

Report of the IWG on Transboundary Programme – Habitats: Data Compilation

The convenor of the group presented a brief report on the collection of data on important underground sites for bats (Doc.EUROBATS.AC10.10). Since the last AC Meeting, two important datasets, from Bulgaria and Ukraine, had been received and datasets from at least one more Party are in an advanced state of preparation. For that reason, the convenor recommended that, despite a previous deadline, the list should remain open while there was some real prospect of adding extra data. With regard to the future of this work, the convenor proposed that monitoring of the important underground sites would be the next step. This would fit well with the proposal of the IWG on monitoring methodologies for a Pan-European monitoring system for bats in underground sites.

The draft publication on the conservation and management of underground habitats has been improved with the addition of some photographs. A letter had been sent to the Meeting by Germany reporting that the draft had been translated into German for consideration by an expert group there. Germany asked for extra time to provide suggestions for the improvement of the manuscript in order to make it more useful. The convenor proposed that comments from Germany, or any other Party or Range State, should be submitted in time for the IWG to prepare an updated draft for presentation to the next AC Meeting (suggested deadline 1 December 2005). If agreed, the publication could be produced in time for the next Meeting of Parties.

Report of the IWG on the Geographical Scope of the Agreement

Delegates present at the meeting:

Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Dr Dumitru Murariu (Romania), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Jacques Pir (Luxembourg), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Per Ole Syvertsen (Norway), Prof Bronisław Wołoszyn (Poland).

Member of the IWG (revised):

Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Dr Peter Boye (Germany), Peter Lina (The Netherlands) Dr Dumitru Murariu (Romania), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Prof Bronisław Wołoszyn (Poland).

The convenor of the group advised that it was agreed that the species tables presented in Doc.EUROBATS.AC10.11 should be checked by all Range States and any corrections of distribution passed to the convenor.

The IWG considered whether the bats of the North Atlantic islands (Azores, Madeira and Canaries) should be included in the Agreement, but no firm decision was reached.

It was agreed that otherwise the existing geographical boundary of the Agreement should be maintained and that the species covered by the Agreement should remain those that occur within the existing geographical scope of the Agreement (as defined in Doc.EUROBATS.MOP2.8.AnnexAfin and AnnexBfin).

However, it was agreed that Range States with territory within 500 km of the Agreement border should be approached by the Secretariat with a view to keeping them informed of the activities of the Agreement and inviting their collaboration on appropriate matters. Such Range States would be entitled to be observers at EUROBATS meetings, but there should be no financial burden on the Agreement unless an exceptional circumstance justifies it. The Secretariat may be able to identify mechanisms for more formal relationships with such Range States that are key to the success of the Agreement

The IWG will further check for evidence of movements of bats across the border of the Agreement area.

A draft Resolution will be prepared for AC11.

Report of the IWG on the Review of Guidelines for the Issue of Permits for the Capture and Study of Captured Wild Bats

Delegates present at the meeting:

Peter Lina (The Netherlands, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN), Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria), Andrzej Kepel (Poland), Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland), Deividas Makavičius (Lithuania), Dr Matti Masing (Estonia), Dr Anthony J. Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Dr Katie Parsons (BCT, United Kingdom), Prof Dainius H. Pauža (Lithuania), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Nomeda Vélavičienė (Lithuania).

Members of the IWG (revised):

Peter Lina (The Netherlands, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Dr Peter Boye (Germany), Dr Johnny de Jong (Sweden), Jacques Fairon (Belgium), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN), Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria), Andrzej Kepel (Poland), Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland), Deividas Makavičius (Lithuania), Dr Matti Masing (Estonia), Dr Anthony J. Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Matti Osara (Finland), Dr Katie Parsons (BCT, United Kingdom), Prof Dainius H. Pauža (Lithuania), Prof Paul Racey (United Kingdom), Dr Roger Ransome (United Kingdom), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Nomeda Vélavičienė (Lithuania), Prof Eduard Yavruyan (Armenia).

Since the guidelines were adopted by MoP4, no proposals for amendments were received so far. Germany has reported that a document will be provided for AC11 for further discussions that may lead to changes in the Resolution.

Report of the IWG on Producing Guidelines on Bat Monitoring Methods to Assess Population Trends at Different Levels**Delegates present at the meeting:**

Dr Colin Catto (BCT, United Kingdom, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Dr Zoltán Bihari (Hungary), Eva Cepaková (Czech Republic), Daniela Hamidović (Croatia), Melanie Hardie (United Kingdom), Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN), Branko Karapandza (Serbia and Montenegro), Andrzej Kepel (Poland), Dr Ferdia Marnell (Ireland), Dr Matti Masing (Estonia), Dr Dumitru Murariu (Romania), Primož Presetnik (Slovenia), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Dr Friederike Spitzenberger (Austria), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Dr Lubomira Vavrová (Slovakia).

Members of the IWG (revised):

Dr Jessamy Battersby (United Kingdom, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Dr Zoltán Bihari (Hungary), Dr Colin Catto (BCT, United Kingdom), Eva Cepaková (Czech Republic), Dr Viktor Dziamianchyk (Belarus), Daniela Hamidović (Croatia), Dr Christine Harbusch (NABU, Germany), Melanie Hardie (United Kingdom), Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN), Branko Karapandza (Serbia and Montenegro), Andrzej Kepel (Poland), Herman Limpens (The Netherlands), Lauri Lutsar (Estonia), Dr Ferdia Marnell (Ireland), Dr Matti Masing (Estonia), Edvardas Mickevičius (Lithuania), Dr Dumitru Murariu

(Romania), Jacques Pir (Luxembourg), Primož Presetnik (Slovenia), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Yrjo Siivonen (Finland), Dr Friedrike Spitzenberger (Austria), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Prof Bronisław Wołoszyn (Poland), Dr Lubomira Vavrová (Slovak Republic).

The convenor of the IWG, Dr Colin Catto deputising for Dr Jessamy Battersby, identified 4 key areas for discussion and these were agreed by the participants, then addressed by the group. The group identified specialists to contribute to the species accounts and identify appropriate monitoring methods for each. Questions were identified that could be used to build a decision tree to allow an informed decision on appropriate monitoring method(s). Participants were asked to submit to the convenor examples of existing country monitoring programmes. A discussion was then held on the various monitoring methods in existence and these will be incorporated into the monitoring guidelines. It was agreed to produce a draft of the monitoring guidelines in time for the EBRS 10, Ireland.

Report of the IWG on Bat Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management

Delegates present at the meeting:

Dr Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine, convenor), Aurora Dibra (Albania), Suren Gazaryan (Russian Federation), Peter Kanuch (Slovak Republic), Prof Branko Micevski (FYR Macedonia), Dr Anthony Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Ioseb Natradze (Georgia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Dr Katie Parsons (BCT, United Kingdom), Jacques Pir (Luxemburg), Dr Nikola Tvrtković (Croatia), Prof Jaroslav Vego (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Prof Bronisław Wołoszyn (Poland).

Members of IWG (revised):

Dr Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine, convenor), Dr Peter Boye (Germany), Dr Johnny de Jong (Sweden), Suren Gazaryan (Russian Federation), Peter Kanuch (Slovak Republic), Dr Anthony Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Ioseb Natradze (Georgia), Jacques Pir (Luxembourg), Andrea Stefan (Croatia), Laurent Tillon (France), Dr Nicola Tvrtković (Croatia), Prof Bronisław Wołoszyn (Poland).

The IWG discussed two issues:

1. The classification of forests for the purpose of collecting information about patterns of forest use by bats across Europe and also for the provision of advice on sustainable forest management. It was concluded that for the purpose of this work at

the Pan-European level it was important to use a high-level classification system, with opportunities to collect more specific examples. We agreed that a six-category system of broadleaved deciduous, broadleaved evergreen, coniferous, mixed, riverine and arid would be appropriate.

2. The collection of data on forest management practices should also focus on high-level issues and should collect data about:
 - Environmental standards for forestry
 - Control of forest operations by permits with conditions
 - Environmental impact assessment, including protected species
 - Types of forest management in common use (clear-fell, continuous cover etc.)

The Bat Conservation Trust introduced a review of forestry and bats prepared by Dr Peter Boye and Markus Dietz. It was agreed that this would be a useful contribution to the work of the group and BCT will circulate the report to members.

The convenor of the group will now draft a questionnaire. It was agreed that the questionnaire on forest management practices should be sent to administrative focal points with a request that it be transmitted to the national forestry authority for completion.

Revised questionnaire will be prepared by 25 May 2005;

Deadline for revising feedback on the questionnaire is 15 June 2005;

Deadline to fully develop the questionnaire and send it to the Secretariat (convenor) for the further elaboration is 10 August 2005.

Resources required:

Extra-meeting in Poland (Autumn 2005);

Meeting of the IWG during the AC 11.

Report of the IWG on Bat Migration

Delegates present at the meeting:

Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria, convenor), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France), Valeri Georgiev (Bulgaria), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Atena-Adriana Groza (Romania), Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland), Peter Lina (The Netherlands), Kaja Lotman (Estonia), Lauri Lutsar (Estonia), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Gunars Petersons (Latvia), Prof Irina Rakhmatulina (Azerbaijan), Per Ole Syvertsen (Norway).

Members of the IWG (revised):

Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria, convenor), Dr Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine), Suren Gazaryan (Russian Federation), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Atena-Adriana Groza (Romania), Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland), Peter Lina (The Netherlands), Kaja Lotman (Estonia), Dr Rainer Hutterer (Bonn Bat Ringing Centre, Germany), Prof Branko Micevski (FYR Macedonia), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Gunars Petersons (Latvia), Prof Irina Rakhmatulina (Azerbaijan), Per Ole Syvertsen (Norway).

Topic 1:

- To identify the long distance migrants

Based on expert knowledge and known literature, regarding the distance of flight and life strategies, the following species were identified:

Nyctalus lasiopterus

Vespertilio murinus

Nyctalus leisleri

Pipistrellus nathusii

Nyctalus noctula

Pipistrellus pipistrellus/pygmaeus

Topic 2:

- To analyse available information on long distance migrants regarding **timing** and **distribution** of migration.

Analysis is going to be prepared based on the data from the *Atlas of Bat Migration in Europe* (Draft to be available by the end of June 2005) as well as other available sources of information, as follows:

Species	Experts responsible for the analysis	With the help of
<i>Nyctalus lasiopterus</i>	Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria)	Stefania Biscardi (Italy)
<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria)	Gunars Petersons (Latvia)
<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Irina Rakhmatulina (Azerbaijan)	Suren Gazarjan (Russia)
<i>Vespertilio murinus</i>	Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine)	Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland)
<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	Gunars Petersons (Latvia) Peter Lina (The Netherlands)	Irina Rakhmatulina (Azerbaijan) Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France)
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus/pygmaeus</i>	Peter Lina (The Netherlands)	Irina Rakhmatulina (Azerbaijan)

Topic 3:

- To develop a questionnaire in order to collect data on migration routes (flyways), use of habitats during migration - stop-overs, “places of concentration” (including feeding areas, mating roosts, etc.) and data on known and potential barriers/obstacles to migration.

A draft of the questionnaire was prepared. The group agreed to circulate the draft among the members after the Meeting for further development.

Deadline to receive feedbacks on the questionnaire is 15 May 2005.

Deadline to fully develop the questionnaire and send it to the Secretariat for further circulation is 31 May 2005.

Deadline for Parties and Non-Party Range States to answer the questionnaire is 30 September 2005.

Topic 4:

Gaps in knowledge and needs for further research were briefly discussed, including appropriate methods for migration studies.

Plan of action (revised):

1. Analysis of migration patterns for six long-distance migrating species – bibliography and data available from the Migration Atlas Project, consultations with wider number of experts.
2. Distribution and analysis of the questionnaire.
3. Preparation of recommendations.

Estimated timetable for work to be achieved:

Action	2005-2006 AC10-AC11	2006 AC11-MOP5
1	X	
2	X	
3		X

Resources required:

- Engagement of all Parties and Non-Party Range States in the questionnaire, including a range of national experts.
- Meeting of the IWG during AC11.

The IWG kindly requests the Secretariat to distribute the questionnaire both to the national focal points and Advisory Committee members, as well as, if possible to put it on the Web page.

Report of the IWG on Autecological Studies for Priority Species

Delegates present at the meeting:

Stéphane Aulagnier (France, convenor), Laurent Biraschi (Luxembourg), Jelena Ducić (Serbia and Montenegro), Daniela Hamidović (Croatia), Antony M. Hutson (IUCN), Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria), Peter Kanuch (Slovak Republic), Branko Karapandza (Serbia and Montenegro), Dr Blanka Lehotská (Slovak Republic), Jacques Pir (Luxembourg), Primož Presetnik (Slovenia), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Dr Nikola Tvrković (Croatia), Petra Zvorć (Croatia).

Members of the IWG (revised):

Stéphane Aulagnier (France, convenor), Daniela Hamidović (Croatia), Antony M. Hutson (IUCN), Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria), Peter Kanuch (Slovak Republic), Branko Karapandza (Serbia and Montenegro), Dr Blanka Lehotská (Slovak Republic), Primož Presetnik (Slovenia), Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Dr Nikola Tvrković (Croatia), Petra Zvorć (Croatia).

The IWG has been invited by the convenor to begin the preparation of the action plan for the three priority species decided in AC9. The review of current work was initiated by a roundtable of present Parties and Range States: Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and Slovakia. Monitoring of bat roosts is ongoing in most countries; roost choice, diet and foraging areas are studied in several ones. This review will be circulated to be corrected and information from batworkers involved in this work will be added by the members of the group. Research priorities were identified: investigating roost choice, foraging areas and flying paths, and identifying metapopulations (mainly using genetic analyses). Monitoring methods will be provided by the IWG on monitoring guidelines. Guidelines for genetic sampling will be requested by the convenor from colleagues, members of the group are also invited to send guidelines that they have. A first draft of the questionnaire on roost choice will be prepared by Daniela Hamidović before circulating in the group, and after validation to Parties and Range States. The extent of the questionnaire has been discussed. The sample of roosts for population monitoring will be extracted from the list of underground

sites already sent to the Secretariat. Parties and Range States who did not give their list will be invited to provide relevant information. The convenor of the IWG will send a comprehensive report to the members of the group in order to collect further advice and information before and during EBRS10. The project action plan will be submitted to AC11 as previously scheduled.

Report of the IWG on Overground Roosts

Delegates present at the meeting:

Dr Ferdia Marnell (Ireland, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Dr Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine), Dr Zoltán Bihari (Hungary), Suren Gazaryan (Russian Federation), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Daniela Hamidović (Croatia), Melanie Hardie (United Kingdom), Branko Karapandza (Serbia and Montenegro), Sandrine Lamotte (Belgium), Dr Blanka Lehotská (Slovak Republic), Prof Branko Micevski (FYR Macedonia), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Ioseb Natradze (Georgia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Dr Katie Parsons (BCT, United Kingdom), Prof Dainius H. Pauža (Lithuania), Primož Presetnik (Slovenia), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Dr Friederike Spitzenberger (Austria), Dr Nikola Tvrtković (Croatia), Dr Lubomira Vavrová (Slovak Republic).

Members of IWG (revised):

Dr Ferdia Marnell (Ireland, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Dr Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine), Dr Zoltán Bihari (Hungary), Suren Gazaryan (Russian Federation), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Daniela Hamidović (Croatia), Melanie Hardie (United Kingdom), Branko Karapandza (Serbia and Montenegro), Jana Kristanč (Slovenia), Sandrine Lamotte (Belgium), Dr Blanka Lehotská (Slovak Republic), Prof Branko Micevski (FYR Macedonia), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Ioseb Natradze (Georgia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Dr Katie Parsons (BCT, United Kingdom), Prof Dainius H. Pauža (Lithuania), Primož Presetnik (Slovenia), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Dr Friederike Spitzenberger (Austria), Dr Nikola Tvrtković (Croatia), Dr Lubomira Vavrová (Slovak Republic).

The convenor of the IWG, Dr Ferdia Marnell, gave a presentation on progress to date; following an initial literature review, a questionnaire was devised and circulated to all Parties and Non-Party Range States. 22 returns have been received so far. Countries who have not responded are encouraged to complete and return their questionnaires. During this Meeting a further gathering of the IWG discussed the questionnaire returns and examined some of the issues surrounding bat roosts and buildings of cultural

importance. After some general discussion a work programme for the next year was agreed. The literature review and a review of the questionnaires will be compiled into a draft report for circulation to IWG members in advance of EBRS 10. A further meeting of the IWG is planned for the symposium in Galway with a view to agreeing a final report for AC 11.

Report of the IWG on the Impact on Bat Populations of the Use of Antiparasitic Drugs for Livestock

Delegates present at the meeting:

Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN, convenor), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Dr Colin Catto (BCT, United Kingdom), Aurora Dibra (Albania), Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France), Dr Christine Harbusch (NABU, Germany), Peter Lina (The Netherlands), Jacques Pir (Luxembourg), Christine Rumble (United Kingdom), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Libuse Vlasaková (Czech Republic).

Members of the IWG (revised):

Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN, convenor), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Dr Colin Catto (BCT, United Kingdom), Aurora Dibra (Albania), Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France), Dr Christine Harbusch (NABU, Germany), Peter Lina (The Netherlands), Jacques Pir (Luxembourg), Dr Roger Ransome (United Kingdom), Christine Rumble (United Kingdom), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Abigel Szodoray-Paradi (Romania), Libuse Vlasaková (Czech Republic).

The convenor advised that the IWG will compile a bibliography and literature review on the topic of the impact of antiparasitic drugs (endectocides) and will compile a list of bat species whose insect prey are most likely to be affected. It will also investigate any developments from a Bern Convention recommendation of 1998 and any other international initiatives or guidance on use. All working group members will talk to major NGOs in their country to seek linkages with wider concerns if appropriate. The elements of a short questionnaire have been identified and this will be circulated this summer for analysis in the autumn. The questionnaire will be used to assess the geographical scale of the use of such drugs, the application practices, any relevant legislation or regulations relating to their use, and a request for information on any recent research or literature and on any alternative (less harmful) treatments.

Report of the IWG on Wind Turbines and Bat Populations

Delegates present in the meeting

Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal, convenor), Stéphane Aulagnier (France), Laurent Biraschi (Luxembourg), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Dr Colin Catto (BCT, United Kingdom), Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Dr Christine Harbusch (NABU, Germany), Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN), Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria), Peter Kanuch (Slovak Republic), Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland), Lauri Lutsar (Estonia), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Christine Rumble (United Kingdom), Dr Dino Scaravelli (Italy), Per Ole Syvertsen (Norway), Dr Lubomira Vavrová (Slovak Republic), Prof Jaroslav Vego (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Members of IWG (revised)

Luisa Rodrigues (Portugal, convenor), Lothar Bach (Germany), Laurent Biraschi (Luxembourg), Dr Colin Catto (BCT, United Kingdom), Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France), Dr Christine Harbusch (NABU, Germany), Anthony M. Hutson (IUCN), Dr Teodora Ivanova (Bulgaria), Lauri Lutsar (Estonia), Christine Rumble (United Kingdom), Linda Smith (United Kingdom).

Plan of action (revised)

- update of AC10 report (Christine Harbusch, with Laurent Biraschi)
- guidelines for the planning process, including assessment of sites where WT can be placed (Christine Rumble, with Christine Harbusch)
- guidelines for impact assessments, including long-term monitoring (before and after) (Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage, with Lothar Bach, Luisa Rodrigues and Teodora Ivanova)
- research priorities, including standardised methods (Colin Catto, with Lothar Bach)

Note 1: If possible, references to off-shore areas should be included

Note 2: In the future, guidelines common to bats, birds and cetaceans should be prepared

Note 3: Documents prepared by Bern Convention and CMS should be taken into account

Estimated Timetable of Action (revised)

- August 2005 (10EBRS): intermediate meeting, 1st draft
- March 2006 (AC11): draft guidelines
- September 2006 (MoP5): final version of guidelines

Report of the IWG on the CBD/CMS Joint Work Programme

Delegates present at the meeting:

Eva Cepaková (Czech Republic, convenor), Stefania Biscardi (Italy), Dr Volodymyr Domashlinets (Ukraine), Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Dr Katie Parsons (BCT, United Kingdom), Per Ole Syvertsen (Norway), Dr Lubomira Vavrová (Slovak Republic), Libuse Vlasaková (Czech Republic).

Members of the IWG (revised):

Eva Cepaková (Czech Republic, convenor), Dr Volodymyr Domashlinets (Ukraine), Jana Kristanč, Aleksandar Nastov (FYR Macedonia), Dr Katie Parsons (BCT, United Kingdom), Per Ole Syvertsen (Norway).

Terms of reference:

Resolution 4.10 - to review the CBD/CMS Joint Work Programme 2002-2005 and develop proposals for the JWP 2006 onwards.

The working group decided to make a list of topics relevant to EUROBATS and identify priorities within the list.

The following sources of information were used:

- the existing CBD/CMS JWP (2002-2005)
- a preliminary list of topics drafted by the IWG at AC9 in Vilnius
- suggestions sent to the IWG by Anthony M. Hutson
- a document from the last CMS Standing Committee "CMS Activities in Relation to 2010 Biodiversity Target"

List of areas where EUROBATS could contribute to the JWP

3. Forest biodiversity

- guidelines on bat-friendly forestry practices (Resolution 4.4) – already mentioned in the JWP
- use of bats as indicators for sustainable forestry (Resolution 4.4) – to be included in the JWP??? (needs to be clarified)

4. Agricultural Biodiversity

- the use of pesticides and their impact on bats, particularly antiparasitic drugs (Resolution 4.9, para 6b) – to be included in the JWP??? (needs to be confirmed by the relevant IWG)
- linear features – to be included in the JWP

8. Global Taxonomy Initiative

- no action proposed, co-operation between the EUROBATS Secretariat and GTI, GROMS should be enhanced (related to: the list of species in Annex to the Agreement, geographical scope of the Agreement)

9. Indicators, Identification and Assessment and Monitoring of Biodiversity

- guidelines on bat-friendly forestry practices (Resolution 4.4) – already mentioned in the JWP
- proposal: to establish a working group within EUROBATS to clarify the potential use of bats as indicators, also in relation to the Pan-European bat monitoring

10. Impact Assessment and Minimising Adverse Impacts

- guidelines for assessing potential impacts of wind turbines on bats (Resolution 4.7) - to be included in the JWP

14. Sustainable Use of Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism

- guidelines for the protection and management of important underground habitats for bats (Resolution 4.3) - to be included in the JWP
- protection of overground habitats – also relevant (cultural heritage buildings)

15. National Strategies, Plans, Policies and Laws

- to strengthen the importance of EUROBATS in the implementation of national legislation (including e.g. Habitats Directive) - to be included in the JWP

Priorities:

- indicators (re 9)
- wind turbines (re 10)
- guidelines for underground sites (re 14)
- capacity to influence national legislation (re 15)

The working group also discussed the possible contribution of EUROBATS to the 2010 Biodiversity Target (in relation to the CMS Standing Committee document, see above).

Report of the IWG on Conservation and Management of Critical Feeding Areas and Commuting Routes

Delegates present at the meeting:

Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland, convenor), Dr Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine), Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France), Suren Gazaryan (Russian Federation), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Dr Christine Harbusch (NABU, Germany), Andrzej Kepel (Poland), Peter Lina (The Netherlands), Kaja Lotman (Estonia), Lauri Lutsar (Estonia), Dr Ferdia Marnell (Ireland), Dr Anthony J. Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Dr Friederike Spitzenberger (Austria).

Members of the IWG (revised):

Eeva-Maria Kyheröinen (Finland, convenor), Dr Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine), Dr Johnny de Jong (Sweden), Marie-Jo Dubourg-Savage (France), Suren Gazaryan (Russian Federation), Lena Godlevska (Ukraine), Dr Christine Harbusch (NABU, Germany), Andrzej Kepel (Poland), Jana Kristanč (Slovenia), Kaja Lotman (Estonia), Lauri Lutsar (Estonia), Deividas Makavičius (Lithuania), Dr Ferdia Marnell (Ireland), Dr Anthony J. Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Marie Nedinge (Sweden), Dr Friederike Spitzenberger (Austria), Nomeda Vélavičienė (Lithuania).

As its first task, the group has searched for and reviewed literature dealing with feeding habitats and commuting routes of bats. The Excel spreadsheet containing the review data, together with the list of references, was discussed by the group. The group agreed to add columns about methods used in the studies and country into the table. It was decided to continue the literature review with help of new group members, until the Xth European Bat Research Symposium in Galway. There the group will have a meeting and check the situation of the literature review table.

The group agreed to send the literature review table and list of references with an introductory letter after the meeting in Galway, to all scientific focal points to be disseminated to all researchers so that they could insert any relevant published or unpublished data on critical feeding areas. These documents could also be available online in the EUROBATs web page.

After receiving feedback from researchers, the data will be analysed and the drafting of guidance for national guidelines on conservation and management of bat habitats will be started.