



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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CONCERTED ACTION FOR THE GREAT BUSTARD IN ASIA¹

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 14th Meeting
(Samarkand, Uzbekistan, February 2024)

A report on implementation was submitted to the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP14) ([UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.32.2.7](#)) including a proposal for extension and revision, which was approved by the Parties.

(i). Proponent:

The Government of Mongolia, in collaboration with the Eurasian Bustard Alliance and the Wildlife Research and Conservation Center of Mongolia

(ii). Target species, lower taxon or population, or group of taxa with needs in common:

Class: Aves

Order: Otidiformes

Family: Otidae

Genus: *Otis*

Species: *Otis tarda*

Subspecies: Two recognized subspecies, both occurring in Asia: *Otis tarda dybowskii* and *Otis tarda tarda*

(iii). Geographical range:

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), MONGOLIA, KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, TAJIKISTAN, UZBEKISTAN, Turkmenistan, China and the Russian Federation.

(iv). The case for continued action:

The draft of the revised Action Plan for Great Bustards in Asia was compiled as planned. In-person activities over the past triennium were constrained by the coronavirus pandemic, during which many nations closed their borders for extended periods. Instead of an in-person meeting, draft review by data contributors and experts was conducted online during the global coronavirus pandemic and the revised consultation draft presented electronically to CMS focal points of participating countries. An in-person discussion was held at the fourth meeting of Range States to the Central Asian Flyway (CMS CAF4).

¹ The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CMS Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

It was intended that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would be invited to join the Concerted Action, as historically, the Eastern subspecies of Great Bustard regularly wintered in the Korean Peninsula and is known to still utilize these wintering sites to some degree. However, contact became challenging after national closures due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Turkmenistan, an important winter range state of the Great Bustard in Asia, became a Party to CMS in 2021.

We propose an extension of the Concerted Action into the coming triennium, with suggested activities to include:

- Sharing of information and best practices between range countries
- Coordinated and synchronized winter counts of Great Bustards across the flyway of the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Data sharing concerning the numbers of birds counted will inform understanding of regional population size and fluctuations. Information about the date and location of Great Bustard flocks will be shared to assist anti-poaching activities, including public outreach.

The aims of the second triennium of the Concerted Action are completed. We recommend extension of the Concerted Action. The Government of Mongolia welcomes one of the participating Parties to undertake leadership of the Concerted Action in the coming triennium.