

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

**Thursday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 19:00 Registration and ice-breaking event**

**Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 09:00 Introduction to the Symposium, welcome addresses**

**09:45 In memory of Alan Johnson (J. Walmsley)**

**10:00 Vilanova, ten years after (X. Monbailliu)**

10:10-10:40. L. Ben Nakhla - The Action plan for the conservation of bird species listed in annex II of the Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity.

**10:40-11:00. Coffee break**

### **Session 1A. 11:00-12:30 Oral presentations on key Mediterranean seabird species**

11:00-11:30. **Opening talk:** J. Sultana - Fifty years of seabird research and conservation in the Maltese Islands: are we getting there?

11:30-11:50. J. Arcos - Conservation of the critically endangered Balearic shearwater (*Puffinus mauretanicus*): an update

11:50-12:10. D. Sahin - Are there more yellow shearwaters than we thought?

12:10-12:30. J. Borg - Population estimates in Maltese pelagic breeding birds: numbers, trends and an appeal to assess these cautiously

**12:30-14:30. Lunch**

### **Session 1B. 14:30-18:30 Oral presentations on key Mediterranean seabird species**

14:30-15:00. **Opening talk:** R. Ouni - Seabirds of the National Park of Zembra: census, spatial distribution and breeding monitoring.

15:00-15:20. H. Hammrouni - Status of the European Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis* in Tunisia.

15:20-15:40. M. Habib - Observations on Slender-Billed Gull *Larus genei* breeding in Egypt during 2014. .

15:40-16:00. G. Ramadan-Jaradi - Phenological and conservation status of marine birds in Lebanon.

16:20-16:40. V. Dumbović Mazal - Marine and coastal birds of Croatia: status, population size and conservation.

**16:20-16:40. Coffee break**

16:40-17:00. D. Saveljic - Seabirds of Montenegro.

17:00-17:20. J. Mayol - Status evolution of the seabirds of the Balearic Isles.

17:00-17:40. D. Portolou - Seabirds of Greece.

17:40-18:00. M. Thévenet - A collaborative regional database for seabird ringing data

18:00-18:20. A. Taibi – Study of the Scopoli's Shearwater at the Rachgoun Island (Beni Saf, Algeria)

18:20-18:30. General discussion: mini-comments from the floor, to highlight common issues, gaps and pitfalls presented in the talks of the day.

**Saturday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

**Session 2. 09:00-12:30 Not only seabirds: oral presentations on other Barcelona AP species**

09:00-09:30. **Opening talk:** G. Catsadorakis - Status of the Dalmatian pelican *Pelecanus crispus* and the Great White pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* in the countries around the Mediterranean.

09:30-09:50. F. Monti - Scale-dependent approaches applied to the conservation biogeography of a cosmopolitan raptor: the Osprey

09:50-10:10. A. Qninba - Does the population of Eleonora's Falcon population in Essaouira, Morocco show sign of decline due to a saturation of nesting sites?

**10:10-10:30. Coffee break**

11:10-11:30. M. Malki. New population assessment and variation in breeding parameters of Mogodor Island colony of Eleonora's Falcon, *Falco eleonora*.

11:30-11:50. H. Azafzaf - Promoting IWC data analyses and management in North Africa for monitoring Annex II bird species of the SPA/BD Protocol

11:50-12:20. **Closing talk:** J. Walmsley - The ecology of an important coastal breeding species in the Mediterranean, the Common Shelduck.

12:20-12:30. General discussion: mini-comments from the floor, to highlight common issues, gaps and pitfalls presented in the course of Session 2.

**12:30-12:50h. Extra session:** Waheed Salama Hamied Mohamed Gomaa - Action Plan to Address Bird Trapping along the Mediterranean Coasts of Egypt.

**12:50-14:30. Lunch**

**Session 3 14:30-17:00 Oral presentations about SPAMIs and other aspects of site protection**

14:30-15:00. **Opening talk:** J. Arcos – Seabirds and the need for a marine Natura 2000 network: the Spanish experience

15:00-15:20. N. Barbara - The importance of the Marine IBA network and marine protected areas for the conservation of Mediterranean Seabird species

15:20-15:40. N. Lliteras. The planning process of Natura 2000 for the sea birds in the Balearic Islands.

15:40-16:00. A. Berbash - Waterbird diversity and breeding in Mallaha, Tripoli

**16:00-16:20. Coffee break**

16:20-16:40. P. Lo Cascio – Marine and coastal birds of the Aeolian Archipelago (Sicily): present knowledge and conservation status.

16:40-17:00. S.I. Cherkaoui - Importance of the Moroccan Atlantic coastal zones for the wintering of pelagic seabirds

**17:00-19:00 Medmaravis general assembly, nomination of new board/council members and general discussion on the future of Medmaravis**

**Sunday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

**Session 4 09:00-10:30 Relevant conservation issues on Mediterranean seabirds**

09:00-09:30. **Opening talk:** N. Baccetti - 15 years of rat eradications on Italian islands for the conservation of breeding seabirds

09:30-09:50. M. Baini - A shared protocol to investigate the ecotoxicological status of Mediterranean shag (*P. aristotelis desmarestii*) in the Tyrrhenian Sea

09:50-10:10. A. Hamza - Habitat restoration and breeding density of Lesser crested tern *Thalasseus bengalensis* at Jeliana colony , Libya [Option to move to session 1]

10:10-10:30. C. Feltrup-Azafzaf - Developing Local Conservation Group (LCG) networks for the management of coastal habitats and protection of marine and coastal birds – a case study from Tunisia [Moved from session 3]

**10:30-11:00. Coffe break**

**Session 5 11:00-12:30 Different approaches to the study of coastal and marine birds in the Mediterranean**

11:00-11:30. B. Metzger - Far beyond the horizon - modern tracking techniques as a tool to identify marine IBAs for Maltese seabirds

11:30-11:50. A. Hamza - Chick diet composition of Lesser crested Tern (*Thalasseus bengalensis*) at their Mediterranean Breeding sites in Libya

11:50-12:10. A. Abdennadher - Relevance of refuse dumps in the diet of Yellow-legged Gull from the breeding colony of Chikly island (Tunisia): 3 years of monitoring

12:10-12:30. F. Hamza - Effects of habitat features on the abundance of Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*) wintering in the Gulf of Gabès, Tunisia

**14:30-16:30 Round Table: Bird monitoring for the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the future role of Mediterranean ornithologists.** Introduced by N. Baccetti and with the participation of: P. Yésou (Seabirds and the Marine strategy Network Directive: application in France); J. Arcos (Attaining a good environmental status for seabirds through the marine strategies: the Spanish case), B. Metzger (MS activities in Malta). At the end of the round table, Francisco Romero will present the last work done by RAC/SPA for seabirds within the framework of the Ecosystem Approach of the MAP.

**16:30-17:00. Coffee break**

**17:00-17:30 Reporting on the CdL - Medmaravis review of contamination in Mediterranean seabirds** (F. Borghesi)

**17:00-18:00 Conclusions**