



Convention on the Conservation
of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Standing Committee

**Recommendation No. 148 (2010) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 9 December 2010,
on the conservation of large carnivores in the Caucasus**

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

Having regard to the aims of the Convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and its natural habitats;

Wishing to promote co-existence of viable populations of large carnivores with sustained development of rural areas in appropriate regions;

Noting the great interest of the Caucasus region for large carnivores;

Aware that the drafting and implementation of Action Plans may be a useful tool to redress the situation;

Recalling its following Recommendations:

Recommendation No. 115 (2005) on the conservation and management of transboundary populations of large carnivores,

Recommendation No. 137 (2008) on population level management of large carnivores population;

Recommends that Contracting Parties to the Convention in the Caucasus region:

1. Monitor populations of large carnivores and their prey in the region, co-operating and sharing information relating to the conservation and management of shared populations of large carnivores,
2. Elaborate national action plans for all large carnivores species present in their territories, giving priority to those more threatened at the national level (ie. Armenia: lynx and bear; Azerbaijan: leopard and striped hyena; Georgia: lynx and bear; Turkey: leopard and bear),
3. Draft and implement jointly an action plan for leopard in the Caucasus,
4. Increase technical capacity in monitoring and conservation of large carnivores,
5. Launch, resources permitting, human-dimension, awareness, education and mediation programmes, aimed at knowing and improving attitudes of inhabitants and tourists to large carnivores. Develop appropriate concrete help measures for mitigation conflict with livestock farmers and hunters.
6. Fight poaching of protected large carnivores,
7. Integrate lynx conservation objectives into forestry management;

Invites Observer states to implement, where appropriate, the recommendation above.