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B-1030 Brussels

Mr. Patrick Murphy
Head of Unit
European Commission
DG Environment Unit B.2
200, rue de la Loi
B - 1049 Brussels
Fax – 02 299 08 95

9th October 2006

Dear Mr Murphy,

Management Plans for “*Unfavourable Conservation Status*” Annex II bird species

Since 1997 the European Commission has initiated and actively supported the drafting of Management Plans for Annex II species which are considered to have an *Unfavourable Conservation Status*. As of this day, none of the drafts has been formally approved, adopted or endorsed. Further delay in the implementation of these plans and their related management prescriptions, may jeopardize efforts to restore the species concerned to a favourable conservation status.

In the context of the *Agreement* between BirdLife International and FACE on the “Birds” Directive, signed 12th October 2004, and in particular its point 7, both organisations strongly feel that the finalised *Management Plans* should be endorsed or adopted without further delay by individual Member States. The two organisations consider the ORNIS Committee as the most appropriate body to take such a decision.

In the light of the upcoming meeting of the ORNIS Committee on 18th October 2006, both organisations invite the European Commission to bring their common position to the attention of the Member States so that it can be taken into account when the matter is discussed by the ORNIS Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yves Lecocq".

Yves LECOCQ
FACE
Secretary-General

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clairie Papazoglou".

Clairie PAPAZOGLOU
BirdLife International
Head of European Division