

The CMS Aquatic Warbler MoU and the International Species Action Plan

**Lars Lachmann,
RSPB Country Programme Officer**

Quimper/France, 12 September 2008

Minsk/Belarus 30/04/2003:





CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

International treaty for a small brown bird

In 2003 a "*Memorandum of Understanding concerning conservation measures for the Aquatic Warbler*" has been signed and ratified by 12 range states of the species as a sub-agreement to the Bonn Convention on Migratory Species - the first and only international treaty for a "*little brown bird*".

Key facts:

- **Initiated by RSPB and BirdLife International**
- **Signed and in effect since 30/04/2003**
- **15 official range states**
- **12 states have signed, plus CMS Secretariat and BirdLife International**
- **Not signed only by:**
 - France (?)
 - Netherlands
 - Russia (not part of CMS)
- **Possible additional range states: Marokko, Mauritania, Mali**
- **Action Plan part of MoU**

Coordination of the MoU:

- Official secretariat: CMS
- Coordination: BL/CMS International AW Conservation Officer at APB-BirdLife Belarus (funded 50:50 by CMS and RSPB)
- Implementation reports and range state meetings every 3 years, combined with scientific conference



Newsletter

Issue 1 January 2005

Aquatic Warbler Flyway

Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Conservation Measures for the Aquatic Warbler



In this issue:

Highlights : Aquatic Warbler Memorandum of Understanding signed // List of MoU Signatory Countries and MoU Focal points

News // Aquatic Warbler Research and Conservation // Country Update // Planned Aquatic Warbler Conservation Projects // Outlook

Annex: List of Aquatic Warbler Conservation Team Members

First range state meeting:



Convention on the Conservation of
Migratory Species of Wild Animals
(CMS)



Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Aquatic Warbler



FIRST MEETING
OF SIGNATORIES AND SYMPOSIUM

*24-27 June 2006, Lower Oder Valley
National Park, Criewen, Germany*



Second range state meeting:

- **Biebrza NP in May 2010 ???**

What is the benefit of the MoU?

- **Raises the profile of the species**
- **Put the AW on the political agenda of signatory states**
- **Provides a level of political obligation**
- **Enables funding from richer range states for actions in less affluent range states**
- **The attached action plan guides national conservation action**
- **Provides coordination of the international conservation efforts**

International AW Action Plans:

- First action plan workshop in Milicz/Poland in 2003
- First EU action plan published 1996
- Updated in 2003 and accepted as attachment to the CMS MoU
- 2 slightly different action plans existing
- Update of EU action plan in 2008
- To be accepted as CMS action plan in 2010

ACTION PLAN FOR THE AQUATIC WARBLER (*Acrocephalus paludicola*) IN EUROPE

Compiled by:

BORJA HEREDIA (BirdLife International, U.K.)

