

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC2)

**PROMOTING CONSERVATION OF CRITICAL INTERTIDAL AND OTHER COASTAL
HABITATS FOR MIGRATORY SPECIES**
UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.4.10

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

- Jean Philippe Sibley raises the question if Baer's Pochard and Ferruginous Duck should be mentioned in Annex 1 as being significantly dependent on intertidal habitats
- BirdLife International suggests that in paragraph 6 the Resolution reference could also be made to ACAP as it covers some species which use coastal habitats. In general the whole resolution could reference coastal seabirds as well as waterbirds. Coastal areas include coastal habitats such as small islets and cliffs that are important for breeding seabirds as well as the intertidal flats that are currently more the focus of this resolution.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

BirdLife International

Page 2, paragraph 4

- Suggest replacing 'create' with 'secure' as by and large the need is to secure those important areas of habitat for migratory species which still remain - in that sense we are not aiming to 'create' networks of protected areas.

Page 3, para. 2

- Suggest adding mention of the role of coastal wetlands in disaster risk reduction
- Page 3, Operative para. 1.
- Substitute the words "and promote the sustainable use of" by 'and ensure sustainability of use of'

Page 4, point 5

- It says 'Urges Parties, in line with Target 10 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, to give urgent protection to remaining intertidal wetlands and associated wetlands of international importance, especially but not exclusively, in coastal regions...'
- To recognise that protection under national mechanisms is important alongside international mechanisms suggest adding wording:
'Urges Parties, in line with Target 10 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, to give urgent protection under national and international mechanisms to remaining intertidal wetlands and associated wetlands of international importance, especially but not exclusively, in coastal regions...'
- BirdLife supports the original Philippines proposal in terms of the scope of ecosystem included, including inland habitats closely associated with the intertidal, in view of the ecological needs of migratory birds
- BirdLife offered to work with the Philippines to provide their habitat coding to check the bird species included in Annex 1

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP12

- The Resolution is recommended for adoption by the Conference of Parties.