

## 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of Parties

Sofia, Bulgaria, 22 – 24 September 2003

### Resolution No. 4.5

#### Guidelines for the Use of Remedial Timber Treatment



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

*Recalling* Article III, Paragraph 8 of the Agreement, which foresees that Parties shall endeavour to replace timber treatment chemicals that are highly toxic to bats with safer alternatives;

*Aware* that certain remedial timber treatments are known to be a hazard to bats and that the human activity associated with the application of all products can disturb bats;

*Appreciating* that many Parties have already made efforts to reduce or eliminate the most toxic products and prohibited the deliberate disturbance of bats;

*Decides:*

1. Where the availability of data about current practices within the remedial timber treatment industry is poor, Parties should implement small projects to provide basic data to allow an assessment of the potential impact of the industry on bat populations;
2. Parties should endeavour to improve the way in which the potential impact of remedial timber treatment on bats (arising both from product toxicity and direct disturbance) can be brought to the attention of the users of products. This could be through improved product labelling, the development of good practice guidelines for the industry or publicity and education campaigns aimed at the industry. Such actions should be given the highest priority by those Parties where there is a significant industry;
3. Parties should share data and, where appropriate, commission work to check whether products now commonly in use for remedial timber

treatment have any adverse effects on bats. This may require a combination of literature review and field observation.

4. Parties should assess proposed new pesticides for remedial timber treatment for their toxicity to bats and not permit the use of any that are likely to be a significant hazard. Parties should share information about the safety of pesticides used in remedial timber treatment.