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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

Kyiv, Ukraine, 11-13 December 2006 Item 10 of the provisional annotated agenda

Secretariat note on establishing a Permanent Secretariat

Introduction

- 1. Article 15 of the Carpathian Convention provides for the establishment of the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention.
- 2. To facilitate the process of establishing a Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, the interim Secretariat submitted a note on Consequences and Implications of Establishing the Permanent Secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians to the Preparatory Meeting for the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention (COP1) held on 16 December 2005 in Bolzano, Italy, contained in Annex I to the present note.
- 3. At the Preparatory Meeting for the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine confirmed their offers for hosting the future Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention. The Meeting requested the interim Secretariat to prepare and circulate a draft questionnaire on the Permanent Secretariat issue, to be distributed for consideration and comments to all Carpathian countries. The Meeting recommended that each country intending to offer to host the future Permanent Secretariat, should come up with one proposed site / city only (according to the formula one country one proposal).
- 4. Accordingly, the interim Secretariat prepared the aforementioned questionnaire and compiled proposals for hosting the Permanent Secretariat from Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine. The draft comparative compilation of the proposals for the location of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, contained in Annex II to the present not, has been submitted to the Second Preparatory Meeting to the COP1.
- 5. The Second Preparatory Meeting to the First Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention felt that the issue of location of the Permanent Secretariat would not be ripe for

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a decision by COP1, and agreed that the issue should be further discussed and a decision made at COP2, which should be held in Romania.

Possible action by the Conference of the Parties

1. The Conference of the Parties may request the interim Secretariat to collect further information in consultation with the Carpathian countries in order to further substantiate the offers, to service the intergovernmental consultation process, as appropriate, and to present an updated compilation of proposals to the COP2, as a basis for decision-making.

Annex I

NOTE

Consequences and Implications of Establishing the Permanent Secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

RESUME

- 1. A Convention secretariat is an international entity vested by Parties to the Convention with certain rights and responsibilities to ensure a proper and effective implementation of the Convention and to provide technical and administrative support to the operation of Convention bodies.
- 2. Article 15 paragraph 1 of the Carpathian Convention states that "a Secretariat is hereby established". This provision implies that the Conference of the Parties shall, upon entry into force of the Convention, decide on the arrangements for the permanent Secretariat of the Convention, including its location and staffing. Such a decision would deal with several inter-related issues: institutional link to an international entity, physical location of the secretariat, host country agreement, integration of or relation with related programmes or projects, financial arrangements.
- 3. The majority of international agreements are institutionally linked to international agencies, especially those which supported their negotiation. Various benefits may flow from such linkage: access to outsourcing, use of the agency's administrative, procedural and institutional experience, programmatic support, technical assistance. The international agency may also provide support through financial and in-kind contributions, provision of staff or other activities. Further income can be generated by the international agency through additional functions performed or projects implemented by it, which would further improve the cost-efficiency of the secretariat arrangements.
- 4. The decision on the physical location aims at obtaining the most favourable conditions for the effective functioning of the secretariat. It also entails specific political and material responsibilities by the host Government. The country offers are made and assessed against uniform criteria. Once the physical location of the Carpathian Secretariat is established, the winning offer will be translated into a host government agreement.
- 5. As standard practice, the State Parties bear the primary responsibility to ensure an adequate and predictable funding for the operation of the Convention and functioning of its organs. Additional funds may be received from international organizations and programmes as well as from individual donors or projects. The host Government of the permanent Secretariat would provide additional material resources, either monetary or in kind, to support its operation.

INTRODUCTION

- 6. In accordance with prevailing practice, international conventions are administered by convention secretariats.
- 7. A convention secretariat is an international entity vested by Parties to the Convention with certain rights and responsibilities to ensure a proper and effective implementation of the Convention and to provide technical and administrative support to the operation of the Convention bodies.

- 8. The Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Carpathian Convention) by its Article 15 calls for the establishment of a permanent Secretariat entrusted with the following functions:
 - (a) to make arrangements for sessions of the Conference and to provide them with services as required,
 - (b) to compile and transmit reports submitted to it,
 - (c) to coordinate its activities with the secretariats of other relevant international bodies and conventions,
 - (d) to prepare reports on the exercising of its functions under this Convention and its Protocols, including financial reports, and present them to the Conference,
 - (e) to facilitate research, communication and information exchange on matters relating to this Convention, and
 - (f) to perform other secretariat functions as may be determined by the Conference.
- 9. At the time of adoption of the Carpathian Convention, for the purposes of supporting its interim implementation and the preparation of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the signatory States requested the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Europe to provide an interim secretariat to the Carpathian Convention.
- 10. Subsequently, the UNEP Executive Director authorized the UNEP Secretariat to provide to the Carpathian Convention an interim secretariat, until the Conference of the Parties establishes a permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention. The Signatories of the Carpathian Convention decided, pending the entry into force of the Convention, to make a voluntary contribution to assist in meeting the core cost of the interim Secretariat services, which will be up to USD 150.000 per year. Austria offered to host and support the interim secretariat. UNEP is providing support through staff, in-kind contributions and resources for operational activities.
- 11. The services of the interim secretariat of the Carpathian Convention are provided by the UNEP Regional Office for Europe (UNEP/ROE) through the UNEP Vienna Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention's office in the Vienna International Centre / United Nations Office in Vienna (UNOV).
- 12. Article 15 paragraph 1 of the Carpathian Convention prescribes that the "Secretariat is hereby established". In other words, as soon as the Carpathian Convention enters into force, the Conference of the Parties shall have to decide on the establishment and the organization of the Convention's permanent Secretariat. Further, the Conference of the Parties shall have to decide on the ways and means to obtain the necessary funds and other material resources to ensure the functioning of the permanent Secretariat and the operation of the Convention.
- 13. Such funds shall cover costs of the Secretariat's staff remuneration and travel, of equipment and communication, premises and municipal services, as well as costs of meetings and of authorized operational activities under the Convention.

INSTITUTIONAL LINK

- 14. Similarly to other international treaties, while establishing a permanent secretariat, the Parties to the Carpathian Convention shall have to agree and formally decide on several related issues.
- 15. One such issue is the institutional linkage of the Secretariat to an international organization or entity. International practice provides numerous examples of institutional relations of convention secretariats to international agencies. In most cases, the convention secretariats retain institutional links with those international bodies, which sponsored or supported the negotiation of the particular convention. Multiple international agreements are institutionally connected to International Maritime Organization (IMO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- 16. A commonly used notion of "UNEP conventions" relates to a group of environmental treaties, the negotiation of which was initiated and supported by UNEP, and to which UNEP continues to provide administrative and programmatic support. These treaties include regional seas agreements, as well as conventions on biological diversity, migrating species, hazardous wastes, ozone layer, chemical substances etc.
- 17. In cases where convention negotiation was sponsored by several international agencies, such conventions may receive joint institutional support by the agencies concerned. A recent example is the Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (PIC Convention) to which the secretariat is jointly provided by UNEP and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- 18. There are several environmental treaties that are more loosely linked to the United Nations at large. The most known examples are the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). Such a loose link results in greater autonomy, while the convention secretariats continue to apply, as appropriate, UN rules and regulations and follow UN administrative procedures.
- 19. In case of regional treaties, they are often linked to respective regional institutions. For example, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) supported the negotiations and provides secretariat to European conventions on transboundary waters, industrial accidents, water and health etc. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) initiated negotiation of and provides secretariat support to the recent ASEAN Agreement on the Transboundary Haze Pollution.
- 20. Still, there exist international environmental agreements, which remain fully autonomous in terms of institutional linkage. For example, the State Parties to the Helsinki Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area created a special body, the Helsinki Commission, which acts as a forum for policy debates and decisions and which administrative arm performs all supportive and administrative services to the Convention. The Helsinki Commission is not institutionally dependant on any international organization or body. Another example would be the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, which nevertheless is receiving some support by the UNDP GEF Danube Regional Project and is physically co-located with a UNDP project office in the Vienna International Centre.

- 21. A general rule may be drawn from the review of international practice: the majority of international agreements remain institutionally linked to one or more international agencies, especially those that supported their negotiation process. Multiple benefits may flow from such institutional linkage: better access to outsourcing, use of the wealth of administrative, procedural and institutional experience, programmatic support, technical assistance.
- 22. The international agency may provide support through financial and in-kind contributions, provision of staff or other activities. Further income can be generated by the international agency through additional functions performed or projects implemented by it, which would further improve the cost-efficiency of the secretariat arrangements. The international agency will also be able to draw upon other resources within its organization or outsource substantive functions to other operational entities within the organization.
- 23. It is also true that institutional relationship between convention and international entity provides that entity with certain legitimate influence with regard to the operation of the serviced convention. For example, both the UNEP Governing Council (on the level of decision-making) and UNEP Executive Director (on operational level) have certain discretionary powers with regard to UNEP personnel, administrative and financial arrangements for the Convention in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures of UNEP, unless otherwise is expressly provided by the convention or relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties would decide on the substantive functioning of the convention and its secretariat.
- 24. The above said does not prejudice the right of the Governing Council, by virtue of its general functions in accordance with the UN resolution 2997 (XXVII), to address Contracting Parties and make recommendations on substantive issues under the Convention.
- 25. It should be further noted that an institutional relationship between convention and international entity could be designed to provide for a high degree of flexibility regarding structure and operation of the Secretariat arrangement. For example, the hosting country or any Contracting Party could offer in-kind support or second additional staff to the Secretariat, and provide substantive or logistical support through other existing agencies or institutions.

PHYSICAL LOCATION OF THE SECRETARIAT

- 26. Another important issue for the Parties to decide is the selection of the physical location of the permanent Secretariat. It is normally assumed that such a decision is taken for the whole duration of the Convention, as the relocation of an international secretariat results in additional logistical, administrative and financial burdens.
- 27. As standard practice, the permanent secretariat is located in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties, when a Party hosts the secretariat, or at the offices of the international organization, if such is assigned to provide a permanent secretariat.
- 28. Selection of a country, in which territory the permanent secretariat be located, is made from available offers by those Contracting Parties who expressed their willingness to host the Secretariat. The Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention is expected to assist the Contracting Parties in the process of selection among the offers from individual States by circulating a questionnaire, as well as by collecting and screening the available offers.

- 29. Decision on the physical location of the permanent secretariat may be influenced by many factors. However, the prevailing consideration is to ensure the most favourable conditions for the effective functioning of the secretariat.
- 30. The international practice is rather consistent and suggests a number of criteria related to physical location, which should be satisfied in order to ensure efficient operation of the permanent secretariat. The most recent processes of selection of physical location of the permanent secretariat that took place under PIC and POPs Conventions provide pertinent experience.
- 31. To facilitate preparation of country offers for hosting the Carpathian permanent Secretariat, a questionnaire may be prepared by the interim Secretariat and subsequently endorsed by the signatory States. The questionnaire would comprise the main categories of information required from countries interested in hosting the permanent secretariat.
- 32. The following are typical categories of requirements which may be included in such a questionnaire:
 - <u>Legal framework</u> which would serve as the legal conditions of functioning and operation of the permanent Secretariat and its staff, including privileges and immunities for the Secretariat's premises, staff and other persons engaged in the official business of the Convention, rules applicable to employment of staff dependents, nature of the headquarters agreement;
 - <u>Features of the Secretariat's office and related financial issues</u>, including features
 of the building hosting the Secretariat, equipment, materials and services provided
 on paid and non-paid basis;
 - <u>Local facilities</u>, including diplomatic and international organizations representation
 in the host city, availability of international conference facilities and access to
 qualified conference staff, international and local transport facilities, availability of
 trained personnel for possible employment in the Secretariat, availability of
 suitable housing, schooling, health and recreational amenities, facilities for the
 transfer of funds to and from foreign countries, visa and entry permits procedures
 and requirements;
 - Other relevant information, including any additional earmarked and/or nonearmarked contribution by the host Government to the operation of the Secretariat or to the meetings under the Convention, information on potential synergies from cooperation and coordination with various organizations and bodies located in the host country.
- 33. If based on the questionnaire, the country offers get similarly structured and are easy to assess. To help comparison, the country offers are compiled by the Interim Secretariat in an analytical paper that is submitted to the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to facilitate its decision on the physical location of the permanent Secretariat.
- 34. Some details of the country offers for hosting the permanent Secretariats of PIC and POPs Conventions are provided below for the purpose of better understanding of the relationship between the questionnaire and specific information provided by the competing Governments.

- 35. For example, the governments of Switzerland and Italy, in the offers to host the PIC Convention Secretariat, agreed to annually provide 1,200,000 Euro to cover the Secretariat related expenses. Besides, Switzerland offered additional 100,000 Euro to consolidate the infrastructure of the Secretariat as well as agreed to fully cover the expenses of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Geneva. Further, Switzerland and Italy promised to provide the Secretariat with rent-free office space, and to guarantee the issuance of entry visas to participants of the Convention meetings within 24 hours without charge.
- 36. While competing for the seat of the permanent Secretariat of the POPs Convention, the Government of Germany offered to provide 1,500, 000 Euro to fund the establishment of the Secretariat in Bonn and further to contribute annually 1,000,000 Euro for the Secretariat related expenses, as well as the provision of the UN type privileges and immunities to the Secretariat premises and staff.
- 37. Though it is well understood that these generous propositions come from the most developed and wealthy nations, the offers evidence the fact that hosting an international secretariat, besides bringing certain advantages, entails specific political and material responsibilities of the host Government.
- 38. Apparently, the consideration and decision on the physical location of the permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention would revolve around technical, substantive and political consideration. In such a debate an important role may be played by the head or responsible senior official of the international agency that provides interim Secretariat. Hence, UNEP, within its status, mandate and practical experience, may assist consensus-building, by mediating solution of eventual political differences and catalyzing consensual decisions on significant issues.

HOST COUNTRY AGREEMENT

- 39. Once the physical location of the Carpathian Secretariat is decided, the next step would be to translate the offer of the Contracting Party that won the seat of the permanent secretariat into a host government agreement. An early start of the negotiation with the host government should be encouraged because of the complexity of issues to resolve. For example, in the case of a federal State, additional time may be required to obtain the consent of all levels of authority federal, provincial and local as their regulations on individual matters may differ.
- 40. In the event the Carpathian Convention remains institutionally linked to UNEP, the UNEP department which provided the interim Secretariat would engage in preparing the text of the host government agreement, and, subsequently, negotiating and concluding it, on behalf of the Contracting Parties, with the host Government.

FINANCING

41. It is known, that implementation of environmental treaties is to a large extent based on national measures. However, there always is international dimension of the implementation process. Accordingly, the State Parties decide on the magnitude and time-frame of the respective international activities to support Convention implementation, including the functioning of international bodies created by the Convention.

- 42. As standard practice, the State Parties bear the primary responsibility to ensure an adequate and predictable funding for the operation of the Convention and functioning of its organs. Additional funds may be received from international organizations and programmes as well as from individual donors or projects. As shown by the experience reviewed earlier, a State Party that host a permanent secretariat normally provides additional material resources, either monetary or in kind, to support the functioning of the secretariat.
- 43. To secure predictable funding, the State Parties agree on long- or medium-term contribution schedule and arrange for predictable outsourcing. These arrangements, together with establishing other sources of financing and outsourcing will serve as the basis of the budget of the Convention. In practical terms, the decisions balancing the scale of secretariat and operational activities with perceived funding are translated into a budget document to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
- 44. The funds from available sources get accumulated in one or several trust funds. Normally, a general trust fund is established to support the secretariat activities. Special funds may be created for managing earmarked contributions or financing individual events under the Convention. As it is the case of many other environmental treaties, such trust funds may be established and managed by UNEP, if the Contracting Parties decide to institutionally link the Carpathian Convention to this agency.
- 45. The sources of external funding of the Carpathian Convention may include contributions by States non-Parties to the Convention, as well as support by international organizations and programmes or individual projects. Any external funding, which is earmarked for certain activities under the Convention, will inevitably affect the decision-making and operation of the Convention.
- 46. The issues related to the establishment of the Carpathian Convention permanent Secretariat and discussed above are interrelated and can be best decided as a single package. However, if a package decision is prevented, due to the lack of political will to reach a consensual agreement or because of the need for additional information, the minimum to be decided by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall include agreement on physical location of the Secretariat and on establishing a realistic and time framed funding of its activities. It is desirable that the creation of a favourable long-term regime of the Carpathian Convention Secretariat pursues the goals of the effective implementation of the Convention and not to be marred by external political factors and considerations.

Annex II

Location of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

Proposals of Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine compiled by the Interim Secretariat

Part 1. Legal framework

1.1 General provisions on privileges and immunities that would be conferred on the permanent secretariat and its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, representatives of the Contra Parties of the Convention, delegates and experts invited to the meetings and conferences in the Host Country of the Convention.

Can the Permanent Secretariat, its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, representatives of the Contracting Parties of the Convention, delegates and experts invited to the meeting conferences in the Host Country enjoy the privileges and immunities as are accorded to the existing United Nations organizations in your country, including:

- a. Immunity from jurisdiction?
- b. Inviolability of the premises, archives, samples, equipment, and other material?
- c. Freedom of financial assets from restrictions?
- d. Facilities and immunities in respect of communications (e.g. uses of code/sealed bag/radio transmission) and publications?
- e. Exemption from taxes and customs duties?
- f. Other privileges and immunities?

J. Other privileges and infimitatives:				
Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi		
Regarding the privileges and immunities that would be conferred on the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, its staff members, family members/dependants of the staff, representatives of the Contracting Parties to the Convention, delegates and experts, a Headquarters Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention must be negotiated and concluded. The Agreement will contain provisions regarding the location of the Secretariat, the privileges and immunities for all the persons above-mentioned. These privileges and immunities will be accorded as they are to the existing United Nations Organizations in Romania (those mentioned in 1.1 (a, b, c, d, e, f).	All the issues concerning the privileges and immunities specified in types a) to e) can be guaranteed for the Permanent Secretariat, its staff members, family members, representatives of the Contracting Parties of the Convention and another subjects as will be specified in the multilateral treaty with the Contracting Parties of the Convention. This treaty can also confer the privileges and immunities over the frame specified in the types a) to e).	The Carpathian Convention does not include issues regarding privileges and immunities. Therefore, according to President's Decree Nr. 198/93 of 10.06.93 On Regulations on Diplomatic Representatives and Consular Offices of Foreign States in Ukraine - Privileges and Immunities in Ukraine, which are given to foreign intergovernmental organizations, representatives of the foreign states attached to these organizations and their officials are also determined by the corresponding agreements, to which Ukraine is a party. As our previous experience regarding signing of such treaties shows, all below mentioned issues concerning privileges and immunities could be secured according to the international standards in the framework of existing national legislation. The issues concerning privileges and immunities could be		

settled according to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961 and Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized UN Agencies of 21 November 1947, if the status of the staff members of the Permanent Secretariat of Carpathian Convention is under the jurisdiction of the above mentioned Conventions.

Taking into account, that Ukraine is the initiator of the Carpathian Convention, and Chernivtsi is one of the centers of the Carpathian region, the observance of legal bases on location of Secretariat, and also taking into account the necessary legal rights and immunities to its collaborators are guaranteed here.

The Permanent Secretariat and its staff members, family members/dependants of the staff, representatives of the Contracting Parties to the Convention, delegates and experts, invited to the meetings and conferences will be given the privileges and legal immunities as it is accorded in the existing international organizations of the EU, in particular:

- 1. Legal inviolability for the representatives of the Permanent Secretariat and for its staff members, family members/dependants of the staff, representatives of the Parties to the Convention, delegates and experts invited to the meetings and conferences;
- 2. Inviolability of premises, offices, research materials, technical equipment and other certain material and non-material objects, according to the applications of the representatives of the Secretariat;
- 3. Full freedom of financial operations and resources;
- 4. Freedom in using all communication facilities, use of the code, the documents certified by a seal, TV and radio communications, freedom of publications, etc.;
- 5. Taking into account the status of the international organization at the taxation and the custom charges;
- 6. Other privileges and immunities declared by representatives of the Secretariat at the establishment of the Carpathian Convention Permanent Secretariat.

1.2 Legal framework for ensuring equal treatment of premises and staff of the Permanent Secretariat. Please, specify in which legal form the above mentioned privileges and immunities will be secured.

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi
Regarding the legal form, the above mentioned privileges and immunities will be secured. The Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention will be ratified by the Parliament of Romania that will issue a Law in this respect. The Agreement will achieve the power of a Law and will be compulsory for the Romanian authorities that will offer a guarantee.	The above mentioned privileges and immunities would be ensured by the multilateral treaty with the Contracting Parties of the Convention.	

1.3 Rules, including any restrictions, applicable to the employment of family members/dependants of staff members.

Can spouses and children of the staff members of the Permanent Secretariat enjoy access to the labor market without complicated process? On the termination of the duties of the staff members, can their spouses and children continue working in certain reasonable period?

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi
The aspects regarding the employment of the family members of staff members (1.3) will be generally comprised in the text of the Headquarters Agreement. They will have the same legal regime as the staff of other UN Missions in Romania has.	The internal legislation, on the basis of principle of reciprocity, allows to the family members of the international governmental organization staff members corporating on the territory of the Slovak Republic to be employed in territory of the Slovak Republic without the working permit (Act No. 5/2004 Coll.). The possibility of the family member employment without the working permit is linked to the duration of the employers occupational relationship of the international governmental organization located in territory of the Slovak Republic. According the opinion of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention cannot be qualified as the international organization with the legal entity. In the text of the Carpathian	Family members/dependants of the Permanent Secretariat staff with the assistance of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Chernivtsi Regional State Administration, State Department of Ecology and Natural Resources in Chernivtsi region and local self-government will have a free access to the market of work in the field of activity chosen by them with a priority in employment.

Convention there is no such specific article, on the basis of which the Carpathian Convention eventually (resp.) its Secretariat could be qualified as international organization – the subject of international law.	
Consequently, a family member of the employee of the Permanent Secretariat could relate to general provisions for the employment of foreigners (Act No. 5/2004 Coll.). The employment acceptance of the foreigner by the employer located on the Slovak Republic territory is under the condition of working permit.	
The international treaty could set out subsequent legal regulation within the Slovak internal legislation for the employment of the family members of Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention employees.	

1.4 Social Security aspects.

Can the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members be exempt from all compulsory contributions to the social security system of the Host Country? If yes, are they allowed to choose an insurance system of the Host Country on voluntary basis, and if yes, specify the possible ways.

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi	
The social security aspects (1.4) will be generally comprised in the text of the Headquarters Agreement. They will have the same legal regime as the staff of other UN Missions in Romania has.	The exemption of the Permanent secretariat of the Carpathian Convention employees from the frame of internal regulations on social insurance and related contributions could be subject of the international treaty with the Contracting Parties of the Convention.	Secretariat staff members could be settled down according to the	

1.5 Nature of the headquarters agreement

e.g. stand-alone agreement, incorporated into another existing agreement, etc.

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi
	The hosting of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention could be established and institutionalized by	All accepted decisions and the agreed issues will be legislatively fixed by the decisions of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the

Convention will be a stand-alone agreement that will regulate the
special relationship between the Secretariat and the host country.

international (presidential) treaty, which will be a subject for approval by the National Council of the Slovak Republic and ratification of the President of Slovak Republic.

Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, State Department of Ecology and Natural Resources in Chernivtsi region, institutions of local government after a compulsory procedure with open public discussions.

Part 2. Features of the office site and related financial issues

- 2.1. Main features of the building to house the permanent secretariat, including office space and scope for its expansion, facilities for conferences and availability of general services (security, maintenance, etc).
 - a. Will you provide newly constructed office building/accommodations or already have an existing one? Describe the location, available area, amount/type of rooms, please.
 - b. Please, specify the main features of the building placed at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat (offices, conference rooms, storage rooms, parking garages, security, maintenance etc.). Presentation of city-maps and photos, indication of the building's location on the city-map.
 - c. Indication of the existing parking space Will it be enough parking space free-of-charge?
 - d. Will the building include a cafeteria and/or a restaurant that can accommodate staff and delegations?

Romania:		
1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi
 1. Zarnesti a. Piatra Craiului National Park Administration is constructing now the new Visitor Centre in Zarnesti at 28 km distance from Brasov. The visitor centre is located at 1 km out from the town on the way to the Plaiul Foii chalet and nearby the boundary of the Piatra Craiului National Park. b. The total constructed area of the centre is 1, 800 m² and consists of: 6 offices, a library, exhibition spaces-museum, conference room (40 places), 16 accommodation rooms (32 places), 4 storage rooms, kitchen, small restaurant, a workshop. Out of these there is possibility to dispose to the Secretariat needs two offices with 16 m² each. c. There is parking room for 10 cars and a garage for 2 cars. Parking is tax free. d. As above mentioned, there will be a small restaurant with 32 	 a. At disposal of the Permanent Secretariat we can provide a newly reconstructed part of the historical building in the very centre of Banska Bystrica (Lazovna Str. 10). The building hosts actually the State Nature Conservancy Headquarters. The office space is available prospectively from January 2008. Final decision on the movement should be known in June 2006. After reconstruction of the attics the building is a 3-storey-house. It disposes of 15 office rooms of total capacity for 30-35 persons, 1 meeting/conference room for 30 persons and small archive/library room. The building is secured with an alarm system. b. The offered space includes 3 newly reconstructed adjacent office rooms with comfortable capacity 9-10 persons in total. Room size: ca 11 x 10.9m, 4.9 x 5.2m, 4.9 x 5.4m. The space is facilitated with a kitchen and 4 WCs. The space is located in one relatively separate part of the building on the 2nd floor. There is no special security of the rooms; security of the building is ensured through an alarm system. 	 a. The office where the representatives of the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretariat are offered to be placed is a three-story premise; a complex located on the same platform with the State Department of ecology and natural resources in Chernivtsi region what is very convenient in the decision of ecological, economic and household problems. b. A ground floor (240 m² - recently repaired premise (standard office) with use of valuable kinds of tree of local breeds, such as beech, oak, fir, sweet cherry for decoration. All doors are wooden and made in Carpathian picturesque style, in all studies there is a mosaic parquet of beech, oak and sweet cherry. First office floor has six separate offices for the staff members of the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretariat, reception, and also a bathroom (20 m².) with hot and cold water (constantly), shower and a separate toilet.

chairs where staff and delegations can be accommodated.

2. APM Brasov

- a. The Building from APM Brasov (this space is in present occupied by "Garda de Mediu"-The location is in the building of APM Brasov (at the ground floor), Politehnicii Str.3, near (1km) from Old Center of Brasov.
- b. Surface-39.17 m^2 -two rooms (one has 18,5, other 20,67 m^2); The rooms are moquette, and the toilette are in the ground floor same like the rooms.

The place has a permanent guard.

- c. It has own parking place and underground garage.
- d. The building doesn't have cafeteria or restaurant.

3. University "Transilvania", Brasov

- a. The building from University "Transilvania"-the location of the Building has a classic architectonic and contracted in 1889 and is in the center of the city Brasov in the front of the Central Park.
- b. Surface -70 m², first floor. It is a large room with possibilities to separate in 2-3 offices and secretariat.
- c. Parking-in the front of the University "Transilvania".
- d. The building doesn't have cafeteria or restaurant.

4. Prescon SA, Brasov

- a. The Building from Prescon SA: the location has a modern architectonic and is placed from Politehnicii str.,nr.3, in the same building with APM Brasov, approximately at 1 km distance from Old Center of Brasov.
- b. Surface-750 m² –all the building; Structure:
 - 1. basement parking place, storehouse;

- c. The building disposes of its own parking place with a total capacity for 5 cars including a garage. Not all of them however can be at disposal of the Permanent Secretariat as far as they will be used by cars of the home administration (4 cars in the meanwhile). The parking places in the surroundings of the building are paid (very centre of the town).
- d. The building itself does not dispose it. The restaurants and cafeterias are available in the surrounding of the building, as far as it is located in the very centre of the town.

The second floor (" de luxe"-hotel type, 40 m²) - premises for accommodation of the staff members of the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretariat with an separated kitchen, separated bathroom with cold and hot water (constantly) and a toilet.

The third floor (will be repaired soon) - conference-hall for 200 persons. Auxiliary premises: three modern garages for motor transport of the staff members of the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretary, and also a separated automobile repair service/shop with the necessary equipment, rest-place surrounded by the decorative kinds of flora

If necessary, the attendants can be given for the staff members of the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretariat by the State Department of Ecology and Natural Resources in Chernivtsi region, among them: mechanics, computer-programmers, electricians, telephone masters, other technical workers, cleaners etc.

- c. The secured parking place of the State Department of ecology and natural resources is on the join with Secretariat territory where it is possible to park free-of-charge up to 30 automobiles and buses.
- d. Closely to the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretariat there is a cafe with wide assortment of dishes of Bukovyna kitchen, which can be used for serving the delegations.

2.	first	floor-presentation	space,	hall,	office,	storehouse,
toi	lette;					
3.	secon	d floor – offices, ha	all, corri	dor;		

- 4. thirst floor-hall, offices, toilette;
- 5. attic-conference room, toilettes, hall, agency.
- c. Parking –in the basement of the building.
- d. The building doesn't have cafeteria or restaurant.

5. Town Hall, Brasov

- a. The building offered by Town Hall of Brasov. The location is in the Civic Center, M Kogalniceanu boulevard, nr.23, blC7, and the last headquarters of Town hall of Brasov.
- b. Surface-100 m² -two rooms, toilette, all are in the third floor. The place has access to the public and payment parking. The place have a permanent guard, and lift.
- c. It has payment parking place.
- d. The buildings don't have cafeteria or restaurant.
- 2.2. Basis for placing the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat, such as:
 - a. Ownership by the Permanent Secretariat (through donation or purchase, if the case?);
 - b. Ownership by the host Government without rent;
 - c. Host Government ownership with rent to be paid by the Secretariat, and amount of such rent.

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi	
1. Zarnesti No information 2. APM Brasov Property of APM Brasov.	Ownership by the host Government without rent to be paid by the Secretariat (it includes rooms, water, electricity, gas, cleaning, sewage, maintenance).		

3. University "Transilvania" Property of APM Brasov.

4. Preskon

Property of SC Prescon SRL, and the Secretariat must pay a rent: 15000 euro/month.

5. Town Hall Property of Town hall of Brasov.

- 2.3. Who will have a responsibility for:
- a. Major maintenance and repairs to the office facilities;
- b. Normal maintenance and repair;
- c. Utilities, including communication facilities.

Please, indicate possible expenses to be paid by the Secretariat.

Trease, mareure possible expenses to be paid by the secretar	Tieuse, maicuie possible expenses to be paid by the Secretaria.			
Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi		
1. Zarnesti Piatra Craiului National Park Administration will have a responsibility for major maintenance and repairs to the office facilities and normal maintenance and repair; Permanent Secretariat will have a responsibility for utilities, including communication facilities. 2. APM Brasov No information 3. University "Transilvania" Equipments services are made by the "Transilvania" University 4. Preskon No information	Service man and IT administrator of the home administration will have this responsibility. Possible expenses will be for: office equipment, office supplies, telephone, ISDN, fax.	The State Department of Ecology and Natural Resources of Chernivtsi region has the full responsibility for the basic maintenance service and repair the office, usual cleaning and repair of premises of the Permanent Secretariat.		

<u>5.</u> Town Hall No information

2.4. To which extent the office facilities would be furnished and equipped by the Host Government?

Will your offer include the provision free-of charge of the following items:

- a. office furniture;
- b. office equipment;
- c. office supplies;
- d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal);
- lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer network/telephone centre of the house/wiring);
- security equipment/security zone equipment;
- conference equipment including interpretation system

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi		
a. office furniture; Yes b. office equipment; No c. office supplies; No d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal); Yes e. lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer network/telephone centre of the house/wiring); Yes f. security equipment/security zone equipment; Yes	 a. office furniture; Yes, standard furniture b. office equipment; No, secretariat will to supply business machines (computers, faxes, printing and copy machines etc.) c. office supplies; No, secretariat will to pay for office supplies (paper, toners) d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposall) Yes, they will be free-of charge e. lines of communication 	 a., b., c. and d. For simplification of work of the Permanent Secretariat and creation of appropriate conditions of arrangement, the finances of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine and Regional State Administration (RSA) will be given for purchase of the corresponding equipment for the beginning of work and payment of municipal services. e., f, and g. The premises of the Carpathian Convention's Permanent 		
g. conference equipment with interpretation system Yes 2. APM Brasov	(telephone/ISDN/fax/computer network/telephone centre of the house/wiring); No, secretariat will to pay for telephone, ISDN, fax f. security equipment/security zone equipment; Yes	Secretariat are provided with telecommunication lines (four numbers), fax, have the special electronic network between computers. If necessary, there is an opportunity to be connected with special automatic telephone network for the		
 a. office furniture; The office doesn't have furniture and technical equipments. b. office equipment; c. office supplies; d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal); 	g. conference equipment including interpretation system; Yes conference room in the building, no interpretation systems We offer rooms with public utilities and lines of communication (telephone, fax, computer network, wiring, internet connection through microwave antenna 1 Mb/sec) at	direct communication with the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Regional State Administration and all needed Departments in Chernivtsi region, in the Carpathian region and Ukraine. The offered office for the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretariat in Chernivtsi is ready to accept its		

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e. lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer	disposal.	staff right now.
network/telephone centre of the house/wiring);		
f. security equipment/security zone equipment;		
g. conference equipment including interpretation system No.		
3. University "Transilvania"		
a. office furniture; The office doesn't have furniture and		
technical equipments.		
b. office equipment; <i>The possibility to connect at phone cable</i> ,		
TV		
c. office supplies; The location has electric supply.		
d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste		
disposal); No		
e. lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer		
network/telephone centre of the house/wiring); No		
f. security equipment/security zone equipment; <i>No</i>		
g. conference equipment including interpretation system <i>No</i> .		
4. Preskon		
a. office furniture; <i>No</i>		
b. office equipment; <i>No</i>		
c. office supplies; No		
d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste		
disposal); Yes		
e. lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer		
network/telephone centre of the house/wiring); No		
f. security equipment/security zone equipment; <i>No</i>		
g. conference equipment including interpretation system <i>No</i> .		
5. Town Hall		
office furniture; The office doesn't have furniture and technical		
equipments.		
b. office equipment;		
c. office supplies;		
d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal);		
e. lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer		
network/telephone centre of the house/wiring);		
f. security equipment/security zone equipment; conference equipment		
including interpretation system .		
L		

2.5 Please, specify the duration of the arrangements regarding office space.		
Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi

1. Zarnesti	The space should be available in January 2008.	No information
The Visitor Centre will be in place in August 2006 and all the arrangements will be finished until end of September 2006.		
2. APM Brasov		
Unlimited.		
3. University "Transilvania"		
Unlimited.		
4. Preskon		
Unlimited.		
5. Town Hall		
Unlimited.		

Part 3. Local facilities and conditions

3.1. Short general overview of the town/city and region features.

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi
1. Zarnesti	Banska Bystrica is a historical town originated in 1255. It is a	
Zarnesti town has a population of 26,000 inhabitants and Brasov 300,000.	regional capital of the Banskobystricky Region in the Central Slovakia. Number of the city population is 90.000. The town is a regional business, education (Matej Bel University), cultural and	nationalities live here in peace and consent. A big number of ethnic groups in the region wonder and draw attention of the
Brasov County has a total surface of 5.363 km ² , being located in	tourist centre.	scientists over centuries to the phenomenon of peaceful human coexistence. Bukovynian Carpathian mountains are a region of of
the middle of Romania.	Nature conditions: a surrounding of the town is mountainous (Nizke Tatry Mts., Velka Fatra Mts. (designed as national parks	unique unity of picturesque landscapes and hutsul glory.
Zarnesti town is located at the bottom of the Piatra Craiului	as well), Kremnicke Hills and Polana Mts.)	The area owns many structural components of recreational

Massif, having as main activities the industry (which unfortunately is in decline at this moment), agriculture (individual exploitations not farms) and rural tourism. The presence of the National Park and Bran Castle nearby contributed to a constant development of the tourism activities, which are one of the future important directions of the community development. There are around 15 pensions in Zarnesti. The main attraction is the National Park with large recreational possibilities (climbing, hiking, tourist trails, cabins, chalets, shelters, skis, horses and bicycles rent, guided tours, wildlife observations etc.)

Brasov city is one of the most representative Romanian cities in terms of tourism. Being located at 160 km from Bucharest, nearby the most visited mountains range (Bucegi, Piatra Mare, Ciucas and Piatra Craiului) and at 10 km from the most famous ski resort in Romania (Poiana Brasov), the city could deliver a broad range of tourist services. It is also a very important industrial centre with large numbers of foreign investments realised and about to come

2. APM Brasov

Population - 284000 inhabitants. Territory total area - 267,3 km². Brasov is situated in the central part of the country being considered one of the important town in Romania and is surrounded by the Carpathians Mountain.

Around Brasov are two nature protected areas, Natural Park Bucegi and National Park Piatra Craiului.

Important University Centre and has the only one Forest Faculty in Romania.

Located 160 km from Bucharest, Romanian capital. Important national roads and railways cross the city connected north and south, east and west of Romania. Very important touristy city for winter and summer sports.

The climate is temperate-continental with average temperature 7,6 Celsius degree.

3. University "Transilvania"

See information above

The mountainous territory of the Central Slovakia in which Banska Bystrica was founded and gradually transformed into a city, provided to mankind conditions inevitable for existence ever since the prehistoric ages. Some time around the turn of the first and second millenniums, the Bystrica settlement occurred in the valley of the river Hron with rich resources of precious ore in the close neighbourhood. Owing to favourable preconditions for further development. King Belo IV granted a Royal Charter to the settlement in 1255 and Bystrica became a free royal town. Nova villa Bistriciensis received extensive town privileges in writting that permitted German settlers to mine precious metals and to develp mining companies, guilds and associated trade businesses. The golden age in the history of Banska Bystrica and its mining tradition was the 15th and 16th centuries. Krakow mining enterpreneur and trader, Jan Thurzo, came on the scene after a short decline in the copper mining industry. He bought or rented almost all mines around BB, undertaking the difficult assignment of rejuvenating their former prosperity. In 1494 - 1495, he formed a partnership with Jakub Fugger, a representative of German business capital from Augsburg, the Thurzo-Fugger Copper company. Owing to the massive support of the Fugger capital, this early-capitalistic copper company became one of the most progressive mining organizations in Europe.

One of the most significant chapters in the modern history of BB was the Slovak National Uprising, that started on 29th of August 1944 with an anti-fascists coup in the army. The free town of BB became the central point of the uprising for sixty days. Citizens of BB joined the fight against fascism in Central Europe despite cruel suppression. The city was liberated by the Soviet and Romanian armies on 25 th of March 1945.

Due to extensive reconstruction of the historical heart of the town that is declared an urban conservation area, the town is right fully considered one of the most beautiful in Slovakia. Plenty of monuments and magic of surrouding natural scenere complete the overall experience of the visit in the town that has an attribute ...the Pearl of Pohronie".

resources, representing region of versatile summer and winter, mountain-sports, cognitive - improving rest and balneological treatment. It has high nature-recreational potential what determines in many respects a social and economic structure and appeal.

The area of woods of Chernivtsi region comprises 31, 7 % of all its territory. There are 310 objects of different categories of nature-reserved fund on the territory. 23 nature-reserved territories of nation-wide value (9768, 5 ha) and 287 valuable natural territories and objects (56213, 5 ha) of local value form a network of nature-reserved fund of Chernivtsi region. The reserved fund of nation-wide value consist of National natural park "Vyzhnytskyi". 10 reserved territories. 9 natural monuments and the Chernivtsi Botanical Garden. The nature-reserved local fund consists of 2 regional landscape parks, 42 reserved territories, 161 natural monuments, 40 parks of landscape gardening art and 38 reserved natural boundaries. The territory is included into the group of five regions of Ukraine on density of reserved objects and territories. There are 112 objects of architecture and town-planning in the region what belong to the national inheritance, and over 800 objects of local value.

Chernivtsi is a modern European city with the Austrian traditions and the rich historical and cultural inheritance. For the first time Chernivtsi was mentioned in 1408 in the letter of Moldavian owner Alexander.

Chernivtsi is one of the most beautiful cities of Ukraine. It is famous for such unique constructions as the former Residence of Bukovynian metropolitans (1864-1882 г.г.), Svyato-Duhivskyj cathedral (1864), the central savings bank (1901) - one of the first examples of a modernist style in architecture of Europe, Chamber of Justice (1904-1906 г.г.) and many others. Despite of difficult history of this boundary city, Chernivtsi is in a good condition in our days, a unique sample not only as complete building of the historical center, but also a beautiful example of a multinational multi-ethnic centre of a global level which does not experienced significant destructions in the middle of XX century.

Chernivtsi today is an administrative, educational, cultural and business centre of multinational Bukovyna territory, where over 250 thousand inhabitants live. The industrial enterprises are

4. Preskon

See information above

5. Town Hall

See information above

separated here from residential areas with a zone of green plantings; there are zones of rest for different age groups, sports constructions, cultural centers, galleries and creative workshop.

Chernivtsi is an important religious center, one hundred religious organizations and two eparchial managements, philosophytheological faculty of Chernivtsi National University, theological seminary function here.

Chernivtsi is a trading city as in its territory 26 markets, over thousand objects of trade, 500 public catering establishments function.

Chernivtsi is also an important border junction, as the international transport corridor passes through the city, which provides communication of the social and cultural centers of the Ukraine with Romania, Republic Moldova and the Balkans.

- 3.2. Description of the following facilities and conditions:
- a. Diplomatic representation in the host city/region;
- b. Presence of international organizations in the host city/region;
- c. Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region;
- d. Other national organizations relevant to the Convention;
- e. Presence of universities/institutes/academies/research institutions in the city/region;
- f. Availability of international conference facilities and the conditions for their use (free of charge, rental, etc.);
- g. International and local transport facilities (air, train, bus connection; local urban transport facilities) with detailed information on connection with capital cities of the Parties, actual travel expenses, overall travel time and transport time schedule. Telecommunication facilities.
- h. Local availability of trained personnel for possible employment in the permanent secretariat, taking account of language and other skills;
- i. Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal of the permanent secretariat;
- j. Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat;
- k. Availability of suitable housing and the proximity of this housing to the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat;
- l. Overview of the housing market and accommodation facilities (motels, hotels, etc.) with a price and classification range description; other service facilities (stores, restaurants, etc.);
- m. Availability of schools at all levels, including those providing classes in languages other than the local language;

- n. Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members;
- o. The time needed for processing entry requirements and ability to ensure that participants in meetings organized by the Permanent Secretariat in the territory of the Host Government are granted visa entry permits, where necessary, in expeditious manner.

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi
 1. Zarnesti a. Diplomatic representation in the host city/region: There are no diplomatic missions in Brasov, but a large number of countries have embassies in Bucharest. b. Presence of international organizations in the host city/region: No information c. Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region: No information d. Other national organizations relevant to the Convention: No information 	 a. Diplomatic representation in the host city/region: No diplomatic representation b. Presence of international organizations in the host city/region: No information c. Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region: BBZMO: Association of NGO in Banska Bystrica. There is a treaty between the City of Banska Bystrica and BBZMO. d. Other national organizations relevant to the Convention: 	 a. Diplomatic representation in the host city/region: The diplomatic consulate of Romania, a number of the international ecological organizations are located in Chernivtsi. b. Presence of international organizations in the host city/region: No detailed information; see answer above. b. Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region: The public ecological organizations: 1. Bukovinian Branch of the National Ecological
 e. Presence of universities/institutes/academies/research institutions in the city/region: Transylvania University located in Brasov has a large number of faculties. Among them, there is the first Forestry Faculty and also a very important branch of the Forest Research Institute. f. Availability of international conference facilities and the conditions for their use (free of charge, rental, etc.): In case of large conference organization (over 80 persons), there are a plenty of such facilities either in Brasov or in Poiana Brasov (rental) or at the Forestry Faculty (free of charge). g. International and local transport facilities (air, train, bus 	 Slovak Environmental Agency State Nature Conservancy (SNC) SR Headquarters SNC - NP Nizke Tatry Administration SNC - NP Velka Fatra Administration (localization: Vrutky, 60 km from B. Bystrica) Presence of universities/institutes/academies/research institutions in the city/region: University of Matias Bel (7 faculties) Academy of Arts (3 faculties) Faculty of health service of Slovak health service university Faculty of electrical engineering and IT of Slovak technical university Institute of IT (SAV Bratislava – Slovak Academy of 	Center of Ukraine "Crone"; Ecological NGO "AquaBuk"; Ecological NGO "Green world of Bukovina"; Regional Organization of the Ukrainian Society of Environmental Protection; Regional Children's Ecological Society "Sprout"; Regional Public Association "NEO"; Regional Organization of All-Ukrainian Ecological League; Society "Friends of Park; Regional Public-Youth Ecological Association "Bukvyzja"; Bukovynian Ecological-Spiritual Center "Vodograi"; Regional Public Association "In Harmony with the Nature".

connection; local urban transport facilities) with detailed information on connection with capital cities of the Parties, actual travel expenses, overall travel time and transport time schedule. Telecommunication facilities.

Zarnesti town has bus and train connection to Brasov (1 hour each and 0,7 euro for both). Buses are hourly in the daytime and the trains four per day. There is no local transportation since the town is small.

From Brasov to Bucharest there are bus and train connections (hourly in the daytime) with fees between 4 and 6 euro. Brasov has no airport but an international one is foreseen in two years. From Bucharest there are daily flight connections to the majority of the Europe capital cities.

All the region is covered by mobile phones providers' networks, and at the visitor centre there is radio internet connection distributed by a local network and international phone.

h. Local availability of trained personnel for possible employment in the permanent secretariat, taking account of language and other skills:

There is sufficient potential of hiring suitable staff for the Secretariat.

 Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal of the permanent secretariat:

There are 2 km from the closest bus station, but the park administration cars could supply the transportation to this bus station.

j. Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat:

In Zarnesti there is a hospital and three pharmacies and in Brasov there is broad range of medical services.

k. Availability of suitable housing and the proximity of this housing to the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat:

sciences)

- Reaserch Institute of communications
- Grasslands and Mountain Agriculture Research Institute
- Slovak/Suisse Union for Tourism
- f. Availability of international conference facilities and the conditions for their use (free of charge, rental, etc.):

There are technical, organizational, personal and spatial assumes for conferences and another activities on the international level. There is a gurantee of special capability and of personal representation of specialists (research and universities).

Regional Authority of Banska Bystrica – conference hall (230 persons), conference room (30 persons), banquet, foyer, dining room; rental

(http://www.vs.sk/kubb/web/prenajom.asp)

Hotel Dixon***, conference hall (160 persons), 3 conference rooms (40, 15, 15 persons), banquet (40 persons), restaurant, accommodation, rental (www.dixon.sk)

Kongres Hotel Gala*** (11 km from BB), conference room (40-80 persons), 3 conference rooms (30, 10, 10 persons), accommodation (15x2 persons); rental (www.kongreshotel.sk)

Hotel Kaskady**** BB), conference hall (200 persons), conference rooms (10-30 persons), restaurant, accommodation; rental (www.hotelkaskady.sk)

g. International and local transport facilities (air, train, bus connection; local urban transport facilities) with detailed information on connection with capital cities of the Parties, actual travel expenses, overall travel time and transport time schedule. Telecommunication facilities.

Railway connection, bus international connection, airport Sliač (15 km from BB)

- BB Vienna (260 km)
- BB Bratislava (200 km)
- BB Budapest (200 km)

Complex telecommunication possiblities

Transport availability on the motorways in all directions.

- Other national organizations relevant to the Convention:
 No information
- e. Presence of universities/institutes/academies/research institutions in the city/region:

For close and fruitful cooperation between representatives of Permanent Secretary in the decision of issues of the Carpathian Convention there is a number of scientific and higher educational institutions which deal with problems of Carpathian region:

- 1. The Chernivtsi National University.
- 2. The Bukovinian Academy of Medicine.
- 3. Chernivtsy faculty of National Technical University ,, Kharkiv Polytechnical Institute".
- 4. Chernivtsi Institute of Trade and Economy of Kiev National University of Trade and Economy.
- 5. Chernivtsi Institute of Economy and Law.
- 6. The Ukrainian Research Station on Quarantine of Plants.
- 7. Scientific Research Institute of Medical and Environmental Problems.
- f. Availability of international conference facilities and the conditions for their use (free of charge, rental, etc.):
- g. International and local transport facilities (air, train, bus connection; local urban transport facilities) with detailed information on connection with capital cities of the Parties, actual travel expenses, overall travel time and transport time schedule

The city has the international transport connection (air, trains, buses, minibuses) with all big cities of Europe and the CIS.

The Chernivtsi railway station has direct connection with Poland (Peremyshl), Romania (Bucharest), Bulgaria (Sofia), Ukrainian Zakarpatya (Chop, Uzhgorod), Lviv and capital of Ukraine Kiev. The Chernivtsi airport connects city with Kiev, Istanbul (Turkey), Forli, Naples (Italy). Bus routes

On a three kilometers array there are several suitable housing for Secretariat's staff (maximum 200 Euro per month).

 Overview of the housing market and accommodation facilities (motels, hotels, etc.) with a price and classification range description; other service facilities (stores, restaurants, etc.):

In Zarnesti there are 15 pensions most of them with good accommodation conditions (30-40 Euro per night including meal) and one restaurant. In Brasov there are a lot of hotels and pensions with prices ranging from 20 euro to 90 euro.

m. Availability of schools at all levels, including those providing classes in languages other than the local language:

In Zarnesti, there is an high school but only in Romanian, and in Brasov there are two high schools (one with German starting with primary school and the second with English and French only from high school level).

n. Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members:

In Zarnesti, there is one bank and a postal service which accommodate international money transfer and also ATM. In Brasov there are offices of the main European Banks with all facilities included.

o. The time needed for processing entry requirements and ability to ensure that participants in meetings organized by the Permanent Secretariat in the territory of the Host Government are granted visa entry permits, where necessary, in expeditious manner:

EU state members are exempted from granting visas.

- C 1/66 BB Badín Zvolen (connection also to BB Slovenska Lupča – Brusno – Brezno)
- C 1/59 BB Donovaly Ruzomberok (connection to the E 77 Varsava Krakow BB Budapest)
- C II/577 BB/Ul'anka Harmanec Turčianske Teplice (connection of Pohronie with Turiec and north of Slovakia)
- C II/591: BB Čerín Zvolen (connection central Slovakia with south Slovakia)
- *C II/578*: BB Tajov Kordiky/Kraliky (connection to the areas of recreation in surrouding of BB)

<u>Air</u>: airport at Sliač provides flights from/to Prague, return ticket 150 EUR

<u>Train/bus</u>: BB – Bratislava (3.30 hours, 7 EUR), BB – Prague (via Bratislava or Zilina, 7.5-11 hours, ca 16 EUR), BB – Budapest (via Zvolen, Nitra or Levice, 5 hours, BB – Warsaw (via Ostrava (CZ) or Zilina, BB – Bukurest (via Budapest, 22 hours, BB – Beograd (via Budapest, 15 hours, BB – Kyiv (via Kosice, 27 hours),

Except connection to Bratislava it is combined tranport connection of train and bus.

All train and bus transport time schedules are available on www.cp.sk.

Local urban transport is provided by buses.

The way from Bratislava to Banska Bystrica is realizable on highway (1st class road) in combination with district roads (2nd class roads).

h. Local availability of trained personnel for possible employment in the Permanent Secretariat, taking account of language and other skills

There is a presence of whole system of central and university education so qualification of working power with language knowledges is available (Graduates of Matej Bel University; regional business job market)

Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat:

connect Chernivtsi with the majority of cities of Europe.

h. Local availability of trained personnel for possible employment in the Permanent Secretariat, taking account of language and other skills:

Among representatives of the State Department of Ecology and Natural Resources in Chernivtsi region there are qualified experts in the field of use, protection and reproduction of flora and fauna, the ecological control of radiating safety, ground resources and the treatment of waste products, the ecological control of reserved territories and formation of an ecological network, the ecological control of water resources, bowels and fish stocks, the ecological control of atmosphere, with corresponding knowledge background, which can work and provide the Permanent Secretariat with consultations services. If definitions of quality of superficial waters, the sewage, the polluting substances of industrial wastes will be needed there is the analytical laboratory equipped with the sufficient equipment in the government of ecological resources.

 Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat:

The place of accommodation of the Permanent Secretariat is situated in convenient area of Chernivtsi with a wide choice of local vehicles (trolley buses, buses, minibuses). During the venue sessions and meetings automobiles of the State Department of Ecology and Natural Resources can be used free-of-charge to collaborators of the Permanent Secretariat.

j. Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat:

Staff members of the Permanent Secretariat and families of employees will be provided with treatment in the multipurpose medical centers with the necessary modern equipment and the professional personnel, and also in medical sanatoria.

k. Availability of suitable housing and the proximity of this housing to the office facilities at the disposal of the

2. APM Brasov

- a. Diplomatic representation in the host city/region: No
- b. Presence of international organizations in the host city/region: -No
- c. Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region:

WWF-DCPO, Forest and Protected Areas. Environmental National NGO's = 10

d. Other national organizations relevant to the Convention:

Culture and art = 28 Education, research = 19

Health = 10

Social services = 18

Human rights = 10

Religion = 4

Business and professional organizations = 7

Other International Institution: International Cooperation Organization = 1

e. Presence of universities/institutes/academies/research institutions in the city/region:

School:- Kindergarten = 60

Elementary school = 20

 $High\ school = 26$

University = 5 with 19 faculty

Research Institution = 12

Hospitals = 9

- f. Availability of international conference facilities and the conditions for their use (free of charge, rental, etc.): No information
- g. International and local transport facilities (air, train, bus connection; local urban transport facilities) with detailed information on connection with capital cities of the Parties, actual travel expenses, overall travel time

There is a system of local transport in the town.

The office is situated in the very centre of the town, so local transport facilities are in a directly at disposal (5-20 minutes to the urban transport stations, railway station, bus station)

Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat:

There is Regional Hospital of Mr. F. D. Roosvelt which is the third large hospital in Slovakia. This hospital has a high quality of service (hospital has also possibility to take a care of VIP – institutional persons). There is also health service NOVAMED (no in state property but private)

Availability of suitable housing and the proximity of this housing to the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat:

There are a lot of possibilities of accommodation – hotel (apartmens) or the flats in the new apartment houses are usually at disposal for rent in proximity 10-15 min by car from the office. It is a usual praxis they are used by foreigners for the long-term stays.

1. Overview of the housing market and accommodation facilities (motels, hotels, etc.) with a price and classification range description; other service facilities (stores, restaurants, etc.):

There is 3308 seats in 35 accommodation facilities for visitors. In Banska Bystrica and its surrounding there are 9 hotels (5 of them has three stars - 3 are in BB, 1 – Hronsek (village), 1 – Staré Hory). The largest is the hotel Lux – has 1 141 seats. Hotel Dixon*** (60 rooms/120 beds) 33-46 EUR for room) Hotel Arcade*** (14 rooms/27 beds; 52-69 EUR for room) Pension K 'ria** (18 EUR for bed, 29 EUR for room) Tesco Stores, Kaufland, Billa, Lidl, Coop and local stores facilities

- m. Availability of schools at all levels, including those providing classes in languages other than the local language:
 - 16 Primary schools with laguage classes

Permanent Secretariat:

There are comfortable rooms of hotels "Cheremosh", "Bukovina", "Tourist", motel "Oasis", base of rest "Bukovina", "Cheremosh", " Aqua plus", complexes "Kolvik", "Cosy", "Fir-house", "My Friends" and other services for visitors of the Permanent Secretariat and for holding the international conferences and meetings

Hotel "Cheremosh"- eleven-storied complex built by the Hungarian experts, meets the international requirements in the field of reception, service and rest of the population and tourists, 326 rooms, three-star hotel, Ukrainian and European kitchen. It has everything necessary for international conferences and meetings and comfortable accommodation of their participants, a conference hall for 200 persons with simultaneous interpretation. The price of rooms varies from 25 \$ up to 100 \$.

Hotel "Bukovina" – a five-story complex built by Bukovinian masters, meets the international requirements in the field of reception, service and rest of the population and tourists, 150 rooms, three-stars hotel, Ukrainian and European kitchen. It has everything necessary for international conferences and meetings and comfortable accommodation of their participants. The price of rooms varies from 25 \$ up to 100 \$.

Besides above mentioned, there are 12 private hotels in Chernivtsi that meet the international requirements in the field of reception, service and rest of the population and tourists.

The staff of the Permanent Secretariat can enjoy its day-offs in ski complexes on the mountain "Zezyno" in Chernivtsi, "Nimchych" in Pidzaharychi of Putilskyj area, in the ski centers in Mygovo of Vizhnitskyj area and in Gorbovo of Gertsaevskyj area. There are over 50 objects of rural tourism in magic Bukovinian Carpathian mountains, on the picturesque hills and on the banks of Dnister River.

1. Overview of the housing market and accommodation facilities (motels, hotels, etc.) with a price and classification

and transport time schedule. Telecommunication facilities.

Airport – There is no airport in Brasov. Nearest international airport is "Otopeni" Bucharest (at 150 km) and Sibiu Airport (at 137 km). From Bucharest to all Parties capitals are everyday flights.

Train – from Brasov to all Parties capitals are everyday trains.

Nationals Bus -everyday are bus and minibus in different directions (north, south, east, west).

- h. Local availability of trained personnel for possible employment in the permanent secretariat, taking account of language and other skills: Yes
- Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal of the permanent secretariat:

Local transport: Bus- 200/day between 5-24 H Tramcar -72/day between 5-24H Trolley bus - 130 /day between 5-24H Taxi - 267/day 24H Cable railway - 1 between central city and top of the Tampa Hill.

j. Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat:

Hospitals = 9

k. Availability of suitable housing and the proximity of this housing to the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat:

Hotels /Nr. Places- 20/3541 Price-20-60-100 euro/day

 Overview of the housing market and accommodation facilities (motels, hotels, etc.) with a price and classification range description; other service facilities (stores, restaurants, etc.):

- 26 Secondary schools and Gymnasiums including a bilingual (french, spanish)
- at all english or german language are teachning (somewhere russian language)
- University of Mathias Bel has Filological Faculty (for interpreters)
- n. Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff member:

There are the branches of variety of bank institutions of Slovak Republic. International bank transfers realizable in all banks in the town (Tatrabanka, VUB, Slovenská sporiteľňa, OTP, ČSOB, HVB Bank, Banka Slovakia)

o. The time needed for processing entry requirements and ability to ensure that participants in meetings organized by the Permanent Secretariat in the territory of the Host Government are granted visa entry permits, where necessary, in expeditious manner.

Visa entry permits are not requested.

range description; other service facilities (stores, restaurants, etc.):

In the market of the real estate there are many offers concerning sale and tenancy of premises. The prices depend on the location and the equipment with furniture and home appliances. The price of 2-room apartments located in area of mass building changes within the limits of 35-40 thousand \$. Rent of 2 room equipped apartments changes within the limits of 120-150 \$ for a month.

m. Availability of schools at all levels, including those providing classes in languages other than the local language:

In Chernivtsi, there are schools of different types, schools with English, German, Romanian, Moldavian, Jewish and Polish languages of training.

The major principles of preschool education are:

- The individual and differentiated approach to each child;
- 2. Conformity of programs and techniques of training, furniture and technical equipment of educational premises to age of the pupil;
- 3. Harmonious association of public and family education
- n. Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff member:

For finance transferring from the country and to the country from abroad for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members in Chernivtsi, there is a number of banks that are engaged in corresponding currency transactions, namely: Department of National Bank of Ukraine in Chernivtsy region, Branch "Chernivtsi Central Branch of "Prominvestbank", Bank "Nadra", Chernivtsy Regional Branch Joint-stock - commercial bank of social development "UKRSOTSBANK", Branch - Chernivtsy regional Department "the State Savings Bank of Ukraine", the Society with limited liability commercial bank "Bukovina".

Rent-3-6 euro/square meters/month for apartments with 65-90 square meters in a very good condition.

Purchase- 200-400 euro/square meters for apartment with 65-90 square meters in a new building and a good position.

m. Availability of schools at all levels, including those providing classes in languages other than the local language:

Elementary school = 20

n. Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members:

In Brasov, there are offices of the main European Banks with all facilities included.

p. The time needed for processing entry requirements and ability to ensure that participants in meetings organized by the Permanent Secretariat in the territory of the Host Government are granted visa entry permits, where necessary, in expeditious manner:

EU member states are exempted from granting visas.

3. University "Transilvania"

See information above

4. Preskon

See information above

5. Town Hall

See information above

Chernivtsy regional department of joint-stock post-pension bank "AVAL", Chernivtsy branch of the closed joint-stock company of commercial bank "Pryvat Bank", etc.

o. The time needed for processing entry requirements and ability to ensure that participants in meetings organized by the Permanent Secretariat in the territory of the Host Government are granted visa entry permits, where necessary, in expeditious manner.

The entry visa for Ukraine is not needed for EU countries citizens.

- Other relevant information

 4.1 Any additional contributions to be made by the Host Government to meet the operating costs of the Permanent Secretariat.

 4.2 Any other information that the potential host country may deem relevant.

Romania: 1. Zarnesti; 2. APM Brasov; 3. University "Transilvania"; 4. Prescon SA; 5. Town Hall	Slovakia: Banska Bystrica	Ukraine: Chernivtsi
2.APM Brasov In the attic of the building is the conference room. In neighborhood are most important locations of local public administration and here are a lot of local transport facilities.		
5. Town Hall It have possibility to connect at phone cable TV The location has electric supply The location has all the utilities (water, light, central heating). The buildings are in one of the central zone of the town, and here are a lot of local transport facilities.		