

Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure

Mandate

The first Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP1) to the Carpathian Convention (Kiev, Ukraine, 1-13 December 2006), by its decisions COP1/8 and COP1/9, decided to “*support the establishment of a Working Group on sustainable industry, energy, transport and infrastructure under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee*”.

The second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP2) to the Carpathian Convention (Bucharest, Romania, 17-19 June 2008) by its decision COP 2/5 para. 1 “*welcomes the work and takes note of the report of the Working Group on Sustainable Transport, Energy and Industry and the recommendations of the Study on the Transport System in the Carpathians elaborated under the lead of the European Academy (EURAC, Bolzano, Italy) contained in the document UNEP/CC/COP2/2 and invites Parties and other stakeholders to ensure the proper follow-up*”.

COP2 by its decision COP2/5 para. 3 further “*invites the Parties to continue to take part in the preparatory work towards the development of a Protocol on Sustainable Transport (...)*”.

Tasks

The Working Group will aim at supporting the Parties to the Carpathian Convention towards their cooperation for the implementation of Articles 8 (Sustainable Transport and infrastructure) and 10 (Industry and energy) of the Carpathian Convention.

Field of activities

1. The WG will analyse the available information base and identify gaps requiring further research.
2. The WG shall consider the proposal for a Protocol to the CCIC and prepare recommendations to the CCIC for COP action.
3. The WG can provide guidance and recommendations for the development of follow-up projects in the area of sustainable transport.

List of results

- Proposal for the draft Protocol and recommended COP action submitted to CICC;
- Public consultations on Draft Protocol text;
- Inputs for proposals for follow-up activities and projects;

Composition and organization of work

The Working Group is composed of the National Focal Points for the Carpathian Convention and/or persons nominated by them. In accordance with the Rules of

Procedure of the Conference of the Parties, the meetings of the Working Group are open for observers.

At each meeting, the Working Group will elect its Chair and Co-Chair; the ISCC will act as rapporteur. In conducting its business, the Working Group will base itself on the applicable Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties.

The Working Group will meet as necessary and its meetings will be financially supported by the work programme of the Carpathian Convention and supporting projects. Work through email is encouraged.

The Working Group will report to the Conference of the Parties through the CCIC.

Coordination and cooperation

Decision COP2/5 para. 3 requests the Interim Secretariat to further coordinate and service the Parties in the process.

The WG will exchange information and foster communication with other relevant WGs of the Carpathian Convention (e.g. Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity, Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management) and will seek cooperation with other interested constituencies beyond the Carpathian Convention.

Furthermore proactive cooperation shall be ensured with key international organizations active in these fields.

Scientific contributions and background information

- Recommendations of the Study on the Transport System in the Carpathians elaborated under the lead of the European Academy (EURAC, Bolzano, Italy) contained in the document UNEP/CC/COP2/2 and other relevant specific Carpathian Project inputs to the WG;
- Carpathian Environment Outlook (KEO), which will provide a holistic and integrated assessment of the current state and future trends of the Carpathian environment;
- REC-EURAC Regional assessment and handbook, documents prepared in the framework of the Umbrella Project financed by IMELS;
- EST goes EAST Clearing House promoting Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Central and Eastern Europe (*see <http://esteast.unep.ch>*). The WG will closely interact with the Working Groups on Transport and on Environment of the Central European Initiative (CEI);
- “Building a thematic dimension to the ENP” of the Communication from the EU Commission of 04/12/06 to the Council and the European Parliament on Strengthening the European Neighbourhood Policy to elaborate common approach (methodology) on IPPC – BAT (integrated pollution prevention control – best available technologies) for sustainable transport, energy, industry and infrastructure development in Carpathian Region;
- Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development on the European Continent as well as Linz Declaration of 21/03/2002 on regional policy & cohesion, governance & the future of Europe, transport networks in Europe, sustainable agriculture & protection of rural areas etc initiated by the Assembly of the

European Regions and adopted by the Committee of the Regions of EU, CLRAE and other 14 European Regional Institutions as well;

- Communication from the EU Commission of 04/12/06 to the Council and the European Parliament on Strengthening the European Neighbourhood Policy and Communication from the EU Commission of 31/01/2007 to the Council and the European Parliament “Extension of the major trans-European transport axes to the neighbouring countries. Guidelines for transport in Europe and neighbouring regions”;
- Relevant documentation and inputs provided throughout the project “ACCESS2MOUNTAINS” (South East Europe Programme), if finally approved;
- The experience of the work developed within the frame of the Sustainable Energy Research Alliance.