



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

To: Partners of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership

Secretariat arrangements and Chair nominations.

Dear Partner,

I would like to wish you all a happy New Year for 2009. I believe that this will be an exciting year for the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership as we transition to new arrangements for the Secretariat and the Chair.

On 18 December, the Management Committee's recommendation regarding the assessment of the proposals to host the Secretariat was communicated to you. I thank you for your comments in relation to the recommendation and wish to notify you that I have, on behalf of the Partners accepted the Republic of Korea's generous offer to host the Partnership Secretariat.

Over the next few months, a number of arrangements will be required to effect the smooth transition of the Secretariat from Australia to the Republic of Korea. I have attached an outline of key milestones and proposed timeframe for this transition. Of paramount importance to this transition will be the development and agreement of all Partners to an MOU between the Secretariat host country and the Partnership. I have proposed a timeframe of mid March for this MOU to be negotiated. This is to enable the Republic of Korea sufficient time to appoint an executive Secretary and other necessary staff prior to 1 July 2009, the proposed date at which the new Secretariat will be fully effective. The MOU will be developed by the Management Committee for consideration and endorsement by all Partners. Should you wish to participate on the Management Committee please advise Vicki Cronan (vicki.cronan@environment.gov.au) by 23 January 2009 and she will include you in the correspondence on this matter.

Discussed at the third meeting of Partners last November, was the issue of appointing a new Chair and Vice Chair for the Partnership. It was agreed that once a decision regarding the Secretariat had been made, that I would call for nominations and that an out-of-session decision would be made to appoint a new Chair and Vice Chair. I would ask that nominations for Chair and Vice Chair be sent to Vicki Cronan by 13 February, so that, if possible, the new Chairs can be appointed by the same time that the Secretariat MOU is agreed. If you would like more information on the role and responsibilities of either the Chair or Vice Chair, then please feel free to call me on +61 2 62741897 or contact me at andrew.mcnee@environment.gov.au.



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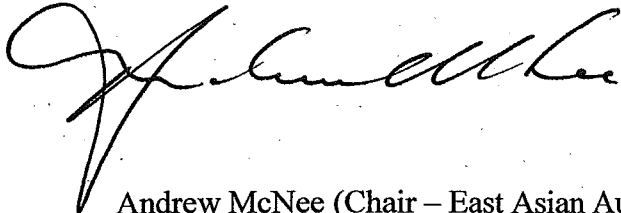
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MEMBER

I look forward to your response and to working with you over the coming months to build the Partnership and strengthen migratory waterbird conservation across the Flyway.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew McNee', written in a cursive style.

Andrew McNee (Chair – East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership)
Assistant Secretary
Marine Initiatives Branch

13 January 2009

Indicative timeframe and milestones for transition of Partnership Secretariat to the Republic of Korea

Date	Milestone
Mid January	Chair to communicate process to Partners
End January	1 st draft of MOU sent to Management Committee
6 February	Comments from Management Committee sent to Chair
16 February	Revised draft MOU circulated to Management Committee
18 February	Final comments from Management Committee sent to Chair
20 February	Draft MOU circulated to all Partners for consideration
27 February	Comments from Partners due to Chair
9 March	MOU provided to Host Country for agreement.
Mid March	Transition arrangements for hosting of Secretariat commenced
1 July	Secretariat fully functional.