

Resolution 1.4

COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

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

Taking into account that article VIII of the Convention calls for the establishment of a Scientific Council at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties,

1. Decides to establish a Scientific Council of the Conference of the Parties;
2. Recommends that the Parties interpret the first sentence of article VIII, paragraph 2, to mean that their nominees should have scientific expertise relevant to the aims and objectives of the Convention;
3. Further recommends that the special qualifications of members of the Scientific Council should initially cover the following fields of expertise:
 - (a)
 - (i) migration biology
 - (ii) population ecology
 - (iii) habitat conservation
 - (b)
 - (i) aquatic mammals
 - (ii) terrestrial mammals
 - (iii) bats
 - (iv) aquatic reptiles
 - (v) birds
4. Determines the following principles for the composition and procedure of the Scientific Council:
 - (a) The number of members of the Scientific Council selected and appointed by the Conference of the Parties in accordance with the second sentence of article VIII, paragraph 2, of the Convention shall be not more than eight;
 - (b) The Scientific Council and its working groups may invite additional experts to take part in their work;
 - (c) The membership of the Scientific Council shall be reviewed at each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the meeting;
 - (d) The Secretary for the Scientific Council and its working groups shall be provided by the secretariat of the Convention;
5. Determines the following guidelines for the functioning of the Council:
 - (a) Whilst Parties would be expected to finance the expenses of their own nominees, those of the Conference nominees must be covered by the Convention budget as a high priority;
 - (b) For reasons of economy and efficiency, the Scientific Council should work in small groups dealing with particular problems. The full Council should normally meet only in connection with a meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
 - (c) Continuity between the groups and during the intervals between meetings of the

Conference should be provided by a scientific member of the secretariat;

6. Directs the Scientific Council to address the following questions and tasks, in order of priority:

(a) To assist in the development of indicative and exemplary agreements between Range States according to the Convention;

(b) To formulate guidelines for the application of such terms of the Convention as "endangered" and "migratory species";

(c) To review, in the light of these guidelines, the existing list of species on the appendices of the Convention;

(d) To recommend, in accordance with article VIII, paragraph 5 (c), of the Convention, species to be included in appendices I or II, such additions to be made according to a clear, defined set of principles;

(e) To develop a comprehensive and consistent candidate list of species which would benefit by future inclusion in appendices I and II, as they put forward;

(f) To provide information, channelled through the secretariat, to all Range States of particular species, with a view to encouraging all non-party Range States to become Parties to the Convention and to participate in its implementation.