



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

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Agenda Item 5

Report on activities concerning the Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and their Habitats

1. Following the 1st Meeting of the Parties in Rome (November 2008), the focus of CMS's gorilla-related activities in 2009 was on the Year of the Gorilla campaign (YoG). One of the main objectives of the campaign was to increase visibility of the Gorilla Agreement. For details on the campaign and its achievements, please consult Working Doc CMS/StC37/20, which is a summary of the recent evaluation of the CMS species campaigns.
2. In June 2009, in the margins of the Frankfurt Gorilla Symposium, a major YoG event organized by the German Ministry of the Environment, an ad-hoc meeting of stakeholders, including representatives of several gorilla Range States and major NGOs took place. The main outcome was that the CMS Scientific Council Working Group on Terrestrial Mammals would act as the *de facto* interim Technical Committee until the formation of the Agreement's Technical Committee was complete.
3. The "Frankfurt Declaration", which outlines the main threats faced by gorillas and suggests ways to address them, was the main outcome of the Symposium. In addition to the support of the 160 stakeholders present at the Symposium, the Declaration has been endorsed by FAO, CBD and UNESCO.
4. After YoG 2009, further nominations of Gorilla Agreement Focal Points and Technical Committee (TC) members were secured, and a venue for the 1st Meeting of the TC identified. Negotiations are continuing and there are indications that the 1st Meeting of the TC will take place in Rwanda in March 2011. The 2nd Meeting of the Parties will take place in the margins of CMS CoP10 in Bergen, Norway with tentative dates of 26-27 November.
5. The Agreement's Action Plans were amended by the Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences (IRSNB) in accordance with inputs received at MoP1.