

RECOMMENDATION 5.6

CREATION OF A WORKING GROUP FOR THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES IN LATIN-AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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

Considering the strategic importance of the first South American Technical Workshop on the conservation of wild species of migratory animals, organized by the CMS Secretariat in Valdivia, Chile, from 1 to 3 December 1996, with the participation of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay;

Taking into consideration that the Scientific Council during its 7th meeting, after having reviewed the conclusions of the first South American Technical Workshop, expressed its satisfaction with these results and endorsed its conclusions (document UNEP/CMS/1997/L.1);

Considering the important continental and intercontinental migrations of wild animals existing in Latin-America and the Caribbean, such as cetaceans, waterbirds and grassland birds, sea and river fish, and others;

Taking into account the existence of commitments between the Latin-American and Caribbean countries to implement coordinated actions in favour of the conservation of migratory species of wild animals;

Recognizing that the working groups and consequential regional meetings are a valuable tool to promote CMS objectives as well as the increase of CMS members in areas poorly represented;

Considering that the creation of a Latin-American and Caribbean working group will provide a regional forum where priority actions may be defined, information may be exchanged and the continuity and follow-up of agreed activities is ensured;

Considering also that actions coordinated by such a working group will provide the basis for future regional and hemispheric Agreements under CMS;

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

1. *Supports* the creation of a Working Group for the Conservation of Migratory Species in Latin-America and the Caribbean within the framework of CMS;
2. *Recognizes* the following as objectives of the Working Group:
 - to provide a regional forum for discussion and elaboration of future projects and agreements for the conservation of migratory fauna in the countries of Latin-America and the Caribbean;
 - to contribute to the increase in membership and strengthening of CMS in the region; and
 - to consolidate the recommendations of the first South American Technical Workshop and to evaluate progress periodically in subsequent meetings; and
3. *Supports* the organization of regional meetings on the conservation of migratory species in Latin-America and the Caribbean within the framework of this working group.