



3rd Session of the Meeting of Parties

Bristol, United Kingdom, 24 – 26 July 2000

Resolution 3.8

Implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan

The Meeting of Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe (EUROBATS)

Referring to the commitments by the Parties to the conservation of bats in accordance with the Agreement, especially the fundamental obligations placed upon Parties in Article III;

Recognising the value to the conservation of bats of the Action Plan for 1998 – 2001 “Priorities for Bat Conservation” established by Resolution No. 8 on the Implementation of the Conservation and Management plan, agreed at the 2nd Session of the Meeting of Parties;

Recognising also the species action plans for the Greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) and Pond bat (*Myotis dasycneme*) as were adopted (Recommendations 72 and 73) by the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) on 3 December 1999;

Noting the efforts of Parties, as outlined in their National Implementation Reports, and of the Secretariat and Advisory Committee to the Agreement to carry out the above plans and the progress achieved;

Recognising the continuous need to prioritise actions;

Acknowledging the work being carried out in the framework of the EC Habitats Directive (92/43/EC), in particular the establishment of the Natura 2000 network and in the framework of the Bern Convention, in particular the establishment of the Emerald network;

Decides to establish the Action Plan for 2000 – 2003 as appended at Annex 1, and notes that this Action Plan supercedes the Action Plan made under Resolution 8 at the 2nd Session of the Meeting of Parties;

Requests Parties to report to each Meeting of the Advisory Committee on the measures taken to implement the Action Plan.

PRIORITIES FOR BAT CONSERVATION FOR THE PERIOD 2000 - 2003

Parties to the Agreement should consider taking forward the following actions to enhance the conservation status of bats. The Advisory Committee shall review the success that each State has in achieving each goal, and will seek to disseminate examples of good practice between States.

1. Legal Requirements

- Parties should take measures to fully implement Article III (1) of the Agreement.

2. Population Survey and Monitoring

- Refers MoP2.5. Parties should report for the MoP4 detail of the implementation of the Resolution 2 for the following species *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, *Myotis myotis*, *Myotis blythii*, *Myotis bechsteinii*, *Myotis capaccinii*, *Eptesicus serotinus*, *Eptesicus nilssonii*, *Nyctalus noctula* and *Miniopterus schreibersii* which occur in their country.
- Refers MoP2.5. Research, where appropriate on a multi-national basis, should be carried out on the further development of monitoring methodologies for the species listed above with the aim of producing improved monitoring protocols by 2002.
- Refers MoP2.6, 2.8. The timing and distribution patterns for bat migrations within, from and to Europe should be assessed and main migration routes identified for the following species *Myotis dasycneme*, *Pipistrellus nathusii*, *Nyctalus noctula* and *Miniopterus schreibersii* by 2003.
- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, 8. Autecological studies should be carried out on the Priority List of species defined by the Advisory Committee (AC4 Report Annex C).

3. Roosts

- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, 12+13. Nationally agreed guidelines for the conservation of roost sites meriting protection should be established by the end of 2001. These guidelines should be reviewed at least every three years.
- Refers MoP2.7, Element 1, Bat Habitats – Underground Habitats. Important underground roost sites for bats should be identified and listed by the end of 2001.

4. Foraging Habitats

- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, 16. Surveys to identify critical feeding areas close to maternity colonies of national or international importance should be started by 2003.
- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, various. The conservation of bat habitats shall be taken into consideration in all cases of land management and development especially when foraging areas or linear features directing to roosts are affected. As a first step national guidelines for this purpose shall be drafted by 2003.

5. Promoting Public and Professional Awareness of Bats and their Conservation and Providing Advice

- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, 19. There should be continuing efforts at public awareness, with particular emphasis on education.
- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, 20. National, and where appropriate international, information and guidance should be produced and distributed to those who come across bats in the course of their work, such as builders, roofers and members of the remedial timber treatment trade, planning and development, pest control.

6. Pesticides

- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, 22. An assessment by 2001 of the approval and use of remedial timber treatment products should be undertaken to enable their possible effect on bats to be assessed.

7. International Co-operation

- Refers MoP2.14, Annex A, 24. Parties and Range States are encouraged to co-operate in undertaking the actions outlined above and in other initiatives being investigated by the Advisory Committee. Parties and Range States are encouraged to adopt measures to implement the species action plans for *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* and *Myotis dasycneme*. Transboundary projects in such co-operation shall be mentioned in a project list at the Secretariat, which is reviewed annually by the Advisory Committee.