

11th Meeting of the Advisory Committee

City of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, 8 – 10 May 2006

Report of the IWG on Bat Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management



Delegates present at the meeting

Peter Boye (Germany), Branko Karapandza (Serbia & Montenegro), Jacques Pir (Luxembourg), Anthony Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Johnny de Jong (Sweden), Suren Gazaryan (Russia), Nikola Tvrtkovic (Croatia), Joseb Natradze (Georgia), Katie Parsons (UK), Aurora Pilra (Albania), Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine), Engel Edmer (Luxembourg).

Members of IWG: Peter Boye (Germany), Johnny de Jong (Sweden), Anthony Mitchell-Jones (United Kingdom), Peter Kanuch (Slovakia), Suren Gazaryan (Russia), Joseb Natradze (Georgia), Alison Racey (BCT), Andrea Stefan (Croatia), Laurent Tillon (France), Nikola Tvrtkovic (Croatia), Bronislaw Woloszyn (Poland), Andriy-Taras Bashta (Ukraine)

The IWG, which was established at AC 9, has set up a work plan for the period until the MoP5 in summer 2006. Work was shared among the members of the working group and started with the collection and analysis of relevant information from literature sources concerning the occurrence of bat species and bat communities in different forest types in Europe.

During the IWG work we collected some information about the occurrence of bat species and bat communities in different forest types in Europe and differences between the forest management types (practices) in the European countries. The collection of data about use of bats as appropriate indicators for sustainability of forestry management also began.

However, following progress of the IWG work was slow down because of a general shortage of time for co-operation or low priority of voluntary contribution to the international implementation of the Agreement during the every day business of some IWG members' job.

It was found during the realization of our plans that so large work as preparation of high-quality proposals for "Guidelines on bat-friendly forestry practices" needs more efforts and time from the IWG members than the term of two years.

After the IWG meeting and discussion at the AC11 the members decided to prepare the Guidelines at the highest technical level before MoP5. Work was started during the AC11 meeting. The draft of the Guidelines will be produced by email exchange and finalized by the end of July.

Plan of Action

1. The data compilation and analysis will be done by the end of May.
2. Guidelines will be drafted and discussed by email exchange. The draft guidelines will be finalised and revised by email exchange.
3. The draft guidelines will be submitted to the Secretariat for adoption by the MoP 5.