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CIC Newsletter

Conseil International de la Chasse et de la Conservation du Gibier
 Internationaler Rat zur Erhaltung des Wildes und der Jagd
 International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation

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Lead Shot: New Developments with Relevance to all Hunters

Several recent developments have combined to take the debate about lead shot into what might be a final phase. There is more evidence that it is causing harm and more evidence that the available alternatives offer a practical solution.

First some background: lead causes harm yet unlike say, arsenic or tung-

sten, it has no known biological function. In the list of toxic substances whose level in European Community groundwater must be reduced, it is placed at number 20 between isoproturon and mercury, both of which have been banned. In most countries lead has already been banned from petrol, paint, water pipes, fishing-weights, solder and wheel-balancing weights.

Poisoning of wild birds by lead gun-shot has been known for more than 125 years, but with greatly increasing concern since about 1980. In particular the risk of ingestion of lead shot by waterfowl has led to the elimination of the use of lead shot for waterfowl hunting in USA and Canada, and several European countries. The Federation of Associations

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CIC Position Paper:

Management of Large Carnivores in Europe

Throughout Europe, the biological, legal and socio-cultural status of the large terrestrial carnivore species – Wolf (*Canis lupus*), Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*), Lynx (*Lynx lynx*) and Iberian lynx (*Lynx pardinus*) – has changed significantly in recent decades. From that of unprotected vermin, whose eradication was often encouraged through a system of bounties, they have become “protected” species. Hunting is increas-

ingly restricted, in some countries even forbidden, mainly by the European Union, although scientific analysis shows that a sustainable take-off would perfectly be possible. At many places the conflicts grow between large carnivores and local population. As a result, carnivores are often killed illegally. Their future is consequently increasingly uncertain or even endangered. This would not be necessary, if proper management strategies, includ-

ing sustainable hunting would be put in place.

The CIC had already discussed the issues together with international scientists, managers and hunters in a one-day symposium during the General Assembly in May 2007 in Serbia (www.cic-wildlife.org/uploads/media/2007_2_Newsletter.pdf). In the meantime, a position paper has been published in order to foster the discussion amongst hunters, as well as

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President's Message

Der Präsident ruft zur Verantwortung in zwei wichtigen Fragen auf: Einstellung von Bleischrot und das CIC Positionspapier über Großbraubwild. Er glaubt, dass die Bürger von heute äußerst sensibel gegenüber jeglichen Gefahren für ihre Umwelt sind und die sehr kleine Gemeinschaft der Jäger davon nicht unberührt bleiben kann. Die Jäger müssen ihrer Verantwortung gerecht werden und ersthaft an der Entwicklung und Verwendung alternativer Munitionen teilhaben. Im Hinblick auf die Wiedereinsiedlung von Großraubtieren müssen zwei Überlegungen die Diskussion bestimmen. Zuerst müssen wir berücksichtigen, wie erschöpfend der Mensch heute seine Umwelt nutzt und ob sie für einen Bären, Wolf oder Luchs ausreicht oder nicht. Die zweite Überlegung ist ebenso wichtig: niemand hat das Recht, große Prädatoren gegen den Willen der lokalen Bevölkerung wieder einzusiedeln. Der Präsident macht auf das Neujahrskonzert in Salzburg aufmerksam, das unter der Schirmherrschaft des CIC veranstaltet wird. Lesen Sie mehr darüber auf Seite 12.

Le président met l'accent sur la responsabilité qui devrait être le mot clé pour les deux thèmes abordés dans ce numéro : la disparition progressive de la grenaille de plomb et la conservation des grands carnivores. Les citoyens actuels deviennent extrêmement sensibles à propos de tout risque pour leur environnement et que la communauté des chasseurs ne peut rester protégée. Les chasseurs sont invités à participer activement au développement et à l'utilisation de grenailles alternatives. En ce qui concerne la réintroduction des grands carnivores, deux considérations devraient régir les discussions. Nous devons tenir compte de l'exhaustivité avec laquelle nous utilisons notre environnement et nous demander si cela serait suffisant ou non pour les ours, les loups et les lynx. La deuxième considération est tout aussi importante : personne n'a le droit de réintroduire de grands « prédateurs » contre la volonté déclarée des populations locales. Le président attire l'attention sur un Concert du Nouvel An à Salzburg, organisé sous les auspices du CIC. Voir détails sur p. 12.

Dear Friends,



In this issue you will read about two main topics – phasing out lead shot and the CIC Position Paper on Large Carnivores. To the issue of lead shot allow me to once more outline our – and our allies – position. When lead shot is under public discussion as potentially poisonous to man, animal and plant then we certainly do not enhance our position if we enter into a dispute of the scientific interpretation of facts: we have to do our level best to promote alternatives. In the case of lead we at one time believed a substantial part of environmental damages was caused by leaded gasoline – hence we gas up unleaded fuel nowadays. But, honestly, today's citizens are getting extremely sensible towards any possible hazard to our environment – CO² emission, global warming, hormones in cattle... Do we really believe that the very small community of hunters can remain untouched within the framework of the general environmental sensitivities? Do we want that? Indeed not and, consequently, we as hunters have to live up to our responsibilities and seriously assist in the development and use of alternative shots.

Responsibility should be a key word to the above as well as to the second issue: large carnivores. I want to focus on one aspect concerning the management of these species, namely the reintroduction of wolf, lynx and bear into our ecosystems.

Two considerations should govern the discussions here. First we have to

take into account as to how exhaustively man today uses his environment and then the question simply is legitimate: "Is today's culturally developed local biological basis sufficient for bear, wolf, lynx or not?" The second consideration is equally important: nobody has the right to reintroduce large "predators" against the outspoken will of local people, or – in different terms – the communities have to decide how much damage to property, animal and even humans they are willing to tolerate.

We hunters have the responsibility to also address both, the public and the authorities with the fact that the gene-pool for a practical survival of certain big predators is too isolated to allow for a genetic exchange of these reintroduced animals.

Last but not least, let me draw your attention also to a special New Year's Concert. It is the first time that CIC achieved to be the patron of a concert in the world famous Mozarteum in Salzburg. This musical presentation will start with the Signal of the CIC, which was rearranged specially for the CIC by Prof. Hansjörg Angerer to Flugelhorn's. I would be very glad to welcome you at this occasion with your family. There are only 800 seats, so may I recommend you to notify your participation right away to the contacts given in the respective article.

Wishing you all a very good season and a good start for the year 2008,

Dieter Schramm

*Dieter Schramm
President of CIC*

Focus: Large Carnivores & Phasing Out Lead Shot

Management of Large Carnivores in Europe

(Continued from page 1)

between hunters and management authorities.

Management Objectives

Large carnivore populations shall be managed for long-term viability and acceptance in Europe according to the CIC Position Paper. There is a great variation in the distribution and abundance of each species, and their associated habitats and prey within Europe. Also land-use practices, social traditions and attitudes towards large carnivores differ greatly.

Local involvement of stakeholders and minimization of conflicts are vital for acceptance of these species and associated management priorities. Populations shall be managed such that the quality of life of rural communities and the activities of local residents are not degraded. It is further important that proper monitoring of the populations is supported, that the management is adaptive and that a transboundary approach is applied.

Sufficient freedom should be given at regional level in order to carry out concrete management actions. Within the framework of conventions and legislation, there must be provisions to change the listing status of a species regionally on the basis of scientific data regarding population size and status.

Local involvement and conflict reduction

There are many potential conflicts between humans and large carnivores (e.g. predation of livestock, conflicts with hunters, a general anxiety for personal safety).

Management plans that are based only on biological considerations, and which ignore social aspects, are bound to fail. Local residents must be allowed to participate in the management process. Unidirectional information from central authorities often creates, rather than solves conflicts with local inhabitants who coexist with large carnivores; on the other hand, dialogue among local inhabitants, managers and researchers is a critical element in the process of finding remedies and solutions.

Schemes for preventative measures and/or compensation must be designed to effectively reduce losses and conflicts to acceptable levels for agriculture, hunting and other interests. Local residents must be given the trust and possibility to influence their own situation regarding large carnivores. To be more successful, payment of compensation should be dependent upon the use of reasonable preventive measures. It is also of paramount importance to give the local residents the possibility to defend their own property.

CIC has a conservative approach to the reintroduction of large carnivores. The Bern Convention gives a set of criteria which should be fulfilled when reintroduction of a species is considered.

CIC stresses the need for local involvement and acceptance regarding any future reintroductions of large carnivores in Europe.

The role of hunters in large carnivore management

Hunting is an acceptable and necessary tool for managing large carnivore populations and biodiversity. It can be used to control carnivore populations or to remove problem animals. Slowing the rate of population growth through hunter harvests may also contribute to long-term acceptance of these species.

Furthermore, large carnivores are an important game species. This represents both recreational and economic opportunities. Legalized hunting of large carnivores helps reduce poaching, because it allows local residents an opportunity to be involved in management and benefit directly from them as recreational and economic resources.

The involvement of skilled, local hunters in problem animal control is an important aspect in the overall management of large carnivores. Hunters who use conventional and accepted methods, rather than sometimes "unethical" control means by government personnel, can have positive effects both in terms of acceptance of carnivores and control of their populations by society at all levels.

Last, but not least, the hunter community must be involved in monitoring, tracking and collecting data on large carnivores together with scientists.

*Vidar Holthe
Vice-President,
Big Game Commission*

*Dr. Rolf D. Baldus
President,
Tropical Game Commission*

Ein CIC Positionspapier zur Bewirtschaftung von Großbrauwild in Europa wurde entwickelt. Demgemäß sollen Großbrauwildpopulationen in Europa für eine langfristige Lebensfähigkeit und Akzeptanz seitens der Bevölkerung bewirtschaftet werden. Lokales Engagement der Beteiligten und die Konfliktminderung sind für die Akzeptanz und die damit verbundenen Management-Prioritäten dieser Arten unerlässlich. Populationen sollen so bewirtschaftet werden, dass Bedürfnisse und Aktivitäten der lokalen Bevölkerung nicht beeinträchtigt werden.

Managementpläne, die nur auf biologischen Erwägungen basieren und die soziologischen Aspekte ignorieren, sind zum Scheitern verurteilt. Jagd ist ein annehmbares und wichtiges Instrument für die Bewirtschaftung von Großbrauwildpopulationen und der Biodiversität. Die Jägerschaft ist aufgefordert, gemeinsam mit Wissenschaftlern am Monitoring, Aufspüren und Datensammeln teilzunehmen.

Un exposé de principe du CIC a été élaboré à propos de la gestion des grands carnivores en Europe. Elle indique que les populations de grands carnivores seront gérées pour une viabilité et une acceptation à long terme en Europe. L'implication locale des parties prenantes et la minimisation des conflits sont essentiels pour l'acceptation de ces espèces et des priorités de gestion associées. Les populations devront être gérées de telle manière que la viabilité des populations rurales et les activités des résidents de la région ne soient pas perturbées. Les plans de gestion reposant uniquement sur des considérations biologiques et ignorant les aspects sociaux sont voués à l'échec. La chasse est un outil acceptable et nécessaire pour gérer les populations de grands carnivores et la biodiversité. Les chasseurs sont invités à participer aux côtés des scientifiques aux efforts de surveillance, de suivi et de collecte de données concernant les grands carnivores.

Neueste Entwicklungen haben die Debatte über Bleischrot in eine mögliche Endphase gebracht. Einerseits gibt es weitere Beweise über die Schädlichkeit von Blei, andererseits hat es keine bekannte biologische Funktion. 10 EU-Länder haben bereits ein Verbot für die Jagd mit Bleischrot in Feuchtgebieten eingeführt. Eine jüngste Forschungsübersicht hat offenbart, dass 59 der sog. terrestrischen Arten Bleischrot aufnehmen, darunter 9 weltweit gefährdete Vögel, wie der Kaiseradler. Eine ausführliche Untersuchung zeigte deutlich, dass die Bleischrotaufnahme bei dem Rebhuhn und dem Fasan, die der Enten übertrifft. Dennoch sehen viele Jäger Bleischrot immer noch nicht als reale Gefahr für die Wildtierhaltung, sondern vermuten hinter den Verboten eine „Angebot“ gegen die Jagd. Als eine Alternative hat die US-Fisch- und Wildtierbehörde vier Schrotsorten akzeptiert. Alle enthalten Wolfram, das sich als harmlos erwiesen, aber gleiche oder sogar bessere ballistischen Eigenschaften hat als Blei. So besteht endlich die berechtigte Aussicht, dass Blei aus jeglicher Art der Jagd herausgenommen werden kann ohne ernste Einflüsse auf die Jagd nach sich zu ziehen, aber mit eindeutigen Vorteilen für die Wildtiere und als deutliche Verbesserung des Jäger-Images.

Les évolutions récentes se sont combinées pour porter le débat concernant la grenaille de plomb dans ce qui pourrait être sa phase finale. Des preuves indiscutables indiquent que le plomb est toxique et qu'il n'a aucune fonction biologique connue. 10 pays de l'Union Européenne ont déjà interdit la grenaille de plomb pour la chasse en zone humide. Une étude récente a révélé que les animaux appartenant à 59 espèces dites terrestres, dont 9 espèces menacées au niveau mondial, notamment l'aigle impérial, ingèrent régulièrement la grenaille de plomb. Des recherches détaillées ont prouvé que le taux d'ingestion de grenaille de plomb par deux des espèces terrestres (perdre grise et faisan commun) est plus important que celui des canards. Pourtant, de nombreux chasseurs ne considèrent pas les munitions de plomb comme une réelle menace pour la conservation de la faune, mais estiment qu'une interdiction de la grenaille de

Lead Shot: Significant New Developments with Relevance to all Hunters

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for Hunting and Conservation in the EU (FACE) has recently surveyed the legal status of lead shot in the EU. This shows that 10 Member States (Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the UK) have implemented a ban on the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands. Two Member States (Germany and Latvia) have banned the use of lead shot in certain wetlands (e.g. SPAs) and in two further Member States (Italy and Portugal) legislation is being prepared. In 13 Member States (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia), no initiative has so far been taken to phase out lead shot. However three countries, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands, have phased out lead shot for all kinds of hunting. The African Eurasian Waterbirds Agreement (AEWA) is running a questionnaire study to further describe the legal status in a wider range of countries and to compile experiences with non-toxic shot. The study is expected to be published early in 2008.

The argument that lead shot is mainly a problem in the hunting of waterfowl and in the contamination of wetlands has become untenable. A recent review excluding all wetland birds revealed that 59 so-called terrestrial species have been recorded to ingest lead shot, including 9 that are globally threatened

such as the Imperial Eagle. Detailed research has shown clearly that the lead shot ingestion rates two of the terrestrial species, the grey partridge and common pheasant now overlap those of ducks. The distinc-

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tion between terrestrial game-birds, where it has been thought OK to shoot lead and waterfowl where there are many agreements that alternatives must be used, cannot be justified with today's new evidence.

Yet many hunters do not regard lead ammunition as a real threat to wildlife conservation, instead seeing the moves to ban lead shot as an "attack" on hunting. Many hunters claim that they have never found waterfowl poisoned by lead and that the few cartridges they spend every year never could cause any kind of problem. To others it seems obvious that some wetlands are hunted so intensively that they will become heavily contaminated with lead shot with birds inevitably suffering from fatal lead ingestion.

Until recently it has been believed that this extra mortality was very limited and does not constitute a problem for conservation but new American studies have shown very positive effects of the lead bans introduced nationwide

(1991 in USA, and 1997 in Canada). At the same time the investigation of gizzards collected from several species of waterfowl has revealed a very high prevalence of ingested shot. This shot is now mostly non-toxic but it illustrates the problem. Ingestion rates in combination with measurements of lead in blood and bone has revealed that lead poisoning in the Mississippi Flyway has been reduced by two thirds. Millions of North American waterfowl have been saved by the elimination of lead shot.

As recently as 2001, a CIC review concluded that the then available alternatives to lead were unsatisfactory, excepting soft steel shot for waterfowl. This is no longer the case. Soon after the CIC review it was shown that tungsten-iron or tungsten polymer repeatedly administered to mallard had no adverse effect on the birds' health whatsoever. After exhaustive further work, on 7 February 2006 the US Fish & Wildlife Service approved four new kinds of shot. Each of the four were found harmless when ingested, with ballistic properties equal to or better than lead. These new alternatives all contained tungsten however and with the rapidly rising price of tungsten at the time, it seemed that they might become too expensive. Today new mines have come on stream and



the price of tungsten is decreasing.

By contrast the price of lead has increased ten-fold during recent years.

Although the cost of cartridges is a very limited part of the hunter's overall budget, the price plays a role in the choice of ammunition, especially in the case of hunting with high cartridge consumption or with clay pigeon shooting. Steel shot will become the most realistic alternative for clay pigeon shooting and for many hunters.

For those who do not trust soft steel shot or other available "non-toxic shot" the four new types of shot

seem to be a practical solution. Looking to the future much will depend on how quickly a market will develop in Europe. There seems at long last a real prospect that lead can be phased out from all hunting without serious impact on hunting, with significant benefits for game and wildlife and with a marked improvement in the image of hunters.

Niels Kanstrup
President, Migratory
Birds Commission

Dr. Dick Potts
President, Small Game
Commission

Next year you will read a series of articles dedicated to the issue of lead shot. Should you have any comment or opinion related to these articles, please send it to Kristóf Hecker (k.hecker@cic-wildlife.org).



plomb constituerait une « attaque » contre la chasse. A titre d'alternative, le Service américain de la pêche et de la chasse a approuvé quatre nouveaux types de grenaille. Chacun d'eux contenait du tungstène et se sont avérés inoffensifs, leurs propriétés balistiques étant égales ou supérieures à celles du plomb. Il semble enfin exister une réelle possibilité de voir disparaître complètement le plomb et ce, sans impact sérieux sur la chasse, avec des avantages considérables pour le gibier et la faune sauvage et une amélioration très nette de l'image des chasseurs.

Regional and Country News

Latest News: European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity Adopted

At its 27th Annual Meeting in Strasbourg, 26-29 November 2007, the Standing Committee of the Council of Europe's Bern Convention approved the "European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity" that combines thinking of the Malawi Principles for the Ecosystem Approach and the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

The Charter was drafted primarily by Scott Brainerd from Norway (CIC, IUCN ESUSG), contracted by Council of Europe, with substantial help from Dr. Yves Lecocq (Secretary General FACE), Prof. Robert Kenward (Chair IUCN European Sustainable Use Specialist Group ESUSG) and Kai Wollscheid (CEO CIC), for a working group from 13 signatory states



and several observer NGOs, chaired by Øystein Størkersen of Norway.

This Charter addresses hunting as a consumptive and recreational form of utilisation and/or management of species of birds and terrestrial mammals in Europe, in accordance with the provisions of the Bern Convention of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, and promotes principles and guidelines intended to ensure that hunting and hunting tourism in Europe are practiced in a sustainable manner, while avoiding negative impacts on biodiversity and making a positive contribution to the conservation of

species and habitats and the needs of society.

Adoption of the Charter was supported by the European Union, after coordination to encompass 27 of the 47 Bern Convention signatories. However, amendments that had been submitted too late for inclusion in the final draft, and new issues raised between ministries in Germany, resulted in a breakout group of the interested parties and NGOs to find new wording that suited all participants in the group. The Standing Committee was then able to approve the charter by consensus (but with German abstention) on the last morning of the meeting.

A full report on the Charter, its implications and CIC's further involvement will follow in the next issue of the CIC Newsletter.

An seiner 27. Jahressitzung in Straßburg, 26.–29. 11. 2007, nahm der Ständige Ausschuss der Berner Konvention des Europarates die „Europäische Charta über Jagd und Biodiversität“ an, die die Gedanken der Malawi Prinzipien zum ökosystemaren Ansatz und die Addis Abeba Prinzipien und Richtlinien für die nachhaltige Nutzung der Biodiversität miteinander verbindet. Diese Charta behandelt die Jagd als eine konsumptive und freizeitgestaltende Form der Nutzung und/oder Bewirtschaftung der Vogel- und Säugetierarten Europas. Der CIC hat wesentlich zur Formulierung dieser Charter beigetragen.

Lors de sa 27^e réunion annuelle organisée à Strasbourg du 26-29/11/2007, le Comité permanent de la Convention de Berne du Conseil de l'Europe a approuvé la « Charte européenne de la chasse et de la biodiversité » qui associe les idées des Principes Malawi pour l'approche de l'écosystème et celles des Principes et Directives d'Addis Abeba concernant l'utilisation durable de la biodiversité. Cette charte aborde la chasse comme une forme d'utilisation et/ou de gestion des espèces d'oiseaux et de mammifères terrestres d'Europe pour la consommation et les loisirs.

The Sahelo-Saharan Interest Group

Die Sahelo-Sahara-Interessengruppe (SSIG) ist ein informales Netzwerk von Einzelpersonen und Institutionen, die ein gemeinsames Interesse an der Erhaltung der Wildtiere in der Sahara und den angrenzenden Sahelo Savannen haben. Vom „Sahara Conservation Fund“ (SCF) organisiert, bringt die SSIG Experten vieler Disziplinen zusammen, einschließlich Zoos, Forschungseinrichtungen, Regierungsabteilungen für Wildtiererhaltung und NGOs. Der CIC arbeitet derzeit mit CMS und SCF zusammen, um einen Vorschlag zu entwickeln, der die nachhaltige Nutzung in Verbindung mit den Wildtieren des Sahelo-Sahara Gebietes in der Nigerianischen Republik unterstützt. Während dieses Projekt immer noch in der Entwicklung ist, bietet es eine interessante Möglichkeit für den CIC, seine Mission in der Vorbeugung des Biodiversitätsverlustes durch nachhaltige Nutzung der natürlichen Ressourcen zu fördern.

Le groupe d'intérêt sahélo-saharien (SSIG) est un réseau informel d'individus et d'institutions partageant des intérêts communs dans la conservation de la faune sauvage du Sahara et des prairies limitrophes du Sahel. Sous l'égide du Sahara Conservation Fund (SCF), le SSIG rassemble des personnes issues de nombreuses disciplines, notamment la communauté des zoos, des établissements de recherche, des services gouvernementaux consacrés à la faune sauvage et des ONG. Le CIC travaille actuellement avec la CMS et le SCF au développement d'une proposition qui traitera l'utilisation durable par rapport à la faune sahélo-saharienne dans la République du Niger. Même si ce projet est toujours en cours de développement, il représente une opportunité fascinante pour le CIC de renforcer sa mission de lutte contre la disparition de la biodiversité par le biais de l'utilisation durable des ressources biologiques sauvages.

The Sahelo-Saharan Interest Group (SSIG) is an informal network of individuals and institutions that have common interest in the conservation of the wildlife of the Sahara and bordering Sahelian grasslands.

Organized by the Sahara Conservation Fund (SCF), SSIG brings together people from many disciplines, including the zoo community, research establishments, government wildlife departments and NGOs. Membership is open to all and the group stays in contact via a dedicated e-mail list server.

SSIG was established following the landmark meeting organized by the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) in Djerba in 1998 to adopt an action plan for endangered Sahelo-Saharan antelopes. The group has met seven times since 2000 and this year, SSIG met at Hanover Zoo in Germany, where some 60 participants from 16 countries heard presentations on a broad range of Sahelo-Saharan conservation issues. The proceedings of previous meetings can be found on the SCF web site:

(www.saharaconservation.org).

SSIG members are deeply involved in reintroduction work and presentations were heard during the Hanover meeting on efforts underway in Senegal and Tunisia to reintroduce addax, scimitar-horned oryx and dorcas gazelle. With support from several dozen zoos in Europe and the United States and under the coordination of Tunisia's Direction Générale des

Forêts, addax and oryx from the Bou Hedma National Park have just been translocated to a number of new protected areas in the south of the country.

Since its inception, SSIG has funded and participated in surveys across North Africa to assess and monitor the conservation status of Sahelo-Saharan wildlife. Such work not only brings to light the peril faced by many species, but also provides an objective basis for conservation priority setting, as well, providing critical updates to the IUCN Red List.



Addax at Temet, Niger

It is sad to say, but the conservation world is in general ignorant of the crisis facing Sahelo-Saharan wildlife. The region has already lost the scimitar-horned oryx and, with numbers in the wild down to low hundreds, may well soon lose both the addax and the dama gazelle. In this regard, the SSIG meeting was heartened to hear of recent addax sightings in Niger and Mauritania. Reports on survey work in Mauritania, Algeria and Morocco underlined the critical situation facing other species including dorcas gazelle, slender-horned gazelle and the Saharan cheetah.

As a forum for cooperation, SSIG is also increasingly attracting conservation players from the

Middle East. This year, presentations on houbara bustard conservation in Morocco by the Emirates Center for Wildlife Propagation (ECWP) and conservation developments at Al Ain Zoo (United Arab Emirates) were very well received. The work at ECWP to breed and release houbara bustards for falconry, as well as protecting locally threatened species like the Cuvier's and dorcas gazelles, are an interesting model that could well be applicable elsewhere in the search for ways of balancing the need for protection and sustainable use. The closing ceremony of this year's Hanover meeting was led by SCF Chair, Dr. Steven Monfort, at which he committed SCF to maintaining the unique role that SSIG plays as a forum for people to meet, network, share information and build strong partnerships for Sahelo-Saharan conservation.

John Newby, CEO, Sahara Conservation Fund

Editor's Note: The CIC is currently working with CMS and SCF to develop a proposal which will address sustainable use in relation to Sahelo-Saharan wildlife in the Republic of Niger. While this project is still under development, it represents an exciting opportunity for the CIC to further its mission of preventing the loss of biodiversity through the sustainable use of wild biological resources. This article was published in African Indaba e-Newsletter, Nov 2007, Vol. 5, No. 6 and it has been edited for content and length.

U.S. President's Executive Order to Promote Hunting

In August 2007, U.S. President Bush issued an Executive Order to all federal agencies of the U.S. Government recognizing the important role of hunting to the American way of life and to the conservation of wildlife and habitat. The Order directs all related federal agencies to develop a 10-year plan to promote and facilitate hunting. Furthermore, the President directs that an extensive conference is to be held with all related federal agencies and stakeholders to implement the Executive Order.

The origin of this Order dates back to 1995 when U.S. President Clinton issued an Executive Order recognizing the important recreational role of sport-fishing and ordered that a plan be devised to promote recreational fishing. Left out, leaders of the American hunting commu-

nity began lobbying Congress and the President for similar recognition and support for the hunting community of America. The lobbying continued when President Bush took office and the initiative was reinforced at periodic forums. One such forum was the Governor's Hunting Heritage Conferences where Governors of different states, including the Premier of one Canadian province, held an issue-oriented meeting of American hunting leaders. The second forum was the development of the American Wildlife Conservation Partners (AWCP), made up of a select 42 of America's leading sportsmen's conservation organizations. Two CIC member organizations and several partners have been prominent participants in both the Governor's Hunting Heritage Conferences, last held in Dallas, Texas, and the AWCP. They are

Conservation Force (www.conservationforce.org) and Dallas Safari Club (www.biggame.org). Through combining forces, the collaborative influence of the AWCP ultimately succeeded in getting President Bush to do for the hunters what President Clinton had done for the fisherman twelve years earlier. This Executive Order goes beyond the general feel-good order for anglers. It also follows in the wake of the worldwide acceptance of sustainable use by IUCN at its World Congresses, the CBD and CITES. You can download from the CIC website the full text of the Executive Order that others may find useful as a model. It most certainly is full acknowledgment for all to know of the recreational and conservation importance of hunting.

*John J. Jackson, III
President, Commission
Sustainable Use*

Im August 2007 veranlasste US-Präsident Bush eine Verfügung für alle Bundesbehörden der US-Regierung zur Anerkennung der wichtigen Rolle der Jagd im „amerikanischen Lebensstil“ und für die Erhaltung der Wildtiere und Lebensräume. Diese Verordnung weist alle beteiligten Bundesbehörden an, einen 10-Jahres-Plan zur Förderung und Erleichterung der Jagd zu erarbeiten. Zwei Mitgliedsorganisationen des CIC, die „Conservation Force“ und der „Dallas Safari Club“ waren prominente Teilnehmer in der Lobbyarbeit für diese Anerkennung.

En août 2007, le Président Bush a publié un Ordre Exécutif destiné à toutes les agences fédérales du gouvernement américain, reconnaissant le rôle important de la chasse pour le mode de vie américain et la préservation de la faune et de l'habitat. Cet ordre invite toutes les agences fédérales à élaborer un plan décennal visant à promouvoir et à favoriser la chasse. Deux organisations membres du CIC, la Conservation Force et le Dallas Safari Club, ont joué un rôle prépondérant dans les négociations en faveur de cette reconnaissance.

CIC Gives Opening Keynote at WAZA Conference

The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) held its 62nd Annual Conference in Budapest this past August. The CIC was given the honour of providing a keynote address to the conference participants. Sharing the stage with such notables as Dr. Holly Dublin, Chair of the IUCN Species Survival Commission, and Miklós Persányi, the Director of the Budapest Zoo and of course WAZA President, Karen Sausman and WAZA Executive Director,

Dr. Peter Dollinger, Kristóf Hecker, CIC Conservation Officer, spoke to the conference delegates about the importance of in-situ versus ex-situ conservation in the context of sustain-

able use as well as the need for groups like WAZA and the CIC working together under the common banner of the conservation of wild living resources.

© Z. Bagosi



Der Weltverband der Zoos und Aquarien (WAZA) hielt seine 62. Jahresversammlung letzten August in Budapest ab. Dem CIC wurde die Ehre zuteil, eine Begrüßungsrede an die Konferenzteilnehmer zu richten.

L'Association mondiale des zoos et des aquariums (WAZA) a tenu sa 62^e conférence annuelle à Budapest en août dernier. Le CIC a eu l'honneur de prononcer le discours inaugural devant les participants de la conférence.

The Golden Age of the Golden Jackal

Am 20. Oktober 2007 wurde ein Symposium des CIC Koordinationsforums für Mittel- und Südost-Europa über „Die Ausbreitung der Schakale nach West-Europa“ an den Plitvicer Seen (Kroatien) abgehalten. Der Goldschakal ist ein mittelgroßes Raubtier mit einer weiten geographischen Verbreitung von Nord-Afrika bis hin nach Südost-Asien. Die Teilnehmer waren sich einig, dass der Schakal ein sehr anpassungsfähiges und opportunistisches Raubwild ist, mit einer sehr abwechslungsreichen Ernährung. Es gab auch einen Konsens darüber, dass verlässliche Daten zur Populationsgröße nur durch Jagdstatistiken zu gewinnen sind. Eine Frage der Sitzung blieb offen, wie durch Wildbewirtschaftung Schakale wieder in ihre natürlichen Grenzen und ihre Zahl auf ein „normales“ Niveau gebracht werden können.

Le 20 octobre 2007, le Forum du Groupe de coordination du CIC pour l'Europe centrale et du sud-est a tenu un symposium à propos de « La progression des chacals en direction de l'Europe occidentale » aux lacs de Plitvice, en Croatie. Le chacal doré est un carnivore de taille moyenne bénéficiant d'une très large répartition géographique, puisqu'il est présent du nord de l'Afrique au sud de l'Asie et jusqu'au sud-est asiatique. Les participants à la réunion ont convenu du fait que le chacal est un carnivore très adaptatif et opportuniste dont le régime alimentaire est très varié. On a également reconnu que des données fiables à propos de la taille de la population ne peuvent être obtenues que via les statistiques concernant la chasse. Il s'agissait avant tout de savoir comment les gestionnaires de la faune peuvent garder les chacals à l'intérieur de leurs frontières naturelles et ramener leur nombre à des niveaux « normaux ».

On 20 October 2007 a Symposium of the CIC Coordination Forum for Central and South-eastern Europe was held on "The Spread of Jackals towards Western Europe" at Plitvice lakes, Croatia.

The golden jackal (*Canis aureus*) is a medium sized carnivore with a very large geographic distribution, which covers the area from Northern Africa to Southern Asia and down to Southeast Asia.

Participants from 7 countries agreed that the jackal is a very adaptive and opportunistic carnivore with a very varied diet. There was also consensus that reliable data on population size can be provided only through hunting statistics – even though in some countries jackal off-take is not registered completely.

In Bulgaria, the jackal is the most numerous canid after the red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and is the cause of large losses in big game species. However, the jackal is not a newcomer in Bulgarian fauna and nowadays it is very widespread. The Bulgarian population went almost extinct due to its persecution in the 1940s and remained only in Southeast Bulgaria. Thanks to legal protection,

which was initiated in 1950, the number of jackals increased rapidly and by the 70s there was already a need for population regulation. The protected status was changed in 1984 and the yearly bag is now about 18,000! In Bulgaria hunters are paid for each specimen, which, in turn, supports better population estimates.

The jackal has its place in the ecosystem

In Croatia jackals have always been present and the species is free to be hunted all year round, except for during the reproduction season. Jackals also inhabited the islands off the coast, which is interesting as it is only possible if they had swam from the mainland. Geographical distribution changes – migration – was probably caused by the transportation of grazing sheep herds, although jackals did not kill sheep but ate carcasses of sheep which were lost due to other causes.

The Croatian population is probably still growing, which means further geographical expansion – regardless of hunting. However, as there is already a measurement formula for jackal trophies,

the hunting value of the species is growing.

In Slovenia, the species is now present in the country for the last 50 years, but only two territories are confirmed as distribution area. A territorial group survey was conducted, which showed that there are still only few jackals in Slovenia. The golden jackal is a legally protected species in Slovenia.

In Serbia, up until 20 years ago the population was very small, and started to increase in the 90s – first at the border to Bulgaria. Serbia now has probably the highest population density in Europe.

The main hypothesis posed at the meeting was that the current situation is not only due to the increase of the jackal population, but also to changing ecological factors, e.g. slaughter depots. Slaughter depots produce a lot of organic waste and this is excellent food for jackals. Also, legal depots are not adequately managed and so an empty ecological niche occurs. Jackals just use the possibility.

A survey is being planned to find out the effect of jackals on the decrease of game species. Jackals might find and kill offspring easily, hunt pheasants, eat bird's eggs, but also domestic animals (sheep, goats) can be affected.

Jackals mainly remove remnants and reduce mice – they are part of the natural framework. The question remains, however, how we can bring jackals back to natural boundaries and bring their numbers back to 'normal' levels?



© M Lekic

Kristóf Hecker
Conservation Officer

European Commission Applauded CIC's Coordination Forum

After the appreciation from EU Commissioner Mrs. Benita Ferrero-Waldner at the 54th General Assembly in Belgrade, our colleague and friend Veljko Varicak, Chair of CIC Coordination Forum for Central and South-Eastern Europe, received a letter from the European Commission applauding the work and engagement of the Coordination Forum in support of the cooperation between different nations and hence, furthering the understanding among the Balkan countries.

"The European Commission appreciates the measures taken by the International Council for

Game and Wildlife Conservation, which created trust among peoples of the Western Balkan states. The support of the cooperation between the citizens of this region, in this case hunters, through forums of the civil society, like the CIC, complements the activities of the Commission and other international organisations reaching the reconciliation and stabilisation of the whole Region."

This message is extremely encouraging and again underlines the motto of the Belgrade General Assembly: *"Passion for wildlife means caring for people"* and motivates the entire membership of the

CIC. The European Commission's letter concludes: *"Tangible results, such as the launched cooperation between Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian hunters, contribute to the approval and implementation of the Motto of your Balkan-Programs 'We give our hand to our neighbour' by the citizens and institutions of each state in this region."*

We are proud of Veljko Varicak and of working with him in this unique and successful mission to make our (not only hunting) world a better place for all of us.

*Dieter Schramm
President of CIC*

Nach der Anerkennung von EU-Kommissarin Benita Ferrero-Waldner, erhielt unser Kollege, Veljko Varićak, Vorsitzender des CIC Koordinationsforums für Mittel- und Südost-Europa, einen Brief von der Europäischen Kommission, indem Arbeit und Engagement des Koordinationsforums in der Förderung der Zusammenarbeit zwischen den Bürgern der Balkanstaaten gewürdigt wurde.

Suite à l'appréciation manifestée par Mme Benita Ferrero Waldner, membre de la Commission Européenne notre collègue Veljko Varicak, président du Forum de Coordination du CIC pour l'Europe centrale et l'Europe du Sud, a reçu une autre lettre de la Commission Européenne le félicitant pour le travail et l'engagement du Forum de Coordination en faveur de la coopération entre différentes nations des pays des Balkans.

German-Chinese Cooperation on the Promotion of Sustainable Forest and Wildlife Management

In order to strengthen the cooperation in the field of forestry, Germany and China have signed a cooperation agreement on 5 September 2007. Contracting parties are the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV) and the Chinese State Forestry Administration.

This departmental agree-

ment covers a wide range of issues in cooperation such as the fight against illegal felling, cooperation with internationally acknowledged NGOs, conservation, sustainable use and research of wildlife. In recognition of its collaboration with the Chinese wildlife authorities, CIC is included in this agreement as a valuable partner – as is the WWF. Special thanks are due to

our German member Dr. Richard Lammel, Director of Directorate of Forestry, Forest Industries and Wildlife Management in the Ministry, who successfully established this important cooperation agreement. The implementation of this agreement will include the exchange of experts and scientists as well as a series of working meetings and conferences.

Zur Stärkung der Zusammenarbeit im Forstbereich hat Deutschland mit China ein Ressortabkommen unterzeichnet. In Anerkennung seiner Zusammenarbeit mit der Chinesischen Wildbehörde, ist der CIC in diesem Abkommen als wertvoller Partner integriert.

Pour renforcer la coopération dans le domaine de la foresterie, l'Allemagne et la Chine ont signé un accord de coopération le 05/09/2007. En reconnaissance pour sa collaboration avec l'Administration d'état chinoise des forêts, le CIC figure dans cet accord à titre de partenaire privilégié.

Der mit dem 2. CIC Preis 2007 „Jagd in der Kunst“ ausgezeichnete Künstler Bodo Meier hat seinen Kalender 2008 wieder unter der Schirmherrschaft des CIC veröffentlicht. Eine begrenzte Anzahl von Kalendern ist für 20 EUR erhältlich.

Récompensé par le 2^e prix de Chasse dans l'Art 2007 du CIC, le célèbre artiste Bodo Meier a publié son nouveau calendrier 2008 sous les auspices du CIC. Un nombre limité de calendriers est disponible moyennant 20 euros.



Bodo Meier Calendar 2008

Awarded this year by the CIC Hunting in Art 2nd Prize, the renowned German artist Bodo Meier has published his 2008 Calendar again under the patronage of the CIC. To discover the unique aquarelles that bring nature and the wilderness close to us throughout the whole year, contact the CIC Administrative Office (office@cic-wildlife.org) and order the calendar for 20 EUR.

Interview with Jean Speth

After six years of dedicated work, Jean F. Speth is terminating his second mandate as Head of the Belgian Delegation. On 11 October 2007 the Belgian Members have elected their new Head of Delegation, Olivier Rolin Jacquemyns, who will take over the post from January 2008. Read below an interview with Jean Speth about his achievements in the CIC as well as about the past, present and future of the Belgian Delegation of the CIC.

Nach sechs Jahren hingebungs-voller Arbeit beendet Jean F. Speth nun sein zweites Mandat als Leiter der Belgischen Delegation. Am 11. Oktober 2007 haben die belgischen Mitglieder bereits ihren neuen Delegationsleiter, Olivier Rolin Jacquemyns, gewählt. Er wird das Amt ab Januar 2008 übernehmen. Im Interview erklärt Jean Speth, warum er dem CIC vor 18 Jahren beigetreten ist, warum er genießt, für den CIC zu arbeiten und was seine Prioritäten als Delegationsleiter waren. Er erklärt auch, warum der CIC nicht zulassen sollte, dass die Jagd weltweit standardisiert wird.

Après six ans de travail dévoué, Jean F. Speth termine son deuxième mandat à la tête de la délégation belge. Le 11 octobre 2007, les membres belges ont élu le nouveau chef de leur délégation, Olivier Rolin Jacquemyns, qui occupera ce poste à compter de janvier 2008. Dans cet entretien, Jean Speth explique pourquoi il a rejoint le CIC il y a 18 ans, pourquoi il aime travailler pour cette organisation et quelles étaient ses priorités en tant que chef de délégation. Il explique également pourquoi il pense que le CIC ne devrait pas laisser la chasse se standardiser au niveau mondial.

– When have you joined the CIC and why?

– I joined CIC in 1989 by the invitation of my father and my father's friends who were already members. In fact I believe I am the only Head of Delegation who joined CIC twice. I resigned in 1996 as I did not see CIC active enough especially related to Vènerie on the local level in Belgium, where the government tried to ban Vènerie. Little after in that same year I rejoined the organization thanks to the personal involvement of Dieter Schramm in this matter.

– What has been your main inspiration to work for the CIC?

– I like to work for an organization that is able to give an international dimension to national hunting issues and foster the synergy between the scientific and the hunting world.

– What has been your most memorable moment as a Head of Delegation?

– Learning how to work with people with different and strong characters has been really an exciting experience for me. One of my memories was when I had the task to have some Belgian trophies transported to the CIC Museum in Palarikovo. It required a truly international cooperation involving people in Belgium, Austria, Hungary and Slovakia. By simply making a phone call I could rely on a network of helpful friends in all those countries. This particular story revealed to me the true "spirit of CIC" put in practice.



– What have been your priorities during your mandate as Head of Delegation?

– My main priority has been to improve our internal communication and to inform all members of our Delegation about international issues, events, projects. Being responsible for my Delegation Members I had the task to represent and take care of them, and in case of a difference of opinion, to reach a mutually accepted solution in the spirit of CIC.

Providing international information to national associations has also been one of my main endeavours. The CIC thinks globally, but we should not forget to act locally. I also poured a lot of effort to get the government representatives back on board in CIC, which attempt was unfortunately not successful.

– What is your wish for the Belgian Delegation for the future?

– I see it important to change the Head of Delegation regularly in order to bring in new ideas and a fresh impulse to the CIC. There is a time to come and a time to go. By the end of this year I step down as Head of the Belgian

Delegation and I have already started to coach my successor Olivier Rolin Jacquemyns in advance instead of intervening later in issues as a bad mother in law. I am happy to hand over the leadership of the Delegation to a competent successor who has been elected with a very good programme that will enable the Delegation to increase its membership, especially young members, and to further improve the communication within the Delegation. I wish my colleague good luck and success for this.

– What is the most important thing you believe the CIC should stand for in the future?

– CIC should give attention to the conservation of all kinds of traditional mode of hunting, because those belong to our cultural heritage. We have to respect each other's ways of hunting. For example I was impressed when I was hunting Capercaillie in Finland. It is a fantastic hunting tradition in that country in September, while elsewhere one would consider it rather unethical and unacceptable to shoot a bird sitting on a tree. Another example is the spring woodcock hunting in countries like Hungary, which is now banned in other EU countries. CIC should not let hunting to be globally standardized. I believe there is no one and only truth for the whole world, there are many truths, which we should respect in the future as well.

Hunting: A Tool for Sustainable Rural Development Pre-Congress Symposium in Marrakech, 21 April 2008

Over the course of recent decades, wild game stocks have continued to decline in most Sub-Saharan and Northwest African countries, in some cases disappearing altogether.

The main causes of this decline are increased human pressure and loss of wildlife habitats, poaching, incorrect management, and over-hunting. Civil wars have also contributed to the destruction of wild game stocks and habitats. Despite the existence of protection strategies, most governments have not been able to reconcile the necessity to nurture and conserve wild fauna as state property and at the same time to ensure the socio-economic development of their country.

Bans on hunting have not been able to halt this long-term trend. In fact, they have had the opposite effect: if the value is taken away from wild game, the local population no longer has any interest in protecting wild animals.

The opposing strategy, namely re-establishing the value of wild game, has been very successful in individual projects, for example in Benin and Tanzania, and in a number of countries, e.g. Namibia and South Africa. Today, it is once

more possible to find wild game in regions where there has long been none. Where land owners, whether African communities or the owners of large estates, have been granted the right to use the wild game on their land in a sustainable manner, this has created the economic incentive to value and manage wild game in self-interest. Economic incentives have proven to be more successful than national bans and moves to make wild game the property of the state.

Sustainable use can take many forms, for example photo tourism, hunting safaris, licensed hunting, leasing of hunting concessions, production of game, horns and skins. Only a combination of different kinds of use can bring about an optimal all-round result. Trophy hunting by paying guests is particularly decisive for success. This brings the highest income while at the same time having the lowest removal rates, and – in comparison to other forms of tourism – also involves little investment and little land use.

As a result, using wild game for hunting has become an important tool for rural development and for fighting poverty in many regions, often where agri-

culture is very poor. In many places, it offers a successful and nature-friendly alternative to monocultures and land-damaging livestock farming, but it is also an alternative for under-financed and non-sustainable national parks.

However, only if hunting adopts a truly sustainable form and only if a significant proportion of income from hunting is reinvested into conservation and wildlife protection, and is also used to the benefit of the landowners and the local population can hunting develop its positive ecological and economic effects.

With the involvement of scientists, practitioners working within the field and CIC members from around the world, the Symposium will aim to stimulate and propagate dialogue throughout Africa, including between Francophone and Anglophone regions.

Come and join the discussions in Marrakech on 21 April 2008. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

*Dr. Rolf D. Baldus,
President, Tropical Game
Commission*

*Joachim A. Wadsack,
President, WG Agri-
Environmental Measures*

Am 21. April 2008 wird ein Vorkongress-Symposium in über die Jagd und ländliche Entwicklung abgehalten. Die Wildtiernutzung durch die Jagd ist ein wichtiges Instrument zur ländlichen Entwicklung und im Kampf gegen Armut in vielen Regionen geworden. Sie bietet eine erfolgreiche und naturfreundliche Alternative zu Monokulturen und landzerstörender Viehhaltung. Nur wenn Jagd tatsächlich nachhaltig ist sowie ein bedeutender Teil der Jagdeinkommen in Wildtierschutz zurückinvestiert und auch zum Vorteil der lokalen Bevölkerung benutzt werden, kommen ihre positiven ökologischen und ökonomischen Effekte zum Tragen.

Le 21 avril 2008, un symposium se tiendra à Marrakech et sera consacré à la chasse et au développement rural. L'utilisation de la faune sauvage est devenue un instrument important du développement rural et de la lutte contre la pauvreté. Dans bien des cas, elle offre une alternative efficace et écologique à la monoculture et à l'élevage de bétail nuisible aux terres, mais c'est également une solution intéressante pour les parcs nationaux sous-financés et non viables. Toutefois, ce n'est qu'à partir du moment où la chasse est exercée de façon vraiment durable et qu'une grande partie des recettes est non seulement réinvestie dans la conservation du gibier, mais profite aussi aux propriétaires fonciers et à la population locale, que des effets positifs se font ressentir sur le plan écologique et économique.

All Members of the CIC are kindly invited to the **55th General Assembly in Marrakech** from 22 to 26 April 2008. Related information is available at the member's section of our website. To benefit from the discount participation fee register before **31/12/2007!**

Tous les Membres du CIC sont invités à la **55^e Assemblée générale à Marrakech** du 22 au 26 avril 2008. Toute information est disponible dans l'espace membres du site du CIC. Pour pouvoir profiter des frais d'inscription réduits veuillez vous inscrire avant le **31/12/2008 !**

Alle CIC Mitglieder sind herzlich zur **55. Generalversammlung in Marrakesch** vom 22. bis 26. April 2008 eingeladen. Sämtliche Informationen sind in der Mitgliedersektion unserer Website zu finden. Um in den Genuß der ermäßigten Teilnahmegebühr zu kommen, melden Sie sich bitte vor dem **31. Dezember 2007** an!



Upcoming Events in 2008

Date	Event	Venue
6 January	New Year's Concert 2008 under CIC Patronage	Salzburg, Austria
8 January	Symposium of the CIC French Delegation: "Management of Partridge Populations"	Paris, France
10-13 January	Dallas Safari Club Exposition www.biggame.org/Convention	Dallas, TX, USA
18-21 February	FAO: 16 th Session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission	Khartoum, Sudan
2-5 March	AEWA: 8 th Meeting of the Technical Committee (TC8)	to be determined
6-8 March	Status, Ecology and Breeding: the Future of the European bison <i>Bison bonasus</i> in Central Europe on the occasion of the 80 th anniversary of the Wisentgehege Springe www.wisentgehege-springe.de	Springe, Germany
21-24 April	CITES: 23 rd Animals Committee Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland
21 April	CIC Symposium on "Hunting: a Tool for Sustainable Rural Development"	Marrakech, Morocco
22 April	CIC Symposium on "The future management of Red-legged Partridge in Spain and of the Barbary partridge in Morocco"	Marrakech, Morocco
22-26 April	55 th CIC General Assembly	Marrakech, Morocco
29 May	3 rd CIC Ball	Vienna, Austria
19-30 May	CBD: 9 th Conference of the Parties (CoP9)	Bonn, Germany
June	AEWA: 5 th Meeting of the Standing Committee	to be determined
14-18 July	CITES: 57 th Standing Committee Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland
28-30 August	7 th International Symposium on Wild Boar (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) and on Sub-order Suiformes www.wild.boar.symposium.nyme.hu	Sopron, Hungary
7-11 September	AEWA: 4 th Meeting of the Parties (MOP4)	Antananarivo, Madagascar
5-14 October	IUCN: 4 th World Conservation Congress www.iucn.org/congress/2008	Barcelona, Spain
October-November	International CIC Symposium on Game Farming	Sopron, Hungary
1-5 December	CMS: 9 th Conference of Parties (CoP9)	Rome, Italy

If your Delegation or Commission has any further international event to announce, please contact the Administrative Office.

New Year's Concert in Salzburg

Under the patronage of the CIC, a very interesting cultural event will take place on 6 January 2008 in Salzburg: the New Year's Concert "Musical Treasures from the Habsburg Empire and Imperial Hunting Music". At this spectacular event selected works from light musical entertainment of the mid 19th century – with the CIC signal as the opening piece – will be performed by the „Bläserphilharmonie Mozarteum Salzburg“, directed by Prof. Hansjörg Angerer. It is well known that hunting had a significant impact on almost all spheres of arts, including music. Almost all the great composers worked hunting motifs into their compositions, thus paying homage to the cultural and historical heritage that made its mark on mankind. The experience of nature interpreted by hunting music is able to arouse feelings of love, poetry and a romantic sensitivity towards nature. This greatly assists to promote a better understanding of nature, particularly amongst non-hunting people, living in an urban environment. Tickets are available at Kartenbüro Polzer: www.polzer.at

Vous êtes invités au concert du nouvel an « Trésors du monde musical de l'ancienne Autriche et Musique de chasse impériale » offert par « Bläserphilharmonie Mozarteum Salzburg » sous le patronage du CIC à Salzbourg le 6 janvier 2008. Chef d'orchestre : Hansjörg Angerer. Billeets: www.polzer.at

Sie sind herzlich zum Neujahrskonzert unter Schirmherrschaft des CIC „Musikalische Schätze aus Alt-Österreich und die kaiserliche Jagdmusik“ in Salzburg am 6. Januar 2008 eingeladen. Es spielt die Bläserphilharmonie Mozarteum Salzburg unter der Leitung von Hansjörg Angerer. Karten: www.polzer.at



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