



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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MEETING TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT ON THE
CONSERVATION OF GORILLAS AND THEIR HABITATS
UNDER THE CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES
Paris, France, 22-24 October 2007

EXCERPT ON GORILLAS TAKEN FROM THE REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL *Nairobi, Kenya, 16–18 November 2005*

[...]

V. SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL TASKS ARISING, *INTER ALIA*, FROM RESOLUTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

5.1 Concerted actions for selected Appendix I species and groups, according to resolutions 3.2, 4.2, 5.1, 6.1 and 7.1

42. In its report (contained in annex V to the present report), the working group on terrestrial mammals proposed a new concerted action for Central Asian and Caucasian mammals, described in an annex to its own report and situated within the broader concept of the arid lands strategy of the Convention. The working group also recommended extension of the Sahelo-Saharan antelope Concerted Action to other species of migratory large mammals occurring within the range, and extension of the concerted action for the mountain gorilla to the entire species *Gorilla gorilla*, subject to its inclusion on Appendix I. This latter recommendation prompted some discussion as to whether the gorilla was migratory; several councillors cited evidence to indicate that it was, according to the criteria of the Convention. The working group also recommended that all species presently on the Concerted Action list should be confirmed. The group noted that the draft rapid review of Concerted Action species constituted an interesting concept but failed in its implementation to meet the needs of the Convention.

VI. REVIEW OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

(a) *Discussion and evaluation of proposals*

77. As for the proposal for the listing of the entire species *Gorilla gorilla* on Appendix I, this received support from the working group on terrestrial mammals. During the plenary discussion, the councillor for the Netherlands expressed some doubts about the actual migratory status of the species. The observer for IUCN expressed similar considerations. In reply, several other participants, including the councillors for Belgium, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Nigeria and the observers from Burundi and the United Kingdom confirmed the migratory status of the species, notably in relation to transboundary movements of animals. As a result, the meeting supported the proposal as submitted.

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS
Discussion and evaluation of relevant proposals for amendment of appendices

Appendix I

Gorilla gorilla: (proposal I/1)

The Mountain Gorilla, *Gorilla gorilla beringei*, is listed in CMS Appendix I. The proposal is for extension of that listing to the entire genus, included under *Gorilla gorilla* in the CMS taxonomic reference, Wilson and Reeder, 1993. The working group recommends endorsement of the proposal.

Proposals for new Concerted/Cooperative action species

The extension of the Gorilla Concerted Action to *Gorilla gorilla* necessitates the replacement of *Gorilla gorilla beringei* by *Gorilla gorilla* on the Concerted Action species list, subject to acceptance by the COP of the change in Appendix I listing.

Review of existing Concerted/Cooperative actions

The Working Group noted and supported the current developments of the **Gorilla** Concerted Action.