

**CMS**

CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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SAKER FALCON *Falco cherrug*

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Tenth Meeting
(Bergen, 20-25 November 2011)

Noting that CMS COP10 created a Working Group to consider the proposal made by the European Union and its Member States to list the Saker Falcon *Falco cherrug* in CMS Appendix I, excluding the population of Mongolia;

Noting that, although some Parties are not, at this point in time, fully convinced that Appendix I listing is the best means of achieving improvements in the conservation status of the Saker Falcon and believe that parties should take actions consistent with other international instruments, stressing the need for conservation actions to be supported by all, Parties are ready to join a consensus;

Recognizing that the proposal to list the Saker Falcon in CMS Appendix I excludes the population in Mongolia, in recognition of their Saker conservation and management programme, which has been carried out in collaboration with the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates;

Further recognizing that the conservation of the Saker Falcon should be a partnership involving a wide range of parties, and noting in particular the contributions made to date by the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates and by the Saudi Wildlife Authority on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

Also recognizing the need for CMS to work with a range of Multilateral Environmental Agreements in the conservation and restoration of Saker Falcon populations, including in particular CITES;

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

1. *Agrees* to list the Saker Falcon in CMS Appendix I, excluding the population in Mongolia, and *decides* to establish an immediate Concerted Action supported by all parties;

2. *Decides*, as part of the Concerted Action, on the establishment of a Task Force under the auspices of the Interim Coordinating Unit of the UNEP/CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MoU), to bring together Range States, Partners and interested parties, to develop a coordinated Global Action Plan, including a management and monitoring system, to conserve the Saker Falcon;

3. *Decides* to provide financial and other resources for the operation of the Task Force and for the implementation of the Concerted Action in cooperation with the Signatories of the Raptors MoU, Range States and other interested parties;

4. *Decides* that improvements in the conservation status of the Saker Falcon in any Range State may allow sustainable taking from the wild in that Range State under a management system. In such cases a Party or Parties may request an exclusion from Appendix I listing to apply in that Range State. The Task Force will endeavour to facilitate this process through the Scientific Council inter-sessionally and through the Conference of the Parties;

5. *Instructs* the Task Force to meet in the first quarter of 2012 to identify priority actions and to begin implementation immediately;

6. *Recommends* that the timeline for the monitoring activities and reporting of the Task Force would be as follows:

- Report to the 1st Meeting of the Signatories of the UNEP/CMS Raptors MoU, envisaged for the last quarter of 2012;
- Report to the intersessional 18th Scientific Council meeting;
- Report to COP11, and consideration given to downlisting the Saker Falcon at that time;

7. *Instructs* the CMS Secretariat to convey this Resolution to the Multilateral Environmental Agreements, in particular to the CITES Secretariat, and to request them to contribute to the efforts of the Saker Falcon Task Force.