

# Media Advisory

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### 47 member States

Albania  
Andorra  
Armenia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Montenegro  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
San Marino  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
"The former Yugoslav  
Republic of  
Macedonia"  
Turkey  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom

20.11.2009

## Bern Convention marks its 30th anniversary

**Date:** 23 – 26 November

**Place:** Bern (Switzerland), Kornhausforum, Kornhausplatz 18

**Description:** The [Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats Convention](#), known as "*Bern Convention*", will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Bern, during its annual Standing Committee meeting. The event will take place right at the start of the Swiss Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

**Bern Convention:** The Bern Convention has 50 Contracting Parties, including the European Community and the EU-27, 18 other European countries, and four African States (Morocco, Tunisia, Burkina Faso and Senegal).

**Standing Committee:** The Standing Committee meets to monitor the implementation and the review of the Convention, focusing on the activities carried out in 2009, and discussing its plan for 2010. Standing Committee meetings are attended by delegations from the Contracting Parties, observer States, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations, international biodiversity conventions, agreements and programmes, as well as by independent experts. Over 100 participants are expected at this year's meeting. Standing Committee will discuss a number of open case files (concerning Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Italy and Ukraine) and complaints for possible breaches of the Convention (on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November).

### Highlights:

\*Discussion and eventual adoption of a "Bern Declaration on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Europe: 2010 and beyond";

\* Progress in the setting up of the [Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest](#), and this year's awards and renewals of the [European Diploma of Protected Areas](#);

\*Four draft recommendations concerning invasive alien species, including the use of potentially invasive plants used as biofuel crops;

\*Further guidance for Parties to address the linkages between biodiversity and climate change;

\* Discussion on recommendations targeting the wind park in Smøla (Norway) and other wind farm developments in Norway.

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, the Secretariat of the Bern Convention will sign a Memorandum of Co-operation with the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Migratory Species ("*Bonn Convention*"), a treaty that has also celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2009.

### [More information](#)

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