

**SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS**  
(arising from ScC-SC2)

**PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION OF FOUR VULTURE SPECIES OCCURRING IN ASIA ON  
APPENDIX I OF THE CONVENTION  
UNEP/CMS/COP12/DOC.25.1.14**

**GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT**

This document was welcomed by Scientific Councillors. It was considered to be a comprehensive suite of listing proposals covering four Critically Endangered Asian vultures. It was noted that all five species are already covered by the CMS Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of the Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MOU) and including within the Draft Multi-species Action Plan on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) –UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.1.4/Rev.1/Annex 3

**COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION**

Page 18, para.6.4 – Habitat Conservation  
– suggested clarification by inclusion of the list of 12 provisional Vulture Safe Zones, as follows:

- 1) Southern Sindh (Pakistan);
- 2) Southern Gujarat (India);
- 3) Central Gujarat (India)
- 4) Lowland Uttarakhand (India)
- 5) Central Madhya Pradesh (India)
- 6) North-eastern Uttar Pradesh (India)
- 7) Western Lowland (Nepal);
- 8) Central Highland (Nepal);
- 9) Northern Jharkhand (India);
- 10) Southern Bangladesh (Bangladesh);
- 11) Northern Bangladesh (Bangladesh);
- 12) Central Assam (India).

Page 20, para.8 - Range States  
– suggested clarification by inserting the following text (in red)  
In many countries, vulture species may be found in the country concerned throughout the year and so their occurrence is described as 'Resident' in the Table (below). This does not imply that individuals remain 'resident' in the same area year-round; indeed as outlined in Section 3 Migrations (above), individuals may make very significant movements over the course of a year including crossing one or more national boundaries.

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP12**

The Avian Working Group unanimously supported the proposal to list all four Asian vulture species on CMS Appendix 1.