



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



RECOMMENDATION 7.7*

AMERICA PACIFIC FLYWAY PROGRAMME

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Seventh Meeting (Bonn, 18-24 September 2002)

Noting the various ongoing activities in the Central (Panama) and South American Region for the protection of migratory species of waterbirds, such as the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, the Neotropical Waterbird Census, as well as projects under the auspices of CMS such as those concerning Andean flamingoes and the Ruddy-headed goose;

Noting the original initiative by the late Lic. Pablo Canevari to bring many activities together and to establish an America Pacific Flyway Agreement under the Bonn Convention;

Further noting the work undertaken by the Government of the Netherlands and Wetlands International to develop the original initiative further into a programme proposal: “Wetlands and Birds of the Americas” published as a draft in June 2001, also known as the “The America Pacific Flyway Programme”, and presently subject to an intensive consultation process in the region as well as in North America;

Aware of the great importance of the region for migratory waterbirds and their habitats, as cited in “Wetlands of South America: An Agenda for Biodiversity Conservation and Policies Development” (Wetlands International, 2001) and of the great need for conservation of the entire flyway, preferably within the framework of a multilateral flyway Agreement on the basis of Article IV of the Convention;

Noting the important habitat changes in wintering grounds, particularly for shorebirds, and the indications of a decrease in numbers for almost all species;

Aware also of the strong emphasis in the draft programme on capacity building, community involvement, international co-operation and the gathering of important data for the management of waterbird populations and their habitats, such as the South American Wetland Assessment and the Neotropical Waterbird Census; and

Anxious to see the programme being implemented in due time as an important contribution to the general aims of CMS and with a view towards the possible development of a more formal flyway Agreement such as that developed for African-Eurasian migratory waterbirds;

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

1. *Calls* on the Range States involved, whether or not a Party to CMS, to support further the development of the America Pacific Flyway Programme;

* The original draft of this recommendation, considered by the Conference of the Parties, was numbered 7.4.

2. *Calls* on the Secretariat to support this initiative as appropriate; and

3. *Encourages* interested Parties to further support the development process together with the CMS Parties in the region and to consider funding once the programme's development has been finalised and the programme is ready for implementation.

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