



## **Criteria for the selection of the Carpathian Convention Permanent Secretariat location**

Legal framework which would serve as the legal conditions of functioning and operation of the permanent Secretariat and its staff, including:

1. privileges and immunities for the Secretariat's premises,
2. privileges and immunities of staff and other persons engaged in the official business of the Convention,
3. rules applicable to employment of staff dependents,
4. nature of the headquarters agreement.

Features of the Secretariat's office and related financial issues, including:

1. features and related financial issues of the building hosting the Secretariat,
2. features and related financial issues regarding equipment,
3. features and related financial issues regarding materials and services provided on paid and non-paid basis.

Local conditions, including:

1. diplomatic and international organizations representation in the host city,
2. availability of international conference facilities and access to qualified conference staff,
3. international and local transport facilities,
4. availability of trained personnel for possible employment in the Secretariat,
5. availability of suitable housing, schooling, health and recreational amenities,
6. facilities for the transfer of funds to and from foreign countries,
7. visa and entry permits procedures and requirements.

Host Government contribution and synergies:

1. additional earmarked and/or non-earmarked contribution by the host Government to the operation of the Secretariat or to the meetings under the Convention,
2. information on potential synergies from cooperation and coordination with various organizations and bodies located in the host country.

CZ – We still believe that the decision on the location of the permanent secretariat is closely connected with the decision on administrative and financial arrangement of the Convention and so these issues should be discussed together at the same time (we did not yet decide about administrative and financial arrangement of the Convention). Therefore, we would propose that those Parties that expressed the interest to host the permanent secretariat should submit complete offers considering all possible alternatives and ways of the operation of the Convention's Secretariat (including especially financial implications on the implementation of the Convention). In the framework of the discussion on administrative and financial arrangements of the Convention Parties should consider all possible alternatives and ways of the operation of the Convention. The interim secretariat could also explore and identify if there are institutions/organizations with the regional scope and mandate based in one of the Parties that could be willing to host permanent secretariat.