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#### ACTIVITIES REPORTED BY PARTIES ON CONCERTED ACTION SPECIES

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

1. The following paragraphs summarize activities targeting the conservation of Appendix I species nominated for concerted action and reported by Parties in National Reports. Seventy-six National Reports were analysed, the full list of Parties included can be found in Annex I.

#### Gorilla gorilla - Gorilla

2. The Republic of Congo reported anti-poaching activities, including daily patrols by rangers. Conservation measures include research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection, anti-poaching activities and habitat protection. Planned activities consist of strengthened monitoring, anti-poaching activities, habituation and tourism.

## Physeter macrocephalus - Sperm whale

3. The population status of this species has been reported as unknown (Australia, Costa Rica, India, Netherlands, Panama, Spain and United Kingdom) and increasing (France and South Africa). Measures implemented in Australia include research on the genetic structure of populations, habitat use and distribution patterns, education, awareness raising through the development of an interactive children's website, a teachers' tool kit for primary education, promotional products, the development and release of whale watching guidelines, supporting educational materials, whale and dolphin identification pamphlets, publications, provision of access to web based information and use of social media applications, species protection, anti-poaching activities and habitat protection. Future activities include ongoing research and monitoring programmes, with additional habitat protection if required. In Costa Rica training has been conducted in coastal communities targeting the conservation of small cetaceans and their correct management. In Spain a project has been launched called "Proposal for Conservation Plans" in collaboration with CIRCE and Fundación Biodiversidad. The project includes mapping of populations in order to develop a map showing the risk of collisions for the Mediterranean Sea. A conservation plan for the species is foreseen.

### Platanista gangetica gangetica - Ganges river dolphin

4. India reported the population size and distribution of the species as declining. According to their report, measures implemented targeting the species include research, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection and habitat protection. Future plans include further research, monitoring and conservation education.



## Pontoporia blainvillei - La Plata Dolphin

5. Argentina reported the population status as decreasing, with the distribution of the species being unclear. Bycatch is one of the reported threats. Implemented measures include research, monitoring and species protection conducted by AquaMarina, CECIM (Center for Marine Sciences) and Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina. Further research and monitoring is planned, as well as measures to reduce the incidental bycatch through modifications in fishing practices, changes in fishermen's behaviour and studies on the species distribution using satellite tags. Elaboration of a National Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals is also foreseen.

# Tursiops truncatus ponticus - Bottlenose dolphin (Black Sea Sub-species)

6. Ukraine reported that the population size and distribution of the species was unclear. The only cetacean survey was conducted in 2003, so a new one is urgently needed. Conservation measures implemented include research, specifically a comprehensive assessment of cetacean bycatch in the Ukraine, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring of bycatch off the Crimean coast and education and awareness raising through the involvement of Black Sea artisanal fisheries in anti-bycatch and anti-marine litter activities implemented by BSCMM (Black Sea Council for Marine Mammals) and Brema Laboratory; supported by the Secretariat of the Black Sea Commission, ACCOBAMS and UNEP/RSP (Regional Seas Programme). Future plans in the Ukraine include the update of the National Action Plan in accordance with the ACCOBAMS/Black Sea Commission Conservation Plan for the Black Sea Cetaceans.

# Balaenoptera borealis - Sei whale

7. The population status of this species has been reported as unknown in Australia, India, South Africa, Spain and the United Kingdom. In Australia conservation measures include education, awareness raising through the development of an interactive children's website, a teachers' tool kit for primary education, promotional products, the development and release of whale watching guidelines, production of supporting educational materials, whale and dolphin identification pamphlets and publications, provision of access to web based applications, use of social media applications, species protection, anti-poaching activities, species restoration and habitat protection. Further actions in Australia include ongoing research and monitoring programmes, with additional habitat protection if required. In India future activities include monitoring and research. Spain plans to develop a conservation plan for the species. In the United Kingdom the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) has developed guidelines aimed at minimizing the risk of acoustic disturbance to marine mammals from seismic surveys.

#### Balaenoptera physalus - Fin whale

8. The population status of this species has been reported as unknown in Australia, Italy, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the United Kingdom. In Australia measures implemented include education, awareness raising through the development of an interactive children's website, a teachers' tool kit for primary education, promotional products, the development and release of whale watching guidelines, supporting educational materials, whale and dolphin identification pamphlets and publications, provision of access to web based applications, use of social media applications, species protection, anti-poaching activities, species restoration and habitat protection. Further actions in Australia include ongoing research and monitoring programs, with additional habitat protection, if required. Measures implemented in France consist of research, specifically a study on the distribution in the Mediterranean looking at oceanographic parameters and monitoring, as well as the REPCET project (Real Time Plotting of Cetaceans). Italy has carried out research, awareness raising, educational programs and monitoring in accordance with the ACCOBAMS agreement and Pelagos Sanctuary to protect marine mammals. In Spain a project has been launched known as "Proposal for Conservation Plans" in collaboration with

CIRCE and Fundación Biodiversidad. The project includes satellite tracking to further understand the migration pattern, genetic analysis of individual populations and mapping of populations in order to develop a collision risk map for the Mediterranean Sea. A conservation plan for the species is foreseen. In the United Kingdom work is ongoing to develop abundance estimates for the North Atlantic by combining the T-NASS, CODA and SCANS II survey estimates.

## Balaenoptera musculus - Blue whale

9. The population status of this species has been reported as unknown (Congo, Costa Rica, Honduras, India, Iran, Morocco, Panama, Saudi Arabia, Spain, the United Kingdom, Bermuda and Falkland Islands/Islas Malvinas), stable (United Republic of Tanzania) and increasing (Australia and South Africa). Reported conservation activities in Australia include research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection, anti-poaching activities, species restoration and habitat protection. Future activities include ongoing research and monitoring programmes, with additional habitat protection if required. In Costa Rica as part of an awareness campaign Fundación Promar and Fundación Keto have developed workshops in coastal communities. Future activities in the Falkland Islands/Islas Malvinas include the implementation of the Falkland Islands Species Action Plan for Cetaceans. In Spain future activities include a conservation plan for the species. Panama plans research on the blue whale. Lack of resources has impeded further activities in Honduras and Costa Rica.

# Megaptera novaeangliae - Humpback whale

The population status of this species has been reported as increasing (Australia, Madagascar and South Africa) and unknown (Congo, Costa Rica, Honduras, India, Iran, Morocco, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Spain, the United Kingdom, Bermuda and Falkland Islands/Islas Malvinas). Conservation measures include monitoring, species protection, research, education, awareness raising, anti-poaching activities, identification and establishment of protected areas and habitat protection. The Australian Government has undertaken several educational and awareness raising initiatives including the development of an interactive children's website; a teachers tool kit for primary education; promotional products; the development and release of whale watching guidelines and supporting educational materials; and whale and dolphin identification pamphlets. Furthermore, publications, access to web based information, use of social media applications have been made accessible. In Costa Rica the Government, Fundación Promar and Fundación Keta developed workshops for coastal communities to raise awareness. Madagascar reported the implementation of a project promoting the conservation through the establishment of whale watching. This was done by the CCRP (Cetacean Conservation and Research Program), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the fishing community. Madagascar has been promoting income generating activities involving whale watching and ecotourism. A project called "Whales and Men" is currently in development which includes research, ecotourism, awareness raising and education. Future activities in Panama include research and an update of an existing data base with information on marine mammals. Saudi Arabia plans to develop a project aimed at estimating the population size and species distribution. Bermuda reported on the "Bermuda Humpback Whale Project" which aimed to improve awareness in schools. A 60-minute documentary film was created which has won international awards, and continues to be shown locally. The "Humpback Whale Research Project" is ongoing. Hydrophone recordings, video and fluke photos will continue to be collected in Bermuda.

# Eubalaena australis - Southern right whale

11. In Australia the population status of the species is reported as increasing. Conservation

activities include research, several projects funded by the Australian Government through grants programmes administered by the Australian Marine Mammal Centre, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, development of an interactive children's website, a teachers' tool kit for primary education, promotional products, the development and release of whale watching guidelines, supporting educational materials, whale and dolphin identification pamphlets, publications, provision of access to web-based information and use of social media applications, species protection control hunting/poaching, species restoration and habitat protection. Future activities include ongoing research and monitoring programmes, with additional habitat protection if required. In Argentina measures implemented consist of monitoring, research and species protection. Future activities include the continual monitoring of the populations, taking action against the attack of sea gulls, as well as management, communication and monitoring, and the elaboration of a plan to manage marine mammals.

#### Lontra felina - Southern marine otter

12. None of the Parties reported specific actions in their National Reports.

#### *Lontra provocax* -Southern river otter

13. None of the Parties reported specific actions in their National Reports.

## Uncia uncia - Snow leopard

14. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as decreasing (India), unknown (Kazakhstan) and stable (Mongolia). In general Parties reported the following conservation measures: research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection, anti-poaching activities and habitat protection. Future actions include the Government of India launching a special conservation programme called 'Project Snow Leopard' through which several conservation actions have been initiated at field level. In Mongolia planned activities include monitoring, the study of migration patterns of the species and training of local people.

### Acinonyx jubatus - Cheetah

15. The population status of this species has been reported as decreasing (Ethiopia), stable (Iran and United Republic of Tanzania) and increasing (South Africa). Reported conservation activities include monitoring, education, awareness raising, habitat protection, research, identification and establishment of protected areas, species protection, anti-poaching activities and habitat restoration. In Iran there is a project targeting the conservation of the Asiatic cheetah in place. Future activities in Iran include the improvement of the conservation status of protected areas, designation of new protected areas, a captive breeding program, reintroduction of cheetahs to new habitats and continuation of cheetah habitats protection. In South Africa future plans include the expansion of its current investigation into the illegal trade of Cheetahs. A PhD project is planned to examine the management of Cheetahs in small fenced reserves. The United Republic of Tanzania plans a project targeting cheetahs and other carnivores at TAWIRI (Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute).

### Monachus monachus - Mediterranean monk seal

16. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as stable (Albania and Morocco) and unknown (Algeria, Croatia, Italy and Monaco). In general, Parties reported the following measures to foster conservation: research, monitoring, species protection, awareness raising and habitat protection. In Croatia, future activities include research, monitoring (placement of ten camera traps in caves) and further raising of awareness (development of a

National Stranding Network including training courses for veterinarians and regulation of tissue banks). Monaco reported future actions including the implementation of the Agreement on the creation of the Pelagos Sanctuary, Action Plans under the MAP RAC-SPA and resolutions under ACCOBAMS. Morocco reported that there were plans to strengthen the implementation of activities under the CMS Action Plan.

#### Camelus bactrianus - Bactrian camel

17. None of the Parties reported specific actions in their National Reports.

## Cervus elaphus yarkandensis - Bukhara deer

18. None of the Parties reported specific actions in their National Reports.

## Hippocamelus bisulcus - South Andean Huemul Deer

19. Population size and the range of the species are being reported as decreasing in Argentina and unknown in Chile. Argentina and Chile reported implementing measures such as research, monitoring, awareness raising, anti-poaching activities, species restoration, habitat protection and restoration. In Chile habitat fragmentation and poaching are the main threats to the species. To address these, there are ongoing efforts in the development of national action plans and monitoring of hunting activities by rangers. In 2010 a National Conservation Plan was launched for the South Andean Deer that involved public and private institutions. Future actions in Chile include: continuing research on the species; implementing a plan to duplicate the current population; reintroducing the species; implementing actions to avoid mortalities caused by hunting and dogs, and to reduce competition with livestock for habitat; awareness raising within the community and decision makers; and improving and increasing the legal instruments to protect the species. In Argentina next steps consist of the elaboration and implementation of the national plan between Argentina and Chile. Funds are needed to support the priority actions outlined in Argentina's Action Plan.

### Bos grunniens - Wild yak

20. India reported a decrease in population size. Populations in both India and China have declined and continue to decline due to very high hunting and loss of habitat. Conservation measures include research and monitoring conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India, Nature Conservation Foundation and Mysore. Future activities include a snow leopard project launched by the Ministry of Environment and Forest of India, that also targets Yak conservation as one of the prey species of the snow leopard.

## Addax nasomaculatus - Addax

21. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (Morocco) and decreasing (Chad). Reported conservation measures in Chad consist of research, surveillance and habitat protection. According to the National Reports, Morocco's population went extinct in the wild. Thanks to reintroduction of the species in the Souss National Park, the population is now reported to be increasing. Measures implemented in Morocco consist of the identification and establishment of protected areas, law enforcement to protect the species, anti-poaching activities and species restoration. Morocco is currently conducting a study on the identification of potential areas for further reintroductions. Development of guidelines and a strategic action plan for the conservation of ungulates is under way. Future activities include ecotourism and reintroduction of the species in the Saharan regions of Morocco.

# Nanger dama - Dama gazelle

22. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing

(Morocco), decreasing (Chad) and unknown (Burkina Faso). In general, Parties reported conservation measures such as identification and establishment of protected areas, species protection, anti-poaching activities and species restoration. Morocco reported that the species was reintroduced in 1992 in the reserve Royal R'mila (near Marrakesh) and in 1994 in the Souss Massa National Park. Reintroductions in new reserves were conducted in 2008. In Chad future actions include the following projects: Rehabilitation in the areas of the Ouadi Rimé Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve and the Fada Archeï Faunal Reserve. Other mentioned projects for Chad include the Project on Conservation of Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes. In Morocco future steps include further acclimatization and introduction of the species.

#### Gazella dorcas - Dorcas Gazelle

23. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (Morocco), decreasing (Chad) and unknown (Ethiopia). Conservation measures reported in Chad include research, surveillance, restoration, an alliance with WWF and habitat protection. Measures currently implemented in Ethiopia consist of habitat protection and future activities include monitoring and research. Morocco reported a wild population consisting of approximately 800 animals. Animals maintained in semi-captivity were estimated to number 3,230. In addition there are Dorcas Gazelles raised in captivity at the National Zoo. An analysis of the genetic diversity of Dorcas Gazelles has been conducted and potential areas for possible reintroduction of the species have been identified. These activities contribute to the implementation of the guidelines and a strategic action plan for the conservation of ungulates in Morocco. Upcoming activities include: genetic characterization of strains from different regions, maintaining a purebred population, restoring the original habitat of the species and valuation of ecotourism.

## Gazella leptoceros - Slender horned gazelle

24. None of the Parties reported specific actions in their National Reports.

#### *Oryx dammah -* Scimitar-horned oryx

25. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (Morocco) and decreasing (Chad). Parties reported implemented activities that include research, monitoring, species restoration, identification and establishment of protected areas, species protection, anti-poaching activities and habitat protection. Future activities in Chad consist of the reintroduction of the species in restored habitat, specifically the rehabilitation of the Ouadi Rimé Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve and the Fada Archeï Faunal Reserve. Other projects mentioned for Chad include ASS Project on Conservation of Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes. Future activities include acclimatization and reintroduction of the species in its native habitats, in the Saharan regions of Morocco.

# Spheniscus humboldti - Humboldt penguin

26. None of the Parties reported specific actions in their National Reports.

# Puffinus mauretanicus - Balearic shearwater

27. Conservation activities in France include research, identification and establishment of protected areas (Natura2000), monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection, anti-poaching activities and habitat protection. France foresees strengthened monitoring and implementation of management measures based on the "European Action on the Balearic Shearwater". Spain has developed a conservation strategy plan for the species and is focusing on the implementation thereof. A number of LIFE projects in Spain have contributed to improving the conservation status of the species. Bycatch is reported as a major threat. Spain reports the population size and distribution of the species as stable. Conservation activities in Spain include

research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection, habitat protection and cooperation with different projects under the LIFE programme. Future activities include the establishment of protected areas and revision on the conservation strategy for the species.

### Pelecanus crispus -Dalmatian pelican

28. The population status of this species has been reported as decreasing (Iran, Pakistan the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine) and stable (Albania, Bulgaria, Georgia and Kazakhstan). Conservation measures include identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection, anti-poaching activities, habitat protection and habitat restoration. The Ukraine reported installing platforms for nesting birds. Pakistan plans to draft species-specific conservation action plans under the Ministry of Environment and the WWF "Pakistan Wetlands Program". Future plans in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia include the preparation and implementation of a Single Species Action Plan for the protection of pelicans and their natural habitats and migratory routes. Georgia plans to establish the Javakheti Protected Area, which contributes special significance to the pelican in its Management Plan. Future activities in Bulgaria include annual monitoring, strengthened maintenance of breeding grounds, protection of colonies against wild boars and other carnivores, as well as the development of a Single Species Action Plan for the Dalmatian Pelican.

## Phoenicopterus andinus - Andean flamingo

29. In Argentina this flamingo was reported as decreasing. Measures implemented include research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection and habitat protection. Numerous meetings of regional or international cooperation were mentioned; including a first meeting targeting wetlands and associated ecosystems organized by the Grupo Conservación Flamencos Altoandinos, a workshop on training for the integrated management of wetlands in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru. They have also been actively working on more than ten different projects dating back to 2003. Their future plans are to strengthen international cooperation through the participation of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru in the regional strategy framework for sustainable use and conservation of wetlands. Designation or extension of Ramsar sites is also included in their plan for the future.

## Phoenicopterus jamesi-Puna flamingo

The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (Bolivia) and stable (Argentina). In general, Parties reported the following measures to preserve the species: research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education awareness raising, species protection and habitat protection. Bolivia reported working on design and implementation of a network of wetlands of importance, assessment of the actual state of the population of three species of flamingos and characterization and evaluation of important sites for flamingo conservation. Argentina reported organizing a number of meetings targeting regional and international cooperation, workshops on training for the integrated management of wetlands in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru. They have also been actively working on more than ten different projects dating back to 2003. Argentina reported continuing with international cooperation through the participation of Bolivia, Chile and Peru on the regional strategy framework for sustainable use and conservation of wetlands. Designation or extension of Ramsar sites is also included in their plan for the future. Bolivia reported focusing on monitoring, awareness raising and research for the framework of the network of wetlands of importance for flamingo conservation in the future. A new Ramsar site was designated in Bolivia. More studies on ecology, reproduction and habitat conditions are scheduled.

# <u>Platalea minor</u> – Black-faced spoonbill

31. In the Philippines the population size was reported as decreasing. Conservation activities include monitoring as part of the annual water bird census, as well as species protection as part of regular law enforcement activities.

# Anser cygnoides - Swan goose

32. None of the Parties reported specific actions in their National Reports.

# Anser erythropus - Lesser white fronted goose

33. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (the Netherlands), decreasing (Bulgaria, Finland, Iran and Ukraine), unknown (Belarus, the Czech Republic, Germany, India, Latvia and Poland) and stable (Belgium and Hungary). In general, Parties reported the following measures to preserve the species: research, awareness raising especially with regard to accidental hunting incidents, species protection, anti-poaching activities, monitoring, habitat protection, habitat restoration and identification and establishment of protected areas. Many of the Parties reported establishing Ramsar and Natura2000 protected areas for conservation of the goose. Hungary is working on a LIFE-Nature project on the Conservation of *Anser erythropus* targeting the European migration route. Future action plans for this country include partnership with a new proposed LIFE+ project on the species submitted by Greece. The Netherlands reported implementing a reintroduction project in 1982 to guide the geese via a safe route to the North Sea countries. In Belgium activities that are planned include the protection and restoration of polder grasslands for wintering geese populations. Bulgaria plans to continue monitoring and to enforce anti-poaching measures. Future activities reported in India include population monitoring and protection of inland wetlands.

## Chloephaga rubidiceps - Ruddy headed goose

The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as decreasing (Argentina and Chile). In Argentina the AOP (Aves Argentinas – Asociación Ornitológica de la Plata) has given a grant for studies on the perception of the environment and actions that would raise awareness in the province of Buenos Aires. The Galicia Bank gave a grant to support a project on wetlands and the importance of conservation of the species. Identification and establishment of protected areas has been reported. Monitoring has taken place in some provinces. Campaigns to raise awareness in schools and in the population in general have been conducted. Pamphlets have been developed and information has been posted on the webpage of the Ministry of Environment. A rough draft has been produced on the bilateral collaboration with Chile to improve joint species conservation. Poaching is being controlled through the employment of dedicated anti-poaching staff. Future steps include an action plan for the species, implementation of more research projects on predators that threaten breeding, identification of migratory routes and the importance of resting areas. Prohibition of hunting will be enforced and awareness raising will continue in schools. Research, establishment of protected areas, education, species protection, hunting, and habitat protection are activities that Chile has focused on. In the future threat mitigation and monitoring of the population will be targeted, as well as the initiation of studies on the ex-situ and in-situ reproduction of the species. Focus will also be on the elaboration of a quality index for the habitat and livestock management.

#### Marmaronetta angustirostris - Marbled duck

35. The population status has been reported as decreasing (Chad and Morocco), increasing (Iran) and unknown (Kazakhstan and Spain). Conservation activities include identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, research, species protection, habitat protection, habitat restoration, education, awareness raising, anti-poaching activities and species restoration.

In Spain future activities include acquisition of wetlands, which are important breeding habitats for the species, and activities to improve the hydrological management. Monitoring and research on the ecology of the species, as well as drafting and adoption of the conservation strategy are foreseen. Morocco plans improved habitat protection through the creation of protected areas, implementation of management plans for parks and other sites, regular monitoring and implementation of a regional action plan proposed by BirdLife International in cooperation with Algeria, Spain and Tunisia,. Chad plans to rehabilitate the habitats around and including Lakes Fitri and Chad.

## Aythya nyroca - Ferruginous duck

36. The population status of this species has been reported as increasing (Austria, Iran, Italy, Poland and Slovenia), decreasing (Belarus, Bulgaria, Chad, Germany, India, Morocco and Slovakia), stable (Albania, Croatia, Hungary, Ukraine) and unknown (Belgium, the Czech Republic, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Saudi Arabia and Spain). Conservation measures reported include monitoring, research, anti-poaching activities, habitat protection, identification and establishment of protected areas, habitat restoration, education and awareness raising. Belarus, Hungary and Italy are working on minimizing accidental shooting of the species through education campaigns targeting hunters. Many Parties have also reported identifying and establishing protected areas under the framework of Ramsar and the EU Natura 2000 network, including Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Morocco and Slovakia. In addition, Parties reported working on restoration projects to increase the current populations in the wild while Germany is conducting feasibility studies to determine whether this measure could be an effective conservation initiative. Many of the future activities outlined in the National Reports include increased research, monitoring, implementation of management plans, restoration projects and improvement of legislation and identification of more Important Bird Areas (IBA).

## Oxyura leucocephala - White headed duck

37. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (Bulgaria), decreasing (Morocco, Pakistan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and unknown (Albania, Belgium, Kazakhstan and Saudi Arabia). Overall, Parties reported various conservation measures such as identification and establishment of protected areas, species protection, monitoring, research, education awareness rising, habitat protection, habitat restoration and anti-poaching activities. France and Hungary attempted to reintroduce the species; however, their attempts failed. France reported protection of this species through eradication of the Ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*). In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia future activities include preparation and implementation of an Action Plan for the protection of populations of waterbirds and other birds, their natural habitats and migratory routes. Future plans in Morocco consist of the development of a rehabilitation plan for the species, strengthening monitoring of wetlands and maintaining this bird on the list of protected species. In Pakistan species specific conservation action plans are being drafted under the Ministry of Environment and the WWF "Pakistan Wetlands Program".

# Falco naumanni - Lesser kestrel

38. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (Croatia, France, Italy and Morocco), decreasing (Albania, Bulgaria, Chad, Pakistan, the Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Togo and Ukraine) and unknown (Congo, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mongolia and Slovenia). In general, Parties reported the following measures to conserve the species: monitoring, species protection, anti-poaching activities, research, habitat protection, habitat restoration, identification and establishment of protected areas, education, awareness raising and species restoration. In the future Chad plans to work on a project for the rehabilitation

of protected areas to support the recovery of the species. Future activities in Croatia consist of monitoring, awareness raising, and placing nest boxes in suitable areas. France reported future cooperation with Spain by continuing with the National Action Plan 2010-2015 with activities and communication. It will also continue actions under Natura 2000 and the Birds Directive. Italy reported conservation efforts through LIPU-BirdLife Italy. Mongolia reported that it will place this species under government protection. Morocco reported future plans for the establishment of protected areas and the strengthening of monitoring. Pakistan's planned activities in the future include species-specific conservation action plans that are being drafted under the Ministry of Environment and the WWF "Pakistan Wetlands Program". The Republic of Moldova will study options for the restoration of the species. Saudi Arabia will assign efforts to conduct surveys of wintering areas to get a better picture of population status and to identify important sites or IBAs. In Slovenia, future activities include considering the species in an impact assessment at sites where it was breeding in order to keep protecting its habitat.

#### Grus leucogeranus - Siberian Crane

39. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as decreasing (India, Iran and Pakistan) and unknown (Kazakhstan). In general, Parties reported the following conservation measures: identification and establishment of protected areas, species protection, monitoring, research, education, awareness rising, habitat protection, habitat restoration and anti-poaching activities. Future actions in India will consist of a population recovery/restocking programme including radio-telemetry studies and establishing a Siberian Crane breeding and exhibition centre in India. In Pakistan, species specific conservation action plans are being drafted under the Ministry of Environment and the WWF "Pakistan Wetlands Program".

## Sarothrura ayresi - White-winged Flufftail

40. In South Africa population size and the species' distribution were reported as unclear. It is estimated that the population is very small (less than 230 individuals). Conservation measures include species restoration, habitat protection and restoration. Activities that are planned for the future include intensive field work in KwaZulu-Natal and Free State to better understand the species distribution and use of available habitat.

#### Chlamydotis undulate - Houbara bustard

41. The population status of the species has been reported by CMS Parties as decreasing (Algeria and Morocco). Algeria has founded a breeding centre in Wilaya d'El Bayadh, in the north-west of the country with help from the United Arab Emirates. Monitoring, protection, anti-poaching activities, restoration (creation of a breeding centre) and habitat protection are within the activities that will help conserve the species. In Morocco the measures implemented aimed at species conservation consist of research on populations and ecology of wild birds, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring of birds with transmitters, anti-poaching activities, species restoration and habitat protection. Additionally they have implemented two conservation projects: ECWP Emirates Center for Wildlife Propagation and another one in collaboration with Saudi Arabia.

### Otis tarda - Great bustard

42. The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as increasing (Austria, Hungary and Morocco), decreasing (Germany, the Republic of Moldova and Slovakia), stable (Ukraine) and unknown (Albania, Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Serbia and Slovenia). In general, Parties reported conservation measures such as: identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, habitat protection, habitat restoration, species protection and anti-poaching activities. Austria has also implemented a

LIFE project aimed at marking high voltage power lines to reduce bird collisions, removing low voltage lines and moving them underground to reduce the impact on birds. Germany has built outdoor enclosures for the protection of birds against predators. Slovakia has implemented a project that considers the elaboration of strategic documents namely management plans for the Syslovske polia and Lehnice Special Protection Areas (SPA), an agri-environmental scheme for *Otis tarda*, strategies for farmers and hunters to reduce mortality and avoid disturbance. In the Czech Republic future activities include attempts to buy land in the most suitable locality to be state-owned and managed appropriately for the species. Germany reported that future activities include a feasibility study on the restoration of the Great Bustard in Lower Saxony. Moldova reported that future activities that are planned for this species are analyzing the possible ways of restoration of the species.

#### Calidris canutus rufa - Red knot

43. Chile reports that the population is decreasing dramatically. France reports that the species benefits from legal protection when present in Natura2000 sites in France.

#### Numenius tenuirostris - Slender billed curlew

The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as decreasing (Morocco, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine) and unknown or unclear (Croatia, Iran, Kazakhstan and Saudi Arabia). The species may even be extinct. For the conservation of this species, Iran has reported research, education and awareness rising, species protection, anti-poaching activities and habitat protection. Within a LIFE project in Italy, 110 km of power lines have been buried or modified. Additionally a previous LIFE Project worked on creating or managing roosting sites for waders. In some sites of South-eastern Sicily, potentially important for the species, restrictions in the land use and farming practices have been introduced but are not completely enforced. Hunting bans for some look-alike species were implemented with the aim of preventing accidental killings. Future plans for Italy include raising funds for the restoration of a total of 160 ha. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia activities that have been conducted include research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, species protection and habitat restoration and protection. Future activities reported for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are the preparation and implementation of an Action Plan for the protection of the bird's natural habitats and migratory routes. Saudi Arabia reported monitoring and species protection as a conservation measure. The country reports future plans for monitoring IBA's and carrying out surveys in the western part of the country. Morocco's implemented measures include the creation of protected areas and monitoring of wetlands.

## Eurynorhynchus pygmeus - Spoon billed sandpiper

45. In Sri Lanka the population size and distribution of the species are reported as unknown. Conservation measures consist of monitoring, anti-poaching activities, habitat protection and restoration.

### Sterna bernsteini - Chinese crested tern

46. In the Philippines the population size was reported as decreasing; the species has not been recorded during the last triennium 2009-2011. Conservation activities include monitoring and species protection as part of regular law enforcement activities.

### Hirundo atrocaerulea - Blue Swallow

47. The population size in South Africa is reported as decreasing. Implemented measures consist of research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection and habitat protection. Future actions include the

completion of current research and publishing the findings. It has been proposed to add two private Nature Reserves to the KwaZulu–Natal Stewardship Program in South Africa to improve the conservation status of the species.

## Acrocephalus paludicola - Aquatic warbler

The population status of this species has been reported by CMS Parties as decreasing 48. (Germany, Morocco and Switzerland), unknown (Belarus, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia and the United Kingdom) and stable (Hungary, Latvia, Spain and Ukraine). In general, Parties reported the following measures to conserve the species: research, identification and establishment of protected areas, monitoring, education, awareness raising, species protection, anti-poaching activities, habitat protection and habitat restoration. APB-BirdLife Belarus hosts the position of an International Aquatic Warbler Conservation Officer (AWCO). The AWCO coordinates the implementation of the CMS Aquatic Warbler MoU, promotes the exchange of information between the range states and cooperating organizations, and supports partners with the development, fundraising and implementation of conservation projects targeting this warbler. A GIS database of all European aquatic warbler breeding sites was finalized in 2011. Planned conservation measures in Belarus include: strengthened habitat management at key breeding sites of the species, developing project proposals targeting appropriate vegetation management, finalizing vegetation management measures at the landscape scale as part of an ongoing BMU-KfW-MSF-APB "Climate and biodiversity" project. Within the framework of the GEF-UNDP there is a project reported targeting the "Renaturalization and Sustainable Management of Peatlands in Belarus to Prevent Land Degradation, Mitigate Climate Change, and Ensure Conservation of Globally Valuable Biodiversity" (project number: 43201). Additional measures include developing a National Action Plan for the Aquatic Warbler and issuing protection certificates for all known Belarusian breeding sites. Belgium has focused on the creation of more habitats for the species. Germany reported conducting a Life project in the Peene valley which benefited the species. Other measures in Hungary included the abandonment of hay-cutting, prevention of fires, non-removal of dead plant material, regulation of the water level according to the species needs and grazing by cattle and horses for controlling natural succession. Poland reported implementing a new LIFE project facilitating Aquatic Warbler habitat management through sustainable systems of biomass use.

#### Annex I

# CMS Parties whose national reports were assessed to compile this report

- 1. Albania
- 2. Algeria
- 3. Angola
- 4. Antigua & Barbuda
- 5. Argentina
- 6. Australia
- 7. Austria
- 8. Belarus
- 9. Belgium
- 10. Benin
- 11. Bolivia
- 12. Bulgaria
- 13. Burkina Faso
- 14. Chad
- 15. Chile
- 16. Congo
- 17. Costa Rica
- 18. Côte d'Ivoire
- 19. Croatia
- 20. Cyprus
- 21. Czech Republic
- 22. Denmark
- 23. Ecuador
- 24. Estonia
- 25. Ethiopia
- 26. Finland
- 27. France
- 28. Georgia
- 29. Germany
- 30. Ghana
- 31. Guinea
- 32. Honduras
- 33. Hungary
- 34. India
- 35. Islamic Republic of Iran
- 36. Israel
- 37. Italy
- 38. Kazakhstan
- 39. Kenya
- 40. Latvia
- 41. Liechtenstein
- 42. Madagascar
- 43. Mali
- 44. Mauritania
- 45. Mauritius
- 46. Monaco

- 47. Mongolia
- 48. Montenegro
- 49. Morocco
- 50. Netherlands
- 51. New Zealand
- 52. Norway
- 53. Pakistan
- 54. Panama
- 55. Paraguay
- 56. Philippines
- 57. Poland
- 58. Republic of Moldova
- 59. Samoa
- 60. Saudi Arabia
- 61. Senegal
- 62. Serbia
- 63. Slovakia
- 64. Slovenia
- 65. South Africa
- 66. Spain
- 67. Sri Lanka
- 68. Sweden
- 69. Switzerland
- 70. Tajikistan
- 71. The FYR of Macedonia
- 72. Togo
- 73. Ukraine
- 74. United Kingdom
- 75. United Kingdom/Sovereign Base Area Cyprus
- 76. United Kingdom/Bermuda
- 77. United Kingdom/Falkland Islands
- 78. United Kingdom/ Isle of Man
- 79. United Republic of Tanzania
- 80. Uruguay