**SALUTATION IN LETTER**

To whom it may concern,

With this letter, a group of experts in Lesser White-fronted Goose conservation from different range countries want to express their support for theLesser White-fronted Goose re-introduction program in Sweden.

We would like to state the following:

**1)** The Lesser White-fronted Goose reintroduction program in Sweden managed by Dr. Lambert von Essen and his colleagues is one of the greatest achievements in the species conservation worldwide and a great experience, which can be very useful for conservation of other globally threatened species of waterfowl. We are aware of the problems with the re-introduction. New technology and our increased knowledge in genetics will ensure that all precautions are considered and future programs base on the best practices available.

**2)** In the current situation, when the wild population of LWFG in Fennoscandia has declined below 100 pairs and is completely extinct in Sweden, we consider it extremely important to continue the re-introduction program using either with traditional methods or using ultra-light method, which have shown its efficiency in USA and Russia with reintroduction of different threatened bird species. We will be glad if our scientific knowledge and conservation expertise can be of any help within future projects

**3)** The genetic material for a re-introduction should be carefully selected but in the situation with extremely low population numbers of wild birds, we suggest that Lesser White-fronted Geese from any European farm **(after a genotype test)** or wild birds from European Russia can be used for re-introduction.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,