CARPATHIAN CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (CCIC)

SIXTH MEETING
Brussels, Belgium
24 November 2015
Opening of the meeting : 10:00

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1) Opening of the meeting
Address by HE Mr. Jakub DÜRR, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative (COREPER I)
Address by Mr. Jan Dusík, Director and Regional Representative, Regional Office for Europe, UNEP

2) Election of a Chair and Adoption of the Agenda
Introduction by Mr. Harald Egerer, Head of Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
The Secretariat invites the meeting to elect a Chair.

Document: Draft Agenda – CCIC
The Chair invites the meeting to consider, comment upon and adopt the Agenda.

Proposed decision - CCIC:
- adopts the revised draft Agenda.
3) Status of contributions

The Secretariat reports on the status of contributions to the Trust Fund of the Carpathian Convention.

Document: Table of contributions

Proposed Decision - CCIC:

- thanks the Parties for their timely payments of contributions, and encourages Parties, which have not yet done so, to arrange for the payment of contributions for 2014 and 2015 to the Carpathian Convention Trust Fund.

4) Status of signatures and ratifications of the Protocols to the Carpathian Convention

The Secretariat reports on the status of signatures and ratifications of the Protocols.

Document: Status of signatures and ratifications of the Protocols to the Carpathian Convention.

Proposed decision - CCIC:

- welcomes the new signatures and ratifications;
- encourages the Parties, which have not yet done so, to ratify the remaining Protocols.

5) Report on the Czech Presidency activities

The Czech Presidency reports on its activities.

Document: Information of the Czech Republic to the Council of the European Union on COP4

Proposed Decision - CCIC:

- welcomes progress made and encourages the Presidency and all the Parties to act in mutually supportive manner whenever possible in order to achieve joint objectives at the international and EU level.

6) Implementation of the Programme of Work of the Carpathian Convention 2015 – 2017 - Progress report – presentation of the ongoing and planned activities

Proposed Decision - CCIC:

- takes note of the progress in implementing the programme of work and welcomes the planned activities;
- welcomes the offer of (...) to host the next meeting of the WG Forest;
- invites a Party or Parties to take the leadership of WG Forest;
- welcomes the ongoing work on ecological connectivity and transport and recommends the preparation of the Strategic Action Plan for the Protocol on Sustainable Transport;
- invites a Party or Parties to take the leadership of WG Transport;
- welcomes the contribution of the WG Climate Change to the Climate –ADAPT and requests the Parties to advise on the process;
- thanks Hungary for the leadership of the WG Climate Change;
- reviews and approves the Terms of Reference for the WG Climate Change;
- welcomes the UNEP offer to support elaboration of a regional assessment of climate change adaptation policies for the Carpathian region;
- thanks Poland, Ekopsychologia Association and UNEP/GRID-Warsaw Centre for organising the first meeting of the Joint Working Group on Biodiversity and Spatial Development.

(Note that detailed discussion of specific Working Groups will take place under agenda item 6, 7 and 8).

7) Information on administrative units in which the Parties plan to implement the Carpathian Convention and its Protocols following the COP4/2 Decision para 3

The Czech Republic reports on the subject. Discussion.

Document: Doc. 4 - Map delimitating the Carpathians in the Czech Republic, Doc. 5 - Local administrative units implementing the Carpathian Convention in the Czech Republic, Doc. 6 - Letter from Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic - Delimitation of the Carpathians, July 2015
Proposed Decision - CCIC:

- welcomes the submission of the information by the Czech Republic, reiterates COP4 invitation to the Parties to provide such information, and requests the Secretariat to make the information available in the appropriate way by the next CCIC meeting.

8) Update on development of the Draft Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) and the draft Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

The Secretariat reports on development process of the both Protocols.

Documents: Doc. 11 - Draft Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development and Doc. 18 - Draft Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge, Progress Report

Proposed Decision - CCIC:

- takes note of the first draft of the SARD Protocol and requests the Working Group SARD to undertake all efforts to finalize the draft text on time to be presented to the COP5 for adoption and signature;
- thanks Serbia for the leadership of WG SARD
- notes progress made on the Draft Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge and requests the WG to report on its progress to COP5.
- invites a Party or Parties to take leadership of WG Culture and encourages the WG to implement the Roadmap in line with the COP 4 Ministerial Declaration on Cultural Heritage.

9) Overview of activities related to the Working Group on Biodiversity - discussion and next steps

The Secretariat reports on the activities.


Proposed Decision - CCIC:
● requests the WG Biodiversity to discuss the first round of reporting on implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol including a possible date for its submission, and possible next steps relating to the Red Lists of Species, of Habitats, of Endemic Species and of Invasive Species;
● welcomes the plan for a workshop on large carnivores in the Carpathians, to be held in the Czech Republic in 2016, in conjunction with the WG Biodiversity and Czech Presidency to the V4;
● thanks the Czech Republic for the leadership of WG Biodiversity.

10) Overview of activates related to the Working Group on Sustainable Tourism— discussion and next steps

The Secretariat reports on the activities.

Documents: Progress Report

Proposed Decision - CCIC:

● considers the a need for establishing a common international mechanism to support the implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Protocol and this Strategy, if funding is available, discusses Terms of Reference and financial sustainability of such an arrangement, (including inputs by Poland, Romania, and ETE / Wilderness Society), and provides guidance to the WG Sustainable Tourism on the way forward;
● welcomes the establishment of National Tourism Task Forces (where applicable);
● reviews and approves the Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Sustainable Tourism;
● considers and welcomes offers by Poland and by Romania to host the next meetings of the Working Group on Sustainable Tourism and decides on the dates and locations of the next meetings;
● thanks Serbia and Hungary the leadership on WG Tourism.
11) Carpathian Convention Project Platform

a) Overview of project proposals involving the Carpathian Convention

b) Discussion on possible support to project proposals at the national level

c) Funding instruments

Introduction of the Project Platform by the Secretariat. Open discussion.

**Document:** Doc. 29 - Project Platform.

**Proposed Decision - CCIC:**

- welcomes the submission and successful selection of the WILD for DC Project under the Technical Assistance Facility for Danube Region Projects (TAF-DRP);
- welcomes the submission and successful selection of the ConnectGREEN Project under the START – Danube Region Project Fund;
- welcomes the submission of the Expressions of Interest of the projects ConnectGREEN, TransGREEN, TRANSHERIT, Danubiom, Restar, JOINTisza, to the first step of the first call of the Danube Transnational Programme; and appreciates the cooperation of various stakeholders on the development on these projects proposal, contributing to the implementation of the Carpathian Convention.

12) Cooperation with other initiatives:

a) Mandate for Memorandum of Understanding with the International Council for Game and Wildlife

b) Memorandum of Understanding with EURAC

c) Joint Declaration of the ICPDR Tisza Group and the Carpathian Convention


e) Memorandum of Understanding with CNPA

f) Cooperation with EUSDR / macroregional strategies and EU funding programmes – how to increase synergies?

**Proposed Decision - CCIC:**

- takes note of progress report by the Secretariat and:
  a. requests the Secretariat with the guidance and support of the Presidency to coordinate process for preparation of a draft MoU with the International Council for Game and Wildlife;
  b. requests the Secretariat with the guidance and support of the Presidency to update the draft MoU with EURAC;
  c. welcomes the signature of the Declaration between the ICPDR - Tisza Group and the Carpathian Convention and requests the Secretariat to pursue its implementation;
  d. requests the Secretariat with the guidance and support of the Presidency to finalize the draft joint Work Plan 2016-2017 with EEA and to initiate its implementation;
  e. recommends signature of MoU with CNPA and requests the Head of Secretariat to sign it on behalf of the Carpathian Convention;
  f. welcomes the draft of the Presidency and the European Commission proposal on a Memorandum of Cooperation and joint paper on synergies Carpathian Convention - EUSDR.

13) **Administration and financial management of the Carpathian Convention and its Protocols:**
   enhancing institutional, financial and administrative arrangements (headquarters arrangements, administrative arrangement, Trust Fund arrangement)

**Documents:** Czech Presidency priorities, evaluation of the Carpathian Convention project, Note on UNEP evaluation of the Carpathian Project
Proposed Decisions - CCIC:

- welcomes the outcomes of the UNEP evaluation;
- encourages the Presidency to pursue its efforts and requests UNEP to implement the parts relevant to the Carpathian Convention, i.e. to ensure the Secretariat’s ability to engage in projects with main donors, in particular the European Union;
- requests Secretariat to prepare a report on the implementation of the Decision COP4 / 15.

14) Programme of work and budget 2018-2020 of the Carpathian Convention

Introduction by the Secretariat. The Meeting will be invited to start to explore how to achieve a structural increase of contributions to the Trust Fund aimed at full delivery of the Programme of Work of the Convention (through dedicated national budget line or other ways of structural increase).

Proposed Decisions - CCIC:

- recalls the relevant COP4 Decisions and recommends closer cooperation between relevant Working Groups, and organization of joint meeting if possible, however the online exchange and consultations are encouraged;
- requests the WGs with assistance of the Secretariat to update the Terms of Reference for the Working Group as required;
- request the Parties to update information on the national members of all Working Groups and to keep them up to date

15) Upcoming Meetings of the Carpathian Convention

Document: List of the Carpathian Convention meetings 2015 – 2017

Proposed Decision - CCIC:

- takes note of the list of planned meetings.
16) Updates on COP5

Hungary is invited to take the floor and to present updates on COP5 arrangements as the host country.

Proposed Decision - CCIC:

- welcomes the preparations by Hungary and requests the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements, in consultation with the host Government and the CCIC.

17) Other matters

18) Closure of the Meeting

Chair thanks the Parties, Observers and the Secretariat, and closes the meeting.