

## Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

### Mandate

The First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP1) to the Carpathian Convention (Kyiv, Ukraine, 11-13 December 2006) in its Decision COP1/6 para 2 decided “to support the establishment of a Working Group on cultural heritage and traditional knowledge under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee”, a subsidiary body of the of the Convention, established pursuant to Decision COP1/3 para 4.

Decision COP2/13 paragraph 7 requests “the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (CCIC) to review and decide on the continuation of the Working Groups, as appropriate”.

### Tasks

The WG will have the following tasks:

- Consider and consolidate the background documentation made available to it by the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project, Work Package 4 “education and Awareness for the Future”, coordinated by REC Slovakia:
  1. Carpathian Cultural, Historic and Social Topography (case study)
  2. Carpathian Cultural, Historic and Social Topography (case monography)
  3. Carpathian Identity - application of the training program
  4. Methodology for the Carpathian Cultural, Historic and Social Topography
  5. Local “Agenda 21” - methodology and pilot action; as well as make use of maps to be provided by EURAC.
- Create an overview of experts, local materials and knowledge on the current diversity of cultural heritage in the Carpathians;
- Consider the development and provide guidance for a strategy to strengthen and support the cultural heritage of the Carpathians;
- Consider whether a legal instrument is required to assist the regional co-operation process;
- Consider establishing of the Carpathian Heritage List for sites and cultural activities;
- Consider providing a platform for sharing of the experiences acquired concerning the application of Carpathian sites to the UNESCO World Heritage List;
- Provide recommendations for a programme of practical activities to support local communities active in the field of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge preservation and promotion, and to assist the preservation and protection of cultural heritage within all Carpathian countries.

### **Field of activities**

1. The WG will focus on cultural heritage and traditional knowledge including awareness raising, education and public participation issues, and in this regard will benefit from the outputs provided by the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project and ANPED, as well as from the inputs to be delivered by UNESCO in terms of expertise and support of its activities.
2. The WG shall consider making a proposal on the development of appropriate policy instruments such as a regional strategy and / or Protocol or any other relevant policy tools in the field of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge to the Bureau of COP4 and prepare recommendations to the Bureau in this regard.
3. The WG will explore the links between culture, cultural heritage and environment and the ways and means how cultural heritage and traditional knowledge can support and contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of rich biodiversity of the Carpathians.
4. The WG will act as a major platform for all the existing “hidden” potential resources and activities related to culture and cultural heritage linked to sustainable development that are on-going and available in the region. It can act as a promotion group for the Carpathian culture.
5. The WG will add value in the area of outreach and involvement of the key target groups and stakeholders vital for cultural heritage preservation and promotion as well as for the effective implementation of the Carpathian Convention as whole.
6. The WG may consider making a contribution to the development of the “Carpathian Identity” by linking its activities to those of e.g. ANPED and its partners that are focused on the development of the concept of “Carpathians - Diversity of Culture – Culture of Diversities, and to WWF DCP work under the “Carpathian Opportunity”.
7. The WG will submit its recommendations for the identification and development of the follow-up projects in the area of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge to COP4 Bureau.

### **List of results:**

- Proposal for the draft regional strategy/Protocol on cultural heritage and traditional knowledge submitted to the Bureau of COP4 and its Terms of Reference if considered necessary;
- Report on the overview of experts, local materials and knowledge on the current diversity of cultural heritage in the Carpathians submitted to the Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and to COP4 Bureau;
- Terms of Reference of a Carpathian Heritage List submitted to the Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and to COP4 Bureau;
- Recommendations for a programme of practical activities to support local communities active in the area of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge preservation and promotion submitted to the Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and to COP4 Bureau;
- Proposed inputs for COP4 of the Carpathian Convention, such as inputs to the ministerial declaration to be considered by COP4;

- A list of follow-up actions and proposals.

### **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**

The WG will benefit from cooperation with UNESCO providing its expertise and technical backstopping as in relation to its aim and tasks in general and in drafting the recommendations for the identification and development of follow-up projects in the area of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge preservation and promotion.

The WG will rely on services offered by ANPED in executing of its tasks and will benefit from continuous inputs provided by ANPED to the Carpathian Convention implementation process.

The Working Group 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.

### **Scientific contributions and background information**

The Working Group will benefit mainly from the inputs provided by:

1. Carpathian Environment Outlook (KEO), which will provide a holistic and integrated assessment of the current state and future trends of the Carpathian environment;
2. Handbook on the Carpathian Convention prepared in the framework of the Umbrella Project financed by the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) and implemented by the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) in partnership with the European Academy (EURAC);
3. National assessments of the policy, legislative and institutional frameworks related to the Carpathian Convention, available in English and national-language versions, prepared in the framework of the Umbrella Project financed by the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) and implemented by the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) in partnership with the European Academy (EURAC);
4. Position Paper „Cultural heritage and Traditional Knowledge within the Framework of the Carpathian Convention“ (see UNEP/CC/COP1/7/Rev.1 at

<http://www.carpathianconvention.org/NR/rdonlyres/CA816677-3C5B-455B-9D85-A760F3E96C57/0/Secretariatnoteonculturalheritageandtraditionalknowledge301106.pdf>) submitted by ANPED to COP1;

5. Specific Carpathian Project inputs to the WG, to be prepared by REC Slovakia in cooperation with the project partners, will include, inter alia:
  - Methodology Development for Identification of Cultural, Historic and Social Potential of Cities and Regions, in the Carpathian Mountain Range;
  - Preparation and elaboration of Carpathian Cultural, Historic and Social Topography (CHST);
  - Identification of common denominators;
  - Application of CHST in strategic documents; identification of experts elaborating CHST;
  - Presentation of the CHST to the project partners and representatives of the Carpathian regions from partner countries;
  - Elaboration of a manual for CHST;
  - Elaboration of Case Study and application of CHST methodology in the model region of White Carpathians (Euroregion Biele Karpaty/Bile Karpaty). Elaboration of the CHST for the Euroregion, analysis and evaluation of the region, elaboration of sustainable development program;
  - Application of the CHST - elaboration and publishing of model homeland study monograph.
6. Specific Carpathian Project inputs to the WG prepared by the European Academy (EURAC Research) in Bolzano, Italy, provided in cooperation with the project partners that will include:
  - Map topics (ethnic structure, religious structure, cultural landscapes, cultural heritage, common linguistic features) of the Atlas of the Carpathians data and other source materials collected from international and national sources, supplemented by specific investigations and harmonized for comparative cartographic representation in the 1: 2 million scale.
  - Data collection and harmonization, if necessary additional specific investigations.
7. Specific Carpathian Project inputs to the WG prepared by the Polish Institute of Urban Development, provided in cooperation with the project partners will include:
  - Analysis of the cultural identity and diversity in the Carpathian Area as a whole and in the delimited sub-regions. Research on basic common features, which would help to develop the unique profile of the Carpathian Area in Europe and the characteristic cultural factors for the endogenous social and economic development.
8. Other related documentation.