



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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MEETING TO IDENTIFY AND ELABORATE AN
OPTION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
ON AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY RAPTORS
UNDER THE CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES
Loch Lomond, Scotland, United Kingdom, 22-25 October 2007
Agenda Item 5.0

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

[...]

VII PROGRESS ON OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ADVICE

7.1 Potential new agreements (including memorandums of understanding and action plans)

78. Mr. Nick Williams, Chief Wildlife Inspector, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, presented the findings of the scoping study proposed at the Council's twelfth meeting, in Glasgow in 2004, identifying threats made to migratory raptors and presenting information on their habitats and routes. The purpose of the study had been to assess whether or not an international agreement to conserve raptors should be established under the auspices of CMS covering the African-Eurasian region. If agreed by the Scientific Council, a draft document would be drawn up and an outline for a budget prepared accordingly. Following a tendering process, a company had been selected to conduct the study and a small steering group set up, headed by Mr. David Stroud (JNCC) and Mr. John O'Sullivan, Conference-appointed Councillor for birds.

79. A status report had been prepared with the aid of the extensive world bird database of BirdLife International and the conservation needs of each species identified. The report's key finding showed that 10 raptor species had an unfavourable conservation status at global levels. It noted massive habitat loss for many species. Happily, it had been found that raptors had a low susceptibility to avian influenza and were unlikely to carry or transfer the virus. Detailed knowledge of raptor populations and habitats remained poor in most of Asia, the Middle East and Africa. Although raptors were included in Appendix I and II, there was a general lack of focus for their conservation and rapid action needed to be taken. He also informed the Council that the United Kingdom offered to host an intergovernmental meeting, which could also be held in range States and not necessarily in the United Kingdom.

80. **Summary.** Summarizing, the Chair thanked the United Kingdom for its initiative in relation to birds of prey. He also thanked it for its offer to take discussions forward with relevant Parties.

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