

- (a) provide scientific and technical advice and information to the Meeting of the Parties and, through the Agreement secretariat, to Parties;
- (b) make recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties concerning the Action Plan, implementation of the Agreement and further research to be carried out;
- (c) prepare for each ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties a report on its activities, which shall be submitted to the Agreement secretariat not less than one hundred and twenty days before the session of the Meeting of the Parties, and copies shall be circulated forthwith by the Agreement secretariat to the Parties; and
- (d) carry out any other tasks referred to it by the Meeting of the Parties.

4. Where in the opinion of the Technical Committee there has arisen an emergency which requires the adoption of immediate measures to avoid deterioration of the conservation status of one or more migratory water-bird species, the Technical Committee may request the Agreement secretariat to convene urgently a meeting of the Parties concerned. These Parties shall meet as soon as possible thereafter to establish rapidly a mechanism to give protection to the species identified as being subject to particularly adverse threat. Where a recommendation has been adopted at such a meeting, the Parties concerned shall inform each other and the Agreement secretariat of measures they have taken to implement it, or of the reasons why the recommendation could not be implemented.

5. The Technical Committee may establish such working groups as may be necessary to deal with specific tasks.

ARTICLE VIII

Agreement Secretariat

The functions of the Agreement secretariat shall be:

- (a) to arrange and service the sessions of the Meeting of the parties as well as the meetings of the Technical Committee;
- (b) to execute the decisions addressed to it by the Meeting of the Parties;
- (c) to promote and coordinate activities under the Agreement, including the Action Plan,

- (a) yde videnskabelig og teknisk rådgivning og information til partsmødet og gennem aftalesekretariatet til parterne,
- (b) rette rekommandationer til partsmødet vedrørende handlingsplanen, gennemførelse af aftalen, og yderligere forskning, der bør udføres,
- (c) til hvert ordinært partsmøde udarbejde en rapport om dens aktiviteter, som skal fremsendes til aftalesekretariatet senest hundredeogtyve dage før partsmødet, og kopier skal herefter af aftalesekretariatet rundsendes til parterne og
- (d) udføre enhver anden opgave, der pålægges den af partsmødet.

4. Hvis der efter den tekniske komités mening er opstået en nødsituation, der kræver iværksættelse af hastende greb for at undgå forringelse af status for en eller flere vandfuglearter, kan den tekniske komité anmode aftalesekretariatet om at indkalde de berørte parter til et hastemøde. Disse parter skal derefter mødes så snart, det er muligt, for hurtigt at udarbejde en plan, der kan yde beskyttelse til de arter, der er udpeget som værende særligt truede i faresituationer. Når en rekommandation er vedtaget på et sådant møde, skal de berørte parter informere hinanden og aftalesekretariatet om de foranstaltninger, de har iværksat for at gennemføre den, eller om begrundelsen for at rekommandationen ikke kunne gennemføres.

5. For at behandle særlige emner kan den tekniske komité nedsætte de arbejdsgrupper, den finder påkrævet.

ARTIKEL VIII

Aftalesekretariat

Aftalesekretariatets opgaver er :

- (a) at arrangere og betjene partsmøderne og den tekniske komités møder,
- (b) at udføre de beslutninger, som det pålægges af partsmødet,
- (c) at fremme og koordinere aktiviteter under aftalen, herunder handlingsplanen, i over-