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**DECISION COP4/1**

**Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity**

**Article 4 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Adopts* the format for the National Report on the Implementation of the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and *encourage* the establishment of the online version of the Report;
2. Adopts the revised Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity;
3. *Welcomes* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity;
4. *Extends* the duration of the Medium-Term Strategy of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas until the end of the year 2020;
5. Adopts the Medium-Term Work Plan 2013 - 2017 of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas;
6. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the “BIOREGIO Carpathians” project, that aimed at implementing the main provisions of the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity;
7. *Adopts* those Carpathian [Red List of Habitats, the Carpathian Red List of Species, as well as the List of Invasive Species in the Carpathians](http://www.bioregio-carpathians.eu/carpathian-red-lists.html), which have been completed in the context the BIOREGIO Carpathians project and *calls* for further improvement of remaining Lists, also suggests the elaboration of a List of Endemic Species of the Carpathians;
8. *Encourages* the cooperation with the European Landscape Convention and recommends the Working Group on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity to enhance the implementation of the Carpathian Convention in this field, as well as the relevant provisions of the Biodiversity Protocol to the Carpathian Convention, and *requests* the Secretariat to coordinate the process ;
9. *Welcomes* the idea of organizing joint meeting of the Working Group on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity and the Working Group on Spatial Development in order to develop the activities on ecological connectivity, green infrastructure and landscapes in the Carpathians;
10. *Welcomes* the Declaration of the 2nd Conference of the Carpathian Network of the Protected Areas;
11. *Notes* the Terms of References for the CNPA Unit performed by the Civic Society OZ Pronatur from the Slovak Republic and the Association of Natural Protected Areas Administrations from Romania.
12. *Expresses* its gratitude to the World Wide Fund – Danube-Carpathian Programme for its cooperation in the organization of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas Steering Committee meetings and the 2nd Conference of the Carpathian Network of the Protected Areas organized back to back to the Mid Term Conference of the “BIOREGIO Carpathians” project, as well as for the development of the activities related to management of protected areas in the Carpathians;
13. *Welcomes* the assistance by ALPARC and the ongoing cooperation with the Alpine Convention;
14. *Welcomes* the ongoing cooperation with the Ramsar Convention through the Carpathian wetlands Initiative and urges Parties to continue to take appropriate action on the effective protection and sustainable use of Carpathian wetlands*;*
15. *Welcomes* the results of the GEF Project “Improving the Financial Sustainability of the Carpathian System of Protected Areas” implemented through UNDP Romania and encourages the protected areas in the Carpathians to use knowledge resources made available by the project;
16. *Welcomes* the Agreement between the CNPA and ALPARC regarding the transfer of the CNPA webpage (www.carpathianparks.org) from ALPARC to the CNPA Unit and encourages the further development of cooperation activities on specific topics between the two networks.

**DECISION COP4/2**

**Spatial development**

**Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* the revised Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Spatial Development; ;
2. *Reiterates* its call upon spatial planning/development authorities of the Carpathian countries to continue the cooperation on issues relevant for spatial planning to achieve the territorial cohesion of the Carpathian region, including inputs and support to the development and implementation of relevant projects;
3. *Takes into account* the results of the Workshop “Towards a EU Strategy for the Carpathian Region” held on 28 May 2013 at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels;
4. *Encourages* the Parties and the Secretariat to further promote the Strategic Action Plan for the Carpathian Area adopted at the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention and its priority actions for the Carpathians in relevant meetings at EU and international level;
5. *Emphasizes* the importance of full involvement of and strong support to this process by all relevant stakeholders, in particular the competent national authorities, regional and local authorities as well as civil society and private sector;
6. *Invites* the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Committee of the Regions, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, and the Euroregions located in the Carpathians, to support the process;
7. *Appreciates* the support of the Association of Elected Representatives from Mountain Regions and of the Association of European Border Regions in the process and *invites* their further cooperation;
8. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the Europe of the Carpathians Conferences held in Krynica and Krasiczyn;
9. *Welcomes* the outcomes of two editions of the Alpine-Carpathian Forum of Cooperation held in Rzeszow;
10. *Welcomes* outcomes of the joint meeting on macroregional strategies with the Alpine Convention and calls for mutual support of Alpine and Carpathian Conventions Parties to ensure the consideration of European mountain regions within the development of new and implementation of existing EU macroregional strategies;
11. *Mandates* the Secretariat to continue to promote the integration of Carpathian priorities into the European Union Strategies for the Danube Region and for the Baltic and related operational funding programmes, while pursuing the long-term goal of promoting the establishment of a EU Carpathian Space programme in the future,

.**12. Paragraph to be provided by the Czech Republic on flood risk prevention**

**DECISION COP4/3**

**Sustainable and integrated water/river basin management**

**Article 6 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the implementation of the provisions of Article 6 of the Convention on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management;
2. *Calls* for enhanced cooperation with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River in particular, the following areas: climate change adaptation, sustainable agriculture, promotion of the implementation of the "Guiding principles on sustainable hydropower development in the Danube Basin" in mountain areas, as well as on promotion of the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative and cooperation with the Ramsar Convention, with a view to develop joint activities and projects with ICPDR in these area;
3. *Encourages* the final signature of the Joint Declaration between the International Convention for the Protection of the Danube River and the Carpathian Convention supporting the sustainable development of the Carpathians and Tisza River Basin adopted in Uzhgorod on 11 April 2011, and encourages enhanced joint programming with International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River;
4. *Recognizes* the need to increase activities to promote sustainable agricultural practices in the Carpathian region to protect ground and surface water resources and reduce eutrophication and pollution.

**DECISION COP4/4**

**Sustainable agriculture, rural development and forestry**

**Article 7 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force of theThe Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and encourages the ratifications of the Protocol by the Parties, which have not yet done so;
2. *Welcomes* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management;
3. *Adopts* the Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management and *appreciate*s the work done under the auspices of the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management;[[1]](#footnote-1)
4. *Adopts* the Criteria and indicators for selection of virgin forests in transboudary region and expresses its gratitude to WWF DCP and the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management for their support in the development of the document;[[2]](#footnote-2)
5. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the establishment of a Carpathian Inventory of Virgin Forests and *appreciates* contribution to its development proposed the European Environment Agency (EEA), and calls upon the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management to closely cooperate with the EEA on the issue;
6. *Welcomes* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
7. *Reiterates* the callfor the possible development of a Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development by the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development and *requests* the Secretariat to coordinate the preparation of the Protocol and service the Parties in the process;
8. *Calls* for enhanced cooperation through the Secretariat with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River on sustainable agriculture and rural development, in the framework of a possible Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural, aiming at reduction of nutrients and pesticide pollution*,* with a view to develop joint activities and projects with ICPDR in these areas.

**DECISION COP4/5**

**Sustainable transport and Infrastructure, Industry and energy**

**Article 8 and 10 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Adopts* the Protocol on Sustainable Transport to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians *invites* governments to sign and ratify the Protocol, *encourages* Parties, pending the ratification and entry into force of the Protocol, whenever possible to start its implementation and *appreciates* the work conducted by the Working Group, as well as the support provided from the European Transnational Cooperation South East Europe “Access2Mountain” project as well as the Alpine Convention to the development process of the Protocol;
2. *Welcomes*  the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure;
3. *Notes* the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), the EU guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, as well as EU Commission Report “Building Green Infrastructure for Europe” and the reference to the ecosystems of mountain ranges, among which the Carpathians, that “would benefit considerably from coordinated, joined-up actions and a Pan-European vision”
4. *Recommends* the Working Group on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure to develop the Strategic Action Plan for the future sustainable transport development of the Carpathians and *invites* other Working Group to cooperate on the Strategic Action Plan
5. *Recommends* the development of follow up projects on sustainable transport, ecological connectivity and green infrastructure, ;*Welcomes* the outcomes of the Austria Slovakia Cross-border project “Alpine Carpathian Corridor” project which aimed to re-establish the ecological corridor between the Carpathians and Alps within Slovak – Austrian cross border area;
6. *Welcomes*  the signature of the “Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of an Alpine - Carpathian Corridor” and *encourages* further implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding;

*Welcomes* the outcomes of the European Transnational Cooperation South East Europe “Access2Mountain” project which aimed to achieve durable, environmentally friendly tourism, as well as to ensure accessibility and connection to, between and in sensitive regions of the Alps and the Carpathians and *encourages* the development of follow-up activities and initiatives;

1. *Encourages* future cooperation activities with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organizations including the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River in the field of renewable energies in the Carpathians.

**DECISION COP4/6**

**Sustainable tourism**

**Article 9 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Sustainable Tourism;
2. Welcomes the entry into force of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and encourages the ratifications of the Protocol by the Parties, which have not yet done so;
3. Welcomes the cooperation with and assistance by the ETE, CEEWEB, UNEP, WWF-DCPO, etc., in particular related to the development of the Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and of projects aimed at its implementation;
4. Adopts/welcomes the Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and *takes note* that the Strategy aims at the implementation of relevant paragraphs of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism adopted at COP3;[[3]](#footnote-3)
5. Requests the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Sustainable Tourism to coordinate the implementation of the Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians
6. *Invites* stakeholders, especially the tourism sector, in the Carpathians to actively contribute to the implementation of the Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians;
7. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the project Innovations in Rural Tourism co-financed by the European Commission, which aims, among others, at facilitating the development of sustainable tourism in rural mountain areas;
8. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the First Carpathian States Tourism Forum organized together with the Meeting of Tourism Ministers of Carpathian Countries by the Ministry of Sport and Tourism of Poland on 28 May 2014 in Rzeszów, Poland.

**DECISION COP4/7**

**Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge**

**Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Underlines* the importance of the implementation of the provisions of the Carpathian Convention Article 11 on cultural heritage and traditional knowledge;
2. *Welcomes* the revised Terms of Reference ofthe Working Group on Cultural Heritage
and Traditional Knowledge;
3. *Notes* with satisfaction the Ministerial Declaration on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge of the Carpathian region;
4. *Calls* for enhanced cooperation on the implementation of the road map constituting an Annex
to the aforementioned Ministerial Declaration, to be guided by the Working Group on Cultural Heritage
and Traditional Knowledge;
5. *Appreciates* the progress achieved towards the development of the draft Protocol on cultural heritage, and the work done under the auspices of the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge;
6. *Recommends* the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge
to further discuss and elaborate the draft Protocol on cultural heritage, for its submission to COP5;
7. *Recommends* the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledgeto develop, in consultation with relevant institutions of the Parties and local stakeholders,
the proposal for a corresponding Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the above Protocol
8. *Requests* the Secretariat to facilitate the process;
9. Expresses its gratitude to the Ekopsychologia Association and UNEP/GRID-Warsaw Centre within the project “Carpathians Unite – mechanism of consultation and cooperation for implementation of the Carpathian Convention", supported by Switzerland through the Swiss Contribution to the enlarged European Union, for their contribution to the development of the Protocol;
10. *Reiterates* the invitation to National Focal Points to continue actions to inform and cooperate with the competent ministries and sectors responsible for cultural heritage and traditional knowledge and calls upon them to be involved in this work;
11. *Appreciates* the outcomes of the pastoral event called “Carpathian Sheep Transhumance 2013”

**DECISION COP4/8**

**Environmental assessment/information system, monitoring and early warning**

**Article 12 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* theMemorandum of Understanding for the Establishment of a Carpathian Integrated Biodiversity Information System;
2. *Recommends* the establishment of the Carpathian Convention Information System, accessible to all Parties, as a tool supporting integrated planning and management of land and water resources, and the integration of the objective of conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity into sectoral policies, such as mountain agriculture, mountain forestry, river basin management, tourism, transport and energy, industry and mining activities; encourages Parties to collaborate and support the development of such information system, and *requests* the Secretariat to coordinate this process;
3. *Invites* the Parties to engage respective EIONET Focal Points in the implementation of Article 12 of thee Carpathian Convention;
4. *Welcomes the* Memorandum of Understanding between the Carpathian Convention and the Science for the Carpathians Initiative signed at the Forum Carpaticum 2012;
5. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the **Forum Carpaticum 2014: Local Responses to Global Challenges presented at the COP4,** and *requests* the interim Secretariat to further develop the cooperation with the Science for the Carpathians initiative;
6. *Welcomes* the Partnership Agreement between the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and the European Environment Agency on the implementation of the Carpathian Convention;

**DECISION COP4/9**

**Awareness raising, education and public participation**

**Article 13 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the EU Lifelong Learning project “Big Foot. Crossing Generations, Crossing Mountains”, aimed at sustainable development of rural mountains regions through intergenerational learning, and invites support to the use of the Big Foot Transferability Tool Kit to transfer the project results to the Carpathian countries;
2. *Welcomes* the use of innovative Information and Communication Technologies CT approaches in Education and Public Participation, such as the creation of the Communities Livelihood Platform, and invites the parties to support its active use by the Carpathian communities, organizations and individuals;
3. *Welcomes* the new Lifelong Learning project Innovation in Rural Tourism (InRuTou), which includes Carpathian Convention partners from Poland, Romania and Ukraine and has a vocational learning component for sustainable rural tourism development;
4. *Invites* Parties and other stakeholders to carry out regional consultations and to continue to raise public awareness in order to promote the Carpathian Convention implementation process;
5. *Recalls* the progress by Move 4 Nature, and invites further support to the adaptation of the Tool Kit to other countries and translation to other Carpathian languages, and supports cooperation with other partners and other mountain regions in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), such as the Regional Center of Expertise in ESD and other partners in the Alps, the Balkans and the Caucasus;
6. *Requests* the interim Secretariat, in consultation with Parties and relevant partners, to facilitate cooperation of the Carpathian Convention with the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD, and to investigate options for establishing a Carpathian Regional Network within this process, in order to strengthen Carpathian Countries in implementation and follow-up of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.
7. *Requests* the interim Secretariat to provide for opportunities for outreach, involvement and the active participation of civil society in the development of the Convention, through its official work, and development of protocols and projects;
8. *Reiterates* its recommendation to establish and develop national mechanisms to foster the implementation of the Carpathian Convention, including information, involvement and capacity building of relevant stakeholders and civil society related to the process and the future development of the Carpathian Convention;

**DECISION COP4/10**

**Cooperation with the European Union**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Calls upon* theParties to cooperate with European Union bodies in further promoting the idea of ensuring the due attention to the Carpathian region the implementation of existing EU Macro-regional strategies;
2. *Invites* the European Union to become a Party to the Carpathian Convention and *requests* the future Slovak EU Presidency (July-December 2016), as well as all Parties to make efforts to promote accession of the European Union to the Carpathian Convention;
3. Welcomes t the idea of establishing inter-groups in the European Parliament in the field of Carpathian cooperation
4. *Invites* the Parties to further solicit support from European Territorial Cooperation funds, SDC cohesion funds, Norwegian fund, LIFE, European Neighbourhood, Eastern Partnership, and partnership Instrument and Instrument for pre Accession Assistance, and requests the Secretariat to ensure coordination in project development and implementation;

**DECISION COP4/11**

**Cooperation with the Alpine Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* the cooperation with the Alpine Convention in the framework of the concluded Memorandum of Understanding, and requests the interim Secretariat to continue to strengthen the cooperation with the Alpine Convention in the fields such as institutional cooperation, the exchange of information and experience, the development and implementation of common projects, the collaboration on the implementation of the Conventions and their respective Programmes of Work, the implementation of the Programmes of Work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on Protected Areas and on Mountain Biodiversity and the collaboration in the field of protected areas networks in the Alps and the Carpathians;
2. *Requests* the interim Secretariat to liaise with the Alpine Convention Secretariat and the Presidency concerning potential support from the Parties of the Alpine Convention to the accession of the EU to the Carpathian Convention*;*
3. *Approves the* joint message of th Alpine and Carpathian Conventions to be presented in Lima Peru in December 2014 during the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP20 at the Mountain Pavilion;
4. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the initiative by the Italian Presidency of the Alpine Convention and of the Carpathian Convention on the sharing of experiences regarding EU macroregional strategies

**DECISION COP4/12**

**Cooperation with other conventions and international bodies**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. Welcomes the Rio+20 outcome document “The Future We Want” and stresses the importance of the implementation of its “mountains” chapter as well as of the Resolution related to Sustainable Mountain Development ( Doc. A/RES/68/217);
2. Welcomes the efforts of the Mountain Partnership and its members in promoting the mountains agenda in the context of the Post-2015 process and calls upon the Parties to mainstream mountain-related issues into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
3. Welcomes and supports further specific cooperation with International Conventions and international bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,  the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the  Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, the European Landscape Convention, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the European Space Agency, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, the Central European Initiative and the Carpathian EcoRegionInitiative, the Regional Environmental Centre, GRID Arendal, GRID Warsaw, the United Nations Environment Programme ;
4. Supports the establishment and implementation of programmes to foster the further experience exchange between the Alps, Carpathians and other mountain regions, requests the Secretariat to implement the required activities and promote partnerships with other mountain regions, including interregional cooperation, and invites UNEP, all interested partners and donors, to participate in and to contribute to the process;
5. Request the Secretariat to continue to promote the Carpathian Convention and sustainable mountain development in the context of Rio+20 Follow up and the development of Sustainable Development Goals, in cooperation with UNEP, FAO and UNESCO.

**DECISION COP4/13**

**Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Recalling* its decision COP3/13 on the Programme of Work and budget of the Carpathian Convention;
2. *Having considered* the report of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee on the implementation of the Programme of Work (UNEP/CC/COP4/DOC2);
3. *Takes note* of the certified Financial Report of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention;
4. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Work, in particular the results achieved by the Working Groups on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity, on Sustainable Forest Management; on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure, on Sustainable Tourism, on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge and by the CNPA;
5. *Encourages* theParties to continue to finance their participation in meetings related to the implementation of the Programme of Work;

*Appreciates* the support provided by the “BIOREGIO Carpathians”, “ACCESS2MOUNTAIN” and ”Carpathians Unite” projects, Sustainable Tourism Strategy for the Carpathians“ (CarpatSusTourStrat*),* CARPIVIA, Carpatclim and the CarpathCC;

1. *Adopts* the Programme of Work for 2015 - 2017 of the Carpathian Convention and welcomes the list of potential projects in support of the Programme of Work contained in Annex 1;
2. *Adopts* the Budget for 2015, 2016 and 2017 for the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;
3. *Calls upon* the Parties to undertake the necessary action to promote and ensure full implementation of the Programme of Work, in consultation with and with the support of relevant institutions, international organizations and non-governmental organizations;
4. *Calls upon its Secretariat in Vienna to actively* promote and service the implementation of the Programme of Work and the implementation of COP Decisions;
5. *Recognizes* the need and pledges to further strengthen the Secretariat given its additional tasks and responsibilities related to the implementation of the Protocol on the Protection of Biological and Landscape Diversity, including the servicing of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas, the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management, the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism, the future Protocol on Sustainable Transport and the Protocol on Cultural Heritage, as well as the possible development of new thematic protocols;
6. *Calls* for organization of joint Working Group meetings, where possible and appropriate, for interaction and cooperation issues.
7. *Decides* that each Party will contribute to the Trust Fund on a yearly basis in accordance with the attached scale of assessment as in Annex 2;

**DECISION COP4/14**

**Administration and financial management of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Carpathian Convention) and its Protocols**

*The Conference of the Parties*

*Recalling* its Decision COP3/14 of 27 May 2011, by which it, inter alia:

* Agreed to establish a Trust Fund to cover the cost of administering and meeting the objectives of the Carpathian Convention and related Protocols, including the functioning of its Secretariat (para 12)
* Adopted the terms of reference for the administration of the Trust Fund as annexed to the decision (para 12)
* Decided that the Convention’s Programme of Work and budget for 2012 – 2014 be used as the budget of the Trust Fund (para 14), and
* Requested the Executive Director of UNEP to assume responsibility for administering the Trust Fund, and to delegate the necessary administrative authorities to the Head of the Secretariat in line with the Rules and Regulations of the United Nations (para 15)

*Recalling* furthermore that in the terms of Reference of the Trust Fund, adopted by the COP, it was, inter alia, envisaged that it is for the COP and UNEP to agree on and administrative support charge to be paid to UNEP (para 13).

*Aware* that Trust Fund was established for a period of 3 years, i.e. formally to 27 May 2014, whereas the Trust Fund arrangement in UNEP ends in December 2014.

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Executive Director of UNEP for assuming responsibility for administering the Trust Fund for Administering and Meeting the Objectives of the Framework Convention for the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and related Protocols (Carpathian Convention);
2. *Decides* to extend the Trust Fund for three years until the fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention in 2017 and requests UNEP to continue to administer the Trust Fund until that date in accordance with the Terms of Reference adopted by the third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
3. *Decides* that the Programme of Work – Budget for 2015, 2016 and 2017 of the Carpathian Convention as approved in Decision 4/14 shall be used as the budget of the Trust Fund for these years;
4. *Request* the Executive Director of UNEP to inform the Contracting Parties of the measures taken in relation to its request to delegate the necessary administrative authorities to the Head of the Secretariat in Vienna in line with the Rules and Regulations of the United Nations (decision COP3/14, para 15);
5. Furthermore, taking into account para 13 of the approved terms of reference of the Trust Fund contained in Annex 4 of Decision COP3/14, *requests* the Executive Director of UNEP to maximize the use of the 13% PSC for the benefit of the Convention and the functioning of the Secretariat, and *inform* the Contracting Parties accordingly;
6. *Notes/approves* the certified financial statement (to be finalized).

**DECISION COP4/15**

**Climate change**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Adopts* the Strategic Agenda on Adaptation to Climate Change in the Carpathian Region;
2. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the CARPIVIA, CarpathCC and CarpathClim projects;
3. *Welcomes*  the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Adaptation to Climate Change;
4. *Gives* mandate to the Secretariat to participate and to promote the Carpathian Convention during the UNFCCC COP20 at the Mountain Pavilion, in Lima, Peru in December 2014;
5. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change organized in the frame of the Alpine-Carpathian Partnership, in Vienna, Austria in March 2014;
6. *Encourages* future cooperation activities with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River on climate change adaptation.

**DECISION COP4/16**

**Location of Permanent Secretariat**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the comparison table of the offers of locations for a permanent secretariat of the Carpathian Convention prepared by the Secretariat using the Criteria for selection of the Carpathian Convention Permanent Secretariat location*;*
2. *Recalls* hatthe resolution of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the adoption and signatures of the Carpathian Convention stipulates that the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention will be located in the Carpathian region;
3. *Request* UNEP to continue to provide the Secretariat to the Carpathian Convention through its office in Vienna;
4. *Decides* to review the issue of the Secretariat location and relevant requirements at its 5th /6th meeting of the COP and requests the CCIC to steer the process and prepare proposals for permanent arrangements;

**DECISION COP4/17**

**Guidelines for the use of the logo of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

*1. Requests the Secretariat to develop and implement a policy for the use of the logo of the Carpathian Convention.*

**Decision COP4/18**

**Date and venue of the Fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Decides* to accept the generous offer of the Government of Hungary to convene the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention (COP5) in …….. in 2017, and requests the interim Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements, in consultation with the host Government and the CCIC;
2. *Requests* the Secretariat to undertake the necessary preparation in consultation with

all interested partners and stakeholders;

1. *Invites* all interested partners to make a financial contribution to the organization of the

Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention (COP5).

**Decision COP4/19**

**Presidency of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Express* its gratitude for the successful Presidency of the Slovak Republic to the Carpathian Convention, as well as to the previous Presidencies of Ukraine and Romania to the Carpathian Convention.
1. This paragraph will be amended according to the result of the further consultation. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. This paragraph will be amended according to the result of the further consultation. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. This paragraph will be amended according to the result of the further consultation. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)