

9th Meeting of the Standing Committee
19th Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Heraklion, Greece, 7 – 10 April 2014



Draft Resolution 7.6

Bat Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the conservation of Populations of European Bats (hereafter “the Agreement”),

Recalling CMS Resolution 7.2 on migratory species and environmental impact assessment and recognising the importance of forests as breeding, stopover and hibernation sites for bats;

Recalling Resolution 4.4 on Bat Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management;

Recognising the ecological value of forests as bat roost and foraging sites or during bat migration, which is highest in unmanaged ancient forests but can also be moderate in managed forest types;

Noting the different sensitivities of species due to variation in ecological requirements and also different approaches needed for implementation of programmes at local, regional, national or international levels;

Recognising that there is a need to improve the conservation status of bats by modifying some management practices affecting their forest habitats;

Urges Parties and Range States to:

- 1. Take into account the importance of trees as bat roosts in sustainable management of forests and of the possible negative impact of intensive forest management on bat populations;*
- 2. Develop their own national guidance appropriate to their bat communities, forest ecosystems and forest management practices based on the principles in the EUROBATS Bats and Forestry leaflet;*
- 3. Share best practice forestry guidance via the EUROBATS website;*

4. Ensure that the environmental impacts of activities not directly concerned with forest management that affect the integrity of forest habitats are fully taken into account during their planning and implementation;

5. Promote research into the requirements of bats dependent on forest habitats and into understanding the factors negatively influencing them;

Decides to repeal Resolution 6.12.