

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

Brussels, Belgium, 15 – 17 September 2014

### Resolution 7.8

Conservation and Management of critical Feeding Areas, Core Areas around Colonies and Commuting Routes



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

*Recalling* the CBD Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS);

*Recalling* Article 10 of the EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, which emphasises the importance of linear landscape elements;

*Recalling* Resolution 4.9 on the Implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan (2003 – 2006), point 4: Foraging habitats; to produce a synthesis of methods used to study the critical feeding areas and commuting routes and to produce guidance for the national guidelines for bat habitat conservation;

*Recognising* that bats are dependent on good feeding areas around their roosts

*Further recognising* the importance of landscape connectivity providing commuting routes between roosts and feeding areas;

*Further recognising* the need for guidance in the conservation and management of such feeding areas and commuting routes;

*Encourages* the Advisory Committee to finalise the generic guidance included as a draft in Annex 1 and to publish it as soon as possible

*Urges* Parties and Non-Party Range States to:

1. Raise awareness of the importance of critical feeding areas, core areas around known colonies and commuting routes for bats;
2. Strongly recommend that the needs of bats are taken into account in land use and planning decisions;

3. Encourage research and monitoring to improve our understanding of the use of landscape by bats;
4. Develop appropriate national guidelines, drawing on the general guidance to be finalised by the Advisory Committee in Annex 1;

*Decides to repeal resolution 6.7.*