

## 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of Parties

Ljubljana, Slovenia, 4 – 6 September 2006

### Resolution 5.12

2008 – Global Year of the Bat



*The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (hereafter "the Agreement"),*

*Noting* with gratitude that the Agreement has gained so much momentum in the 15 years since it was signed;

*Recognising* the success achieved by the Agreement in promoting bat conservation, combating prejudices commonly held about bats and raising public awareness, particularly through the 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 endorse the proposal of UNEP/CMS to declare the year 2008 "International Year of the Bat";
2. To call upon the Parties to the Agreement to make additional efforts in the year 2008 to promote bat conservation and public awareness of the problems bats are facing;
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.