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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

30th meeting Strasbourg, 6-9 December 2010

Request of the Czech Republic concerning the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Protected Landscape Area Bilé Karpaty – to be examined by the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention

Revised Draft Resolution

Document prepared by the Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage

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The draft Resolution concerning the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas to the Bilé Karpaty Protected landscape area was examined by the Group of specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas at its last meeting (4-5 March 2010).

In July 2010 the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic requested some changes in the wording of the conditions.

According to the procedure, the draft Resolution is submitted to the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention for discussion.

Revised draft Resolution on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area (Czech Republic)

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)13 on the award of the European Diploma to the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area (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 awarded to the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area;

Attaches the following two conditions to the renewal:

- 1. Keep at least the existing access to the Radejov hunting reserve for the visitors and decrease the population size of the non-indigenous game species fallow deer, control the pressure exerted by game so that the forest may regenerate, draw up a hunting plan in conjunction with the administration of the protected area, and finally refrain from building any new facilities (eg hunting lodge);
- 2. Amend agri-environmental funding rules in accordance with the protected area's management plan in order to secure financing of management needed to attain objectives set.

Attaches to the renewal the following five recommendations:

- 1. Reassess and guarantee the requisite financial and human resources to ensure implementation of the management plan;
- 2. Arrive at a concerted method of agricultural management that promotes the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area through close co-operation between the Ministries of Agriculture and the Environment, the departments active in the field (agriculture, forestry and Bílé Karpaty departments) as well as the local authorities and other bodies involved;
- 3. Eliminate non-indigenous species, namely fallow deer, from the nature reserves and the other strictly protected areas and further develop consultation between the Ministries of Agriculture and the Environment in order to control big game populations;
- 4. Continue the current forestry policy of conversion to hardwood stands and encourage the natural regeneration of existing hardwood forests;
- 5. The European Diploma should be more visibly associated with the image of the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area (for example, in the information centre, in publications and on the website).