

RECOMMENDATION 5.5*

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE BONN CONVENTION

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Fifth Meeting (Geneva, 10-16 April 1997)

Aware that a considerable amount of scientific work by others has been done, and is ongoing, to investigate the ecological and other effects of climate change;

Noting that the results of such scientific work have underlined the growing and accelerating effect of climate change on ecosystems and biological diversity;

Aware in particular of increasing concern about the potential effects of climate change on populations of migratory species and international efforts to conserve them;

Conscious of the need to ensure that decisions taken by the CMS aimed at conserving migratory species are based on the best and most recent scientific data available;

Recognising the importance of ensuring that scientific research into the effects of climate change is properly co-ordinated and the results effectively and speedily disseminated to all relevant interests;

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Requests the Scientific Council to establish a small working group to:

- a. review the results of scientific work which has been and is being done on this issue under the auspices of other bodies such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Whaling Commission and the Ramsar and Climate Change Conventions;
- b. assess the relevance and importance of such work for the conservation of migratory species and the aims of the CMS;
- c. review existing scientific links between the CMS and other bodies undertaking work in this area;
- d. formulate proposals for improving and strengthening such links where necessary with the objective of ensuring that the CMS has access to the most up to date scientific information available to assist and inform its deliberations; and
- e. report its conclusions and make recommendations to the next meeting of the Scientific Council.

* The original draft of this recommendation was first considered by the Conference of the Parties as Resolution 5.11.