

***Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012)
on the conservation status of species
and habitats***

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Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting

- Requested to provide recommendations on the objectives and scope of reporting under Resolution 8 (2012) in light of capacities and needs of Parties, cost effectiveness, and feasibility of aligning with EU Nature Directives Article 17 and 12 Reporting
- The Working Group met twice in 2022, with key outcomes being:
 - The reporting procedure needs to be simplified
 - Reporting needs to be useful to Parties
 - Reporting should be complimentary to other MEA reporting
 - Data should be as up to date as possible

3rd Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting

June 27th 2023

Four options proposed for simplification:

1. Report on all features and in the full format.

- Full compatibility with EU reporting
- Large reporting burden

2. Report on a reduced number of features, full format.

- Omit entire taxonomic groups
- Meaningful analysis possible
- Compatibility with EU reporting

3rd Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting

June 27th 2023

Four options proposed for simplification:

3. Report on the same selection of features as in 2019 and full format.

- Comparison with trial reporting
- Limitations in data analysis and use

4. Report on all features but revise the reporting format.

- New definition of conservation status needed
- Data not comparable with EU reporting
- New reporting tool needed
- No support from European Environment Agency

Option 2: Report on a reduced number of features, full format

- The Working Group's recommendations were to:
 - **Focus on the habitats where there is 1:1 correlation between Annex I in the Habitats Directive and Bern Resolution 4**
 - **Omit birds as these tended to be reported on by other means (e.g. Pan European Common Birds Monitoring Scheme)**
- Weaker reasons to exclude invertebrates and/or plants
- Potential to exclude marine mammals as they are reported under OSPAR
- **Agreed reports should cover the period 2019 – 2024 and will be due in January 2026.**

4th Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting

November 9th 2023

Checklists of Species and Habitats

- Country size and number of biogeographical regions significantly influences the number of features a Party must report
- Marine features will not be included in the checklists, but Parties can report voluntarily
- Parties are *invited* to report on species subject to reservations
- Resolution No.6 (1998) species marked with ‘#’ should be included in checklists

Reporting Format

Change	Nature of the change / intention	Group's decision
General reporting format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Addition of success stories to showcase conservation successes ➤ Deletion of sections to avoid duplication of reported data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Simplification and deletion of sections welcomed
Short-term trend magnitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Measure the extent of change ➤ Ranges are provided in case a value is unknown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Need to be able to report 'unknown' ➤ Guidelines needed
Favourable reference values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lack of accuracy of operators used in the past (>, >>, <) ➤ Ranges are provided if precise favourable reference value is unknown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Data available likely limited ➤ Important to record quality of data
Species population size units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vertebrates to be measured in individuals ➤ Vascular plants to be measured in individuals, m² or 1x1 km grids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Option to use 'Additional population size' field when individuals unknown ➤ Report won't be blocked if field left empty
Pressures and threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Focus on pressures (not on threats anymore) ➤ Assessment of the scope and influence of pressures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Data availability likely limited ➤ Further consideration needed
Reference date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reference date for population / range when the Convention came into force 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Agreed date of adoption of Res. No 8 (2012)
Invasive Alien Species List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adoption of list of Invasive Alien Species of Union concern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advice needed from Bern Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species

Next steps

- Parties should carefully review the checklists of species and habitats by the end of January 2024.
- The 5th meeting of the working group is scheduled for 30th April 2024.
 - Further discussion of validation rules and whether fields are optional or mandatory
 - Finalisation of checklists
- Salome Nozadze (Georgia) will replace James Williams (UK) as chair of the Working Group.