



**Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species
of Wild Animals**



RECOMMENDATION 6.4

WORKING GROUPS ON THE HOUBARA BUSTARD (*Chlamydotis undulata*) AND GREAT BUSTARD (*Otis tarda*)

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Sixth Meeting (Cape Town, 10-16 November 1999)

Recalling that *Chlamydotis undulata* was recommended for concerted action by Resolution 3.2 (Geneva, 1991);

Recalling also that *Otis tarda* was recommended for similar action by Resolution 4.2 (Nairobi, 1994);

Further recalling that an Agreement on *Chlamydotis undulata* was urgently requested by Recommendation 4.4 (Nairobi, 1994);

Concerned that the conservation status of both species remains unfavourable;

Desirous that, after so many years of consideration, concrete action be taken without further delay;

Noting the willingness of Hungary to chair a working group on *Otis tarda*, of Spain to serve as vice-chair of such a group, and of the United Arab Emirates to endeavour, in liaison with Saudi Arabia, to form a working group for *Chlamydotis undulata*;

Noting the willingness of BirdLife International and the IUCN Species Survival Commission to assist such groups;

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

1. *Urges* the Scientific Council and the Range States to take all necessary steps to ensure that the concerted actions on both species proceed immediately and, in any event, before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Requests* that the Scientific Council and the Range States of each species to form working groups reporting to the Scientific Council and including, in particular, representatives of the Range States and other relevant organizations;

3. *Asks* the *Otis tarda* working group to draft proposals to complete an action plan fully compatible with existing species action plans, in avoidance of duplication of efforts with other conventions;

4. *Requests* the *Otis tarda* working group to prepare projects for concrete field actions suitable for funding by Parties or international agencies;

5. *Also* requests the Range States to undertake in the *Otis tarda* working group the necessary steps for the implementation, if appropriate, of a memorandum of understanding within the framework of the concerted action;

6. *Requests* the Scientific Council to mandate the *Chlamydotis undulata* working group to complete an action plan on eastern populations of the species compatible with the efforts already undertaken in the preparation of an Agreement and to initiate the implementation of that action plan;

7. *Further* requests the *Chlamydotis undulata* working group to consider possibilities of extending the action plan to other populations of the species;

8. *Encourages* Saudi Arabia to continue its efforts with respect to an Agreement on *Chlamydotis undulata*; and

9. *Asks* the Scientific Council to report on progress with this recommendation to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.