

**Carpathian Convention Working Group on  
Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure Meeting<sup>1</sup>  
18-19 October 2012, Košice, Slovakia**

**MEETING REPORT**

**Item 1: Opening of the meeting**

Mr. Harald Egerer (HE), Head of UNEP Vienna Office – Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (ISCC) opened the meeting. Mr. Ján Szöllös, Vice-President of the Košice Self-Governing Region, welcomed the participants.

**Item 2: Opening remarks by UNEP Vienna – ISCC**

Mr. Harald Egerer (HE) provided participants with a brief overview on past activities, achieved results and the planned way forward. It is aimed to have a draft text Protocol finally consolidated by the end of 2013 with the view of presenting it to the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP4) going to be held in Mikulov, Czech Republic, in 2014 for its adoption and signature.

**Item 3: Election of the Chair**

Mr. Harald Egerer, Head of UNEP Vienna Office – ISCC was elected chair of the meeting.

**Item 4: Adoption of the Agenda**

The Draft Agenda was unanimously agreed by the participants.

**Item 5: Presentations**

Ms. Agnes Kurzweil (on behalf of Umweltbundesamt Austria, Leadpartner of the project “Access2Mountain”) made a presentation of the project “Access2Mountain – Sustainable Mobility and Tourism in Sensitive Areas of the Alps and Carpathians” followed by further presentations of the regions of Maramures (RO), Rzeszow (POL) and Košice (SK). See also [www.access2mountain.eu](http://www.access2mountain.eu) for further information on the project.

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<sup>1</sup> The project enjoys the technical and financial support of the EU co –funded project “Access2mountain” (European Transnational Cooperation South East Europe Programme 2007-2013)

Mr. Ernst Lung in his capacity as an individual expert provided his insights and experiences with regards to the work of the respective Working group to implement the transport protocol of the Alpine Convention.

Dr. Broyde on behalf of Centre “EcoResource” Ukraine made a presentation on “Carpathian Area – connecting Baltic and Danube macroregions”.

The presented recommendations and scientific results served as an important input to the subsequent discussions and elaboration of the draft text Protocol.

### **Item 6: Discussion on and elaboration of the draft text Protocol on Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure (Transport Protocol)**

Mr. Harald Egerer presented the prepared draft text of the Protocol that has been facilitated by the ISCC with strong contribution of the European Academy Bolzano (EURAC) and its Vienna Office as well as the further inputs and comments received on the basis of a broad stakeholder consultation that was undertaken in advance to this meeting.

The draft text Protocol builds *inter alia* on the recommendations of the study on the transport system in the Carpathians, prepared by the European Academy Bolzano (EURAC) within the frame of the “Carpathian project” (see also [www.carpathianproject.eu](http://www.carpathianproject.eu) for further information) (for the recommendations see attached document).

Participants agreed that the scope of the work of the WG and the draft text Protocol should be limited to “Transport and Infrastructure”. This proposal will be presented to the next meeting of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (CCIC) going to be held 5-7 December 2012 in Vienna, Austria.

Participants went on to provide their substantive inputs to the discussions and further elaborated on the draft text Protocol on Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure (see attached revised version of the draft text Protocol). During the consultations participants agreed to focus on environmental aspects, while at the same time also looking from transport-related issues.

### **Item 7: Next steps**

Participants agreed that is important to have soon a next meeting in order to follow-up on the discussions held.

The ISCC will circulate the revised draft text of the Protocol for further consolidation and submit the possible date for the next meeting. The next meeting of the WG is scheduled to be held beginning/spring 2013.

## Item 8: Closure of the meeting

The meeting was adjourned.

### Attachments:

- Revised draft text of the Protocol on Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure
- Recommendations of the draft study on the transport system in the Carpathians
- Final Programme
- Presentation “Working groups to implement the transport protocol of the Alpine Convention: experience and some working results” (Mr. Ernst Lung)
- Presentation „Access2Mountain Project“(Ms. Agnes Kurzweil a.o.)
- Presentation “Carpathian Area – connecting Baltic and Danube macroregions”(Dr. Broyde)