

13th Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Cluj, Romania, 23 – 24 August 2008

Proposal for the IWG “2011 – Year of the Bat”

by Peter Boye

based on informal discussions before the decision of Res. MoP5.12



Aims of the “Global Year of the Bat”

- Communicate to the public that bats are lovely and amazing creatures living nearly all over the world;
- Enhance bat conservation on site, local, regional, and international level;
- Initiate closer co-operation of international organisations and institutions dealing with bat conservation aspects.

Means and ideas:

- Creating a public relation alliance for bat conservation around the world, e.g. by CMS, EUROBATS, European Commission, CBD, Berne Convention, BCT, BCI;
- Establish a steering committee under the leadership of EUROBATS with representatives from all continents;
- Develop corporate identity for all organisations and institutions which participate in the GYB 2011, e.g. logo, standard design for leaflets and posters;
- Highlight high-tech capabilities on the fascinating life history of bat species to create positive public attitudes;
- Focus on the “bat-men relationship”, i.e. roosts in houses, benefits from bats, human health risks caused by bats, bionics;
- Promote EUROBATS-like regional agreements for bat conservation and research, e.g. in Africa, Central and South America, Central Asia, South-east Asia and Australia.