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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

30rd Meeting
Strasbourg, 6-9 December 2010

EUROPEAN DIPLOMA OF PROTECTED AREAS

**ADOPTED
RESOLUTIONS**

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Ministers' Deputies CM Documents

CM(2010)

Meeting, 16 September 2010

Sustainable Development

Standing Committee of the Bern Convention Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas (T-PVS/DE)

Contents

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Appendix 1 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 1 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Teberda National Biosphere Reserve (Russian Federation) |
| Appendix 2 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 2 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Oka National Biosphere Reserve (Russian Federation) |
| Appendix 3 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 3 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and Massaciuccoli (Italy) |
| Appendix 4 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 4 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Podyjí National Park (Czech Republic) |
| Appendix 5 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 5 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve (Czech Republic) |
| Appendix 6 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 6 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve (Belarus) |
| Appendix 7 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 7 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Berchtesgaden National Park (Germany) |
| Appendix 8 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 8 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the De Weerribben Nature Reserve (the Netherlands) and to its extension to the De Wieden Nature Reserve |
| Appendix 9 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 9 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Boschplaat Nature Reserve (the Netherlands) |
| Appendix 10 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 10 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area (United Kingdom) |
| Appendix 11 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 11 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Scandola Nature Reserve (France) |
| Appendix 12 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 12 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve (Italy) |
| Appendix 13 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 13 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Doñana National Park (Spain) |
| Appendix 14 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 14 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Ecrins National Park (France) |
| Appendix 15 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 15 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Ipolytarnóc Protected Area (Hungary) |
| Appendix 16 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 16 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Szénás Hills Protected Area (Hungary) |
| Appendix 17 | Resolution ResDip(2010) 17 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania) |

The Bureau of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention met on 29 March 2010 in Strasbourg. The Secretariat has informed the Bureau of the conclusions drawn by the Group of Specialists for the European Diploma of Protected Areas at its meeting on 4 and 5 March 2010.

The Bureau examined the draft resolutions concerning the award and the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the awarded areas, as set out in the table of contents, and decided to submit the attached resolutions to the Committee of Ministers for possible adoption.

The Committee of Ministers is invited to adopt the draft resolutions on the award and on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas (appendices 1-18) submitted by the Bureau of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention.

Appendix 1

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 1 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Teberda National Biosphere Reserve (Russian Federation)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised Regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (94) 23 on the award of the European Diploma to the Teberda National reserve (Russian Federation);

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 4 and 5 March 2010,

Renews until 5 September 2019 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Teberda National Biosphere Reserve (Russian Federation);

Attaches the following three conditions to the renewal:

1. the tourist facilities in the protected area near Dombay will be neither extended nor developed. The co-operation between the reserve manager and the company running the tourist facilities on joint technical projects should be supported;
2. it will continue to be prohibited to drop off skiers by helicopter;
3. any regionalisation or privatisation measures must in no way adversely affect the reserve's current protected status

Attaches the following six recommendations to the renewal:

1. the management plan should be finalised and implemented;
2. every effort should be made to provide the reserve with the funding required to maintain and, if possible, improve its functioning;
3. information and education activities should continue to be further developed as far as possible. The new museum in Teberda should serve as a showcase of the reserve's exceptional heritage value;
4. scientific research activities should be pursued and any results that have environmental management purposes should be published. The reserve's management should be given the necessary means to facilitate access of scientists and foreign visitors to the work of the diploma site in the appropriate languages;
5. co-operation with the nature conservation authorities in Georgia should be pursued and stepped up with a view to creating a transfrontier protected area;
6. the authorities should ensure that the Caucasus Polygon, which was officially established in February 2010, becomes effective.

Appendix 2

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 2 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Oka National Biosphere Reserve (Russian Federation)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (94) 24 on the award of the European Diploma to the Oka national biosphere reserve (Russian Federation);

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 4 and 5 March 2010,

Renews until 5 September 2019 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Oka National Biosphere Reserve;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

any regionalisation or privatisation measures must not affect the reserve's current protected status;

Attaches the following five recommendations to the renewal:

1. to continue the efforts made over the last five years to provide the awarded area with sufficient resources to ensure the proper conduct of scientific research;

2. to conserve habitats of the Russian Desman population:

- the reserve should be extended south-eastwards in the Lopata zone, as far as the river Pra in order to include some typical water meadow habitats not yet represented in the reserve, a number of oxbow lakes and a portion of the Oka river bank;
- the prime Desman habitats, currently located near but outside the diploma-holding area, should also be incorporated into the Diploma site;

Furthermore, efforts should be made to encourage the handover to the Oka National Biosphere Reserve of the hay meadows located on the left bank of the Pra, to the south of grid squares 169 to 171 in the central forest section;

3. adequate resources should be provided for the purpose of raising the level of public education and information and developing links with local communities, while making full use of the reserve's assets and the large amount of available scientific data. Additional efforts should be made by the authorities with a view to making suitable educational material available, particularly to a young audience;

4. the measures to regenerate habitats of the Desman in the Oka plain should be continued;

5. a management plan for the reserve should be produced and implemented as soon as possible.

Appendix 3

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 3
on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas
awarded to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and Massaciuccoli (Italy)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regards to Resolution ResDip(2005)16 on the award of the European Diploma to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and Massaciuccoli (Italy);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 4 and 5 March 2010;

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

Renews until 15 June 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and Massaciuccoli;

Attaches the following 10 recommendations to the renewal:

1. care should be taken to ensure that new activities or developments do not harm either the natural or landscape heritage;
2. the deer- and boar-culling measures should be continued;
3. consideration should be given to nature conservation in water management, especially when implementing hydrological measures;
4. more active consideration should be given to natural assets in the management of areas outside the nature reserves, especially in forest and agricultural areas;
5. the implementation of measures to minimise the negative impact of risks to the Massaciuccoli Lake, especially from pollution caused by agriculture, should be speeded up and further efforts made to improve the quality of the lake's water;
6. the measures to better protect coastal dunes and to raise awareness of their importance should be continued and strengthened;
7. the efforts to combat invasive exotic species should be continued;
8. use should be made of every opportunity to improve wildlife crossing corridors under or over roads and railways;
9. noise pollution in recreation areas should be minimised;
10. the process of relocating craft activities to the area around Massaciuccoli Lake should be completed.

Appendix 4

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 4 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Podyjí National Park (Czech Republic)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2000)14 on the award of the European Diploma to the Podyjí National Park (Czech Republic);

Taking into consideration the expert's report as presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists for the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 4 and 5 March 2010;

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

Renews until 20 June 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Podyjí National Park;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. ensure, in collaboration with the operator of the hydroelectric power station at Vranov, that the negative amplitudes in the flow regime from the dam sluices are reduced and that a minimum residual flow-rate is guaranteed;
2. secure the adoption and implementation of the management plan for the period 2010-19;
3. control the development of leisure activities, and in particular avoid the use of the river Dyje for water sports;
4. intensify co-operation with the Thayatal National Park to harmonise the fishing regulations within the two parks and reduce the negative effects of fishing in the core zones;
5. develop relations with municipalities and the local community in order to encourage sustainable management of their land within the national park in line with the principles and rules laid down in the management plan;
6. pursue and improve the management of agricultural areas, particularly in the buffer zones;
7. grant funding to public authorities for water supply and purification within the park's perimeter;
8. undertake research on the influence of the artificial barriers on the ecosystem of the Dyje River; mitigation measures on the riparian ecosystems should be adopted.

Appendix 5

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 5 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve (Czech Republic)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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)1on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2000)15 on the award of the European Diploma to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve (Czech Republic);

Taking into consideration the expert's report as presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists for the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 4 and 5 March 2010;

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

Renews until 20 June 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve;

Attaches the following six recommendations to the renewal:

1. continue the restoration of non-forested areas of forest steppes and xerophilous calcareous grasslands through appropriate management; make funding available to conclude contractual agreements with the goatherds and/or shepherds in order to guarantee grazing, and thereby maintenance, in the long term;
2. continue the restoration of the broad-leaved forests, by gradually eliminating conifer plantations; in the interests of allowing natural regeneration, avoid reintroducing non-native game species such as mouflon or fallow deer;
3. make it compulsory to draw up land-use plans (spatial development) and explore the possibility of reinforcing the special legal competences of the reserve's staff and other authorities responsible for nature conservation; also stimulate the establishment of regular consultation procedures with relevant local and regional authorities, scientists and NGOs;
4. improve signposting, including by translating the texts into English and possibly into German and by displaying the European Diploma logo on the signs;
5. stimulate the development of high-quality visitors' centres and organise environmental education for the wider public; encourage local authorities to disseminate information on the merits of the nature reserve and its position in Europe in appropriate places (such as railway stations, camping sites, municipal halls, museums, etc.).
6. ensure that the necessary budget and resources are available for the manifold functions and operational tasks of the reserve's staff, including administration, research, surveillance, education and training as well as habitat management.

Appendix 6

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 6 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve (Belarus)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (95) 19 on the award of the European Diploma to the Berezinsky State Reserve (Belarus);

Taking into consideration the expert's report as presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists for the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 4 and 5 March 2010;

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

Renews until 11 September 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

the protection regime and ownership of the land should be kept unchanged;

Attaches the following five recommendations to the renewal:

1. sufficient resources need to be generated both by the government and by the reserve to protect effectively the biodiversity resources and to continue scientific research. In addition to extra-budgetary sources of income, other sources should be tapped especially in co-operation with NGOs such as Okhova Ptushak Beloarusi (Belarusian BirdLife) and the WWF;

2. further efforts should be taken to prevent negative effects from the fragmentation of the reserve by the M3 road, and to preserve the integrity of the core area;

3. further study of the dynamics of the mammal populations, animal movements and fauna migration between the core and the buffer zones should be carried out to follow the progress of the effects of hunting on the current situation and manage the populations accordingly;

4. continue with the efforts between the appropriate ministries to ensure that the development of tourism is well controlled;

5. in order to mitigate possible risks and hazards connected with climatic changes and possible large-scale disturbances on the reserve, the study programme on these topics should be continued.

Appendix 7

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 7 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Berchtesgaden National Park (Germany)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (90) 14 on the award of the European Diploma to the Berchtesgaden National Park (Federal Republic of Germany);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 4 and 5 March 2010;

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

Renews until 18 June 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Berchtesgaden National Park;

Makes the renewal subject to the following nine recommendations:

1. prepare and adopt by 2012 a new management plan including quantitative objectives to be reached during the following period, and to this effect provide the necessary financial and human resources;
2. include in the plan provision for continuing a comprehensive long-term research programme, in close collaboration with other alpine protected areas and other relevant networks;
3. prepare sectoral plans for activities and the use of resources that are compatible with conservation objectives, as integrated parts of the new management plan and taking into account the background of climate change; special attention should be given to:
 - a. military activities;
 - b. recreation and the promotion of nature tourism, in co-operation with the mountain guide organisation; providing specific training courses for the guides;
 - c. visitor infrastructures, trail marking, usage and maintenance of mountain huts;
 - d. mountain grazing during the summer, including water supply;
 - e. water resources management, taking into account the needs of the surrounding communities;
4. pursue consequently the transformation of spruce forests into mixed forests until the integration of the intervention zone into the core area is finalised;
5. continue targeted interventions to control the bark beetle proliferation, but without enlarging the bark beetle management zone, and maintain wildlife pressure at an acceptable level;
6. anticipate and foster the natural return of large carnivores in the park area and communicate with the public about the benefits this may bring; develop a strategy and action plan to deal with this issue, including cattle protection measures and the training of shepherds;
7. pursue the collaboration with the Austrian administration (Amt der Salzburger Landesregierung) and the Nature Park, develop synergies with the Berchtesgadener Alps Biosphere Reserve and the Natura 2000 network; promote exchanges of best management practices with other alpine protected areas;

8. build and equip the park centre "Haus der Berge"; secure the personnel resources to fully realise its potential as a source of information, as an education centre and for the promotion of the park's goods and services;

9. further promote the development of the public transportation system within the park and adjacent protected territories; develop a strategy to reduce the private vehicle traffic to and within the park.

Appendix 8

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 8
on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas
awarded to the De Weerribben Nature Reserve (the Netherlands) and to its extension to the De Wieden Nature Reserve**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (95) 20 on the award of the European Diploma to the De Weerribben Nature Reserve (Netherlands);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas on 4 and 5 March 2010;

Taking note of the application presented by the Government of the Netherlands for the De Wieden Nature Reserve;

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

Renews until 11 September 2015 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the De Weerribben Nature Reserve;

Resolves to combine the De Weerribben and De Wieden nature reserves in a single European Diploma site;

Makes the renewal subject to the following condition:

in view of the important enlargement of the diploma area, a joint management plan will be implemented, within the framework of the national park, within five years;

Makes the renewal subject to the following seven recommendations:

1. continue the efforts to establish a broader physical connection of the De Weerribben and the De Wieden reserves by further transforming the Wetering polders into marshland or extensive meadows; also extend the connection along the "wet axis" between the Rottige Meente and Staphorster Veld;
2. consider modifying the road N333 that crosses the corridor between the reserves to mitigate its barrier effect;
3. transform the "visitors management plan" into strict guidelines and binding regulations for all authorities and stakeholders concerned; persist in the permanent monitoring of recreation in order to collect relevant data for future assessments of the impact on nature;
4. carefully investigate potential alternatives for reducing the pressure caused by intensive recreational boating on the Kalenberger Gracht and related facilities; also verify that the tranquillity of designated quiet zones is respected by the public;
5. continue the processes of changing traditional exploitations of commercial reeds into ecologically sound and sustainable reeds management (in line with recommendation 6 of Resolution ResDip(2005)15);

6. develop up-to-date regulations concerning fisheries (zoning, activities and tools) that are compatible with the core nature conservation function of the reserve, in line with the Natura 2000 requirements; also ensure the development of a fish stock management plan covering all species;
7. ensure the availability of habitats for breeding, foraging and rest of bird species (especially the red-listed *Circus aeruginosus* and *Ardea purpurea*), notably the feeding grounds between the De Weerribben reserve and Staphorster Veld; ensure that this open area becomes fully safeguarded from negative developments, such as the intensification of agriculture and the lowering of polder water levels, the establishment of wind farms, the extension of industry, the construction of sports and recreation facilities, or housing, etc.

Appendix 9

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 9 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Boschplaat Nature Reserve (the Netherlands)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (70) 25 on the award of the European Diploma to the Boschplaat Nature Reserve (the Netherlands);

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

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

Renews until 30 June 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Boschplaat Nature Reserve;

Makes the renewal subject to the following five recommendations:

1. sufficient financial resources need to be available on an ongoing basis in order to safeguard the interests of the Boschplaat's natural environment, especially monitoring, staff, public relations and communication;
2. measures should be taken to restore the original dynamics in the eastern part of the reserve. The present function of the "Stuifdijk" (artificial sand dike) should be taken into consideration. New insights based on recent scientific research on restoring natural dynamics should be included in the management plan, including the consequences of the current rise in sea levels;
3. communication with all those involved in the measures to be taken (which are still being contested locally) requires maximum attention and the deployment of the necessary resources;
4. annual shipping incidents in the North Sea to the north of the Boschplaat are a real concern for both people and the natural environment. Better guarantees of safety with regard to the transport of hazardous substances and oil should be instituted;
5. the number of motorised vehicles on the beach should be reduced.

Appendix 10

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 10 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area (United Kingdom)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (85) 14 on the award of the European Diploma to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area (United Kingdom);

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

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

Renews until 21 September 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

in recognition of the internationally important seabird colonies and associated marine environment currently experiencing severe pressure, the United Kingdom and Scottish governments should use the powers invested in them through the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 to establish the protected marine area which has been called for in successive diploma renewals. A new protected marine area should be in conformity with the Fair Isle Marine Action Plan (FIMP);

Attaches the following two recommendations to the renewal:

1. the needs and aspirations of the local community as detailed in the FIMP should be fully taken into account, as should the fragile socio-economic situation;
2. all efforts should be made to solve the problem of the disposal of plastic in general and agricultural baling plastic in particular.

Appendix 11

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 11 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Scandola Nature Reserve (France)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (85) 11 on the award of the European Diploma to the Scandola Nature Reserve (France);

Taking into consideration both the discussions held between the Secretariat, the members of the scientific Committee, the site manager as well as the advice of the Group of Specialists of the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

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

Renews until 21 September 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Scandola Nature Reserve;

Attaches the following two conditions to the renewal:

1. undertake between now and 2012 the planned extension of the marine part of the Scandola Nature Reserve, which should mean a significant enlargement of the site and more specifically of the integral section of the reserve. This project could be included in the works done in the framework of the implementation of the 2006 Law on National Parks, Natural Marine Parks and Natural Regional Parks and/or thoughts carried out within the regional analysis of Natura 2000 marine sites.

In the meantime, take steps to reduce the impact of mooring on the *Posidonia* beds.

2. introduce stricter rules in order to better control tourism-related activities, especially nautical activities, which cause major disturbance to species, in particular certain fish species and osprey, and to anticipate the impact of new economic activities; impose an immediate ban on jet skiing in the reserve, whether supervised or unsupervised;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. complete, by the end of 2011 at the latest, and implement as soon as possible, the new management plan and include recommendations and objectives for effective monitoring of new, emerging and existing activities;

2. continue the efforts already made in order to provide the manager with the necessary funds to manage the site in an ambitious manner commensurate with its reputation and outstanding character; increase the operating budget and the scientific research budget;

3. move towards an increase of the Barnier tax (the revenues from which are used to finance the management of protected marine sites) through a review of the tax; this could include extending it to everyone who visits the site, increasing the amount of the tax, changing the way it is collected and/or monitoring the number of visitors carried by boat trip operators;

4. continue to draw on the work of the scientific committee, in order to manage the site in an effective way; continue to ensure that the reserve serves as a reference point by including it in international programmes;

5. deepen and widen research – especially on climate change, which has an impact on animal communities and ecosystems, both marine and terrestrial; publish the methods and findings in order to contribute to providing solutions to environmental problems in the Mediterranean;
6. allow only fishing with highly selective gear and introduce medium- or long-term bans on trammel nets in areas populated by deep-water stands of *Cystoseira* and other species, at depths of between 30 and 90 metres, and any other fishing gear (present or future) that has an unsustainable impact on marine ecosystems;
7. maintain and raise the awareness of the need to respect the environment in the Scandola reserve among boat trip operators; any operators which fail to do so before a certain date should not be allowed into the integral section of the reserve.

Appendix 12

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 12 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve (Italy)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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/RedDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (85) 12 on the award of the European Diploma to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve (Italy);

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

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

Renews until 21 September 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. implement the management plan for the Casentino Forests National Park and reinforce co-operation with the national park in order to co-ordinate all the activities, especially in terms of research;
2. the nature reserve should continue to stand out as the reference for nature protection in the region;
3. care should be taken to ensure that the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve and the adjacent biogenetic reserves continue to be managed as a cohesive whole;
4. special attention should continue to be given to protecting Monte Falco in order to avoid, in particular, the construction of any new ski slopes;
5. the necessary funding should be provided in order to maintain the very high standard of scientific research;
6. any further damage in the buffer zone, such as the laying of new roads or significant improvement work on the ski slopes should be avoided;
7. the number of visits should not be increased and they should be restricted to researchers and people with a genuine interest in the site;
8. the possibility of extending the European Diploma to include the biogenetic reserves should be studied.

Appendix 13

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 13 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Doñana National Park (Spain)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (95) 13 concerning the award of the European Diploma to the Doñana National Park (Spain);

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

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

Renews until 21 September 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Doñana National Park;

Attaches the following two conditions to the renewal:

1. the Spanish authorities should continue to take all necessary measures to ensure that the Port of Sevilla development projects have no significant environmental impact on the Doñana ecosystems. Any decision should be conditioned by the results of a complementary study to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report;

2. the Andalusian Government, responsible for the management of the national park and also for water management, should ensure the high quality of water entering the national park and eliminate the illegal extraction of groundwater; in accordance with the Water Framework Directive, it should monitor the status of the aquifer underlying the national park and surrounding lands, the extent of groundwater extraction and the water quality;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. all efforts should be made to restore the good ecological state of the river at the level of its catchment (river basin or water basin), within the meaning of the Water Framework Directive. All appropriate measures should be taken in order to make water use and other activities, especially agricultural activities, in this catchment (basin) compatible with this aim;

2. a specific emergency plan for the Doñana National Park should be prepared and a map of natural risks should be drawn up;

3. the implementation of the action plans for the conservation of the flagship species, in particular the Iberian lynx and the Imperial eagle, should be actively pursued; new action plans for other threatened species should be drawn up if needed;

4. concerning the Port of Sevilla development projects, the Spanish authorities should avail itself of the best international scientific expertise and also take account of the relevant international conventions, such as the Ramsar Convention, the World Heritage Convention and the Bern Convention, and work closely with the relevant international bodies, including the European Commission and the European Environment Agency;

5. the updating of the management plan should be started in 2011;

6. the extension of the Doñana 2005 Project to riparian vegetation, correcting erosion problems or extending its scope to adjacent areas of agricultural marsh should be undertaken;

7. the possibility of developing co-operation with other European Diploma sites which are deltas, such as the Camargue National Reserve (France) or the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania), should be explored.

Appendix 14

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 14 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Ecrins National Park (France)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (90) 15 awarding the European Diploma to the Ecrins National Park (France);

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

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

Renews until 17 July 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Ecrins National Park;

Attaches the following 10 recommendations to the renewal:

1. partnerships with the park's local authorities, intermunicipal bodies and local area plans should be strengthened in order to develop the necessary synergies for implementing a model policy for preserving the heritage with a view to sustainable development;
2. the mechanisms for the continuous reporting, cataloguing and dissemination of heritage data should be improved, with particular attention being paid to cultural data and data relating to local know-how and any expertise developed by the park authorities and its partners under the charter should be reported;
3. the park's role as an environmental watchdog should be established, within networks of institutional partners, in response to the need to permanently monitor changes associated with global warming;
4. further efforts should be made, in association with local players, to develop partnerships, emphasising the methodological support, evaluation and technical support tasks of the national park, with a view to ensuring that activities are environmentally integrated;
5. closer partnerships should be forged with the national forestry department, the local forestry authorities and the managers of privately owned forests (CRPF) to encourage more effective information sharing and the practice of exemplary multifunctional forestry management;
6. efforts should be made to improve existing methods and tools for monitoring the physiognomy of the local area as well as awareness-raising tools, notably with a view to identifying areas of future work and alerting local players to major changes in the landscape;
7. close attention should be paid to the development of various forms of leisure and sporting activities, for example through better monitoring of numbers of visitors and by encouraging users to adopt practices that are more respectful of species and habitats;
8. efforts should be made to monitor motorised and non-motorised flights over the core section of the park and to control the need for helicopter transport by holding discussions with mountain stockbreeders, owners and operators of mountain huts about the need to reduce the impact on species and the environment in the areas concerned;

9. co-operation and solidarity measures geared towards rural communities should be pursued in connection with the national strategy in order to better reconcile the return of major predators with stock-keeping activities;

10. the charter should be finalised, and then the charter itself as well as the conventions and programmes adopted under it should be periodically assessed and adjustments made if necessary.

Appendix 15

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 15 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Ipolytarnóc Nature Conservation Area (Hungary)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (95) 17 on the award of the European Diploma to the Ipolytarnóc Protected Area (Hungary);

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

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

Renews until 11 September 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Ipolytarnóc Protected Area;

Attaches the following five recommendations to the renewal:

1. recognising the site's high potential for further discoveries of geological interest, research – especially the palaeontological excavations – should continue; all appropriate measures should be taken to preserve and, if possible, exhibit the natural resources; the results of scientific research should be made publicly available;
2. the site should take an active role in the management of the Slovak-Hungarian transborder Novohrad-Ngrd Geopark in order to preserve and interpret the natural assets of the region, and to become a focal, multilingual information point for geotourism;
3. the entrance to the protected area should have an appropriate gateway displaying information in order to control tourism within the site and the buffer zone; the buildings along the geological trail should be further integrated into the landscape; the power line that runs between the village and the visitor centre should be replaced with an underground cable;
4. gradual replacement of the exotic trees with indigenous species should be continued, by assisting the natural succession process, through ecologically sensitive land management practices; the control of game – causing considerable damage to vegetation and protected animal species – should be continued;
5. the balance between open spaces and wooded areas on the western side of the conservation area, close to the nearby settlement, should be maintained to preserve the mosaic structure of the landscapes there.

Appendix 16

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 16 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Szénás Hills Protected Area (Hungary)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution (95) 18 on the award of the European Diploma to the Szénás Hills Protected Area (Hungary);

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

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

Renews until 11 September 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Szénás Hills Protected Area;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. the management of the area should be carried out in close co-operation by the Danube-Ipoly National Park Directorate and the Pilis Forest Company; the activities of the finished LIFE Programme, such as the conversion of black pine forests, reduction of game populations, visitor management, guarding and monitoring should be continued jointly; the area should be provided with human and financial resources commensurate with the site's national and European importance;
2. inside and near the area, permission should be given only for such game population management operations as are strictly consonant with the nature conservation objectives assigned to the area, particularly as regards eradication of the mouflon and reduction of the populations of large herbivores to a level compatible with the preservation of the dolomitic grasslands and natural woodlands; these population control operations should be planned on the basis of accurate population monitoring;
3. the fence enclosing the protected area must be maintained in good condition to prevent technical sport activities from encroaching upon it, and also to raise the effectiveness of game population regulation;
4. visitor reception capacity should be increased by organising guided tours outside the most sensitive zones, to make the public more aware of the importance of preserving the habitats in the area; measures should be taken to prevent motor vehicles from crossing the area; the visitor centre at Pilisszentiván should be restored and modernised;
5. regulations must be worked out for horse-riding paths in the area; also, a mountain bike trail should be designated, so as to avoid the fenced and strictly protected area;
6. the protected landscape status of the two areas adjoining the special protection area, which were also the subject of the diploma application, should be maintained to keep them functioning properly as buffer zones; construction in these areas should not be allowed;
7. urbanisation pressure must be handled properly; any new development plans of Nagykovácsi, Pilisszentiván and Piliscsaba should be examined carefully;

8. co-operation with volunteers (schools, non-governmental organisations, local governments, scouts) must be continued, as well as with local residents, police and civil guards.

Appendix 17

Resolution CM/ResDip(2010) 17 on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 September 2010
at the 1091e 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 revised regulations for the European Diploma of Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2000)12 on the award of the European Diploma to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania);

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

Taking into account the Recommendation No. 111 (2004) of the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, adopted on 3 December 2004, on the proposed navigable waterway through the Bystroe Estuary (Danube Delta, Ukraine);

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

Renews until 20 June 2020 the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve;

Attaches the following 12 recommendations to the renewal:

1. the process of co-ordinating the ecological management of the delta system with the three countries concerned – Moldova, Romania and Ukraine – should be continued and strengthened and the possibility of establishing a cross-border protected area should be considered in the framework of the trilateral agreement signed by the three countries concerned under the auspices of the Council of Europe;
2. the possibility of reactivating the co-operation between other European Diploma sites which are deltas (Camargue National Reserve (France), Doñana National Park (Spain)) should be explored;
3. the monitoring of the ecological services and of the socio-economic activities carried out on the reserve (fishing, hunting, shipping, agriculture, forestry, logging, tourism) should be strengthened, in relation with the carrying capacity of the natural ecosystems and the value of the reserve; special attention should be paid to the shipping activities (movement of boats and speeding), as well as to illegal fishing and hunting.
4. potential external threats should be continually monitored, especially the likely adverse transboundary impact on the ecosystem of the whole delta of the works related to the Bystroe canal in the Ukrainian sector;
5. the usefulness of banning hunting, or of managing hunting on a demonstrably sustainable basis, on the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (especially in the most sensitive areas) should be studied;
6. a system for better management of natural fisheries resources should be explored, for the benefit of the local people, in order to reduce the categories and number of intermediary actors/stakeholders; the fish resources should be managed by the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority;

7. information concerning access of boats to vulnerable parts of the reserve should be made readily available to the public;
8. the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve authority should continue to bring technical and financial assistance to the local populations, municipalities and private operators in different fields (land planning, water supplies, sewage treatment), and assist with information on organising and developing activities compatible with the aims of the reserve, such as ecotourism, bird watching and handicrafts;
9. the restoration programme of the existing buildings should be continued, using traditional materials and natural local products; the cultural value of the reserve, especially the different ethnic roots of the populations, should be enhanced with the engineering and technical input of specialised institutes;
10. an external review and assessment of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve's Conservation Strategy (for example, priorities, management objectives, operational objectives and financial requirement) should be organised in 2010, ten years after its declaration, with the support of international expertise;
11. the necessary funding should be provided in order to improve the capacities/performance of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority; a feasibility study on the creation of a financial mechanism should be undertaken so that all commercial activities and uses (not only tourist activities) contribute to the financing of the reserve;
12. the adoption of the legal framework (master plan, Law on the Danube Delta, Law on the Protected Areas) should be accelerated.
13. noting that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedure is in operation, the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority should continue to analyse carefully the requests for new wind farms in the neighborhood of the reserve;