

**Memorandum of Cooperation  
Between the Secretariat of the  
Convention on Biological Diversity  
and  
BirdLife International**

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) and BirdLife International,

Recalling paragraph 3 of Article 18 of the Convention on Biological Diversity that provides for the establishment of a Clearing-house Mechanism to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation,

Recalling also decision V/14, Annex II(c) which requested the Executive Secretary to identify and establish cooperative arrangements with those international thematic focal points that can provide relevant and appropriate thematic information,

Noting that the Clearing-house Mechanism’s mission is to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation within and among countries, to develop a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity, and to develop the necessary human and technological network for this purpose,

Noting further that BirdLife International is an international non-profit global partnership of non-governmental conservation organizations present in 103 countries and territories with a focus on birds that works together on shared priorities, exchanging skills, achievements and information,

Have agreed as follows,

**Article 1**

**Statement of Objectives**

This memorandum of cooperation is to facilitate collaboration between the Secretariat and BirdLife International, a non-profit organization, in the development of BirdLife International as an international thematic focal point under the Clearing-house Mechanism (CHM) to make available appropriate thematic information directly relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

## **Article 2**

### **Areas of Cooperation**

#### **A. BirdLife International will:**

1. Make data on avian biological diversity, especially on threatened bird species, Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and Endemic Bird Areas (EBAs) available to the Convention on Biological Diversity, through the Clearing-house Mechanism,
2. Act as an international thematic focal point under the Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity,
3. Contribute relevant information on avian biological diversity to the work of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, especially for the development of work programmes on terrestrial and marine biological diversity and for the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,
4. Make data on avian biological diversity available to Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity for, *inter alia*, national clearing-house mechanisms, national reports and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, through the Clearing-house Mechanism and through BirdLife national Partner organisations,
5. Make data on avian biological diversity available to regional processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity,
6. Collaborate with the Clearing-house Mechanism, as appropriate, in developing joint programmes.

#### **B. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will:**

1. Receive information from BirdLife International relating to avian biological diversity and disseminate such information to Parties, governments and the general public through the Clearing-house Mechanism, as appropriate,
2. Raise Parties' awareness of BirdLife International by making information on its relevant activities available on/through the Convention on Biological Diversity website,
3. Collaborate with BirdLife International, as appropriate, in developing joint programmes,
4. Facilitate participation by BirdLife International in the joint CBD/Global Invasive Species Program initiative,
5. Facilitate participation, as appropriate, by Birdlife International in the Thematic Areas and cross-cutting issues of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

## **Article 3**

### **Settlement of disputes**

Any dispute between the Secretariat and BirdLife International arising out of the interpretation or execution of this Memorandum shall be settled by negotiation. If the

Parties are unable to reach agreement, the dispute shall be settled through arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as at present in force.

**Article 4**  
**Execution of specific activities**

1. Cooperative activities executed under this Memorandum will be effected through annexures relating to specific activities agreed upon by both Parties in writing.
2. Such annexures will form an integral part of this Memorandum.

**Article 5**  
**Entry into force, amendment and termination**

1. The present Memorandum will enter into force upon signature by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Director & Chief Executive of BirdLife International.
2. Any amendment to this Memorandum will be effected only on the basis of written consent of both Parties.
3. This Memorandum may be terminated by either Party by giving six months written notice, delivered via certified mail to the other Party.

THE PARTIES HEREBY EXECUTE THIS MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION, EFFECTIVE UPON THE DATE OF SIGNATURE.

BirdLife International



Michael Rands, Director & Chief Executive Date

23 August 2002

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Hamdallah Zedan, Executive Secretary

20/8/2002

Date