

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

*National Park Neusiedler See-Seewinkel, Burgenland, Illmitz, Austria
17-18 September 2004*

CMS/GB.1/10
Agenda item 10.0

NEXT MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

1. The Signatory States are invited to consider when the next meeting of the Signatory States should take place. The Secretariat proposes the year 2007. This would roughly correspond with the mid-point of the International Medium Work Programme's implementation and would provide a good opportunity for taking stock. The subsequent meeting would then be envisaged for 2010. The periodicity of the meetings therefore would be about every three years.

2. To date the regular meetings of Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) concluded under the auspices of CMS have been financed from the Convention's regular budget. The money has paid for technical support and for participant travel. Host governments provide in-kind and financial support for these meetings.

3. The financial situation of the Convention will be under careful review by the Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties as a new triennial budget will be considered and adopted. The Signatory States that are also Parties to the Convention may wish to keep the funding situation for future Great Bustard MoU meetings under careful review to ensure adequate funding is available for the 2007 meeting in the new triennial budget.

4. Signatory States are invited to consider offering to host the next MoU meeting.

Action requested:

The Signatory States are invited to:

- Consider when the next meeting of the Signatory States should take place; and
- Consider offering to host the next MoU meeting.