



Strasbourg, 8 November 2024

T-PVS/Agenda(2024)13Ann

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

44th meeting
Strasbourg, 2-6 December 2024
Strasbourg

Opening of the meeting: 2.00pm CET on Monday 2 December 2024¹

Close of the meeting: 12.30pm CET on Friday 6 December 2024

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

PART I – OPENING

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The 44th meeting of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention will be opened by the Chair of the Committee, Ms Merike Linnamägi, at 2:00 pm on Monday, 2 December 2024. She will present the agenda of the meeting and request its adoption.

The Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr Rafael Benitez, will welcome the participants in the meeting.

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

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DELEGATIONS AND FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The Chair will report on the various achievements and issues at stake for the Bern Convention since the last meeting of the Standing Committee, the implementation of the Programme of Work for 2024 and the work of the Bureau in 2024.

Contracting Parties are invited to report in writing on the implementation of the Bern Convention in their States.

¹ Draft plan for the discussion of the agenda is available at the end of this document. Meeting documents shall be available one month before the meeting at this link: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention/-/44th-standing-committee>

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the Bureau meeting reports and the information presented.

2.1. Follow up to the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe on 16-17 May 2023 in Reykjavík, Iceland

2.1.1. Creation of the Department on the Reykjavík process and the environment / Directorate of social rights, health and environment

2.1.2. Involvement of the Bern Convention in the Reykjavík process

2.1.3. Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME)

[GME(2024)1 –Terms of Reference of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME)]

[GME(2024)AR1 –Abridged report of the 1st meeting of the GME]

The Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr Rafael Benitez, will inform the Standing Committee about the follow-up given to the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe held on 16-17 May 2023 in Reykjavík, Iceland, in particular on the Creation of the Department on the Reykjavík process and the environment / Directorate of social rights, health and environment, about the involvement of the Bern Convention in the Reykjavík process and about the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME).

The Chair of the Standing Committee, Ms Merike Linnamägi, will inform the Committee about her participation in the 1st GME meeting (25-27 September 2024).

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information provided by the Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr Rafael Benitez, about the follow-up given to the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe held on 16-17 May 2023 in Reykjavík, Iceland, in particular on the Creation of the Department on the Reykjavík process and the environment / Directorate of social rights, health and environment, about the involvement of the Bern Convention in the Reykjavík process and about the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME), and by its Chair, Ms Merike Linnamägi, about her participation in the 1st GME meeting (25-27 September 2024).

3. FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION

3.1. Financing of the Bern Convention

[T-PVS(2024)13 –Report of the 7th meeting of the ad hoc Drafting group of an Amending Protocol]

[T-PVS(2024)10 - Fourth draft Protocol amending the Bern Convention]

[T-PVS/Inf(2024)19- The Bern Convention financial situation]

The Chair of the *Ad hoc* Drafting Group of an Amending Protocol, Mr Charles-Henri de Barsac, will report to the Standing Committee on the discussions held in the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers' Rapporteur Group in charge of the Bern Convention (the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment, GR-C) to discuss the Bern Convention financial situation. He will also report on the state of play of the Protocol amending the Bern Convention.

The Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr Rafael Benitez, will inform the Standing Committee about the possible establishment of a CoE Environmental Trust Fund in order to ensure the implementation of the CoE Strategy on Environment.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of:

- the information presented
- the meeting report of the *Ad hoc* Drafting Group of an Amending Protocol
- the revised draft Protocol amending the Bern Convention
- the possible establishment of a CoE Environmental Trust Fund

3.2. Voluntary contributions received in 2024: state of play

[T-PVS/Inf(2024)08Rev - Table of the voluntary contributions received]

The Chair will take stock of the voluntary contributions received during 2024.

The Chair will invite the Contracting Parties to consider the same scale of voluntary contributions as set by Resolution No. 9 (2019) for 2024.

3.3. Vision and Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention for the period to 2030

[T-PVS(2024)02 – Report of the 1st meeting of the Working Group overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan]

[T-PVS(2024)08 – Report of the 2nd meeting of the Working Group overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan]

[T-PVS(2024)12 - Operationalising the Strategic Plan's indicators – next steps]

[T-PVS(2024)14 – Compilation of the national voluntary updates on the Strategic Plan implementation]

The Chair of the Working Group overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan, Mr Jan Plesnik, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the two meetings of the Working Group in 2024.

The consultant, Mr Dave Pritchard, will inform the Standing Committee of the workplan for operationalising the indicators of the Strategic Plan and wrap up the voluntary national updates on the implementation of the Strategic Plan by Contracting Parties.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- take note of the progress in the development of indicators of the Strategic Plan
- thank the Parties which provided voluntary updates on the implementation of the Strategic Plan

PART II – MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL ASPECTS

4. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION

4.1. Biennial reports 2021-2022 concerning exceptions made to Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8

Article 9.2 of the Bern Convention requests Parties to report on the exceptions made to Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. The Secretariat will recall the reporting procedure on exceptions granted under Article 9 of the Bern Convention for EU Member States, using the EU Habides + tool for reporting.

The Secretariat will provide an update on the development of a new Online Reporting System.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the biennial reports and the information presented.

4.2. Proposal for amendment: Downlisting of the wolf (*Canis lupus*) from Appendix II to Appendix III of the Convention

*[T-PVS/Inf(2024)15 – Proposal by the European Union to amend Appendices II and III of the Bern Convention of the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats by moving the wolf (*Canis lupus*) from Appendix II to Appendix III]*

[The Bern Convention and the protection of the wolf - FAQ]

The EU representative will present the proposal for amendment and the motivations behind it, and request the Standing Committee to take position on the proposal for amendment. Contracting Parties will be asked to vote.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to vote on the proposal for amendment.

PART III – MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

5. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

5.1. Conservation of Birds & IKB

The Secretariat will present the state of play with the meeting of the Group of Experts on the Conservation of Wild Birds and the joint meeting with the CMS MIKT on IKB. In spite of advanced preparations, the meetings, mean to be hosted by the government of Türkiye, could not take place in 2024.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information presented, to take note that both meetings to be held back-to-back in 2025, and to thank all the stakeholders for their efforts to organise the two meetings in 2024.

5.2. Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck

The Secretariat will present the outcome of the expert meeting on the implementation of the action plan for the eradication of the Ruddy Duck in Europe (22 November 2024).

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

5.3. Conservation of Large Carnivores

The Standing Committee will be informed of the involvement of the Bern Convention Secretariat in the activities related to Large Carnivores and the preparations of the meeting of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores in the first semester 2025.

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

5.4. Pan-European Action Plan for the conservation of Sturgeons

[T-PVS(2024)07 - Draft recommendation on the assessment of the habitat of sturgeons / on sturgeon population monitoring / on ex situ conservation measures for sturgeons]

[T-PVS(2024)16 - Technical guideline on habitat assessment; T-PVS(2024)17 - Technical guideline on population monitoring; T-PVS(2024)18 - Technical guideline on ex-situ conservation measures]

[T-PVS(2024)05 – Report of the second meeting of the National Focal Points for the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons]

The Chair of the National Focal Points for the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons, Ms Salome Nozadze, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the second meeting of the National Focal Points for the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons.

Ms Beate Striebel, WWF Central and Eastern Europe, will inform the Standing Committee of the outcomes of the findings of the mid-term review of the implementation of the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons.

Mr Jörn Gessner, Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries will introduce to the Standing Committee the guidelines on habitat assessment, population monitoring and *ex situ* conservation measures.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- take note of the report of the second meeting of the National Focal Points for the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons
- take note of the findings of the mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons and encourage range Contracting Parties to fully implement the Action Plan

- examine and, if appropriate, approve the guidelines on habitat assessment, population monitoring and *ex situ* conservation measures

5.5. Amphibians and Reptiles and Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

The Standing Committee will be informed of the conclusions of the online meeting of the presidents of the Groups of Experts on Amphibians and Reptiles and on IAS, as well as the communication sent out to the members of the latter group about resuming its work and requesting them to confirm their involvement or to indicate a need for a new nomination.

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

5.6. Conservation of Habitats

5.6.1. Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest

[T-PVS/PA(2024)09 - meeting report of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks]

a) Legal framework of the Emerald Network

[T-PVS/PA(2024)11 - Draft recommendation on the further clarification of the obligations of Contracting Parties regarding the conservation of Emerald Network sites]

b) Targets of the post-2020 Emerald Network Strategic Workplan

[T-PVS/PA(2024)05 - Revisited targets for the Emerald Network for the period to 2030]

c) Proposed revision of the Emerald Network Standard Data Form (SDF)

[T-PVS/PA(2024)04 – Implications of and options for revising the Emerald Network Standard Data Form]

d) Draft updated list of adopted Emerald Network sites and draft updated list of candidate Emerald Network sites

[T-PVS/PA(2024)18 – Draft updated list of Emerald Network candidate sites]

[T-PVS/PA(2024)19 – Draft updated list of Emerald Network adopted sites]

The Chair of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks, Ms Danielle Hofmann, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the meeting of the Group of Experts.

The Consultant, Mr Arie Trouwborst, will introduce to the Standing Committee the draft recommendation on the obligations of Contracting Parties towards the Emerald Network.

The Consultant, Mr Otars Opermanis, will present to the Standing Committee the targets for the Emerald Network for the period to 2030.

The Consultant, Mr Marc Roekaerts, will present to the Standing Committee the implications and options for revising the Emerald Network Standard Data Form.

The Secretariat will introduce to the Standing Committee the draft updated list of adopted Emerald Network sites and draft updated list of candidate Emerald Network sites.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- take note of the outcomes of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks
- thank the authorities of Liechtenstein for hosting the meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks
- examine and, if appropriate, adopt the draft recommendation on the further clarification of the obligations of Contracting Parties regarding the conservation of Emerald Network sites and in a second step mandate the development of detailed guidance on unclear requirements
- endorse the proposed targets for the post-2020 Strategic Workplan of the Emerald Network

- mandate the revision of the Emerald Network Standard Data Form to keep it harmonised with the Natura 2000 Standard Data Form and to enable the development of the appropriate processes needed to designate Emerald Network sites
- welcome the request of the authorities of Liechtenstein to adopt their 2 candidate Emerald Network sites; examine and, if appropriate, adopt the updated list of adopted Emerald Network sites and updated list of candidate Emerald Network sites
- thank the authorities of Montenegro for their invitation to host the 2025 meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks.

5.6.2. European Diploma for Protected Area

[T-PVS/DE(2024)12 – Report of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas]

The Chair of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma, Mr Jan Plesnik, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the annual meeting of the Group of Specialists.

The Secretariat will inform the Standing Committee of activities carried out in 2024 and of the state of play of the preparation of the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma to take place in 2025.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- take note of the meeting report of the Group of Specialists
- consider expanding the target 1.3 of the Strategic Plan of the Bern Convention for the period to 2030 regarding formal protected areas to the European Diploma and using the assets of the European Diploma, namely the management and governance of protected areas for raising awareness about conservation within the frame of the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- welcome the application of the Sierra Nevada National Park for the European Diploma
- welcome the preparations of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma and thank the Spanish authorities for their invitation to host a celebratory event

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

[T-PVS/PA(2024)10 – Report of the 5th meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting]

[T-PVS/PA(2024)17 – Report of the 6th meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting]

[T-PVS/PA(2024)14 – Reporting format]

[T-PVS/PA(2024)15 Checklists of Species and Habitats]

[T-PVS/PA(2024)12 – List of Invasive Alien Species]

[T-PVS/PA(2024)13 – Reporting guidelines – Explanatory notes]

[T-PVS/PA(2024)16 – Reporting guidelines – Concepts and definitions]

The Chair of the *Ad hoc* Working Group on Reporting, Ms Salome Nozadze, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the fifth and sixth meetings of the *Ad hoc* Working Group on Reporting.

The Consultants, Ms Laura Gavilan, Mr Marc Roekaerts and Mr Riccardo Scalera will briefly present to the Standing Committee the documentation developed for the reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012).

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- take note of the outcomes of the two meetings of the *Ad hoc* Working Group on Reporting
- examine and, if appropriate, approve the Reporting Format, the Checklists of species and habitats, the Guidelines on Explanatory Notes and on Concepts and Definitions and the List of Invasive Alien Species

PART IV – MONITORING OF SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS

6. SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS

6.1. Open Files

- 1986/08: Greece: Recommendation No. 9 (1987) on the protection of *Caretta caretta* in Laganas bay, Zakynthos

[T-PVS/Files(2024)50– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)51– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 1995/06: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula

[T-PVS/Files(2024)XX– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)48– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2010/05: Greece: Threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparissias

[T-PVS/Files(2024)46– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)47– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2012/09: Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara SPAs

[T-PVS/Files(2024)69– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)49– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2013/01: North Macedonia: Hydro power development within the territory of the Mavrovo National Park

[T-PVS/Files(2024)62– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)61– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2016/04: Montenegro: Development of a commercial project in Skadar Lake National Park and candidate Emerald site

[T-PVS/Files(2024)55– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)XX– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2016/05: Albania: Presumed negative impact of developments on the Vjosa river including hydro-power plant development and Vlora International Airport

[T-PVS/Files(2024)13– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)14– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2017/02: North Macedonia: Alleged negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructure developments

[T-PVS/Files(2024)09– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)10– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2019/05: Türkiye: Habitat destruction in Mersin Anamur Beach - *on-the-spot appraisal (OSA)*

[T-PVS/Files(2024)31– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)06– Complainant Report]
[T-PVS/Inf(2024)13– Report of the on-the-spot appraisal]
[T-PVS(2024)15 - Draft Recommendation on the Mersin Anamur Beach]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

Further to the decision of the 43rd Standing Committee to organise an OSA, the expert Mr Alan Rees will present the findings from the OSA held on 2-4 July 2024.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up
- welcome the OSA mission report
- examine and, if appropriate, adopt Recommendation No. ... (2024) on the Mersin Anamur Beach

- 2020/09: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva River

[T-PVS/Files(2024)07– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)21– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

6.2. Possible Files

- 2001/04: Bulgaria: Motorway through the Kresna Gorge

[T-PVS/Files(2024)34– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)35– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2020/04: Armenia: The Amulsar gold mine project and its impacts on Emerald Network sites

[T-PVS/Files(2024)67– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)16– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2022/03: Norway: Wolf culling policy

[T-PVS/Files(2024)41– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)63– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2022/06: Serbia: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and in the Homolje Mt region

[T-PVS/Files(2024)xx– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)xx– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

- 2023/03: Switzerland: New wolf culling policy

[T-PVS/Files(2024)xx– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)xx– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

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

6.3. Complaint on stand-by

- 2021/07: Serbia: Alleged threat to fauna species and protected sites due to the proposed construction of a lithium mine in the Jadar River Valley

[T-PVS/Files(2024)xx– Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2024)xx– Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present an update report.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information provided.

6.4. Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations

- Recommendation No. 169 (2013) on the Rhone streber (Zingel asper) in the Doubs (France) and in the canton of Jura (Switzerland) in the framework of a case-file on stand-by 2011/05: France / Switzerland

T-PVS/Files(2024)XX – French Government Report
T-PVS/Files(2024)XX – Swiss Government Report
T-PVS/Files(2024)XX - Complainant Report

The follow-up of the implementation of this Recommendation, linked to a case-file on stand-by, takes place every two years at the Standing Committee meeting. The national authorities of Switzerland and France and the complainant NGO organisation will be invited to present their progress reports.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the progress reports presented and, if appropriate, to decide on a possible follow-up.

PART V – COOPERATION AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMME OF WORK 2025

7. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION WITH OTHER MEAS AND ORGANISATIONS

The Secretariat will inform of the coordination activities implemented throughout 2024 with other international MEAs and organisations.

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

8. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET FOR 2025-2026

[T-PVS(2024)09 – Draft Programme of activities and budget 2025 - 2026]

The Secretariat will present a proposal for a draft programme of activities and budget for 2025-2026.

Parties interested to volunteer for hosting the organisation of Groups of Experts meetings in 2025 are invited to inform the Standing Committee.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to examine and, if appropriate, adopt the programme of activities and budget for 2025-2026.

9. STATES TO BE INVITED AS OBSERVERS TO THE 45TH MEETING

The Secretariat will recall that the following States were invited to attend the 44th meeting as Observers:

- A. Council of Europe member States (invited automatically): San Marino.
- B. Non-member States: Egypt, Holy See, Jordan.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is requested to decide unanimously which non-member States to the Council of Europe shall be invited to attend the 45th meeting of the Standing Committee.

PART VI – OTHER ITEMS

10. ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND BUREAU MEMBERS

In accordance with Rule 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*”.

In accordance with Rule 18(f) of the Rules of Procedure “*Whenever the previous Chair is not available to serve in the Bureau, the Committee shall elect three additional Bureau members.*”

The Standing Committee is informed that the current Chair, Ms Merike Linnamägi, and the current Bureau member, Mr Andreas Schei, are not running for re-election.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to elect its Chair, Vice-Chair, and two Bureau members. If the previous Chair is not available to serve in the Bureau, the Standing Committee is invited to elect three Bureau members.

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 45TH MEETING

The Secretariat will make a proposal for the date and place of the 45th meeting of the Standing Committee (during the week of 1st December 2025 in Strasbourg).

DECISION: In accordance with Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, the Standing Committee is invited to decide on the date of its 45th meeting.

12. ADOPTION OF THE MAIN DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

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

13. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

The Chair will close the meeting.

DRAFT PLAN FOR DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA²

| MORNINGS 9.00 am - 12.30 pm (CET) | AFTERNOONS 2.00 pm – 5.30 pm (CET) |
|---|--|
| Monday 2 December 2024 | |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. OPENING AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA 2. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DELEGATIONS AND FROM THE SECRETARIAT <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Follow up to the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe on 16-17 May 2023 in Reykjavík, Iceland 3. FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Financing of the Bern Convention 3.2. Voluntary contributions received in 2024: state of play 3.3 Vision and Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention 4. MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Biennial reports 2021/2022 concerning exceptions made to Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 |
| Tuesday 3 December 2024 | |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.2. Proposal for amendment: Downlisting of the wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>) from Appendix II to Appendix III of the Convention 5. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1. Conservation of Birds & IKB 5.2. Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck 5.3. Conservation of Large Carnivores 5.4. Pan-European Action Plan for the conservation of Sturgeons 5.5. Amphibians and Reptiles and Invasive Alien Species (IAS) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.6. Conservation of Habitats <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.6.1 <i>Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest</i> 5.6.2 <i>European Diploma for Protected Areas</i> 5.7. Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) on the conservation status of species and habitats 6. SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1. Open Files <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2019/05: Türkiye: Habitat destruction in Mersin Anamur Beach - OSA ➤ 2012/09: Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara SPAs |

² Time slots are indicative only- certain agenda items may be reshuffled during the meeting when necessary.

| MORNINGS 9.00 am - 12.30 pm (CET) | AFTERNOONS 2.00 pm – 5.30 pm (CET) |
|---|--|
| Wednesday 4 December 2024 | |
| <p>6.1 Open Files (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2013/10: North Macedonia: Hydro power development within the territory of the Mavrovo National Park ➤ 2017/02: North Macedonia: Alleged negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructure developments ➤ 2016/04: Montenegro: Development of a commercial project in Skadar Lake National Park and candidate Emerald site ➤ 1986/08: Greece: Recommendation No. 9 (1987) on the protection of Caretta Caretta in Laganas bay, Zakynthos ➤ 2010/05: Greece: threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparissias ➤ 1995/06: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula | <p>6.1 Open Files (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2016/05: Albania: Presumed negative impact of developments on the Vjosa river including hydro-power plant development and Vlora International Airport ➤ 2020/09: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva river <p>6.2. Possible files</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2020/04: Armenia: The Amulsar gold mine project and its impacts on Emerald Network sites ➤ 2022/06: Serbia: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and in the Homolje Mt region <p>6.3. Complaint on stand-by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2021/07: Serbia: Alleged threat to fauna species and protected sites due to the proposed construction of a lithium mine in the Jadar River Valley |
| Thursday 5 December 2024 | |
| <p>6.2. Possible files (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2022/03: Norway: Wolf culling policy ➤ 2023/03: Switzerland: New wolf culling policy ➤ 2001/04: Bulgaria: Motorway through the Kresna Gorge <p>6.3. Complaint on stand-by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2021/07: Serbia: Alleged threat to fauna species and protected sites due to the proposed construction of a lithium mine in the Jadar River Valley <p>6.4 Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recommendation No. 169 (2013) on the Rhone streber (Zingel asper) in the Doubs (France) and in the canton of Jura (Switzerland) in the framework of a case-file on stand-by 2011/5: France / Switzerland <p>7. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION WITH OTHER MEAS AND ORGANISATIONS</p> <p>8. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET FOR 2024</p> | <p><i>Possible continuation of unfinished business</i></p> |
| Friday 6 December 2024 | |
| <p>9. STATES TO BE INVITED AS OBSERVERS TO THE 45TH MEETING</p> <p>10. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR, AND BUREAU MEMBERS</p> <p>11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 45TH MEETING</p> <p>12. ADOPTION OF THE MAIN DECISIONS OF THE MEETING</p> <p>13. CLOSING OF THE MEETING</p> | |