



Strasbourg, 17 November 2003
[tpvs22aadd_2003]

T-PVS (2003) 22 addendum

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Group of experts for the setting up of the Emerald Network
of areas of special conservation interest**

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**Groupe d'experts sur l'établissement du Réseau Emeraude
de zones d'intérêt spécial pour la conservation**

8th meeting / 8^e réunion
Dubrovnik, 14-15 October 2003

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**Request presented by the Slovak Republic for the
amendment of the Map of Biogeographical Regions**

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**Amendement de la Carte des Régions Biogéographiques
Demande présentée par la République slovaque**

*Document prepared by
the Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage*

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Following the discussion held during its 8th meeting (Dubrovnik, 15 October 2003), the Group of experts for the setting-up of the Emerald Network made several recommendations concerning the amendment of the Map of Biogeographical Regions.

As a follow-up to the recommendations of the Group of experts, the Slovak Republic has sent an official request to the Secretariat modifying its previous request. This letter is reproduced in this document.

The Committee is invited to take note of the report of the Group of experts together with the modified request submitted by the Slovak Republic and to take decision on the amendment of the Map of Biogeographical Regions.

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Suite à la discussion qui s'est tenue dans le cadre de sa 8^{ème} réunion (Dubrovnik, 15 octobre 2003), le Groupe d'experts sur le Réseau Emeraude a formulé un certain nombre de recommandations concernant l'amendement de la Carte des Régions Biogéographiques.

Suite à ces recommandations, la République slovaque a adressé au Secrétariat une demande officielle modifiant la requête précédemment soumise au Groupe d'experts. Cette proposition figure dans ce document.

Le Comité est invité à prendre note du rapport du Groupe d'experts ainsi que de la nouvelle requête présentée par la République slovaque et à se prononcer sur l'amendement de la Carte des Régions Biogéographiques.



MINISTERSTVO ŽIVOTNÉHO PROSTREDIA
SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKY
812 35 BRATISLAVA, NAM. LUDOVITA STÚRA Č. 1
NATURE AND LANDSCAPE PROTECTION DIVISION
RNDr. Jozef Kramárik, Director General

Done in Bratislava November 5th. 2003,
Ref.: 610 / 2003 - 5

Mr. Eladio Fernandez Galiano,
Head of Natural Heritage and Biological Diversity Division
Directorate General IV
Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sports
The Bern Convention Secretariat
Council of Europe
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex
F r a n c e

Subject: Map of Biogeographic Regions – final proposal.

Dear Mr. Galiano,

The Slovak Republic opened a scientific discussion on the spatial division of the biogeographical regions within the territory of our country after the presentation of the results raised from EMERALD Project and its expert group. This scientific discussion was oriented to the optimisation of the classification taking into the consideration scientific base and requirements of the EEC Habitats Directive. A new proposal born from this correlation has been presented this year to both relevant partners – Bern Convention Secretariat and DG Environment of the European Commission. Aforementioned proposal has changed prior scheme and included a new region – Continental as a dominant in the territory, the division finally consisted from three regions including Alpine, Pannonian and Continental.

This proposal has been based on real scientific and technical approach and their mutual consensus. A new question has been opened due to relevance and favour of that proposal. We express our deep gratitude for all the assistance and opinions emanated from the practical implementation and introducing of the role of biogeographical regions which have brought us to the final proposal considered all aspects and experiences. Please find attached a map of the biogeographical division in printed version, electronic GIS version follows this letter as an official nomination and final proposal.

The final version consists from two biogeographical regions – large Alpine and marginal Pannonian in the south part of lowland Slovakia. The situation with neighbouring countries has not changed excluding the Czech Republic. We are ready going to start negotiations with the representatives of the Czech Republic soon after but practically we returned back to the same situation in the Slovak – Czech border territory as was previews (former EMERALD proposal). I can assure you that we are able to find a common agreement also in this border region.

The Slovak Republic hereby close above mentioned topic and submits the map officially to the Bern Secretariat for the further endorsement at the 23rd. Standing Committee Meeting of the Bern Convention with the copy to DG ENV of the European Commission.

Dear Mr. Galiano, please accept the assurance of our highest consideration, we are looking forward to the next cooperation.

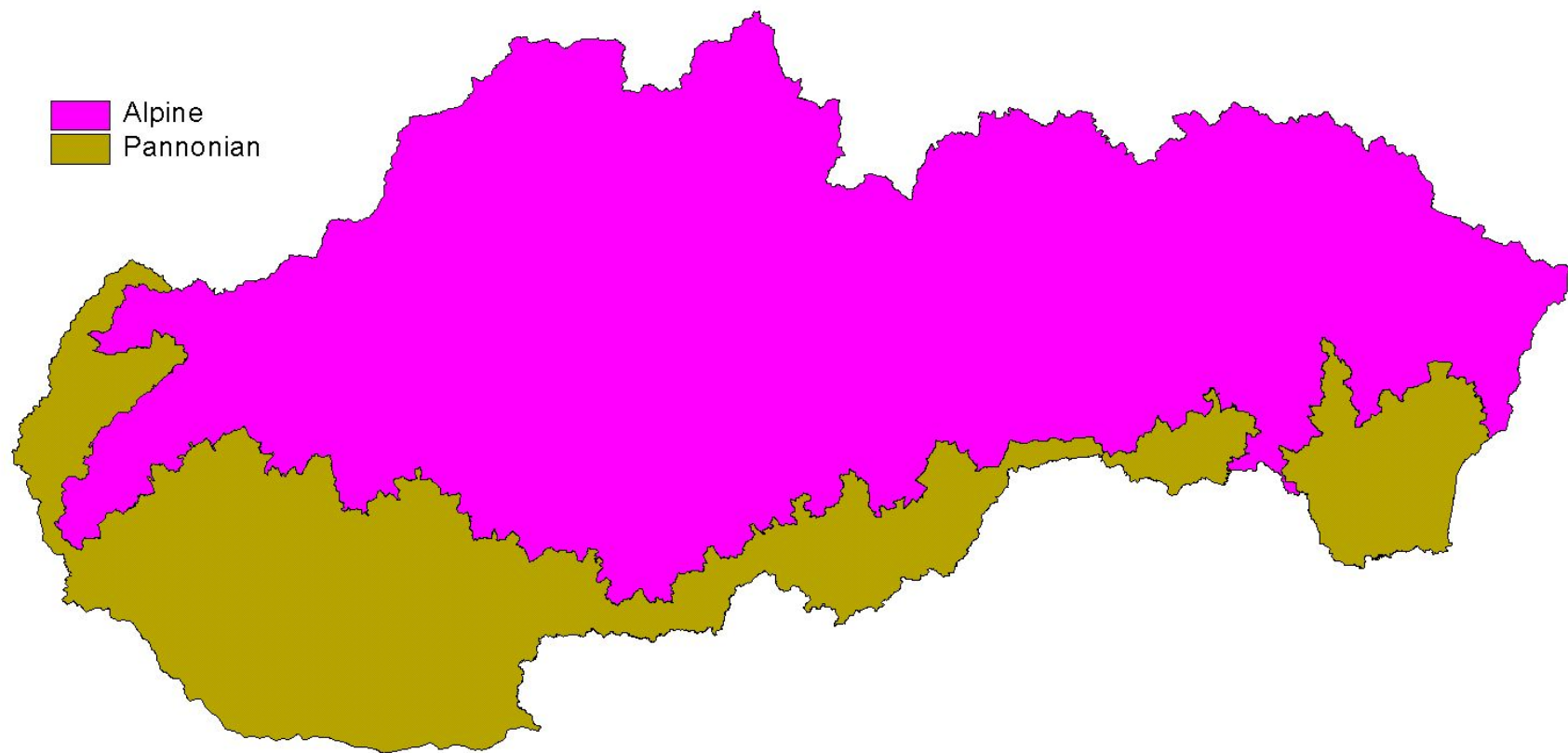
Your faithfully,

Annexes: printed copy of biogeographical regions division map

Electronic version by e-mail: all digital backgrounds and graphical maps concerned

Copy: Nicholas Hanley, Head of the Division, DG Environment, Directorate ENV.B2
Nature and Bio-diversity, Brussels.

Map of the biogeographical regions in Slovak republic



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