

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF POPULATIONS OF EUROPEAN BATS

Update to the National Implementation Report of the Czech Republic

A. General Information

Name of Party: Czech Republic

Date of Report: 31 March 2002

Period covered: February 2001 – March 2002

Competent Authority: Ministry of the Environment

B. Status of Bats within the Territory of the Party

1. Summary Details of Resident Species

Hypsugo savii was recorded in southern Moravia in 2001, being a new bat species to the Czech Republic.

2. Status and Trends

No considerable changes.

3. Habitats and Roost Sites

No changes.

4. Threats

Due to economic development of the country, an increasing number of maternity roosts (especially those of *Myotis myotis*) is threatened by re-constructions and re-arrangements of loft spaces in old buildings (churches, castles etc.).

5. Data collection and research

A special issue of the *Vespertilio* journal is in press, summarising data on the most important underground hibernacula in the Czech Republic from the last 30 years.

C. Measures Taken to Implement Article III of the Agreement

6. Legal measures taken to protect bats, including enforcement action

Situation similar to the last report.

7. Sites identified and protected which are important to the conservation of bats

Situation similar to the last report.

8. Consideration given to habitats which are important to bats

Situation similar to the last report.

9. Activities to promote the awareness of the importance of the conservation of bats

Folding picture-books with bat photos were published by the Czech Union of Nature Conservationists and the Czech Bat Conservation Trust in 2001.

Stimulated by proclamation of the International Year of the Bat, the European Bat Night was held at a record number of sites in the Czech Republic in 2001. The number of 70 participants has been exceeded in four cases, the other events were smaller but spread throughout the country (in total, seven in Bohemia and seven in Moravia). See the report on EBN5 in the Czech Republic for details.

10. Responsible bodies, in accordance with Article III.5 of the Agreement, nominated for the provision of advice on bat conservation and management

No changes.

11. Additional action undertaken to safeguard populations of bats

No changes.

12. Recent and ongoing programmes (including research) relating to the conservation and management of bats

Research programmes, including several MSc and PhD theses, are concentrated on various aspects of bat ecology (flight activity and habitat preferences of the pipistrelles, behaviour of *Pipistrellus nathusii*, seasonal dynamics of a population of *Myotis daubentonii*, biology of *Myotis myotis* in pre-hibernation period etc.), as well as palaeontology of Vespertilionidae bats.

13. Consideration being given to the potential effects of pesticides on bats, and efforts to replace timber treatment chemicals which are highly toxic to bats

Situation similar to the last report.

D. Functioning of the Agreement

14. Cooperation with other Range States

Continuing good co-operation with Slovakian bat researchers can be mentioned.

15. Measures taken to implement Resolutions adopted by Meetings of Parties

Resolution 3.5 (International Year of the Bat) – see point 9 of this report.

Resolution 3.7 (Amendment of the Agreement) – The Amendment was accepted by the Government in December 2001.

Resolution 3.8 (Implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan) – no considerable changes.