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T-PVS/DE(2022)04

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Group of Specialists on the
European Diploma for Protected Areas**

23-24 February 2022
(*virtual meeting*)

**EXTRACT FROM THE LIST OF DECISIONS AND ADOPTED TEXTS ON
THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA FOR PROTECTED AREAS,
AT THE 41TH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE
BERN CONVENTION**

*Document prepared by
the Directorate of Democratic Participation*

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5.8.2 EUROPEAN DIPLOMA FOR PROTECTED AREAS

Relevant documents: T-PVS/DE(2021)06 – Report of the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the EDPA
T-PVS/DE(2021)04 – Draft Resolution on the extension of the European Diploma
T-PVS/DE(2020)11rev - Draft resolutions regarding the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the de Oostvaardersplassen Nature Reserve and to the Weerribben-Wieden National Park
T-PVS/DE(2020)20- Renewal of the European Diploma in 2022: List of areas which could be visited in 2021

The Standing Committee took note of the meeting report of the Group of Specialists and welcomed the proactivity of the group in developing an online scenario for the on-the-spot appraisal visits in order to continue monitoring the European Diploma in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. It also noted the four on-the-spot appraisal visits carried out partially or entirely online and the five physical on-the-spot appraisal visits.

The Standing Committee welcomed the renewal of the European Diploma to the De Oostvaardersplassen Nature Reserve and the Weerribben-Wieden National Park and the exceptional extension of the validity of the Diploma to 11 areas formally adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 7th July 2021.

The Committee took note that the combined on-the-spot appraisal visit to the Muddus, Sarek and Padjelanta National Parks could not take place and was postponed to Spring 2022.

Further, the Standing Committee welcomed the creation of the virtual exhibition available in the languages of the countries hosting a diploma and took note of the setting up of a pool of independent experts who will be involved in on-the-spot appraisal visits for the next four years.

Finally, the Committee took note of and regretted the decision of the managing authorities of the Port-Cros National Park (France) to not apply for the renewal of the European Diploma.