

AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF BATS IN EUROPE

Update to the National Implementation Report of the Czech Republic

A. General Information

Name of Party: Czech Republic

Date of Report: 15 February 2001

Period covered: December 1999– January 2001

Competent Authority: Ministry of the Environment

B. Status of Bats within the Territory of the Party

1. Summary Details of Resident Species

Two breeding colonies of *Pipistrellus nathusii* were found in the Třeboňsko Biosphere Reserve (southern Bohemia) in 2000. Moreover, occurrence of *Pipistrellus pygmaeus / mediterraneus* in the country has been confirmed.

2. Status and Trends

Continuing slight population increase has been recorded in *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, *Myotis myotis* and *Barbastella barbastellus*.

3. Habitats and Roost Sites

A breeding colony of *Myotis myotis*, numbering 650-750 individuals, was found in the Hranice chasm (central Moravia) in 2000. It is the only bat maternity roost situated in a cave known in the country and the northernmost breeding colony of *Myotis myotis* in a cave within its distribution range.

4. Threats

Situation similar to the last report.

5. Data collection and research

More attention was paid to maternity roosts (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*, *Myotis myotis*, *Myotis emarginatus*) than in the previous years, mostly because of the preparation of =NATURA 2000 in the country.

C. Measures Taken to Implement Article III of the Agreement

6. Legal measures taken to protect bats, including enforcement action

An amendment of the Act on Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (No. 114/1992) and of the Order of the Ministry of the Environment (No. 395/1992) is being prepared. The changes should include full legislative protection of all bat species occurring in the country, which will be listed among the Specially Protected Species.

7. Sites identified and protected which are important to the conservation of bats

One important hibernation site situated in northern Moravia was designated as Nature Reserve in 2000. Moreover, big progress was made in identification of the future SACs (both hibernacula and maternity roosts).

8. Consideration given to habitats which are important to bats

Situation similar to the last report.

9. Activities to promote the awareness of the importance of the conservation of bats

Two bat-detector training workshops were held in 2000, organised by the Czech Bat Conservation Trust.

New series of bat postcards was released by the Czech Union of Nature Conservationists.

The European Bat Night was held in four sites (Liberec, Brno, Mikulov, Znojmo) see the report on EBN4 in the Czech Republic for details.

10. Responsible bodies, in accordance with Article III.5 of the Agreement, nominated for the provision of advice on bat conservation and management

No changes.

11. Additional action undertaken to safeguard populations of bats

See point 8.

12. Recent and ongoing programmes (including research) relating to the conservation and management of bats

See point 5.

13. Consideration being given to the potential effects of pesticides on bats, and efforts to replace timber treatment chemicals which are highly toxic to bats

Situation similar to the last report.

D. Functioning of the Agreement

14. Cooperation with other Range States

Continuing good co-operation with Slovakian bat researchers can be mentioned.

In 2000, the Regional Studies Museum in Ceska Lipa (northern Bohemia) received funding from EURONATUR (Germany) to safeguard one underground bat hibernaculum within the three-year project "Fledermausquartiere beiderseits der Oder" (Bat roosts on both sides of the Oder river).