> the meeting flow, especially the role of Chairs/moderators and the interactive and other organizational matters.                                  |
| <b>Monday, 18 September 2023</b>  |   |           |   |
| <b>08.00-09.30</b>                | <b>Registration</b>   |           | Sign-in of registered participants. Personal identification document required for all participants.   |
| <b>09.45-13.00</b>                | <b>Scientific Symposium on the Great Bustard</b>  |           | See separate <a href="#">agenda</a> .   |
| <b>13.00-14.00</b>                | <b>Lunch</b>  |           | Lunch will be provided in the Loft Hotel, hosted by State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.  |
| <b>14.00-18.00</b>                | <b>Scientific Symposium on the Great Bustard</b>  |           | See separate <a href="#">agenda</a> .   |
| <b>18.30-20.00</b>                | <b>Dinner</b>   |           | Dinner will be provided in the Loft Hotel, hosted by State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.   |
| <b>20.00</b>                      | <b>Evening program</b>  |           | Film "The Country of People and the Bustard" (35 minutes). This film was produced in 2009 in frame of the LIFE project "Conservation of the Great Bustard ( <i>Otis tarda</i> ) in Slovakia". |
| <b>Tuesday, 19 September 2023</b> |   |           |   |
| <b>08.00-12.30</b>                | <b>Excursion to the Great Bustard habitat in Bratislava and surroundings</b>  |           | Field trip to the Great Bustard area Syslovske polia SPA and two neighbouring cross-border areas in   |

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|             |   |           | Austria (between villages Pama and Deutsch Jahrndorf) and Hungary (Moson Plain).                      |
| 13.00-14.00 | Lunch                                     |           | Lunch will be provided in the Loft Hotel, hosted by State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.  |
| 14.00-19.00 | Scientific Symposium on the Great Bustard |           | See separate <a href="#">agenda</a> .   |
| 19.30-20.30 | Dinner                                    |           | Dinner will be provided in the Loft Hotel, hosted by State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic. |
| 20.30       | Evening program                           |           | Lecture by Nigel Collar: <i>The Bustard Family and its conservation – update</i> .                    |

| Wednesday, 20 September 2023  |                         |  |  |
|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| Fifth Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Middle-European Population of the Great Bustard ( <i>Otis tarda</i> ) |                         |  |  |
| 08.00-09.00   | Registration            |  | Delegates only arriving for the MOS5 are kindly requested to sign-in the registration list. Personal identification document required for all participants.                        |
| 09.00-13.00 <sup>1</sup>  | Agenda items 1 – 5.2    |  |  |
| 09.00-09.30   | 1. Welcoming remarks    |  | Jana Durkošová TBC (Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic), and Iván Ramírez (CMS Secretariat), will make introductory remarks.   |
| 09.30-09.45   | 2. Election of officers |  | The Meeting will be invited to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from among the representatives of the Signatories in attendance.<br><br><b>Expected outcome:</b> Officers are elected. |

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NB: A coffee break is foreseen in all morning and afternoon sessions.

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| 09.45-10.00        | <b>3. Adoption of the agenda and meeting schedule</b> | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.3.a</a><br><i>Provisional Agenda</i><br><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.3.b</a><br><i>Provisional Annotated Agenda and Meeting Schedule</i><br><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.10</a><br><i>Great Bustard MOU with amending protocol</i> | <p>The Chair will introduce the annotated agenda and meeting schedule. Participants will have the opportunity to provide comments and suggest items to be discussed under Any Other Business.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Agenda and Meeting schedule adopted.</p>   |
| <b>4.0 Reports</b> |   |   |  |
| 10.00-13.00        | <b>4.1 Report of the Secretariat</b>                  | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.4.1</a><br><i>Report of the Secretariat</i><br><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.5</a><br><i>Status of Signatures to the MOU</i><br><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.6</a> <i>List of officially Designated National Contact Points</i>     | <p>The Meeting will be invited to consider the Secretariat's report concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the status of signatures and recruitment of new Signatories. Representatives of non-Signatory States eligible to sign the MOU will be invited to inform the Meeting of their Government's intentions regarding signing the MOU. The Meeting may wish to consider ways and means to increase membership of the MOU;</li> <li>● provisional list of designated national contact points;</li> <li>● CMS COP Outcomes and initiatives relevant for the Great Bustard;</li> <li>● Any other relevant matters.</li> </ul> |
|                    | <b>4.2 Reports from Signatories</b>                   | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.7</a> ; see section <i>National Reports</i><br><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.12</a><br><i>Guidance for the Report at MOS5 for the Great Bustard according to Agenda Item 4.2 (Report of Signatories)</i>                                | <p>Signatories provide a short presentation each (5-10 minutes) or report orally about the status and conservation initiatives of the Great Bustard in their countries.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Information shared on the status of the Countries' populations of the Great Bustard, of the MOU and the implementation of the Action Plan within the agreement area.</p>   |

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|   | <b>4.3 Reports from Range States</b>  | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.12</a><br><i>Guidance for the Report at MOS5 for the Great Bustard according to Agenda Item 4.2 (Report of Signatories)</i>   | <p>Ranges States provide a short presentation each (5-10 minutes) or report orally about the status of the Great Bustard in their countries.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Information shared on the status of the countries' populations of the Great Bustard, of the MOU and the implementation of the Action Plan within the agreement area.</p> |
|   | <b>4.4 Reports from Cooperating Organizations</b>   | <a href="#">Reports from Cooperating and other Organizations</a>   | <p>Signatory organizations are invited to give statements and report on projects related to the Great Bustard or with relevance to the MOU.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Information shared on ongoing developments, projects and cooperation related to the Great Bustard with involvement of the organizations.</p>                              |
|   | <b>4.5 Results of the Scientific Symposium (18-19 September 2023)</b>                               |  | <p>The Chair of the meeting will report on the results of the Scientific Symposium with relevance to the MOU and the Meeting Documents.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Overview list on the items which should be considered for potential amendments of Meeting Documents and their adoption.</p>   |
| <b>5.0 Review of MOU and Action Plan implementation</b> |   |  |   |
|   | <b>5.1 Review of the conservation status of the Great Bustard populations in the agreement area</b> | <p><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.7</a>; see section <i>National Reports</i></p> <p><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.10</a><br/><i>Great Bustard MOU with amending protocol</i></p> <p><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.11</a><br/><i>International Single-Species</i></p> | <p>Delegates will report outcomes from the Scientific Symposium regarding the conservation status of the Great Bustard in the agreement area and on activities with reference to the actions identified in the MOU version of the International Action Plan.</p>  |

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|                           |  | <p><i>Action Plan for the Western Palearctic Population of Great Bustard, Otis tarda tarda – MOU Version</i></p>   | <p>The Meeting may then wish to briefly consider the conservation status of the Great Bustard outside of the agreement area and invite interventions from Observer States and Signatory Organizations.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Information shared on the conservation status of the Great Bustard within the agreement area and actions implemented; possible additional information shared on the Great Bustard's conservation status outside of the agreement area. Table 2 of the Action Plan will be reviewed, as appropriate.</p>  |
|                           | <p><b>5.2 Status of implementation of the Medium-term International Work Programme</b></p> | <p><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.5.2</a><br/> <i>Status Review of the Medium Term International Work Programme (MTIWP 2018-2023)</i><br/> <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.7</a>; see section <i>National Reports</i></p> | <p>The Meeting will be invited to review implementation of the MTIWP, including scientific, conservation and financial aspects, identify the problems and obstacles of actions not fulfilled and consider, with a view to agenda item 6.3, if these should be extended in the new MTIWP, and what ongoing measures are needed to be continued.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Information shared on the status of MTIWP implementation. Further needs for the implementation of the MTIWP assessed and agreed. Suggestions made for measures to be continued or extended in the new MTIWP (and agreed as appropriate).</p> |
| <p><b>13.00-14.00</b></p> | <p><b>Lunch</b></p>  |  | <p>A group photo will be taken before lunch. Lunch will be provided in the Loft Hotel, hosted by State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.</p>   |
| <p><b>14.00-15.00</b></p> | <p><b>Press conference</b></p>   |  | <p>Representatives of the Ministries:<br/>           Mr. Peter Iwaniewicz, Director for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Awareness Raising, Austria</p>  |

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|             |   |   | <p>Mrs. Katarína Butkovská, State Secretary, Slovakia<br/>Mr. Bertalan Balczó, Deputy State Secretary, Hungary</p> <p>“Declaration on the long-term protection of the Great Bustard in the Three-border region of Slovakia, Austria and Hungary and its surroundings.”</p>   |
| 15.00-19.30 | <b>Agenda items 6 – 6.3</b>   |   |  |
|             | <b>6.0 Future implementation and further development of the MOU and Action Plan</b> |   |  |
|             | <b>6.1 Amendment of the MOU’s Geographical Scope</b>                                | <p><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.10</a><br/><i>Great Bustard MOU with amending protocol</i></p>  | <p>The Meeting will be invited to have discussion on the MOU’s geographical scope. Non-Signatory Range States present at the meeting will be invited to report on their intention to sign the MOU.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Confirmation of the geographical scope of the MOU and updated information from Range States with regard to signing the MOU.</p> |
|             | <b>6.2 Review of the MOU’s Action Plan</b>  | <p><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.6.2</a><br/><i>Review of the MOU’s Action Plan “International Single-Species Action Plan for the Western Palearctic Population of Great Bustard, Otis tarda tarda”</i></p> <p><a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.10</a><br/><i>Great Bustard MOU with amending protocol</i></p> | <p>The Meeting will be invited to have a discussion on the need to update the MOU’s Action Plan, based on discussions during the Scientific Symposium.</p> <p><b>Expected outcome:</b> Update of the Action Plan, as relevant, and its endorsement.</p>  |

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|                                    | <b>6.3 Development of the new Medium-Term International Work Programme 2023-28</b>            | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.6.3</a><br><i>Draft Medium Term International Work Programme on the Conservation and Management of the Middle European Population of the Great Bustard (2023-2028)</i> | The Meeting will be invited to consider any changes necessary to the current (2018-2023) MTIWP for the Great Bustard to update it and adopt it for the next five-year period.<br><br>Note: the new MTIWP is recommended to be aligned with the Framework for Action included in Chapter 4 of the Action Plan.<br><br><b>Expected outcome:</b> New MTIWP adopted. |
| 19.30-20.30                        | Dinner  |   | Dinner will be provided in the Loft Hotel, hosted by State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.  |
| <b>Thursday, 21 September 2023</b> |   |   |  |
| 09.00-13.00                        | <b>Agenda items 7 – 10</b>  |   |  |
|                                    | <b>7 Adoption of Guidelines</b>   |   |  |
|                                    | <b>7.1 Guideline on Measures to Secure the Successful Wintering of Great Bustards</b>         | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.7.1</a>  | The draft Guideline will be introduced by Hungary, considering potential amendments proposed incl. during the Scientific Symposium. Delegates will be invited to comment on the draft.<br><br><b>Expected outcome:</b> Finalization and adoption of the Guideline document.  |
|                                    | <b>7.2 Guideline on Predator Control Strategies for the Conservation of the Great Bustard</b> | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.7.2</a>  | Delegates will be invited to discuss the draft Guideline presented by Hungary, considering potential amendments proposed during the Scientific Symposium. Delegates will be invited to comment on the draft.   |



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|-----------|--|--|--|
|           |  |  | <b>Expected outcome:</b> Finalization and adoption of the Guideline document.  |
|           | <b>7.3 Guideline for the different Agri-Environmental Schemes for the benefit of the Great Bustard</b> | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Doc.7.3</a>   | The draft document will be introduced by Hungary and discussed, considering potential amendments proposed incl. during the Scientific Symposium. Delegates will be invited to comment on the draft.<br><br><b>Expected outcome:</b> Finalisation and adoption of document.   |
|           | <b>8. Signing Ceremony</b>   | <a href="#">UNEP/CMS/GB/MOS5/Inf.10</a><br><i>Great Bustard MOU with amending protocol</i> | Range States will be invited to sign the MOU. Possibilities of signing the MOU in the intersessional period can be discussed. The Secretariat will advise further and provide support in this case.<br><br><b>Expected outcome:</b> Information on signature procedures clarified. New Signatories to the MOU.   |
|           | <b>9. Date and venue of the next Meeting of the Signatories</b>  | No document  | The meeting will be invited to consider when and where the next meeting of the Signatory States should take place. As agreed at MOS4, the MOU coordination would be linked to the next host-country.<br><br><b>Expected outcome:</b> Tentative date set for the next meeting of the Signatory States and any invitations to host the next meeting considered; general financial considerations reviewed. |
|           | <b>10. Any other business</b>  | No document  | Participants will be invited to raise any other matters concerning future MOU implementation, and to raise and discuss other issues not covered under the former agenda items.   |
|           | <b>11. Closure of the Meeting</b>  |  |  |