



# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

*Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee

*Bonn, 13-14 December 2001*

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### APPOINTMENT OF A SCIENTIFIC COUNCILLOR FOR ASIATIC FAUNA

*Prepared by the Secretariat*

1. The Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS decided, through the adoption of Resolution 6.7, *Institutional Arrangements: Scientific Council*, to appoint for the 2001-2002 biennium a Councillor with expertise in Asiatic fauna. The appointment was intended to complement the expertise already found in the Council with respect to waterbirds/wetlands, large terrestrial mammals, cetaceans and fish, marine turtles, and neotropical fauna. Emphasis was placed on securing expertise in relation to fauna migrating in the broad area covering Eastern/Central Asia and Oceania, where the potential of the Convention on Migratory Species has yet to be fully realised.
2. The appointment was to have been confirmed by the Standing Committee at its meeting in September 2000, however for various reasons the process of soliciting appropriate candidates had not been completed at that time. Following consultations between the Secretariat and the Scientific Council Chairman earlier this year on procedural considerations, the Scientific Council revisited the matter at its meeting in May 2001. It was agreed that the Secretariat would write to the Focal Points of the Parties concerned to request nominations for the position of Scientific Council expert on Asiatic fauna. The individual would be expected to participate in regular meetings of the Council (at CMS=expense) and to contribute to the Council's work inter-sessionally on a voluntary basis. The nominee need not necessarily be a national of a CMS Party.
3. A letter to the focal points of CMS Parties in Eastern/Central Asia and Oceania was sent by the Secretariat at the beginning of August, soliciting nominations of appropriate candidates. At the time of writing, two nominations have been received by the Secretariat from the Focal Points of Australia and the Philippines. The *curricula vitae* of the two candidates are appended to this note (Annexes I and II). A third nomination has been received from Pakistan, but its re-submission has been requested for procedural reasons. It will be conveyed to the Standing Committee if received before the start of the meeting.
4. Normally such nominations are considered and agreed upon by the Conference of the Parties at one of its regular meetings. In this unique instance, where nominations have been received inter-sessionally, the Standing Committee is invited to examine the nominations and to make a choice from among the field of available candidates. Further details of the procedure to be followed will be explained at the meeting.