



**Convention on the
Conservation of Migratory
Species of Wild Animals**

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SIXTH MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Cape Town, 10-16 November 1999

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

1. In accordance with Article VIII, paragraph 2, of the Convention, any Party may appoint a qualified expert as a member of the Scientific Council. The current list of Scientific Councillors is given in document UNEP/CMS/Inf.6.4. At the time of writing, nine Parties (including several new members) had not yet appointed a member to the Scientific Council: Chad, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Liechtenstein, Mauritania, Paraguay, Somalia, Ukraine and the United Republic of Tanzania. As stipulated in Resolution 4.5 (Nairobi, 1994), Parties are also invited to nominate a permanent *alternate* Scientific Councillor authorized to participate in meetings of the Scientific Council if the regular Scientific Councillor cannot attend so as to ensure continuity of the work programme.

2. In accordance with Article VIII, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the Scientific Council shall also include as members qualified experts selected and appointed by the Conference of the Parties. The following Councillors were re-appointed to the Council for the 1998-2000 triennium, with a view to providing expertise in specific areas:

Dr. Colin Limpus (Australia) - marine turtles
Dr. Michael Moser (United Kingdom) - waterbirds/wetlands
Dr. William Perrin (United States) - cetaceans
Dr. Pierre Pfeffer (France) - large mammals
Dr. Roberto Schlatter (Chile) - neotropical fauna

The Conference of the Parties is invited to propose any changes to the taxonomic groups for which expert representation is needed, and will receive advice in this regard from the Scientific Council. Parties are invited to review the above list of Conference-appointed experts, with a view to re-nominating any or all of the current list of experts (should they confirm their willingness to continue to serve on the Council), or recommending, as appropriate, other qualified experts for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

3. The Scientific Council will have met on 4-6 November 1999 and will have considered various institutional matters, including the functioning of the Council. The report of the deliberations of this meeting will be communicated to the Conference of the Parties as document UNEP/CMS/Inf. 6.5 - Report of the 9th Meeting of the Scientific Council, together with any relevant draft resolutions or recommendations.

4. At its meeting on 4-6 November, the Scientific Council will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. A short communication from those eligible Councillors who may be interested in standing for election to either post, as well as an indication from the incumbents as to whether they wish to stand for re-election, should reach the Secretariat before the meeting, preferably by 30 October 1999.