



Memorandum of Understanding
on the Conservation of
Migratory Birds of Prey in
Africa and Eurasia

Distribution: General
UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG3/Doc.4.2c

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**DEVELOPMENT OF A 'GUIDE TO GUIDANCE' ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT
OF AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY RAPTORS**

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1. TAG2 discussed the need for a 'guide to guidance' in relation to the specific management issue of strike risk between (large) raptors and human infrastructure (power-lines, pylons, wind turbines etc.). This concept has drawn from work for Ramsar and the African-Eurasian Waterbirds Agreement and reflects that typically, it is not that guidance on a subject that is lacking, but rather existing guidance is scattered in multiple places, and may be of low visibility.
2. In the context of Ramsar, the Convention's guidance on responding to highly pathogenic avian influenza (Resolution X.21¹) and linked key guidance documents (Table 2 of Res.X.21) to a risk preparedness framework (Table 1 of Res.X.21). This gave a 'way in' to a large, and then rapidly developing literature.
3. More recently AEWA MOP7 is considering a guide to guidance related to reducing the impacts of fisheries on seabirds², as well as in taking a more systematic approaches to waterbird conservation generally (AEWA/MOP7.34³). The latter perhaps could provide a model for ordering guidance related to raptor conservation. Thus, looking at Section 2 of the last link, the first column is a simple list of possible conservation interventions. Many of these will be similar for raptor conservation but there will also be differences.
4. The second column in the table gives a list of generic published guidances on the topic concerned, highlighting especially, adopted guidance from AEWA, as well as the Ramsar Handbooks (highly relevant for wetland habitats related interventions). Hotlinks are given to English, French and Spanish (and other languages) versions of documents where these are available on-line.
5. The last column captures good case studies on the issue concerned. Typically, these are published scientific papers, but also include websites and other information. The idea is to give some 'worked-through' examples of the relevant intervention.
6. It took about five evenings to prepare the first draft of the MOP 7.34 document, and it was then improved by circulation to other members of the Technical Committee. So, for someone familiar with the raptor literature, this wouldn't be a massive task. Indeed, many of the habitat-related sections of MOP 7.34 are also relevant to raptors.

Action requested

TAG is invited to consider whether there is potential for a raptor 'guide to guidance'.

¹ http://archive.ramsar.org/pdf/res/key_res_x_21_e.pdf

² <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/meeting/7th-session-meeting-parties-aewa>

³ <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/guidance-taking-systematic-approach-responding-waterbird-declines-checklist-potential-0>