9:30 – 12:30  DAY 1  19 May 2021

Session I – Introductory

9:30 – 10:00
1) Opening of the WG Biodiversity meeting and welcome remarks by the Polish Presidency
2) Introductory remarks by the WG Biodiversity Chair
3) Adoption of the Agenda
4) Consideration on the updated Terms of Reference for the WG Biodiversity
5) Presentation of a draft WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2021 – 2023 and the analysis of relevant documents for the WG Biodiversity activities

Session II – Large Carnivores and ecological connectivity

10:00 - 11:00
6) Presentation of the Report on population status of large carnivores and monitoring methods in the Carpathians
7) Presentation of the International Action Plan on Conservation of Large Carnivores and Ensuring Ecological Connectivity
8) Presentation of the projects relevant for the implementation of the Action Plan
   - ConnectGREEN and SaveGREEN with focus on ecological connectivity – Interreg Danube Transnational Programme (WWF)
   - Successful Wildlife Crime Prosecution in Europe’ (SWiPE)- EU LIFE Project (WWF)
9) Updates from the EUSDR PA6 with a focus on ecological connectivity

11:00 – 11:10 Virtual coffee break

10) Discussion on priority actions for implementation by the WG Biodiversity deriving from the recently adopted Action Plans and relevant COP 6 Decisions:

11:10 – 12:30
- Harmonization of large carnivores monitoring in the Carpathians as one of the priority topics. How to realize it?

Guiding questions proposed by the WG Biodiversity Chair:

1) In your opinion, what should be the elements of the harmonised monitoring system, considering that it needs to be accurate and scientifically robust and at the same time it should respect different conditions in Carpathian countries (in terms of population size / area / monitoring capacities)?

2) Is the desired outcome feasible for your country? If not, what needs to be changed or improved in order to fill these gaps? (Please distinguish between what can be done
within the remits of the WG Biodiversity / the Carpathian Convention and what needs to be addressed at national level.)

➢ Other priority topics to be identified, with consideration of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

11) Conclusions of the Session II

12) END of the DAY 1

DAY 2 20 May 2021

Session III – Cooperation with other organizations and bodies

9:30 – 10:50

13) Post – 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

➢ Updates on the Post-2020 GBF process

➢ Role and contribution of the Carpathian Convention - presentation and discussion

➢ Trilateral Memorandum of Cooperation between the CBD, the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention – updates by the Secretariat

➢ “Building national biodiversity information supply and demand in Pan Europe to support implementation & progress review of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework” (UNEP/EU project) - presentation of the project and its implementation in Ukraine

➢ Possibilities of reporting on the implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol under the Data Reporting Tool for the MEAs – discussion

Guiding questions proposed by the WG Biodiversity Chair:

1) What should be contribution of the Carpathian Convention to the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework in terms of its preparation/implementation?

2) How the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework could be translated/streamlined into the Convention work? What specific topics/areas should be considered?

3) How can the Carpathian Convention contribute to the monitoring framework of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework?

14) Alpine Convention and its Alpine Biodiversity Board

➢ Sharing information and best practices by the Alpine Biodiversity Board

➢ Cooperation activities – discussion

10:50 – 11:00 Virtual coffee break

11:00 – 12:30

15) Carpathian Network of Protected Areas:

➢ Updates on CNPA activities, including on the 3rd CNPA Conference by the CNPA Chair
➢ Centralparks project (Interreg Central Europe) – presentation of relevant project activities

➢ Citizen Science in the Carpathians (Visegrad project) – presentation of relevant project activities

16) **Carpathian Wetland Initiative:**

➢ Updates on CWI activities by the CWI Coordinator

17) **Forum Carpaticum 2021:**

➢ updates from the Science for the Carpathians on the organization of the conference and relevant session for the WG Biodiversity

18) **AOB**

19) **Conclusions, next steps and closing of the meeting**