

Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats



Standing Committee

Recommendation No. 80 (2000) of the Standing Committee on the implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of the pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*)

(Adopted by the Standing Committee on 1 December 2000)

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

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

Recalling that Article 1, paragraph 2, of the convention requires Parties to give particular emphasis to the conservation of endangered and vulnerable species;

Noting that populations of the pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) have suffered a decrease in their number throughout Europe and there is a reduction in their geographical distribution;

Noting that the pearl mussel has critically endangered populations;

Desirous to avoid a further loss of biological diversity in Europe;

Aware that the design and implementation of recovery plans may be a useful tool to redress the situation of the pearl mussel;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 22 (1991) on the conservation of the pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) and other freshwater mussels (*Unionoidea*);

Recalling its Guidelines No. 1 (1992) on the taking of the pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) and on pearl fishing;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 51 (1996) on action plans for invertebrate species in the appendices of the convention, which asked to consider the implementation of action plans for *Margaritifera margaritifera* ;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 52 (1996) on habitat conservation for invertebrate species;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 59 (1997) on the drafting and implementation of action plans for wild fauna species;

Referring to the report containing suggested actions for *Margaritifera margaritifera* in Europe, compiled by Dr Araujo et Dr Ramos (document T-PVS (2000) 10 revised);

Desirous to take prompt action for the conservation of European threatened freshwater mollusc and in particular of *Margaritifera margaritifera*,

RECOMMENDS that relevant Contracting Parties to the convention and States invited to accede thereto or to attend sessions of the Standing Committee as observers:

1. consider carrying out (or, if appropriate, reinforcing) national action plans for *Margaritifera margaritifera*; take note, in that context, of the above-mentioned action plan; follow, as far as possible, the

suggestions contained in Recommendation No. 59 on the drafting and implementation of action plans for wild fauna species;

2. promote international co-ordination in the conservation of *Margaritifera margaritifera*.