

4th Session of the Meeting of Parties

Sofia, Bulgaria, 22 – 24 September 2003

Resolution No. 4.13

Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee



The Meeting of Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (hereafter "the Agreement"),

Recalling the Resolution on the establishment of an Advisory Committee adopted at the 1st Session of the Meeting of Parties (Bristol, United Kingdom, July 1995);

Recalling further Resolution No. 6 adopted at the 3rd Session of the Meeting of Parties (Bristol, United Kingdom, July 2000) on the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee;

Considering the continuing usefulness of an Advisory Committee to the arrangement of meetings and the continuing implementation of the Agreement;

Recognising the value of the attendance of representatives of Non-Party Range-States at Advisory Committee meetings;

Commending the Advisory Committee for its activities to further develop the objectives of the Agreement during its past triennial period;

1. *Repeals* Resolution No. 6 adopted at the 3rd Session of the Meeting of Parties (Bristol, July 2000);
2. *Adopts* the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee attached as Annex 16b; and
3. *Resolves* to review the Terms of Reference, in the light of their effectiveness, at its fifth Session.

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1. The Committee shall provide expert advice and information to the Secretariat and the Parties on the conservation and management of bats and on other matters in relation to the running of the Agreement, having regard to the need not to duplicate the work of other international bodies and the desirability of drawing on their expertise.
2. Each Party shall be entitled to appoint one member of the Advisory Committee.
3. The Advisory Committee shall elect a Chairperson, and establish and review its own Rules of Procedure as it deems appropriate.
4. Each Committee member may be accompanied by advisers, and the Committee may invite other experts to attend its meetings.
5. The Committee may instruct the Secretariat to invite representatives of Non-Party Range-States to the meeting.
6. The Committee may establish working groups, to work either between meetings of the Committee or during Committee meetings themselves.
7. The Committee will perform the tasks allocated to it in Resolutions at any Session of the Meeting of Parties in an effort to pursue the obligations at Article III. The Committee should continue to seek to ensure the dissemination of information and co-operation between Parties is maximised to achieve these objectives.
8. The Committee will review annually the Secretariat's work and expenditures. It shall advise the Secretariat the most appropriate use of funds within subheads of the budget where the Meeting of Parties has allowed for this in the resolution on financial and budgetary matters.
9. The Committee may, with the assistance of the Secretariat, develop proposals and draft resolutions on the implementation of the Agreement (excluding amendments to the text of the Agreement). The Committee may then present

these proposals and draft resolutions to the subsequent Session of the Meeting of Parties through the Secretariat, as a rule not later than one month before the Meeting.