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**JNCC SUPPORT CO.**  
**BOARD MEETING**

**REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**Paper by Marcus Yeo**

1. Since the last report to the company board, the Executive Management Board (EMB) has met three times: on 8 April, 1 May and 20 May. The latter meeting was a special meeting to discuss options for the 2008/09 pay settlement. Minutes of the two routine meetings are available on request.
2. The main items discussed by EMB and other significant issues relating to the running of the company are summarised below.
3. EMB considered issues relating to a proposed review of the UK Special Protection Area (SPA) network. EMB noted that any review would need to be tightly defined, and agreed that, given the resources available, JNCC could do no more than undertake a limited scoping exercise at the present time. EMB also considered the possible requirements under European directives to assess the conservation status of birds and their habitats. It was agreed that a short exercise assessments of conservation status for 12 bird species should be undertaken as a pilot project.
4. A strategic review of the JNCC's European Advice programme has been completed. Further work will be undertaken to progress certain issues and the conclusions will be presented to Joint Committee for discussion in due course. EMB also reviewed progress in the development of action plans for priority themes within the Global Advice programme.
5. The Mapping European Seabed Habitats (MESH) project has been completed and a post-project review undertaken. This has been a highly successful project and its products will underpin many aspects of future marine work within JNCC. It is important to build on the success of the project by keeping information up-to-date and communicating it as widely as possible.
6. Following the UK Overseas Territories conference in Jersey in 2006, at which the south Atlantic Territories highlighted their concern about the lack of information and knowledge about the marine environment, EMB agreed that a strategy should be developed for utilising JNCC's marine expertise to help address this issue.
7. EMB has guided JNCC's 2008 pay review and agreed proposals for changing JNCC's performance pay schemes. Informal discussions on these issues have taken place with the trade unions and proposals will be made to the Remuneration Committee in due course.
8. The change programme for 2008-09 has been agreed. priorities include:

- i. implementing changes to JNCC's organisational structure and programme arrangements;
  - ii. implementing the external communications strategy;
  - iii. progressing the Aberdeen office move;
  - iv. improving electronic information management.
9. EMB approved proposals to implement carbon offsetting within JNCC and to strengthen controls for high-risk and/or high-cost projects.