

Strasbourg, 16 August 2011
[pa04e_2011.doc]

T-PVS/PA (2011) 04

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Group of Experts on
Protected Areas and Ecological Networks**

3rd meeting
19 – 20 September 2011
Council of Europe, Strasbourg,
Room 6

**Possible European 2020 Targets
in the field of Protected Areas**

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

1. INTRODUCTION

The 10th 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 11

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 C (*Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity*), two targets are devoted to Protected Areas and their objectives:

Target 11: *By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, 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.*

European targets:

- 11.1. By 2012, the establishment of the Natura 2000 Network is completed and good management is ensured in the EU Member States.
- 11.2. By 2014, an EU Green infrastructure Strategy is adopted and its implementation started.
- 11.3. By 2020, the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest is fully operational in all Contracting Parties and Observer states to the Bern Convention as planned in the 2020 Emerald Network Calendar (T-PVS/PA(2010)08revE).
- 11.4. By 2020, the Emerald Network covers at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10% of coastal and marine areas.
 - 11.4.1. By 2013, to help Contracting Parties to achieve the European and world targets, the Bern Convention Standing Committee adopts guidelines on management plans for the Emerald sites and the monitoring of their implementation.
 - 11.4.2. By 2014, reporting guidelines on the management of the Emerald sites are developed and adopted by the Bern Convention Standing Committee.

- 11.4.3. By 2014, the list of endangered natural habitats requiring specific conservation measures (Res No. 4 (1996) and the list of species requiring specific habitat conservation measures (Res No. 6 (1998) are updated and amended for the whole pan European region by the Bern Convention Standing Committee.