



Strasbourg, 26 November 2025

T-PVS/Agenda(2025)21Ann

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

45th meeting
Strasbourg, 8-12 December 2025
Strasbourg

Opening of the meeting: 2.00pm CET on Monday 8 December 2025¹

Close of the meeting: 12.30pm CET on Friday 12 December 2025

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

PART I – OPENING

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The 45th meeting of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention will be opened by the Chair of the Committee, Mr Carl Amirgulashvili, at 2:00 pm on Monday, 8 December 2025. He will present the draft agenda of the meeting and request its adoption.

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

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 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/-/45th-standing-committee>

2.1. Reykjavík process and the environment

2.1.1 Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law

[CM(2025)52-final - Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law]

2.1.2 Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment and Action Plan related to the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment

[Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment]
[Action Plan related to the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment]
[GME(2024)1 –Terms of Reference of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME)]
[GME(2024)AR4 –Abridged report of the 4th meeting of the GME]
[GME(2024)AR3 –Abridged report of the 3rd meeting of the GME]
[GME(2024)AR2 –Abridged report of the 2nd meeting of the GME]
[GME(2024)AR1 –Abridged report of the 1st meeting of the GME]

The Chair and the Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr Rafael Benitez, will inform the Standing Committee about the follow-up given to the 4th 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 adoption of the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment, elaborated by the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME), and the adoption of the *Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law*, open for signatures on 3rd December 2025.

2.1.3 Establishment of a Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV)

[GME(2025)10–Terms of Reference of the Standing Committee on the Environment (CDENV)]

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

2.2. Participation of the Council of Europe to the COP 30 (Belém, Brazil, November 2025)

The Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr Rafael Benitez, will inform the Standing Committee about the Council of Europe's participation in the COP 30 in Belém, Brazil, in November 2025.

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

3 FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION

3.1 Financing of the Bern Convention

3.1.1 Voluntary contributions received in 2025: state of play

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)18Rev - Table of the voluntary contributions received]

3.1.2 Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention

[T-PVS(2025)15 - Report of the 1st meeting of the Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention]

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)44 - Note on the financing options of the Bern Convention]

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)42 – Draft Terms of Reference Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention]

The Secretariat will present the state of play of the voluntary contributions received during 2025.

The Chair will present the work done to raise voluntary contributions in 2025 and will invite Contracting Parties to consider the same scale of voluntary contributions as set by Resolution No. 9 (2019) for 2025.

The Chair of the *Ad hoc* Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention, Mr Charles-Henri de Barsac, will report to the Standing Committee on the discussions held in the Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options for the Bern Convention. The Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr Rafael Benitez, will present the Note on the financing options of the Bern Convention. The Secretariat will present the Draft Terms of Reference of the Working Group on exploring sustainable financing options of the Bern Convention for 2026.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the information provided;
- take note of the options that the Group could explore further;
- decide whether the work of the Group should continue in 2026 and consequently adopt the Terms of Reference of the Working Group for 2026.

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

[T-PVS(2025)03 – Report of the 1st meeting of the Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention]
[T-PVS(2025)14 – Report of the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention]
[T-PVS/Inf(2025)25rev – Proposals for improving the listing process to amend Appendices I, II & III]
[T-PVS/Inf(2025)41 – Draft Terms of Reference Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention]

The Chair of the Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention, Mr Simon Mackown, will report to the Standing Committee on the discussions held in the Working Group and will present the proposals for improving the listing process to amend Appendices I, II and III as adopted at the latest meeting of the Working Group.

The Secretariat will report to the Standing Committee on the exchanges held with the IUCN representatives further to the 2nd meeting of the Working Group in 2026. The Secretariat will also present the draft Terms of Reference of the Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention for 2026.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the work carried out by the Group in 2025;
- take note of the information provided by the Secretariat in regard to the possible collaboration with IUCN on this matter;
- decide whether the work of the Group should continue in 2026 and consequently adopt the Terms of Reference of the Working Group for 2026.

3.3 Working Group on overseeing implementation of the Strategic Plan

[T-PVS(2025)01 – Report of the 3rd meeting of the Working Group overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan]

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 meeting of the Working Group in 2025.

The expert consultant, Mr Dave Pritchard, will inform the Standing Committee about the work he carried out in 2025. The Secretariat will present the current state of play and outline the next steps.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the work carried out by the Working Group in 2025.

3.4 Revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee: state of play

The Secretariat will inform the Standing Committee of the state of play of the revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the progress in revising the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee, which will be finalised with the guidance of the Bureau and timely submitted for the Standing Committee consideration in 2026.

3.5 Thematic Groups of Experts and Working Groups under the Bern Convention: state of play and ways forward

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)30rev - Overview of the thematic group of experts and working groups set up under the Bern convention]

The Secretariat will provide the Standing Committee with an overview of the thematic Groups of Experts and Working Groups under the Bern Convention and propose ways forward in order to optimise the outcomes and in view of the limited financial and human resources.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the overview of the thematic Groups of Experts and Working Groups under the Bern Convention and
- provide its guidance on the ways of proceeding with the Groups.

PART II – MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL ASPECTS

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

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

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

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

4.2 Council of Europe Interim Progress Review Report 2025: inputs from Contracting parties

The Secretariat presents the functioning of the Council of Europe Interim Progress Review Report 2025 in the framework of the implementation of the Council of Europe Programme and Budget 2024-2027. Contracting parties present examples of measures adopted at the national or EU level in the biennium 2024-2025 to follow up on the Bern Convention's work (for instance, changes in policies, legislation and practices in line with the Bern Convention).

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information presented. Representatives from contracting parties are invited to present examples of measures adopted at the national level that will contribute to the drafting of the Council of Europe Interim Progress Review Report 2025.

PART III – MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

5 MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

5.1 Conservation of Birds & IKB

Joint meeting with the CMS MIKT on IKB and Group of Experts on the Conservation of Birds

[T-PVS(2025)09 - Report of the Joint meeting on IKB of CMS MIKT and Bern Convention]

[T-PVS(2025)10 - Report of the meeting of the Group of Experts on conservation of wild birds]

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)45rev - Guidance tool for good practices in bird conservation in the development of renewable energies]

The Chair of the Joint meeting with the CMS MIKT on IKB, Mr András Schmidt, and the Chair of the Group of Experts on the Conservation of Wild Birds, Mr Burak Tatar, will present conclusions of the meetings respectively,

in particular the proposals for the further work to be continued next year. The *Guidance tool for good practices in bird conservation in the development of renewable energies* will also be presented.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of

- the information on the 5th Joint meeting with the CMS MIKT on IKB and the 8th meeting of the Group of Experts on the Conservation of Wild Birds, presented by the Chairs ;
- the proposals for further work addressing IKB and the conservation of wild birds ;
- the Guidance tool for good practices in bird conservation in the development of renewable energies.

5.2 Conservation of Large Carnivores

[T-PVS(2025)11 - Report of the meeting of the Group of experts on Large Carnivores – June 2025]

[T-PVS(2025)17 – Report of the meeting of the Group of experts on Large Carnivores – September 2025]

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)37rev – Draft Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts on large carnivores]

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)48e - Note on wolf monitoring]

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)19rev - Best practices for management of large carnivores in Europe with respect to lethal and non-lethal management measures]

[T-PVS/Inf(2025)49 - Strategy for the Rescue and Conservation of the Balkan Lynx 2026–2035]

The Secretariat and the Chair of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores, Mr Luigi Boitani, will inform the Standing Committee of the conclusions of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores meetings on 10-11 June 2025 (hybrid, in Strasbourg and online) and on 30 September 2025 (online). In particular, the draft Terms of Reference of the Group and a proposal for the way ahead with monitoring of the legal protection status of the wolf and the status of its populations in Europe will be submitted for the Standing Committee's adoption.

The expert consultant, Mr John Linnell, co-author of “*Best practices for management of large carnivore management practices in Europe with respect to lethal and non-lethal management measures*” will briefly introduce the study. The Standing Committee will be invited to take note of it and the Parties to consider the practice presented therein if reviewing the large carnivore management practices.

Ms Iskra Stojanova, who coordinated development of the Range-wide Strategy for the Rescue and Conservation of the Balkan Lynx (*Lynx lynx balcanicus*) 2026–2035 on behalf of UNEP, will outline the process and its results. Submitted also to the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Strategy is to be adopted at the CMS COP15 in March 2026.

The Secretariat will provide information on the large number of complaints submitted in relation to the downlisting of the wolf, which has resulted in a significant increase in workload.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the information provided by the Chair of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores and the Secretariat;
- adopt the Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores, consider endorsing the ToRs and using it as an example for developing similar ToRs for other thematic Groups of Experts;
- provide feedback on the Note on wolf monitoring (T-PVS/Inf(2025)48e), so as to guide the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores in preparing the survey on the implications of downlisting on the wolf;
- take note of the information on the study “*Best practices for management of large carnivores in Europe with respect to lethal and non-lethal management measures*” (T-PVS/Inf(2025)19rev), providing feedback as required and proposing to disseminate the document for consideration by all the Parties and other relevant stakeholders;
- take note/endorse the Range-wide Strategy for the Rescue and Conservation of the Balkan Lynx (*Lynx lynx balcanicus*) 2026–2035 and encourage the range States to actively engage in its implementation.

5.3 Amphibians and Reptiles and Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

[T-PVS(2025)07 - Report of the meeting of the Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species]

[T-PVS(2025)08 - Report of the meeting of the Group of Experts on the Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles]

[T-PVS(2025)18 - Report of the joint meeting of the Groups of Experts on Invasive Alien Species and on the Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles]

[T-PVS(2025)19 - Report of the follow-up meeting of the Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species]

The Chairs of the Group of Experts on Amphibians and Reptiles, Ms Eliška Rolfová, and of the Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species, Mr Paweł Wasowicz, will present the outcomes of the meetings of the Groups respectively, as well as conclusions of their joint meeting.

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.

5.4 Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck

The Secretariat will present the state of play and a proposed way ahead with the action plan for the eradication of the Ruddy Duck in Europe.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information presented and to accept the Bureau's proposal to extend the Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck by one year and – subject to the availability of financial and human resources - to draft a new Action Plan in time for the 46th Standing Committee meeting in December 2026.

5.5 Conservation of Habitats

5.5.1 Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest

[T-PVS(2025)20 - Report of the meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks]

- a) Revision of the Emerald Network Standard Data Form (SDF) and inclusion in Resolution No.5 (1998)

[T-PVS/PA(2025)03 - Standard Data Data Form]

- b) Criteria for assessing negative changes in the Emerald Network

[T-PVS/PA(2025)01 - Criteria for assessing changes in the Emerald Network]

- c) Screening, prior assessment and authorisation of potential harmful projects

[T-PVS/PA(2025)02 - Emerald Network: screening, prior assessment and authorisation of potentially harmful projects]

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

[T-PVS/PA(2025)04 – Draft updated list of Emerald Network candidate sites]

[T-PVS/PA(2025)05 – Draft updated list of Emerald Network adopted sites]

- e) Update on the support provided to Contracting Parties to ensure updated databased are submitted to the Bern Convention

The Chair of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks (GoEPAEN), Ms Danielle Hofmann, will report to the Standing Committee on the outcomes of the 15th Meeting of the GoEPAEN which took place in Bar (Montenegro) on 7-8 October 2025.

The expert consultant, Ms Laura Gavilan, will present to the Standing Committee the new Emerald Network Standard Data Form and the next steps of the migration process to ReportNet3.

The expert consultant, Mr Otars Opermanis, will present to the Standing Committee the study “Criteria for assessing (negative) changes in the Emerald Network”.

The expert consultant, Mr Dave Pritchard, will present the document “Emerald Network: screening, prior assessment and authorisation of potentially harmful projects”.

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

The Secretariat will invite Contracting Parties to submit proposals to host the 2026 meeting of the GoEPAEN, to be jointly organised with the Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Vision and Strategic Plan 2030.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the outcomes of the 15th meeting of the GoEPAEN;
- thank the authorities of Montenegro for hosting the meeting of the GoEPAEN;
- adopt the new Emerald Network Standard Data Form;
- mandate the Secretariat to conduct a legal analysis regarding the criteria for assessing negative changes and the possibility of reducing or fully delisting an Emerald site due to "imperative reasons of overriding public interest" in exchange for compensatory measures, as well as its compatibility with Article 9 of the Bern Convention, with a view to possibly updating the “Guidelines for explaining negative changes in Emerald Network proposed candidate sites and adopted sites”;
- decide on the next steps to be taken to clarify to the Contracting Parties which international legal instruments, recommendations and guidelines already adopted by other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and related bodies on assessment of potentially harmful projects, are the best suited to assess the potential harmful nature of projects or activities affecting Emerald network sites, with a view to supporting the measures listed in Recommendation No. 225 (2024);
- take note of the change in the list of adopted Emerald Network sites and of the absence of changes in the updated list of candidate Emerald Network sites due to lack of data base submission by Contracting Parties;
- strongly encourage Contracting Parties to submit data bases as a key tool to support the development of the Emerald Network;
- welcome any proposal from Contracting Parties to host the 2026 joint meeting of the GoEPAEN and the Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Vision and Strategic Plan 2030.

5.5.2 European Diploma for Protected Area (EDPA)

a) Meeting of the Group of Specialists on the EDPA

[T-PVS/DE(2025)07 – Report of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas]

[T-PVS/DE(2025)09 – List of areas which could benefit from an on-the-spot appraisal in 2026]

b) Celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the EDPA

[[60th anniversary of the European Diploma for Protected Areas](#) - Broadcast of the Celebratory Event, 21 May 2025]

[[TPVS/Agenda\(2025\)05](#) - Event to mark the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma for Protected Areas, 21 May 2025]

c) Roundtable of the Managers of the Diploma holding areas

[[TPVS/Agenda\(2025\)08](#) - Roundtable of the Managers of the Diploma holding areas, 21-22 May 2025]

[[TPVS/DE\(2025\)06](#) - Granada Declaration]

d) Award ceremony of the EDPA to Sierra Nevada National Park, Nature Park and Biosphere Reserve (Spain)

e) New applications for EDPA

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 and the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma (Granada, May 2025) which took place back-to-back with the roundtable of manager of the EDPA community and the EDPA award ceremony to the Regional Park of Gallipoli Cognato (Italy).

The Secretariat will report on the awarding ceremony of the new EDPA Sierra Nevada National Park, Natural Park and Biosphere Reserve (Spain), which took place in Florence, Italy, during the 25th anniversary of the Landscape Convention celebratory event. The new applications for the EDPA received in 2025 will be presented to the Standing Committee, as well as the Granada Declaration, one of the outcomes of the 60th anniversary event.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- thank the Spanish authorities for having hosted the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the EDPA, the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma, the roundtable of the Managers of the Diploma holding areas and the award ceremony of the EDPA to Regional Park of Gallipoli Cognato (Italy);
- take note of the meeting reports of the above-mentioned activities;
- welcome the Granada declaration as a strategic document for the future of the EDPA community of protected areas;
- welcome the new applications for the European Diploma, submitted by Poland and Georgia.

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

*[T-PVS(2025)05 – Abridged meeting Report of the
Webinar on Favourable Reference Values, Habitat Condition and Future Prospects]*

*[T-PVS(2025)01 – Report of the 3rd meeting of the Working Group
overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan]*

*[T-PVS(2025)21 – Report on the 7th meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting back -to-back with a training course on
reporting for non-EU Contracting Parties]*

[T-PVS Inf(2025)43 - Draft Terms of Reference Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012)]

The Chair of the Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting, Ms Salomé Nozadze, will inform the Standing Committee of the outcomes of the 7th meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on Reporting back-to-back with a training course on reporting for non-EU Contracting Parties.

The expert consultant, Ms Laura Gavilan, will inform the participants of the Standing Committee of the upcoming launching of the new ReportNet 3 portal for reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012).

The Secretariat will present the Draft Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012).

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to

- take note of the information presented;
- strongly invite non-EU contracting parties to report under Resolution No. 8(2012) by 31 March 2025;
- adopt the Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012).

PART IV – MONITORING OF SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS

6 SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS

6.1 Minimising the negative impact of mining on biodiversity

The Chair will inform the Standing Committee of the evolution of the idea of the workshop on minimising the negative impact of mining on biodiversity, included in the Bern Convention Programme and Budget for 2025. He will inform of the online meetings held with Serbian authorities and complainants in the period September-November 2025 in regard to three case-files related to the mining in Serbia (2021/07, 2022/06 and 2022/08). The Chair will present the decisions of the Bureau to hold an in-person round table on the three cases and an On-the-Spot-Appraisal(OSA) in the case of Complaint No. 2022/06: Possible File: Serbia: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and in the Homolje Mt region.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the information presented and to acknowledge the position of the Serbian authorities in regard to the possible organisation of an in-person round table and OSAs in Serbia in 2026.

6.2 Open Files

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

[T-PVS/Files(2025)1986-08_gov - Government Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)1986-08_comp - Complainant Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)1986-08_ngo - Archelon NGO Report]

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

The Secretariat will inform on the On-the-Spot Appraisal visit which was conducted in June 2025 and its cancellation, due to the supervening long sick leave of the international expert.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up. The Standing Committee is invited to mandate the repetition of the cancelled 2025 OSA in 2026.

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

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2010-05_gov - Government Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2010-05_comp - Complainant Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2010-05_ngo - Archelon NGO Report]

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

The Secretariat will inform on the On-the-Spot Appraisal visit which was conducted in June 2025 and its cancellation, due to the supervening long sick leave of the international expert.

DECISION: The Standing Committee is invited to discuss this case-file and decide on its possible follow-up. The Standing Committee is invited to mandate the repetition of the cancelled 2025 OSA in 2026.

- 1995/06: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula

[T-PVS/Files(2025)1995-06_gov - Government Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)1995-06_comp - 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(2025)2012-09_gov - Government Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2012-09_comp - 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 Mavrovo National Park

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2013-01_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2013-01_comp - 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: Negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructure developments

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2017-02_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2017-02_comp - 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 and Vlora International Airport

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2016-05_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2016-05_comp - 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(2025)2016-04_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2016-04_comp - 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

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2019-05_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2019-05_comp - 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.

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

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2020-09_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2020-09_comp - 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(2025)2022-03_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2022-03_comp - 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(2025)2023-03_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2023-03_comp - 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 Possible Files

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

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2001-04_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2001-04_comp - 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(2025)2020-04_gov - Government Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2020-04_comp - 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(2025)2022-06_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2022-06_comp - 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.

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

[T-PVS/Files(2025)2022-02_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2022-02_comp - 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.

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

[Government Report Not Received]
[T-PVS/Files(2025)2022-07_comp - 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.

6.4 Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations

- Türkiye: Recommendation No. 95 (2002) on the conservation of marine turtles in Kazanlı beach (Türkiye)

[T-PVS/Files(2025) Recommendation No.95_gov - Government Report]
[T-PVS/Files(2025) Recommendation No.95_comp - Complainant Report]

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

DECISION: Based on the information provided by the parties, the Standing Committee is invited to consider potential re-opening of the case, if no sufficient and clear advances in the provisions of Recommendation No. 95 (2002) are adopted by the Turkish authorities.

- Iceland: Recommendation No.190 (2016) on the conservation of natural habitats and wildlife, especially birds, in afforestation of lowland in Iceland

[T-PVS/Files(2025)Recommendation No.190_gov - Government Report]

[Complainant Report Not Received]

The authorities 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.

- 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(2025)Recommendation No.200_gov - Government Report]

[T-PVS/Files(2025)Recommendation No.200_comp - 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.

PART V – COOPERATION AND PROGRAMME OF WORK 2026

7 INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION WITH OTHER MEAs AND ORGANISATIONS

The Secretariat will inform of the coordination activities implemented throughout 2025 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 2026

[T-PVS(2025)12 – Draft Programme of activities and budget 2026]

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

Parties interested to volunteer for hosting the organisation of Groups of Experts meetings in 2026 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 2026.

9 STATES TO BE INVITED AS OBSERVERS TO THE 46TH MEETING

The Secretariat will recall that the following States have been invited to attend the 45th 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 46th 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 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 46TH MEETING

The Secretariat will make a proposal for the date and place of the 46th meeting of the Standing Committee (during the week of 7th December 2026 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 46th 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 BUSINESS²

MORNINGS 9.00 am - 12.30 pm (CET)	AFTERNOONS 2.00 pm – 5.30 pm (CET)
Monday 8 December 2025	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA 3. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CONTRACTING PARTIES AND FROM THE SECRETARIAT 4. FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.2 Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices 3.3 Working Group on overseeing implementation of the Strategic Plan 3.4 Revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee : state of play 3.5 Thematic groups and working groups under the Bern Convention overview : state of play and ways forward 5. MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Biennial reports 2023-2024 concerning exceptions to Articles 4-8 and new Online Reporting System 4.2 Council of Europe Interim Progress Review Report 2025 (inputs from Contracting Parties) 6. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Conservation of Birds & IKB
Tuesday 9 December 2025	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS (<i>CONTINUED</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.2 Conservation of Large Carnivores 5.3 Amphibians, Reptiles and Invasive Alien Species (IAS) 5.4 Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy Duck 5.5 Conservation of Habitats 5.6 Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) on conservation status of species and habitats 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1 Minimising the negative impact of mining on biodiversity 2 COMMUNICATIONS FROM CONTRACTING PARTIES AND FROM THE SECRETARIAT (<i>continued</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Reykjavik process and the environment 2.2 Participation of the Council of Europe in COP 30, Belém, Brazil, Nov 2025 3. FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION (<i>continued</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Financing of the Bern Convention 6.SPECIFIC SITES AND POPULATIONS (<i>CONTINUED</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6.2 Open Files <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1986/08: Greece: Recommendation No. 9 (1987) on the protection of Caretta Caretta in Laganas bay, Zakynthos (OSA) ➤ 2010/05: Greece: Threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparias (OSA) ➤ 1995/06: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula

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 10 December 2025	
<p>6.2 Open Files (<i>continued</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2012/09: Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara SPAs ➤ 2013/01: North Macedonia: Hydro power development within the territory of Mavrovo National Park ➤ 2017/02: North Macedonia; Negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructure developments ➤ 2016/05: Albania: Presumed negative impact of developments on the Vjosa river including hydro-power plant and Vlora International Airport ➤ 2016/04: Montenegro: Development of a commercial project in Skadar Lake National Park and candidate Emerald site ➤ 2019/05: Türkiye; Habitat destruction in Mersin Anamur Beach 	<p>6.2 Open Files (<i>continued</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2020/09: Bosnia-Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva river ➤ 2022/03: Norway: Wolf culling policy ➤ 2023/03: Switzerland: New wolf culling policy <p>6.3. Possible files</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2001/04: Bulgaria: Motorway through the Kresna Gorge ➤ 2020/04: Armenia: The Amulsar gold mine project and impacts on Emerald Network ➤ 2022/06: Serbia: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and Homolje Mt region
Thursday 11 December 2025	
<p>6.3 Possible files (<i>continued</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2022/02: Austria: Alleged violation of the Convention related to killing of lutra lutra ➤ 2022/07: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Trstionica – Gornja Bukovica and Vareš <p>6.4. Follow-up of previous complaints and Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Türkiye: Recommendation No. 95 (2002) on conservation of marine turtles in Kazanlı beach ➤ Iceland: Recommendation No. 190 (2016) on conservation of natural habitats and wildlife, focusing on birds ➤ Bulgaria: Recommendation No. 200 (2018) on planned wind farms near Balchik and Kaliakra 	<p><i>Possible continuation of unfinished business</i></p>
Friday 12 December 2025	
<p>7. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION WITH OTHER MEAs AND ORGANISATIONS</p> <p>8. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET FOR 2026</p> <p>9. STATES TO BE INVITED AS OBSERVERS TO THE 46TH MEETING</p> <p>10. ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND BUREAU MEMBERS</p> <p>11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 46TH MEETING</p> <p>12. ADOPTION OF MAIN DECISIONS OF THE MEETING</p> <p>13. CLOSING OF THE MEETING</p>	