

Introduction of Proposal for a Concerted Action for the Great Bustard in Asia

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Thank you Mr. Chair.

Distinguished delegates and colleagues, Mongolia introduces the Proposal for a Concerted Action for Great Bustards in Asia.

Mongolia is the stronghold for breeding populations of the endangered eastern subspecies of the Great Bustard. Three years ago, in recognition of the precarious status of the Great Bustard across Asia, Mongolia successfully proposed listing global populations of the Great Bustard on Appendix I of CMS.

We now propose a Concerted Action for this species among Asian range states. We propose that in a first triennium, range states collaborate on an update of the Action Plan of the Great Bustard in Asia, which is currently 20 years old, and begin to confront the factors threatening the species.

This May, Mongolia hosted a conference which brought together researchers from nine countries to share information about the status and threats to Great Bustards in Asia. Participants indicated that illegal poaching and poisoning must be urgently addressed, as well as poor rates of reproduction. It is our hope that a Concerted Action will facilitate communication about best practices for this species and coordination of conservation efforts.

Distinguished delegates, we request your support. We must intensify our efforts for the Great Bustard in Asia now.

Thank you Mr. Chair.