

## 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Sofia, Bulgaria, 15 – 17 April 2013

### Progress Report of the IWG on “Implementation of the Agreement”



The IWG was established at AC16 under the joint chairmanship of Mr. Anthony Hutson (IUCN) and Dr. Ferdia Marnell (Ireland), and with the following members:

Dr. Julien Astoul-Delseny (France), Dr. Panagiotis Georgiakakis (Greece), Dr. Helena Jahelková (Czech Republic), Dr. Andrzej Kepel (PTOP Salamandra), Ms. Monika Lesz (Poland), Ms. Jean Matthews (UK), Mr. Oliver Schall (Germany), Ms. Triinu Tõrv (Estonia).

The main objective of the group (arising from Paragraph 1b of Resolution 6.16) is:  
“...to review the implementation of the Agreement and relevant resolutions.”

A table of all Resolutions (from MoP 1-6) adopted by the Agreement and relevant to the Conservation and Management Plan has been prepared. Since AC 17, this table has been further modified to highlight the elements of each Resolution directed to Parties, the AC, the SC and the Secretariat as appropriate. A checklist of the elements of the Resolutions addressed specifically to Parties has also been provided to the Intersessional Working Group on National Reports to facilitate their discussions. Work has also continued on the information handbook on the Agreement. We hope that this handbook will facilitate all parties, old and new, to fully implement the Agreement. We fully intend to have the handbook completed before the next Meeting of the Parties.

The group has one further objective: “to discuss with the Chairmen of the AC and StC the possibilities to develop a system to assess performance by Parties to meet their obligations and to establish an Implementations Committee to address special needs or cases e.g. clear breaches of obligations, where these cannot be settled through the relevant Focal Points.” This point will be addressed once the Handbook has been completed and made available to all Parties.