Strasbourg, 6 November 2026 **TPVS/Agenda(2026)15Ann**

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

46th meeting
Strasbourg, 7-11 December 2026
Strasbourg

Opening of the meeting: 2:00 PM (CET) on Monday 7 December 2026[1]

Close of the meeting: 2:00 PM (CET) on Friday 11 December 2026

DRAFT AGENDA

PART I – OPENING

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The 46th meeting of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention will be opened by the Chair of the Committee, Carl Amirgulashvili, at 2:00 pm on Monday, 7 December 2026. He will present the draft agenda of the meeting and request its adoption.

The Head a.i. of the Reykjavik Process and Environment Department, Gianluca Silvestrini, and Grazia Alessandra Siino, Secretary of the Bern Convention, will welcome all the participants.

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

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CONTRACTING PARTIES AND FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Contracting parties are invited to make a statement, should they wish to do so.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the statement(s).

[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/-/46th-standing-committee

2.1. Reykjavík process and the environment

[CDENV(2026)1– Terms of reference of the Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV)]
[CDENV(2026)AR2 – Abridged report of the 2nd meeting of the CDENV]
[CDENV(2026)AR1 – Abridged report of the 1st meeting of the CDENV]
[Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment 2025-2030]
[Action Plan related to the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment]

The Head a.i. of the Reykjavik Process and Environment Department, Gianluca Silvestrini, will present an overview of the work carried out by the Council of Europe in implementing the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment 2025–2030. It will also report on the CDENV's work in 2026, highlighting key achievements and deliverables. Finally, the Secretariat will provide an update on the ongoing work related to the Criminal Law Convention, including progress towards its signature and ratification.

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

2.2. Participation of the Council of Europe in the COP 17 (Yerevan, Armenia, October 2026) and in the COP 31 (Antalya, Türkiye, November 2026)

The Head a.i. of the Reykjavik Process and Environment Department, Gianluca Silvestrini, will brief the Standing Committee on the Council of Europe's participation in the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP17), held in Yerevan, Armenia, from 19 to 30 October 2026, and the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP 31) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Antalya, Türkiye, from 9 to 20 November 2026.

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

3. FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION

3.1. Revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee

[T-PVS/Inf(2026)16 – Draft revised Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention]
[T-PVS/Inf(2026)18-rev – Suggested amendments_Rules of Procedure_explanatory note]

The Secretariat will update the Standing Committee on progress in revising its Rules of Procedure. Following an initial revision by the Secretariat and the Bureau in June, the proposed changes were circulated to the Contracting Parties for comment. Five Parties and two Observers provided extensive feedback. The Secretariat consolidated that feedback, together with its comments and rationale for the autumn Bureau meeting. The Bureau carefully reviewed the comments and validated an updated draft for submission to the Standing Committee.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to adopt the revised Rules of Procedure

3.2. Ways ahead with the Bern Convention complaint system

The Chair and the Secretariat will recall the *rationale* of continued reflection on the case-file system. Initiated in 2021 and endorsed by the Standing Committee in 2022, the reflection was meant to allow for on-going optimisation of the system, while preserving its purpose and main principles.

In view of increasing overload of case-files for the Secretariat, Bureau and Standing Committee, and the need to swifter respond to possible threats to biodiversity, some proposals of optimising and better explaining categories and procedures used in handling complaints and case-files were prepared by the Secretariat and discussed by the Bureau. Such enhancements would be consistent with the relevant objectives set out in the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention for the period to 2030 and the Action Plan related to the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment 2025-2030.

The results of the reflection, including a draft update of the *Case-file system Guide of Procedures* (T-PVS/Inf(2022)27) would be presented to the 47th Standing Committee meeting in 2027.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the reflection on increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the case-file system.

3.3. Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention

[T-PVS/Inf(2026)35_rev - Terms of Reference Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention]
[T-PVS/Inf(2026)17_rev – Briefing note – Criteria and procedures for amending Appendices to the Bern Convention]
[T-PVS(2026)8- Report of the 3rd Meeting of the Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention]

Simon Mackown, Chair of the Working Group on Exploring Mechanisms to Guide Amendments to the Appendices of the Bern Convention, will report to the Standing Committee on the Group's discussions and propose extending its mandate into 2027.

Peter Skoberne, expert, will present the latest version of the briefing note, developed in response to the Working Group's feedback. The note sets out a proposed approach to the criteria and process for assessing future requests to amend the listings of species or habitats in Appendices I, II and III.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the work carried out by the Group in 2026;
- provide guidance on the next steps in the process, including on criteria and procedural aspects;
- decide whether the work of the Group should continue in 2027 and consequently adopt the updated Terms of Reference of the Working Group for 2027.

3.4. Financing of the Bern Convention

3.4.1. Voluntary contributions received in 2026: state of play

[T-PVS/Inf(2026)31 - Table of the voluntary contributions received]

The Secretariat will present the state of play of the voluntary contributions received in 2026.

The Chair will present the work done to raise voluntary contributions in 2026 and will invite Contracting Parties to consider the same scale of voluntary contributions as set by Resolution No. 9 (2019) for 2027.

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

3.4.2. Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)42 - Terms of Reference Working Group on

exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention]

The Chair of the *Ad hoc* Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention, Charles-Henri de Barsac, will report to the Standing Committee on negotiations undertaken in 2026 and on the ongoing dialogue between the Council of Europe and the European Commission concerning the pending issue of the EU contribution rate and the majority versus unanimity principle.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the information provided;
- take note of the options that the Group could explore further;
- provide guidance on the next steps and decide whether the *Ad hoc* Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention should meet in 2027.

3.5. Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan

[T-PVS(2026)01 – Report of the 4th meeting of the Working Group overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan to 2030]
[T-PVS(2026)10 – Report of the 16th meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks (GoEPAEN) jointly with the 5th meeting of the Working Group on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan]
[T-PVS(2026)19 - Report on voluntary national updates on implementation of the Strategic Plan]

The Chair of the Working Group, Jan Plesnik, will inform the Standing Committee about the work carried out during the intersessional period, particularly the outcomes of the meeting held online in March, and the meeting held jointly with the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks.

The expert, Dave Pritchard, will inform the Standing Committee about the findings of the voluntary national update conducted in 2026, as well as the opportunities and possible next steps for the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan of the Bern Convention, to be carried out in 2027.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the work carried out by the Working Group in 2026;
- Take note of the voluntary national updates on the implementation of the Strategic Plan and encourage Contracting Parties to participate in future reporting exercises;
- Provide guidance to the Secretariat on the next steps in preparing the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan.

3.6. Convention on the protection of the environment through criminal law: exchange of views

[Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law (CETS No. 228)]

A member of Council of Europe Secretariat on the Reykjavik process and the environment, Catarina Garcia, will present the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law, highlighting its objectives, key provisions and added value in establishing common standards for criminalising serious environmental offences, strengthening enforcement and cross-border cooperation, and complementing the Bern Convention in addressing serious violations.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information provided and to exchange on how to explore possible synergies with the Council of Europe Convention on the Environment through Criminal Law.

3.7. World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH): exchange of views

The Secretariat of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) will introduce its work and mandate related to wildlife conservation followed by an exchange of views with the participants in the Standing Committee.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information provided and to exchange on how to explore possible synergies.

PART II – MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

4. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

4.1. Conservation of Large Carnivores

[T-PVS(2026)03 - Group of Experts on Large Carnivores_24 March 2026]
[T-PVS/Inf(2026)24 - Report on wolf protection status overview]
[T-PVS/Inf(2026)27 - Draft Carpathian lynx conservation strategy]

The Chair will invite the expert, Katrina Marsden, to present the results of the survey on legal changes at the national level following the downlisting of the wolf. This first survey, to be repeated to take stock of further developments in the Bern Convention Contracting Parties, shows a wide diversity of approaches across the continent in terms of modifying, or preserving, the wolf legal protection status and management measures, structures and procedures.

The Secretariat will share information about the meeting of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores, and the initiated work on recommendations concerning large carnivores: a revised recommendation on wolf-dog hybridisation (replacing Recommendation No. 173 (2014) on hybridisation between wild grey wolves (*Canis lupus*) and domestic dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*)) and new recommendations on problem behaviour of wolves and bears.

The Chair will invite Jochen Krebuehl to introduce the Carpathian lynx conservation strategy (*T-PVS/Inf(2026)27*), developed under the auspices of the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention/UNEP Vienna Programme Office, under the CMS Concerted Action 14.4 for the Eurasian Lynx (*Lynx lynx*) proposed by the IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group and the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention. The Carpathian lynx conservation strategy will be presented for endorsement to the Carpathian Convention on 1-2 December 2026, to the Bern Convention Standing Committee at its 46th meeting, before consideration by the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS).

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- take note of the results of the survey on changes following downlisting of the wolf;
- take note of the on-going work on a revised and new recommendations;
- endorse the Carpathian lynx conservation strategy.

4.2. Conservation of Birds & IKB

[T-PVS/Inf(2026)14 - Mid-term assessment Rome Strategic Plan]
[T-PVS/Inf(2026)20 - Report on motivations behind IKB]

The Chair will invite Marko Pecarevic, an independent expert who prepared the mid-term assessment of the Rome Strategic Plan, to present its conclusions.

The Chair will invite BirdLife to present the main findings of the report on the motivations behind IKB in Parties to CMS MIKT (Serbia and Türkiye), commissioned by CMS. A geographical extension of the study was considered but could not be launched this year due to limited capacities of the experts in charge of the report.

The Secretariat will inform the Standing Committee about the Joint CMS MIKT and Bern Convention online meeting on IKB, held on 22 October 2026 and the next Joint meeting on IKB to be hosted by Croatia in Zagreb on 15-17 June 2027. The meeting of the Group of Experts on Wild Birds, scheduled for 18 June 2027, will take place at the same venue. An online meeting of the Group, originally planned for 2026, will instead be held in early 2027 to prepare the in-person meeting, including the drafting of the Group's Terms of Reference.

The Secretariat will remind the Parties of the ongoing data collection on IKB for the 2026 Scoreboard in the new CMS ORS, which was not available earlier in the year. The results will be analysed in early 2027 and presented to the Standing Committee at its 47th meeting.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of

- The conclusions of the mid-term assessment of the Rome Strategic Plan;
- The findings of the study on motivations behind IKB;
- the information on the Joint meetings with the CMS MIKT on IKB: online in 2026 and in Croatia in 2027;
- the announced meetings of the Group of Experts on Wild Birds;
- ongoing data collection on IKB for the 2026 Scoreboard.

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

The Secretariat informed the Standing Committee of a postponed meeting of the Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species (IASs), which will focus on topics intersecting with the scope of the Group of Experts on amphibians and reptiles. It is proposed that both groups meet in 2027, subject to the availability of resources, possibly in-person and back-to-back with a meeting of the experts overseeing the Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information presented, in particular the proposed ways ahead with the work on the Amphibians and Reptiles and on Invasive Alien Species, including in their common scope of interest.

4.4. Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck

[Recommendation No. 209 (2020) on the eradication of the ruddy duck (Oxyura jamaicensis) in the Western Palaearctic by 2025]
[T-PVS(2026)15 - Report of the meeting of the Group on the Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck – October 2026]
[T-PVS/Inf(2026)33 - Eradication of the Ruddy Duck (Oxyura jamaicensis) in the Western Palaearctic: 2026 progress report on implementation of the 2021–2025 action plan]
[T-PVS(2026)17 - Draft Recommendation eradication of the Ruddy Duck in the Western Palaearctic]

The independent expert, Peter Cranswick, will present the findings of the evaluation of the implementation of the Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck 2021–2025, which was extended by one year, until the end of 2026.
He will report on the online meeting of the Group of Experts on the Ruddy Duck, held online on 16 October 2026, and present the new Action Plan for 2027–2031. The new plan was prepared on the basis of information provided in national questionnaires and the findings of the evaluation report.

The expert will highlight the positive results achieved, including the decline in the Ruddy Duck population in Europe, and the added value of the Bern Convention's action plans. The Standing Committee will be invited to adopt the new Action Plan for 2027–2031.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the expert meeting on the implementation of the Action Plan for the eradication of the Ruddy Duck in Europe 2021-2025;
- Take note of the outcomes of the progress review of the implementation of the Action Plan for the eradication of the Ruddy Duck in Europe 2021 - 2025 and of the revised Action Plan for the period 2027-2031;
- Examine and, if appropriate, adopt the Draft Recommendation No.227(2026) on the eradication of the Ruddy Duck in the Western Palaearctic by 2031.

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

[T-PVS/Inf(2018)6 - Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons]
[T-PVS/Agenda(2026)16 - Draft agenda of the third meeting of the National Focal Points for the PANEUAP]

The Secretariat will inform the Standing Committee about the third meeting of the National Focal Points (NFPs) for the PANEUAP held on 4 November and summarise its main discussions and outcomes. It will note with regret that no Contracting Party officially expressed interest in Chairing the Group of National Focal Points (NFPs) for the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons.

The Secretariat will thank the experts, Beate Striebel (WWF) and Jörn Gessner (Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, WSCS) for their continued support to the Group of NFPs on Sturgeon Conservation, and report on discussions concerning implementation of the Action Plan, including the next steps towards its final evaluation.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the third meeting of the National Focal Points for the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons;
- Take note of the information presented and findings of the discussion;
- Encourage Contracting Parties to continue implementation of the Pan-European Sturgeon Action Plan and Recommendation No. 222 (2024), Recommendation No. 223 (2024), Recommendation No. 224 (2024).

4.6. Conservation of Habitats

4.6.1 Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest

[T-PVS(2026)10 – Report of the 16th meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks jointly with the 5th meeting of the Working Group on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan]

a) Emerald Network updated Standard Data Form guidelines

[T-PVS/Inf(2026)19 - Draft Updated Standard Data Form guidelines]

b) Procedure for assessing proposed Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCIs) at biogeographical level and process for approving Emerald Sites

[*T-PVS/PA(2026)03 - Procedure for assessing proposed Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCIs) at biogeographical level and process for approving Emerald Sites]*

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

[T-PVS/PA(2026)01 – Draft updated list of Emerald Network candidate sites]
[T-PVS/PA(2026)02 – Draft updated list of Emerald Network adopted sites]

d) Update on the support provided to Contracting Parties to ensure updated databased are submitted to the Bern Convention – TAEIX workshop (Skopje – 17-19 November 2026)

[T-PVS/PA(2026)05 (update on 16.11.2026) - Transitioning from the Emerald Network to the Natura 2000 Network –

Outlining the process for EU candidate countries]

The Chair of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks (GoEPAEN), Danielle Hofmann, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the 16th Meeting of the GoEPAEN, held jointly with the 5th meeting of the WG on overseeing implementation of the Strategic Plan on 29-30 September in Georgia.

The Chair will inform the Standing Committee that the participants in the meeting of the GoEPAEN requested an extension until 30 January to consult on the legal analysis on negative changes to Emerald Network sites and the revised draft guidelines for explaining such changes.

The Chair will also report that the group endorsed the updated guidelines for completing the Emerald Network Standard Data Form (SDF) for submission to the Standing Committee for consideration. The expert, Laura Gavilán Iglesias, will present the guidelines and provide an update on the development of the Reportnet 3 portal which will be used for submission of the new Emerald Network databases. The expert will also highlight the need to update the Emerald Network reference lists to ensure consistency with the changes made to the reporting reference lists under Resolution No.8 (2012) on national reporting.

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

The Secretariat will update the Standing Committee on the outcomes of TAIEX workshop organised by the EU Commission and the European Environment Agency (EEA) for EU accession countries on 17-19 November 2026, in North Macedonia.

The Secretariat will present the activities planned for 2027 and invite Contracting Parties to submit proposals to host the 2027 meeting of the GoEPAEN.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report of the 16th meeting of the GoEPAEN held jointly with 5th meeting of the Working Group overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan;
- Express its warm thanks to the authorities of Georgia for hosting the joint meeting;
- Acknowledge the updated guidelines for completing the Emerald Network Standard Data Form (SDF);
- Take note of the latest developments concerning Reportnet 3 and its application to the Emerald Network;
- Invite Contracting Parties to review and, where necessary, update their Emerald Network reference lists in light of the checklist changes made during reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012), and to submit updated Emerald Network databases;
- Encourage Contracting Parties to further develop and strengthen the Emerald Network in the context of EU accession, in close cooperation with the European Environment Agency (EEA);
- Take note of the work conducted to prepare the legal analysis of negative changes to Emerald Network sites and the revised draft guidelines on explaining negative changes in proposed, candidate and adopted Emerald Network sites; and request the Secretariat to continue consultations with Contracting Parties and report on progress in this regard to the 47th meeting of the Standing Committee;
- Take note of activities planned for 2027 and invite Contracting Parties to submit proposals to host the meeting of the GoEPAEN in 2027.

4.6.2 European Diploma for Protected Area (EDPA)

a) Meeting of the Group of Specialists on the EDPA

[T-PVS/DE(2026)03–Report of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas]

b) Visits to EDPA sites

[T-PVS/DE(2026)04 - List of the 2026 on-the-spot appraisal visits]

[T-PVS/DE(2026)05– List of areas which could benefit from an on-the-spot appraisal in 2027]

Jan Plesnik, the Chair of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the Group of Specialists' annual meeting and on the planned 2027 meeting, which will be held in association with the 100th anniversary of the Camargue Protected Area in France.

The Secretariat will provide an update on the long list of sites awaiting an On-the-Spot Appraisal (OSA) in 2027 and explain the criteria applied in preselecting sites for visits, subject to resource availability and the final decision of the Group of Specialists.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- take note of the meeting reports of the above-mentioned activities;
- thank the new applicants to the Diploma for their presentations, reports and hosting an OSA visit;
- thank the authorities of the sites for which renewal is pending for welcoming the CoE delegation and providing all relevant information;
- call for any new applications to the Diploma.

PART III – MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL ASPECTS

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

5.1. Biennial reports 2023-2024 concerning exceptions made to Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8: state of play and new Online Reporting System

The Secretariat will inform the Bureau about the 2023-24 reporting exercise, launched last spring through the new ORS. The new system incorporated many of the recommendations stemming from the 2022 scoping study, most of which focused on improving the user-friendliness of the system. The Secretariat will provide an overview of the number of submissions received, those currently in progress and those still pending. The data collected will be analysed by an independent expert, whose conclusions are meant to inform further adjustment of the reporting in terms of its scope and usefulness.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information presented and to urge the Parties who have not provided data on biennial reports on exceptions under Article 9 of the Bern Convention to do so.

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

[T-PVS Inf(2025)43- Terms of Reference Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No.8(2012)]
[T-PVS(2026)07 – Report on the 8th meeting of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No.8 (2012)]

The newly elected Chair of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012), Lika Giorgadze, will inform the Standing Committee about the outcomes of the Working Group's 8th meeting, held online on 25 June 2026.

The expert, Laura Gavilan Iglesias, will inform the Standing Committee about the findings of the national reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012). She will also report on the intersessional work carried out to prepare national summaries and Pan-European assessments, the national dashboards updated on the Bern Convention website, as well as on preparations for the Bern Convention side event at CBD COP17.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the information presented;
- Take note of the report and the outcomes of the 8th meeting of the Working Group;
- Take note of the analysis of the national reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012);
- Welcome the development of national summaries and national dashboards to enhance the dissemination and promotion of the data delivered under the reporting framework established by Resolution No. 8 (2012);
- Welcome the Pan-European assessments for a selected set of features and biogeographical regions;
- Advise the Secretariat on further steps to increase the visibility of the results of national reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012).

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(2026)1986-08_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)1986-08_comp - Complainant Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)1986-08_ngo - Archelon NGO Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case. 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(2026)2010-05_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2010-05_comp - Complainant Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2010-05_ngo - Archelon NGO Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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(2026)1995-06_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)1995-06_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

- 2000/01: Türkiye: Green Turtle in Kazanli

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2000-01_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2000-01_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

- 2012/09(a): Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye SPA

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2012-09-a_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2012-09-a_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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 Mavrovo National Park

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2013-01_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026) 2013-01_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

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

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2017-02_gov - Goverment Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2017-02_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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 and Vlora International Airport

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2016-05_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2016-05_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2019-05_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2019-05_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

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

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2020-09_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2020-09_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

- 2022/02: Austria: Alleged violation of the Convention in relation to deliberate killing of lutra lutra

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2022-02_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2022-02_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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(2026)2022-03_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2022-03_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

6.2. Possible Files

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

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2020-04_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2020-04_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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(2026)2016-04_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2016-04_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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 – On-the-spot appraisal

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2022-06_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2022-06_comp - Complainant Report]
[T-PVS/Inf(2026)34_rev – Draft Report OSA visit]
[T-PVS(2026)20 (update on 10.11.2026) - Draft Recommendation on the Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and in the Homolje Mt region]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.
Further to the decision of the 45th Standing Committee to organise an OSA, the independent international expert, Mateusz Jakubiak, will present the findings from the appraisal in the Bosilegrad and the Homolje Mountains regions, held on 10-14 August 2026.

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. … (2026) on mining in the Bosilegrad and the Homolje Mountains regions.

- 2022/07: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Trstionica – Gornja Bukovica and Vareš

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2022-07_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2022-07_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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(2026)2023-03_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2023-03_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

6.3. Complaints on stand-by

- 2024/05: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Alleged threat to habitat and protected species from the 'Upper Horizons' Hydropower Project

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2024-05_gov – Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2024-05_comp – Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

- 2011/05: Switzerland: Threats to the Rhone streber (Zingel asper) in the Doubs (France) and in the cantons of Jura and Neuchâtel (Switzerland)

[T-PVS/Files(2026)2011-05_gov – Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2011-05_comp – Complainant report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

6.4. Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations

- Bulgaria: Recommendation No. 200 (2018) on the windfarms planned near Balchik and Kaliakra, and other wind farm developments on the Via Pontica route

[T-PVS/Files(2026) Rec.200(2018)_gov_comp – Government- Complainant Joint Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

- France: Recommendation No. 68 (1998) on the protection of the common Hamster (*Cricetus cricetus*) in Alsace (France)

[T-PVS/Files(2026)Rec.68 (1998)_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2026)Rec.68 (1998)_comp - Complainant Report]

The parties to the complaint will be invited to present updates on the case.

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

PART V – COOPERATION AND PROGRAMME OF WORK 2026

7. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION WITH OTHER MEAS AND ORGANISATIONS

The Secretariat will inform the Standing Committee about the coordination activities implemented throughout 2026 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 2027

[T-PVS(2026)18– Draft Programme of activities and budget 2027]

The Secretariat will present a proposal for a draft programme of activities and budget for 2027. The Chair will invite Parties to volunteer for hosting the organisation of Groups of Experts meetings in 2027. The Chair invites Parties to adopt the programme of activities and budget for 2027. The Secretariat will also provide an update on the forthcoming negotiations on the Council of Europe's 2028–2031 biennial budget and seek guidance on potential activities and priorities for the next programming period.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to examine and, if appropriate, adopt the programme of activities and budget for 2027.

9. STATES TO BE INVITED AS OBSERVERS TO THE 47TH MEETING

The Secretariat will recall that the following States have been invited to attend the 46th 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 47TH 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*."

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to elect its Chair, Vice-Chair, and two Bureau members. If the former Chair is unavailable to serve on the Bureau, the Committee is invited to elect a third Bureau member.

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 47TH MEETING

The Secretariat will present the results of its survey on Contracting Parties' preferred dates for future Standing Committee meetings, together with information on potential clashes with meetings of other MAEs. Taking these elements into account, the Secretariat will make a proposal for the date and place of the 47th meeting of the Standing Committee.

DECISION: In accordance with Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, the Standing Committee is invited to decide on the date of its 47th 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.

TENTATIVE ORDER OF BUSINESS[2]

MORNINGS 9.00 am - 12.30 pm (CET)	**AFTERNOONS 2.00 pm – 5.30 pm (CET)**
Monday, 7 December 2026	
	1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA **2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CONTRACTING PARTIES AND FROM THE SECRETARIAT** **11. Date and place of the 47th Standing Committee meeting** **6.1 Open files** ➢ 2016/05: Albania: Presumed negative impact of developments on the Vjosa river including hydro-power plant and Vlora International Airport ➢ 2013/01: North Macedonia: Hydro power development within the territory of the Mavrovo National Park ➢ 2017/02: North Macedonia: Negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructures developments ***Coffee break*** **2.1 Reykjavik process and the environment** **2.2 Participation of the Council of Europe in the COP 17 (Yerevan, Armenia, October 2026) and in the COP 31 (Antalya, Türkiye, November 2026)** **3.4 Financing of the Bern Convention** 3.4.1 Voluntary contributions received in 2026: state of play 3.4.2 Working Group on the draft Protocol amending the Bern Convention

[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)
Tuesday, 8 December 2026	
3.1 Revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee **3.2 Ways ahead with the Bern Convention Complaint System** **6.1 Open files (continued)** ➢ 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 ***Coffee break*** ➢ 2020/09: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva River; ➢ 2022/03: Norway: Wolf culling policy ➢ 2022/02: Austria: Alleged violation of the Convention in relation to deliberate killing of Lutra lutra	**3.3 Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention** **3.5 Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan** **6.1 Open files (continued)** ➢ 1995/06: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula ***Coffee break*** ➢ 2000/01: Türkiye: Green turtle in Kazanli ➢ 2012/09(a): Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye SPA ➢ 2019/05: Türkiye: Habitat destruction in Mersin Anamur Beach
Wednesday, 9 December 2026	
6.2 Possible files ➢ 2022/06: Serbia: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and in the Homolje Mt region; On-the-spot appraisal (OSA) ➢ 2020/04: Armenia: The Amulsar gold mine project and its impacts on Emerald Network sites ➢ 2023/03: Switzerland: New wolf culling policy ***Coffee break*** ➢ 2016/04: Montenegro: Development of a commercial project in Skadar Lake National Park and candidate Emerald site ➢ 2022/07: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Trstionica – Gornja Bukovica and Vareš	**4. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS** **4.1 Conservation of Large Carnivores** **4.6 Conservation of Habitats** ***Coffee break*** **5.MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION** **5.1 Biennial reporting and new Online Reporting System** **5.2 Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) on the conservation status of species and habitats** **6.3 Complaints on stand-by** ➢ 2011/05: Switzerland: Threats to the Rhone streber (Zingel asper) in the Doubs (France) and in the cantons of Jura and Neuchâtel (Switzerland)

MORNINGS 9.00 am - 12.30 pm (CET)	AFTERNOONS 2.00 pm – 5.30 pm (CET)
Thursday, 10 December 2026	
3.6 Convention on the protection of the environment through criminal law: exchange of views **3.7 Exchange of views with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) - online** **6.4. Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations** ➢ Bulgaria: Recommendation No. 200 (2018) on the windfarms planned near Balchik and Kaliakra, and other wind farm developments on the Via Pontica route (Bulgaria) ➢ France: Recommendation No. 68 (1998) on the protection of the common Hamster (Cricetus cricetus) in Alsace (France) ***Coffee break*** **4.2 Conservation of Birds & IKB** **4.3 Amphibians, Reptiles and Invasive Alien Species (IAS)** **4.4 Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck** **4.5 Pan-European Action Plan for the conservation of Sturgeons**	*Possible continuation of unfinished business*
Friday, 11 December 2026	
7. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION WITH OTHER MEAS AND ORGANISATIONS **8. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET FOR 2027/2028** **9. STATES TO BE INVITED AS OBSERVERS TO THE 47TH MEETING** **10. ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND BUREAU MEMBERS** **12. ADOPTION OF MAIN DECISIONS OF THE MEETING** **13. CLOSING OF THE MEETING**	