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1 July 2015

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

8th Meeting of the Group of Experts on the Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles

1-2 July 2015
Bern (Switzerland)

AGENDA

*Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by
the Directorate of Democratic Governance*



Bern Convention Group of Experts on the Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles

Bern, Switzerland (1-2 July 2015)

DRAFT AGENDA

DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY 2015

09H30 – 18H00

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr Richard Podloucky, Chair of the Group of Experts

Ms Sarah PEARSON PERRET, Head of Section, Office fédéral de l'environnement, des forêts et du paysage (OFEV)

Ms Ivana d'Alessandro, Secretary of the Bern Convention

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. Updates on Amphibians and Reptiles' work in other fora

➤ **Outcomes of the 5th Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles**

Mr Luis Cardona, President, of the 5th Mediterranean Conference on Sea Turtles

➤ **Update on S.E.H. – C.C. most recent work**

Dr Tony Gent, Chair Conservation Committee, Societas Europaea Herpetologica

10H40 – 11H00 COFFEE BREAK

➤ **Herpetofauna Conservation and Transport Defragmentation in Europe**

Dr Silviu Petrovan Conservation Coordinator, European Network for the Protection of Amphibians and Reptiles from Transport Systems (ENPARTS)

Discussion

4. Reports of Parties on national activities and initiatives on the conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles

5. Taking the past to the future – how can we best encourage action on past recommendations and action plans?

Dr. Keith Corbett, MBE

Discussion

12H30 – 14H00 LUNCH

14H00 – 17H30

6. Control of the small Indian mongoose (*Herpestes auropunctatus*): Monitoring of the implementation of the relevant Recommendation

Mr David Bird, British Herpetological Society

Discussion

7. Current challenges and threats: Draft Recommendation on the prevention and control of the *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* chytrid fungus

➤ **State of knowledge and current threats**

Prof Frank Pasmans

➤ **Draft Recommendation on the prevention and control of the *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* chytrid fungus**

Ms Ivana d'Alessandro, Mr Benedikt Schmidt

COFFEE BREAK

8. Priorities for herpetofaunal conservation in Europe

Mr Thomas Langton, Director, Herpetofauna Consultants International Ltd

Discussion

DAY 2 - THURSDAY 2ND JULY

9H30 – 12H30

9. Designation of Emerald sites for the conservation of Amphibian and Reptiles: practices and methodology

Prof. Fedir Kurtyak, PhD, Associate Professor at Uzhgorod National University, Ukraine

Discussion

10. Conservation status of vulnerable vipers in the Council of Europe area: what needs doing next?

Prof. Goran Nilson, University of Gothenburg

Discussion

11. Update on the conservation status of specific species and possible follow-up action:

a. **The aesculapian snake (*Elaphe longissima*)**

b. **The Italian agile frog (*Rana latastei*)**

c. **The Northern crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) and the sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*)**

Dr. Keith Corbett

d. **The Hermann tortoise**

Mr Antoine Catard, CEN PACA – Pôle Var, France

Discussion

- 12. Next steps before the Standing Committee meeting**
- 13. Election of the Chair**
- 14. Any other business**
- 15. Closure**