

TECHNICAL WORKSHOP FOR SAIGA ANTELOPE EXPERTS

Convened by the CMS and CITES Secretariats, the Antelope Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and the Saiga Conservation Alliance (SCA)

Miran International Hotel, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

26-27 October 2015

PROGRAMME

Note: speakers have 15 minutes for the presentation + 5 minutes immediate follow-up questions

DAY 1: MONDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2015

0830 Registration

0900-0930 Welcome, meeting aims and structure (Chair: Natalya Yakusheva, CMS Secretariat)

- Introduction to the aim of the meeting (Marco Barbieri, CMS Secretariat)
- Introduction to the working documents (Overview report, draft MTIWP, national report format) and meeting timetable (E.J. Milner-Gulland, SCA)

0930-1030 Session 1. Wildlife health and disease (Chair: Richard Kock, Royal Veterinary College)

0930-0950 Overview of the 2015 saiga mass mortality event in Kazakhstan (Askar Abdrakhmanov, Kazakhstan)

0950-1010 Diagnosing disease on the run: Monitoring health in migratory ungulate populations.(Dr. Amanda Fine WCS Associate Director – Asia, Wildlife Health & Health Policy Program)

1010-1030 Overview of the NERC research project on the 2015 saiga mass mortality (Richard Kock/ Wendy Beauvais, Royal Veterinary College)

1030-1100 Tea/Coffee break

1100-1230 Session 1. Wildlife health and disease (continuation) (Chair: Richard Kock)

- 1100-1120 Report from the field (ecological observations, botanical survey, die-off numbers) (Steffen Zuther, ACBK)
- 1120-1140 Preliminary laboratory results (Mukhit Orynbaev, Research Institute for Biological Safety Problems / Richard Kock, Royal Veterinary College)
- 1140-1200 Analysis of climatic factors (Navinder Singh, Swedish University of Agricultural Science)
- 1200-1220 Review of the evidence from previous die-offs (Sarah Robinson, Imperial College)
- 1220-1230 General discussion

1230-1400 Lunch break

- 1400-1530 Session 1. Wildlife health and disease (continuation) (Chair: Richard Kock)**
- 1400-1530 Plenary discussion (including recommendations for MTIWP)

1530-1600 Tea/Coffee break

- 1600-1800 Session 2. Mitigating Impacts of Infrastructure development on saiga antelope and its habitat (Chair: Mr. Sherimbetov, UNDP Uzbekistan)**
- 1600-1620 Presentation of the CMS Infrastructure Guidelines (Peter Zahler, WCS)
- 1620-1640 National implementation of the CMS Guidelines: the Mongolian experience (Lkhagvasuren Badamjav, Mongolian Academy of Sciences)
- 1640-1700 Impact of infrastructure (fences and railroads) on saiga populations: current challenges (ACBK)
- 1700-1800 Break-out groups: Mitigation of impacts: practical solutions (Moderators TBC)

DAY 2 TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2015

- 0900-1030 Session 2 Mitigating Impacts of Infrastructure development on saiga antelope and its habitat (continued) (Chair: Mr. Sherimbetov, UNDP Uzbekistan)**
- 0900-0930 Break-out groups report back to the plenary (Moderators)
- 0930-1030 Plenary discussion (including recommendations for draft MTIWP)

1030-1100 Tea/Coffee break

1100-1230 Session 3. Illegal trade and poaching (Chair: Tom de Meulenaer)

- 1100-1120 Overview of trade data (Tom de Meulenaer, CITES Secretariat)
1120-1140 SMART: how this new monitoring tool could be applied to saigas (WCS)
1140-1200 Round table discussion on anti-poaching and law enforcement in range and consumer states (moderated by the Chair)
1200-1230 Plenary discussion (including recommendations for draft MTIWP)
-

1230-1400 Lunch break

1400-1530 Review of the Overview Report, draft MTIWP, National report format (Chair: E.J. Milner-Gulland, SCA)

Theme-specific discussions:

- Implementation
- Anti-poaching
- Sustainable Use and Trade
- Human Factors
- Awareness
- Habitat
- Protected areas
- Monitoring
- Captive breeding

1530-1600 Tea/Coffee break

1600-1700 Population-specific measures

- N.W. Precaspian
- Ural
- Ustiurt
- Betpak-dala
- Mongolia

**1700-1800 Overview of Workshop Recommendations and Meeting Closure
(Chair: Marco Barbieri, CMS Secretariat)**

1700-1710 Presentation and agreement of recommendations for changes to Overview Report (E.J. Milner-Gulland, SCA)

1710-1730 Presentation and agreement of recommendations for changes to draft Medium Term International Work Programme, 2016-2020 (E.J. Milner-Gulland, SCA)

1730-1750 Presentation and agreement of recommendations for changes to National report format (E.J. Milner-Gulland, SCA)

1750-1800 Thanks and meeting closure
