

# FINAL AGENDA

## 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Carpathian Convention Working Group

### on Sustainable Forest Management

28-29 April 2025, Bratislava, Slovakia

The Water Research Institute, Nábrežie arm.gen L.Svobodu 4297/5,

812 49 Bratislava, Slovakia

13:00 – 17:30	Day 1 – 28 April
13:00 – 14:30	Arrival and registration of participants
14:30 – 15:30	<b>Session I – Introduction</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Opening of the meeting – Harald Egerer, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and Ing. Kamil Kyšeľa, PhD, Director General of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>2) Welcome remarks by the SK WG Sustainable Forestry Management – Co-Chairs: Zlatica Csontos Šimoňáková, Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic, and Boris Greguška, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>3) Welcome remarks by the Serbian Presidency – Aleksandar Stanojević, National Focal Point of Serbia</li> <li>4) Adoption of the agenda – Zlatica Csontos Šimoňáková, Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>5) Report on the Outcomes of the Carpathian Convention COP7 and the Mandate of the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management, based on the Work Plan on Sustainable Forest Management (2023-2026) – Secretariat</li> </ol>
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:30	<b>Session II – Advancing Forest Conservation in the Carpathians</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6) Presentation and update of the Inventory of the virgin forest in the Carpathians – (Secretariat) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates from countries and observers</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<p>7) Presentation of the criteria and indicators for identifying quasi-virgin forests adopted at COP7 – Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning and methodology for mapping and data collection for the inventory of quasi-virgin forests</li> <li>Moderated discussion with feedback from countries and observers</li> </ul> <p>8) Presentation of the final report of the Assessment of climate change risks and impacts on the Carpathian forests and their ecosystem services – Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderated discussion on further actions on the recommendations proposed by the Assessment of climate change risks and impacts on the Carpathian forests and their ecosystem services</li> </ul> <p>9) Conclusions and closing of Day 1 - Zlatica Csontos Šimoňáková, Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic</p>
<b>18:30 – 21:00</b>	<b>Common dinner (to be paid by the participants) (TBC)</b>

<b>9:00 – 16:15</b>	<b>Day 2 – 29 April</b>
<b>9:00 – 11:00</b>	<p><b>Session III - Adoption and implementation of global and regional frameworks</b></p> <p>10) Presentation with the new EU Nature Restoration Law – Jozef Dóczy, Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Slovakia</p> <p>11) Presentation of the EU Forest Strategy and EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 – Boris Greguška, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic</p> <p>12) Restoration of Close to Nature Forests in the Carpathians - experience exchange (feedback from all countries)</p> <p>13) Forest Europe Ministerial Conference Bonn 2024 and the establishment of the Forest Risk Facility (FoRISK) – Dr. Bernhard Wolfslehner, Forest Europe, FoRISK</p> <p>14) Presentation of the Carpathian LIFE Strategic Nature Project (SNaP) and Roadmap for the SNaP Proposal Preparation – Dorothea H. Palenberg, blue! advancing European projects and Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interactive session of gathering feedback and moderated discussion on SNaP from the participants.</li> </ul>
<b>11:00 – 11:15</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11:15 – 13:00</b>	<p><b>Session IV – Support to Ukraine</b></p> <p>15) Overview of the Secretariat of Carpathian Convention activities in support to Ukraine</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Secretariat of Carpathian Convention activities in support to Ukraine – Secretariat</li> <li>• Presentation of the Peace Park – Gabriel Paun, Agent Green and Daria Kholiavchuk, Chernivtsi National University</li> <li>• Official photo opportunity in honour of the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement with Peace Park</li> </ul> <p>16) Status of Ukrainian forestry and its urgent needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “War and climate change are threatening Ukraine’s forests. Ukrainian foresters are calling for support to implement close-to-nature forestry in the Carpathians” – Mariana Ostrovska, the State Forest Resource Agency of Ukraine</li> <li>• Corine Land Cover Carpathian land use mapping update – Sergiy Zibtsev, National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine (online)</li> <li>• Review of the recommendations of the international roundtable “Ecological and Legal, Scientific-Educational and Cross-Border Aspects of Implementation of the Carpathian Convention and its Protocols” held in Rahiv, Ukraine, in October 2024 – Fedir Hamor and Iryna Jonash, Carpathian Biosphere Reserve</li> <li>• Support Without Harm: Preventing Environmental Violations in Ukraine – Ganna Lobchenko, Senior Expert Forests, WWF-UA, WWF-CEE representative</li> </ul> <p>17) Moderated discussion on support to Ukrainian forest sector within WG Sustainable Forest Management (Secretariat)</p>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>Common lunch at the venue (TBC)</b>
<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>	<p><b>Session V - Cooperation with projects relevant to the WG Forests</b></p> <p>18) ForestConnect project interactive session, updates from the Expert Meeting – Kostadin Valchev, Senior Forest Expert, WWF Bulgaria</p> <p>19) NaturaConnect project updates – Marek Giergiczny, University of Warsaw, Department of Microeconomics, Warsaw Centre of Ecological Economics (online)</p>
<b>15:00 – 15:15</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>15:15 – 15:45</b>	<p><b>Session VI – Cooperation with other organizations and bodies</b></p> <p>20) Alpine Convention Cooperation – presentation of the activities of the Working Group on Mountain Agriculture and Mountain Forestry (WG MAMF) – Giorgio Matteucci, Institute of BioEconomy (IBE) (online)</p> <p>21) Permanent Secretariat of “Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe”, – Jana Baumgartner, E.C.O Institute of Ecology</p>

	22) Forum Carpaticum 2025 overview – Jakub Csabay, Comenius University
15:45 – 16:15	<p><b>Session VII – Conclusions</b></p> <p>23) Conclusions, next steps, and closing of the 10<sup>th</sup> WG Sustainable Forestry Management meeting</p>