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T-PVS (2016) 24

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

36<sup>th</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 15-18 November 2016

Opening of the meeting: 9:30am, Tuesday 15 November 2016, Room 5

**DRAFT**  
**ANNOTATED AGENDA**

*Document prepared by  
the Directorate of Democratic Governance*

## PART I – OPENING

*NB Delegations are kindly reminded that only written statements will be included in the report of the meeting.*

### 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 1 - Draft agenda  
T-PVS (2016) 24 - Annotated draft agenda

The 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention will be opened by the Chair, Mr Øystein Størkersen, at the Council of Europe (Strasbourg), at 9:30 am on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

The draft agenda was drawn up by the Secretariat after consultation with the Bureau.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to adopt the agenda.

### 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DELEGATIONS AND FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 10 and 21 - Reports of the Bureau meetings in March and September 2016  
T-PVS (2015) 30 – Report of the 35<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting

The Chair will report on the various developments and issues at stake for the Convention since the last meeting of the Committee.

Contracting Parties have the opportunity to report in writing on the implementation of the Convention in their States.

Observer States may be invited to briefly inform the Committee of progress made towards the ratification of the Convention, together with any other information they may consider useful. The representatives of the invited Organisations may report on their activities directly concerned with the Convention (Article 13.3).

The Secretariat will inform the Committee on the general implementation of the work programme for 2016, presenting at the same time the reports of the meetings of the Bureau of the Committee.

**DECISION:** No decisions are expected from the Committee under this item.

## **PART II – MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL ASPECTS**

*NB Delegations are kindly reminded that only written statements will be included in the report of the meeting.*

### **3. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION**

#### **3.1 Biennial reports 2011-2012, 2013-2014 concerning exceptions made to Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 and quadrennial reports 2009 - 2012<sup>1</sup>**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Inf (2016) 7 – Summary tables of reporting under the Bern Convention  
T-PVS/Inf (2016) 14 – Table reporting: Contracting Parties Access to the ORS System

Article 9.2 of the Convention requests Parties to report on the exceptions made to Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Parties may also present general reports on the implementation of the Convention.

These reports will not be discussed unless Parties require so at the adoption of the Agenda.

Parties who wish to present their experience with and observations on their work with the Online Reporting System may do so by requesting the floor under this agenda item.

**DECISION:** No decisions are expected from the Committee under this item. The Committee is invited to take note of the reports presented.

**PARTIES NOT HAVING SENT THEIR BIENNIAL REPORTS ARE KINDLY REQUESTED TO SEND THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THROUGH THE ORS SYSTEM.**

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<sup>1</sup> For information only, unless otherwise requested

## PART III – MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

*NB Delegations are kindly reminded that only written statements will be included in the report of the meeting.*

### 4. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

Contracting Parties have the opportunity to report on specific conservation actions, upon previous request.

<sup>2</sup> Documents for information only:

- T-PVS (2016) 7 – National Focal Points for Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade of Wild Birds
- T-PVS/Inf (2016) 6 - Ongoing initiatives to tackle illegal killing of birds
- T-PVS/Inf (2016) 17 - Outcomes of the IUCN World Conservation Congress on invasive species management

### 4.1 Conservation of Birds

#### 4.1.1 Eradication of illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 15 – Report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Special Focal Points on IKB  
 T-PVS/Inf (2016) 3 – Questionnaire for Parties for the purposes of the Mid Term Review of implementation by Parties of the Tunis Action Plan 2020  
 T-PVS/Inf (2016) 4 – Compilation of Parties' replies on progress in the Implementation of the Tunis Action Plan 2020  
 T-PVS/Inf (2016) 8 – Mid-Term Review of the Implementation by Parties of the Tunis Action Plan 2020

#### a. Report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Special Focal Points for illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds

The Chair of the Select Group of Experts on illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds, Mr Sergei Golovkin, will present the conclusions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Special Focal Points for illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds, held in Tirana (Albania) on 14-15 April 2016.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the meeting;
- Thank the Albanian conservation authorities for their warm hospitality and the excellent preparation of the meeting;
- Note that the Convention is joining forces with the Convention on Migratory Species, the European Commission, Interpol, BirdLife, FACE and other relevant partners to act in synergy for the implementation of the Tunis Action Plan;
- In the light of the need to ensure close coordination between the work of the Bern Convention Group of Experts on the conservation of birds, the Network of Special Focal Points on Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds and the CMS Intergovernmental Task Force to address illegal killing of birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT), take note of the proposal to organise a back-to-back meeting of the above platforms in 2017.

<sup>2</sup> These items will not be discussed, unless Parties request so at the adoption of the Agenda.

**b. Mid-Term Review of the Implementation by Parties of the Tunis Action Plan 2020**

The consultant, Mr Umberto Gallo Orsi, will present the final report on the Mid-Term Review of the implementation by Parties of the Tunis Action Plan 2020.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to take note of the progress in the implementation of the Tunis Action Plan (TAP) for the eradication of illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds.

**4.1.2 Select Group of Experts on the European Action Plan for the Osprey**

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 18 – Report of the meeting of the Select Group of Experts on the European Action Plan for the Osprey  
T-PVS/Inf (2016) 12 – Plan for the conservation and recovery of the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) in Europe and the Mediterranean Region  
T-PVS (2016) 8 – Draft Recommendation on the implementation of a Plan for the conservation and recovery of the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) in Europe and the Mediterranean Region

**a. Conclusions of the meeting of the Select Group of Experts on the European Action Plan for the osprey**

The Secretariat will present the outcomes of the work of the Select Group of Experts on the Osprey held in Paris (France) on 28 June 2016 and the Plan for the conservation and recovery of the osprey.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the meeting of the Select Group of Experts and the results of its work;
- Take note of the Plan for the conservation and recovery of the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) in Europe and the Mediterranean.

**b. Draft Recommendation on the conservation and recovery of the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) in Europe**

The Secretariat will introduce the text of the draft Recommendation and its objectives.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to

- Examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on the implementation of a Plan for the conservation and recovery of the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) in Europe and the Mediterranean region.

**4.2 Biodiversity and Climate Change**

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 17 – Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Group of Experts on Biodiversity and Climate Change  
T-PVS/Inf (2016) 9 – Compilation of National Reports on Biodiversity and Climate Change  
T-PVS/Inf (2016) 11 – Manual on Communicating Climate Change and Biodiversity to policy makers  
T-PVS (2016) 19 – Draft Recommendation on communicating on climate change and biodiversity

**a. Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Group of Experts on Biodiversity and Climate Change**

The Chair of the Group, Ms Hasmik Ghalachyan, will present the report of the meeting of the Group of Experts, held in Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina) on 31 May-1 June 2016, and their priority proposals for the future work of the Group.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the meeting of the Group of Experts;
- Thank the conservation authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Croatian Membership of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the excellent hosting of the meeting;
- Take note in particular of the priorities proposed by the Group for the implementation of the Programme of Work on Climate Change and Biodiversity Conservation endorsed by the Standing Committee in 2015;
- Take note of the proposal that full government-designated Group of Experts on Biodiversity and Climate Change and a smaller Select Group of Experts meet in alternate years, in order to allow faster progress on issues such as assessing the vulnerability of species to climate change or adaptation management of protected areas;
- Take note of the need to improve awareness of the strong relationship between climate change and biodiversity and the opportunity to better link, after the Paris negotiations, two of the Rio Conventions, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the CBD;
- In the context of the point above, consider the opportunity to trust the Secretariat of the preparation of a concept note for a possible “Nature for Climate” campaign in 2020 as a follow-up and renewal of the Council of Europe 1970 and 1995 “European Years on Nature Conservation”.

**b. Draft Recommendation on communicating on climate change and biodiversity**

The consultant, Mr Lucas Sánchez-Sampedro, will present the Manual on Communicating Climate Change and Biodiversity to policy makers.

The Secretariat will introduce the text of the draft Recommendation and its objectives.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the Manual on Communicating Climate Change and Biodiversity to policy makers;
- Examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on communicating on climate change and biodiversity.

### 4.3 Invasive Alien Species

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 12 – Report of the meeting of the Select Group of Experts on IAS  
 T-PVS (2016) 13 – Draft Recommendation on the control of the American mink (*Neovison vison*) in Europe  
 T-PVS (2016) 22 – Draft Recommendation on the European Code of Conduct on Planted Forest and Invasive Alien Trees  
 T-PVS/Inf (2016) 15 - Code of Conduct for Planted Forest and Invasive Alien Trees  
 T-PVS (2016) 23 – Draft Recommendation on the European Code of Conduct on Recreational Boating and IAS  
 T-PVS/Inf (2016) 13 – Code of Conduct on Recreational Boating and IAS

T-PVS/Inf (2016) 10 – Guidance for governments concerning IAS pathways action plans  
T-PVS/Inf (2016) 1 – Report of the expert meeting on the implementation of the Action Plan for the eradication of the Ruddy Duck in Europe  
T-PVS (2016) 3 –Draft Recommendation on the eradication of the Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) in the Western Palaearctic by 2020

**a. Report of the meeting on the Select Group of Experts on IAS**

The Secretariat is going to present the outcomes of the meeting of the Select Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species, held in Rome (Italy) on 31<sup>st</sup> March-1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the meeting;
- Take note of the progress of the Convention activities in the field of Invasive Alien Species, in particular on Codes of Conduct, guidance for management of pathways and risk assessment;
- Take note of possible work ahead.

**b. Draft Recommendation on the control of the American mink (*Neovison vison*) in Europe**

The Secretariat will introduce the Draft recommendation on the control of the American mink in Europe.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on the control of the American mink (*Neovison vison*) in Europe.

**c. Code of Conduct on Planted Forest and Invasive Alien Trees**

The Secretariat will present the changes introduced to the Code of Conduct since the last meeting of the Standing Committee in 2015 and will introduce the draft recommendation.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on the European Code of Conduct on Planted Forest and Invasive Alien Trees.

**d. European Code of Conduct on Recreational Boating and Invasive Alien Species**

The consultant, Ms Emma Barton, will present the Code of Conduct on Recreational Boating and Invasive Alien Species. The Secretariat will introduce the draft Recommendation.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on European Code of Conduct on Recreational Boating and Invasive Alien Species

**e. Expert meeting on the implementation of the Action Plan for the eradication of the ruddy duck in Europe**

The Secretariat will present the outcomes of the Expert meeting on the implementation of the Action Plan for the eradication of the ruddy duck in Europe, which took place in Nantes, France, on 14-15 December 2015.

The Secretariat will present the “Report on the implementation of the European Eradication Plan for Ruddy Duck, 2011-2015”.

Eventually, the Secretariat will introduce the draft Recommendation aimed to complete the eradication of the ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) in the Western Palearctic by 2020.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the meeting;
- Warmly thank the French conservation authorities for the excellent organisation of the meeting;
- Take note of the progress in the implementation of the Action Plan for the eradication of the ruddy duck in the Western Palearctic endorsed in its Recommendation No. 149 (2010) recognising the efforts by all Parties implied;
- Examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Revised draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on the eradication of the ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) in the Western Palearctic by 2020.

**f. Guidance for governments concerning invasive alien species pathways action plans**

The consultant, Mr Riccardo Scalera, will present the Guidance for governments concerning Invasive Alien Species pathways action plans.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the Guidance in the elaboration of their national Action Plans on the Pathways of Invasive Alien Species.

## **4.4 Conservation of other threatened Species**

**a. LCIE Conference**

Relevant document: T-PVS (2016) XX – Conclusions of the LCIE Conference

The Secretariat will inform on the results of the LCIE meeting, held in Porto on 31<sup>st</sup> October-02 November 2016.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the LCIE meeting.



## 4.5 Habitats

### 4.5.1 Protected Areas and Ecological Networks

Relevant documents: T-PVS/PA (2016) 9 – Report of the meeting of the ad-hoc Restricted Group of Experts  
T-PVS/PA(2016)10 –Three dimensional Road Mapfor achieving a fully operational Emerald Network in 7 countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus  
T-PVS/PA (2016) 11 - Updated list of officially nominated candidate Emerald sites  
T-PVS/PA (2016) 12 - Updated list of officially adopted Emerald sites

#### a. Report of the Ad Hoc Restricted Group of Experts on reporting on the Emerald Network

The Secretariat will present the results of the meeting of the Restricted Group of Experts, which met in Strasbourg on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the results of the meeting of the Restricted Group and its future work plan.
- Take note of the decision of the Restricted Group of Experts to establish a deadline for the annual updates of the national Emerald Network databases of Contracting Parties and to set the deadline for the 28<sup>th</sup> of February of each calendar year.

#### b. Conference “Reaching concerted site conservation at pan-European level: progress, challenges and future of the Emerald Network”

The Secretariat is going to present the outcomes of the Conference “Reaching concerted site conservation at pan-European level: progress, challenges and future of the Emerald Network”, which took place in Minsk, on 4-5 October 2016. The event marked the end of the 4-year long EU/CoE Joint Programme on the setting-up of the Emerald network in 7 countries from Central and Eastern Europe and the South-Caucasus.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Examine, and if appropriate, endorse the 3-dimensional Road Map for achieving a fully operational Emerald Network in 7 countries from Eastern Europe and the South-Caucasus;
- Thank the European Union of its continuous financial support to the implementation of the Emerald network in the past 7 years.

#### c. Emerald biogeographical evaluations in 2016 and consolidated evaluation conclusions’ database

The consultant, Mr Marc Roekaerts, is going to present the results of the Emerald Network biogeographical evaluation Seminars which took place in 2016 and the newly developed tools, in co-operation with the European Environment Agency and its European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of progress in the establishment of the Emerald network;
- Welcome the new tools developed for enhancing the visibility of the Network.

**d. Draft updated lists of candidate sites and Emerald sites**

[The Secretariat will present the draft updated list of officially nominated candidate Emerald sites, as well as the draft updated list of officially adopted Emerald sites].

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Examine and if appropriate, adopt the following documents:
  - Draft updated list of officially nominated candidate Emerald sites;
  - Draft updated list of officially adopted Emerald sites.

**4.5.2 European Diploma for Protected Areas**

**a. Report of the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas, follow-up of decisions**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/DE (2016) 4 – Report of the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas  
 T-PVS/DE (2016) 9 - Progress report on the fulfilment of the Resolution of the Committee of Ministers (2012)19 on the European Diploma to the Poloniny National Park  
 T-PVS/DE (2016) 5 – Report of the visit of the independent expert to Białowieża National Park  
 T-PVS/DE (2016) 11 – Draft proposed amendment to Article 9, para.7, of the revised Regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas (CM/ResDip (2008)1)

The Chair of the Group of Specialists, Mr Jan-Willem Sneep, will present the results of the annual meeting of the group which took place on 7 March 2016 in Strasbourg. The Secretariat will further inform on the on-the-spot appraisals which took place in the spring/summer/autumn period of 2016.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the meeting report of the Group of Specialists;
- Note in particular that the Group:
  - Decided to postpone to its next meeting a decision on the possible withdrawal of the EDPA awarded to Poloniny National Park (Slovak Republic);
  - Decided not to propose the renewal of the EDPA awarded to Białowieża National Park (Poland) as a new Government forest management plan may affect negatively the area surrounding the National Park.

**b. Draft proposed amendments to the revised Regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas (CM/ResDip (2008)1)**

The Secretariat will introduce the amendments proposed by the Group of Specialists to the European Diploma Regulations and the procedure for their adoption.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Examine and, if appropriate, propose the modifications to the Regulations of the EDPA for official adoption by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

## PART IV – MONITORING OF SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS

*NB Delegations are kindly reminded that only written statements will be included in the report of the meeting.*

### 5. SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 25 – Summary of case files and complaints  
T-PVS/Inf (2016) 2 – Register of Bern Convention's case-files

*(Note: a detailed summary of each case-file is available in document T-PVS (2016) 25 – Summary of Case files)*

#### 5.1 Files opened

##### ➤ 1995/6: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula

Relevant document: T-PVS/Files (2016) 18 – Government report + Appendix  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 43 – NGO report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 44 – Report of the on-the-spot appraisal by the independent expert  
T-PVS (2016) 26 - Draft Recommendation on the conservation of the Akamas peninsula and the sea turtle nesting beaches East of Polis (Cyprus)

This case concerns the plans for tourist developments in the Peninsula of Akamas (Cyprus) with detrimental effect on an ecologically valuable area with many rare plant and animal species protected under the Bern Convention. It was first discussed at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee in 1996. Two on-the-spot appraisals were carried out in 1997 and 2002 and a recommendation adopted in 1997.

In 2015, the Standing Committee regretted the lack of progress on the case and of any proof of compliance with the recommended actions. It requested that an on-the-spot appraisal is organised to the area in 2016. In April 2016, the national authorities reported about pending issues with the establishment of the management system of the area. In September the authorities confirmed their agreement for the organisation of the appraisal, which should take place on 10-11 October 2016. The Bureau hopes the appraisal will bring more light to the on-the-spot situation of the area and possible amendments to be made to the operational part of Recommendation No. 63 (1997).

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the appraisal visit and examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on the conservation of the Akamas peninsula and the sea turtle nesting beaches East of Polis (Cyprus).

##### ➤ 2004/1: Ukraine: Proposed navigable waterway in the Bystroe Estuary (Danube delta)

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files (2016) 3 – Romanian Government report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 37 – Ukrainian Government report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 39 – Republic of Moldova Government report

This case concerns the excavation of a shipping canal in Bystroe estuary of the Danube delta in Ukraine, which is likely to affect adversely both the Ukrainian Danube Biosphere Reserve – the most important of Ukraine's wetlands – and the whole Danube delta dynamics.

The case is on the Standing Committee's agenda since 2004, when the Committee adopted Recommendation No.111 (2004) on the proposed navigable waterway through the Bystroe estuary (Danube Delta), inviting Ukraine to suspend works except for the completion of phase 1, and not to proceed with phase 2 of the project until certain conditions were met.

A 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Joint Trilateral Commission (Ukraine, Romania and Republic of Moldova) took place in Odessa on 23-24 March 2016. A 5<sup>th</sup> meeting is foreseen to take place in October 2016.

In September 2016, the Bureau congratulated the Parties on their continuous and positive cooperation within the frame of the Joint Commission and thanked them for forwarding the protocols of the meetings which show that the implementation of Recommendation No. 111 (2004) is monitored.

The Bureau, noting that cooperation between the Parties in the frame of the Joint Commission is constant, fruitful and promising for solving the remaining issues of the case-file, advises the Standing Committee to make a decision on whether to keep the case-file open or to proceed to its closing.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

➤ **2004/2: Bulgaria: Wind farms in Balchik and Kaliakra –Via Pontica**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files (2016) 12 – Government report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 13 – NGOs report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 23 – Report by the EU

This case was first submitted to question the building of wind farms in Balchik and Kaliakra, on the Black Sea coast; it has then extended to the exponential rise in wind farms' developments in Bulgaria. The case is pending since 11 years and according to the Bureau little has been achieved in terms of progress.

At its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee decided to keep the case-file open and to emphasise that the Bulgarian authorities need to strengthen surveillance after any infrastructure developments to ensure the implementation of the appropriate mitigation measures. The Committee further invited the authorities of Bulgaria to step-up efforts towards the full implementation of Recommendation No. 130 (2007) and to carry out a comprehensive, independent, and quality assessment of the impact of windfarms' developments in the concerned area.

On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016 the Court of Justice of the European Union ruled against Bulgaria over its failure to protect unique habitats and important species in the Kaliakra special protection area at the Black Sea coast. In July 2016, the European Union informed that the European Commission is currently in dialogue with the Bulgarian national authorities on the implementation of the court judgement.

The Bureau decided to keep the file open and instructed the Secretariat to invite the Bulgarian authorities to report to the Standing Committee at its upcoming meeting on the issues on which the authorities haven't reported yet in relation to the operational part of Recommendation No. 130 (2007), paying particular attention to the opinion of the complainant NGO.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

➤ **2007/1: Italy: Eradication and trade of the American grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)**

Relevant document: T-PVS/Files (2016) 38 – Government report

This case concerns the presence of the American grey squirrel in Italy, as a serious threat for the survival of the protected native red squirrel, and the related potential to turn the invasion of this species into a continental problem.

Two Recommendations were adopted, respectively Recommendation No. 78 (1999) on the conservation of the red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) in Italy, and Recommendation No. 114 (2005) on the control of the grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) and other alien squirrels in Europe, asking Italy to start without delay an eradication programme.

The case file was opened in 2008, following an on-the-spot appraisal. The Committee requested Italy, inter alia, to adopt any useful measure to officially ban the trade of the invasive alien species in the country.

In 2015, the Standing Committee welcomed the progress achieved by Italy through the adoption of the Decree on banning the trade and detention of the species, as well as through the implementation of the EU funded LIFE project. Noting that eradication is not yet fully achieved, the Committee decided to keep this case-file open and invited Italy to report on progress at its next meeting.

On 30<sup>th</sup> August 2016, the Italian authorities informed the Secretariat that they are awaiting the updated reports by the local authorities and that the national report will be ready for the 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

➤ **2010/5: Greece: threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparissias**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files (2016) 36 – Government report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 34 – Complainant report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 41 – NGO report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 23 – Report by the EU

This complaint was lodged in August 2010 to denounce uncontrolled development on a NATURA 2000 site (THINES KYPARISSIAS - GR2550005), with potential impacts on *Caretta caretta*. The complaint was discussed as an open case-file at the 33rd Standing Committee meeting, following the persistent lack of concrete information on the conservation and management of the area, as well as the enforcement of relevant legislation.

An on-the-spot appraisal carried out in July 2014 led the Standing Committee to adopt Recommendation No. 174 (2014) on the conservation of the loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) and of sand dunes and other coastal habitats in Southern Kyparissia bay (NATURA 2000 – GR 2550005 “Thines Kyparissias”, Peloponnesos, Greece).

Since then the case-file was kept open in light of the insufficient implementation of the recommended measures. On 18th February the Advocate General of the Court of Justice of the European Union issued her conclusions on case number C-504/14 and that the Court ruling is currently awaited. On 30 August, the national authorities confirmed the adoption of a Ministerial Decision for the protection of both the Marine and Terrestrial Areas in Kyparissia Bay. The complainant NGO MEDASSET informed that because of the temporary nature of the Decision, the need for a Presidential Decree remains high.

The Bureau invited the Greek authorities to report to the Standing Committee more concretely on their efforts in ensuring they comply with the Recommendation and their plans and timetable for the adoption of the Presidential Decree.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

➤ **2012/9: Turkey: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara SPAs**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files (2016) 25 – Government report on Fethiye  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 28 – Government report on Patara  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 35 – NGOs report

This complaint concerns the severe threats posed to marine turtles by the lack of adequate management of Fethiye and Patara nesting beaches.

The file was opened after the presentation by the NGO MEDASSET of a detailed report alerting the Committee on the lack of adequate management of Fethiye and Patara SPAs. After an on-the-spot appraisal in 2015, the Standing Committee adopted two Recommendations, identifying a set of recommended actions to be implemented by the national authorities.

In September 2016, the Bureau decided to keep the case-file open taking into account the concerns expressed by the complainant, linked to the short-term of the measures implemented by the national authorities for complying with the Recommendations from 2015. The authorities of Turkey are invited to attend the Standing Committee meeting in order to present their views on the concerns expressed by the NGO and to report point by point on the operational part of the Recommendations which would facilitate an informed decision-making by the Committee.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

➤ **2013/1: “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: Hydro power development within the territory of the Mavrovo National Park**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files (2016) 5 – Complainant report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 32 – Government report

This complaint was submitted in March 2013 to denounce the possible breach of the Convention by “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” with regards to the development of two big hydro-power projects (HPP) within the territory of the Mavrovo National Park. Noting that the area is a key biodiversity hotspot in Europe and a candidate Emerald site, in 2014 the Standing Committee decided to open a case file and conduct an on-the-spot appraisal.

Further to an on-the-spot appraisal to the area, the Standing Committee adopted Recommendation No. 184 (2015) and decided to keep then case-file open in order to follow-up the implementation of the recommended measures.

In July 2016, the national authorities reported that the implementation of all the foreseen government projects (big and small) in the Park have been suspended until an SEA is completed, as recommended in Recommendation No. 184 (2015). The complainant, on his side, expressed concerns regarding the way the new SEA study is going to be developed, in particular the transparency of the planning process (setting-up of ToR for the SEA) and the consultation of all relevant stakeholders and civil society.

The Bureau welcomed the national authorities’ efforts in quickly starting the implementation of the recommended measures, including the plans for the establishment of a national program for the recovery of the Balkan lynx and invited them to report to the Standing Committee on the status of the new SEA study, on the process leading to its preparation and launching and on any other relevant measure they consider important.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

## 5.2 Possible files

### ➤ 2011/4: Turkey: threat to the Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*)

Relevant document: T-PVS/Files (2016) 47 – Government report

This complaint, lodged in 2012, was brought by the Bureau to the attention of the Committee as a possible file because of the importance of the Mediterranean monk seal and the serious threats that the species was facing in the area object of the complaint. The threats resulted from construction works affecting the Balikli cave, i.e. the only suitable habitat for whelping in the area.

In 2014, the Standing Committee was informed that the construction of the marine terminal was finally completed, despite this having an obvious impact on the species. However, the authorities informed about the finalisation of an Action Plan targeting the monk seal in Mersin area, to be implemented in the next five years.

In 2015, the Turkish authorities reported on the first measures implemented in the frame of the Action Plan. The Committee reiterated its concerns for one of the most threatened pinniped in the World and decided to keep this case-file as a possible file until there is proof that the implementation of the Action Plans gives results.

At its last meeting, the Bureau of the Standing Committee reiterated the need for assessing the Action Plan for the monk seal jointly with the Barcelona Convention, which was not achieved so far much to the regret of the Bureau.

Bureau decided to keep the case as a possible file and invited the Turkish authorities to attend the Standing Committee meeting and to provide an updated report on the pending national court procedure and provide any other information they wish on conservation measures put in place for the species. The Bureau further invited that the complainant to present its opinion on the pending case-file to the Standing Committee.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

### ➤ 2001/4: Bulgaria: Motorway through the Kresna Gorge

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files (2016) 11 – Government report  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 10 – NGOs report + Annex I and Annex II  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 40 – Other stakeholders report

This case was brought to the attention of the Standing Committee by the Bureau, which received an alert about governmental plans for the construction of the last section of the Struma motorway through the Kresna Gorge, thus rejecting the alternative solution chosen in 2008 as a follow-up to the Standing Committee Recommendation No. 98 (2002). This Recommendation was adopted by the Standing Committee in 2002, as a follow-up to a complaint lodged by several NGOs from Bulgaria.

At the 35<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting, the Committee decided to consider this closed file as a possible file at its next meeting, and invited the Bulgarian authorities to keep the Bureau informed of any relevant development.

The Bureau, at its last meeting in September 2016, thanked both the authorities and the complainants for their timely reports and their motivated opinions. The authorities informed that all alternatives, including a new one which was proposed in April 2016, is evaluated together with the previous alternatives as part of the new formal EIA procedure which began in 2014. They further inform that the Struma Motorway Lot 3.2 in Kresna Gorge is not in construction.

The complainant NGOs argues that the construction of sections Lot. 3.1 and Lot 3.3 had already begun, and informs that land acquisition around Lot 3.2 (section which passes through the Kresna Gorge) have already been started by authorities. According to them, these pieces of information raise doubt concerning the reality of the exploration of alternative roads and the abandonment of the original contested project.

The Bureau decided that the file should reach the Standing Committee as a possible file. Both the authorities and the complainants are invited to attend the meeting and present their updated reports with latest news regarding the EIA procedure. The European Union is also invited to present the outcomes of its current talks with the national authorities with regards to the case-file.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

➤ **2012/3: Poland: Possible spread of the American mink (*Neovison vison*)**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files (2016) 14 – Government report  
T-PVS (2016) 13 – Draft recommendation on the control of the American mink (*Neovison vison*) in Europe

This complaint was submitted in May 2012 to denounce the non-inclusion of the American mink (*Neovison vison*) in the national list of non-native plants and animals that might endanger native species and habitats.

At its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee decided to keep the case as a possible file, and invited the authorities of Poland to report on the control of the American mink to the select Group of Experts on invasive alien species for advice, prior to the presentation a full report at next Standing Committee meeting.

The Select Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species of the Convention prepared a draft Recommendation on the control of American mink (*Neovison vison*) in Europe. The draft Recommendation will be presented to the Standing Committee for examination and possible adoption.

The Bureau recommended that the case-file is dismissed if the draft Recommendation is adopted, which will allow the Standing Committee to monitor progress through the follow-up of previous recommendations mechanism.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up.

### 5.3 On-the-spot appraisal

➤ **Recommendation No. 96 (2002) on conservation of natural habitats and wildlife, especially birds, in afforestation of lowland in Iceland**

Relevant document: T-PVS/Files (2016) 42 – Report of the on-the-spot appraisal by the independent experts  
T-PVS (2016) 28 – Draft Recommendation on the conservation of natural habitats and wildlife, especially birds, in afforestation of lowland in Iceland

This Recommendation was adopted by the Standing Committee in 2002, as a follow-up to a complaint lodged by BirdLife. The monitoring of the implementation by Iceland of this recommendation was decided with the agreement of the country. In 2014, the Standing Committee took note of the report of the authorities of Iceland, as well as of the statements made by BirdLife International and the representative of the AEWA. The Committee congratulated Iceland for accepting to undergo an AEWA Implementation Review Process (IRP), and confirmed the readiness of the Bern Convention for joining and contributing to the IRP visit.



At its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention took note of the delays in the organisation of a joint AEWA / Bern Convention mission to Iceland in relation with the afforestation policy of the country, and invited the Icelandic authorities to facilitate the organisation of such a visit during the first semester of 2016.

The independent expert in charge of the Joint AEWA/Bern Convention mission - which took place in May 2016 - will present its findings and the draft Recommendation it produced.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the appraisal visit and examine and, if appropriate, adopt the following draft Recommendation:
  - Draft Recommendation No. ... (2016) on the conservation of natural habitats and wildlife, especially birds, in afforestation of lowland in Iceland

## 5.4 Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations

*NB Unless otherwise specified below, this agenda item is for information. Relevant States are invited to report on the follow-up of the above recommendations. The Committee is invited to take note of the information presented.*

### ➤ **Recommendation No. 175 (2015) on the monitoring of the agreement concluded in the frame of complaint n° 2013/5**

Relevant documents : T-PVS/Files (2016) 27 - Government report + Appendix  
T-PVS/Files (2016) 26 - Complainant report

This complaint was lodged in May 2013, to denounce a possible breach of the convention by Lithuania with regards to permissions issued for the construction of a 400 kV, 1000 MW Overhead Power Line (OHL) in an environmentally sensitive area in the Lithuanian-Polish borderland, offering habitats for many species protected under the convention, including the European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*).

After a mediation procedure which took place in 2015, at its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee decided to close the file No. 2013/5 and adopted Recommendation No. 175 (2015) on the monitoring of the agreement concluded in the frame of complaint n° 2013/5. It was decided that the progress in the implementation of the agreed measures will be monitored until they are fully addressed.

**DECISION:** Depending on the information submitted by the Party and the NGO, the Committee may wish to decide on the follow-up to give to the above issue.

### ➤ **Recommendation No. 169 (2013) on the Rhone streber (Zingel asper) in the Doubs (France) and in the canton of Jura (Switzerland)**

Relevant documents: T-PVS/Files(2016) 22 - Swiss Government report  
T-PVS/Files(2016) 33 - French Government report  
T-PVS/Files(2016) 31- Complainant report

This Recommendation was adopted by the Standing Committee as a follow-up to a complaint which is still on stand-by (Complaint N° 2011/5: France / Switzerland: threats to the Rhone streber (*Zingel asper*) in the Doubs (France) and in the canton of Jura (Switzerland)).

At its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee acknowledged the reports submitted by the authorities of Switzerland and France. Due to time constraints, the French and the Swiss NGOs agreed not to make

their oral presentations. Finally, the Committee invited the Parties and the NGOs to report on progress in the implementation of the Recommendation at its 36th meeting.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and the information submitted by the Parties and the NGOs and to decide on its possible follow-up.

➤ **Recommendation No. 144 (2009) on the wind park in Smøla (Norway) and other wind farm developments in Norway**

Relevant document: T-PVS/Files (2016) 46 – Government report

On the decision of the Standing Committee at its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting, the monitoring of the implementation of this Recommendation should be resumed at its 36<sup>th</sup> meeting. Both the authorities and the NGOs are invited to report on the status of the implementation of each of the 10 operational paragraphs of the Recommendation.

**DECISION:** Depending on the information submitted by the Party and the NGOs, the Committee may wish to decide on follow-up to give to the above issue.

➤ **Recommendation No. 110 (2004) on minimising adverse effects of above-ground electricity transmission facilities (power lines) on birds**

Relevant document: T-PVS/Files (2016) 20 – Reports by the Parties

The monitoring of Recommendation No. 110 (2004) is the result of a decision by the Standing Committee at last or previous meetings, with the agreement of the Bureau.

**DECISION:** The Committee may wish to decide on the follow-up to give to the above issue.

➤ **Recommendation No. 176 (2015) on the prevention and control of the *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* chytrid fungus**

Relevant document: T-PVS/Files (2016) 30 – Reports by the Parties

The monitoring of Recommendation No. 176 (2015) was proposed by the Secretariat of the Convention and justified by the urgency of the matter and the need to start implementing prevention and control measures. The Bureau agreed with the proposal.

**DECISION:** The Committee may wish to decide on the follow-up to give to the above issue.

## **PART V – STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONVENTION**

*NB Delegations are kindly reminded that only written statements will be included in the report of the meeting.*

### **6. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONVENTION**

#### **6.1 International coordination with other MEAs and organisations**

The Secretariat will inform the Committee on progress in the international coordination with other MEAs and organisations (including the EU, CBD, CMS, AEW, IUCN, WCMC).

##### **a. Revision of the Memorandum of Cooperation with the EEA**

Relevant documents: T-PVS (2016) 27 – Draft revised Memorandum of Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the EEA

The Secretariat will highlight the outcomes of the 15-year long co-operation between the Council of Europe and the EEA and will present the proposed amendments to the existing MoC between the two organisations.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to:

- Welcome the good results of the strengthened co-operation with the EEA, in particular in relation to the establishment of the Emerald network of Areas of Special Conservation interest;
- Examine, and if appropriate, endorse the proposed amendments to the Memorandum of Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the European Environment Agency.

#### **6.2 Implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for biodiversity: the contribution of the Bern Convention**

The Secretariat will highlight the contribution of the Bern Convention to the CBD Strategic Plan for biodiversity.

**DECISION:** No decision is expected under this item.

#### **6.3 Awareness and visibility**

The Secretariat will inform on the activities carried out to promote knowledge and understanding of the Bern Convention's action for biodiversity conservation, as well as on the plans for the implementation of the new communication strategy.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to take note of the information presented.

## 6.4 Draft Programme of Activities and budget for 2017

Relevant document: T-PVS (2016) 20 – Draft Programme of Activities for 2017

The Secretariat will present the proposal of activities and budget for the 2017, prepared on the basis of the biennial Programme and Budget pre-validated in 2015 and amended following discussions at the Bureau. The figures regarding the budgetary allocation of the Council of Europe are to be still considered as forecasts. Parties in need of financial support for the attendance of their experts to the meetings organised under the Convention are invited to indicate the events for which they would need such a support in 2017.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to examine and, if appropriate, adopt its Programme of Activities for 2017.

## 6.5 States to be invited as observers to the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting

The Secretariat will remind the Committee that the following States have been invited to attend this 37<sup>th</sup> meeting as Observers:

- A. Council of Europe member States (invited automatically): The Russian Federation and San Marino.
- B. Non-member States: Algeria, Holy See, Jordan.

**DECISION:** The Committee is requested to decide unanimously which States, not members of the Council of Europe, are to be invited to attend its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## PART VI - OTHER ITEMS

### 7. ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND BUREAU MEMBERS

Relevant document: T-PVS/Inf (2013) 6 – Rules of Procedure: Standing Committee, on-the-spot enquiries, mediation

In accordance with Article 18(e) of the Rules of Procedure “*The Chair, Vice-Chair and two additional Bureau members shall be elected at the end of each meeting. They shall execute their respective terms of office from their election onwards until the end of the meeting following the meeting where they were elected. Their terms of office may be renewed, but the total length of term of office shall not exceed four years or, as appropriate, the end of the first meeting following the expiry of this period of four years*”.

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to elect its Chair, Vice-Chair, and 2 Bureau members. According to Rule 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee, the Committee will acknowledge the automatic election of the previous Chair.

### 8. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 37<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

**DECISION:** In accordance with Article 1 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee is invited to decide on the date of its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Secretariat will make a proposal (...-... 2017, à Strasbourg).

### 9. ADOPTION OF THE MAIN DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

**DECISION:** The Committee is invited to approve the main decisions of the meeting which, in accordance with article 15 of the Convention, will be forwarded to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for information.

### 10. OTHER BUSINESS (ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Any question which does not concern a preceding item of the agenda may be raised here. The Standing Committee will be invited to discuss the issues raised.

## DRAFT PLAN FOR DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA

MORNINGS 9.30 am - 12.45 pm	AFTERNOONS 2.30 - 6.00 pm
<b>TUESDAY 15 November</b>	
<p><b>1. OPENING, ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b></p> <p><b>2. REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN &amp; COMMUNICATIONS</b></p> <p><b>3. MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION</b></p> <p><b>3.1 Biennial and quadrennial reports</b></p> <p><b>4. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS</b></p> <p><b>4.5 Habitats</b></p> <p>4.5.1 Protected Areas and Ecological Networks</p> <p>a. Report of the Ad Hoc Restricted Group of Experts on reporting on the Emerald Network</p> <p>b. Report and outcomes of the Conference “Reaching concerted site conservation at pan-European level: progress, challenges and future of the Emerald Network”</p> <p>c. Emerald biogeographical evaluations in 2016 and consolidated evaluation conclusions’ database</p> <p>d. Draft updated lists of candidate sites and Emerald sites</p> <p>4.5.2 European Diploma for Protected Areas</p> <p>a. Report of the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas, follow-up of decisions</p> <p>b. Draft proposed amendments to the revised Regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas</p> <p><b>4.2 Biodiversity and Climate change</b></p> <p>a. Report of the 9th meeting of the Group of Experts</p> <p>b. Draft Recommendation on communicating on Climate Change and Biodiversity</p> <p><b>4.4 Conservation of other threatened Species</b></p> <p>a. Large Carnivores – LCIE Conference</p>	<p><b>4. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Conservation of birds</b></p> <p>4.1.1 Eradication of Illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds</p> <p>a. Report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Special Focal Points for Illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds</p> <p>b. Mid-Term Review of the Implementation by Parties of the Tunis Action Plan 2020</p> <p>4.1.2 Select Group of Experts on the European action Plan for the Osprey</p> <p>a. Conclusions of the meeting of the Select Group of Experts on the European action Plan for the Osprey</p> <p>b. Draft Recommendation on the conservation and recovery of the osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) in Europe</p> <p><b>4.3 Invasive Alien Species</b></p> <p>a. Report of the meeting on the Select Group of Experts on IAS</p> <p>b. European Code of Conduct on Recreational Boating and Invasive Alien Species</p> <p>c. Guidance for governments concerning invasive alien species pathways action plans</p> <p>d. Eradication of the ruddy duck</p> <p>e. Draft Recommendation on the control of American mink (<i>Neovison vison</i>) in Europe</p>
<b>WEDNESDAY 16 November</b>	
<p><b>4.3 Invasive Alien Species</b></p> <p>b. Code of Conduct on Planted Forest and Invasive Alien Trees</p> <p><b>5. SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS</b></p> <p><b>5.1 Files opened</b></p> <p>➤ 2004/1: Ukraine: Proposed navigable waterway in the Bystroe Estuary (Danube delta)</p> <p>➤ 2004/2: Bulgaria: Wind farms in Balchik and Kaliakra –Via Pontica</p> <p>➤ 1995/6: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula</p> <p>➤ 2007/1: Italy: Eradication and trade of the American grey squirrel (<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>)</p> <p>➤ 2010/5: Greece: threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparissias</p> <p>➤ 2012/9: Turkey: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara SPAs</p> <p>➤ 2013/1: “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: Hydro power development within the territory of the Mavrovo national Park</p> <p><b>5.2 Possible files</b></p> <p>➤ 2011/4: Turkey: threat to the Mediterranean monk seal (<i>Monachus monachus</i>)</p> <p>➤ 2001/4: Bulgaria: Motorway through the Kresna Gorge</p> <p>➤ 2012/3: Poland: Possible spread of the American mink (<i>Neovison vison</i>)</p>	<p><b>5. SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS</b></p> <p><b>5.3 On-the-spot appraisal</b></p> <p>➤ Recommendation No. 96 (2002) on conservation of natural habitats and wildlife, especially birds, in afforestation of lowland in Iceland</p> <p><b>5.4 Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations</b></p> <p>➤ File closed N° 2013/5: Presumed impact of a construction of Overhead Power Line (OHL) in an environmentally sensitive area in the Lithuanian-Polish borderland</p> <p>➤ Complaint on stand-by N° 2011/5: France / Switzerland: threats to the Rhone streber (<i>Zingel asper</i>) in the Doubs (France) and in the canton of Jura (Switzerland)</p> <p>➤ Recommendation No. 144 (2009) on the wind park in Smøla (Norway) and other wind farm developments in Norway</p> <p>➤ Recommendation No. 110 (2004) on minimising adverse effects of above-ground electricity transmission facilities (power lines) on birds</p> <p>➤ Recommendation No. 176 (2015) on the prevention and control of the <i>Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans chytrid</i> fungus</p>

**THURSDAY 17 November**

**6. Strategic development of the Convention**

- 6.1 International coordination with other MEAs and organisations
- 6.2 Implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan
- 6.3 Awareness and visibility
- 6.4 Draft Programme of Activities and budget for 2017
- 6.5 States to be invited as observers to the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting

12.45 – 14.00 Side event: Screening of the movie Cowspiracy  
(Projection room of the Palais de l'Europe)

Continuation of unfinished work

**FRIDAY 18 November**

**7. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair, and Bureau members**

**8. Date and place of the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting**

**9. Adoption of the main decisions of the meeting**

**10. Other business**

Note: Room 6 will be free for EU co-ordination meetings (without interpretation)

Draft