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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

Agenda

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

Monday, 19th September

09:30 – 10:00 Welcome and opening
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- 1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair (Ms Maka Tsereteli)**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda**
- 3. Introduction by the Secretariat and decisions of the 30th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention – Protection of natural habitats (Ms Iva Obretenova)**

10:00 – 11:00 Progress in Phase I of the Emerald Network constitution process
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- 4. Update on ongoing projects on Phase I of the Emerald Network setting-up**
 - State of progress of the Joint Council of Europe / European Union Programme for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in South Caucasus and in Central and Eastern Europe (Ms Iva Obretenova; Mr Marc Roekaerts, scientific consultant)
 - Follow-up of the Joint Programme on the setting-up of the Emerald Network in 7 countries from Central and Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus (Ms Iva Obretenova)
 - Brief reports and communications by national delegations on developments of the Emerald Network
 - Presentation of sites to be proposed to the Bern Convention Standing Committee for adoption as « Official candidate sites » (Mr Marc Roekaerts)

Coffee break

11:30 – 12:45 Entering Phase II of the Emerald Network constitution process
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- 5. Progress towards the setting-up of the Emerald Network: Entering Phase II**
 - Results of the First Preparatory Biogeographical Seminar for 6 West Balkan countries, Paris, 26-27 January 2011 (Ms Iva Obretenova; Ms Dominique Richard, EEA-ETC/BD, Marc Roekaerts, consultant)
 - Results of the Emerald technical Seminars in Norway and Switzerland, September 2011 (Ms Iva Obretenova; Mr Marc Roekaerts, consultant)
 - Conclusions of the forth technical coordination meeting between the Council of Europe and the European Environment Agency, Paris, 16-17 June 2011 (Ms Iva Obretenova, CoE; Ms Dominique Richard, EEA-ETC/BD, Mr Marc Roekaerts, consultant)
 - Harmonising the Emerald and the Natura 2000 Networks: cooperation between the EU, CoE and ETC/BD (Ms Iva Obretenova; Mr Marc Roekaerts, consultant; Ms Dominique Richard, EEA-ETC/BD)

Discussion

Lunch break

14:15 – 17:00 The Emerald Network: entering Phase II (cont.)

- Status of the new version of Res. 4 (1996) (Mr Marc Roekaerts, consultant)
- EEA Seminar on “The future of EUNIS” (Mr Marc Roekaerts, consultant; Ms Dominique Richard, EEA-ETC/BD)
- Draft Interpretation manual Resolution 4 (Ms Dominique Richard, EEA-ETC/BD; Mr Marc Roekaerts, consultant)

- Status of proposed new species and habitats to be added to Bern Convention lists and Information Form for species and habitats (Mr Marc Roekaerts, consultant, Dominique Richard, ETC/BD)
- Follow-up of the Emerald Calendar 2020 (Ms Iva Obretenova)

Discussion

Coffee break during the session

17:00 – 17:15 Awareness and visibility

- The Emerald brochure and the video presentation of the Joint Council of Europe / European Union Programme for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in South Caucasus and in Central and Eastern Europe (Ms Iva Obretenova)

17:15 – 17:30 Closing of the first day

<i>A dinner booking will be made in an Alsatian restaurant (at 8pm) to help those wishing to get together in the evening. More information will be given during the meeting.</i>
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<i>Please note that this is not an invitation from the Council of Europe.</i>

Tuesday, 20th September

9:30 – 10:30 Ecological Networks and Protected Areas in other fora

6. Information on recent European meetings and initiatives of interest for the Group

- Work of other related Council of Europe Group of Experts of the Bern Convention:
 - Invasive Alien Species: Guidelines for Protected Areas and IAS (Mr Andrea Monaco)
 - Biodiversity and Climate Change (Ms Ivana d'Alessandro)
 - European Island Biological Diversity (Mr Eladio Fernandez-Galiano)
- Informal Meeting of EU Nature Directors, 7-10 June 2011 (Ms Ivana d'Alessandro)

7. The Aichi targets on protected areas and EU 2020 Strategy on biodiversity

- The Bern Convention contribution (Presentation by the Secretariat and discussion)

Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 Implementing the Pan-European Ecological Network

8. Other initiatives of interest for the Pan-European Ecological Network

- Green Infrastructure initiative and EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy (Mr Marco Fritz, European Commission, apologies)
- Ardilla project: ecological connectivity of forests in Spain (Mr Ricardo Fraile, apologies)
- Barents Region Protected Areas Network, BPAN (Ms Anna Kuhmonen, Finnish Environment Institute)
- The new Natura 2000 biogeographical process (Ms Dominique Richard, EEA-ETC/BD)

Discussion

Lunch break

14:00 – 16:45 Tacking stock on the PEEN and future strategic development

9. Future priorities of PEEN: challenges and opportunities

- General conclusions of the study PEEN: taking stock, 2007 (Mr Hervé L  thier)
- Future strategic development of PEEN: options (Dr Lawrence Jones-Walters, ECNC)
- Conclusions of the Scientific Conference "Geographic basis of the Ecological Networks establishment in Russia and the Eastern Europe", the Russian Federation (Mr Nikolai Sobolev)

Discussion

Coffee break during the session

16:45 – 17:30 Next steps and future work

10. Future work of the Group of Experts

11. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Group of Experts

12. Any other business

13. Closing