



CARPATHIAN CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (CCIC)¹

FOURTH MEETING

Vienna International Centre

Vienna, Austria

5 - 7 December 2012

MEETING REPORT

Opening of the meeting

The CCIC elected Mr. Ladislav Ambros, Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, and Mr. Jan Dusik, Acting Director, UNEP Regional Office for Europe as co-chairs of the meeting. Mr. Dusik welcomed participants on behalf of UNEP, as the organization providing the secretariat of the Carpathian Convention on an interim basis, as an active observer organization to the Carpathian Convention, and as a supporter of programmatic activities in the Carpathian region as part of the UNEP programme of work.

Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda of the meeting was adopted with some changes (see ANNEX 1).

Mr. Harald Egerer, Head of UNEP Vienna – Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (ISCC) introduced the documents distributed to the meeting. Mr. Sergiy Gubar, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine and Ukrainian Carpathian Convention National Focal Point, underlined that the COP has the competence for the final adoption of the documents indicated as “Documents for approval”. Ms. Bozena Haczek, Ministry of the Environment of Poland and Polish Carpathian Convention National Focal Point, suggested to merge into only one new category (named “Working documents”) the two previous document categories “General documents” and “Documents for approval”.

¹ The meeting was organised within the European Transnational Cooperation South East Europe BIOREGIO Carpathians project – WP 7



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Status of contributions, Status of signatures and ratifications of Biodiversity, Forest and Tourism Protocols

Mr. Egerer (UNEP Vienna – ISCC) presented the current status of contributions to the Carpathian Convention, and thanked all the Parties to the Carpathian Convention for their generous and timely contributions.

Mr. Oleksandr Krotenko, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, on behalf of the Depositary, informed that Ukraine recently received the instrument of ratification of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management and of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism from the Czech Republic.

Ukraine as the Depositary also informed the CCIC of the ratification of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management by Ukraine.

Ms. Haczek (Poland) informed that the Tourism Protocol was ratified in September 2012. Ukraine as the Depositary noted that it had not yet received the instrument of ratification.

Ms. Zsuzsanna Arokhati-Kiss (Hungary) informed that the Tourism Protocol has been ratified. but the Depositary stressed that it has not received any documents for the time being.

Serbia will provide information on the status of ratification at a later stage, however it is possible that the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity will be ratified in December 2012, and the Protocols on Sustainable Forest Management as well as on Sustainable Tourism in March 2013.

In the Slovak Republic the ratification of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management is in process, and should be accomplished soon.

Ukraine is in the stage of accession to Protocol on Sustainable Tourism, which will be accomplished next year (See ANNEX 2).

Implementation of the Programme of work of the Carpathian Convention – Progress report – and related decisions and presentation of projects and initiatives:

a. Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity: Secretariat Report (Article 4 of the Carpathian Convention)

Mr. Egerer (UNEP Vienna ISCC) gave a short presentation concerning the most important activities and actions included in the Progress Report (the presentation is available at <http://www.carpathianconvention.org/implementation-committee-50.html>).

Next Mr. Mircea Verghelet - Piatra Craiului National Park and BIOREGIO Carpathians Lead Partner - presented the BIOREGIO Carpathians project and updated the meeting participants on its status of implementation (the presentation is available at <http://www.carpathianconvention.org/implementation-committee-50.html>).



After the presentations, the section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on Article 4 of the Carpathian Convention were discussed and revised (See ANNEX 3 and 4).

b. Spatial development: Secretariat Report (Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention)

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention were discussed and revised (See ANNEX 3 and 4).

c. Sustainable and integrated water/river basin management: Secretariat Report (Article 6 of the Carpathian Convention)

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on Article 6 of the Carpathian Convention were discussed and revised (See ANNEX 3 and 4).

Furthermore, Ms Arokhati (Hungary) informed the meeting participants that the Budapest Water Summit (“The 2013 Budapest Water Summit. The Role of Water and Sanitation in the Global Sustainable Development Agenda”) will be held in October 2013, and she will keep the meeting participants informed on further steps in the organization of the event.

d. Sustainable agriculture, rural development and forestry: Secretariat Report (Article 7 of the Carpathian Convention)

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on Article 7 of the Carpathian Convention were discussed and revised (See ANNEX 3 and 4).

e. Sustainable transport and infrastructure, industry and energy: Secretariat Report (Article 8 of the Carpathian Convention, Article 10 of the Carpathian Convention)

Mr. Matthias Jurek, EURAC Expert Team – ISCC , delivered a presentation on the Austria – Slovakia Cross Border Alpine Carpathian Corridor project (AKK). The project ended in December 2012 and Mr. Jurek stressed that it might be an inspiration for the development of future similar projects in the Carpathian Area (The presentation is available at <http://www.carpathianconvention.org/implementation-committee-50.html>).

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on Article 8 of the Carpathian Convention were discussed and revised (See ANNEX 3 and 4).

f. Sustainable tourism: Secretariat Report (Article 9 of the Carpathian Convention)

Ms. Tamara Mitrofanenko, UNEP Vienna – ISCC, and Mr. Michael Meyer - Ecological Tourism in Europe (ETE), presented the InRuTou and the Development of the Carpathian Tourism Strategy projects (the respective presentations are available at <http://www.carpathianconvention.org/implementation-committee-50.html>).

The “Development of the Carpathian Tourism Strategy” project is under selection procedure, and in case it will be approved, it was agreed that both Carpathian environmental and tourism authorities should be involved in the process.



It was also agreed that the final version of the Strategy, in order to be presented at the COP4, should be finalized in December 2013 at latest.

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on Article 9 of the Carpathian Convention were discussed and revised (See ANNEX 3 and 4).

g. Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge: Secretariat Report (Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention)

The section of the Progress Report on Article 11 was discussed and revised and the related CCIC decision agreed (see ANNEX 3 and 4).

h. Environmental assessment/information system, monitoring and early warning (Article 12 of the Carpathian Convention)

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on Article 12 of the Carpathian Convention were discussed and revised (see ANNEX 3 and 4).

i. Awareness raising, education and public participation: Secretariat Report (Article 13 of the Carpathian Convention)

Ms. Mitrofanenko (UNEP Vienna ISCC) delivered a presentation of the Big Foot project and updated the meeting participants on its status of implementation (the presentation is available at <http://www.carpathianconvention.org/implementation-committee-50.html>).

After the presentation, the section of the Progress Report on Article 13 of the Carpathian Convention was discussed and revised and the related CCIC decision agreed (see ANNEX 3 and 4).

j. Cooperation with the European Union: Secretariat Report

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on the “Cooperation with the European Union” were discussed and revised (see ANNEX 3 and 4).

k. Cooperation with the Alpine Convention: Secretariat Report

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on the “Cooperation with the Alpine Convention” were discussed and revised (see ANNEX 3 and 4).

l. Cooperation with other conventions and international bodies: Secretariat Report

The section of the Progress Report and the related decisions taken by the CCIC on the “Cooperation with other conventions and international bodies” were discussed and revised (see ANNEX 3 and 4).

m. Climate change: Secretariat Report

Mr. Sandor Szalai - Szent Istvan University, Hungary, and CARPATCLIM project coordinator -, presented the CARPATCLIM, CARPIVIA and CarpathCC projects and their



status of implementation (the presentation is available at <http://www.carpathianconvention.org/implementation-committee-50.html>).

Next Ms Giulia Sechi - UNEP Vienna – ISCC - delivered two presentations of the ETC Alpine Space ALPSTAR and C3Alps projects and their status of implementation (the presentations are available at <http://www.carpathianconvention.org/implementation-committee-50.html>).

After the presentations, the section of the Progress Report on “Climate change” was discussed and revised and the related CCIC decision agreed upon (see ANNEX 3 and 4).

Report of the First Meeting of the Bureau of COP 3

The draft Carpathian Convention meetings time table was discussed and revised according to the proposals from the Carpathian Convention Countries representatives (see ANNEX 5).

The Secretariat shortly presented the main outcomes of the First Meeting of the Bureau of COP 3, in particular concerning the location of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention..

Administration and financial management of the Carpathian Convention and its Protocols: Update of the Secretariat

The Secretariat provided relevant information concerning the Carpathian Convention Trust Fund, that will be formally approved in February 2013. He also explained that currently relevant measures are under elaboration in order to ensure a smooth transition from the current Carpathian Convention budget to the Trust Fund.

Furthermore, the CCIC members requested the Secretariat to prepare an evaluation of the functions and responsibilities of the Bureau and subsidiary bodies of the Convention and to present its results, together with any relevant proposals for decisions, to the next meeting of the CCIC.

Ms. Haczek proposed to prepare a draft annotated agenda for the next CCIC meeting, which should include the expected actions to be taken by the CCIC.

Location of the Permanent Secretariat: Update of the Secretariat

The Secretariat made a presentation on the criteria for the selection of the location of the Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and the scenario of costs of the Secretariat in Vienna and of the received offers.

The meeting participants agreed on the next steps for a comparison of the offers for the location of the permanent Secretariat (See ANNEX 4 - DECISION COP3/16).

Other matters and closure of the meeting:

On the basis of the proposal of Mr. Gubar, the CCIC agreed to organize a celebration event for the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Carpathian Convention in Kyiv on 22 May 2013



(day of signature of the Convention). Because the 22 May will be also the International Day on Biodiversity (theme of this year: “Water and Biodiversity”), it was agreed to organize the Carpathian Convention 10th Anniversary celebration as International Day on Biodiversity event and to invite several international partners.

Ms. Arokhati (Hungary) informed the meeting participants about the CEI Conference on green growth that will take place in Budapest probably in second half of April 2013, and that a presentation of the CC at the event is planned.

Mr. Gubar (Ukraine) made some suggestion concerning possible improvement of the Carpathian Convention website (e.g. in order to facilitate use of documents).

The decisions of the CCIC related to the section “Other matters” are included in ANNEX 4.

The meeting was closed by the Chair.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CCIC – Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

ISCC – Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

COP – Conference of the Parties

WP – Working Package

EURAC – European Academy Bolzano

AKK – Alpine Carpathian Corridor

ETE – Ecological Tourism in Europe

InRuTou – Innovations in Rural Tourism

COP4 – Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention

COP 3 – Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention

PSCC – Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

CEI – Central European Initiative

CC – Carpathian Convention

LIST OF ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 – Draft Agenda revised version

ANNEX 2 – Signature and ratification status revised version

ANNEX 3 – Progress report revised version

ANNEX 4 – CCIC Decisions

ANNEX 5 – Carpathian Convention meetings revised version

