



**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
TO THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CARPATHIANS**

Distr.: General
8 May 2008

Original: English

**SECOND MEETING
BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 17-19 JUNE 2008**
Item 9 of the provisional annotated agenda

Revision: Proposal by Ukraine added

**Updated compilation of proposals for the Permanent Secretariat
of the Carpathian Convention and a permanent arrangement for
the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA).**

- Annex I** Comparative table - Proposals of Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine compiled by the interim Secretariat and for the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas administrative unit
- Annex II** Offer dated 7 May 2008 by Romania for the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and for the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas administrative unit
- Annex III** Offer dated 31 January 2008 by Slovakia for the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
- Annex IV** Offer dated 6 March 2008 by Slovakia for the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas
- Annex V** Offer dated 11 June 2008 by Ukraine for the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and for the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas administrative unit

ANNEX I

Location of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

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

Part I - Legal framework

I.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 Contracting 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 meetings and 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?

ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
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 meetings and conferences in the Host Country can enjoy the privileges and immunities as are accorded to the existing United Nations organizations in Romania. They can enjoy immunity from jurisdiction, inviolability of the premises, archives,	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 Carpathian Convention does not include the provisions regarding privileges and immunities. Therefore, according to the Decree of the President of Ukraine # 198/93 of 10.06.93 “Regulations on Diplomatic and Consular Missions of Foreign States in Ukraine” - “Privileges and immunities in Ukraine, which are granted in Ukraine to the international intergovernmental organizations, missions of the

<p>samples, equipment, and other material, freedom of financial assets from restrictions, facilities and immunities in respect of communications, exemption from taxes and customs duties and other privileges and immunities as long as they are granted in the sole interest of the Permanent Secretariat and not to ensure personal gains to the beneficiaries.</p>	<p>the types a) to e).</p>	<p>foreign states to these organizations, as well as to their officials are stipulated by the corresponding agreements, which Ukraine is the party to”.</p> <p>According to the experience, gained by Ukraine in concluding this kind of treaties, all mentioned below issues concerning the privileges and immunities might be secured in the framework of the existing national legislation of Ukraine in compliance with the international rules.</p> <p>The privileges and immunities issues could be resolved in compliance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized UN Agencies of 1947, as the staff members of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention enjoy the privileges and immunities stipulated by the above-mentioned Conventions.</p> <p>Taking into account that Ukraine has initiated the Carpathian Convention, and Chernivtsi is one of the main centers of the Carpathian region, the observance of legal basis with regard to accommodation of the Secretariat, as well as granting all necessary juridical rights and immunities to its staff members are safeguarded there.</p> <p>To the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, representatives of the Contracting Parties of the Convention, delegates and experts invited to the meetings and conferences will be given all scope of the privilege and legal immunities as it is provided for in the existing UN specialized agencies, in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legal inviolability for the Secretariat representatives and for its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, representatives of the Contracting Parties of the
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>Convention, delegates and experts invited to the meetings and conferences;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 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 taxation and custom charges; 6. Other privileges and immunities declared by representatives of Secretariat at creation of the Carpathian Convention Permanent Secretariat.
<p><i>1.2 Legal framework for ensuring equal treatment of premises and staff of the Permanent Secretariat.</i></p>		
<p>Please, specify in which legal form the above mentioned privileges and immunities will be secured.</p>		
<p>ROMANIA - Brasov</p>	<p>SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica</p>	<p>UKRAINE - Chernivtsi</p>
<p>The above mentioned privileges and immunities will be secured by way of a Headquarters Agreement to be concluded with the Contracting Parties to the Convention. The Agreement will be ratified by the Romanian Parliament and will be incorporated into Romanian Law.</p>	<p>The above mentioned privileges and immunities would be ensured by the multilateral treaty with the Contracting Parties of the Convention.</p>	<p>The mentioned privileges and immunities granted to the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, will be ensured by the stand-alone multilateral agreement between the Contracting Parties to the Carpathian Convention which should be ratified by Parliaments.</p>
<p><i>1.3 Rules, including any restrictions, applicable to the employment of family members/dependants of staff members.</i></p>		

Can spouses and children of the staff members of the Permanent Secretariat enjoy access to the labour 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 - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development together with the Ministry of Interior and Administration Reform may facilitate the process of obtaining work permits for the spouses and children of the staff members of the Permanent Secretariat. Once the working permit is granted, the national regulations will apply including after termination of the duties of the staff members.</p>	<p>The internal legislation, on the basis of principle of reciprocity, allows to the family members of the international governmental organization staff members acting on the territory of the Slovak Republic to be employed in the 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 the territory of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>According to 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 convention there is no such specific article, on the basis of which the Carpathian Convention, eventually its Secretariat could be qualified as international organization – the subject of the international law.</p> <p>Consequently the 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.</p> <p>The international treaty could set out subsequent legal regulation within the Slovak internal legislation for the employment of the family members of employees of the Carpathian Convention Permanent Secretariat.</p>	<p>Family members of the staff of the Permanent Secretariat with the assistance of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Chernivtsi Regional State Administration (CRSA), State Department of ecology and natural resources in Chernivtsi region and local government will have a free access to the labour market in the field of activity chosen by them with a priority in employment.</p>

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 - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
The Permanent Secretariat and its staff members can be exempt from all compulsory contributions to the social security system of Romania and they can be allowed to choose an insurance system of Romania on voluntary basis. Specific provisions in the future Headquarters Agreements have to be inserted.	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.	The issues concerning social security of the Permanent Secretariat staff members could be resolved according to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961.
1.5 Nature of the headquarters agreement		
E.g. stand-alone agreement, incorporated into another existing agreement, etc.		
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
The Headquarters Agreement will be a stand-alone agreement.	The hosting of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention could be established and institutionalized by international (presidential) treaty, which will be subject for approval by the National Council of the Slovak Republic and ratification of the President of the Slovak Republic.	The Headquarters agreement will be a stand-alone multilateral agreement.
Part II – 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.		

ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>The building offered for hosting the premises of the Permanent Secretariat is located in the “Tractorul” neighbourhood, on the Olteţ street no.11 in Braşov city. The building is one story house with ground floor and first floor, has been recently renovated and it has a small courtyard that includes 4 parking spaces. We provide the first floor for the Permanent Secretariat premises. The first floor has 5 rooms with a total surface of 171 sqm (17.4 sqm; 20.5 sqm; 31.6 sqm; and 2 rooms each of them having 51.0 sqm). One of the 51.0 sqm rooms is suitable to be arranged as a council room. Storage places can be provided at the ground floor.</p>	<p>At the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat there can be provided a newly reconstructed part of the historical building in the very centre of Banska Bystrica (Lazovna Str. No. 10). The building hosts actually the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic Headquarters. The office space is available prospectively from September 2008. After reconstruction of the attics the building is now a 3-storey-house. It offers 15 office rooms of total capacity for 30-35 persons, 1 meeting/conference room for 30 people and a small archive/library room. The building is secured with an alarm system.</p>	<p>The office, offered for the placement of representatives of the Carpathian Convention’s Permanent Secretariat, is a separate building situated in the historical part of Chernivtsi city; now it’s on the final stage of reconstruction and will be available from the Autumn 2008. In the building there are 10 office rooms assigned for employees of the Permanent Secretariat. Near the building there is a nice green square.</p>
<p>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.</p>		
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>See attached the official offer.</p>	<p>The offered space includes 3 newly reconstructed adjacent office rooms with comfortable capacity for 9-10 persons in total. Room size: ca 11 x 10.9m, 4.9 x 5.2m, 4.9 x 5.4m. The space provides a kitchen and 4 toilets. The space is located in one relatively separate part of the building on the 2nd floor, necessary storage rooms can be provided in other parts of the building. The big room can be used for smaller working meetings; another meeting room (30 seats) is located on the ground floor. There is no special security of the rooms; security of the building is ensured through an alarm system. The entrance is equipped with the telephone and remote opening system. Maintenance of rooms and equipment will be offered by the State</p>	<p>The separate building has a total area of 500 m². The office has 9 rooms (16 - 20 m² each) and a meeting room (6x11 m) for the employees, as well as reception room and bathroom unit with shower and separate toilet. The building has courtyard approximately 800 m². The building is situated on 50, Universytetska Str., near the cultural and architectural heritage of the city - the Residence of Bukovynian Metropolitans. Now it is the main corps of the Chernivtsi National University named by Yuriy Fedkovych. This place has very convenient transport communications as well as infrastructure. The Permanent Secretariat will be provided with storage facilities, garages with security and available technical personnel.</p>

	<p>Nature Conservancy technical staff.</p> <p>See attached the official offer.</p>	<p>The building is provided with telecommunication (6 numbers), fax, internet connection, also it has a special electric system for system computer-connection. There is an opportunity to connect a special automatic telephone exchange for direct communication with the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Regional State Administration and all basic Administrations of Chernivtsi region, Carpathian region and Ukraine.</p> <p>See attached the official offer.</p>
<p>c. Indication of the existing parking space.</p> <p>Will it be enough parking space free-of –charge?</p>		
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>As previously mentioned, the building has a small courtyard with 4 parking places.</p>	<p>The building disposes its own closed 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 for cars of the home administration (4 cars). The parking places in the surroundings of the building are paid (very centre of the town), but long-term permits can be negotiated with the City Hall.</p>	<p>The building has a courtyard with 5 parking places. Not far from the building there is a safeguarded parking place with total capacity for 20 cars and buses (free of charge). If events will be hosted by Chernivtsi Regional State Administration, there is a possibility to park over 100 cars (free of charge) in the special sector. If events will be carried out in the the State Administration of Environmental Protection there is a possibility to park 20 cars (free of charge).</p>
<p>d. Will the building include a cafeteria and/or a restaurant that can accommodate staff and delegations?</p>		
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>The building doesn't have cafeteria or restaurant but there are suitable restaurants quite close to the premises.</p>	<p>The building itself does not have a cafeteria or a restaurant. The number and variety of restaurants and</p>	<p>Near (10 m) the building there is a café with Bukovynian cuisine, also it can be used for official</p>

	cafes are available in the close surrounding of the building, as far as it is located in the very centre of the town, in walking distance, offering diverse foods and drinks of national and international cuisine. Preparation of coffee, tea, snacks is possible in the kitchen (4 of them are in the building).	receptions. Also not far from the office there are a lot of restaurants (“Sorbonne”, “Teatralnyj”, “Avtohrad”, “Kayzer”, “Knaus”).
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi

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 - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
The building is being placed free of charge at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat by the Romanian Government. The building belongs to the City Hall of Brasov.	Ownership by the host Government (State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic) without rent to be paid by the Secretariat (it includes rooms, water, heating, electricity, gas, cleaning, sewage, waste disposal, maintenance).	The offered office is of state property (of Chernivtsi Regional State Administration) and it will be provided for the Secretariat without rent to be paid.

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.

ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>The major maintenance and repairs of the building facilities will be in the charge of the Romanian Government. The secretariat will have to pay the expenses for normal maintenance and minor repairs also for the communication facilities.</p>	<p>Major maintenance and repairs to the office facilities owned by the State Nature Conservancy (SNC) will be provided by the SNC.</p> <p>Service man and IT administrator of the home administration will have the responsibility for normal maintenance and repair. Specialized repairs and maintenance of the Permanent Secretariat's facilities will be under responsibility of the Secretariat.</p> <p>Possible expenses will be for: office equipment, office supplies, telephone, ISDN, fax.</p>	<p>State Administration of Environmental Protection is responsible for the major maintenance and office's repairs, including communication facilities, general cleaning and repairs of the building.</p>
<p>2.4. To which extent the office facilities would be furnished and equipped by the Host Government?</p> <p><i>Will your offer include the provision free-of charge of the following items:</i></p>		
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>a. office furniture → YES</p> <p>b. office equipment → YES</p> <p>c. office supplies → NO</p> <p>d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal) → YES</p> <p>e. lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer</p>	<p>a. office furniture → YES, standard furniture</p> <p>b. office equipment → NO, the Secretariat should supply technical equipment (computers, fax, printing and copy machines, etc.)</p> <p>c. office supplies → NO, the Secretariat should pay for office supplies (paper, toners...)</p> <p>d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal) →</p>	<p>a. office furniture → YES, standard furniture</p> <p>b. office equipment → Partly, necessary for the beginning</p> <p>c. office supplies → NO</p> <p>d. public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal) → YES</p> <p>e. lines of communication</p>

<p>network/telephone centre of the house/wiring) → YES</p> <p>f. security equipment/security zone equipment → YES</p> <p>g. conference equipment including interpretation system → NO</p>	<p>YES, these will be free-of charge</p> <p>e. lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer network/telephone centre of the house/wiring) → Computer network and wiring is already available in the rooms, the Secretariat will be responsible for covering telecommunication expenses (phone, ISDN, fax).</p> <p>f. security equipment/security zone equipment → YES</p> <p>g. conference equipment including interpretation system → YES - meeting room in the building, beamer, slide projector; NO - interpretation system (not available)</p> <p>We offer rooms with public utilities and lines of communication (for telephone, fax, computer network, wiring, internet connection through microwave antenna 1 Mb/sec) at disposal.</p>	<p>(telephone/ISDN/fax/computer network/telephone centre of the house/wiring) → YES</p> <p>f. security equipment/security zone equipment → YES</p> <p>g. conference equipment including interpretation system → YES</p>
<p>2.5. Please, specify the duration of the arrangements regarding office space.</p>		
<p>ROMANIA - Brasov</p>	<p>SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica</p>	<p>UKRAINE - Chernivtsi</p>
<p>Unlimited.</p>	<p>The space should be available in September 2008 for not limited time span.</p>	<p>For unlimited period of time.</p>

Part III – Local facilities and conditions (See attached the official offers)

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

- a. Population figure;
- b. Territory total area;
- c. Short general description of the city/region features.

ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
See attached the official offer.	See attached the official offer.	See attached the official offer.

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.);

<p>m. Availability of schools at all levels, including those providing classes in languages other than the local language;</p> <p>n. Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members;</p> <p>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.</p>		
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
See attached the official offer.	See attached the official offer.	
Other relevant information		
4.1 Any additional contributions to be made by the Host Government to meet the operating costs of the Permanent Secretariat.		
ROMANIA - Brasov	SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica	UKRAINE - Chernivtsi
<p>In line with the recommendations of the Implementation Committee Meeting from 2-4 April 2008, the Romanian Offer for hosting the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention is further substantiated by the offer to host the CNPA Management Unit in the Romanian Carpathians.</p> <p>The CNPA Management Unit, comprising a number of 2-3 specialists, will be established within the National Agency for Protected Areas (NAPA). The NAPA role is to strengthen and support the national system of protected areas and its establishment (including the attributions and financial sustainability) has benefited of a GEF project that has ended in April 2008. The main task of the NAPA is the integrated management of all categories of protected areas, including the Natura 2000 sites, which covers currently approximately 19% of the national territory.</p> <p>The NAPA establishment is pending since 2007. Currently, the Governmental Decision for NAPA</p>	NO	<p>Ukraine would like to offer to host Management Unit for CNPA in the same building, where Secretariat will be placed. 1-2 rooms can be provided for the Unit from those given to the Secretariat.</p>

<p>establishment is under inter-ministerial approval, and it is expected to be functional by the end of the year 2008. Its premises are located Brasov city, just as planned for the Secretariat.</p> <p>Until the NAPA becomes functional, the provisional arrangement for hosting the CNPA Management Unit can stay with the Protected Area Service established within the National Forest Administration. Facilities could be provided by associating the Management Unit with the Piatra Craiului National Park Administration, having its headquarter on the outskirts of Brasov City. The National Forest Administration is currently administrating 24 of the 27 national and nature parks. Support will be given by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development for the establishment of the CNPA Management Unit in this transitional period, before NAPA becomes functional.</p> <p>The Management Unit for CNPA will benefit of all the facilities of the NAPA, including office space and a meeting place. All the costs related to its functioning (premises, availability of general services as well as maintenance services, communication, office supplies, etc), including the salaries, will be covered from the NAPA budget.</p> <p>Romania has committed at the first COP of the Carpathian Convention (December 2006) to use its potential GEF 4 national allocation under Biodiversity Focal Area for the development and implementation of a regional project aiming at improving the financial sustainability of the Carpathian Network of Protected Area. The objective of this project is to help the Carpathian Countries and the CNPA to secure stable and long-term financial resources for protected areas, to build capacity within the governmental agencies and the CNPA for allocating financial resources in a timely</p>		
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--

<p>manner and appropriate form to cover the costs of protected areas and, ensure that the protected areas are managed effectively and efficiently. The project entitled Improving the Financial Sustainability of the Carpathian System of Protected Areas will complement the other initiatives at national and regional level and in particularly the “2012 PA Programme - The Carpathian Mountains Ecoregion” implemented by WWF and funded by MAVA foundation. The total value of the project is 1.1 millions USD his approval is currently pending. The beneficiary of this project is the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and the implementing agency will be NAPA. The most optimistic date for the project start is January 2009.</p>		
<p>4.2 Any other information that the potential host country may deem relevant.</p>		
<p>ROMANIA - Brasov</p>	<p>SLOVAKIA – Banska Bystrica</p>	<p>UKRAINE - Chernivtsi</p>
<p>NO</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>NO</p>

**HOSTING OFFER of the Permanent Secretariat
of the Carpathian Convention, and of the CNPA Management Unit
in Braşov, Romania**

Part I

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 Contracting 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 meetings and 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?

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 meetings and conferences in the Host Country can enjoy the privileges and immunities as are accorded to the existing United Nations organizations in Romania. They can enjoy immunity from jurisdiction, inviolability of the premises, archives, samples, equipment, and other material, freedom of financial assets from restrictions, facilities and immunities in respect of communications, exemption from taxes and customs duties and other privileges and immunities as long as they are granted in the sole interest of the Permanent Secretariat and not to ensure personal gains to the beneficiaries.

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.

The above mentioned privileges and immunities will be secured by way of a Headquarters Agreement to be concluded with the Contracting Parties to the Convention. The Agreement will be ratified by the Romanian Parliament and will be incorporated into Romanian Law.

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?

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development together with the Ministry of Interior and Administration Reform may facilitate the process of obtaining work permits for the spouses and children of the staff members of the Permanent Secretariat. Once the working permit is granted, the national regulations will apply including after termination of the duties of the staff members.

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.

The Permanent Secretariat and its staff members can be exempt from all compulsory contributions to the social security system of Romania and they can be allowed to choose an insurance system of Romania on voluntary basis. Specific provisions in the future Headquarters Agreements have to be inserted.

1.5 Nature of the headquarters agreement

The Headquarters Agreement will be a stand-alone agreement.

Part II

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 a newly-constructed office building/accommodations or already have an existing one? Describe the location, available area, amount/type of rooms, please.

The building offered for hosting the premises of the Permanent Secretariat is located in the “Tractorul” neighborhood, on the Olteț street no.11 in Brașov city. The building is one story house with ground floor and first floor, has been recently renovated and it has a small courtyard that includes 4 parking spaces.

We provide the first floor for the Permanent Secretariat premises. The first floor has 5 rooms with a total surface of 171 sqm (17.4 sqm; 20.5 sqm; 31.6 sqm; and 2 rooms each of them having 51.0 sqm). One of the 51.0 sqm rooms is suitable to be arranged as a council room. Storage places can be provided at the ground floor.



- 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.



On the map above, the street Oltet is marked in red.

c. Indication of the existing parking space

Will it be enough parking space free-of-charge?

As previously mentioned, the building has a small courtyard with 4 parking places.

d. Will the building include a cafeteria and/or a restaurant that can accommodate staff and delegations?

The building doesn't have cafeteria or restaurant but there are suitable restaurants quite close to the premises.

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.

The building is being placed free of charge at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat by the Romanian Government. The building belongs to the City 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.

The major maintenance and repairs of the building facilities will be in the charge of the Romanian Government. The secretariat will have to pay the expenses for normal maintenance and minor repairs also for the communication facilities.

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;

Yes

- b. office equipment;

Yes

- 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

g. conference equipment including interpretation system

No.

2.5. Please, specify the duration of the arrangements regarding office space.

Unlimited.

Part III

Local facilities and conditions

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

- a. Population figure; The 2005 census showed a number of 289.982 inhabitants in the Brasov City, and a total number 595,211 inhabitants in the Brasov County. The nationality ratios of the city's inhabitants are as follows: Romanians-87.3% , Hungarians-8.7%, Germans-0.8% and Others-3.2%
- b. Territory total area;- 267.3 square km.
- c. Short general description of the city/region features:

Brasov is one of Romania's biggest towns and the most important commercially and culturally outside of Bucharest. It combines a beautiful historic centre with an important and developing commercial centre. It is centrally located in the heart of Romania on the edge of the Carpathians Mountains. Brasov is a very important tourist area for both its historical heritage and the recreational opportunities. It is a 'must see' on most tourism itineraries to Romania; its diverse cultural heritage makes it especially welcoming to international visitors. A short drive away is one of the most important winter resorts in Romania, Poiana Brasov.

Located only 160 km from Bucharest, Romania's capital, it is well provided with national and international transport connections. . Important national roads and railways cross the city connecting north and south, east and west of Romania with the

rest of the Carpathian region. The climate is temperate-continental with average temperature 7,6 Celsius degree. Tucked close into the Carpathian Mountains – it is comfortable in summer and provides all the aesthetic and recreational benefits of being close to the mountains in winter. It is also one of the most important economic/ cultural centers in Romania. Many international businesses are locating to the city to take benefit of its excellent facilities, reasonable costs and skilled/well educated workforce. It has excellent educational facilities – both school and higher education and houses one of the best Forestry Universities in Romania. As an important tourism destination and because of its diverse cultural heritage, Brasov has everything needed to make an international team and their visitors feel welcome and at home. There is a high standard of living combined with reasonable costs. It has a rich cultural life with theatre, film, opera and musical events taking place on a daily basis. There are several nationally and regionally important museums in the city. The historic centre has many reasonably priced high standard national and international restaurants and cafes to cater for every taste. The well preserved historical centre is an attractive and stimulating environment. The Black Church and the other important historical buildings of this medieval walled city provide many attractions.

Close to Brasov are some of the most important natural areas in Romania – including National Parks within the Carpathian Range, Natura 2000 sites and the Transylvanian Plateau. Within a short drive from the city there are culturally and historically important villages including a number of World Heritage Sites. The Transylvanian region provides excellent opportunities for enjoying eco-tourism activities with a well developed network of service providers including some that have received Eco-certified status.

3.2. Description of the following facilities and conditions:

a. Diplomatic representation in the host city/region;-

There are no diplomatic missions in the city. Brasov is about 2 1/2 hours drive from the capital City, Bucharest. All the countries related to the Carpathian Convention have their diplomatic missions in Bucharest.

b. Presence of international organizations in the host city/region;

WWF DCP has a project office in Brasov and a Forest Certification Information Centre.

c. Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region;-

Association of Eco-tourism

Fundatia ADEPT

The Environmental Partnership

Pro Patrimonio

d. Environmental National NGO's- Natura 2000 NGOs Coalition Romania has its secretary located in Brasov

Other national organizations relevant to the Convention;

Culture and art

Brasov has 5 museums, one theater, one children theater, one opera hall and one philharmonic. There are opened 2 cinemas, with 3 halls each. More than 50 statues, historic monuments, churches and buildings with a great cultural relevance are an important part of Brasov heritage.

Every year are organized several cultural events: The Days of the City, in May-"We love Brasov", "Brasov-The Music Citadel"-classic music festival, in the Summer, "The Harvesting Days", in Autumn, The National Drama Festival, in November, "Brasov - the Fairytale City" in December. Concerts or music festival (rock, jazz, folk, ballet, classic music, etc), traditional and cultural fairs, tourism and business fairs are also organized regularly. Also, Brasov used to be the hosting city of the "Golden Stag Festival" (*Cerbul de aur*), an anual international festival of music

There are cultural centers representing Germany, France, Japan and Hungary, very active in the community life. Also, the Municipal Library, whit its 6 section, located all over the city, is involved in cultural events and exhibitions. Brasov has at least 5 art galleries, 10 important book shops and several private art and antiques shops.

Education, research: Transilvania University, several private universities and colleges

Health - Brasov has 34 clinics and hospitals of various specializations and also a international recognized University of Medicine.

Social services - City of Brasov has specialized departments for child and family protection and old people help, for people with no home, department for job services.

Human rights - A human rights NGO (Liga Pro Europa), juridical conciliation associations and other NGOs have official offices in Brasov and the local administration is very active in promoting the human rights information.

Religion - In Brasov , 85.4% of the population is of Orthodox religion and the rest is as follows: 3.9% Romano-Catholics, 2.6% Evangelic, 2.5% Reformat, 1.1% Unitarian; 0.8% Greco-Catholics and 3.7% are of others confessions. In Brasov there are many cathedrals, churches, also one synagogue, and all the religions have a place for their activities. Pictures here. http://www.brasovean.ro/cat_galerie_biserici.

Business and professional organizations - Brasov Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) was set up on the 20th of January 1850, being the oldest Chamber of Commerce within the Romanian territory; has got connections with all the Chambers of Commerce and Industry around the world and international governmental and non-governmental organizations. Now, this organization has 600 members, companies, private investors, and business related organizations.

In Brasov thousand of private companies are very active, in different field: production, commerce, sales, etc. Brasov is one of the first 5 the most important cities of Romania, in field of Economy and Industry. Also, the real estate investments are growing very fast in town and in the areas close by.

Other International Institution:

- 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.);

Brasov has many conference venues available within both the public and private sector. These venues can provide all of the necessary modern facilities and support services needed to host a professional and successful conference. There are good translation services available locally. There are venues suitable for all sizes of event within Brasov and its surrounding environs. A list of the conference venues in Brasov city as well as in surrounding areas, containing prices and conditions is annexed to the present offer.

Brasov and its surrounding area also provides many excellent opportunities for field

trip activities that provide an added value for hosting events and can inform and demonstrate issues related to the conservation and sustainable development of the Carpathians. These include a number of National Parks, Natura 2000 sites, World Heritage Sites, model rural development projects and integrated conservation projects.

- 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.

Bus and train connections are very good with Brasov served by the national and international Intercity network. Modernization of the CFR rolling stock means that an increasing number of trains are equipped with modern business facilities such a power sockets for laptops. Train fares are reasonable and competitive.

International train connections are possible from Brasov to all the capitals of the parties. In brackets are specified the approximate fares for round trips (sleeping wagon)

Kiev - 30 hours daily options. (110 Euro, 2nd class only)

Beograd - 14 hours multiple daily options (120 Euro, 1st class only)

Vienna - 14 hours multiple daily options (204 Euro 1st class and 188 Euro 2nd class)

Bratislava - 14 hours multiple daily options (135 Euro, only seated)

Prague - 18 hours multiple daily options (277 Euro 1st class and 245 Euro 2nd class)

Warsaw - 22 hours Multiple daily options (258 Euro, 1st class only)

Budapest - 11 hours multiple daily options (150 Euro 1st class, 130 Euro 2nd class)

There are plans in development for the construction of an international airport close to Brasov (Ghimbav). The construction has started recently and the works are planned to be finished by 2010.

The nearest international airports are presently in Bucharest (2 ½ hours by car/ train), Cluj (4 hours by car) and Sibiu (2 hours by car/ train). Air transport options are good with a good network of both scheduled and low cost operators providing connections

throughout the region – with daily direct and connecting flights to both capitals and regional airports in the member countries. Fare prices are reasonable and competitive – dependant on flight choice and destination. There are a range of professional airport transport services that offer good corporate rates for individual and group transfers.

Local urban transport facilities are very good – with a modernized bus network and an economical effective taxi service – enabling efficient movement around the city.

Romania has been ahead of many countries in developing its telecommunications network – with mobile internet access available across the country at higher speeds and convenience than many western countries. Good mobile (3G/HSPDA), fixed line telephone and internet facilities are the norm. All these facilities are available at reasonable costs.

- h. Local availability of trained personnel for possible employment in the permanent secretariat, taking account of language and other skills; There is an extremely good local availability of trained well educated personnel that would be suitable for employment within the permanent secretariat. The combination of high standards of education, good language skills and the capacity building activities of both business and the NGO sector has resulted in motivated and professional young people with strong interests in the field of activity of the Convention. An additional bonus resource is the presence in the region of a number of international professionals with a variety of relevant expertise that have settled permanently in Brasov after undertaking project work in the region.

The presence of the Transilvania University with its Forestry Faculty and Tourism Faculty give a good resource of newly qualified candidates or interns. The attractive conditions and reasonable standard of living in Brasov also make it an interesting location to attract national and international personnel.

- i. Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal

of the permanent secretariat;- Brasov has a very good local transport network with extremely regular public transport. Public transport stops within a few minutes walk of the proposed office facilities.

- j. Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat; Brasov has 34 clinics and hospitals of various specializations.
- k. Availability of suitable housing and the proximity of this housing to the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat; Yes , Hotels /Nr. Places-20/3541 Price-30-60-100 euro/day
- e. Overview of the housing market and accommodation facilities (motels, hotels, etc.) with a price and classification range description; other service facilities (stores, restaurants, etc.); Rent- 150-500 euro /month for apartments, depending on location and room numbers.; Purchase- 45.000 – 120.000 euro/ for apartments, depending on the room number and position in the city.
- l. Availability of schools at all levels, including those providing classes in languages other than the local language; Yes ; Elementary school = 20
- m. Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members;

All the major national and international banks are present in Brasov with multiple branches throughout the city. All the banks have good experience in dealing with international clients – both personal and business. Many staff are multi lingual. A comprehensive of ATM's accepting international cards covers the city and the majority of retail and service outlets now accept credit cards.

- n. 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. ?

Entry visas in Romania are not required for the EU citizens as well for the Serbian and Ukrainian citizens holding diplomatic and official passports. The contact details and programs of the Romanian Diplomatic Missions in both Serbia and Ukraine, where these entry visas requests are processed, are available on the internet at

Other relevant information

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

In line with the recommendations of the Implementation Committee Meeting from 2-4 April 2008, the Romanian Offer for hosting the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention is further substantiated by the offer to host the CNPA Management Unit in the Romanian Carpathians.

The CNPA Management Unit, comprising a number of 2-3 specialists, will be established within the National Agency for Protected Areas (NAPA). The NAPA role is to strengthen and support the national system of protected areas and its establishment (including the attributions and financial sustainability) has benefited of a GEF project that has ended in April 2008. The main task of the NAPA is the integrated management of all categories of protected areas, including the Natura 2000 sites, which covers currently approximately 19% of the national territory.

The NAPA establishment is pending since 2007. Currently, the Governmental Decision for NAPA establishment is under inter-ministerial approval, and it is expected to be functional by the end of the year 2008. Its premises are located Brasov city, just as planned for the Secretariat.

Until the NAPA becomes functional, the provisional arrangement for hosting the CNPA Management Unit can stay with the Protected Area Service established within the National Forest Administration. Facilities could be provided by associating the Management Unit with the Piatra Craiului National Park Administration, having its headquarter on the outskirts of Brasov City. The National Forest Administration is currently administrating 24 of the 27 national and nature parks. Support will be given by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development for the establishment of the CNPA Management Unit in this transitional period, before NAPA becomes functional.

The Management Unit for CNPA will benefit of all the facilities of the NAPA, including office space and a meeting place. All the costs related to its functioning (premises, availability of general services as well as maintenance services, communication, office supplies, etc), including the salaries, will be covered from the NAPA budget.

Romania has committed at the first COP of the Carpathian Convention (December 2006) to use its potential GEF 4 national allocation under Biodiversity Focal Area for the development and implementation of a regional project aiming at improving the financial sustainability of the Carpathian Network of Protected Area. The objective of this project is to help the Carpathian Countries and the CNPA to secure stable and long-term financial resources for protected areas, to build capacity within the governmental

agencies and the CNPA for allocating financial resources in a timely manner and appropriate form to cover the costs of protected areas and, ensure that the protected areas are managed effectively and efficiently. The project entitled *Improving the Financial Sustainability of the Carpathian System of Protected Areas* will complement the other initiatives at national and regional level and in particular the “2012 PA Programme - The Carpathian Mountains Ecoregion” implemented by WWF and funded by MAVVA foundation. The total value of the project is 1.1 millions USD his approval is currently pending. The beneficiary of this project is the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and the implementing agency will be NAPA. The most optimistic date for the project start is January 2009.

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

ANNEX - Conference facilities in Brasov

Location	Rooms	Capacity/ max.pers.	Equipment	Prices/day	Address	Contact
International Trade Center	4	25 to 100	Air conditioned, heating, internet and phone connections-included flipchart, projectors, videoprojector, sound systems, microphones-fix and mobile, projection screens, translation equipment, headphones, PCs-not included	20-480 Euro	Bd. Al. Vlahuta nr. 10,	+4-0268-546 200
			Full equipment-not included	to negotiate	Adresa: 15 Noembrie 86	+40 724 070809 www.itcbv.ro
Leurni Bank Bussines Center	4	up to 150	Full equipment-not included	to negotiate		
Aro-Palace	7			to negotiate	Str. Mureşenilor, 12	Tel: 40-0268-477664, 477874, Fax: 40-0268- 475250
	Europa	700		to negotiate		www.aro-palace.ro
	Europa I	200		to negotiate		
	Europa II	300		to negotiate		
	Europa III	100		to negotiate		
	Amfiteatru	400		to negotiate		
	Albastru Alb	120 100		to negotiate	240 Euro	
Hotel Oasis	1	40	Fully equipped	to negotiate	Str. Vulcan nr. 41,	Tel: +40-268-406.310
	1	120	Fully equipped	to negotiate		Tel./Fax: +40-268-425.697 Mobil: +40-724-377.871 www.hoteloasis.ro
Hotel Oliver	2	up to 80	Full equipment not included	to negotiate	Calcea Bucureşti nr. 99	+40 368 40 10 55 +40 368 40 10 66 40 268 31 11 15 www.hoteloliver.ro
Hotel Gaiser	3		Full equipment-not included	-	Timisul de Sus	Tel: +40 268 456245 Fax: +40 268 455652
	Salonul Alb	50				http://www.continentalhotels .ro/index.php?page=hotel&i d_hotel=12
	Salonul Albastru	80				

	Sala	50				
	Biblioteca					
Hotel Brasov	1	15	Fully equipped	to negotiate	str 13 Decembrie 38	0268 426633 www.hotelbrasov.ro
Hotel Kolping	3					
	Transilvania	70	full equipment- included	875 ron/ day	Str. Alexandru Petofi Nr. 27	0040-(0)268-413529
	Banat	40	full equipment- included	595 ron/day		0040-(0)368-430260
	Moldova	20	full equipment- included	250 ron/day		www.hotel.kolping.ro
Pensiunea Memo	2	40	Fully equipped	to negotiate	str. Lunga nr.159	Tel.: (+40) 268 47 24 41 Fax: (+40) 268 47 24 04 www.memobv.ro
Hotel Alinalex	1	60	Fully equipped		B-dul Grivitei 2F	0040 268 440 010 FAX: 0040 268 440 136 www.hotelalinalex.ro
Hotel All Times	1	20	Fully equipped	500 Ron/day	DN 1 Nr. 32, Timisul de Jos	telefon: 0268-339868; fax: 0268-339865
						0745-026666; 0745-608791 www.hotelalltimes.ro
Hotel Belvedere	1	40	Fully equipped	to negotiate	Str. Stejerisului nr. 11	Tel.: 0268-415.575 Fax: 0268-415.370 www.hotelbelvederebv.ro
Hotel City Center	1	35	Fully equipped	to negotiate	Str. Traian Gorzavescu 4	0268 417 583 0268 417 589 www.hotelcitycenter.ro
Hotel Ambient	1	40	Fully equipped	to negotiate	Str. Aninoasa nr.5,	40-268-470856 40-368-401106 40-268-474210 40-268-471747 40-368-401104

						40-368-401105 www.hotelambient.ro
Hotel Apollonia	1	40 Fully equipped	to negotiate	Neagoe Basarab Ia Nr 7	+40 268 476 163	
					+40 268 412 086	
					+40 268 476 127	
					0040 074 032 5607	
					www.hotelapollonia.ro	



Nomination for HOSTING THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT of the Carpathian Convention in Banska Bystrica, Slovak republic

Part I

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 Contracting 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 meetings and 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?*

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).

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.

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?



United Nations Environment Programme

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

The internal legislation, on the basis of principle of reciprocity, allows to the family members of the international governmental organization staff members acting on the territory of the Slovak Republic to be employed in the 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 the territory of the Slovak Republic.

According to 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 organisation with the legal entity. In the text of the Carpathian convention there is no such specific article, on the basis of which the Carpathian Convention, eventually its Secretariat could be qualified as international organisation – the subject of the international law.

Consequently the 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 employees of the Carpathian Convention Permanent Secretariat.

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.

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.

1.5 Nature of the headquarters agreement

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

The hosting of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention could be established and institutionalised by international (presidential) treaty, which will be subject for approval by the National Council of the Slovak Republic and ratification of the President of the Slovak Republic.



Part II

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 a newly-constructed office building/accommodations or already have an existing one? Describe the location, available area, amount/type of rooms, please.*

At the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat there can be provided a newly reconstructed part of the historical building in the very centre of Banská Bystrica (Lazovná Str. No. 10). The building hosts actually the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic Headquarters. The office space is available prospectively from September 2008.

After reconstruction of the attics the building is now a 3-storey-house. It offers 15 office rooms of total capacity for 30-35 persons, 1 meeting/conference room for 30 people and a small archive/library room. The building is secured with an alarm system.

- 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.*

The offered space includes 3 newly reconstructed adjacent office rooms with comfortable capacity for 9-10 persons in total. Room size: ca 11 x 10.9m, 4.9 x 5.2m, 4.9 x 5.4m. The space provides a kitchen and 4 toilets. The space is located in one relatively separate part of the building on the 2nd floor, necessary storage rooms can be provided in other parts of the building. The big room can be used for smaller working meetings, another meeting room (30 seats) is located on the ground floor. There is no special security of the rooms; security of the building is ensured through an alarm system. The entrance is equipped with the telephone and remote opening system. Maintenance of rooms and equipment will be offered by the State Nature Conservancy technical staff.

- c. *Indication of the existing parking space
Will it be enough parking space free-of-charge?*

The building disposes its own closed 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 for cars of the home administration (4 cars). The parking places in the surroundings of the building are paid (very centre of the town), but long-term permits can be negotiated with the City Hall.



- d. *Will the building include a cafeteria and/or a restaurant that can accommodate staff and delegations?*

The building itself does not have a cafeteria or a restaurant. The number and variety of restaurants and cafes are available in the close surrounding of the building, as far as it is located in the very centre of the town, in walking distance, offering diverse foods and drinks of national and international cuisine. Preparation of coffee, tea, snacks is possible in the kitchen (4 of them are in the building).

2.2. *Basis for placing the office facilities at the disposal of the Permanent Secretariat:*

Ownership by the host Government (State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic) without rent to be paid by the Secretariat (it includes rooms, water, heating, electricity, gas, cleaning, sewage, waste disposal, maintenance).

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.*

- a. Major maintenance and repairs to the office facilities owned by the State Nature Conservancy (SNC) will be provided by the SNC.
- b. and c. Service man and IT administrator of the home administration will have the responsibility for normal maintenance and repair. Specialised repairs and maintenance of the Permanent Secretariat's facilities will be under responsibility of the Secretariat.

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

Possible expenses will be for: office equipment, office supplies, telephone, ISDN, fax.

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*
Yes, standard furniture
- b. *office equipment*
No, the Secretariat should supply technical equipment (computers, fax, printing and copy machines, etc.)
- c. *office supplies*
No, the Secretariat should pay for office supplies (paper, toners...)
- d. *public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal)*
Yes, these will be free-of charge



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

- e. *lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer network/telephone centre of the house/wiring)*

Computer network and wiring is already available in the rooms, the Secretariat will be responsible for covering telecommunication expenses (phone, ISDN, fax).

- f. *security equipment/security zone equipment*

Yes

- g. *conference equipment including interpretation system*

Yes - meeting room in the building, beamer, slide projector,

No - interpretation system (not available)

We offer rooms with public utilities and lines of communication (for telephone, fax, computer network, wiring, internet connection through microwave antenna 1 Mb/sec) at disposal.

2.5. Please, specify the duration of the arrangements regarding office space.

The space should be available in September 2008 for not limited time span.

Part III

Local facilities and conditions

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

- a. *Population figure;*

- b. *Territory total area;*

- c. *Short general description of the city/region features*

Banska Bystrica is a historical town originated in 1255. It is a regional capital of the Banska Bystrica Region in the Central Slovakia. The population of the city is about 80 000. The town is a regional business, education (the Matej Bel University), cultural and tourist centre. The cadastral territory of Banska Bystrica has an area of 10 337 ha of which 917 ha are developed. The centre of the city is located at 362 m above sea level. Banska Bystrica Region is the largest administrative region in Slovakia (9 454 km², 662 000 inhabitants) with any protected areas, including national parks and protected landscape areas.

Nature conditions: The city lies in Zvolenska kotlina Basin and is surrounded by forested mountains (Nizke Tatry Mts., Velka Fatra Mts. designated as national parks as well, Kremnicke vrchy Hills, Polana Mts., Starohorske vrchy Hills etc.). It has a mild continental climate with an average annual temperature of +8 °C.

The mountainous territory of the Central Slovakia in which Banska Bystrica was founded and gradually transformed into a city, provided to people conditions inevitable for existence ever



United Nations Environment Programme

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

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 writing that permitted German settlers to mine precious metals and to develop mining companies, guilds and associated trade businesses. The golden age in the history of Banska Bystrica and its mining tradition was in the 15th and 16th centuries. Krakow mining entrepreneur 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 Banska Bystrica, 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 Banska Bystrica was the Slovak National Uprising, which started on 29 August 1944 with an anti-fascists coup in the army. The free town of Banska Bystrica became the central point of the uprising for sixty days. Citizens of Banska Bystrica joined the fight against fascism in Central Europe despite cruel suppression. The city was liberated by the Soviet and Romanian armies on 25 March 1945.

Due to extensive reconstruction of the historical heart of the city, which 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 surrounding natural scenery complete the overall experience of the visit in the town that has an attribute „the Pearl of Pohronie“.

As an administrative, cultural and economic centre of the region it hosts some important institutions, like museums (including natural history exhibit of the Central Slovakia Museum), galleries, theatres (including State Opera), libraries (including State Scientific Library) and other cultural and environmental institutions, regional offices of the state and self-government, important factories, banks, sport facilities (for summer and winter sports), etc. The region is famous also for spas and health resorts near Banska Bystrica (e.g. Sliac, Brusno), folk traditions protected historical monuments and folk architecture (e.g. Spania Dolina village).

3.2. *Description of the following facilities and conditions:*

a. *Diplomatic representation in the host city/region;*

No diplomatic representation in Banska Bystrica. Diplomatic missions are located in capital Bratislava.

b. *Presence of international organizations in the host city/region;*



United Nations Environment Programme

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

Ekopolis Foundation – Environmental Partnership for Sustainable Development

c. *Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region*

Several tens of environmental NGOs and foundations, e.g.

- BBZMO: Association of NGOs in Banska Bystrica. There is an agreement between the City of Banska Bystrica and BBZMO
- The Research Institute of Posts and Telecommunications, non-profit organization
- Ekopolis Foundation
- Slovak Union of Nature and Landscape Conservationists
- FSC Slovakia

d. *Other national organizations relevant to the Convention;*

- Slovak Environmental Agency Headquarters and several centres
- State Nature Conservancy (SNC) of the Slovak Republic Headquarters
- SNC - Nizke Tatry National Park Administration
- SNC - Velka Fatra NP (the Administration located in Vrutky, 60 km N from B. Bystrica)
- SNC - Polana Protected Landscape Area (the Administration located in Zvolen, 20 km S from B. Bystrica)
- Slovak Water Management Company, branch Administration of the Hron River Basin
- Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute regional branch
- State Forestry Headquarters
- Regional and district environmental authorities
- Slovak Environmental Inspection regional branch

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

- Matej Bel University (6 faculties)
- Academy of Arts (3 faculties)
- Faculty of Health Care of the Slovak Medical University
- Institute of IT (SAV Bratislava – Slovak Academy of Sciences)
- Grasslands and Mountain Agriculture Research Institute
- Technical University in Zvolen (4 faculties, including Forestry Faculty, Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Studies – 20 km S from B. Bystrica)
- National Forestry Centre in Zvolen
- Institute of Forest Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Zvolen

f. *Availability of international conference facilities and the conditions for their use (free of charge, rental, etc.);*



United Nations Environment Programme

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

There are technical, organizational, personal and spatial assumes for conferences and other activities on the international level. There is a guarantee of special capability and of personal representation of specialists (research institutes 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 meeting rooms (40, 15, 15 persons), banquet (40 persons), restaurant, accommodation, rental (www.dixon.sk)

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

Hotel Kaskády**** (10 km from B. Bystrica), conference hall (200 persons), meeting rooms (10-30 persons), restaurant, accommodation; rental (www.hotelkaskady.sk)

The Matej Bel University – conference hall (500 persons)

Museum of the Slovak National Uprising - cinema hall (250 persons)

State Scientific Library – meeting room (50 persons)

Technical University in Zvolen (20 km from B. Bystrica) and other facilities in Zvolen.

- 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.*

Airport Sliac (15 km from Banska Bystrica) – currently there are no international connections, but development is expected

Railway connection, bus international connection

- B. Bystrica – Vienna (260 km) (international airport)
- B. Bystrica – Bratislava (200 km) (international airport)
- B. Bystrica – Budapest (200 km) (international airport)
- B. Bystrica – Praha (530 km)
- B. Bystrica – Krakow (220 km)

Complex telecommunication services available, including mobile phone providers (3 companies operating), wireless internet connection available.

Transport availability on the motorways in all directions.

- *C I/66 BB* – Badín – Zvolen (connection also to BB – Slovenska Lupča – Brusno – Brezno)
- *C I/59 BB* – Donovaly – Ružomberok (connection to the E 77 Warsaw – Krakow – B. Bystrica – Budapest)
- *C II/577* – BB – Harmanec – Turčianske Teplice (connection of Pohronie region with Turiec region and north of Slovakia)
- *C II/591*: BB – Čerín – Zvolen (connection of central Slovakia with southern Slovakia)



United Nations Environment Programme

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

- *C II/578: BB – Tajov – Kordíky/Králiky (connection to the areas of recreation in surroundings of BB)*

Train/bus: B. Bystrica – Bratislava (3.30 hours, 8 EUR), B. Bystrica – Prague (via Bratislava or Žilina, 7.5-11 hours, ca 16 EUR), B. Bystrica – Budapest (via Zvolen, Nitra or Levice, 5 hours), B. Bystrica – Warsaw (via Ostrava (CZ) or Žilina), B. Bystrica – Bucharest (via Budapest, 22 hours), B. Bystrica – Beograd (via Budapest, 15 hours), B. Bystrica – Kyiv (via Košice, 27 hours).

Except for connection to Bratislava the most of transport connections are combined (train and bus).

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

Local urban transport is provided by buses and trolleybuses.

The way from Bratislava to Banska Bystrica is realizable on motorway (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*

Complex university education with qualification in language knowledge, natural history, ecology, forestry, economy and political sciences and international relations is available (graduates of the Matej Bel University in Banska Bystrica, Technical University in Zvolen, Slovak Academy of Sciences; regional business job market).

- i. *Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal of the permanent secretariat*

There is a good system of local transport in the town.

The office is situated in the very centre of the city, so local transport facilities are easy accessible (5-20 minutes to the urban transport stops, railway station, bus station).

- j. *Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat;*

There is the F. D. Roosevelt Faculty Hospital which is the third biggest hospital in Slovakia. This hospital has a high quality service (hospital has also possibility to take a care of VIP – institutional persons). There is also health service NOVAMED (private). A good network of private health care service and pharmacies is available. Health resorts in spas near Banska Bystrica offer short-term and long-term curative sojourns.

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



United Nations Environment Programme

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

There are a lot of possibilities of accommodation – hotels (apartments), guest houses, pensions or flats in the new apartment houses at disposal for rent in proximity 10-15 min on foot or by car from the office. It is a usual praxis that they are used by foreigners for the long-term stays. Well developed housing market offers a big number and selection of family houses, villas and flats in the city or its vicinity for sell.

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.);*

Several travel agencies and real estate agents can help in arranging accommodation. The price varies according to location, state of the facility and surface and it is changing permanently. There are more than 3.300 seats in 35 accommodation facilities for visitors. In Banska Bystrica and its surroundings there are 9 hotels (5 of them have three stars - 3 are in Banska Bystrica, 1 in Hronsek, 1 in Stare Hory) and a big number of pensions and lodging in private houses. The biggest hotel in Banska Bystrica is the Lux Hotel – 1.141 seats. Mountain ski and tourist resorts within 30 km offer complex and modern services in many other accommodation and recreational facilities, including rural facilities.

Some examples:

Hotel Dixon*** (60 rooms/120 beds) 33-46 EUR for room)

Hotel Arcade*** (14 rooms/27 beds; 52-69 EUR for room)

Pension Kúria** (18 EUR for bed, 29 EUR for room)

Other pensions can offer also cheaper accommodation.

Shopping centres include Tesco Stores, Kaufland, Billa, Lidl, Coop, new modern complex facilities and local stores facilities.

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

- Several kindergartens
- 16 Primary schools – with language classes
- 26 Secondary schools and Gymnasiums – including bilingual ones (French, Spanish)
- at all schools English or German languages are taught (somewhere also Russian language)
- Matej Bel University has the Faculty of Humanities (specialization translator and interpreter) and the Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations
- Technical University in Zvolen

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

There are the branches of variety of bank institutions of the Slovak Republic and some



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

international banks. International bank transfers are realizable in all banks in the town (Tatrabanka, VUB, Slovenská sporiteľňa, OTP, ČSOB, UniCredit Bank, Banka Slovakia, Dexia Banka...)

- 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 for EU member states and most of other European countries, as well as holders of diplomatic and official passports from Serbia and Ukraine. Processing of entry requirements can take few days and the Slovak authorities will be supportive in ensuring that visa entry permits are granted to participants from respective countries on time.

Proposal for PERMANENT ARRANGEMENT for the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) in Banska Bystrica, Slovak Republic

Introduction

Slovakia as a country with more than 71 of its surface lying in the Carpathian Mountains region and sharing about 22 % of the whole Carpathians represents with its 9 National Parks, 11 Protected Landscape Areas, 4 Biosphere Reserves, and about 44 other categories of protected areas over 100 ha a substantial part of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas. Slovakia has actively contributed to the development and establishment of the network and already few years ago offered to support the CNPA with its experience, specialists, expertise and coordination work. The Government of the Slovak Republic represented by the Ministry of Environment submits its proposal for permanent arrangement for the CNPA to the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee using the structure of the already submitted proposal for hosting the Convention's Permanent Secretariat.

Part I

Legal framework

The permanent arrangement (Management Unit) for CNPA should be a functional part of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, either located in the same headquarters, or separately, and thus related to staffing and financing of the Permanent Secretariat according to its rules and funding. The assistance of the Slovak Government is based in support of the premises of the Management Unit on the territory of the Slovak Republic and in technical support to the Management Unit by the staff members of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (SNC). The SNC is currently working on the project proposal which will include also support (capacities, running costs) for the CNPA Management Unit.

1.1 General provisions on privileges, immunities and social security that would be conferred on the permanent arrangement for the CNPA and its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, representatives of the CNPA Steering Committee, delegates and experts invited to the meetings and conferences in the Host Country of the CNPA Management Unit:

- 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. Social security aspects*

All the issues concerning the privileges and immunities specified in a) to e) can be guaranteed for the Management Unit, its staff members, family members, representatives of the Contracting Parties and other subjects as will be specified in the multilateral treaty with the Convention Contracting Parties. This treaty can also confer the privileges and immunities over the frame specified in a) to e) and the exemption of the CNPA Management Unit employees from the frame of internal regulations on social insurance and related contributions specified under f).

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

The internal legislation, on the basis of principle of reciprocity, allows to the family members of the international governmental organization staff members acting on the territory of the Slovak Republic to be employed in the 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 the Slovak territory. The family member of the employee of the Management Unit 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 employees of the CNPA Management Unit.

*1.3. Nature of the headquarters agreement
E.g. stand-alone agreement, incorporated into another existing agreement, etc.*

The hosting of the CNPA Management Unit could be established and institutionalised by an international treaty, either stand-alone, or (when accepted by the Carpathian Convention Contracting Parties) as a part of the treaty for the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention as specified in the Questionnaire for the Permanent Secretariat submitted by the Slovak Government.

Part II

Features of the office site and related financial issues

2.1. Main features of the building to house the CNPA Management Unit, including office space, facilities for conferences and availability of general services (security, maintenance, parking garages, cafeteria, restaurant, etc.).

A newly reconstructed part of the historical building of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic Headquarters in the very centre of Banska Bystrica (Central Slovakia) can be provided at the disposal of the CNPA Management Unit, in the same building as offered by the Slovak Government for the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention. The office space is available prospectively from September 2008 when the SNC Headquarters will be moved into the new premises in Banska Bystrica and the Administration of Low Tatras National Park should be located in Lazovna Str. 10.

After reconstruction of the attics the building is now a 3-storey-house. It offers office rooms, 1 meeting room for 30 people and storage rooms. The space provides kitchens and toilets. The building is secured with an alarm system. The entrance is equipped with the telephone and remote opening system.

The building disposes its own closed parking place with a total capacity for 5 cars including a garage. The parking places in the surroundings of the building are paid (very centre of the town), but long-term permits can be negotiated with the City Hall.

The building itself does not have its own cafeteria or a restaurant. The number and variety of restaurants and cafes are available in the close surrounding of the building, as far as it is located in

the very centre of the town, in walking distance, offering diverse foods and drinks of national and international cuisine. Preparation of coffee, tea or snacks is possible in the kitchen (4 of them are in the building).

2.2. *Basis for placing the office facilities at the disposal of the Management Unit:*

Ownership - by the host Government (State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic) without a rent to be paid by the Management Unit (it includes rooms, water, heating, electricity, gas, cleaning, sewage, waste disposal, maintenance).

2.3. *Who will have a responsibility for:*

- a. *Major maintenance and repairs to the office facilities* - by the State Nature Conservancy (SNC).
- b. *Normal maintenance and repair and*
- c. *Utilities, including communication facilities* – a service man and IT administrator of the home administration will have the responsibility for normal maintenance and repair. Specialised repairs and maintenance of the CNPA Management Unit's facilities will be under responsibility of the Management Unit.

Please, indicate possible expenses to be paid by the Management Unit.

The salary of the Coordinator and his Assistant should be covered from the core budget of the Carpathian Convention, from the membership fees, voluntary contributions of the Contracting Parties and projects. Possible expenses of the CNPA Management Unit will be for: travel expenses, office equipment, office supplies, telephone, ISDN, fax.

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:* Yes, standard furniture.
- b. *office equipment:* No, the Management Unit should supply technical equipment (computers, fax, printing and copy machines, etc.).
- c. *office supplies:* No, the Management Unit should pay for office supplies (paper, toners...).
- d. *public utilities (e.g. gas/water/sewage/electricity/waste disposal):* Yes, these will be free-of charge.
- e. *lines of communication (telephone/ISDN/fax/computer network/telephone centre of the house/wiring):* Computer network and wiring is already available in the rooms, the Management Unit will be responsible for covering telecommunication expenses (phone, ISDN, fax).
- f. *security equipment/security zone equipment:* Yes.
- g. *conference equipment including interpretation system:*
Yes - meeting room in the building, beamer, slide projector will be available;
No - interpretation system (not available)

SNC offers rooms with public utilities and lines of communication (for telephone, fax, computer network, wiring, internet connection through microwave antenna 1 Mb/sec) at disposal. Specialists and technical staff of the SNC can support the work of the CNPA Management Unit.

2.5. Please, specify the duration of the arrangements regarding office space.

The space should be available in September 2008 for not limited time span.

Part III

Local facilities and conditions

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

a. *Population figure;*

b. *Territory total area;*

c. *Short general description of the city/region features*

Banska Bystrica is a historical town originated in 1255. It is a regional capital of the Banska Bystrica Region in Central Slovakia. The population of the city is about 80 000. The town is a regional business, education (the Matej Bel University, several secondary schools), cultural and tourist centre. The cadastral territory of Banska Bystrica covers area of 10 337 ha of which 917 ha are developed. The centre of the city is located at 362 m above sea level. Banska Bystrica Region is the largest administrative region in Slovakia (9 454 km², 662 000 inhabitants) with many cultural and natural assets. Due to extensive reconstruction of the historical centre of the city, which is declared an urban conservation area, the town is considered one of the most beautiful in Slovakia. Plenty of monuments and magic of surrounding natural scenery complete the overall experience of the visit in the town that has an attribute „the Pearl of Pohronie region“.

Nature conditions: The city lies in Zvolenska kotlina Basin and is surrounded by forested mountains (Nizke Tatry Mts., Velka Fatra Mts. - designated as national parks as well, Kremnicke vrchy Hills, Polana Mts., Starohorske vrchy Hills etc.). It has a mild continental climate with an average annual temperature of +8 °C.

The mountainous territory of the Central Slovakia in which Banska Bystrica is located in the Hron River valley, has a well preserved natural values in the big number of large-scale protected areas (national parks, protected landscape areas), including UNESCO MaB Biosphere Reserve (Polana), and smaller strictly protected areas (national nature reserves, nature reserves, protected sites, natural monuments), caves (including popular show caves), Natura 2000 sites, Ramsar Sites and other natural features.

As an administrative, cultural and economic centre of the region it hosts some important institutions, like museums (including natural history exhibit of the Central Slovakia Museum), galleries, theatres, libraries (including State Scientific Library just opposite the premises offered) and other cultural and environmental institutions, regional offices of the state and self-government, important banks, sport facilities (for summer and winter sports), recreational areas etc. The region is famous also for spas and health resorts near Banska Bystrica (e.g. Sliac, Brusno), folk traditions, protected historical monuments and folk architecture (e.g. Spania Dolina village).

3.2. *Description of the following facilities and conditions:*

a. *Diplomatic representation in the host city/region*

No diplomatic representation in Banska Bystrica. Diplomatic missions are located in capital city Bratislava.

b. *Presence of international organizations in the host city/region*

Ekopolis Foundation – Environmental Partnership for Sustainable Development. Cooperating Carpathian EcoRegion Initiative (CERI) Secretariat is located in Bratislava (200 km from B. Bystrica).

c. *Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region*

Several tens of environmental NGOs and foundations are active there, e.g.

- BBZMO: Association of NGOs in Banska Bystrica. There is an agreement between the City of Banska Bystrica and BBZMO
- Ekopolis Foundation
- Slovak Union of Nature and Landscape Conservationists
- FSC Slovakia

d. *Other national organizations relevant to the Convention and CNPA*

- Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA) Headquarters and several SEA centres
- State Nature Conservancy (SNC) of the Slovak Republic Headquarters
- SNC - Nizke Tatry National Park Administration
- SNC - Velka Fatra NP (the Administration located in Vrutky, 60 km N from B. Bystrica)
- SNC - Polana Protected Landscape Area (the Administration located in Zvolen, 20 km S from B. Bystrica)
- Harmanec Show Cave Administration (10 km S from B. Bystrica)
- Slovak Water Management Company, branch Administration of the Hron River Basin
- Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute regional branch
- State Forestry Headquarters
- Regional and district environmental authorities
- Slovak Environmental Inspection regional branch.

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

- Matej Bel University (6 faculties, including natural sciences)
- Academy of Arts (3 faculties)
- Faculty of Health Care of the Slovak Medical University
- Institute of IT (SAV Bratislava – Slovak Academy of Sciences)
- Grasslands and Mountain Agriculture Research Institute
- Technical University in Zvolen (4 faculties, including Forestry Faculty, Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Studies, Arboretum – 20 km S from B. Bystrica)
- National Forestry Centre in Zvolen
- Institute of Forest Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Zvolen

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 other activities on the international level. There is a guarantee of special capability and of personal representation of specialists (research institutes 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 meeting rooms (40, 15, 15 persons), banquet (40 persons), restaurant, accommodation, rental (www.dixon.sk)

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

Hotel Kaskády**** (10 km from B. Bystrica), conference hall (200 persons), meeting rooms (10-30 persons), restaurant, accommodation; rental (www.hotelkaskady.sk)

The Matej Bel University – conference hall (500 persons)

Museum of the Slovak National Uprising - cinema hall (250 persons)

State Scientific Library – meeting room (50 persons)

Technical University in Zvolen (20 km from B. Bystrica) and other facilities in Zvolen.

- 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.*

Airport Sliach (15 km from Banska Bystrica) – currently there are no international connections, but development is expected.

Railway connection, bus international connection

- B. Bystrica – Vienna (260 km) (international airport)
- B. Bystrica – Bratislava (200 km) (international airport)
- B. Bystrica – Budapest (200 km) (international airport)
- B. Bystrica – Praha (530 km)
- B. Bystrica – Krakow (220 km)

Complex telecommunication services available, including mobile phone providers (3 companies operating), wireless internet connection available.

Transport availability on the motorways in all directions.

- *C I/66* BB – Badín – Zvolen (connection also to Slovenska Lupča–Brusno–Brezno)
- *C I/59* BB – Donovaly – Ružomberok (connection to the E 77 Warsaw–Krakow–B. Bystrica–Budapest)
- *C II/577* – BB – Harmanec – Turčianske Teplice (connection of Banska Bystrica region with Turiec region and north of Slovakia)
- *C II/591*: BB – Čerín – Zvolen (connection of central Slovakia with southern Slovakia)
- *C II/578*: BB – Tajov – Kordiky/Králiky (connection to the areas of recreation in surroundings of B. Bystrica)

Travelling from Bratislava to Banska Bystrica is possible on motorway (1st class road) in combination with district roads (2nd class roads).

Train/bus: B. Bystrica – Bratislava (3.30 hours, 8 EUR), B. Bystrica – Prague (via Bratislava or Žilina, 7.5-11 hours, ca 16 EUR), B. Bystrica – Budapest (via Zvolen, Nitra or Levice, 5 hours), B. Bystrica – Warsaw (via Ostrava (CZ) or Žilina), B. Bystrica – Bucharest (via Budapest, 22 hours), B. Bystrica – Beograd (via Budapest, 15 hours), B. Bystrica – Kyiv (via Košice, 27 hours).

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

Local urban transport is provided by buses and trolleybuses. There is a good system of local transport in the town. The office is situated in the very centre of the city, so local transport facilities are easy accessible (5-20 min. to the urban transport stops, railway station, bus station).

- h. *Local availability of trained personnel for possible support of the CNPA Management Unit, taking account of language and other skills*

Professional staff of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (SNC), Low Tatras NP Administration and other specialists from other Administrations, including the Slovak Caves Administration can be of help and available for necessary technical assistance for the CNPA Management Unit. The SNC is the central national governmental organisation for nature conservation and management, governing all state protected areas (with 11 Regional Centres, altogether 25 units/protected areas administrations), joint recently with the Slovak Caves Administration. Complex university education with qualification in language knowledge, natural

history, ecology, forestry, economy and political sciences and international relations is available there (graduates of the Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Technical University in Zvolen, Slovak Academy of Sciences employees...). The big advantage of the location is availability of all these specialised, scientific, university and academic institutions which can be of help in various aspects of the CNPA work.

i. *Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the CNPA Management Unit*

There is the F. D. Roosevelt Faculty Hospital which is the third biggest hospital in Slovakia, with a high quality service. There is also a good network of private health care service and pharmacies available. Health resorts in spas near Banská Bystrica offer short-term and long-term curative sojourns.

j. *Availability of suitable housing and the proximity of this housing to the office facilities at the disposal of the Management Unit*

There are a lot of possibilities of accommodation – hotels (apartments), guest houses, pensions or flats in the new apartment houses at disposal for rent in proximity 10-15 min on foot or by car from the office. Well developed housing market offers a big number and selection of family houses, villas and flats in the city or its vicinity for sell.

Several travel agencies and real estate agents can help in arranging accommodation. The price varies according to location, state of the facility and surface and it is changing permanently. There are more than 3.300 seats in 35 accommodation facilities for guests. In Banská Bystrica and its surroundings there are 9 hotels (5 of them have three stars - 3 are in Banská Bystrica, 1 in Hronek, 1 in Stare Hory) and a big number of pensions and lodging in private houses. The biggest hotel in Banská Bystrica is the Lux Hotel – 1.141 seats. Mountain ski and tourist resorts within 30 km offer complex and modern services in many other accommodation and recreational facilities, including rural facilities.

Some examples: Hotel Dixon*** (60 rooms/120 beds) 33-46 EUR for room); Hotel Arcade*** (14 rooms/27 beds; 52-69 EUR for room); Pension Kúria** (18 EUR for bed, 29 EUR for room). Other pensions can offer also cheaper accommodation.

Shopping centres include Tesco Stores, Kaufland, Billa, Lidl, Coop, new modern complex facilities and local stores facilities.

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

- Several kindergartens; 16 Primary schools – with language classes; 26 Secondary schools and Gymnasiums – including bilingual ones (French, Spanish)
- at all schools English or German languages are taught (somewhere also Russian language)
- Matej Bel University has the Faculty of Humanities (specialization translator and interpreter) and the Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations
- Technical University in Zvolen

l. *Facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries for the Management Unit and its staff members*

There are branches of several bank institutions of the Slovak Republic and some international banks. International bank transfers are realizable in all banks in the town (Tatrabanka, VUB, Slovenská sporiteľňa, OTP, ČSOB, UniCredit Bank, Banka Slovakia, Dexia Banka...).

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

Visa entry permits are not requested for EU member states and most of other European countries, as well as holders of diplomatic and official passports from Serbia and Ukraine. Processing of entry requirements can take few days and the Slovak authorities will be supportive in ensuring that visa entry permits are granted to participants from respective countries on time.

**NOMINATION FOR HOSTING
THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT AND CNPA MANAGEMENT UNIT OF
CARPATHIAN CONVENTION
IN CHERNIVTSI, UKRAINE**

Part I

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 Contracting 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 meetings and 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?*

The Carpathian Convention does not include the provisions regarding privileges and immunities. Therefore, according to the Decree of the President of Ukraine # 198/93 of 10.06.93 “Regulations on Diplomatic and Consular Missions of Foreign States in Ukraine” - “Privileges and immunities in Ukraine, which are granted in Ukraine to the international intergovernmental organizations, missions of the foreign states to these organizations, as well as to their officials are stipulated by the corresponding agreements, which Ukraine is the party to”.

According to the experience, gained by Ukraine in concluding this kind of treaties, all mentioned below issues concerning the privileges and immunities might be secured in the framework of the existing national legislation of Ukraine in compliance with the international rules.

The privileges and immunities issues could be resolved in compliance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized UN Agencies of 1947, as the staff members of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention enjoy the privileges and immunities stipulated by the above-mentioned Conventions.

Taking into account that Ukraine has initiated the Carpathian Convention, and Chernivtsi is one of the main centers of the Carpathian region, the observance of legal basis with regard to accommodation of the Secretariat, as well as granting all necessary juridical rights and immunities to its staff members are safeguarded there.

To the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, representatives of the Contracting Parties of the Convention, delegates and experts invited to the meetings and conferences will be given all scope of the privilege and legal immunities as it is provided for in the existing UN specialized agencies, in particular:

1. Legal inviolability for the Secretariat representatives and for its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, representatives of the Contracting Parties of 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 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 taxation and custom charges;
6. Other privileges and immunities declared by representatives of Secretariat at creation 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.

The mentioned privileges and immunities granted to the Permanent Secretariat and its staff members, family members/dependents of the staff, will be ensured by the stand-alone multilateral agreement between the Contracting Parties to the Carpathian Convention which should be ratified by Parliaments.

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?

Family members of the staff of the Permanent Secretariat with the assistance of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Chernivtsi Regional State Administration (CRSA), State Department of ecology and natural resources in Chernivtsi region and local government will have a free access to the labour market in the field of activity chosen by them with a priority in employment.

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.

The issues concerning social security of the Permanent Secretariat staff members could be resolved according to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961.

1.5 Nature of the headquarters agreement

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

The Headquarters agreement will be a stand-alone multilateral agreement.

Part II

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 a newly-constructed office building/accommodations or already have an existing one? Describe the location, available area, amount/type of rooms, please.*

The office, offered for the placement of representatives of the Carpathian Convention's Permanent Secretariat, is a separate building situated in the historical part of Chernivtsi city; now it's on the final stage of reconstruction and will be available from the Autumn 2008.



In the building there are 10 office rooms assigned for employees of the Permanent Secretariat. Near the building there is a nice green square.

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.*

The separate building has a total area of 500 m². The office has 9 rooms (16 - 20 m² each) and a meeting room (6x11 m) for the employees, as well as reception room and bathroom unit with shower and separate toilet. The building has courtyard approximately 800 m²

The building is situated on 50, Universytetska Str., near the cultural and architectural heritage of the city - the Residence of Bukovynian Metropolitans. Now it is the main corps of the Chernivtsi National University named by Yuriy Fedkovych. This place has very convenient transport communications as well as infrastructure.



The Permanent Secretariat will be provided with storage facilities, garages

with security and available technical personnel.

The building is provided with telecommunication (6 numbers), fax, internet connection, also it has a special electric system for system computer-connection. There is an opportunity to connect a special automatic telephone exchange for direct communication with the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Regional State Administration and all basic Administrations of Chernivtsi region, Carpathian region and Ukraine.

- c. Indication of the existing parking space
Will it be enough parking space free-of-charge?*

The building has a courtyard with 5 parking places. Not far from the building there is a safeguarded parking place with total capacity for 20 cars and buses (free of charge). If events will be hosted by Chernivtsi Regional State Administration, there is a possibility to park over 100 cars (free of charge) in the special sector. If events will be carried out in the the State Administration of Environmental Protection there is a possibility to park 20 cars (free of charge).

- d. Will the building include a cafeteria and/or a restaurant that can accommodate staff and delegations?*

Near (10 m) the building there is a café with Bukovynian cuisine, also it can be used for official receptions. Also not far from the office there are a lot of restaurants (“Sorbonne”, “Teatralnyj”, “Avtohraf”, “Kayzer”, “Knaus”).

- 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.

The offered office is of state property (of Chernivtsi Regional State Administration) and it will be provided for the Secretariat without rent to be paid.

- 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.

State Administration of Environmental Protection is responsible for the major maintenance and office’s repairs, including communication facilities, general cleaning and repairs of the building

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

Possible expenses will be for: office equipment (partly), office supplies, use of telephone, ISDN

- 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;*
Yes, standard furniture.
- b. *office equipment;*
Partly, necessary for the beginning
- 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
- g. *conference equipment including interpretation system*
Yes

2.5. *Please, specify the duration of the arrangements regarding office space.*
For unlimited period of time.

Part III

Local facilities and conditions

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

- a. *Population figure;*
The population of the city is about 242 000.
- b. *Territory total area;*
Total area of Chernivtsi - 15,300 ha
- c. *Short general description of the city/region features.*

In XVII - XX centuries Chernivtsi region was the part of Austria, that's why it has European traditions and culture. Bukovynian Carpathian Mountains are the region of unique combination of picturesque landscapes, Huzul glory, centers of world Hasidism and Old Belief.

The area has many structural components of recreational resources, being a region of diversified summer, winter mountain cognitive and healthy recreation and balneal treatment. It has high natural and recreational potential, determining in many respects a socio-economic conditions and attractiveness.

The forests area of Chernivtsi region consists 31,7 % of the total region's territory . There are 310 objects of different categories of natural reserves fund on the territory. 23 natural reserves of the national value (9768,5 ha) and 287 valuable natural territories and objects of local value (56213,5 ha) form a network of natural reserves fund of Chernivtsi region. The reserves fund of the national value consists of National natural park "Vyzhnytskyj", 10 wildlife preserves, 9 natural monuments and Chernivtsi Botanical garden.

Chernivtsi is a modern European city with the Austrian traditions and rich historical and cultural heritage. It is famous for such unique constructions as the former Residence of Bukovynian metropolitans (1864-1882), Svyato-Duhivsky cathedral (1864), the building of the City Hall (1843-1848), the Central Savings Bank (1901) - one of the first examples of modern style in the architecture of

Europe, Chamber of Justice (1904-1906) and many others. Despite difficult history of this frontier city, nowadays Chernivtsi is a well preserved and unique example of integral building of the historical center, as well as a great example of a multinational world centre, which didn't experience any serious destruction in the middle of XX century. The present day Chernivtsi is an administrative, educational, cultural and business centre of multinational Bukovynian land where over 250,000 inhabitants live in. In Chernivtsi city the industrial enterprises are separated from residential areas with a green zone, there are recreational zones for different age groups, sports constructions, cultural centers, galleries and art studios. Chernivtsi is an important religious center (including the center of the world Hasidism and Old Belief), 100 religious organizations and 2 eparchial administrations, philosophy-theological faculty of Chernivtsi National University, theological seminary are functioning there. Chernivtsi is a trading city with 26 markets, over 1000 trade objects, 500 public catering enterprises are functioning on its territory. Chernivtsi is also an important trans-border center as the international transport corridor passes through the city, it ensures connection of the social and cultural centers of Romania and Republic of Moldova.

3.2. *Description of the following facilities and conditions:*

a. *Diplomatic representation in the host city/region;*

There is a Consulate General of Romania

b. *Presence of international organizations in the host city/region;*

—

c. *Presence of NGOs relevant to the Convention in the city/region;*

The public ecological organizations:

1. Bukovynian Branch of the Ukrainian National Ecological Center "Krona";
2. Public Ecological Organization "AquaBuk";
3. Ecological Public Organization „Zeleniy Svit Bukovyny”;
4. Regional branch of the Ukrainian Society of Nature Protection;
5. Regional Children's Ecological Society "Parostok";
6. Regional Public Association "NEO";
7. Regional branch of Ukrainian Ecological League;
8. Society „Friends of Park”;
9. Regional Public-Youth Ecological Association "Bukvytsya";
10. Bukovynian ecological and cultural center "Vodohray";
11. Regional Public Association „In Harmony with the Nature”.

d. *Other national organizations relevant to the Convention;*

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

There is a number of scientific institutions and universities dealing with problems of Carpathian Region:

1. Chernivtsi National University.
2. Bukovyna State Medical University.

3. Chernivtsi branch of National Technical University „ Kharkiv Polytechnic Institute”.
4. Chernivtsi Institute of Trade and Economy of the Kiev National University of Trade and Economy.
5. Chernivtsi Institute of Law and Economy.
6. The Ukrainian Research Station of Plants’ quarantine.
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.);

In Chernivtsi city there are all available facilities and conditions to hold international conferences for free

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.*

Chernivtsi city has the international transport connection (air, trains, buses, minibuses) with all big cities of Europe, Convention’s countries and CIS.

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

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

The presence of a number of scientific and institutions and universities dealing with problems of Carpathian Region (see 3.2.e) gives a good opportunity for employment in the permanent secretariat. A lot of peoples have a good knowledge of English.

i. *Local transport facilities and their proximity to the office facilities at the disposal of the permanent secretariat;*

The premises are situated in convenient area of Chernivtsi with a wide choice of local transport (trolley-buses, trip buses, minibuses).

j. *Health facilities and access to them by staff members of the Permanent Secretariat;*
Employees of the Permanent Secretariat and theirs families will be provided with free medical treatment in the multipurpose medical centers equipped with the necessary modern equipment and skilled personnel, and also in medical sanatoriums.

There are ski complexes on the Tsetsyno Mountain in Chernivtsi, Nimchych Mountain in Pidzaharychi (Putyla rayon), ski centers in Myhovo (Vyzhnytsya rayon) and in Horbovo (Hertsya rayon). There are over 50 sites of rural tourism in magic Bukovynian Carpathian Mountains, on the picturesque hills and the banks of the Dnister River.

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

CRSA is ready to assist employees and guests of the Secretariat with flats according to the agreed and direct choice of the Permanent Secretariat's authority.

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.);

There are comfortable apartments in such hotels as - "Cheremosh", "Bukovyna", "Tourist", motel "Oasis", recreational centers "Bukovyna", "Cheremosh", „Aqua plus”, complexes "Kolvik", "Zatyshok", "Smerekova hata", "My Friends".

Hotel "Cheremosh" is a 9-storey complex, built by the Hungarian experts, meets the international requirements in the field of reception, service and entertainment of the population and tourists, 326 rooms, three-stars hotel, Ukrainian and European cuisine. It has all necessary equipment for international conferences and meetings and comfortable accommodation of its participants. The price of apartments varies from 25 \$ up to 100 \$.

Hotel "Bukovyna" is a 5-storey complex built by Bukovynian masters, meets the international requirements in the field of reception, service and entertainment of the population and tourists, 150 rooms, three-stars hotel, Ukrainian and European cuisine. It has all necessary equipment for international conferences and meetings and comfortable accommodation of its participants. The price of apartments varies from 25 \$ up to 100 \$.

Besides above-mentioned in Chernivtsi there are 12 private hotels which meet the international requirements. A great variety of hotels determines a wide range of apartment's prices – from 35 \$ up to 120 \$ (depends on the class and its placement).

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

There are schools at different levels: with English, German, Romanian, Moldavian, Jewish and Polish languages classes. The major principles of preschool education are:

1. The individual and differentiated approach to each child;
2. Conformity of programs and techniques of training, furniture and technical equipment of educational premises to the age of pupil;
3. Harmonious combination of public and family education.

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

There is a number of banks which deal with international bank transfers, namely: Administration of the National bank of Ukraine in Chernivtsi region, „Chernivtsi Central Branch of Prominvestbank”, Bank "Nadra", Chernivtsi Regional Branch Joint-stock - Commercial Bank of Social Development

"UKRSOTSBANK", Branch - Chernivtsi regional branch "State Savings Bank of Ukraine", LLC Commercial Bank "Bukovyna", Chernivtsi regional administration of Joint-stock Bank "AVAL", Chernivtsi 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 citizens.

Other relevant information

Ukraine would like to offer to host Management Unit for CNPA in the same building, where Secretariat will be placed. 1-2 rooms can be provided for the Unit from those given to the Secretariat.

