

**Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework
Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the
Carpathians (COP7)**

High-Level Segment, 12 October 2023

Brief report of the COP7 Technical Segment by the Rapporteur

Excellencies, Ministers, dear delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour to me to briefly report on the proceedings and outcomes of the Technical Segment of the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians. In beginning of my report I would like to thank the Serbian colleagues for hosting us here and organizing the COP7. I would also like to thank Poland for excellent work in their presidency time and I am looking forward for cooperation with Serbian colleagues in their presidency.

The meeting was opened on Wednesday, the 11th of October 2023 at 10:30 by the Head of the Carpathian Convention Secretariat, Mr. Harald Egerer, followed by welcoming remark by Mr. Łukasz Rejt, the COP6 President and the representative of Poland and the Ms. Aleksandra Doslic, the Carpathian Convention Focal Point and the representative of Serbia.

Welcome remarks were followed by the adoption of the agenda and the election of COP7 Bureau Members. Serbia was elected as the President, Ukraine as the Vice-President and the Slovak Republic as the Rapporteur. The Head of the Carpathian Convention Secretariat, Mr. Harald Egerer, reported on credentials.

The representatives of all seven Parties to the Convention attended the meeting.

The Head of the Secretariat reported on the status of ratification of the Protocols, new article 12 bis and the payment contributions to the Convention.

Furthermore, the Head of the Secretariat delivered the progress and prospects report of the Carpathian Convention, informing about goals achieved within the past three years and visions and challenges for the future, and topics that need to strengthen in the future.

Thanks to efficient consultation process and great cooperation among the Parties, the agreement on the final draft of the COP7 Decision was reached and confirmed, and thus the final draft was approved for adoption.

Within the COP7 decisions, the parties have decided on chairing specific working group for next three years. The Secretariat addressed the parties for consideration to chair the working group on Sustainable Transport, which is still not covered by any Party.

The last session of the technical segment was dedicated to various initiative under the Carpathian Convnetion which are playing big roles in cooperation and implementation the Convention.

The Technical Segment of the COP7 closed at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 11th of October 2023.