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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

32nd meeting
Strasbourg, 27th-30th November 2012

**BERN CONVENTION
PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES
FOR 2013**

*Memorandum of the Secretariat
established by
the Directorate of Democratic Governance, Culture and Diversity*

REMINDER: FIRST BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The background

On 20 January 2011, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe presented to the Committee of Ministers a first series of measures aimed at revitalising the Organisation as a political body and innovative organisation by concentrating its work on fewer programmes, selected because of their highest added value and comparative advantages, and increasing the Organisation's flexibility, visibility and relevance for the citizens of Europe.

On 16 February 2011, the Secretary General presented to the Committee of Ministers the second phase of the reform proposing a series of measures concerning the programme and budget of the Organisation, including the outline of his priorities, the review of the intergovernmental structures, the move to a biennial programme and budget and the review of conventions. The Committee of Ministers asked the Secretary General to pursue the preparation of the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 along those lines.

A first result of the Reform was that in 2011 the Organisation concentrated its activities and moved from 130 to 38 operational programmes structured around three thematic/operational pillars, Human Rights, Rule of Law and Democracy, and six strategic axes¹. The aim is a more politically relevant and concentrated programme, which addresses the needs of member States.

How does it work at the Council of Europe?

In 2012 and for the first time, the Council of Europe adopted a programme and budget based on a biennial activity cycle and results-based budget following other international Organisations including the UN and the OECD and facilitating its relations with other international partners such as the EU. The biennial programme should ensure the implementation of existing commitments and put more emphasis on rule of law activities.

In the course of year N-1, the Secretary General proposes a biennial programme and budget for adoption by the Committee of Ministers before the end of year N-1, according to the following modalities:

- ⇒ the programme for the biennium,
- ⇒ the budget for year N,
- ⇒ the provisional budget for year N+1.

During year N, until 1st November, the member states and the Secretary General may request the re-opening of the debate on the budget for year N+1 so to adjust its programme when necessary in response to political priorities.

If no such request is made, the Committee of Ministers takes the decision to approve the budget.

Implications for the Bern Convention Programme of activities

The Bern Convention had to adapt to the requirements of the Council of Europe new programme and budget to ensure the efficient implementation of its own Programme of Activities as well as budgetary discipline. Therefore the Standing Committee – at its 2011 meeting – was called to examine, for possible adoption, a biennial Programme of Activities, including a budget for 2012 and a provisional budget for 2013. At its 32nd Standing Committee meeting the Secretariat or the Contracting Parties may request the re-opening of the debate on the budget for 2013 so to adjust the programme when necessary either to the amendments approved by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers or in response to new biodiversity priorities.

¹ 1. Protection and Promotion of Human Rights; 2. Threats to the Rule of Law; 3. Development of Pan-European common standards and policies; 4. Justice; 5. Democratic Governance; 6. Sustainable Democratic Societies.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET OF THE BERN CONVENTION FOR THE YEAR 2013

Outline of activities

1. Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention

Long-term aim

To harmonise the legislation of Contracting Parties on biodiversity conservation and to ensure that Bern Convention obligations are converted to national and EU legislation and efficiently applied. Monitor the implementation of Article 9 of the Convention.

Medium-term aim

To monitor case law on the Convention, to make proposals whenever the implementation of the Convention meets legal obstacles, to monitor appropriate application of obligations, to help new contracting Parties adapt their legislation to the Convention.

Short-term aim

To examine new nature conservation legislation of Contracting Parties. To elaborate reports on the implementation of the Convention in one or two states, to follow up the implementation of recommendations made to some states, to check biennial reports for possible abusive use of Article 9 of the Convention to assist new Contracting Parties in adapting their legislation to the provisions of the Convention.

Funding

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

Political interest

The harmonisation of biodiversity-related legislation in Europe is a necessary step in the implementation of the Convention. The Bern Convention provides a frame for the development of national nature conservation policies and legislation in accordance with “European standards” in this field. The need to efficiently enforce environmental legislation, including the implementation of the Standing Committee recommendations, and to effectively monitor compliance with the Bern Convention’s obligations by Contracting Parties has been further raised by the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, in its Recommendation 1964 – (2011) on “The need to assess progress in the implementation of the Bern Convention”.

2. Conservation of natural habitats

Long-term aim

Ensuing the conservation of natural habitats and the implementation of Article 4 of the Convention, as well as of Resolutions (89) 1, (96) 3, (96) 4, (98) 5, (98) 6 and Recommendations (89) 14, (89) 15 and (89) 16 of the Standing Committee.

Medium-term aim

Setting-up of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCI) in Europe, and contributing to the development of the Pan-European Ecological Network.

Short-term aim

The development of the Emerald Network provides the participating countries with an important instrument for identifying and monitoring areas of special conservation interest being of Pan-European importance in their national territories. It is also a tool to assist Contracting Parties in meeting their obligations under the Bern Convention and the CBD, particularly CBD Aichi targets, e.g. on terrestrial and marine protected areas, endangered species, invasive alien species, etc.. It further

prepares non EU Member States to meet the requirements of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives in view of a possible future accession.

In 2013, efforts will continue on the scientific assessment and validation of data provided by Contracting Parties which have completed Phase I of the Emerald Network constitution process (Norway and Switzerland) and in supporting Parties which are already working on Phase II (6 South-eastern Europe countries). Pending voluntary contributions, activities will be held in the South Mediterranean region on the Emerald Network setting-up, aiming at continuing the work initiated in Morocco through a pilot project in 2008 and launching it in Tunisia. A new joint Council of Europe/European Commission project will be launched in 2013 for a period of 4 years (targeting 7 Central and Eastern European countries, and the South Caucasus) as a follow-up to the joint programme implemented in 2009-2012 in the region.

Co-ordination with the EU and co-operation with the European Environment Agency and its European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity will continue focussing on the harmonisation of the Natura 2000 and the Emerald networks, in view of strengthening the future Pan-European Ecological Network and maintain European natural heritage.

Funding

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions. A regional joint-project financed by the European Union.

Methods

Evaluation of ongoing projects; technical meetings at national/regional level; groups of experts and/or consultants; international co-ordination.

As foreseen in Resolution (98) 5, this exercise is being carried out in co-operation with the European Union. The European Union is, together with its Member States, responsible for sites in the EU region while the Council of Europe is responsible for the setting-up of the Emerald network outside the EU. The European Environment Agency is a common partner for both organisations with regards to the scientific evaluation of data.

Political interest

Protected areas have been widely recognized as a vital contribution to the conservation of world's natural and cultural resources, as well as to the efforts to adapt and mitigate to climate change impacts.

The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for the 2011-2020 period. Target 11 foresees that “by 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”.

The setting-up of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest is the regional contribution of the Bern Convention to the achievement of the CBD's Aichi Target 11. This process will follow the action plan adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Bern Convention at the 30th Standing Committee meeting in December 2010 (see document [T-PVS/PA\(2010\)08revE Calendar for the implementation of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest 2011-2020](#))

European Diploma of Protected Areas

Long-term aims

Ensuring the promotion and the active preservation of biological, geological and landscape diversity and the sustainable use of natural resources through the European Diploma of Protected Area; establishing a set of areas of outstanding heritage value with exemplary and comprehensive management of the biological, cultural and landscape elements present there that can serve as reference points for the long-term study of wild species population and habitat changes, good managerial practice in the framework of sustainable development.

Medium-term aims

Regular monitoring of the areas holding the European Diploma to ensure that they are effectively managed, in compliance with the resolutions adopted when the Diploma is awarded or renewed, preserving natural and semi-natural areas and some of Europe's most outstanding landscapes;

Short-term aims

Examining governments' applications for the European Diploma in view of the award or the renewal of the Diploma. Monitoring of the annual reports submitted by the managers of the awarded areas. Encouraging nature conservation work and affording a practical opportunity for the managers of the areas holding the Diploma to exchange views and experiences. Raising awareness among the European general public and the target groups, particularly local people, of the Diploma. Starting the preparations for the 50th anniversary of the European Diploma, to be celebrated in 2015.

Funding

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

Methods

Meetings of the Group of specialists; independent on-the-spot appraisals; national reporting; Resolutions to be presented to the Committee of Ministers concerning the award, renewal or non-renewal of Diplomas to areas.

Political interest

The European Diploma is a recognised, living and much sought-after instrument requiring a high level of commitment by both managers of diploma-holding areas and the authorities responsible for those areas. It is both a technical and political tool encompassing the values of the Council of Europe and also useful for solving and preventing problems relating to the protection of the awarded areas;

During the 47 years since it was set up in 1965, it has enabled substantive work to be carried out in the field of the protection and meticulous monitoring of sites of outstanding value in terms of biological, geological and landscape diversity and which are managed in an exemplary manner.

3. Monitoring species and encouraging conservation action

Long-term aim

To record the conservation status of the populations of species in the appendices to the Convention and identify target populations, so as to reverse negative trends. To propose common management standards through action plans. Monitoring of the implementation of Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Convention. Implementation of Recommendations of the Standing Committee on species protection.

Medium-term aim

Drawing-up and follow-up the implementation of Action Plans for threatened species, establishment of strategies, guidelines and codes of conduct for the protection of some taxa and ecological/functional groups of species, developing of red lists, identification of threats to biological diversity in different ecosystems, prevention of effects of invasive alien species. Identifying and promoting conservation work on biodiversity hot-spots.

Short-term aim

Implementation of decisions from the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-11). Monitoring of implementation by Parties of species action plans and or recommendations (e.g. for invasive alien species, birds and power-lines, illegal taking and trading of birds, invertebrates, vascular plants, etc.). Elaboration and implementation of action plans and/or code of conducts for threatened species; implementation of the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species; implementation of the European Strategy on Conservation of Invertebrates. International co-ordination in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of its components.

Funding

Council of Europe, voluntary contributions, budgets of partner organisations.

Methods

Meetings of the Group of Experts; ad-hoc workshops; technical seminars; independent consultancy.

This activity is to be largely implemented in co-operation with the European Environment Agency and through collaboration with special partners with particular knowledge in the taxa and ecological/functional groups of species concerned (Secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, EPPO, IUCN, Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe, ECNC, Large Herbivore Initiative, BirdLife International, Societas Europea Herpetologica, Planta Europa, European Invertebrate Survey and others).

Political interest

These set of activities permits to take a pro-active approach to species conservation and management of their habitats and to implement Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the Convention, as well as to contribute to the implementation, at European level, to many of the obligations of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro, 1992). Such work is also necessary for harmonisation at European level on data management and to set a common European approach to species conservation.

4. Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation*Long-term aim*

To preserve wild species and natural habitats. Implementation of Recommendation (91) 25 of the Standing Committee. Implementation of obligations of Article 2 and of relevant provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Co-ordination with the European Union with regards to mainstreaming biodiversity issues. Introduction of biological diversity considerations into sectoral policies is an important permanent activity as success in conservation of biological diversity relies in a great part in how it is integrated in other policies.

Medium-term aim

Identification of processes affecting loss of wild biological diversity, identification of species and habitat-types at risk by intensification or neglect. Setting-up of models to monitor change in wildlife outside protected areas. Preparation of meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity and of its technical body. Monitoring of effects on biodiversity of sectoral policies (energy, transport, agriculture, forestry, hunting, spatial planning, fishing, etc.).

Short-term aim

Monitoring of the implementation of relevant Standing Committee Recommendations regarding the illegal killing of birds. Identification of main threats and monitoring of wildlife outside protected areas or areas of high biological value. Assessment of the need to address environmental impacts of sport activities, especially in vulnerable and semi-natural areas; assessment of the need for an update of the Code of Conduct for Sustainable Open-air Sports and Leisure Activities [document PE-S-TO (99) 7]. Implementation and awareness on the Code of conduct on pets and invasive alien species in Europe (2011); the Code of conduct on hunting and invasive alien species in Europe (2011); the European Charter on Angling and Biodiversity (2010) and the European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity (2007).

Funding

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

Methods

Consultant/Groups of experts.

Political interest

The over-exploitation of marine resources, the urbanisation including the urban sprawl and degradation of coastal areas and the rapid change of farming and forestry practices and livestock raising are having a serious effect on wildlife and natural habitats. The public is worried about the changes in landscapes and the loss of biological diversity. This is also one of the main priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan.

5. Monitoring of sites and populations at risk and emergencies

Long-term aim

Monitoring of the implementation of the obligations of the Convention by Parties by examination of cases and eventual opening of files.

For emergencies: development of a task force of experts that may have the possibility to act rapidly in a situation of grave ecological damage as a result of a catastrophe, an accident or a conflict situation.

Medium-term aim

Follow up of files already opened and examination of the positive effect the Convention has had in their resolution.

For emergencies: identify experts relevant in different environment sectors in relation to the issues dealt with at the Bern Convention.

Short-term aim

Continue to evaluate the file system and suggest improvements, to cover cases in which a “brokerage” action is needed but are not necessarily connected to potential breach of the Convention.

For emergencies: contact potential experts and donors.

Funding

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

Methods

Reports, on-the-spot appraisals, groups of experts, consultancy.

Political interest

The case file system is regarded by Parties and non-governmental organisations as the most effective instrument to monitor the implementation of the Convention. It is a very effective way to open a debate on problem areas and threatened populations of the target species and permits a certain “brokerage” action by the Standing Committee, which helps to solve many problems. Contracting Parties have shown great interest to reach solutions that can be acceptable to the Standing Committee, which reinforces the interest of the Convention for Parties.

6. Awareness and visibility

Long-term aim

Promote and disseminate general information on the need to conserve species of wild flora and fauna and their habitats (Article 3, paragraph 3). Keep the public informed about the activities undertaken within the framework of the Convention (Article 14, paragraph 1).

Medium-term aim

Make the Convention better known in Contracting Parties and decision makers more aware of the interest of European biological diversity.

Short-term aim

To guide present Council of Europe awareness instruments to take greater interest in the Convention. Maintenance of Web page. Preparation of outreach materials informing about the Convention, its importance and role.

Funding

Council of Europe and voluntary contributions.

Methods

Publications/Website/oral presentations.

Political interest

Visibility of the action of the Council of Europe in general, and of the Bern Convention more particularly, has been set as one of the priorities for the Council of Europe institutional bodies; a greater information on Bern Convention activities can only help re-enforce the political support of concerned governments.

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Note:

This programme of activities is implemented with the help and in collaboration with a number of conventions, organisation and initiatives. Memoranda of co-operation have been concluded with the European Environment Agency, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species, and the IUCN. Privilege partners in the implementation of the programme of activities are, *inter alia*, the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO), Planta Europa, BirdLife International, WWF, Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE), Large Herbivore Initiative (WWF-LHI), Societas Europea Herpetologica (SEH), and the European Invertebrate Survey (EIS).

		BO	VC
2.5	Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas		
	<p>Strasbourg, 5 March</p> <p><i>Terms of reference</i> To carry-out an effective monitoring of the areas to which the Diploma is awarded or renewed, thus ensuring that a high level of protection is maintained, management is improved, and the conservation of the outstanding area is ensured.</p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence expenses for six delegates* and two consultants</i></p> <p>*Members of the Group of Specialists</p>	5,100	2,000
2.6	Consultancy for the Protected Areas and Ecological Networks		
	<p>Consultants will be hired to manage the setting-up of the Emerald Network and to do the necessary technical work required, included software, lists, handling of data, etc.</p>	8,000	7,000
3. Monitoring of species and encouraging conservation action			
3.1	Invasive Alien Species		
	Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species⁴		
	<p>Alghero (Italy), 20-21 June</p> <p><i>Terms of reference:</i> Follow-up and review the implementation of the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (IAS). Preparation of guidance for Parties and consideration of relevant cross-cutting issues such as trade, climate change, protected areas, etc</p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 19 States*:</i></p> <p>ALBANIA, ARMENIA, CROATIA, GEORGIA, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ITALY, MALTA, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, POLAND, ROMANIA, SENEGAL, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, TUNISIA, UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM</p> <p>*Countries particularly active in eradicating invasive alien species</p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence for three consultants</i></p> <p><i>Consultancy and preparation of draft reports for consideration by the Group of Experts</i></p>	6,300	9,000
		1,000	2,000
		3,000	6,000
3.2	Communication on Invasive Alien Species		
	<p>MONTH (t.b.c.)</p> <p><i>Terms of reference:</i> Communication actions on how to manage Invasive Alien Species. Activity co-organised by the Bern Convention, EPPO, the EEA and IUCN</p> <p><i>Travel and subsistence for 6 consultants</i></p>		6,000

⁴ **Participants:** All Contracting Parties; **Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

		BO	VC
3.3	Invertebrates		
	Group of Experts on Invertebrates⁵		
	Albania		
	<i>Terms of reference:</i> The Group of Experts will monitor and follow-up the implementation of the European Strategy for the Conservation of Invertebrates.		
	1-2 October (t.b.c.)		
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert of each of the following 17 States*:</i> ALBANIA, BELGIUM, CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, LITHUANIA, NORWAY, POLAND, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, TURKEY, UNITED KINGDOM. *Countries which have been particularly active in this issue	7,300	9,000
	<i>Travel and subsistence for two consultants</i>	1,000	1,000
	<i>Consultancy fees for the preparation of technical reports</i>	6,000	6,000
3.4	Recovery plans and reintroductions: the case of the Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)		
	Co-organisation of a workshop to analyse and monitor the implementation of the recovery plans and the good practices in reintroductions.		
	Orléans, France, 2 days, September (t.b.c.)		
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for 4 experts from European countries and 1 expert from Senegal</i>		p.m.
3.5	Conservation of Birds⁶		
	Group of Experts on the conservation of birds		
	Venue (t.b.c.), 31 May		
	<i>Terms of reference:</i> Follow-up and monitoring the implementation of relevant Action Plans and recommendations; reviewing the main threats to the conservation of wild birds and proposing appropriate conservation measures; ensuring international co-ordination in this field. This Group will work in close co-operation with BirdLife, the AEWa and the European Union.		
	<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 16 States:</i> ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CZECH REPUBLIC, CROATIA, CYPRUS, GREECE, ITALY, MALTA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, PORTUGAL, SENEGAL, SERBIA, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, TUNISIA, TURKEY *Countries having participated in previous meetings of the Group	6,300	8,000
	<i>Consultancy fees for the preparation of technical reports</i>	4,000	4,000

⁵ **Participants:** All Contracting Parties; **Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

⁶ **Participants:** All Contracting Parties

Observers: All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

4. Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation		BO	VC
4.1 Environmental Impact of Sport activities on biodiversity	Strasbourg (t.b.c.), 2 days, Month t.b.c.		12,000
Assessment of the need to address the environmental impact of big sport events on biodiversity. Activity to be organised in co-operation with the Council of Europe Partial Agreement on Sport (t.b.c.)			
4.2 2nd European Conference on Illegal killing of birds⁷	Venue (t.b.c.), 29-30 May		
Monitoring the implementation of relevant European legislation and follow-up of the conclusions of the 1 st European Conference on Illegal killing of birds (Cyprus, July 2011)			
<i>Travel and subsistence expenses for one expert from each of the following 16 States:</i>			
<i>ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CZECH REPUBLIC, CROATIA, CYPRUS, GREECE, ITALY, MALTA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, PORTUGAL, SENEGAL, SERBIA, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, TUNISIA, TURKEY</i>		5,200	5,000
<i>Travel and subsistence for five consultants</i>		2,500	3,000
<i>Consultancy fees for the preparation of technical reports</i>		2,500	3,000
5. Monitoring of sites at risk		BO	VC
5.1 On-the-spot visits			
On-the-spot visits, by independent experts designated by the Secretary General to examine threatened habitats and travel and subsistence expenses incurred by such experts to inform the Standing Committee or its groups of experts. It includes appraisals of the European Diploma.		11,000	14,000
5.2 Sites at risk as a result of an emergency			
Fixed appropriation to cover expenses for reports, travelling of experts or Secretariat to areas under a particular environmental stress as a result of natural catastrophes or accidents caused by man. It includes assistance to areas under political or military conflict. It may cover training of specialists, aid to establish environmental monitoring. This chapter will only be used under instruction of the Bureau and will be paid for both from the Council of Europe or by voluntary contributions.			p.m.
6. Training, awareness and visibility		BO	VC
Capacity Building. Implementation of article 3 of the Convention. Funds for the conception, the translation, the photocomposition and publication of technical documents, monitoring reports, posters, brochures, etc. It includes dissemination of publications (article 3.3) and regular and update of a Website		5,000	6,000

⁷ **Participants:** All Contracting Parties **Observers:** All observer states and qualified organisations active in this field.

7. Operational expenditure of the Standing Committee's Secretariat		BO	VC
7.1 Strategic development and implementation of the Convention: implementation of CBD CoP 11 decisions			p.m.
7.2 Chair's expenses Fixed appropriation to cover travel and/or subsistence expenses incurred by the Chairman or delegates T-PVS after consultation with the Secretary General. Expenses of the Chair to attend the meetings of the Standing Committee.		3,000	3,000
7.3 Delegates of African states and some delegates of Central and Eastern Europe Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the delegates of African states to attend the Standing Committee meeting or other meetings organised under its responsibility.		3,000	3,000
Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by some delegates from Contracting Parties with economies in transition (on a temporary basis and after decision of the Bureau) to attend the Standing Committee meeting.		7,000	8,000
7.4 Travel of experts and Secretariat Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by experts to attend meetings of special relevance under instruction from the Committee of the Chair, and Secretariat official journeys.		15,000	8,900
7.5 Meetings of the Bureau Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the members of the Bureau to attend the Bureau meetings.	8 April, 16 September	6,800	3,200
7.6 Permanent staff (provided by the CoE) Administrator, Administrative Assistant High level management costs		172,800 26,600	
7.7 Temporary staff and administrative costs for temporary staff			107,000
7.8 Translation, interpretation, overheads (printing of documents and daily running of the office)		81,500	
TOTAL		402,400	313,100
OVERALL TOTAL			715,500

The Bern Convention Special Account will be used to cover expenses that cannot be covered by the ordinary budget of the Council of Europe.

The activities for which the ordinary budget of the Council of Europe is not sufficient alone, and that will not receive additional voluntary contributions will not or partially be implemented.

The Council of Europe is expected to provide around € 402,400 in 2013 (€ 203,000 for financing the programme of activities including overheads, and € 199,400 for staff and high level management costs). Parties are expected to provide new voluntary contributions in 2013. A detailed report on 2012 expenditure and a list of voluntary contributions will be presented to the Committee for information.

Bern Convention Programme of Activities and Budget for 2013 (Summary)

in Euros

		BO	VC
1.	Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention	4,000	2,000
1.1	Reports on the implementation of the Convention in one Contracting Party and legal assistance	4,000	2,000
2.	Conservation of natural habitats	21,100	84,000
2.1	Group of experts on protected areas and ecological networks	7,000	8,000
2.2	Biogeographical seminar for the implementation of the Emerald Network	1,000	5,000
2.3	Technical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in three states		12,000
2.4	Pilot projects for the setting-up of the Emerald Network at national level in some States		50,000
2.5	Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas	5,100	2,000
2.6	Consultants	8,000	7,000
3.	Monitoring of species and encouraging conservation action	34,900	51,000
3.1	Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species	10,300	17,000
3.2	Communication on Invasive Alien Species	0	6,000
3.3	Group of Experts on Invertebrates	14,300	16,000
3.4	Recovery plans and reintroductions: the case of the Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)		p.m.
3.5	Group of Experts on Conservation of Birds	10,300	12,000
4.	Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation	10,200	23,000
4.1	Environmental Impact of Sport Activities on biodiversity	0	12,000
4.2	2 nd European Conference on Illegal Killing of Birds	10,200	11,000
5.	Monitoring of sites and populations at risk and emergencies	11,000	14,000
5.1	On-the-spot visits, including European Diploma appraisals	11,000	14,000
5.2	Sites at risk as a result of an emergency		p.m.
6.	Training, awareness and visibility	5,000	6,000
		5,000	6,000
7.	Operational expenditure of the Standing Committee and its Secretariat	315,700	133,100
7.1	Strategic development and implementation of the Convention: implementation of CBD CoP 11 decisions		p.m.
7.2	Chair's expenses	3,000	3,000
7.3	Delegates of African states and of some delegates of Central and Eastern Europe	10,000	11,000
7.4	Travel of experts and Secretariat	15,000	8,900
7.5	Meetings of the Bureau	6,800	3,200
	Secretariat: Staff and office costs		
7.6	Permanent staff (provided by the CoE)	199,400	
7.7	Temporary staff		107,000
7.8	Overheads (interpretation, translation and printing of documents)	81,500	
	TOTAL	402,400	313,100
OVERALL TOTAL		715,500	

**Summary of the Bern Convention Programme of Activities and Budget for 2013
as validated in 2011 (for comparison only)**

		in Euros	
		BO	VC
1.	Monitoring of the legal application of the Convention	4,000	8,000
1.1	Reports on the implementation of the Convention in one Contracting Party and legal assistance	4,000	8,000
2.	Conservation of natural habitats	17,800	94,000
2.1	Group of experts on protected areas and ecological networks	6,800	9,000
2.2	Biogeographical seminar for the implementation of the Emerald Network		8,000
2.3	Technical seminar for the setting-up of the Emerald Network in three states	5,900	10,000
2.4	Pilot projects for the setting-up of the Emerald Network at national level in some States		40,000
2.5	Group of Specialists on the European Diploma of Protected Areas	5,100	2,000
2.6	Consultants		25,000
3.	Monitoring of species and encouraging conservation action	29,700	55,000
3.1	Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species	12,300	18,000
3.2	Group of Experts on Island Biodiversity	7,100	23,000
3.3	Group of Experts on Invertebrates	10,300	14,000
4.	Sectoral policies and biodiversity conservation	15,100/	10,000
4.1	2 nd European Conference on Illegal Killing of Birds	15,100	10,000
5.	Monitoring of sites and populations at risk and emergencies	11,000	14,000
5.1	On-the-spot visits, including European Diploma appraisals	11,000	14,000
5.2	Sites at risk as a result of an emergency		p.m.
6.	Training, awareness and visibility	6,000	12,000
	Costs of part-time webmaster, publications	6,000	12,000
7.	Operational expenditure of the Standing Committee and its Secretariat	317,800	204,000
7.1	Strategic development of the Convention after CBD/COP 10 for the European targets for 2020		p.m.
7.2	Chair's expenses	3,000	3,000
7.3	Delegates of African states and of some delegates of Central and Eastern Europe	11,000	11,000
7.4	Travel of experts and Secretariat	16,100	8,900
7.5	Meetings of the Bureau	6,800	3,200
	Secretariat: Staff and office costs		
7.6	Permanent staff (provided by the CoE)	199,400	
7.7	Temporary staff		141,900
7.8	Office costs for temporary staff		36,000
7.9	Overheads (interpretation, translation and printing of documents)	81,500	
TOTAL		401,400	397,000
OVERALL TOTAL		798,400	