

**SUMMARY OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE
PARTIES TO THE
AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF
GORILLAS AND THEIR HABITATS**

Rome, Italy, 29 November 2008

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The meeting convened on 29 November, and again for several hours on 1 and 3 December 2008

Four Parties attended, these were Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon and Nigeria.

The non-Parties Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Uganda also attended.

DECISIONS MADE BY THE FIRST MEETING OF PARTIES

1. THE CMS SECRETARIAT WAS ESTABLISHED AS SECRETARIAT FOR THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF GORILLAS AND THEIR HABITATS

2. ADOPTION OF THE ACTION PLAN

The meeting adopted

The action plan for the Western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*)

The action plan for the Cross River gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*)

The action plan for the Eastern lowland gorilla (*Gorilla berengei graueri*)

The action plan for the mountain gorilla (*Gorilla berengei berengei*)

The action plans were welcomed by the Range States. Emphasis was placed on the need for a sustainable action plan that took into account the situation on the ground and reflected the medium- and long-term actions of the Parties involved. In order to make the plan operational, however, the relevant Range States would require an indication of which actions were a priority.

The action plan was adopted, on the understanding that amendments proposed during the discussion would be incorporated.

3. FORMAT FOR REPORTING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PLAN AND AGREEMENT

Resolution 1 was adopted by the meeting, it establishes a monitoring system as part of the reporting system. A working group was established to develop an appropriate format with the generous support of WWF.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Resolution 2 of the meeting establishes a technical committee to provide scientific advice to the Meeting of Parties.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

Following the adoption of the Action Plan, it was decided that the Technical Committee would consider and select projects for support through the conservation fund.

On top of the substantial support provided thus far by France, Germany, Monaco, Spain and WAZA. Continued support was pledged by many governmental and non-governmental observers.

The meeting noted and agreed on the budget estimates prepared by the Secretariat. It also recognized the need to seek additional funding towards the implementation of those projects.

6. PARTY CONTRIBUTIONS

The Parties agreed to make a minimum annual contribution of €3,000 towards the cost of implementing the Agreement. It was emphasized that Parties and Range States could make additional voluntary contributions.

7. STATUS OF ACCESSION OF NON-PARTIES

The non-Parties Angola, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and Uganda confirmed that they were taking steps to accede.