

THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE SAKER FALCON TASK FORCE (STF13)

(Online, 29 May 2024)

UNEP/CMS/STF13/Doc.2

OUTCOMES FROM COP14

(Prepared by the Coordinating Unit of the Raptors MOU)

1. CMS COP14 took place in Samarkand, Uzbekistan on 12-17 February 2024. COP approved unanimously the amended Resolution 11.18(Rev.COP14) as amended by the Avian Working Group.
2. The Parties decided to continue the implementation of the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP) and encouraged the continuation of the CITES endorsed programme in Mongolia of using artificial nests and setting sustainable harvest quotas, taking into consideration the ecological balance of the ecosystem and encourages additional conservation activities on the natural breeding population of the Saker Falcon in Mongolia.
3. The Resolution also continues the Saker Falcon Task Force, and defines its mandate to: actively promote the implementation of the SakerGAP, and further develop, refine, and implement, where legally possible, an adaptive management and monitoring framework to improve the present conservation status of the Saker Falcon through, inter alia, regulated, and sustainable use and promote monitoring and research across the range of Saker Falcon and work collaboratively with the CMS Energy Task Force and the CMS Central Asian Flyway Initiative to minimise impacts of energy infrastructure on birds. The full text of the resolution is in annex 1 of the present document.
4. Alongside the Resolution a number of decisions have been approved directed to the Parties, the Scientific Council and the Secretariat. Parties are requested to take part to the review of the SakerGAP, the Scientific Council to review the work carried out toward implementing the SakerGAP and provide advice on the adaptive management of the species. The Secretariat, among other tasks, to organize regional workshop to promote the SakerGAP. The Decisions are in annex 2 of the present document.
5. A well-attended side event “Conservation of Saker Falcon and Sooty Falcon under the Raptors MOU” was organized by the Coordinating Unit during COP14. The event featured contribution by the Chair of the STF, BirdLife International, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment of the United Arab Emirates, the Mohamed bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund and the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency. The side event updated participants on the progress on the implementation of the SakerGAP and the need to update the plan since ten years have passed since it was prepared.

The Saker Task Force is requested to take note of the report and of its annexes.