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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

32nd meeting
Strasbourg, 27-30 November 2012

**Adopted Resolutions on the renewal of the
European Diploma of Protected Areas in 2012**

*Document
prepared by
the Directorate of Democratic Governance, Culture and Diversity*

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Appendix 1

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 1 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas Carpathian Biosphere Reserve (Ukraine)

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012 at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 on the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised Regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(97) 21 on the award of the European Diploma to the Carpathian Biosphere Reserve;

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 9-10 February 2012;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews until 30 September 2022 the European Diploma of protected areas to the Carpathian Biosphere Reserve;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. continue efforts to provide the CBR with more appropriate funding and to raise more additional funds from external sources;
2. accelerate liaison with the authorities of Romania to complete the process of establishing a transfrontier Biosphere Reserve within the next two to three years;
3. pay more attention to the elaboration and implementation of clear strategies and actions plans for the development of coordinated green activities around the CBR, working in close cooperation with the local stakeholders and in line with the presidential guidance;
4. provide the Council of Europe with adequate and details figures, information and data on the legislation concerning the wolf (*Canis lupus*) in Ukraine and the enforcement of that legislation in the country, especially with regards to the article 6 of the Bern Convention ; the State party should be urged to report on this issue to the Standing Committee of the Bern

Convention, at its next meeting, and encouraged to strengthen its efforts on reducing the poaching activities in and around the Diploma-holding area;

5. devote priority efforts to the monitoring and conservation of the European mink and to the control of the population of the American mink within the CBR;
6. follow up the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations made in the reports on inventory and monitoring, and on the challenges and solutions for the management of the CBR, published in 2008 and 2011, giving the CBR the capacity to undertake these; and
7. strengthen cooperation with the local socio-economic stakeholders, including the forest and the tourism sectors, and develop specific awareness pilot activities targeted on them; these activities should address the issue of climate change, and promote local adaptation measures to global warming, including alternative socio-economic measures, such as schemes for green tourism, carbon sequestration and payment for ecosystem services.



Appendix 2

Draft resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 2 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Muddus National Park (Sweden)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip (2008)1 on the Regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip (67) 23 on the award of the European Diploma to the Muddus National Park;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 9-10 February 2012;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Muddus National Park (Sweden) until 27 October 2022;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. provide sufficient financial and human resources, including field staff, to the new "Laponiatjoutjudus" (management board) in order to implement the new Management Plan and ensure a smooth transition from former the County management structure to the new board; and provide as soon as possible an English translation of the Management Plan;
2. continue the predators' inventories and use the results in order to help conserving the exceptional predator populations while allowing the Sami population to continue their traditional reindeer herding activities;
3. establish a centralized research database linked to a GIS for the whole Lapponia area and make the results of the research widely available for scientist and visitors;
4. continue the monitoring of the fire areas including the natural regeneration processes and design a programme to monitor the effects of climatic change;

5. assess the visitor flows and their impact both within and outside the park (ecological and economic impact);
- 6 consider linking the Muddus National Park with the Sarek and Padjelanta National Parks and other conservation areas so that the Laponia World Heritage Site becomes a single European Diploma site; and
7. reflect on the use of the different national and international designations for the area; organize a workshop with the relevant international organizations (e.g. Council of Europe, World Heritage Convention, Ramsar Convention, and National Park Service) with a view to harmonizing the reporting and monitoring requirements and the respective perimeters.



Appendix 3

Draft resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 3 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Sarek and Padjelanta National Parks (Sweden)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 on the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised Regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (67) 23 awarding the European Diploma to the Sarek and Padjelanta National Parks;

Taking into consideration the expert's report submitted to the Group of Specialists for the European Diploma of Protected Areas at its meeting on 9-10 February 2012;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Sarek and Padjelanta National Parks until 27 October 2022;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. provide sufficient financial and human resources, including field staff, to the "Laponiatjoutjudus" (management board) in order to implement the new Management Plan and ensure a smooth transition from former the County management structure to the new board; and provide as soon as possible an English translation of the new Management Plan;
2. continue the predators' inventories and use the results in order to help conserving the exceptional predator populations while allowing the Sami population to continue their traditional reindeer herding activities;
3. establish a centralized research database linked to a GIS for the whole Lapponia area and make the results of the research widely available for scientist and visitors;

4. closely monitor the use of snowmobile, motor boats and other off-road vehicles, particularly in view of controlling illegal hunting and fishing;
5. set up a system for estimating the number of visitors, their profile and distribution over the year and initiate a research programme on the long term impact of the different human activities (e.g. reindeer herding, fishing and tourism) on the landscape, and design a programme to monitor the effects of the climatic change;
6. build and equip as soon as possible the Visitor information centre in Stora Sjöfallet for the Lapponia WH site and provide specific information on the different National Parks; establish a network of smaller information points at strategic entrances into the Parks and communicate about the different categories of international designations;
7. consider linking the Sarek and Padjelanta National Parks with the Muddus National Park and other conservation areas so that the Lapponia World Heritage Site becomes a single European Diploma site; and
8. reflect on the use of the different national and international designations for the area; organize a workshop with the relevant international organizations (e.g. Council of Europe, World Heritage Convention, Ramsar Convention, and National Park Service) with a view to harmonizing the reporting and monitoring requirements and the respective perimeters.



Appendix 4

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 4 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve (Portugal)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip (2008)1 on the Regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (92) 18 awarding the European Diploma to the Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve;

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 9-10 February 2012;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve until 18 May 2022;

Notes with satisfaction the removal of the invasive exotic species;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

1. that the Portuguese Government continues to take the necessary steps to preserve the current islands status of the Selvagens Islands and to unequivocally support the Madeira Regional Government in all matters concerning the nature reserve, in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 15/86 of 21 May 1986.

Attaches the following six recommendations to the renewal:

1. continue to take all precautions to ensure that no non-native species of plants and animals are introduced;

2. continue to improve the accommodation and the radio/phone system, which provides the capacity for wardens to contact their authorities in Madeira and their families;
3. continue the studies to survey the effect of the eradication of the alien species of the flora and fauna for the next few years;
4. make efforts to eliminate the breeding of the Yellow-legged Gull (*L. m. atlantis*) on Selvagem Pequena and Ilhéu de Fora;
5. increase the awareness of the importance of the geological heritage; and
6. continue the programme of reconstruction of the remaining unrestored rubble walls.



Appendix 5

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 5 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Lüneburg Heath Nature Reserve (Germany)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised Regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (67) 23 awarding the European Diploma to the Lüneburg Heath Nature Reserve;

Taking into consideration, the expert's report submitted to the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas at its meeting on 9-10 February 2012;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Lüneburg Heath Nature Reserve until 25 October 2022;

Attaches the following thirteen recommendations to the renewal:

1. pursue a reduction, or at least a limitation to no more than the current amount, of the concession of ground-water extraction and coordinate the ground-water extraction for irrigation on farmland technically and quantitatively with the activities and infrastructures of Wasserwerke Hamburg; carry out additional studies and monitoring in order to collect more information about the influences of all kinds of water extraction on species and ecosystems; and simulation modelling should be undertaken for all factors possibly influencing the groundwater level, the soil, the streams, the different types of vegetation including forests, the biotopes of red-list-species, and the natural dynamic of the whole ecosystem;
2. pursue political recognition of the VNP's Lüneburger Heide Nature Reserve (NLH) and increase the public funding to the same level as that provided to Federal Nature Parks;
3. reconsider the ongoing practice of agricultural funding and pursue recognition of all types of heathland cultivation and all heathland restoration activities as a kind of 'green land

cultivation' with the same amount of funding, especially during the EU-funding period 2013-2020;

4. pursue the continuation of funding for the rearing of the "Heidschnucke" (Heathland sheep) by Lower Saxony and the Federal Republic and recognise the "Dülmener Pferde" (Heathland horses) as worthy of subsidy by the rear-premium of Lower Saxony;
5. develop a concept for connecting the large heathlands areas east and west of Wilsede by an ecological corridor;
6. pursue restoration of streams, their associated wetland biotopes and their buffer strips;
7. reduce areas with cultivation of energy-crops to a level that does not affect the Nature Reserve's flora, fauna, groundwater and the scenic attractions;
8. continue ecological forest management and convert mono-cropping of spruce into mixed forests including oak (*Quercus* spp.);
9. ensure that existing scientific data are included and respected in regional planning processes and also ensure that negative impacts on the Nature Reserve from outside the area's boundary are prevented; before licensing a wind farm, or any other project in the neighbourhood of the reserve, carry out sufficient and detailed studies taking into account the formulated VNP recommendations;
10. complete the data base of Lower Saxony concerning FFH-Species so that all species existing in the reserve are listed and considered in regional, national and federal planning procedures;
11. create suitable ecological corridors between the Nature Reserve and the black grouse biotopes outside the Reserve without endangering infrastructures such as like wind-turbines;
12. realize the concept of buffer zone areas with a high protection status in the neighbouring areas of the Nature Reserve; and
13. establish a corps of rangers (Naturwacht).



Appendix 6

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 6 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Swiss National Park (Switzerland)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 on the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised Regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (67) 23 awarding the European Diploma to the Swiss National Park;

Taking into consideration both the discussions held between the Secretariat, the site manager, and the advice of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Swiss National Park until 27 October 2022;

Attaches to the renewal the following six recommendations:

1. take all necessary measures to fulfil the UNESCO condition that the national park, which is the core zone of the “Biosfera Val Müstair/Parc Naziunal” biosphere reserve, be surrounded by a buffer zone;
2. ensure that staff numbers are sufficient to comply with existing requirements and grant sufficient additional resources with a view to the celebration in 2014 of the 100-year jubilee;
3. continue to raise among local inhabitants, municipalities and visitors, the awareness of the return of large carnivores, working in close cooperation with the Hunting and Fishing Department of the county of Graubünden;
4. initiate studies with the different ministries and authorities concerned on the possibilities of minimising the impact of the Pass dal Fuorn road;

5. continue the close co-operation with the neighbouring Stelvio National Park; and
6. consider the enlargement of the European Diploma area to include the whole of the Biosphere Reserve.



Appendix 7

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 7 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Krimml Waterfalls Natural site (Austria)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe;

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 on the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (67) 23 awarding the European Diploma to the Krimml Waterfalls Natural site;

Taking into consideration both the discussions held between the Secretariat, the site manager, and the advice of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Noting that the Krimml Waterfalls Natural site is located within the Hohe Tauern National Park;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Krimml Waterfalls Natural site until 27 October 2022;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. review and where necessary improve the regulations of the protected area in order to strengthen the protection status; and devote a part of the management plan of the HTNP to the Krimml waterfalls;
2. continue to take appropriate measures in order to preserve the natural beauty of this impressive natural monument for future generations;
3. avoid impacts on the high aesthetic quality of the landscape surrounding the Krimml Falls, especially in the areas around "Wasserfallboden" and "Schönangerl";
4. maintain great vigilance regarding the development close to the falls, e.g. installations or extension of shops, as well as medical care and new touristic activities (e.g. ice-climbing);
5. avoid as far as possible increasing light pollution;

6. continue to pay close attention to the problem of path erosion; and ensure that visitors only use the existing paths;
7. pursue scientific research and secure funding for studies on regional birdlife, fungi (including lichens) and bryophytes, as a contribution to protect the area's typical biodiversity; and
8. strengthen the cooperation with local stakeholders, especially landowners, the municipality, the Austrian Alpine Association (ÖAV), tourism operators and associations.



Appendix 8

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 8 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Port Cros National Park (France)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 on the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of protected areas;

Having regard to Resolution (97) 22 awarding the European Diploma to the Port Cros National Park;

Taking into consideration, the expert's report submitted to the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas at its meeting on 9-10 February 2012;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Port Cros National Park until 30 September 2022;

Attaches the following eleven recommendations to the renewal:

1. ensure that the development of the new *Grand Parc* consolidates the protection of Port Cros and that it in no way undermines such protection; and keep the relevant Committee informed about how the situation develops;
2. ensure the early implementation of formal protection for Porquerolles, with its adjoining marine area, which is a vital complement to Port Cros;
3. consolidate and co-ordinate the protection of the surrounding marine area initiated under Natura 2000, and seek a regional solution to the problem of waste water from boats;
4. actively work on enlarging the Port Cros National Park by introducing a partnership zone on the mainland and an adjacent maritime zone, and initiate the consultation procedure for drafting the Park's Charter, ensuring maximum involvement by local stakeholders;

5. continue to assess the impact of recreational activities, introduce indicators for environmental load and pressure capacity indicators in order to prevent the tolerance threshold of the land and sea habitats from being exceeded, and monitor the development and impact of new sports activities in order to regulate them as soon as they emerge; define and implement the necessary tools for achieving this objective and involving all partners in their implementation;
6. continue to monitor commercial fishing and regularly adapt the regulations and voluntary agreements with fishermen in order to ensure sustainable use of this local resource; assess the impact of angling and tailor the regulations if necessary;
7. provide visitors with more visible information on the fact that they are entering a natural protected area at the ports of entry and by displaying notices in the shuttle boats, and place greater emphasis on the European Diploma;
8. continue to monitor and control invasive alien species such as *Carpobrotus* spp., *Caulerpa taxifolia*, black rats and feral cats, and actively participate in the Mediterranean alarm network on new high-risk species;
9. involve the Park more actively and visibly in measures concerning sustainable development and moderate use of such resources as fresh water and energy;
10. clarify the formal and actual responsibilities and tasks of the National Park and those of the other local players such as the municipal, departmental and maritime authorities; and
11. promote local reappropriation of the Park by developing partnerships with local political, economic and voluntary players.



Appendix 9

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 9 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Maremma Regional Park (Italy)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 on the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of protected areas;

Having regard to Resolution (92) 17 awarding the European Diploma to the Maremma Regional Park;

Taking into consideration, the expert's report submitted to the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas at its meeting on 9-10 February 2012;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Maremma Regional Park until 18 May 2022;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. develop, in collaboration with the local authorities concerned, an approach to the management of the Ombrone by river basin, pursuant to the EU Water Framework Directive, with a view to attaining good ecological status for the watercourse within the meaning of that directive;
2. finalise the extension of the Park to include the marine environment under conditions to be decided in agreement with local players;
3. designate the Trappola (Ombrona Delta) as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention;
4. considerably increase human resources in the Park responsible for field inspections and ensure a level of funding consistent with the increasing needs of optimum management of the diploma-holding area;

5. step up technical support for local enterprises involved in developing integrated agro-environmental activities and promoting local products and services;
6. develop action plan to promote the protection and enhancement of the Park's anthropological heritage; and
7. prepare a plan for the management of the wolf population.



Appendix 10

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 10 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Abruzzi, Lazio and Molise National Park (Italy)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 on the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (67) 39 awarding the European Diploma to the Abruzzi National Park;

Taking into consideration, the expert's report submitted to the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas at its meeting on 9-10 February 2012;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Congratulates the managers of the Park for their efforts since the last renewal;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Abruzzi National Park until 26 November 2022;

Attaches the following two conditions to the renewal:

1. that the PNALM management plan be finally adopted within a maximum period of one year, i.e. before the meeting of the Group of Specialists in 2013;
2. that strenuous efforts be taken so that:
 - in pursuance of Italy's Framework Law on Protected Areas, peripheral zones are created on the territories of the Abruzzi and Molise regions by the end of 2013, and that regulations on hunting, which take account of the need to minimise disturbance to bears during the autumn, are introduced in these zones and applied with effect from, at the latest, the 2013-2014 hunting season;

- the regulations prohibiting livestock farming within zone A of the PNALM are applied absolutely and without delay, and that local elected representatives are made aware of this matter;
- consultation begins without delay with the municipal authorities of the PNALM municipalities on physical closure of those access routes to the diploma-holding area which are most critical from the viewpoint of the conservation of large animals; this consultation should lead to closure arrangements and appropriate regulations, taking account of the rights of local third parties, being adopted by the end of 2013;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. begin implementation of the PATOM action plan for the protection of the bear population as soon as possible, facilitated by the administration of the PNALM (Abruzzi, Lazio and Molise National Park);
2. continue discussions on the inclusion within the diploma-holding area of the sectors adjacent to the PNALM deemed to be of major biological interest for large carnivores, especially the brown bears and wolves;
3. complete the preparation of the economic and social development plan by the end of 2012, as scheduled by the PNALM administration, with a view to its early implementation;
4. substantially increase the human and financial resources earmarked for scientific activities in the PNALM and tailor them to the complex problems which the Park will be facing over the next few years; ensure that its general capacities are such that it can carry out its conservation and monitoring assignments appropriately;
5. consider the possibility of instructing all technical personnel to record any violations of the PNALM regulations;
6. launch discussions on the need for controlled management of red deer, linking this to improving the state of conservation of the chamois population;
7. make a special effort to support rural tourism activities around the PNALM periphery;
and
8. launch discussions with local mayors on the issue of stock and wildlife feeding.



Appendix 11

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 11 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Dobročský National Nature Reserve (Slovakia)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (98) 28 awarding the European Diploma to the Dobročský National Nature Reserve (Slovakia);

Taking into consideration the different reports sent to the secretariat by the managers of the diploma-holding area;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Dobročský National Nature Reserve until 18 September 2018;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

- pursue the process of transforming anthropogenic forests into semi-natural forests, mainly in the buffer zone of the Dobročský National Nature Reserve, in compliance with the management plan;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. promote awareness-raising activities, mainly:
 - updating the exhibition on the Dobročský National Nature Reserve in the Pred Skalickou cottage;

- in co-operation with the forestry authorities, installing the information point on the Dobročský National Nature Reserve in the Forestry Museum in the Vydrovská Valley, near Čierny Balog;
2. implement other activities listed in the management plan, particularly research and monitoring.

Appendix 12**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 12 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Tsentralno-Chernozemny Biosphere Reserve (Russian Federation)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (98) 25 awarding the European Diploma to the Tsentralno-Chernozemny Biosphere Reserve (Russian Federation);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Tsentralno-Chernozemny Biosphere Reserve until 18 September 2018;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. provide sufficient resources to ensure proper functioning of the reserve. Financial support is needed to carry out basic research and establish infrastructure for the development of ecological education, as well as for strengthening the Tsentralno-Chernozemny Biosphere Reserve protection capacity;
2. carry on systematic efforts to extend all the Reserve territories, especially their buffer zones and to establish and/or restore ecological corridors between these territories;
3. continue efforts to search for new valuable steppe territories which could be joined to Tsentralno-Chernozemny Biosphere Reserve or constitute stepping stones or ecological corridors between the existing territories of the reserve;
4. encourage further co-operation projects with international participation – such as the “Yaroslavna” project – in the sphere of nature and landscape conservation and sustainable development;

5. continue work on the optimization of territory of the Belogorye Biosphere Reserve. This reserve might be expanded through incorporation of new steppe ecosystems, which would strengthen the interest of the diploma-holding area. Possibly consider the extension of the European Diploma to the Belogorye Reserve.

Appendix 13**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 13 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve (Russian Federation)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (98) 24 awarding the European Diploma to the Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve (Russian Federation);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve until 18 September 2018;

Attaches the following conditions to the renewal:

- as the Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve has no buffer zone and the woodland north-east of the reserve has been given to logging companies, create a 200- to 300-metre wide protective zone where no felling is allowed along the boundary of the diploma area, especially the north and east boundaries of Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve;
- support the reserve in its efforts to create a system for remitting part of the money due for the water intake from the reserve. The clear water taken for municipal purposes amounts to 8 to 9 million cubic metres per year and Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve does not receive any compensation. Compensation in the form of subsidies for nature conservation should be granted to the reserve;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. continue work on optimising the Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve area, which could be expanded by incorporating unmanaged woodland along the state border and adjacent to the south and west boundaries of the reserve, including parts of the Kamennoye and Minozero lakes. In exchange for the forest tracts along the state border (sections 4 to 14 and 27 to 29), the reserve could give the local authorities the woodland adjacent to the motorway and railway as land suitable for the development of road and rail services;
2. provide sufficient resources to ensure the proper functioning of the reserve. Financial support is needed to carry out fundamental research and strengthen environmental education activities. Special funds are needed to publish a special jubilee edition to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Kostomuksha Strict Nature Reserve, and to build new tourist paths in the reserve.

Appendix 14**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 14 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park (Germany/Luxembourg)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (73) 33 awarding the European Diploma to the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park (Germany/Luxembourg);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Germano/Luxembourg Nature Park until 25 October 2018;

Attaches the following conditions to the renewal:

- at the initiative of the states concerned, resume the work of the intergovernmental committee as soon as possible;
- engage in an in-depth analysis of the mission, the medium-term objectives and future structure of the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park;
- define specifications and a road map for the drawing-up of a global management plan for the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park incorporating those of the nature parks on its territory; prepare the management plan before the next renewal of the European Diploma falls due and ensure the funding required for its implementation;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. maintain and step up consultation and collaboration between the parties concerned by the Our and Sure basins, focusing on relations between the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg and the Rhineland-Palatinate *Land*;
2. pursue public awareness-raising and information activities;
3. encourage the swift creation of the Müllerthal-Kleine Luxemburger Schweiz nature park and incorporate it as far as possible in the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park;
4. find a solution allowing aquatic fauna to pass or circumnavigate the obstacle of the Vianden hydroelectric dam;
5. maintain vigilance with regard to leisure and sporting pursuits (camping, rock-climbing, canoeing, etc.).

Appendix 15**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 15 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the volcanic phenomena of the Tihany Peninsula (Hungary)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2003)18 awarding the European Diploma to the volcanic phenomena of the Tihany Peninsula (Hungary);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the volcanic phenomena of the Tihany Peninsula until 28 May 2018;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. translate the management plan into more detailed and practical measures;
2. strongly enforce the ban on new buildings on the site;
3. pursue the planning and construction of the visitor centre near Lake Belsö;
4. continue to manage and control visitor pressure;
5. keep the balance between closed forested areas and open areas (meadows with hedges and bushes);
6. encourage farming and wine-growing practices consistent with the conservation of natural and landscape assets;
7. encourage the transfer of management rights on fishing in Lake Belsö to the Balaton Uplands National Park;

8. encourage the transfer of state properties to the Balaton Upland National Park and pursue the acquisition of private land;
9. continue to control invasive species such as the *Ailanthus*;
10. develop co-ordinated management with nearby protected areas such as the reed beds on the shore of Lake Balaton and the Külső and Felső marshes.

Appendix 16

COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
 Committee of Ministers
 Comité des Ministres

Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 16 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Matsalu National Park (Estonia)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
 at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2003)17 awarding the European Diploma to the Matsalu Nature Reserve (Estonia);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Matsalu National Park (new name) until 28 May 2018;

Attaches the following conditions to the renewal:

- the ongoing land reform process shall not in any way change the present characteristics of the national park or be detrimental to the park's biodiversity;
- maintenance of the meadows, particularly the coastal ones, shall continue to be given high priority;
- the national park's management shall have the necessary funds to continue its monitoring, enforcement and environmental education activities;
- private open land shall not be developed in any way that would be incompatible with the aims of the park;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. co-operation with farmers should continue, and where possible increase, particularly in the form of support for traditional uses like grazing or mowing;

2. the national park's management should continue to play a social role to help the local people within the park's boundaries develop activities compatible with the aims of the park, such as bird-watching, handicrafts and restoration of the historical heritage;
3. potential external threats from industry, agriculture, tourism and development should be continuously monitored and a buffer zone in which hunting is prohibited should be established around the national park;
4. continue the programme for the elimination of alien species;
5. reinforce the programme of scientific studies.

Appendix 17**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 17 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Thayatal National Park (Austria)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2003)16 awarding the European Diploma to the Thayatal National Park (Austria);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Thayatal National Park until 28 May 2018;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. as soon as the results of the study on the ecology of the Thaya River and how it is affected by the Vranov Dam operations are received, the Thayatal National Park, as well as the Podyji National Park in the Czech Republic, should undertake to translate the proposed measures into action. The ideal flow rate of 2.4 cubic metres per second already set by the Czech experts must be achieved;
2. in view of the four or five artificial sills across the Thaya, consider renaturalisation work to recreate rocky rapids over a longer stretch of the river. In terms of priority, the sill immediately upstream is most in need of improvement;
3. ensure that transfrontier projects and activities involving both the Thayatal and Podyji national parks are increasing in scope and are well funded and intensified, particularly with a view to taking essential measures on the impact of the Vranov Dam;

4. given the spontaneous establishment in the park of new species such as the otter and beaver and the current study on the wild cat, there is a need to document the presence of roving animals as fully as possible and consider the full potential of the park's habitats;
5. develop the use of the Kaja Castle ruins in the park's education programmes as an example of how historical monuments can be incorporated into education on the environment.

Appendix 18**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 18 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Bieszczady National Park (Poland)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (98) 27 awarding the European Diploma to the Bieszczady National Park (Poland);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Bieszczady National Park until 18 September 2018;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

– the government concerned shall undertake to adopt a management plan for the diploma-holding area, within no more than two years of the renewal of the period of validity;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. extend the perimeter of the diploma-holding area by including in the park the territory currently separating its two cores;
2. implement a programme to study and monitor the status and development of large predators throughout the Bieszczady National Park and the three neighbouring parks of Cisniansko-Wetlinski, Dolina Sanu and Nadsanski; recruit for the purpose a zoologist who will report on this programme to the diploma-holding area's scientific team;

3. step up co-operation between the management of the Bieszczady National Park and the municipalities with a view to forging a common vision and setting common objectives for spatial planning and development, taking account of the biological and landscape significance and sensitive nature of the sites;
4. draw on the activities and expertise of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, particularly for the application of its articles on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity (4), spatial planning (5) and forestry (7);
5. consider strengthening co-operation between the bodies directly responsible for managing the protected areas on the borders of the three neighbouring countries (Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine), based on the programming of joint activities.

Appendix 19**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 19 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Poloniny National Park (Slovakia)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (98) 26 awarding the European Diploma to the Poloniny National Park (Slovakia);

Taking into consideration, the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 17 and 18 March 2008;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Poloniny National Park until 18 September 2018;

Attaches the following conditions to the renewal:

- finalise and adopt the management plan for the park within two years of the renewal;
- start work on devising a new blueprint for forestry and hunting management in the diploma-holding area, taking greater account of the biological imperatives dictated by its European significance, within one year of the renewal. The national authorities shall supply a strategic plan for the sustainable development of the woodland during the next period of validity of the diploma and inform the Group of Specialists on the Diploma each year of the progress made. This blueprint shall include revision of the current hunting allocation in the diploma-holding area, ensuring that the functional units each cover a surface area of 3 000 to 4 000 hectares, consistent with the biology of large herbivores;
- create a functional network of protected areas during the next period of validity, meeting international standards in this area and complying with the national Law on Nature and Landscape Protection (notably sections 28 and 30);

- pursue the steps taken to purchase private forests and draw up a future purchasing plan with specific objectives, indicating the funding to be assigned to this purpose each year;
- set up a scientific programme inventorying and monitoring the large carnivore populations in the diploma-holding area; the national authorities shall submit the scientific protocol for that programme for opinion to the Group of Specialists on the Diploma within one year of the renewal;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. give the management of the diploma-holding area greater responsibility for forestry and hunting matters and involve it in the corresponding decision-making process;
2. consider the signature of a simplified agreement between the bodies directly responsible for managing the protected areas on the borders of the three neighbouring countries (Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine), based on the programming of joint activities;
3. pursue efforts to upgrade human resources, in particular by taking on more technical staff and wardens, and very substantially step up funding, at least doubling the annual ratio per hectare for the period of validity of the diploma;
4. give full protection to wolves and ban shooting them throughout the area of the national park;
5. strongly consider the designation of a hunting district within the park as a strict cynegetic reserve;
6. pursue the efforts to restore buildings in the traditional regional style; the park might devise a charter of architectural rules for local authorities;
7. start experimenting with the selective felling of beech forest in a state-owned woodland unit; the national authorities shall inform the Group of Specialists on the Diploma each year of the progress made.

Appendix 20**Resolution CM/ResDip(2012) 20 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Maritime Alps Nature Park (Italy)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 June 2012
at the 1146th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (93) 20 awarding the European Diploma to the Argentera Nature Park (Italy);

Taking into consideration the different reports sent to the secretariat by the managers of the diploma-holding area;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention;

Renews the European Diploma of Protected Areas, awarded to the Maritime Alps Nature Park (new name) until 3 May 2018;

Attaches the following conditions to this renewal:

- following the environmental impact studies carried out in the framework of the project to build a micro-hydroelectric power plant in the Meris Valley, keep watch over possible further development of the project and, if the project is to go ahead, the Council of Europe Secretariat must be immediately informed and no decision taken before a special on-the-spot appraisal has been carried out;
- the same condition for the project concerning the piping of hot spa water from Terme di Valdieri down the valley;

Attaches the following recommendations to the renewal:

1. pursue co-operation efforts to secure financial support for research work on biodiversity protection and sustainable development;

2. examine the opportunity to ensure the protection and the management of the park's adjacent areas, in particular the territory of the municipality of Vinadio and the special nature reserve of Phoenician Juniper, by setting up a "contiguous area" in accordance with the national law on protected areas (Law of 6 December 1991, No. 394), and step up, as far as possible, a territorial management project for the area;
3. organise information and awareness-raising activities for local stakeholders, particularly on sustainable tourism. Development projects, even those located outside the park boundary should be avoided if they have a potentially negative impact on the protected area, since the priority is conservation and sustainable tourism throughout the whole area;
4. pursue co-operation with Mercantour National Park (France) in order to set up a transfrontier protected area.