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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

31<sup>st</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 29<sup>th</sup> November – 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011

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**BERN CONVENTION  
PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR 2012 - 2013**

*Memorandum of the Secretariat  
established by  
the Directorate of Democratic Governance, Culture and Diversity*

## **FIRST BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

### **The background**

On 20 January 2010, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe presented to the Committee of Ministers a first series of measures aimed at revitalising the Organisation as a political body and innovative organisation by concentrating its work on fewer programmes, selected because of their highest added value and comparative advantages, and increasing the Organisation's flexibility, visibility and relevance for the citizens of Europe.

On 16 February 2011 the Secretary General presented to the Committee of Ministers the second phase of the reform proposing a series of measures concerning the programme and budget of the Organisation, including the outline of his priorities, the review of the intergovernmental structures, the move to a biennial programme and budget and the review of convention. The Committee of Ministers asked the Secretary General to pursue the preparation of the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 along those lines.

A first result of the Reform is that in 2011 the Organisation concentrated its activities and moved from 130 to 38 operational programmes structured around three thematic/operational pillars, Human Rights, Rule of Law and Democracy, and six strategic axes<sup>1</sup>. The aim is a more politically relevant and concentrated programme, which addresses the needs of member States.

### **How does it work at the Council of Europe?**

In 2012 and for the first time, the Council of Europe will have a programme and budget based on a biennial activity cycle and results-based budget following other international Organisations including the UN and the OECD and facilitating its relations with other international partners such as the EU. The biennial programme should ensure the implementation of existing commitments and put more emphasis on rule of law activities.

In the course of year N-1, the Secretary General will propose a biennial programme and budget for adoption by the Committee of Ministers before the end of year N-1, according to the following modalities:

- ⇒ the programme for the biennium,
- ⇒ the budget for year N,
- ⇒ the provisional budget for year N+1.

During year N, until 1<sup>st</sup> November, the member states and the Secretary General may request the re-opening of the debate on the budget for year N+1 so to adjust its programme when necessary in response to political priorities.

If no such request is made, the Committee of Ministers takes the decision to approve the budget.

### **Implications for the Bern Convention Programme of activities**

The Bern Convention has to adapt to the requirements of the Council of Europe new programme and budget to ensure the efficient implementation of its own Programme of Activities as well as budgetary discipline. Therefore the Standing Committee – at its year N-1 meeting – will be called to examine, for possible adoption, a biennial Programme of Activities, including a budget for year N and a provisional budget for year N+1. During the Standing Committee meeting held in the year N, the Secretariat or the Contracting Parties may request the re-opening of the debate on the budget for year N+1 so to adjust its programme when necessary either to the amendments approved by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers or in response to new biodiversity priorities.

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<sup>1</sup> 1. Protection and Promotion of Human Rights; 2. Threats to the Rule of Law; 3. Development of Pan-European common standards and policies; 4. Justice; 5. Democratic Governance; 6. Sustainable Democratic Societies.

# **DRAFT PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET OF THE BERN CONVENTION**

**FOR THE YEARS 2012 - 2013**

## **Outline of activities**

### **1. Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention**

#### *Long-term aim*

To harmonise the legislation of Contracting Parties on biodiversity conservation and to ensure that Bern Convention obligations are converted to national and EU legislation and efficiently applied. Monitor the implementation of Article 9 of the Convention.

#### *Medium-term aim*

To monitor case law on the Convention, to make proposals whenever the implementation of the Convention meets legal obstacles, to monitor appropriate application of obligations, to help new contracting Parties adapt their legislation to the Convention.

#### *Short-term aim*

To examine new nature conservation legislation of Contracting Parties. To elaborate reports on the implementation of the Convention in one or two states, to follow up the implementation of recommendations made to some states, to check biennial reports for possible abusive use of Article 9 of the Convention to assist new Contracting Parties in adapting their legislation to the provisions of the Convention.

#### *Funding*

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

#### *Political interest*

The harmonisation of biodiversity-related legislation in Europe is a necessary step in the implementation of the Convention. The Bern Convention provides a frame for the development of national nature conservation policies and legislation in accordance with “European standards” in this field. The need to efficiently enforce environmental legislation, including the implementation of the Standing Committee recommendations, and to effectively monitor compliance with the Bern Convention’s obligations by Contracting Parties has been recently raised by the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, in its Recommendation 1964 – (2011) on “The need to assess progress in the implementation of the Bern Convention”.

### **2. Conservation of natural habitats**

#### *Long-term aim*

Conservation of natural habitats and implementation of Article 4 of the Convention, as well as of Resolutions (89) 1, (96) 3, (96) 4, (98) 5, (98) 6 and Recommendations (89) 14, (89) 15 and (89) 16 of the Standing Committee.

#### *Medium-term aim*

Setting-up of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCI) in Europe, and developing the Pan-European Ecological Network.

#### *Short-term aim*

The development of the Emerald Network provides the participating countries with an important instrument for identifying and monitoring areas of special conservation interest being of the Pan-European importance in their national territories. It is also a tool to assist Contracting Parties in meeting their obligations under the Bern Convention and the CBD, particularly new CBD Aichi targets, e.g. on terrestrial and marine protected areas, endangered species, invasive alien species, etc..

It further prepares non EU Member States to meet the requirements of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives in view of a possible future accession.

In 2012, efforts will focus on the scientific assessment and validation of data provided by Contracting Parties which have completed Phase I of the Emerald Network constitution process (6 South-eastern Europe countries), in view of their future presentation to the Standing Committee for analysis and possible adoption. A new joint Council of Europe/European Commission project is under discussion to be implemented as from 2013 in 7 Central and Eastern European countries, and the South Caucasus, as a follow-up to the joint programme implemented in 2009-2011 in the region.

Co-ordination with the EU and the European Environment Agency will continue focussing on the harmonisation of the Natura 2000 and the Emerald networks, in view of strengthening the future Pan-European Ecological Network and maintain European natural heritage.

#### *Funding*

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions. A regional joint-project financed by the European Union.

#### *Methods*

Evaluation of ongoing projects; technical meetings at national/regional level; groups of experts and/or consultants; international co-ordination.

As foreseen in Resolution (98) 5, this exercise is being carried out in co-operation with the European Union. The European Union is, together with its Member States, responsible for sites in the EU region while the Council of Europe is responsible for the setting-up of the Emerald network outside the EU. The European Environment Agency is a common partner for both organisations with regards to the scientific evaluation of data.

#### *Political interest*

Protected areas have been widely recognized as a vital contribution to the conservation of the world's natural and cultural resources.

The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for the 2011-2020 period. Target 11 foresees that “by 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”.

The setting-up of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest is the regional contribution of the Bern Convention to the achievement of the CBD's Aichi Target 11. This process will follow the action plan adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Bern Convention at the 30<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting in December 2010 (see document [T-PVS/PA\(2010\)08revE Calendar for the implementation of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest 2011-2020](#))

### **European Diploma of Protected Areas**

#### *Long-term aims*

Ensuring the promotion and the active preservation of biological, geological and landscape diversity and the sustainable use of natural resources through the European Diploma of Protected Area; establishing a set of areas of outstanding heritage value with exemplary and comprehensive management of the biological, cultural and landscape elements present there that can serve as reference points for the long-term study of wild species population and habitat changes, good managerial practice in the framework of sustainable development.

#### *Medium-term aims*

Regular monitoring of the areas holding the European Diploma to ensure that they are effectively managed, in compliance with the Recommendations adopted when the Diploma is awarded or

renewed, preserving natural and semi-natural areas and some of Europe's most outstanding landscapes;

*Short-term aims*

Examining governments' applications for the European Diploma if view of the award or the renewal of the Diploma. Monitoring of the annual reports submitted by the managers of the awarded areas. Encouraging nature conservation work and affording a practical opportunity for the managers of the areas holding the Diploma to exchange views and experience. Raising awareness among the European general public and the target groups, particularly local people, of the Diploma.

*Funding*

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

*Methods*

Meetings of the Group of specialists; independent on-the-spot appraisals; national reporting; Resolutions to be presented to the Committee of Ministers concerning the award, renewal or non-renewal of Diplomas to areas.

*Political interest*

The European Diploma is a recognised, living and much sought-after instrument requiring a high level of commitment by both managers of diploma-holding areas and the authorities responsible for those areas. It is both a technical and political tool encompassing the values of the Council of Europe and also useful for solving and preventing problems relating to the protection of the awarded areas;

During the 46 years since it was set up in 1965, it has enabled substantive work to be carried out in the field of the protection and meticulous monitoring of sites of outstanding value in terms of biological, geological and landscape diversity and which are managed in an exemplary manner.

### **3. Monitoring species and encouraging conservation action**

*Long-term aim*

To record the conservation status of the populations of species in the appendices to the Convention and identify target populations, so as to reverse negative trends. To propose common management standards through action plans. Monitoring of the implementation of Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Convention. Implementation of Recommendations of the Standing Committee on species protection.

*Medium-term aim*

Drawing-up and follow-up the implementation of Action Plans for threatened species, establishment of strategies, guidelines and codes of conduct for the protection of some taxa and ecological/functional groups of species, developing of red lists, identification of threats to biological diversity in different ecosystems, prevention of effects of invasive alien species. Identifying and promoting conservation work on biodiversity hot-spots.

*Short-term aim*

Implementation of decisions from the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-10). Monitoring of implementation by Parties of species action plans and or recommendations (e.g. for birds, large carnivores, birds and power-lines, illegal taking and trading of birds, invertebrates, vascular plants, etc.). Elaboration and implementation of action plans for threatened species; implementation of the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species; implementation of the European Strategy on Conservation of Invertebrates; implementation of guidance on biodiversity and climate change. International co-ordination in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of its components.

*Funding*

Council of Europe, voluntary contributions, budgets of partner organisations.

### *Methods*

Meetings of the Group of Experts; ad-hoc workshops; technical seminars; independent consultancy.

This activity is to be largely implemented in co-operation with the European Environment Agency and through collaboration with special partners with particular knowledge in the taxa and ecological/functional groups of species concerned (Secretariats of agreements under the Bonn Convention, Barcelona Convention, EPPO, IUCN, Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe, ECNC-Large Herbivore Initiative, BirdLife, Societas Europea Herpetologica, Planta Europa, European Invertebrate Survey and others).

### *Political interest*

These set of activities permits to take a pro-active approach to species conservation and management of their habitats and to implement Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the Convention, as well as to contribute to the implementation, at European level, to many of the obligations of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro, 1992). Such work is also necessary for harmonisation at European level on data management and to set a common European approach to species conservation.

## **4. Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation**

### *Long-term aim*

To preserve wild species and natural habitats in coastal marine ecosystems, in agricultural systems and valuable semi-natural agricultural habitats and forests. Implementation of Recommendation (91) 25 of the Standing Committee. Implement obligations of Article 2 and of relevant obligations of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Co-ordination with the European Union with regards to mainstreaming biodiversity issues. Introduction of biological diversity considerations into sectoral policies is an important permanent activity as success in conservation of biological diversity relies in a great part in how it is integrated in other policies.

### *Medium-term aim*

Identification of processes affecting loss of wild biological diversity, identification of species and habitat-types at risk by intensification or neglect. Setting-up of models to monitor change in wildlife outside protected areas. Preparation of meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity and of its technical body. Monitoring of effects on biodiversity of sectoral policies (energy, transport, agriculture, forestry, hunting, spatial planning, fishing, etc.).

### *Short-term aim*

Identification of main threats and monitoring of wildlife outside protected areas or areas of high biological value. Monitoring of the Revised Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck (2011-2015). Implementation and awareness on the Code of conduct on zoological gardens and aquaria and invasive alien species in Europe (2011); the Code of conduct on hunting and invasive alien species in Europe (2011); the Code of Conduct on Alien Invasive Species for European Botanic Gardens (2011); the European Charter on Angling and Biodiversity (2010) and the European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity (2007).

### *Funding*

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

### *Methods*

Consultant/Groups of experts.

### *Political interest*

The over-exploitation of marine resources, the urbanisation including the urban sprawl and degradation of coastal areas and the rapid change of farming and forestry practices and livestock raising are having a serious effect on wildlife and natural habitats. The public is worried about the changes in landscapes and the loss of biological diversity. This is also one of the main priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan.

## **5. Monitoring of sites and populations at risk and emergencies**

### *Long-term aim*

Monitoring of the implementation of the obligations of the Convention by Parties by examination of cases and eventual opening of files.

For emergencies: development of a task force of experts that may have the possibility to act rapidly in a situation of grave ecological damage as a result of a catastrophe, an accident or a conflict situation.

### *Medium-term aim*

Follow up of files already opened and examination of the positive effect the Convention has had in their resolution.

For emergencies: identify experts relevant in different environment sectors in relation to the issues dealt with at the Bern Convention.

### *Short-term aim*

Continue to evaluate the file system and suggest improvements, to cover cases in which a “brokerage” action is needed but are not necessarily connected to potential breach of the Convention.

For emergencies: contact potential experts and donors.

### *Funding*

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

### *Methods*

Reports, on the spot appraisals, groups of experts, consultancy.

### *Political interest*

The case file system is regarded by Parties and non-governmental organisations as the most effective instrument to monitor the implementation of the Convention. It is a very effective way to open a debate on problem areas and threatened populations of the target species and permits a certain “brokerage” action by the Standing Committee, which helps to solve many problems. Contracting Parties have shown great interest to reach solutions that can be acceptable to the Standing Committee, which reinforces the interest of the Convention for Parties.

For emergencies: the establishment of a task force would permit the Convention to be rapidly present in areas that receive high attention by the media and governments alike, improving visibility of the Convention.

## **6. Awareness and visibility**

### *Long-term aim*

Promote and disseminate general information on the need to conserve species of wild flora and fauna and their habitats (Article 3, paragraph 3). Keep the public informed about the activities undertaken within the framework of the Convention (Article 14, paragraph 1).

### *Medium-term aim*

Make the Convention better known in Contracting Parties and decision makers more aware of the interest of European biological diversity.

### *Short-term aim*

To guide present Council of Europe awareness instruments to take greater interest in the Convention. Maintenance of Web page. Continuation of traditional paperback technical publications. Preparation of outreach materials informing about the Convention, its importance and role.

### *Funding*

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

*Methods*

Publications/Website/oral presentations.

*Political interest*

Visibility of the action of the Council of Europe in general, and of the Bern Convention more particularly, has been set as one of the priorities for the Council of Europe institutional bodies; a greater information on Bern Convention activities can only help re-enforce the political support of concerned governments.

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**Note:**

This programme of activities is implemented with the help and in collaboration with a number of conventions, organisation and initiatives. Memoranda of co-operation have been concluded with the European Environment Agency, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species, and the IUCN. Privilege partners in the implementation of the programme of activities are, *inter alia*, the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO), Planta Europa, BirdLife International, WWF, Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE), Large Herbivore Initiative (WWF-LHI), Societas Europea Herpetologica (SEH), and the European Invertebrate Survey (EIS).

Activities for 2012<sup>2</sup>

in Euros

1. Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention		BO	VC
1.1	<p><b>Reports of the implementation of the Convention in at least one Contracting Party and legal assistance to new Contracting Parties</b></p> <p>Reports providing a legal analysis of the implementation of the Convention in at least one Contracting Party, suggesting ways to improve such implementation, share lessons learnt and adapt them to the provisions of the Convention</p> <p><i>Fixed appropriation for consultants</i></p>	4,000	4,000
2. Conservation of natural habitats		BO	VC
2.1	<p><b>Group of experts on protected areas and ecological networks<sup>3</sup></b></p> <p><i>Terms of reference</i> To do the necessary work to implement Recommendation No. 16 (1989) and Resolution No. 3 (1996) on areas of special conservation interest, in line with the milestones fixed in the "Calendar for the implementation of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest 2011-2020" (document T-PVS/PA(2010)08rev). The group will review the technical documents prepared by the experts and make proposals to make progress in the setting-up of the Emerald Network.</p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 14 states*:</i></p> <p>ALBANIA, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA, GEORGIA, MOLDOVA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, SWITZERLAND, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SERBIA, "THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA", UKRAINE</p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one consultant</i></p> <p><i>*Countries targeted by planned or on-going Emerald projects</i></p>	8,300	6,000
2.2	<p><b>Technical seminar for the implementation of the Emerald Network</b></p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence expenses for a consultant</i></p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 7 states (to be negotiated with EEA or other donors):</i></p> <p>ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BELARUS, GEORGIA, MOLDOVA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, UKRAINE</p>	1,000	p.m.
2.3	<p><b>Technical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in Norway</b></p>		5,000

<sup>2</sup> The activities which will not receive voluntary contributions will not or partially be implemented.

<sup>3</sup> Participants: All Contracting Parties; Observers: All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

			BO	VC
2.4	<b>Biogeographical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in Switzerland</b>	Switzerland, 3 days, June 2012 (t.b.c.)		5,000
2.5	<b>Pilot projects for the setting-up of the Emerald Network at national level in some states</b>			
	Financial contribution for the setting-up of the Network in two countries			30,000
2.6	<b>Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas</b>	Strasbourg, 2 days, 9-10 February 2012		
	<i>Terms of reference</i> To carry-out an effective monitoring of the areas to which the Diploma is awarded or renewed, thus ensuring that a high level of protection is maintained, management is improved, and the conservation of the outstanding area is ensured.			
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for six delegates* and two consultants</i>		7,200	
	*Members of the Group of Specialists			
2.7	<b>Consultancy for the Protected Areas and Ecological Networks</b>			
	Consultants will be hired to manage the setting-up of the Emerald Network and to do the necessary technical work required, included software, lists, handling of data, etc.			25,000
<b>3.</b>	<b>Monitoring of species and encouraging conservation action</b>			
			BO	VC
3.1	<b>Biodiversity and Climate Change</b>			
	<b>Group of Experts on Biodiversity and Climate Change<sup>4</sup></b>	Strasbourg, 2 days 1-2 October		
	<i>Terms of reference:</i> Recognising the need to adapt conservation work to the challenges of climate change so as to minimise its impact on the species and natural habitats protected under the Convention, the Group of Experts will provide guidance to Parties on developing appropriate measures in national policies and ensure co-ordination with the European Union and the CBD to avoid overlapping of aims and activities.			
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 18 States*:</i>			
	ARMENIA, BULGARIA, DENMARK, FRANCE, GERMANY, ICELAND, ITALY, LATVIA, NETHERLAND, MOROCCO, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, SERBIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, TURKEY, UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM		7,300	9,000
	*Countries having been particularly active in Climate change issues			
	<i>Travel and subsistence for two consultants</i>			
	<i>Consultants to prepare draft reports for consideration by the Group of Experts</i>		2,000	12,000

<sup>4</sup> **Participants:** All Contracting Parties

**Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

		BO	VC
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Invasive Alien Species</b>		
	<b>Select Experts Group on Invasive Alien Species</b>		
	Meeting of consultants in charge of the preparation of technical reports and studies as a follow-up to the meeting of the Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species held in Malta in 2011		
	Rome, 15-16 March 2012		
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for five consultants</i>	3,400	
	<i>Consultancy fees</i>		6,000
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Management of Large Carnivores</b>		
	<b>Group of Experts on Large Carnivores<sup>5</sup></b>		
	<i>Terms of reference:</i> Recognising the difficulties encountered by some Contracting Parties with regards to the management of large carnivores' populations the Group of Experts on large carnivores, in tight collaboration with the Large Carnivores Initiative for Europe (LCIE) will promote the exchange of good practices, particularly focussing on population management and communication between all concerned stakeholders.		
	Switzerland, 2 days, dates to be confirmed		
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for 1 expert of each of the following 18 States*:</i> ALBANIA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GEORGIA, ITALY, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, NORWAY, POLAND, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA, SWEDEN, SPAIN, TURKEY, UKRAINE	8,100	9,000
	<i>*Countries with important populations of Large Carnivores</i>		
	<i>Travel and subsistence for one consultant</i>	1,000	
	<i>Consultancy fees for the preparation of technical reports</i>		6,000
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Conservation of Birds<sup>6</sup></b>		
	<b>Group of Experts on the conservation of birds</b>		
	<i>Terms of reference:</i> Follow-up and monitoring the implementation of relevant Action Plans and recommendations; reviewing the main threats to the conservation of wild birds and proposing appropriate conservation measures; ensuring international co-ordination in this field. This Group will work in close co-operation with BirdLife, the AEWa and the European Union.		
	Place t.b.c., 2 days, June		
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 17 States*:</i> ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CZECH REPUBLIC, CROATIA, CYPRUS, FRANCE, GREECE, ITALY, MALTA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, PORTUGAL, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN, TUNISIA, TURKEY	9,100	6,000
	<i>*Countries having participated in previous meetings of the Group</i>		
	<i>Consultancy fees for the preparation of technical reports</i>	4,000	12,000

<sup>5</sup> **Participants:** All Contracting Parties

**Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

<sup>6</sup> **Participants:** All Contracting Parties

**Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

4. Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation		BO	VC
4.1	<b>Charter on gathering of mushrooms and other wild biodiversity (in cooperation with IUCN).</b>		5,000
5. Monitoring of sites at risk		BO	VC
5.1	<b>On-the-spot visits</b> On-the-spot visits, by independent experts designated by the Secretary General to examine threatened habitats and travel and subsistence expenses incurred by such experts to inform the Standing Committee or its groups of experts. It includes appraisals of the European Diploma.	14,000	10,000
5.2	<b>Sites at risk as a result of an emergency</b> Fixed appropriation to cover expenses for reports, travelling of experts or Secretariat to areas under a particular environmental stress as a result of natural catastrophes or accidents caused by man. It includes assistance to areas under political or military conflict. It may cover training of specialists, aid to establish environmental monitoring. This chapter will only be used under instruction of the Bureau and will be paid for both from the Council of Europe or by voluntary contributions.		p.m.
6. Training, Awareness and visibility		BO	VC
	Capacity Building. Implementation of article 3 of the Convention. Funds for the conception, the translation, the photocomposition and publication of technical documents, publications, monitoring reports, posters, brochures, etc. It includes publication on Internet, dissemination of publications (article 3.3) and regular and update of a Website	12,200	8,000
7. Operational expenditure of the Standing Committee's Secretariat		BO	VC
7.1	<b>Strategic development and implementation of the Convention after CBD/COP 10: the European targets for 2020</b>		p.m.
7.2	<b>Chair's expenses</b> Fixed appropriation to cover travel and/or subsistence expenses incurred by the Chairman or delegate T-PVS after consultation with the Secretary General. Expenses of the Chair to attend the meetings of the Standing Committee.	3,000	3,000
7.3	<b>Delegates of African states and some delegates of Central and Eastern Europe</b> Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the delegates of African states to attend the Standing Committee meeting or other meetings organised under its responsibility  Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by some delegates from Contracting Parties of Central and Eastern Europe (on a temporary basis and after decision of the Bureau) to attend the Standing Committee meeting.	4,000  8,200	3,000  5,000
7.4	<b>Travel of experts and Secretariat</b> Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by experts to attend meetings of special relevance under instruction from the Committee of the Chair, and Secretariat official journeys.	16,100	8,900

		BO	VC
<b>7.5</b>	<b>Meetings of the Bureau</b> Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the members of the Bureau to attend the Bureau meetings (tentative dates: 23-24 April, including a meeting of the Advisory Select Group of Experts on the Finance of the Convention; 17 September)	6,800	3,768
	<b>Secretariat: Staff and office costs</b>		
<b>7.6</b>	<b>Permanent staff (provided by the CoE):</b> Administrator, Principal Administrative Assistant (until March 2012), Administrative Assistant	188,500	
	High level management costs	36,900	
<b>7.7</b>	<b>Temporary staff</b>		141,332
<b>7.8</b>	<b>Office costs for temporary staff</b>		36,000
<b>7.9</b>	<b>Translation, interpretation, overheads (printing of documents and daily running of the office)</b>	81,200	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	427,300	359,000
	<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>		<b>786,300</b>

The Bern Convention Special Account will be used to cover expenses that cannot be covered by the ordinary budget of the Council of Europe.

The activities for which the ordinary budget of the Council of Europe is not sufficient alone, and that will not receive additional voluntary contributions will not or partially be implemented.

The Council of Europe is expected to provide around €427,300 in 2012 (€201,900 for financing the programme of activities including overheads, and €225,400 for staff and high level management costs). Parties are expected to provide new voluntary contributions in 2012. A detailed report on 2011 expenditure and a list of voluntary contributions will be presented to the Committee for information.

## Bern Convention Programme of Activities and Budget for 2012 (Summary)

in Euros

		BO	VC
<b>1.</b>	<b>Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>
1.1	Reports on the implementation of the Convention in one Contracting Party and legal assistance	4,000	4,000
<b>2.</b>	<b>Conservation of natural habitats</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>71,000</b>
2.1	Group of experts on protected areas and ecological networks	9,300	6,000
2.2	Biogeographical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network	1 000	
2.3	Technical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in Norway		5,000
2.4	Technical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in Switzerland		5,000
2.5	Pilot projects for the setting-up of the Emerald Network at national level in some States		30,000
2.6	Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas	7,200	
2.7	Consultants		25,000
<b>3.</b>	<b>Monitoring of species and encouraging conservation action</b>	<b>34,900</b>	<b>60,000</b>
3.1	Biodiversity and Climate Change	9,300	21,000
3.2	Select experts Group on Invasive Alien Species	3,400	6,000
3.3	Large Carnivores	9,100	15,000
3.4	Conservation of Birds	13,100	18,000
<b>4.</b>	<b>Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>5,000</b>
4.1	Charter on gathering of mushrooms and other wild biodiversity		5,000
<b>5.</b>	<b>Monitoring of sites and populations at risk and emergencies</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>
5.1	On-the-spot visits, including European Diploma appraisals	14,000	10,000
5.2	Sites at risk as a result of an emergency		p.m.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Training, awareness and visibility</b>	<b>12,200</b>	<b>8,000</b>
	Costs of part-time webmaster, publications	12,200	8,000
<b>7.</b>	<b>Operational expenditure of the Standing Committee and its Secretariat</b>	<b>344,700</b>	<b>201,000</b>
7.1	Strategic development of the Convention after CBD/COP 10 for the European targets for 2020		p.m.
7.2	Chair's expenses	3,000	3,000
7.3	Delegates of African states and of some delegates of Central and Eastern Europe	12,200	8,000
7.4	Travel of experts and Secretariat	16,100	8,900
7.5	Meetings of the Bureau	6,800	3,768
	<b>Secretariat: Staff and office costs</b>		
7.6	Permanent staff (provided by the CoE)	225,400	
7.7	Temporary staff		141,332
7.8	Office costs for temporary staff		36,000
7.9	Overheads (interpretation, translation and printing of documents)	81,200	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>427,300</b>	<b>359,000</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>		<b>786,300</b>	

## Activities for 2013<sup>7</sup>

### The Programme and Budget for 2013 can be reviewed at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Standing Committee meeting

in Euros

1. Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention		BO	VC
<b>1.1 Reports of the implementation of the Convention in at least one Contracting Party and legal assistance to new Contracting Parties</b>  Reports providing a legal analysis of the implementation of the Convention in at least one Contracting Party, suggesting ways to improve such implementation and adapt it to the provisions of the Convention  <i>Fixed appropriation for consultants</i>		4,000	8,000
2. Conservation of natural habitats		BO	VC
<b>2.1 Group of experts on protected areas and ecological networks<sup>8</sup></b>  <i>Terms of reference</i> To do the necessary work to implement Recommendation No. 16 (1989) and Resolution No. 3 (1996) on areas of special conservation interest, in line with the milestones fixed in the "Calendar for the implementation of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest 2011-2020" (document T-PVS/PA(2010)08rev). The group will review the technical documents prepared by the experts and make proposals to make progress in the setting-up of the Emerald Network.  <i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 15 states*:</i>  ALBANIA, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA, GEORGIA, MOLDOVA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, SWITZERLAND, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SERBIA, "THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA", UKRAINE  <i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one consultant</i>  *Countries targeted by planned or on-going Emerald projects	Strasbourg, 2 days, September	6,000  800	9,000
<b>2.2 Biogeographical seminar for the implementation of the Emerald Network</b>  <i>Travel and subsistence expenses for a consultant</i>  <i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 7 states :</i>  ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BELARUS, GEORGIA, MOLDOVA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, UKRAINE	VENUE, 2 days, first half 2013		1,000  7,000
<b>2.3 Technical seminars for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in three States (according to the state of progress in the implementation of the Emerald Calendar of Activities)</b>		5,900	10,000

<sup>7</sup> The activities which will not receive voluntary contributions will not or partially be implemented.

<sup>8</sup> Participants: All Contracting Parties; Observers: All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

		BO	VC
<b>2.4 Pilot projects for the setting-up of the Emerald Network at national level in some states</b>			
Financial contribution for the setting-up of the Network in Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey (t.b.c)			40,000
<b>2.5 Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas</b>	Strasbourg, 2 days, March 2013		
<i>Terms of reference</i> To carry-out an effective monitoring of the areas to which the Diploma is awarded or renewed, thus ensuring that a high level of protection is maintained, management is improved, and the conservation of the outstanding area is ensured.			
<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for six delegates* and two consultants</i>		5,100	2,000
*Members of the Group of Specialists			
<b>2.6 Consultancy for the Protected Areas and Ecological Networks</b>			
Consultants will be hired to manage the setting-up of the Emerald Network and to do the necessary technical work required, included software, lists, handling of data, etc.			25,000
<b>3. Monitoring of species and encouraging conservation action</b>			
		BO	VC
<b>3.1 Invasive Alien Species</b>			
<b>Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species<sup>9</sup></b>	VENUE, 3 days MONTH (t.b.c.)		
<i>Terms of reference:</i> <i>Follow-up and review the implementation of the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (IAS). Discussion of CBD COP-9. Decision on IAS, preparation of guidance for Parties on accompanying animals and consideration of relevant issues such as trade, climate change, etc</i>			
<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 18 States*:</i>			
<i>ALBANIA, ARMENIA, CROATIA, GEORGIA, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ITALY, MALTA, MOLDOVA, POLAND, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, TUNISIA, UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM</i>		7,300	9,000
*Countries particularly active in eradicating invasive alien species			
<i>Travel and subsistence for two consultants</i>		1,000	1,000
<i>Consultancy and preparation of draft reports for consideration by the Group of Experts</i>		4,000	8,000

<sup>9</sup> **Participants:** All Contracting Parties; **Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

		BO	VC
<b>3.2 European Islands</b>			
<b>Group of Experts on Island Biodiversity<sup>10</sup></b>			
<i>Terms of reference:</i> Identify specific conservation problems of biological diversity in European islands; registering threatened endemics; identifying island species and habitat-types at risk from global change; networking regional experts and contributing to the CBD's programme of work on island biodiversity; proposing special conservation solutions for European islands.	VENUE, 3 days, first half 2013		
<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 15 States*:</i>  <i>CROATIA, CYPRUS, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, ICELAND, IRELAND, ITALY, MALTA, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, SWEDEN, TUNISIA, UNITED KINGDOM</i>		6,100	10,000
<i>* States (with) Islands</i>			
<i>Travel and subsistence for two consultants</i>		1,000	1,000
<i>Consultancy fees</i>			12,000
<b>3.3 Invertebrates</b>			
<b>Group of Experts on Invertebrates<sup>11</sup></b>			
<i>Terms of reference:</i> The Group of Experts will monitor and follow-up the implementation of the European Strategy for the Conservation of Invertebrates.	Albania, (t.b.c.) 2 days, DATES		
<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for 1 expert of each of the following 17 States*:</i> <i>ALBANIA, BELGIUM, CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, LITHUANIA, NORWAY, POLAND, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, TURKEY, UNITED KINGDOM.</i>		9,300	8,000
<i>*Countries which have been particularly active in this issue</i>			
<i>Travel and subsistence for one consultants</i>		1,000	
<i>Consultancy fees for the preparation of technical reports</i>			6,000
<b>4. Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation</b>			
<b>4.1 2<sup>nd</sup> European Conference on Illegal killing of birds<sup>12</sup></b>		<b>BO</b>	<b>VC</b>
Monitoring the implementation of relevant European legislation and follow-up of the conclusions of the 1 <sup>st</sup> European Conference on Illegal killing of birds (Cyprus, July 2011)	VENUE, 2 days, June		
<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 16 States:</i>  <i>ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CZECH REPUBLIC, CROATIA, CYPRUS, GREECE, ITALY, MALTA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, PORTUGAL, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN, TUNISIA, TURKEY</i>		6,100	10,000

<sup>10</sup> **Participants:** All Contracting Parties **Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

<sup>11</sup> **Participants:** All Contracting Parties; **Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

<sup>12</sup> **Participants:** All Contracting Parties **Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

<i>Travel and subsistence for three consultants</i>		3,000	
<i>Consultancy fees for the preparation of technical reports</i>		6,000	
<b>5. Monitoring of sites at risk</b>			
		<b>BO</b>	<b>VC</b>
<b>5.1 On-the-spot visits</b> On-the-spot visits, by independent experts designated by the Secretary General to examine threatened habitats and travel and subsistence expenses incurred by such experts to inform the Standing Committee or its groups of experts. It includes appraisals of the European Diploma.		11,000	14,000
<b>5.2 Sites at risk as a result of an emergency</b> Fixed appropriation to cover expenses for reports, travelling of experts or Secretariat to areas under a particular environmental stress as a result of natural catastrophes or accidents caused by man. It includes assistance to areas under political or military conflict. It may cover training of specialists, aid to establish environmental monitoring. This chapter will only be used under instruction of the Bureau and will be paid for both from the Council of Europe or by voluntary contributions.			p.m.
<b>6. Training, awareness and visibility</b>			
		<b>BO</b>	<b>VC</b>
Capacity Building. Implementation of article 3 of the Convention. Funds for the conception, the translation, the photocomposition and publication of technical documents, publications, monitoring reports, posters, brochures, etc. It includes publication on Internet, dissemination of publications (article 3.3) and regular and update of a Website		6,000	12,000
<b>7. Operational expenditure of the Standing Committee's Secretariat</b>			
		<b>BO</b>	<b>VC</b>
<b>7.1 Strategic development and implementation of the Convention after CBD/COP 10: the European targets for 2020</b>			p.m.
<b>7.2 Chair's expenses</b> Fixed appropriation to cover travel and/or subsistence expenses incurred by the Chairman or delegate T-PVS after consultation with the Secretary General. Expenses of the Chair to attend the meetings of the Standing Committee.		3,000	3,000
<b>7.3 Delegates of African states and some delegates of Central and Eastern Europe</b> Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the delegates of African states to attend the Standing Committee meeting or other meetings organised under its responsibility		4,000	3,000
Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by some delegates from Contracting Parties of Central and Eastern Europe (on a temporary basis and after decision of the Bureau) to attend the Standing Committee meeting.		7,000	8,000

		<b>BO</b>	<b>VC</b>
<b>7.4</b>	<b>Travel of experts and Secretariat</b> Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by experts to attend meetings of special relevance under instruction from the Committee of the Chair, and Secretariat official journeys.	16,100	8,900
<b>7.5</b>	<b>Meetings of the Bureau</b> Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the members of the Bureau to attend the Bureau meetings	6,800	3,200
	<b>Secretariat: Staff and office costs</b>		
<b>7.6</b>	<b>Permanent staff (provided by the CoE):</b> Administrator, Administrative Assistant	172,800	
	High level management costs	26,600	
<b>7.7</b>	<b>Temporary staff</b>		141,900
<b>7.8</b>	<b>Office costs for temporary staff</b>		36,000
<b>7.9</b>	<b>Translation, interpretation, overheads (printing of documents and daily running of the office)</b>	81,500	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	401,400	397,000
	<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>		<b>798,400</b>

The Bern Convention Special Account will be used to cover expenses that cannot be covered by the ordinary budget of the Council of Europe.

The activities for which the ordinary budget of the Council of Europe is not sufficient alone, and that will not receive additional voluntary contributions will not or partially be implemented.

The Council of Europe is expected to provide around €401,400 in 2013 (€202,000 for financing the programme of activities including overheads, and €199,400 for staff and high level management costs). Parties are expected to provide new voluntary contributions in 2013. A detailed report on 2012 expenditure and a list of voluntary contributions will be presented to the Committee for information.

## Bern Convention Programme of Activities and Budget for 2013 (Summary)

		in Euros	
		BO	VC
<b>1.</b>	<b>Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>8,000</b>
1.1	Reports on the implementation of the Convention in one Contracting Party and legal assistance	4,000	8,000
<b>2.</b>	<b>Conservation of natural habitats</b>	<b>17,800</b>	<b>94,000</b>
2.1	Group of experts on protected areas and ecological networks	6,800	9,000
2.2	Biogeographical seminar for the implementation of the Emerald Network		8,000
2.3	Technical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in three states	5,900	10,000
2.4	Pilot projects for the setting-up of the Emerald Network at national level in some States		40,000
2.5	Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas	5,100	2,000
2.6	Consultants		25,000
<b>3.</b>	<b>Monitoring of species and encouraging conservation action</b>	<b>29,700</b>	<b>55,000</b>
3.1	Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species	12,300	18,000
3.2	Group of Experts on Island Biodiversity	7,100	23,000
3.3	Group of Experts on Invertebrates	10,300	14,000
<b>4.</b>	<b>Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation</b>	<b>15,100/</b>	<b>10,000</b>
4.1	2 <sup>nd</sup> European Conference on Illegal Killing of Birds	15,100	10,000
<b>5.</b>	<b>Monitoring of sites and populations at risk and emergencies</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>14,000</b>
5.1	On-the-spot visits, including European Diploma appraisals	11,000	14,000
5.2	Sites at risk as a result of an emergency		p.m.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Training, awareness and visibility</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>12,000</b>
	Costs of part-time webmaster, publications	6,000	12,000
<b>7.</b>	<b>Operational expenditure of the Standing Committee and its Secretariat</b>	<b>317,800</b>	<b>204,000</b>
7.1	Strategic development of the Convention after CBD/COP 10 for the European targets for 2020		p.m.
7.2	Chair's expenses	3,000	3,000
7.3	Delegates of African states and of some delegates of Central and Eastern Europe	11,000	11,000
7.4	Travel of experts and Secretariat	16,100	8,900
7.5	Meetings of the Bureau	6,800	3,200
	<b>Secretariat: Staff and office costs</b>		
7.6	Permanent staff (provided by the CoE)	199,400	
7.7	Temporary staff		141,900
7.8	Office costs for temporary staff		36,000
7.9	Overheads (interpretation, translation and printing of documents)	81,500	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>401,400</b>	<b>397,000</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>		<b>798,400</b>	