



## Annex II

### **Draft Terms of Reference for the Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity**

*(Submitted for consideration and approval of COP1 Bureau /Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee)*

#### **Mandate**

The First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP1) to the Carpathian Convention (Kyiv, Ukraine, 11-13 December 2006) in its Decision COP1/4 para 1 decided “to support the establishment of a Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee”, a subsidiary body of the of the Convention, established pursuant to Decision COP1/3 para 4.

#### **Aim and tasks**

The Working Group (WG) will aim at supporting the Parties to the Carpathian Convention towards their cooperation for the implementation of Article 4 on Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity and other related Articles of the Carpathian Convention. Pursuant to Decision COP1/4 para 6, the main goal of the Working Group is to consider and finalize possibly before COP2, the draft Biodiversity Protocol submitted by COP1. According to Decision COP1/4 para 14, the Working Group has to prepare the terms of reference for the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) in consultation with the CNPA Steering Committee, and for the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative (CWI) for submission to and approval of the Bureau of COP1 / Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee.

#### **Field of activities**

##### 1) Draft Protocol on Conservation of Biological and Landscape Diversity:

Pursuant to Decision COP1/4 para 6, the Working Group will consider and finalize possibly before COP2, the Draft Protocol on Conservation of Biological and Landscape Diversity submitted by COP1. In addition, the Working Group will develop a draft Strategic Action Plan on the Protocol's implementation and relevant annexes to the Protocol for submission to the COP1 Bureau / Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee.

##### 2) Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA)

The Working Group will coordinate and oversee the activities of CNPA and welcomes its terms of reference.

##### 3) Cooperation with the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative (CWI)

The Working Group will address the issue of wetlands in the Carpathians and will prepare the terms of reference for CWI.

##### 4) Information of CBD and PEBLDS



Pursuant to the Decision COP1/4 para 4, the Working Group will guide the interim Secretariat to continue to contribute in particular to the work programmes on protected areas and on mountain ecosystems of the CBD; and to continue to contribute to PEBLDS, with the view of halting the loss of biodiversity in the Carpathians by 2010.

## 5) Contribution to the follow-up platform

The WG will provide its guidance and recommendations for the identification and development of follow-up projects in the area of biological and landscape diversity.

### **List of results**

- Second Draft of the Biodiversity Protocol;
- First Draft of Strategic Action Plan on the Implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol finalized and submitted to COP2;
- Proposed inputs for COP2 of the Carpathian Convention, such as inputs to a ministerial declaration to be considered by COP2;
- WG Progress Report for submission to COP 2;
- List of follow-up actions and proposals.

### **Composition and organization of work**

The Working Group is composed of the National Focal Points of the Carpathian Convention and designated experts, including the members of the CNPA Steering Committee, and is open for observers.

The Working Group will meet at least twice a year and its meetings will be financially supported by the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project. The tentative schedule of the Working Group is as follows:

1. First Meeting – 26-27 March 2007, VIC Vienna;
2. Second Meeting – 22-23 October 2007;
3. Third Meeting – 14-15 January 2008;
4. Reporting to the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee Meeting – before COP2.

### **Coordination and cooperation**

According to Decision COP1/3 “Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention”, the Secretariat is requested to ensure a continuous exchange and inter-linkage between the work and activities under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee and the work and activities under the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project.

The Working Group will cooperate with the Alpine Convention as agreed in the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention, concluded at COP1 of the Carpathian Convention, Kyiv Ukraine, 13 December 2006, by developing and conducting common activities in the area of conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity and through reciprocal participation in the relevant meetings of the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions



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ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

and their bodies (e.g. Alpine Network of the Protected Areas (ALPARC) and Carpathian Network of the Protected Areas (CNPA)).

According to Memoranda of Cooperation with the Ramsar Convention and Carpathian Ecoregion Initiative (CERI) signed at COP1 of the Carpathian Convention, Kyiv Ukraine, 13 December 2006, the Working Group will cooperate with the Ramsar Convention and CERI on the issues related to its activities (e.g. on wetlands – with the Ramsar Convention and CWI, on the Carpathian ecological network – with CERI).

## Scientific contributions and background information

The Working Group will benefit from the inputs provided by:

1. Carpathian Environment Outlook (KEO), which will provide a holistic and integrated assessment of the current state and future trends of the Carpathian environment;
2. REC Handbook on the Carpathian Convention prepared in the framework of the Umbrella Project financed by IMELS;
3. REC national assessments and the regional assessment of the policy, legislative and institutional frameworks related to the Carpathian Convention, available in English and national-language versions, prepared in the framework of the Umbrella Project financed by IMELS;
4. BBI Matra Project on the Carpathian Ecological Network and the Carpathian Biodiversity Information System (CBIS);
5. Transnational model project “Alpine-Carpathian Corridor” (WWF Austrian Programme);
6. Programmes of work on Protected Areas and on Mountain Biodiversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
7. Other related documentation.