

Symposium on Developing a Regional Response to the Conservation of South Asia's Critically Endangered Vulture Species

Organized by
Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, and
Central Zoo Authority, Government of India

In Collaboration with
Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun,
Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai, and
IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature

Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India
3rd - 4th May 2012

Day 1 (3rd May 2012)	
09:00 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:50	Inaugural Session
10:00 – 10:10	<i>Welcome</i> Mr. P.R. Sinha, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun
10:10 – 10:20	<i>The Need for a Regional Response to Vulture Conservation and the Potential Role of IUCN</i> Ms. Aban Marker Kabraji, Regional Director, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok
10:20 – 10:30	<i>Remarks</i> Dr. Jagdish Kishwan, ADGF (WL), Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India
10:30 – 10:40	<i>Inaugural Address and Official Opening of the Workshop</i> Dr. T. Chatterjee, Secretary, Minister for Environment and Forests, Government of India
10:40 – 10:50	<i>Vote of Thanks</i> Mr. B.S. Bonal, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, Government of India
10:50 – 11:30	Tea
11:30 – 14:00	Technical Session 1: Overview of the Current Status Chair – Dr Asad Rahmani, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai Co-chair- Ravi Singh, World Wildlife Fund, India
11:30 – 12:00	<i>Vulture Population Trends and Current Status in the Wild – A Global and Regional Perspective</i> Mr. Chris Bowden, Chair IUCN SSC Vulture Specialist Group
12:00 – 12:20	<i>The Use of Diclofenac and other Emerging Veterinary Formulations – A Regional Update</i> Prof. Rhys E. Green, University of Cambridge & Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK
12:20 – 12:40	<i>Vulture Safe Zones and Vulture Restaurants – A Regional Update</i> Dr. Richard Cuthbert, Principal Conservation Scientist, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK
12:40 – 13:00	<i>Regulations and the Pharmaceutical Sector</i> Mr. Homi Khusrokhhan, President, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai
13:00 – 13:30	<i>Ex-situ Vulture Conservation – An Update</i> Mr. B. S. Bonal, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, India and Dr. Vibhu Prakash, Deputy Director, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai
13:30 – 14:00	Discussions
14:00 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 17:30	Technical Session 2: Review of Progress in Implementing the National Vulture Recovery and Action Plans - Presentations from each of the Four Range Countries

	Chair – Mr. Homi Khusrookhan, President, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai Co-chair- Mr. B. S. Bonal, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, Government of India
15:00 – 15:20	<i>Vultures in Bangladesh: Status and Conservation</i> Dr. M. Monirul H. Khan, Associate Professor of Zoology, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, Bangladesh and Mr. Shakhawat Hossain, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of Bangladesh
15:20 – 15:40	<i>Vulture Conservation in Nepal</i> Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal, Ecologist, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Government of Nepal
15:40 – 16:00	<i>Vulture Conservation in Pakistan – Status and Response</i> Mr. Mushtaq Ali Memon, Secretary to the Government of Sindh Forest & Wildlife Department, Government of Pakistan
16:00 – 16:20	<i>Vulture Conservation in India: Status Report, 2012</i> Mr. P.C. Tyagi, Faculty, Landscape Level Planning and Management, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun
16:20 – 17:00	Discussions
17:00 – 17:15	Chairs Concluding Remarks ¹
19:30 – 21:00	Reception and Dinner

Day 2 (4th May 2012)	
09:00 – 11:00	Technical Session 3: Vultures: Cultural & Ecological Perspectives Chair – Mr. Hem Pande, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India Co-chair – Mr. P.R. Sinha, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun
09:00 – 09:20	<i>Vultures and Ecosystem Services</i> Mr. B.C. Choudhury, Head, Endangered Species Management, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun
09:20 – 09:40	<i>Vultures in the Parsi Tradition</i> Mr. Khojeste P. Mistree, Trustee, Bombay Parsi Panchayat, Mumbai
09:40 – 10:00	<i>Report on the BNHS Initiative on the Tower of Silence</i> Dr. Vibhu Prakash, Deputy Director, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai
10:00 – 10:20	<i>The Potential of the Panjrapole Institution in Gujarat for Vulture Conservation</i> Mr. Kartikeya Sarabhai, Director, Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad and Mr Kartik Shastri, Assistant Coordinator (Vulture Cell), Bird Conservation Society, Gujarat
10:20 – 11:00	Discussions
11:00 – 11:30	Tea
11:30 – 13:30	Technical Session 4: India and Vulture Conservation – Presentations from the States Chair – Mr. B.M.S. Rathore, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India Co-chair – Mr. S. K. Patnaik, Member, Central Zoo Authority, Government of India
11:30 – 13:00	Presentations by Chief Wildlife Wardens of different states of India
13:00 – 13:30	Discussions
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 16:00	Technical Session 5: Developing a Regional Response Chair – Ms. Aban Marker Kabraji, Regional Director, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok Co-chair – Mr. S. Kandhuri, IGF (WL), Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

¹ Working group to discuss the draft of Delhi Vulture Conservation Declaration after the days sessions @18:00 hrs

14:30 – 15:00	<i>Role of Advocacy in Vulture Conservation</i> Ms. Nita Shah, Independent Consultant, New Delhi
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Current Regional Initiatives on Vulture Conservation and the Way Forward</i> Dr. Scott Perkin, Head, Regional Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Asia, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok
15:30 – 16:00	Discussions
16:00 – 16:30	Tea
16:30 – 17:40	Concluding Session Chair – Dr. Jagdish Kishwan Addl. DGF (WL), Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India Co-chair – Ms. Aban Marker Kabraji, Regional Director, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok
16:30 – 17:00	<i>Presentation of the Regional Declaration on Vulture Conservation</i> Dr. T. P. Singh, Deputy Regional Director, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok
17:00 – 17:30	Discussion
17:30 – 17:40	<i>Adoption of the Regional Declaration and Proposed Composition of the Regional Steering Committee</i>
17:40 – 17:50	Vote of Thanks
19:30 – 21:30	Special Session: <i>Return of Vultures to Tower of Silence</i> ²

² By invitation only, arranged at Chinnar Hall at IHC