

5th Session of the Meeting of Parties

Ljubljana, Slovenia, 4 – 6 September 2006

Resolution 5.12

2008 – Global Year of the Bat



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

Noting with gratitude that the Agreement has gained so much momentum in the 15 years since it was signed;

Recognising the success achieved by the Agreement in promoting bat conservation, combating prejudices commonly held about bats and raising public awareness, particularly through the European Bat Night and similar events;

Acknowledging that bats in other parts of the world also need protection, and

Wishing to encourage countries in other continents to conclude similar Agreements;

Decides:

1. To endorse the proposal of UNEP/CMS to declare the year 2008 "International Year of the Bat";
2. To call upon the Parties to the Agreement to make additional efforts in the year 2008 to promote bat conservation and public awareness of the problems bats are facing;
3. To encourage Non-Party Range States in Europe and elsewhere to initiate, continue and collaborate as appropriate in conservation and public awareness campaigns to help improve the conservation status of all bat species.