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**EU/CoE Joint Programme**  
**“Emerald Network of Nature Protection Sites, Phase II”**

**Emerald Network biogeographical Seminar**  
**for bird species (Belarus, Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation**  
**and Ukraine)**  
**24 – 25 November 2015**  
**Minsk, Belarus**

Seminar venue:  
Hotel Complex "Orbita"  
39 Pushkin Avenue, Minsk, Belarus

**AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2015**

<b>1. Opening session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Opening of the meeting</b> by Jan Plesnik, Bureau member of the Bern Convention</li><li>• <b>Welcoming address</b> by Mr. Igor Kachanovskiy Mikhailovich, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus</li><li>• <b>Opening address</b> by Mr. Philippe Bernhard, Programme manager Environment, Delegation of the European Union to Belarus</li><li>• <b>The EU/CoE Joint Programme on the Setting-up of the Emerald Network and the Emerald Network constitution process</b> by Christina Baglai, Secretariat of the Bern Convention, Council of Europe</li></ul>	<b>9.30 - 10.00</b>
<b>2. Introduction to the seminar, rules of procedure and main outcomes expected</b> by Otars Opermanis, independent expert to the Council of Europe	<b>10.00 – 10.10</b>
<b>3. Discussion on sufficiency of representation of bird species in the proposed and candidate Emerald sites</b> <p>The discussion will be organised species by species, examining the Emerald site proposals for each targeted country. It will follow a systematic order, starting from Gaviiformes listed in Resolution No. 6 (1998) of the Bern Convention and ending with Passeriformes. The length of discussions on each order will vary greatly. The end session will be devoted to a discussion on migratory species [non-Resolution No. 6 (1998) species], also under protection in the Bern Convention.</p> <p>Participating in the discussions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The evaluators</li><li>• The country delegation</li><li>• NGOs (nature conservation &amp; land owners, if possible)</li><li>• Independent experts and observers if necessary</li><li>• The Chair of the meeting, announcing the conclusion</li></ul> <p>Discussion to be led by Otars Opermanis/Marc Roekaerts, independent experts to the Council of Europe</p>	<b>10.10 - 11.00</b>
<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>11.00 - 11.20</b>
<b>4. Discussion on sufficiency of representation of bird species in the proposed and candidate Emerald sites (cont.)</b>	<b>11.20 - 12.30</b>
<b>Lunch break</b>	<b>12.30 -13.45</b>
<b>5. Discussion on sufficiency of representation of bird species in the proposed and candidate Emerald sites (cont.)</b>	<b>13.45 -15.30</b>
<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>15.30 - 15.50</b>

<b>6. Discussion on sufficiency of representation of bird species in the proposed and candidate Emerald sites (cont.)</b>	<b>15.50 - 17.30</b>
<b>Welcoming dinner offered by the Ministry of Environment of Belarus</b>	<b>18.00</b>

**WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2015**

<b>7. Discussion on sufficiency of representation of bird species in the proposed and candidate Emerald sites (cont.)</b>	<b>9.00 - 11.00</b>
<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>11.00 - 11.20</b>
<b>8. Discussion on sufficiency of representation of bird species in the proposed and candidate Emerald sites (cont.)</b>	<b>11.20 - 13.00</b>
<b>Lunch break</b>	<b>12.30 -13.45</b>
<b>9. Discussion on sufficiency of representation of bird species in the proposed and candidate Emerald sites (cont.)</b>	<b>13.45 – 15.30</b>
<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>15.30 - 15.50</b>
<b>10. Continuation of unfinished work</b>	<b>15.50 – 16.30</b>
<b>11. Preliminary results of the Seminar evaluation discussions and first statistics on the sufficiency of the Emerald Network in the target countries</b>	<b>16.30 – 17.00</b>
<b>12. Conclusions of the meeting and follow-up</b>	<b>17.00 - 17.30</b>