



3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Meeting of Parties

Bristol, United Kingdom, 24 – 26 July 2000

*Draft* Resolution 3.5

International Year of the Bat

*The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe;*

*Noting* that the year 2001 marks the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe;

*Recognising* the success achieved by the Agreement in promoting bat conservation, combatting prejudices commonly held about bats and raising public awareness, particularly through European Bat Night and similar events;

*Acknowledging* that bats in other parts of the world also need protection, and

*Wishing* to encourage countries in other continents to conclude similar Agreements;

*Decides:*

1. To declare the year 2001 "International Year of the Bat";
2. To call upon the Parties to the Agreement to make additional efforts in the year 2001 to promote bat conservation and public awareness of the problems facing bats;
3. To encourage non-Party Range States in Europe and elsewhere to initiate, continue and collaborate as appropriate in conservation and public awareness campaigns to help improve the conservation status of all bat species.