

PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION OF SPECIES ON THE APPENDICES OF THE CONVENTION
ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

A. PROPOSAL: Inclusion of Ciconia episcopus microscelis in Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT: Government of the Federal Republic of Germany

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxon

1.1. Classis	Aves
1.2. Ordo	Ciconiiformes
1.3. Familia	Ciconiidae
1.4. Genus/Species/Subspecies	<u>Ciconia episcopus</u> (Boddaert) 1783 ssp. <u>microscelis</u>
1.5. Common names	
English:	Woolly-necked Stork
Spanish:	Ciguena Lanuđa
French:	Cigogne episcopale

2. Biological data

2.1. Distribution

The subspecies microscelis occurs widely in Africa south of the Sahara, from Senegal west to Sudan and south to northeastern South Africa, Botswana, northern Namibia and Angola. It is known to be migratory, especially in the central and southern parts of its range, but the movements are poorly understood.

2.2. Population

Only one population is recognized.

- Entire population of microscelis: In the range 25,000-100,000 (Rose & Scott 1993).

Widespread but generally rather uncommon to rare, although the numbers are thought to be more or less stable, and possibly increasing in East Africa. The population in Guinea-Bissau has been estimated at 400-600 birds; under 30 pairs breed in South Africa. During the African Waterfowl Census of January 1993, the highest national totals were from Cameroon (12), Zambia (331) and Zimbabwe (16) (Taylor 1993).

2.3. Habitat

Usually occurs in or close to wetlands such as rivers, lakes, floodplains, marshes, rice fields, drying ponds, water-holes, flooded pastures and lagoons; also occurs in lightly wooded country and forest clearings, usually by streams or rivers or in forest swamps. In East Africa, mainly found along the coast on mud-flats and coral reefs, but also in savanna, grassland and cultivation, attending grass fires. A solitary tree-nester (del Hoyo et al. 1992).

2.4. Migrations

Mainly resident, but known to undertake some north-south migrations in Africa, at times collecting in flocks of several hundreds.

3. **Threat data**

3.1. Direct threats to the population

None known.

3.2. Habitat destruction

Wetland loss and degradation are occurring widely in Africa, but there are no indications yet that these are having an adverse effect on the numbers of Ciconia episcopus.

3.3. Indirect threats

Excessive application of pesticides and other agricultural chemicals, especially in rice-growing areas, is likely to be having an adverse effect on the species, but no incidences of mortality have as yet been reported.

3.4. Threats connected especially with migrations

None known.

3.5. National and international utilization

There may be some casual hunting of the species in parts of its range, but details are lacking.

4. **Protection status and needs**

4.1. National protection status

Fully protected under national legislation in Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zimbabwe; partially protected in Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Sudan and Togo.

4.2. International protection status

None known.

4.3. Additional protection needs

See attached note on additional protection needs for species and populations with an unfavourable conservation status.

5. **Range States**

See attached table.

6. **Comments from Range States**

7. **Additional remarks**

8. **References**

- Brown, L.H., Urban, E.K. & Newman, K. (1982). The Birds of Africa. Volume I. Academic Press, London & New York.
- del Hoyo, J., Elliott A. & Sargatal, J. (eds). (1992). Handbook of the Birds of the World. Volume 1: Ostrich to Ducks. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.
- Hancock, J.A., Kushlan, J.A. & Kahl, M.P. (1992). Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills of the World. Academic Press, London.
- Rose, P.M. & Scott, D.A. (1993). Waterfowl Population Estimates. Draft report presented at the Fifth Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention, 9-16 June 1993, Kushiro, Japan. IWRB, Slimbridge.
- Taylor, V. (1993). African Waterfowl Census 1993. IWRB, Slimbridge, U.K.

Taxon: <i>Ciconia episcopus microscelis</i>		
Population		
(a) Entire population of ssp <i>microscelis</i>		
State	Pop.	Status
Angola	a	?
Benin	a	?
Botswana	a	?
Burkina Faso	a	?
Burundi	a	?
Cameroon	a	?
Central African Republic	a	?
Chad	a	?
Congo	a	?
Cote d'Ivoire	a	?
Equatorial Guinea	a	?
Ethiopia	a	?
Gabon	a	?
Gambia	a	?
Ghana	a	?
Guinea	a	?
Kenya	a	?
Lesotho	a	?
Liberia	a	?
Malawi	a	?
Mozambique	a	?
Nigeria	a	?
Rwanda	a	?
Senegal	a	?
Sierra Leone	a	?
Somalia	a	?
South Africa	a	?
Sudan	a	?
Swaziland	a	?
Tanzania	a	?
Togo	a	?
Uganda	a	?
Zaire	a	?

Zambia	a	?
Zimbabwe	a	?

Key to Status	
S/s Breeding summer visitor	R/r Resident
W/w Winter visitor	V Vagrant
P/p Passage migrant	? Status uncertain
Upper case = primary status Lower case = secondary status	