Strasbourg, 25 September 2026 **T-PVS/Agenda(2026)10**

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

16th meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks jointly with the 5th meeting of the Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan

29 - 30 September 2026
Lagodekhi, Georgia

DRAFT AGENDA

Document prepared by the Secretariat

		Documents	Expected results
Tuesday, 29 September 2026			
9.30 AM	**1. Opening of the meeting**		*National authorities of Georgia welcome the participants in the GoEPAEN and WG on overseeing implementation of the Strategic Plan and officially open the meeting.*
9.50 AM	**2. Adoption of the agenda**	**For adoption** Meeting agenda T-PVS/Agenda (2026)10	*Members of the Working Group and Group of Experts are informed of the aims of the meeting and adopt the agenda.*
10.00 AM	**3. Conclusions of the 15th meeting of the GoEPAEN and 4th meeting of the WG on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan. Relevant decisions of the 45th meeting of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention.** *Presentation by Danielle Hofmann, Chair of the GoEPAEN*	**For information** Report of the 15th Meeting of GoEPAEN T-PVS(2025)20 Report of the 4th meeting of the Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan T-PVS(2026)01	*The conclusions of the previous GoEPAEN meeting and meeting of the WG on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan as well as the salient points of the 45th meeting of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention are recalled.*
10.15 AM	**4. Emerald Network updated Standard Data Form guidelines** *Presentation by the expert, Laura Gavilán Iglesias*	**For endorsement**	*Members of the Working Group and Group of experts are informed of the Emerald Network updated Standard Data Form (SDF) guidelines and endorse the document for adoption by the Standing Committee.*
10.45 AM	**5. Reportnet 3 – current status and future prospects of the platform**	**For information and discussion**	*Members of the Working Group and Group of Experts are updated on the current developments and future function of the Reportnet3.*

	Presentation by the expert, Laura Gavilán Iglesias		
11.10 AM	***Break***		
11.30 AM	**6. Outcomes of National reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and link between the Resolution No. 8 (2012) checklists and Emerald Network Reference Lists** *Presentation by the expert, Laura Gavilán Iglesias*	**For information and discussion**	*Members of the Working Group and Group of Experts are introduced to the outcomes of the national reporting and changes made to the checklists during reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and as well as to how these changes are connected to the Emerald Network Reference Lists.*
12.00 PM	**7. Strategic Plan indicators dependent on data from national reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012): 1.1.a, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2** *Presentation by the experts, Dave Pritchard and Laura Gavilán Iglesias*	**For information and discussion** Indicator 1.1.a Indicator 1.4 Indicator 2.1 Indicator 2.2	*Members of the Working Group and the Group of Experts are informed about and discuss possible next steps for further work on the Strategic Plan indicators that are dependent on data from national reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012).*
12.30 PM	***Lunch***		
2.00 PM	**8. Natura 2000 & Emerald Network – connections & transition between the two** *Presentation by Frank Vassen (online), Policy Officer at the European Commission and the expert, Marc Roekaerts*	**For information and discussion**	*Participants in the meeting are informed about the links between the Natura 2000 and Emerald networks and discuss the transition between the two.*
2.30 PM	**9. Ongoing EU-funded projects on the Emerald Network in Europe** *Presentation by Frank Vassen, Policy Officer at the European Commission (online)*	**For information and discussion**	*Members of the Working Group and the Group of Experts are informed about ongoing projects aimed at developing the Emerald Network and share their experiences and lessons learned.*

2.50 PM	**10. Emerald Network in Georgia** *Presentation by Luka Khvareshia, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture,*	**For information and discussion**	*Members of the Working Group and the Group of Experts take note of the developments and current state of the Emerald Network in Georgia.*
3.00 PM	**11. Development of the Emerald Network in Contracting Parties** *Tour de table – power point présentations by Contracting Parties*	**For information** **(*Guiding questions*)**	*Representatives of the Contracting Parties are invited to update the Group of Experts on the latest developments regarding the Emerald Network in their respective countries, including the submission of new databases.*
3.30 AM	***Break***		
3.50 PM	**11. Continue - Development of the Emerald Network in Contracting Parties** *Tour de table – power point présentations by Contracting Parties*	***For information*** **(*Guiding questions*)**	*Representatives of the Contracting Parties are invited to update the Group of Experts on the latest developments regarding the Emerald Network in their respective countries, including the submission of new databases.*
4.30 PM	**End of the first day of the meeting**		
8.00 PM	**Dinner offered by the hosting country**		

Wednesday, 30 September 2026			
9.00 AM	**12. Negative changes to Emerald Network sites: legal analysis of the scope for authorising potentially harmful activities** *Presentation by the expert, Arie Trouwborst - (online)*	**For endorsement** (T-PVS/Inf(2026)10e)	*Members of the Working Group and the Group of Experts are informed about the findings of the legal analysis for assessing negative changes to the Emerald Network.*
9.45 AM	**13. Revised Guidelines for explaining negative changes in Emerald Network proposed, candidate and adopted sites** *Presentation by the expert, Otars Opermanis*	**For endorsement**	*Members of the Working Group and the Group of Experts are presented with the Revised Guidelines for explaining negative changes in Emerald Network proposed, candidate and adopted sites for its further adoption by the 46th Standing Committee.*
10.30 AM	***Break***		
10.40 AM	**14. Ongoing work on the Strategic Plan: results of "voluntary national updates on the implementation of the Strategic Plan", study on nature-based solutions and reflection on the 'case-file system'** *Presentation by the experts, Dave Pritchard, Lawrence Jones-Walters (online) and the Secretariat*	**For information and discussion** Indicator Factsheets (draft) Monitoring & Evaluation Guide – outline Methods for assessing the management effectiveness of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM)	*Members of the Working Group and the Group of Experts are provided with an update on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, including the preliminary results of the voluntary national updates, followed by an update on the indicator factsheets, a presentation of the study on nature-based solutions, and reflection on the "case-file system*

11.10 M	**15. Mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan implementation in 2027** *Presentation by the expert, Dave Pritchard*	**For information and discussion**	*Members of the Working Group and the Group of Experts are informed about and discuss the content of the mid-term evaluation to be conducted in 2027.*
11.30 AM	**16. Programme of activities 2026 – 2027: future work of the Group of Experts** *Presentation by the Secretariat*	**For information and discussion**	*Members of the Working Group and Group of Experts are informed about the Programme of Activities planned for 2026-2027 concerning the work of the respective groups*
11.40 AM	**17. Date and place of the next meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks and of Working Group on the Strategic Plan**	**For information and discussion**	*Participants in the meeting agree on the date and place of the next meetings of the GoEPAEN and the WG on the implementation of the Strategic Plan.*
12.00 PM	**18. Any other business**		
12.15 PM	**19. Conclusions of the meeting**		
12.30 PM	**End of the meeting**		
12.30 PM	***Lunch***		
1:30 - 6:00 PM	***Field visit to the Lagodekhi Protected area and Emerald Network site***		