



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORY STATES
TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR
THE AQUATIC WARBLER (*Acrocephalus paludicola*)
Criewen, Germany, 25-27 June 2006
Agenda Item 9.0

NEXT MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES

(Note prepared by the Secretariat)

1. The Signatories are invited to consider when the next meeting of the Signatories should take place. In addition to costs, Signatories may wish to consider whether it would be desirable to continue to hold stand-alone meetings for this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), or to explore holding shorter more compact meetings in the margins of other events, taking into account the experiences gained from the present meeting and the need to ensure adequate representation.

2. Until the Eighth Meeting of the CMS Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted a new budget in November 2005, the regular meetings of MoU concluded under CMS auspices had been financed in-part from dedicated MoU meeting budget lines from the Convention's regular budget. Host governments have typically provided in-kind and financial support for these meetings.

3. The situation has changed with the elimination of dedicated MoU meeting budget lines from the CMS triennial budget 2006-2008. Instead, a modest annual sum (approximately 65,000 euros per year) has been allocated to the CMS Secretariat to support agreement development and servicing, though this may be supplemented by the understanding reached during the COP that voluntary contributions would be provided to help support the Convention's implementation in lieu of larger assessed contributions on the Parties. This has turned out to be the case for the present meeting.

4. The meeting's budget was originally estimated at 25,000 euros. Both the State of Brandenburg and the Flemish Community have provided very generous and substantial financial contributions. These financial resources, in combination with rigorous cost controls imposed by Brandenburg and the CMS Secretariat, have minimised the costs of the meeting to the CMS Trust Fund.

Action requested:

The Signatories are invited to consider:

- Expressing appreciation to the financial co-sponsors of the meeting, the State of Brandenburg and the Flemish Community, and to the State of Brandenburg for hosting meeting.
- When the next meeting of the Signatories should take place.
- The desirability of continuing to hold future stand-alone MoU meetings.
- Offer to host the next MoU meeting and/or pledging financial or in-kind support.

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number, and will not be distributed at the meeting. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copy to the meeting and not to request additional copies.