

# Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats



## Standing Committee

### **Recommendation n° 8 (1987) of the standing committee on the protection of marine turtles in Dalyan and other important areas in Turkey**

*(Adopted by the Standing Committee on 11 December 1987)*

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the convention,

Having regard to the aims of the convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats ;

Recalling that Article 3 provides that each Contracting Party shall take the necessary steps to promote national policies for the conservation of wild flora, wild fauna and natural habitats, with particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species, especially endemic ones, and endangered habitats ;

Recalling that Article 4, paragraph 3, provides that the Contracting Parties undertake to give special attention to the protection of areas that are of importance for the migratory species specified in Appendices II and III and which are appropriately situated in relation to migration routes, as wintering, staging, feeding, breeding or moulting areas ;

Considering that marine turtles nesting on Mediterranean beaches, such as *Caretta caretta* and *Chelonia mydas*, are seriously endangered mainly as a result of habitat loss in their nesting grounds, which suffer important deterioration from touristic developments and other human activities ;

Recognising the great importance of Dalyan as a nesting beach for *Caretta caretta* and *Chelonia mydas* ;

Recognising the efforts of the Government of Turkey to minimise the impact of tourism on Dalyan beach by reducing previous development plans ;

Recognising the will of the Government of Turkey to proceed with studying the impact on turtle populations of new touristic developments,

Recommends that the Government of Turkey ;

1. Consider the protection of the Dalyan area as a national park or a biogenetic reserve in order to ensure the protection of sea turtles and Mediterranean monk seals as priorities;
2. avoid any new touristic development in the Dalyan area ;
3. consider the protection of the beaches and marine surroundings of Akyatan and Yumurtalik ;
4. reassess present land-use plans for the south and south-west coasts of the country, taking into consideration the preservation of valuable coastal areas, including the main nesting beaches of sea turtles.