

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

Monte Carlo, Monaco, 8 – 10 October 2018

### Draft Resolution 8.7 Bats and Climate Change



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

*Noting* the growing amount of scientific evidence of the impact of climate change on bats;

*Recalling* Resolution 2.2 on Consistent Monitoring Methodologies, which recommends the adoption of consistent monitoring methods for bats across Europe;

*Recalling* the Conservation and Management Plan of the Agreement, which recognises the importance of international information exchange and cooperation in developing monitoring strategies for bats;

*Recalling* further the Agreement Conservation and Management Plans, which recognise the conservation of bat habitats in all cases of land management and development especially when foraging areas or commuting routes are affected;

*Recalling* CMS Resolution 12.21 on Climate Change and migratory species that reaffirms the adopted Programme of Work on Climate Change and Migratory Species, which requests the Parties of the Convention to assess necessary steps to help migratory species cope with climate change, to address key gaps in knowledge and future research direction based on the analysis of existing long-term and large-scale datasets and calls on capacity building, knowledge sharing etc,

*Recalling* the Directive No. 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment on the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment and the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2001/42/EC of 27 June, 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, both of which state that the scope of information required for the purposes of impact assessments should be consistent with the current state of knowledge and methods of such assessments;

*Noting* the growing scientific evidence of bat species changing their range, migration, hibernation and reproductive patterns due to impact of climate change, and predicted negative consequences for populations of resident and migratory bat species;

*Recognising* the importance of protected areas and the Natura 2000 network for bat conservation and that often it will be necessary to enhance them in order to help bats cope with climate change recognising the need for landscape connectivity;

*Recognising* the importance of standardised methods for being able to develop effective monitoring and mitigation measures;

*Recognising* also the necessity of implementing research and monitoring;

*Urges Parties and non-party Range States, if not already done so, to:*

1. Seek to identify measures to facilitate species adaptation in response to climate change;
2. Identify, use and promote standardised methodology to evaluate species and populations vulnerability to climate change;
3. Undertake vulnerability assessments of bats to climate change at the EUROBATS range level;
4. Take into account the vulnerability of bat species and populations, if necessary, for the most vulnerable prepare national or regional action plans;
5. Encourage and support the identification of research gaps and research priorities across the EUROBATS range on impacts of climate change on bats;
6. Identify or develop common monitoring techniques for the evaluation of the impact of climate change on bats;
7. Monitor changes in species migration, hibernation, reproductive and range-shift patterns and species interaction;
8. Ensure habitat availability and connectivity by identifying priority areas experiencing rapid climate impacts now or in the future for appropriate protection and adaptive management;
9. Ensure that climate change impact on bats is taken into account in land-use planning and impact assessment in future projects evaluation;
10. Raise awareness of the impacts of climate change on bats;

11. Promote continued cooperation and collaboration between scientists, professionals, stakeholders and international bodies whose work is related to Climate Change.

*Requests the Advisory Committee to:*

1. Compile all relevant scientific information in order to assess the impact of climate change on bats and, if appropriate, develop guidelines for the most urgent or prioritised actions identified.