

## 基 調 資 料

# RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 26th ANNUAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING OF IWRB

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The 26th Annual Executive Board Meeting of the International Waterfowl Research Bureau (IWRB), held at the invitation of the Environment Agency of Japan at Sapporo, Hokkaido from 18-22 February 1980 in conjunction with symposia on swans and cranes, and attended by participants from Australia, Belgium, Canada, People's Republic of China, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America, as well as representatives of the Conseil International de la Chasse et de la Conservation du Cibier (CIC), International Crane Foundation (ICF) and International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) has approved the following recommendations.

#### 1. Ratification of international conventions

The Meeting,

CONVINCED of the importance of international cooperation in nature conservation  
URGES states which have not already done so, to ratify the appropriate international conventions and in particular the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (The "Ramsar" Convention), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (The "Washington" Convention), and the Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (The "Bonn" Convention).

#### 2. "Ramsar" Convention

The Meeting,

2-1, INFORMED of the Technical Meeting to be held under this Convention at the invitation of the Italian Government at Cagliari, Sardinia from 24-29 November 1980,

CALLS ON all states which have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention, if possible before the Technical Meeting, or if they are

wetlands likely to be designated,  
unable to ratify or accede, to indicate at the Technical Meeting their reasons and - supposing they support the Convention in principle - the URGES all states which are already a party to the Convention to add further wetlands to the List of Wetlands of International Importance, if possible before the Technical Meeting;

2-2 FURTHER INFORMED of the intention of the Government of Japan to ratify the Convention and to designate Kushiro Marsh for the List,  
RECOMMENDS that further waterfowl protection areas be set aside throughout Japan, notably Arasaki and Lake Izunuma;

2-3 NOTING FURTHER WITH APPRECIATION that New Zealand has ratified the Convention and designated Farewell Spit and Waituna Lagoon as Wetlands of International Importance,  
EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN that Lake Ellesmere, Manukan Harbour and Kaipara Harbour wetlands of exceptional importance to New Zealand's waterfowl and migratory waders lack protective status,

AND UUGES the Government of New Zealand to consider these and other wetland for designation on the List of Wetlands of International Importance;

2-4 FURTHER NOTING that, while Australia was the first state to become a party to the Convention, only one wetland has been designated for the List of Wetlands of International Importance,

URGES the Government of Australia to consult with Australian State Governments so that further wetlands may be designated for the List.

### 3. World Conservation Strategy

The Meeting,

INFORMED that the World Conservation Strategy, prepared by IUCN in close collaboration with UNEP and WWF will be officially launched on 5/6 March 1980 and that the Strategy will provide a firm basis for conservation of nature and natural resources in general, and of waterfowl and their habitats in particular,

RECOMMENDS that all governments take note of the Strategy and consider implementing its provisions.

### 4. Declaration of Environmental Policies and Procedures relating to Economic Development

The Meeting,

INFORMED of the Declaration of Environmental Policies and Procedures relating to Economic Development signed on 1 February 1980 by the World Bank, United Nations Development Programme and five other main agencies which finance

activities in the Third World,  
SUPPORTS the Declaration, in particular as regards conservation of Third World wetlands,  
AND CALLS UPON others agencies which finance activities in the Third World to adopt the same approach

5. Asian / Pacific Cooperation

The Meeting,

- 5-1 RECALLING that the present meeting is the first IWRB meeting held in the Asian/Pacific region,  
CALLS FOR further interchanges in the region to promote conservation and research involving wetlands and waterfowl and notes that IWRB Japan Committee has offered to promote an Asian/Pacific Committee in order to further research regarding banding, annual censuses and other subjects in this region;
- 5-2 NOTING that bird banding is a reliable method of gathering information on mortality, pair formation and other subjects for birds in general and migratory birds in particular,  
NOTING FURTHER that no complete network on banding has been established in the region,  
URGES each state in the region to promote banding projects and to exchange information on banding;
- 5-3 NOTING that in response to a request from IWRB, the Government of Japan carries out a national census of ducks, geese and swans in January of each year,  
RECOMMENDS that such censuses be carried out by other countries of the region, and that the results be centrally coordinated;
- 5-4 RECALLING the need for regional cooperation in conservation of migratory waterfowl, in particular highly endangered birds such as Nipponia nippon, Ciconia ciconia boyciana and Grus japonensis,  
CALLS ON the People's Republic of China, Democratic Republic of Korea, Japan, Republic of Korea and USSR to strengthen cooperation to protect these birds;
- 5-5 FURTHER NOTING that whereas Japan ratified an Agreement with Australia to protect Migratory Birds and Birds in Danger of Extinction in 1974, Australia has not yet ratified the Agreement,  
URGES the Government of Australia to pass new legislation to implement the Agreement as soon as possible in areas in which it controls wildlife,  
AND ALSO URGES that Australian State Governments quickly amend their

legislation where necessary so that the Agreement may be implemented.

6. Conservation of Nipponia nippon and other species of the family Threskiornithidae

The Meeting,

INFORMED that the total wild Japanese population of Nipponia nippon, whose name symbolizes the Japanese nation, numbers only five birds, which have not bred successfully for over five years,

RECOMMENDS that a captive breeding programme be established immediately at a site with suitable facilities,

FURTHER RECOMMENDS that all necessary preparatory measures for this programme be made in advance, and that all wild Nipponia nippon in Japan be captured as soon as practicable,

EMPHASIZES the need to maintain suitable habitat at Sado Island and elsewhere for the re-introduction of captive-bred Nipponia nippon to the wild,

EMPHASIZES that experience gained with this species in Japan, acting as a warning of the need to prevent habitat destruction, may be of relevance for the conservation of other species of Threskiornithidae, many of which are endangered.

7. Conservation of Ciconia ciconia boyciana

The meeting

NOTING the rarity of Ciconia ciconia boyciana,

RECOMMENDS that the unpaired Ciconia ciconia boyciana reported to be in captivity in different zoos throughout Japan be collected into one large, secure enclosure so that natural pairing can occur,

FURTHER RECOMMENDS that steps be taken to enable the lone female of Ciconia ciconia boyciana in Korea to breed,

RECOMMENDS that Ciconia ciconia boyciana produced from captive breeding be released into the wild.

8. Banding and conservation of Grus japonensis and other crane species

The Meeting

NOTING the success of programmes in Canada and USA to mark the rare Grus americana with brightly-coloured plastic tibial bands

AWARE the biological and conservation significance of exchanging information on Grus japonensis, a species revered and treasured in Asia as a symbol of good luck,

URGES the governments of the People's Republic of China, Japan and

USSR to capture pre-fledged Grus japonensis , to mark them with brightly coloured plastic tibial bands, and to exchange information on the results of such programmes with one another and with the governments of the Democratic Republic of Cho-sen and the Republic of Korea,

AND EMPHASIZES the significance of such programmes for other crane species;

8.2. NOTING that, apart from People's Republic of China, India is the only country harbouring a population of Grus nigricollis , one of the least known and least numerous crane species in the world, URGES the Government of India to give utmost priority to conferring full protection on G. nigricollis and to its breeding and wintering habitat in India.

#### 9. Wetland conservation in the People's Republic of China

The Meeting

9. 1. INFORMED of the establishment by the Government of the People's Republic of China of network of reserves so far numbering 58 and including critical wetland habitats,

CONGRATULATES the Government of the People's Republic of China on the establishment of this network and in particular on its programme to protect breeding populations of Grus japonensis in northeast China and Grus nigricollis in western China;

9. 2. FURTHER NOTING that wintering habitats for the critically endangered Grus leucogeranus and the rare and revered G. japonensis exist on the lower Yangtse river, though the exact sites have not yet been determined,

EXPRESSES THE HOPE that aerial surveys might be arranged in winters 1980/81 to locate the birds and, in view of the massive wetland schemes under way on the lower Yangtse, that appropriate reserves may be established.

#### 10. Wetland conservation in the Republic of Korea

The Meeting,

INFORMED of the progressive conservation action achieved by the protection of mudflats at Inchon and the Han River valley, which provide critical winter habitat for Grus japonensis and Grus vipio ,

CONGRATULATES the Government of the Republic of Korea on this achievement, AND SUGGESTS that the Cheorwon Basin, which supports the majority of Grus japonensis in Korea be likewise protected as a National Monument.

11. Conservation of wetlands in Japan

The Meeting,

11-1 NOTING the action already taken to protect Grus japonensis and its habitats in southeast Hokkaido, as well as Grus vipio and Grus monacha which have greatly increased at Arasaki

EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION of this action;

11-2 INFORMED that, because the artificial feeding programme, nearly 4000 cranes concentrate at Arasaki in an area of only 50 hectares,

EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN at such concentrations, because they may lead to excessive agricultural damage in nearby farms, because they disturb the natural crane behaviour of maintaining discrete family groups and leading territories, and because they may lead to rapid communication of the Herpes virus to which cranes are susceptible,

RECOMMENDS that artificial feeding at Arasaki be gradually phased out, that the cranes range throughout the countryside to feed using Arasaki only as a roost, and that the Government of Japan should buy up 50 hectares roost site and give it reserve status;

11-3 AWARE of the need for wintering cranes to have secluded, undisturbed roosting areas,

INFORMED of the threats from development to the roosting areas of Grus monacha near Yashiro, Honshu,

RECOMMENDS that the development programmes be controlled so that better protection be given to their population, now numbering only 100 Grus monacha.

12. Conservation of wetlands in Alaska

The Meeting

INFORMED that the Government of USA is in the process of designating extensive wetlands in Alaska as National Wildlife Refuges and National Parks, an action unique in the world to-day because of the large areas involved and because these wetlands have survived until 1980 without suffering severe damage by the hand of man,

AWARE that this may be the last opportunity for protection of such a large and important block of wetlands by a single action which will be of future benefit to all countries of the Pacific Basin and beyond,

COMMENDS AND SUPPORTS the action to establish these habitats as protected areas.

13. Recent meetings on conservation of wetlands and waterfowl

The Meeting,

13-1 BEING INFORMED of the recommendations of the Second Technical Meeting on

Western Palearctic Migratory Bird Management organized by ICF and IWRB from 11-13 December 1979 in Paris, France, and of IWRB's First Regional Meeting on West African Wetlands held at St. Louis, Senegal from 19 January to 2 February 1980,

ENDORSES the recommendations of these two meetings;  
13-2 INFORMED of the recommendations of the International Seminar on Algerian Avifauna held at Algiers in June 1979,  
TAKES NOTE of the recommendations of this meeting.

14. Lead poisoning

The Meeting,

CONSIDERING the evidence presented in the review paper on Lead poisoning in waterfowl,

ACCEPTS that lead shot ingested by waterfowl censes unnecessary areas in at least fifteen countries,

NOTES that the overall effects on waterfowl populations are not known

URGES all appropriate national and international conservation and hunting organizations and agencies to determine the extent of lead poisoning in waterfowl populations to find ways of eliminating this problem

COMMENDS the measures already made in USA and Canada to investigate alternate types of non-toxic shot,

AND EMPHASIZES the need to organize programmes to acquaint hunters with the necessity for such measures.

15. Ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of Birds (the "Paris" Convention) by Italy

The Meeting,

NOTING that the Government of Italy has ratified the Paris Convention and that the end of the hunting season for most migratory species in Italy has been fixed at 10 March,

COMPLIMENTS the Government of Italy on the ratification of this Convention,

BUT NOTING that the Convention considers protection should be accorded to all birds during their breeding season and to migratory birds from March to July,

URGES the Government of Italy to close hunting of migratory species by the end of February.

16. Restriction of leisure activities near Ijsselmeer, Netherlands

The Meeting,

INFORMED of the situation in some border lakes of the Ijsselmeer, Netherland,

where Cygnus columbianus bewickii is disturbed by leisure activities, especially windsurfing in winters,

CONVINCED that these lakes, especially VELUWEMEER, GOOIMEER and WOLDERWIJD-NULDERNAUW, are essential for the condition of the swans and consequently for their reproductive capacity in their Arctic breeding grounds,

RECOMMENDS the appropriate authorities to restrict outdoor recreation activities, so that the swans can feed and roost on these lakes without being disturbed.

17. Resolution of thanks

The Meeting,

GREATLY HONOURED that His Imperial Highness Prince Hitachi accompanied by Her Imperial Highness Princess Hitachi opened the meeting in person and attended the inaugural reception,

CONVINCED of the wide interest of the people of Japan in conservation of waterfowl, especially swans and cranes, and of their wetland habitats,

CONGRATULATES the people of Japan on their conservation achievements,

THANKS the Environment of Agency of Japan for its invitation to hold the meeting in Hokkaido

EXPRESSES ITS DEEP GRATITUDE to the IWRB Japan Committee and the many other people in Japan who have made the meeting such a memorable event and such a valuable forum for wetland and waterfowl conservation, not only in the Asian/Pacific region, but internationally.