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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

36th meeting Strasbourg, 15-18 November 2016

FOLLOW-UP OF CASE FILES

- REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION -

Document prepared by Directorate B – Nature, Biodiversity and Land Use, ENV.B.2 – Biodiversity European Commission

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL ENVIRONMENT Directorate D – Natural Capital ENV D2 - Biodiversity

> Brussels, ENV D2/AD/fc ares(2016)

Ms Iva Obretenova

Secretary of the Bern Convention

Directorate of Democratic Governance, Culture and Diversity Directorate General II Council of Europe

iva.obretenova@coe.int

Subject: Follow-up of case files under the Bern Convention

Dear Ms Obretenova,

Following your request of 6 June 2016, and in view of the meeting of the Bureau of the Standing Committee under the Bern Convention on 5-6 September 2016, please find attached the European Commission's updates on the queried case files.

Yours sincerely,

Stefan Leiner Head of Unit

Enclosure: update on case files

Cc: Nicola Notaro, Micheal O'Briain, Fotios Papoulias, Ioannis Couniniotis, Sylvia Barova (DG ENV)

FOLLOW-UP OF CASE FILES (JULY 2016)

1. Complaint No. 2004/2: Bulgaria: Wind farms in Balchik and Kaliakra – Via Pontica

In its judgement of 14 January 2016¹, the Court of Justice of the European Union ruled against Bulgaria in case number C-141/14 brought by the European Commission against the country over its failure to protect unique habitats and important species in the Kaliakra special protection area at the Black Sea coast.

The European Commission is currently in dialogue with the Bulgarian national authorities about the implementation of the court judgement.

3. Complaint No 2010/5: Greece: Threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparissias

The Advocate General of the Court of Justice of the European Union issued her conclusions on case number C-504/14 on 18^{th} of February 2016^2 . The Court ruling is currently awaited.

1

http://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?text=&docid=173520&pageIndex=0&doclang=en&mo de=lst&dir=&occ=first&part=1&cid=898545

² <u>http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:62014CC0504</u>