

Partnership for the East Asian-Australasian Flyway

Third Meeting of Partners

Incheon City, Republic of Korea, 6-7 November 2008

Meeting Statement

The third Meeting of Partners, attended by 13 countries, 12 non-government organisations and three intergovernmental organisations, was held at the National Institute of Biological Resources in Incheon City, the Republic of Korea, on 6-7 November 2008.

The meeting agreed to:

- I. Establish a management committee to assess proposals to host the secretariat (against the agreed criteria and terms of reference) and provide recommendations to Partners for endorsement and appointment of a secretariat no later than 15 December 2008;
- II. Appoint a new Chair and Vice Chair pending the outcome of the above process no later than February 2009;
- III. Endorse the Terms of Reference for the Partnership Working Groups including Shorebirds, Anatidae, Crane, Seabird and Avian Influenza;
- IV. Focus on building the Partnership through:
 - the establishment of strong national mechanisms (such as partnerships or meetings), commencing with a strategy to review the status of current national efforts in member countries;
 - supporting collaborative projects developed as part of a portfolio of project concepts for the Partnership (through the involvement of Partners with an interest in project delivery or outcomes);
 - a strategy for the Flyway Partnership to engage with the international business sector;
- V. Continue support for the Partnership as a Regional Initiative under the Ramsar Convention and submit a proposal to the Ramsar Standing Committee prior to the 32nd meeting.

The meeting acknowledged the usefulness of informal sessions as an opportunity for partners to discuss the challenges, opportunities and priority actions that will enable the Partnership to achieve its objectives.

Partners recognised the important progress made to date in establishing a strong platform for collaboration, and acknowledged the need to now move from a development to implementation phase by supporting the delivery of agreed priority partnership activities.

Partners expressed their gratitude to the Korean Ministry of Environment for their outstanding efforts in hosting the meeting at the National Institute of Biological Resources in the Republic of Korea. The Partners also congratulated the efforts of the Secretariat, Ms Maki Koyama, in bringing the meeting to fruition.