

TENTH MEETING OF PARTNERS TO THE PARTNERSHIP FOR EAST ASIAN – AUSTRALASIAN FLYWAY  
Changjiang, PR China, 10-14 December 2018



## Decision 4

### Update on the Appointment and Work of the Interim Technical Sub-Committee

*Submitted by the EAAFP interim Technical Sub-Committee*

#### Summary

The paper requests Partners to:

- Endorse the Chair and membership of the EAAFP Technical Sub-Committee;
- Endorse the adjustments to the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the EAAFP Technical Sub-Committee, as recommended by the interim Technical Sub-Committee
- Call on the Sub-Committee to work with the Science Unit and the Secretariat to finalize their workplan 2019-2020 in line with the Strategic Plan 2019-2028 within six months from the end of MoP10.

#### 1. Introduction

At the 9th Meeting of Partners (MoP9) to the EAAFP in January 2017, the Partners agreed to establish a Technical Sub-Committee through Decision MoP9/D7, to provide scientific and technical advice to, *inter alia*, the Meeting of the Partners, the Secretariat, any other body set up under the Partnership or any Partner. The Decision further instructed the Secretariat and Management Committee to develop a selection process to appoint, on an interim basis, the Technical Sub-Committee as soon as practicable following MoP9.

#### 2. Timeline for the appointment of the interim Technical Sub-Committee

Following MoP9, the Secretariat consulted both the Management Committee and a number of Partners before developing a process for the nomination of the Technical Sub-Committee. In September 2017, the request for nomination was sent to all Partners with a submission deadline of 19 January 2018. Nine nominations were received for the 10-member Technical Sub-Committee and all of these nominations were accepted by the Management Committee, and the result was announced to Partners on 7 March 2018.

### 3. Members of the interim Technical Sub-Committee

No.	Nominator	Name	Current Position / Expertise
1	Department of Environment and Energy, Australia	Dr. Richard Fuller	Associate Professor and ARC Future Fellow, University of Queensland (Jan 2015 - present)
2	Ministry of the Environment, Japan	Mr. Noboru Nakamura	Researcher of Division of Avian Conservation (Bird Migration Research Center), Yamashina Institute for Ornithology (Jun 2004 – present)
3	Ministry of Environment, RO Korea	Dr. Chang-yong Choi	Senior Researcher, ASEAN-Korea Environmental Cooperation Unit (AKECU), Seoul National University (Sep 2017 – present)
4	The Pukorokoro Miranda Naturalists Trust	Mr. David Melville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (2011-present) studying shorebird ecology along the Yellow Sea coast with Fudan University;</li> <li>• Studying Spoon-billed Sandpiper migration ecology, including satellite tracking, with Nanjing Normal University</li> <li>• Board member, Global Flyway Network</li> </ul>
5	USA	Mr. Casey Burns	Wildlife and Threatened and Endangered Species Program Lead & BLM Alaska Pollinator Coordinator, DOI Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Anchorage, AK (Oct 2015 - present)
6	Wildlife Conservation Society	Dr. Jonathan C. Slaght	Russia and Northeast Asia Coordinator, the Wildlife Conservation Society (2011-present)
7	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	Prof Nick Davidson	Institute for Land, Water & Society, Charles Sturt University, Australia (2009-present); Principal, Nick Davidson Environmental (2014-present)
8	Ramsar Secretariat	Mr. Sergey Dereliev	Head of Science, Implementation and Compliance, UNEP Secretariat of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (Jan 2017-present)
9	Wetlands International	Dr. Taej Mundkur	Senior Technical Officer, Wetlands International (Jan 2015 – present)

### 4. Work of the Interim Technical Sub-Committee

The interim Technical Sub-Committee met for the first time via conference call in March 2018 followed by a second conference call in August 2018. Their work so far has included appointing an interim Chair (Prof. Nick Davidson), reviewing the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the Sub-Committee (Annex 1 and 2 respectively), identifying issues for inclusion in their workplan for 2019-2020, and reviewing a selection of the papers being prepared for MoP10. In addition, the members of the Technical Sub-Committee have identified for which Working Groups and Task Forces they will act as the contact person (Annex 3).

### 5. Decisions

The 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Partners to the EAAFP:

- *Acknowledges* the process to successfully appoint the members of the Interim Technical Sub-Committee and extends its appreciation to the Sub-Committee members for the work that they have undertaken since their appointment;
- *Agrees* to formally establish the Technical sub-committee and to extend the term of the current Chair and members of the sub-committee until MoP11 when the membership of the Sub-Committee will be reviewed;
- *Approves* the adjustment of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the Sub-Committee as proposed in Annex 1 and 2 respectively;
- *Calls on* the Sub-Committee to work with the Secretariat including the Science Unit and to finalize their workplan 2019-2020 in line with the Strategic Plan 2019-2028 within six months from the end of MoP10. The draft workplan will be circulated to all Partners for review and will then be presented to the Management Committee for approval within that period.

## Annex 1

### Adjustments to the Terms of Reference for the EAAFP Technical Sub-Committee

1. Following its appointment in 2018, the EAAFP interim Technical Sub-Committee has reviewed its Terms of Reference as adopted by the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Partners (Singapore, January 2017).
2. The interim Technical Sub-Committee has identified the need for some minor adjustments to be made to its ToR, including in the light of recent requests from the EAAFP Secretariat to the Technical Sub-Committee for advice.
3. The recommended adjustments are as follows:
  - i. correction of two parts of the MoP9-adopted ToRs which appear to have not have been fully re-edited following the MoP9 decision. These are:
    - a) deletion of “functions” sub-paragraph “l.” (currently blank) and the re-lettering of the subsequent two sub-paragraphs and
    - b) adjustments to paragraph 10 to add sub-paragraphs 10.b. and 10.c. to reflect that the role of the former Secretariat Science Officer has now been replaced with that of the EAAFP Science Unit, and for consistency with the Technical Sub-Committee Rules of Procedure;
  - ii. the addition of sub-paragraph 6.b. bis to reflect the role that the Technical Sub-Committee has been requested to take in advising on the scientific and technical content of draft decisions and recommendations submitted to Meetings of the Partners;
  - iii. the addition of a sub-paragraph 6.n. concerning Technical Sub-Committee review and advice on EAAFP small grant proposals from EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces; and
  - iv. a minor adjustment to the wording of paragraph 4 to improve its clarity.

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### TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE EAAFP TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

#### *Scope of the Terms of Reference*

1. The Terms of Reference apply to the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership Technical Sub-Committee, unless stated otherwise in the Terms of Reference.

*General Functions of the Technical Sub-Committee*

2. The Technical Sub-Committee, established in accordance with paragraph 9(9) of the Partnership document, provides scientific and technical advice to, *inter alia*, the Meeting of the Partners, the Secretariat, any other body set up under the Partnership or any Partner.

*Operating Principles*

3. The Technical Sub-Committee, in carrying out its functions, should support the implementation of the Partnership in a manner consistent with other nationally and internationally agreed goals relevant to the objectives of the Partnership document.
4. The Technical Sub-Committee should endeavour constantly to improve the quality of its scientific and technical advice through improving scientific input into the work of its meetings and meetings of the Partnership working groups and task forces.
5. The Technical Sub-Committee may formulate its advice or recommendations in the form of options or alternatives, where appropriate.

*Functions*

6. The Technical Sub-Committee should fulfil the functions assigned to it by the Meeting of the Partners. These functions include:
  - a. advising, between Meetings of the Partners, on the development and implementation of the Partnership's work programme from a scientific and technical standpoint;
  - b. advising, identifying, assessing and recommending proposals for sites to be considered for inclusion in the Flyway Site Network;
  - c. advising on the scientific and technical content of draft decisions and recommendations submitted to Meetings of the Partners;
  - d. making recommendations to the Meeting of the Partners as to the migratory waterbird species to be included in Appendix III;
  - e. assessing proposals for the amendment of Appendix III from a scientific and technical standpoint, and providing advice to the Meeting of the Partners regarding proposed amendments;
  - f. identifying and making recommendations to the Meeting of the Partners on flyway research needs on migratory species and their habitats, especially those that are listed in Appendix III or candidates for such listing;
  - g. advising on specific conservation and management measures for the conservation of Appendix III species and their priorities, or other mechanisms for the conservation of migratory species and their habitats undertaken within the framework of the Partnership;

- h. bringing to the attention of the Meeting of the Partners any new and emerging issues relating to the conservation and management of migratory waterbird species and their habitats;
- i. advising on the priorities for conservation activities relating to migratory waterbird species and their habitats, and on selecting, monitoring and evaluating projects which will promote the implementation of the Partnership objectives;
- j. recommending to the Meeting of the Partners solutions to problems relating to the scientific and technical aspects of the implementation of the Partnership objectives;
- k. providing information, channelled through the Secretariat, to all Range States of particular species and relevant organizations, with a view to encouraging non-partner Range States and relevant organizations to become Partners of the Partnership and to participate in its implementation;
- l. liaising with working groups and task forces, to identify issues of common concern among these bodies and distil lessons for wider dissemination;
- m. providing upon request, advice on scientific and technical proposals from working groups and task forces;
- n. making proposals for more effective and streamlined scientific and technical outputs of working groups and task forces to respond to Partnership objectives; and
- o. reviewing and advising on EAAFP small grant proposals from EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces.

#### *Appointment of Members*

- 7. The Technical Sub-Committee is composed of members appointed by the Meeting of the Partners.
- 8. Any Partner may nominate a qualified expert as a member of the Technical Sub-Committee.
- 9. Technical Sub-Committee members do not represent the Partner that nominate them but contribute to the workings of the Technical Sub-Committee in their expert capacity.
- 10. The composition of the Technical Sub-Committee is as follows:
  - a. Ten members with expertise in regional, and thematic issues;
  - b. The Head of the EAAFP Science Unit as an observer *ex officio*, without the right to vote; and
  - c. The Chair of the Management Committee shall have the right to participate in meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee as an observer *ex officio*, without the right to vote.

#### *Responsibilities of the Technical Sub-Committee Members*

- 11. Technical Sub-Committee members should, to the best of their abilities, act as impartially as possible and endeavour to base their judgements and opinions upon an objective, scientific assessment of the best available evidence.

12. Technical Sub-Committee members should maintain regular communication with the chairs of the Partnership working groups and task forces.
13. Technical Sub-Committee members should maintain regular communication with the other Partners in the Partnership.

*Cooperation of Other Relevant Bodies or organizations*

14. The Technical Sub-Committee should cooperate with other advisory bodies set up by other Conventions, Agreements and MOUs, *inter alia*, inviting them to participate as observers in the meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee.
15. The Technical Sub-Committee should liaise, through its Chair or his/her nominated representative, with comparable bodies established under other relevant frameworks. This would include, where appropriate and resource permitting, attendance of the Chair of the Technical Sub-Committee, or his/her nominated representative, at meetings of these bodies.
16. The scientific contribution of non-governmental organizations to the fulfilment of the role of the Technical Sub-Committee is strongly encouraged. This includes inviting them to participate as observers in the meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee and establishing and maintaining working cooperation on matters of common interest with organizations.

*Rules of Procedure*

17. The Technical Sub-Committee will establish its own Rules of Procedure which will be subject to the approval of the Meeting of the Partners.

## Annex 2

### Adjustments to the Rules of Procedure of the EAAFP Technical Sub-Committee

1. Following its appointment in 2018, the EAAFP interim Technical Sub-Committee has reviewed its Rules of Procedure as adopted by the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Partners (Singapore, January 2017).
2. The interim Technical Sub-Committee has identified the need for some minor adjustments to be made to its Rules of Procedure, in Rules 4 and 6, so as to update and harmonise these with its Terms of Reference.

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#### RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE EAAFP TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

##### *General Functions*

###### *Rule 1*

The Technical Sub-Committee, established in accordance with paragraph 9(9) of the Partnership, provides scientific and technical advice to, inter alia, the Meeting of the Partners, the Secretariat, and to any Partner to the Partnership. Its functions are defined in Terms of Reference, supplemented from time to time by instructions included in resolutions or recommendations adopted by the Meeting of the Partners.

###### *Rule 2*

In particular, it advises, between the meetings of the Meeting of the Partners, on the development and implementation of the Partnership's work programme from a scientific and technical standpoint, and advises on the priorities for sponsorship of conservation activities.

###### *Rule 3*

*The Technical Sub-Committee shall liaise, through its Chair or a member or members nominated for this purpose, with working groups and task forces established under the Partnership.*

##### *Representation and Attendance*

###### *Rule 4*

Any Partner may nominate a qualified expert as a member of the Technical Sub-Committee. The Technical Sub-Committee shall include as members no more than ten qualified experts selected and appointed by the Meeting of the Partners. In addition, the Head of the Partnership Science Unit will be an observer of the Sub-Committee *ex officio* without the right to vote.

*Rule 5*

Membership of the Sub-Committee shall be reviewed at each ordinary meeting of the Meeting of the Partners.

*Rule 6*

The Chair of the Management Committee shall have the right to participate in meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee as an observer *ex officio* without the right to vote.

*Rule 7*

The Chair may invite any person or representative of any Partner, non-Partner or organization to participate in meetings of the Sub-Committee as an observer without the right to vote, and shall inform the Secretariat accordingly.

*Officers*

*Rule 8*

The members of the Sub-Committee shall elect from among the Sub-Committee members, a Chair and Vice-Chair. This election will normally take place before the meeting of the Meeting of the Partners, and the newly elected officers shall assume their functions at the conclusion of the corresponding meeting of the Meeting of the Partners.

*Rule 9*

The Chair shall preside at meetings of the Sub-Committee, approve for circulation the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat, and liaise with working groups, task forces and with the Management Sub-Committee between meetings of the Sub-Committee. The Chair may represent the Sub-Committee as required within the limits of the Sub-Committee's mandate, and shall carry out such other functions as may be entrusted by the Sub-Committee.

*Rule 10*

The Vice-Chair shall assist in the execution of the Chair's functions, and shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair.

*Elections*

*Rule 11*

If in an election of an officer no clear candidate emerges, a ballot will be taken. If in the ballot the votes are equally divided, the presiding officer shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.

*Meetings*

*Rule 14*

Meetings of the Sub-Committee shall be convened at the request of the Chair or, in exceptional cases, of at least one-third of the members, in both cases in consultation with the Secretariat. Meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee and any working groups or task forces established thereunder shall be serviced by the Secretariat of the Partnership.

*Rule 15*

The Sub-Committee should meet at least once between ordinary meetings of the Meeting of the Partners. The time, method (face-to-face or electronic) or venue of meetings shall be determined by the Chair, in consultation with the Secretariat.

*Rule 16*

Notice of meetings, including the date and venue, shall be sent to all Partners by the Secretariat at least 60 days in advance and, in the case of extraordinary meetings, at least 30 days in advance.

*Rule 17*

A quorum for a meeting shall consist of half of the members of the Sub-Committee. No decision shall be taken at a meeting in the absence of a quorum.

*Rule 18*

Decisions of the Sub-Committee shall be taken by consensus unless a vote is requested by the Chair or by three members.

*Rule 19*

Decisions of the Sub-Committee by voting (pursuant to Rule 18) shall be taken by a simple majority of the members present. In the case of a tie, the motion shall be considered as rejected.

*Rule 20*

A summary record of each meeting shall be prepared by the Secretariat within four (4) weeks and shall be communicated to all Partners.

*Rule 21*

The Sub-Committee shall work in the official language of the Partnership.

*Working Groups*

*Rule 22*

Working groups of the Technical Sub-Committee may be established in order to further the Sub-Committee's work programme intersessionally, taking into account the provisions of any relevant recommendations or resolutions of the Meeting of the Partners.

*Communication Procedure*

*Rule 23*

Any member or the Secretariat may make a proposal to the Chair for a decision by email procedure. The Secretariat shall communicate the proposal to the members for comments within 60 days of the date of communication; any comments received within these limits shall also be so communicated.

*Rule 24*

If, by the date on which comments on a proposal were due to be communicated, the Secretariat has not received any objection from a Partner, the proposal shall be considered as adopted, and notice of the adoption shall be given to all members.

*Rule 25*

If any member objects to a proposal within the applicable time limit, the proposal shall be referred to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

*Other Functions*

*Rule 26*

The Chair shall submit to each ordinary meeting of the Meeting of the Partners a written report on the Sub-Committee's work since the previous ordinary meeting.

*Rule 27*

The Sub-Committee shall receive reports from other committees established under the Partnership, as necessary.

*Final Provisions*

*Rule 28*

In matters not covered by the present Rules, the Rules of Procedure as adopted by the last regular meeting of the Meeting of the Partners shall be applied *mutatis mutandis*.

*Rule 29*

These Rules shall be applied at the first meeting of the Sub-Committee following their approval by the Meeting of the Partners, and may be amended by the Sub-Committee as required, in accordance with the provisions of the Partnership and decisions of the Meeting of the Partners.