

STATEMENT FROM WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL

Wetlands International recognises the critical importance of the Yellow Sea and has been an active partner in the development of 2012-Resolutions 028 and 051 and in their implementation. We have been working with government agencies, universities, NGOs and others to promote an improved understanding of bird conservation needs via increased population monitoring under the framework of the International Waterbird Census and linked national waterbird as well as species-focussed monitoring activities. We recognise that monitoring needs to be strengthened and enhanced through development of a well-coordinated programme that includes the migration and northern wintering periods and to encourage greater involvement of site managers, bird groups, local stakeholders and others in this effort. Close collaboration with government agencies and other institutions is needed to ensure that outcomes of monitoring efforts feed into improving management decisions for important sites within and beyond current protected areas. We believe that demonstrating sustainable development and management of the Yellow Sea wetlands for the benefit of birds and people can be an important lesson and model for the rest of the world.

Wetlands International has offices in the region based in China and in Japan and are eager to develop the monitoring and management actions responding to the specific need of the region. We continue to offer our expertise and to share on our experiences from other flyways to engage with a range of stakeholders, including corporates. We strongly support the aims of Motion 24 and reaffirm our commitment to work in close partnership with others to take forward this important initiative.