



**NORWEGIAN  
ENVIRONMENT  
AGENCY**



Strasbourg, 5 October 2017

T-PVS (2017) 13

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

## **9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Group of Experts on Amphibians and Reptiles**

9-10 October 2017

Trondheim, Norway

### **AGENDA**

*Secretariat Memorandum  
prepared by the Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation*

**DAY 1 - MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017**  
**09H00 – 18H00**

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND EXPECTED RESULTS
9H00- 9H15	<b>1. OPENING OF THE MEETING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by Mr Benedikt Schmidt, Chair of the Group of Experts and Mr Øystein Størkersen, Chair of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention</li> </ul>	
9H15- 9H20	<b>2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA</b>	<b>Expected results:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants are informed of the objectives of the meeting</li> <li>- The meeting agenda is adopted</li> </ul>
9H20- 10H10	<b>3. UPDATES ON AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES' WORK IN OTHER FORA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quick reminder on past Bern Convention work on amphibians and reptiles, by Ms Iva Obretenova, Secretary of the Bern Convention</li> <li>• Outcomes of the 19<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Herpetology and OGM (Salzburg, Austria, 18-23 September), by Mr Tony Gent, Chair of the Conservation Committee of Societas Europaea Herpetologica</li> <li>• Reptiles in Norway - monitoring and research, by Mr Jon Kristian Skei, Norwegian University of Science and Technology</li> </ul>	<b>Expected results:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants receive information on relevant initiatives and projects on herpetofaunal conservation in Europe</li> </ul>
10H10-10H40	<b>4. REPORTS BY PARTIES ON NATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES ON THE CONSERVATION OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral presentations by Parties to the Bern Convention and NGOs present at the meeting on actions and initiatives at national level on herpetofaunal conservation (max. 4 minutes each)</li> </ul>	<b>Expected results:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants are informed on recent initiatives and actions implemented at national level in other Bern Convention Contracting Parties</li> </ul>
10H40-11H00	<b>5. ANALYSIS OF PARTIES' REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATION NO. 176 (2015) ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF THE <i>BATRACHOCHYTRIUM SALAMANDRIVORANS</i> CHYTRID FUNGUS AND DISCUSSION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of an analysis of measures put in place at national level in response to Recommendation No. 176 (2015) of the Standing Committee, by the Secretariat</li> <li>• Discussion</li> </ul>	<b>Relevant document:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T-PVS/Inf (2017) 18: Compilation of Parties' replies to the 2017 Questionnaire for the reporting by Parties on the implementation of Recommendation No. 176 (2015)</li> <li>- T-PVS/Files (2016) 30: Compilation of 2016 reports by Parties on the follow-up of Recommendation No. 176 (2015)</li> </ul>

		<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants are informed of the measures put in place at national level by Parties to control the spread of BSaI and</li> <li>- The Group of Experts is expected to advise the Standing Committee on ways to address any gaps and insufficiencies in the implementation of the Recommendation</li> </ul>
<b>11H00-11H20</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	
<b>11H20-12H30</b>	<p><b>6. NEW CHALLENGES AND THREATS FOR AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE SPECIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on newest knowledge on BSaI fungus and other known and emerging pathogens for amphibian species (Ranavirus, Bd, etc.), by Mr Frank Pasmans and Ms An Martel, Ghent University</li> <li>• Practical solutions for detecting and responding various pathogens' outbreaks, by Ms Annemarieke Spitzen, Reptile, Amphibian and Fish Conservation in the Netherlands (RAVON)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants are updated on newest knowledge on the development of chytrid fungi and other pathogens in Europe</li> <li>- Participants are informed on recent initiatives and possible management actions to be implemented at national level</li> </ul>
<b>12H30-14H00</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
<b>14H00-14H30</b>	<p><b>6. NEW CHALLENGES AND THREATS FOR AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE SPECIES (CONT.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management options for amphibian species conservation, by Mr Benedikt Schmidt, <i>Centre Suisse de Coordination pour la Protection des Amphibiens et Reptiles de Suisse</i> (KARCH)</li> <li>• Discussion</li> </ul>	<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants are informed on recent initiatives and possible management actions to be implemented at national level</li> </ul>
<b>14H30-15H30</b>	<p><b>7. DISCUSSION ON THE NEED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW STANDARDS (RECOMMENDATIONS) UNDER THE BERN CONVENTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on the need for developing new standards under the Bern Convention to support action at national level on herpetofaunal conservation, taking into account the presentations under agenda items 4, 5 and 6</li> <li>• Presentation of the text of a draft new Recommendation on biosafety measures for the prevention of amphibian and reptile species' diseases, by the Secretariat and the Chair of the Group of Experts</li> <li>• Discussion on the text of the draft Recommendation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relevant document:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T-PVS (2017) 26: Draft Recommendation</li> </ul> <p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Needs for the development of new Bern Convention standards are identified</li> <li>- The proposed text of the draft Recommendation is discussed, amended as appropriate and if agreed on by the Group, sent to the Standing Committee for possible adoption</li> </ul>
<b>15H30-15H50</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	

<b>15H50-16H10</b>	<b>8. UPDATE ON THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF SPECIFIC SPECIES AND POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP ACTION (TBC)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation of marine turtles in Europe: state of play and need for further action, by Mrs Panagiota Theodorou, Conservation Coordinator at ARCHELON, the Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece</li> </ul>	<b>Expected results:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants are informed on the state of conservation of marine turtles in Europe</li> </ul>
<b>16H10-17H30</b>	<b>9. DISCUSSION ON WORK PRIORITIES, METHODS AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES BY THE GROUP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of examples of mandates and work programmes of other Groups of Experts under the Convention and proposals for possible new working methods, by the Secretariat</li> <li>• Discussion on the ways and means to organise the future work of the Group of Experts, including working methods and priorities and identification of the added value of the Bern Convention on herpetofaunal conservation in Europe</li> </ul>	<b>Relevant document:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T-PVS (2017) 18: Mandate of the Restricted Group of Experts on Climate Change and Biodiversity</li> <li>- T-PVS/Inf (2015) 20: Proposed priorities for conservation of amphibians and reptiles in Europe</li> <li>- T-PVS (2015)13: Meeting of the 8th meeting of the Group of Experts on Amphibians and Reptiles</li> </ul> <b>Expected results:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The working methods, future work priorities and mandate of the Group of Experts is agreed on by the Group</li> </ul>
<b>17H30-17H40</b>	<b>10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
<b>17H40-18H00</b>	<b>11. NEXT STEPS BEFORE THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of main messages by the Group of Experts and documents for action, to be sent to the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee to the Convention, Strasbourg, 5-8 December 2017</li> </ul>	<b>Expected results:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The main messages and documents for adoption, to be sent to the 37<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee to the Convention, are agreed on by the Group of Experts</li> </ul>
<b>18H00</b>	<b>CLOSURE OF THE MEETING</b>	

**DAY 2 – TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017**  
**8H00 – 15H00**

<b>8H00-13H00</b>	<b>12. FIELD STUDY TRIP, ORGANISED BY THE NORWEGIAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY</b>	<b>Relevant document:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practical information document for participants</li> </ul>
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