

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

Heraklion, Greece, 7 – 10 April 2014



Report of the Intersessional Working Group
on Key Underground Sites

Convenor: Dr. Anthony Mitchell-Jones

Resolution 6.16 requested Parties to review and update their contributions to the list of internationally important underground habitats by MoP7 at the latest. As AC19 is the last AC meeting before MoP7, Parties and Range States were requested to carry out this task in recent months, with a view to presenting an updated database at AC19. To date, 20 contributions have been received, consisting of 10 new site lists (some from Range States in the expanded Eurobats area) and 10 updated ones.

This brings the total number of sites identified across the Eurobats area to 1895. Details of the updates are shown in the table below.

Party/Range State	New/Update	Sites @AC18	Sites @AC19
Albania	N	0	6
Algeria	N	0	26
Austria	U	49	46
Belarus	N	0	7
Belgium	U	33	97
Bulgaria	U	73	86
Croatia	U	42	55
Czech Republic		62	62
Denmark	N	0	6
Estonia		8	8
Finland	N	0	6

France		224	224
Georgia	U	3	4
Germany	U	292	301
Greece	N	0	67
Hungary		82	82
Ireland	U	14	14
Italy		109	109
Latvia		20	20
Lithuania		6	6
Luxembourg		1	1
Montenegro	N	0	10
Morocco	N	0	27
Norway	U	21	24
Poland		189	189
Portugal		37	76
Romania		11	57
Russian Federation		26	26
Slovakia	U	63	84
Slovenia		65	65
Switzerland	N	0	5
Syrian Arab Republic	N	0	10
Ukraine		35	35
United Kingdom	U	54	54
Total		1519	1895

Parties are in Bold

The fundamental purpose of the list of internationally important underground sites is to assist Parties in identifying and managing this threatened bat habitat, so it is encouraging to see so many contributions and so many important sites identified. At AC19, the draft Resolution prepared at AC18 will be finalised for presentation at the MoP.