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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 corrigendum to the Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity;

3. *Adopts* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity;

4. *Adopts* the Medium-Term Work Plan 2013 - 2017 of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas;

5. *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;

6. *Adopts* the Red List of Threatened Carpathian Species and Habitats as well as List of Invasive Species in the Carpathians, elaborated in the context the BIOREGIO Carpathians project and *calls* for further improvement of the documents;

7. *Encourages* the cooperation with the European Landscape Convention and recommends the Working Group on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity to develop a Strategy for the implementation of the Convention and the relevant provisions of the Biodiversity Protocol to the Carpathian Convention, and *requests* the Secretariat to coordinate the preparation of the document;

8. *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 implementing the European Landscape Convention in the Carpathians;

9. *Welcomes* the Declaration of the 2nd Conference of the Carpathian Network of the Protected Areas;

10. *Notes* the Terms of References for the CNPA Support Unit of Civic Society OZ Pronatur from the Slovak Republic and the Association of Natural Protected Areas Administrations from Romania.

11. *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;

12. *Welcomes* the assistance by ALPARC and the ongoing cooperation with the Alpine Convention;

13. *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;

DECISION COP4/2
Spatial planning
Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Adopts* the revised Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Spatial Planning;
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. *Adopts* the Revised Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Spatial Development
4. *Welcomes* 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;
5. *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;
6. *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;
7. *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;
8. *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;
9. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the Europe of the Carpathians Conferences held in Krynica and Krasiczyn;
10. *Welcomes* the outcomes of two editions of the Alpine-Carpathian Forum of Cooperation held in Rzeszow;
11. *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;
12. *Welcomes and support* the Draft working document on proposed priority areas and related actions/projects for a possible EU strategy for the Carpathian region and encourages close cooperation with existing EU macroregional Strategies including the EU Strategies for the Danube Region.

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. *Encourages* future cooperation activities 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".
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;
5. *Calls* for enhanced cooperation through the interim Secretariat with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River on implementation of the "Guiding principles on sustainable hydropower development in the Danube Basin" in mountain areas with a view to develop joint activities and projects with ICPDR in this area;
6. *Calls* for enhanced cooperation through the interim Secretariat with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River on promoting the Carpathian Wetland Initiative and cooperation with the Ramsar Convention with a view to develop joint activities and projects with ICPDR in these areas.

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 the The 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. *Adopts* 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 *appreciates* the work done under the auspices of the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management;
4. *Adopts* the Criteria and indicators for selection of virgin forests in transboundary 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;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the establishment of a Carpathian Inventory of Virgin Forests and *appreciates* contribution to its development proposed by 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. *Reiterates* the call for the development of a Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development by the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development and *requests* the interim Secretariat to coordinate the preparation of the Protocol and service the Parties in the process;

7. *Calls* for enhanced cooperation through the interim Secretariat with ICPDR on sustainable agriculture and rural development, in the framework of a possible Protocol / Strategy for the Carpathian region, 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 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. *Adopts* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure;

3. *Welcomes* the 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" on Green Infrastructure;

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 in contribution to the implementation of the Protocol, with special focus on green infrastructure, and *requests* the Secretariat to coordinate the preparation of the document, by encouraging also joint meetings with other Working Groups on this subject;

5. *Recommends* the development of follow up projects on connectivity and green infrastructure, possibly in connection with other cross-cutting issues such as the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in the Carpathians;

6. *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;

7. *Welcomes* the adoption and signature of the "Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of an Alpine - Carpathian Corridor" and *encourages* further implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding;

8. *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, in particular, in the context of Green Infrastructure;

9. *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. *Adopts* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Sustainable Tourism;
2. *Welcomes* the entry into force 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* 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;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to organize a meeting of the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Sustainable Tourism in order to further detail actions on the implementation of the Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians, including the establishment of the Carpathian Coordination Centre;
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* 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 28 May 2014 in Rzeszow, Poland.

DECISION COP4/7
Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge
Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Adopts* the Protocol on Cultural Heritage to the Framework Convention on Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, *invites* governments to sign and ratify the Protocol and *appreciates* the work done under auspices of the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge;
2. *Adopts* the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge;

3. *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;
4. *Encourages Parties*, pending the ratification and entry into force of the Protocol, whenever possible to start its implementation;
5. *Recalls* the decision to develop and establish a Carpathian Heritage Inventory, as a tool for the identification, protection and promotion of the Carpathian cultural heritage, and encourages Parties to collaborate and support the development of the common Carpathian Cultural Heritage Inventory;
6. *Recommends* the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge to develop the Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol on Cultural Heritage, and Traditional Knowledge, and *requests* the interim Secretariat to coordinate the preparation of the document;
7. *Reiterates* the invitation to National Focal Points to continue actions to inform and cooperate with the relevant ministries and sectors (particularly Ministries of Culture and UNESCO National Focal Points) and calls upon them to be involved in this work;
8. *Appreciates* the outcomes of Carpathian Sheep Transhumance 2013 initiative recalling the common source of the pastoral cultural heritage of the Carpathians;

DECISION COP4/8
Environmental assessment/information system, monitoring and early warning
Article 12 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes* the Memorandum of Understanding for the Establishment of a Carpathian Integrated Biodiversity Information System;
2. *Recommends* the establishment of the Carpathian integrated regional information system under the Carpathian Convention, 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 the 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 preparation for Forum Carpaticum 2014: Local Responses to Global Challenges 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 mountain 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 ICT 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, 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 Education for Sustainable Development (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* Parties, supported by the Secretariat, to cooperate with European Union bodies in further promoting the idea of ensuring the due attention to the Carpathian region within the development of new and 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. *Invites* the Parties to support 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 and partnership Instrument and Instrument for pre Accession Assistance, and requests the interim 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 Convention Biodiversity Programmes of Work on Protected Areas and 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 political declaration between Alpine and Carpathian Conventions to be adopted in Lima Peru in December 2014 during the UNFCCC 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 (see also Decision COP4/2 para 11 on Spatial Planning).

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. 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 Ramsar Convention, the Aarhus Convention, 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 REC, GRID Arendal, UNEP;

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, 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. *Welcomes* the continuation of the Working Groups;
6. *Encourages* Parties to continue to finance their participation in meetings related to the implementation of the Programme of Work;
7. *Appreciates* the support provided by the "BIOREGIO Carpathians", "ACCESS2MOUNTAIN" and "Carpathians Unite" projects;
8. *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;
9. *Adopts* the Budget for 2015, 2016 and 2017 for the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;
10. *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;
11. *Commends* the interim Secretariat for its role and work in promoting and servicing the implementation of the Programme of Work and the implementation of COP Decisions;
12. *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, Protocol on Sustainable Tourism, the future Protocol on Sustainable Transport and the Protocol on Cultural Heritage, as well development of new protocols;
13. *Calls* for organization of joint Working Group meetings, where possible and appropriate, for interaction and cooperation issues.

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 10).

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 and request the Executive Director of UNEP to ensure inclusion of this budget in the extended Trust Fund;
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 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. *Adopts* 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. *Welcomes the Criteria for selection of the Carpathian Convention Permanent Secretariat;*
2. *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;
3. *Decides* that the Location of the Secretariat is.....

DECISION COP4/17

Use of the logo of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Approves* the use of the logo of the Carpathian Convention policy and *encourage* its use by the Parties in order to promote 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 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;
3. *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 highest gratitude for the successful Presidency of the Slovak Republic to the Carpathian Convention