Priorities for CWI work 2019-2024

(based on already by Carpathian Parties agreed documents – Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024, Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol of the Carpathian Convention, Decisions of the Carpathian Convention COP5 and Programme of Work 2018-2020, Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ramsar Convention and Carpathian Convention)

1. Mainstreaming - Promote integration of wetlands and their services and benefits into sectoral policies

Means: CC working groups, cooperation within ICPDR, workshops, conferences

2. River Basin Management - Cooperate on development and implementation of projects integrating wetlands in river basin management

<u>Means:</u> cooperation with ICPDR and Tisza Group (JOINTISZA project), cooperation with DANUBEPARKS, Alpine Convention, NGOs, translation of relevant guidelines to national languages, management planning

3. Invasive Alien Species - Cooperate on identification and prioritization of invasive alien species and pathways of their introduction and expansion, on control and eradication of priority invasive alien species, and on preparation and implementation of management responses to prevent their introduction and establishment

<u>Means:</u> CC Biodiversity Working Group, CNPA, NGOs, translation of relevant guidelines to national languages, transborder projects, workshops, conferences, trainings

4. Ecological Networks and Management of Sites - Cooperate on development of ecological network, continuity and connectivity of habitats in the Carpathians, including through integrated management of Ramsar Sites, designation of new Ramsar Sites, expansion of existing sites, maintenance and restoration of wetlands

<u>Means:</u> cooperation in running projects and development of new projects, cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS and ALPARC within existing MoC, NGOs, workshops, conferences, consultation on designation of new Ramsar Sites, Natura 2000 sites, trans-border cooperation, joint management planning

5. Prevention of environmental damages in wetlands - Facilitate exchange of information on risk of change in ecological character of wetlands (including transborder rivers), addressing the threats to wetlands

<u>Means:</u> cooperation within ICPDR, involvement in/of cross-border river basin commissions, cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, cooperation agreements between protected areas in cross-border regions, joint management planning

6. Wetland Inventories – Support of inventory of wetland habitats and species, development of Red Lists, inventory of cultural values in wetlands, common database and maps on wetlands in the Carpathians, documentation, promotion and dissemination of their functions, values, conservation and effective management

<u>Means:</u> CC working groups (Biodiversity, Forestry, Cultural Heritage), Carpathian Countries Integrated Biodiversity Information System (CCIBIS), cooperation with CNPA, Science for Carpathians S4C, NGOs, workshops, conferences, management planning, translation of guidelines

7. Wetlands conservation, restoration and maintenance - Identify priorities for common actions and for wetlands restoration and develop and implement common projects aimed at long-term conservation, maintenance, restoration and sustainable use of wetland habitats and species to be jointly undertaken in the Carpathians, in particular in border areas and transboundary protected areas

<u>Means:</u> cooperation with CC Biodiversity WG, CNPA, AEWA, NGOs, translation of guidelines, agreements on transborder cooperation, management planning

8. Climate Change - Identify wetlands most at risk due to climate change based on an assessment of the vulnerability of Carpathian wetlands to climate change impacts, propose and implement measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change

<u>Means:</u> cooperation with CC Biodiversity WG, WG Climate Change, S4C, NGOs, workshops, conferences, trainings, web pages

9. Research, monitoring, information system - Facilitate cooperation in species and habitats monitoring, research in wetlands, development of joint information system and joint guidelines and methodologies to make them available to decision makers and practitioners

<u>Means:</u> cooperation with CC Biodiversity WG, CNPA, S4C, ICPDR, NGOs, CCIBIS, workshops, conferences, projects

10. Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness - Develop and implement CWI Programme on communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness, develop Carpathian Wetland Centre

<u>Means:</u> cooperation with CC working groups, CNPA, NGOs, questionnaires, workshops, conferences, trainings, campaigns, education activities, publications, web sites, detailed communication plan, detailed training plan, projects

11. Capacities and financing - Provide personal and financial support for implementation of the CWI strategy and related strategies and actions plans, mobilize financial resources for CWI work

Means: voluntary contributions, projects, national allocations for transboundary cooperation

Explanatory notes:

ALPARC – Alpine Network of Protected Areas
CC – Carpathian Convention
CCIBIS - Carpathian Countries Integrated Biodiversity Information System
CNPA – Carpathian Network of Protected Areas
CWI – Carpathian Wetland Initiative
ICPDR – International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
MoC – Memorandum of Cooperation

S4C – Science for the Carpathians

WG – working group