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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

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

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**Possible European 2020 Targets  
in the field of Invasive Alien Species**

*Secretariat memorandum  
prepared by  
the Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage*

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The Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species is invited to examine and discuss the enclosed proposals and to submit its opinion to the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya (Japan) from 18-29 October 2010, decided to update and revise the Convention's Strategic Plan for the post-2010 period.

The Conference urged regional organisations “*to consider the development or updating of regional biodiversity strategies, as appropriate, including agreeing on regional targets, as a means of complementing and supporting national actions and of contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan*”.

One of the objectives of the Bern Convention is to support as appropriate, the regional implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, particularly in the fields of competence and expertise of the Bern Convention.

The Bureau of the Convention, meeting in Strasbourg on 11 April 2011, decided to submit to the Standing Committee the idea of elaborating, during 2012, a number of regional targets for the Convention and instructed two of the Groups of Experts meeting in 2011 (Invasive Alien Species and Protected Areas and Ecological Networks) to discuss some possible targets in their field of competence.

## 2. CBD HEADLINE TARGET 9

The Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted 20 headline targets for 2020, organised under five strategic goals. The goals and targets comprise both: (i.) aspirations for achievement at the global level; and (ii.) a flexible framework for the establishment of national or regional targets.

Within Strategic Goal B (*Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use*), one target is devoted to Invasive Alien Species:

**Target 9:** *By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.*

### European targets:

- 9.1 By 2013, a EU European Strategy for Invasive Alien Species is adopted and implemented.
- 9.2 By 2015, European priority species are identified, controlled and eradicated.
- 9.3 By 2015 a list of invasive alien species to be excluded from trade is adopted and a prohibition from possession and trade, implemented.
- 9.4 By 2013, a European Early Warning and Response System on Invasive Alien Species is operative.
- 9.5 By 2018, a permanent intergovernmental European Observatory on Invasive Alien Species is created and operative.
- 9.6 By 2014, invasive alien plants as biofuels are identified and by 2016 phased out.
- 9.7 By 2016, Codes of Conduct on Invasive Alien Species and a number of activities (horticulture, recreational fishing, zoological and botanic gardens, pet-trade) have been elaborated, translated to all European languages and implemented.
- 9.8 By 2013, the list of the 100 most harmful invasive alien species has been identified and is publicised and used by all States as an awareness tool.