



## **Carpathian Network of Protected Areas Steering Committee Meeting<sup>1</sup>**

**05 November 2012, Vienna**

### **MEETING REPORT**

#### **Opening of the meeting and introduction**

---

Mr. Harald Egerer, the Head of UNEP Vienna – Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (UNEP Vienna – ISCC) and welcomed the participants to the Carpathian Network of the Protected Areas Steering Committee (CNPA SC) meeting<sup>2</sup> in the Vienna International Centre. The ad interim chair of the CNPA SC and Lead Partner of BIOREGIO Carpathians project, Mr. Mircea Verghelet, Piatra Craiului National Park, opened the meeting. The meeting Agenda was adopted without any content change.

#### **Presentations**

During the meeting several presentations were made by the meeting's participants. The first one, conducted by Mr. Mircea Verghelet, was concentrated on the update on the BIOREGIO Carpathians project. Next Ms. Tamara Mitrofanenko, UNEP Vienna – ISCC, presented potential opportunities for CNPA from the Big Foot project through intergenerational learning as a tool for natural resources management and sustainable community development. Ms. Hildegard Meyer gave a presentation of the Draft Programme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas, which will be organized within the BIOREGIO Carpathians project – WP 3 and will be held from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2013 in Poprad, Slovakia.

#### **Discussion on CNPA Conference Draft Programme:**

Ms. Hildegard Meyer, WWF DCP, introduced the status quo of organizing the CNPA Conference. The main outcomes of the discussion related to the Draft Programme were:

- The opening ceremony of the event will not be combined with the closure ceremony of the BIOREGIO Carpathians Mid Term Conference
- In the Official Opening of the Conference will be invited to participate the representative of the Ministry of the Environment of Slovak Republic, of the State Nature Conservancy of Slovak Republic, of UNEP Vienna – Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and of WWF DCP.
- Mr. Mircea Verghelet was identified as possible moderator and chairman of the Conference

---

<sup>1</sup> Organised within the European Transnational Cooperation South East Europe Programme BIOREGIO Carpathians

<sup>2</sup> The meeting is organised and financed within the BIOREGIO Carpathians project – WP 4



Programme co-funded by the  
EUROPEAN UNION



- For the keynote speeches were proposed:
  - European Commission representative – the presentation should focus on funding opportunities for Protected Areas - Mr. Mircea Verghet will contact a representative of LIFE-Nature Unit in the DG Environment
  - EUROPARC representative – the presentation should focus on transboundary cooperation – Mr. Martin Strnad will contact Mr. Michael Hosek, Deputy Director, Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic
  - ALPARC representative – the presentation should focus on examples/best practice of cooperation from the Alpine region – WWF will contact the ALPARC representative
  - UNEP Vienna – ISCC representative – will present the Carpathian Convention
  - Science for Carpathians (S4C) representative – the presentation should focus on S4C activities – ISCC will contact Luboš Halada, Chair of the Scientific Committee
  - Environmental Partnership Foundation – the presentations should focus on cooperation of environmental NGOs with protected areas in the Carpathians – WWF DCP will establish an appropriate contacts
- The introduction to the workshops will be combined with the presentation of the side events
- During the CNPA Plenary Session will be presented:
  - CNPA Medium Term Strategy (MTS)
  - Status of the art of the implementation of the MTS – the first draft will be prepared by ISCC
  - CNPA Draft Work Plan 2013 – 2017 – the first draft will be prepared by ISCC
  - Rules for membership – will be prepared by Mr. Mircea Verghet
  - Project initiatives, ideas, funding opportunities & discussion, including also presentation of relevant projects examples in the Alps made by ALPARC
  - Presentation and discussion on the Draft Conference Declaration addressed to the COP 4 (Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention) which should include priorities of CNPA, opportunities, common threats etc... - Ms. Hildegard Meyer will prepare a first draft of the Declaration
  - Examples of successful cooperation activities presented by ALPARC
- The meeting participants agreed that all the presented documents should be internally circulated at the beginning of the January 2013 in order to be sent to all the potential Conference participants at the end of January 2012
- The first newsletter will be prepared and circulated to the potential participants before the Conference. It was suggested that the newsletter should include short, essential information about PAs, CNPA and should announce the upcoming Conference. WWF DCP will prepare the newsletter



Programme co-funded by the  
EUROPEAN UNION



- The proposed agreed topics of workshops were:
  - Workshop 1: “Sustainable financing of protected areas management”
  - Workshop 2:” Sustainable development opportunities in and around protected areas with a focus on stakeholder support for protected area management and financing”
  - Workshop 3:” Connectivity and continuity – ecological corridors (including large carnivore management) in the Carpathians”
  - Workshop 4: “Protected area management planning with a focus on cross-border cooperation”
  - Workshop 5: “Exchange of ideas for future cooperation ”
- It was proposed to have the Joint CNPA Conference – BIOREGIO Carpathians Mid Term Conference Press Event before the Reception on 25 April
- At the Closing of the Conference the Final Version of the Declaration should be agreed
- PAs people should provide poster presentation of projects they are currently running
- Ms. Hildegard Meyer will circulate the draft Programme of the Conference with the agreed changes
- The invitation to the Conference should be sent at the beginning of the January 2013

**Discussion on CNPA Unit and Common Integrated Management Measures (CIMM) and Regional Development Opportunities structure reports:**

Furthermore it was discussed the possibility that UNEP Vienna – ISCC will hire a part-time consultant in order to operationalize the CNPA Unit it is in charge of. Concrete proposals will be sent to the ISCC by interested partners.

The last presentation, also made by Ms. Hildegard Meyer, was related to the introduction to the Common Integrated Management Measures (CIMM) and Regional Development Opportunities structure reports elaborated within the BIOREGIO Carpathians WP 4. The documents will be debated at the upcoming BIOREGIO Carpathians Stakeholders Meeting that will take place on 08-09 November in Duna Ipoly National Park, Hungary.

Mr. Mircea Verghelet and Mr. Harald Egerer thanked the meeting participants for their contribution to the discussion and declared the meeting closed.



### **LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ALPARC	Alpine Network of Protected Areas
CIMM	Common Integrated Management Measures
CNPA SC	Carpathian Network of Protected Areas Steering Committee
COP 4	Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention
DG Environment	Directorate General for the Environment
MTS	Medium Term Strategy
PAs	Protected Areas
S4C	Science for Carpathians
UNEP Vienna – ISCC	United Nations Environment Programme Vienna Office - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
WP	Work Package
WWF DCP	WWF Danube Carpathian Programme