



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة · 联合国环境规划署
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT · PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ



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Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

First meeting

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Item 6 (g) of the provisional annotated agenda

Secretariat note on sustainable tourism – Article 9 of the Carpathian Convention

Introduction

1. Article 9, paragraph 1 of the Carpathian Convention stipulates that Parties shall take measures to promote sustainable tourism in the Carpathians, providing benefits to the local people, based on the exceptional nature, landscapes and cultural heritage of the Carpathians, and shall increase cooperation to this effect.
2. Article 14, paragraph 2 of the Carpathian Convention states that the Conference of the Parties shall discuss common concerns of the Parties and make the decisions necessary to promote the effective implementation of the Convention. In particular, it shall establish such subsidiary bodies, including thematic working groups, as are deemed necessary for the implementation of the Convention.

Implementation

3. The information document UNEP/CC/COP1/INF.5 contains a Background Paper on Sustainable Tourism Opportunities in the Carpathians submitted by the CEEWEB (Central and Eastern European Working Group for the Enhancement of Biodiversity), for the information and consideration of the COP1 of the Carpathian Convention. The paper is intended to provide information on sustainable tourism opportunities in the Carpathians. The paper was developed by CEEWEB in the framework of the EU-IINTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project, in consultation with UNEP Vienna ISCC.
4. The Carpathian Project will support the preparation of background documentation on sustainable tourism opportunities in the Carpathians and meetings of the transnational working group on sustainable tourism support, carry out pilot activities for tourism infrastructure in margin and remote areas, (Carpathian touristic circuit - the Via Carpatica), provide support to small and medium sized enterprises in the tourism sector, and ensure coordination of the pilot action with the Carpathian Convention.

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Possible action by the Conference of the Parties

1. The Conference of the Parties is invited to welcome the concrete contribution of CEEWEB and the EU-INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project to the Carpathian Convention implementation process, and, against that background, to decide to:
 - a) establish the Working Group on sustainable tourism aiming at the elaboration of a draft strategy for the future tourism development of the Carpathians and of a tourism protocol;
 - (b) request the Interim Secretariat to convene its first meeting in order to define the Terms of Reference for the Working Group and initiate its concrete work;
 - (c) request the Interim Secretariat to set a date of its first meeting;
 - (d) invite governments, international organisations and non-governmental organisations, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities to contribute to the elaboration of the draft strategy and draft tourism protocol, by electronic consultation, and welcomes the continuous inputs provided by CEEWEB;
 - (e) invite national, regional and international funding organisations to find ways and means to financially contribute to the elaboration of the draft strategy and draft tourism protocol and its implementation.