



## Second meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure of the Carpathian Convention

December 11-12<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
Chamber of Commerce, Trieste, Italy

### FINAL MINUTES

*Opening of the meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at 3.00 p.m.*

Welcome by UNEP (Harald Egerer and Pier Carlo Sandei)  
Welcome by CEI (Mykola Melenevsi)

After welcoming the participants, the CEI (Central European Initiative), which is contributing to the financing of the activities of the Working Group, reminded that the working groups of CEI are being discontinued and that their function is being replaced by network of experts in specific fields, such as transport or energy, whose expertise could be provided to the CEI and its member states, if needed and upon request. While informing the participants of this development, the CEI asked them and their respective governments to kindly signal the CEI individuals who could serve as experts within the abovementioned network.

After providing for an overview on the meeting and its objectives, the ISCC (Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention) reminded that the meeting was likely to be the last meeting of the Working Group before the COP 2 of the Carpathian Convention on June 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2008, in Bucharest, Romania, and encouraged the participating States to submit a draft recommendation for consideration by the COP 2; the ISCC also reminded of the possibility of developing a follow up of the CADSES Carpathian Project within the new EU CENTRAL programme, also in the form, for example, of the proposal of a specific project on sustainable transport.

No objection was raised to the draft agenda, so the agenda was adopted by the participants.

*Item 1 - Presentation of the draft of the study on the Carpathian transport system and of the recommendations for a Protocol on Sustainable Transport*

Massimo Santori (EURAC/CSST Rome) presented the draft study on the transport system in the Carpathians (see the draft recommendations of this study in the annex). In order to complete the study, he stressed the importance of receiving the requested information from all the Carpathian countries, if possible in English and in a format that is compatible with—and comparable to—that of the countries which have already sent information. Furthermore, he recommended the inclusion of data specific to the Carpathians, due to the fact that most of the information received so far concerned the countries at a national level and not at the level of the Carpathian regions.

*Item 2 - Discussion of the draft study and of the recommendations*

Concerning the study, the participants suggested expanding the concept of inter and intra-Carpathian traffic both within each section of the study and as a specific section or case study; they also recommended including the use of minibuses in the analysis of public road transportation, as well as that of water transport. The participants requested the country specific case studies to be included as annex to the general study, because of the diversity of the contributions.

An executive summary as well as the appropriate disclaimers and logos are required in connection with other activities (especially the VASICA strategic document, Visions and Strategies in the Carpathian Area) and specific guidelines within the CADSES Carpathian Project.

Concerning the recommendations, see the attached document, elaborated with the assistance of Luca Cetara (EURAC).

*Item 3 - Inputs from participants for the development of the study*

John Fuller (NEHRT/FEDECRAIL) presented the case of forest railways in the Carpathians and in the rest of Europe, underlining their interest for accessibility of tourist sites in mountain regions, in terms of nature protection and tourist development (see attachment).

Zinoviy Broyde (Ukraine) presented the case of the Northeastern-Southeastern European transport axis, which as it is presently planned would cross the Carpathians in a number of points, and proposed its shifting Eastwards, shortening the route, crossing the Ukrainian territory, and avoiding the crossing of Carpathian mountain regions (see attachment).

*Item 4 - Updating of the timetable for the development of the Working Group activities*

The missing inputs to the study should be provided indicatively by the beginning of January and the study should be finalized by the end of February, in order to enable the ISCC to include it in the activities of the COP 2.

Because of the COP 2 in June and of the end of the CADSES Carpathian Project in August, the meeting was likely to be the last meeting of the Working Group before the COP 2 and within the CADSES framework. However, if needed, a small meeting for the preparation of a new INTERREG project proposal on sustainable transport in the Carpathians could still be organized before the COP 2.

Ukraine announced that it could host in the next future a meeting of the Working Group on Energy, and the participants demonstrated interest in this possibility.

*Item 5 - Inputs from the participants for the COP 2*

The participants to the working group recommended the COP 2 to take note of the study produced by EURAC on the Carpathian transport system as well as of the recommendations of the study, a revised draft of which attached to the present draft minutes.

*Item 6 - Proposals from the participants for the new EU calls for Central and Eastern Europe*

The participants demonstrated interest in developing a new INTERREG project proposal on a specific transport issue in the Carpathians and in eventually participating in a small preparatory meeting.

*Closure of the meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 5 p.m.*

*Attachments*

1. Revised recommendations of the study
2. PowerPoint presentation by EURAC/CSST
3. PowerPoint presentation by NEHRT/FEDECRAIL
4. PowerPoint presentation by Ukraine
5. Invitation to the meeting by EURAC
6. Draft Terms of Reference for the WG on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure
7. List of participants

All attachments can be obtained from the organizers upon request (ISCC, [piercarlo.sandei@unvienna.org](mailto:piercarlo.sandei@unvienna.org); EURAC research, [jchurch@eurac.edu](mailto:jchurch@eurac.edu)).