

Empowering people to identify, conserve and monitor areas of importance for biodiversity

Title

Date: Monday 25th October 13.15?14.45, **Room:** 130, Bldg 1, 3rd floor, **Organisers:** BirdLife International and Fundación Biodiversidad ? Spain, **Contacts:** Alison Stattersfield, Karina Ugarte, Thandie Chikomo, Juan Criado, **Refreshments Event Format** 13.15?13.30 Arrive, pick up new IBA poster and eat lunch (15 minutes to get settled) 13.30?13.35 Introduction by Chair (5 minutes) Spencer Thomas (Chair of SBSSTA and National Biodiversity Coordinator of Grenada): Welcome, ?launch? of poster and brief overview 13.35?13.55 Presentations (20 minutes total) Alberto Yanosky (Executive Director, Guyra Paraguay and member of BirdLife Global Council): **IBAs: priority sites for conservation** (5 minutes) Anuradha Gupta (Director of Conservation and Protected Areas, Palau Conservation Society): **IBAs supporting national policy and planning** (5 minutes) Achilles Byaruhanga (Director, Nature Uganda): **Empowering communities for IBA conservation** (10 minutes) 13.55?14.05 Comments from Government delegates from the floor (10 minutes) 14.05?14.25 Questions and discussion facilitated by Chair (20 minutes) 14.25?14.40 Celebration of awards (15 minutes) Sonia Castañeda (International Director, Fundación Biodiversidad): **Local Conservation Groups: empowering people for change** (introduce awards to outstanding Local Conservation Groups in Latin America and present to relevant government delegates) 14.40?14.45 Final thanks / wrap up by Chair (5 minutes) **Important Bird Areas ?**

1. **are the most significant places for conserving birds and other biodiversity**
2. **highlight gaps in protected area networks and support international agreements**
3. **are monitored to inform policy and action**
4. **are vital for livelihoods and wellbeing and a focus for local engagement in conservation**