

21st Meeting of the Standing Committee

Videoconference, 29 June 2023

Secretariat Report



Staff

As of 1st of November 2022, the Scientific Officer is working back on 80% post occupancy. Since 1 January 2023 the Administrative Assistants are working alternating on 80% and 50% post occupancy until a long-term equitable solution can be implemented. Upon the request of the two staff members, the Secretariat is trying to obtain a deviation from the general part-time post occupancy scheme by having them both employed at 65% until the time when both posts can be increased to 80% in line with the decisions adopted at MoP9.

Agreement Membership

Spain has informed about new efforts for accession which is in an advanced stage.

Outreach

The various volumes of the EUROBATS Publication Series and leaflets continue to be in high demand.

Both language versions of the comic “Bono’s adventures” are still sent out in high numbers.

The International Bat Night continues to be extremely successful. Reports of events are available on the EUROBATS website.

Special Projects 2022

In 2022 the following projects were implemented:

- “Monitoring of SARS-CoV-2 in European bat species” in Austria conducted by the Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology, University of Veterinary Medicine.
- “Research of the climate of the Uvir cave (Bosnia) as a basis for the protection of the largest colony of the Western Barbastelle bats in the Dinarides / Bosnia and

Herzegovina” conducted by the Center for Karst and Speleology, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- “Using molecular techniques to develop and inform on the distribution of medium-sized horseshoe bats (Serbia, Romania, United Kingdom)” conducted by Vincent Wildlife Trust, United Kingdom.