

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

Prague, Czech Republic, 20 – 22 September 2010

### *Draft* Resolution 6.14

#### Bats as Indicators for Biodiversity



*The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (thereafter “the Agreement”),*

*Recalling* Resolution No. 4.4 Bat Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management, which *directs* the Advisory Committee to instigate the investigation and, if appropriate, the development of the use of bats as indicators for sustainable forestry and biodiversity in certain habitats in Europe;

*Further recalling* Resolution 5.4 Monitoring Bats across Europe, which *recognises* the possibility for bats to be indicators of environmental quality and to contribute to assessment of CBD biodiversity targets;

*Further recalling* Resolution 5.10 Implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan (2007- 2010);

*Noting* Resolution 6.17 Implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan (2011- 2014);

*Recognising* the government and public need for information communicating progress towards conservation targets such as halting the loss of biodiversity beyond the year 2010;

*Further recognising* the value of biodiversity indicators (simple and clear summary statistics) for communicating core messages of nature conservation to policy makers and public audiences;

*Further recognising* the profile gained for other species groups, such as birds and butterflies, through their roles as national and European indicators;

*Further recognising* that indicator status has stimulated additional research for the conservation of these taxa;

*Further recognising* the recommendation by SEBI 2010 to expand the suite of indicator taxa used to measure progress towards achieving biodiversity targets,

including research needed to improve coordination and streamline international biodiversity-related indicators.

*Urges Parties and Non-Party Range States to:*

1. Support the development of (national, regional and pan-European) biodiversity indicators for appropriate target audiences, using bat data;
2. Facilitate the incorporation of bat data within high profile multi-taxa indicators to make them more truly representative of biodiversity;
3. Support the objective of gathering the data for these indicators;
4. Forge cooperation platforms that facilitate the required data exchange;
5. Work towards the provision of standardised summary statistics from the national reports to EUROBATS.

*Requests the Advisory Committee* to continue to develop indicators of the activities and achievements of EUROBATS from the National Reports and their updates, or other information provided by Parties and Non-Party Range States.