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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Second Conference on the Illegal killing,  
Trapping and Trade of Wild Birds**

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**Seconde Conférence sur la mise à mort,  
le piégeage et le commerce illégaux d'oiseaux sauvages**

Tunis (31 May 2013)

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**NATIONAL REPORT OF SERBIA**

**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
RECOMMENDATION NO 155 (2011)**

**ON THE ILLEGAL KILLING, TRAPPING AND TRADE OF WILD BIRDS**

*Document submitted by  
The Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia*

## **REPORT**

### **ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION NO. 155 (2011) ON THE ILLEGAL KILLING, TRAPPING AND TRADE OF WILD BIRDS IN SERBIA**

Towards implementation of the Recommendation No 155 (2011) on the illegal killing, trapping and trade of wild birds in Serbia, as well as the integration this issue into sectoral policies, strategies and legislation have been started and are in progress in this field, and to make efforts to strengthen the necessary resources concerning monitoring and research and minimizing effects of the illegal activities in this regard.

#### **1. Current Legal Framework as legislation base for conservation of birds and transposing Bern Convention**

- The National Strategy on Sustainable Development ( 2008-2017)
- The National Environmental Protection Programme (2010-2019)
- The National Strategy for Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Goods
- The Strategy on Biological Diversity (2011-2018)
- The National Strategy of Energy Development of the Republic of Serbia (2005- 2015)
- The Law on Energy
- The Law on Environmental Protection
- The Law on Nature Protection
- The Programme of implementation of the Strategy for Development of Energy of the Republic of Serbia
- Treaty establishing the Energy Community between the EU and South-Eastern Europe has been signed in Athens 2005. by Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on behalf of the United Nations Interim Mission in Kosovo have therefore take a step towards full integration of their energy markets into the EU energy market.
- Decree on Ecological Network
- Regulation on proclamation and protection strictly protected and protected wild species of plants, animals and fungi
- Rulebook on particular technical and technological solutions which facilitate undisturbed and safe communication of wild animals will be established by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water management
- Rulebook on trans-boundary movement and trade of protected species
- Rulebook on conditions of keeping, method of marking and registration of wild animals in the captivity

#### **Article 6**

According to the Article 6 of the Bern Convention, Regulation on proclamation and protection strictly protected and protected wild species of plants, animals and fungi (Official Gazette No 5/2010) illustrates transposition as following:

#### **Article 4**

Protection of strictly protected wild species shall be enforced by the prohibition of use, destruction and taking actions that may threaten wild species and their habitats, as well as taking measures and actions to manage populations, as proscribed by this Rulebook and special law.

Exceptionally from paragraph 1 of this Article, strictly protected species may be used under conditions and in the manner prescribed by the Law on Nature Protection according to the permit of the ministry authorized for nature protection (hereinafter: Ministry).

#### **Article 7**

Protection and conservation of strictly protected and protected wild species shall be conducted by taking measures and actions to manage populations, such as:

- 1) Protection of habitats;
- 2) monitoring of the populations of species condition and the factors of their endangerment, in particular monitoring and reducing the climate change impacts on highly vulnerable species and their habitats;
- 3) bio-technical measures;
- 4) Reintroduction of species to the territory of the Republic of Serbia or in its individual parts, i.e. breeding species in the conditions outside of the natural habitat (ex situ) and in the natural habitat (in situ) for their reintroduction to nature;
- 5) Rehabilitation and revitalization of damaged habitats;
- 6) implementation of compensatory measures by establishing a new site that has the same or similar characteristics as the damaged site and the introduction of species to other sites in order to increase their number;
- 7) support for scientific research, educational activities and popularization of conservation and protection of species;
- 9) Collecting of parent specimens for reproduction, breeding of their offspring and trade for commercial purposes in the registered plantations and farms;
- 10) Displacement of specimens of strictly protected species in the case of accidents (air, water and land pollution, mass occurrence of reptiles, amphibians, etc.);
- 11) increase of the abundance of strictly protected species above the optimal number, provided by a special programme, that is, a development programme of the hunting area, carried out by the Ministry competent for agriculture, forestry and water management;
- 12) finding a suitable site for the reintroduction of the migratory species, as a site suitable for the development cycle of species or habitat of migratory species (feeding, wintering, resorts, brood of hens, migratory corridors, changing the hair).

#### **2. National observation and monitoring on illegal activities on killing, trapping and trade birds**

Regarding communication strategy on illegal killing, trapping and trade birds, National Biological Diversity Strategy (2011-2018) includes Actions for Communication with all relevant sectors and stakeholders regarding conservation, safety and sustainable use of wild flora and fauna, and meeting on Implementation of the Recommendations of the Bern Conventions.

Ministry for Energy, Development and Environmental Protection coordinates all relevant institutions including Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia, Provincial Institute for Nature Conservation, Institute of Biological Research "Siniša Stankovic", Faculty of Biology - Belgrade University, Natural History Museum in Belgrade regarding expert advice and data exchange. NGO Orka advice comes as well.

Within CITES, classifying environmental crime as a priority crime category will improve the investigation and enforcement. Designating a special unit within the police to work solely on environmental crime issues will ensure the manpower, and enabling specialized training for operational work with protected species would be of extreme importance. Monitoring will be improved including enforcement measures with energy sector;

In addition, preliminary review of results in 2012 from seizures shows a strong increase in effectiveness of recognizing and preventing attempts to illegally transport specimens of protected species via the national border, mainly thanks to the efforts of the CITES MA staff which has developed training materials and delivered numerous presentations through workshops and seminars for customs officers, environmental inspectors, border vet inspectors, border police, prosecutors, etc.

Also, frequent cooperation in the last few years has resulted in increased efficiency when cases are prosecuted, and in the development of the amendments to the Law on nature protection, a body for coordinating enforcement activities on CITES will be formed, which will also cover this aspect and involve the listed authorities

### **3. Ongoing activities**

- Amendments to the Law on Nature Protection
- Preparation of Decree on Appropriate Assessment
- Amendments to the Decree on Ecological network

In addition

#### **IPA 2012 project**

- "Capacity building to implement "acquis" standards and conventions in nature protection" will aim to: further establish a list of potential NATURA 2000 sites; map habitat types and species; strengthen the capacities of the stakeholders to prepare management plans for these areas and facilitate cross-sector cooperation and participation of the stakeholders.

One of the components of the above mentioned IPA 2012 Project "Strengthening Capacity for the Implementation of the Acquis and Nature Protection Conventions" will also be to strengthen the cap

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