



Strasbourg, 30 March 2020
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T-PVS/DE (2020) 12

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

40th meeting
Strasbourg, 1-4 December 2020

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

18-19 March 2020
virtual meeting

**DRAFT RESOLUTIONS
ON THE RENEWAL
OF THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA FOR PROTECTED
AREAS**

*Document prepared
by the Directorate of Democratic Participation*

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MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park (Germany/Luxembourg)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(73)33 on the award of the European Diploma to the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park (Germany/Luxembourg);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2012)14 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park (Germany/Luxembourg);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented to the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park (Germany/Luxembourg), until 25 October 2028;

Attaches the following three recommendations to the renewal:

1. Pursue and develop cross-border co-operation and collaboration and explore the best adapted form of trans-frontier co-ordination, including the formulation of common mid- and long-term development objectives and the reactivating of an intergovernmental committee, as appropriate;
2. Ensure that nature conservation management in the Zweckverband Naturpark Südeifel mirrors the practice and performance of the Luxembourg nature parks.
3. Make more intensive use of the European Diploma logo in all information material and brochures, and explain the relevance of the Diploma wherever appropriate, first of all in the visitors' centre and on the website.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Berchtesgaden National Park (Germany)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(90)14 on the award of the European Diploma to the Berchtesgaden National Park (Germany);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)7 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Berchtesgaden National Park (Germany);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Berchtesgaden National Park, until 18 June 2030;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

Accelerate the finalisation of the management plan currently in preparation and attach a scientific research programme to it. The Council of Europe shall be informed upon completion and approval of the document, which should be effective no later than 18 months after the renewal of the Diploma.

Attaches the following eleven recommendations to the renewal:

1. Include in the management plan currently in preparation specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term conservation of threatened/rare species;
2. Abstain from any extension of forest and mountain roads and consider dismantling roads as well as abstain from additional infrastructure in the Park, including wastewater pipes. If no alternative solution exists, infrastructure should be developed on the existing forest roads;

3. Continue negotiating with landowners and tenants the replacement of forest grazing by light grazing;
4. Search together with the competent authorities for alternatives for the police training centre, or at least abstain from further expansions of it, and continue negotiations with the army to reduce the impacts of the army training ground to a minimum;
5. Conduct a scientific study on the red deer population and game regulation, including the plausibility of winter enclosures to gain enough data for the future management;
6. Conduct a study on invasive alien species and develop a strategy on how to react in the face of invasive alien species;
7. Maintain the competency of hunting authority to the park administration at regional level;
8. Secure an adequate budget and staffing for the park administration to enable an effective and efficient management;
9. Limit the spotlights of the Jenner cable car to reduce light pollution and consider the construction of a path accessible for people with disabilities and a viewpoint next to the mountain station of the Jenner cable car;
10. Pursue consequently the conversion of spruce forests into mixed forests, using natural processes and disturbances e.g. bark beetle and wind fall areas as foreseen in the new conceptual framework, without enlargement of the bark beetle control zone;
11. Make more intensive use of the European Diploma logo in all information material and brochures, and explain the relevance of the Diploma wherever appropriate, first of all in the visitors' centre and on the website.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2000)12 on the award of the European Diploma to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)17 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (Romania);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, until 20 June 2020;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. Contribute to the implementation of the Pan-European Action Plan for the Sturgeon ([T-PVS/Inf\(2018\)6](#)) adopted by the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention and implement a monitoring system to assess the development of the sturgeon population in the Delta;
2. Include in the management plan in preparation specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term preservation of endemic species;
3. The responsible Ministry should increase the number of staff to the maximum limit foreseen to enable efficient work and add part-time contracts whenever needed for additional projects;
4. Secure a basic budget for the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve to enable the authority to fulfil its administrative tasks and allocate project funds fully to the projects themselves;

5. The responsible authorities should work out a master plan for wind farms in the perimeter of the protected area to prevent any impact on the birds and/or bats in the Danube Delta and consider the participation of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve administration in this process;
6. Evaluate the rising number of permits for car and boat traffic and public access and define a maximum number of permits, which should only be exceeded under exceptional circumstances;
7. The Ministry of Environment should review the appointment system for the management/Governor with regard to a minimum length of a working period to enable the managers to develop and guide mid- and long-term strategies for the further development of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve;
8. Make intensive use of the European Diploma logo and explain the relevance of the Diploma in the information centres and in all information material provided to the tourist sector (boat excursions, accommodations, etc.).

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area (United Kingdom)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(85)14 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area (United Kingdom);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)10 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area (United Kingdom);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Fair Isle National Scenic Area, until 21 September 2030;

Attaches the following three conditions to the renewal:

1. By 2022, review the 2010-2019 management plan as was foreseen for 2018 and elaborate a new management plan to secure a continuous development and management of the Fair Isle Scenic Area;
2. Consider in the above referred to management plan the conditions and recommendations of the appraisal report and include specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term conservation of endemic and bird species;
3. Make more intensive use of the European Diploma logo in all information material and brochures and explain the relevance of the Diploma wherever useful.

Attaches the following four recommendations to the renewal:

1. Consider a ban on fishing and catching of lobsters within the Development and Research Marine Protected Area or at least in a scientifically defined area;

2. Consider the inclusion of the Marine Protected Area into the European Diploma site;
3. Improve the housing-related quality of life through appropriate measures, mainly concerning renovation and restoration and consider the peculiar conditions of the local business and improve working conditions through installation of appropriate manufacturing locations;
4. Give the European Diploma a prominent place in or at the new bird observatory.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato (Italy)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Solemnly awards the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato; recognises the European significance of this area which has remarkable landscapes, rich and diverse flora and fauna, exceptional geological features and ethno-anthropological and archaeological interest;

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Places the aforesaid area under the patronage of the Council of Europe until ~~XX~~ June 2025;

Attaches the following two conditions to the renewal:

1. The Regional authorities should ensure by 2022 a substantial increase in the budget presently allocated directly to the Park to enable enough means for a stable management and a long-term consolidation of what seems now a very efficient but vulnerable structure;
2. The regulations for the pre-park area are to be adopted by the Regional government before the expiration of the first five year of the Diploma (2025).

Attaches the following five recommendations to the renewal:

1. Enhance the present management of the forest towards a greater natural character, with more diversity of ages of trees as at present parts of the forest in the Park are formed by trees of a similar age. It would also be advisable to leave on the ground - without removal - some trees that may have died as a result of wind or other natural or biological processes so as to favour saproxylic fauna;
2. Enhance the control of non-native trees, in particular conifers planted during the 1970s and to re-forestate with indigenous trees the - relatively small - areas affected;

Commented [MH1]: Date of the decision of the Committee of Ministers

3. Enhance the repopulation of the Park with new releases of the Italian hare *Lepus corsicanus*. The numbers of animals so far introduced does not ensure a long-term viability of the population due to inbreeding depression caused by the founder effect;
4. Monitor closely the effects of the introduction of the roe deer *Capreolus capreolus italicus* in the Park, particularly in the forest. The low density of its only possible predators - with the exception of man - the wolf, might lead to an explosion in numbers to be avoided;
5. Consider carrying out studies on the effects of climate change on the flora and fauna of the Park.

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES Resolutions **CM/ResDip(2020)...** 2020

Massaciuccoli (Italy)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2005)16 on the award of the European Diploma to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and Massaciuccoli (Italy);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)3 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and Massaciuccoli (Italy);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Regional Park of Migliarino, San Rossore and Massaciuccoli, until 15 June 2030;

Attaches the following ten recommendations to the renewal:

1. Pursue efforts to integrate the Park into the regional fabric; do even more to include the local community, interest groups (farmers etc.) and nature conservation bodies in discussions. Exploit the recent extension of the Biosphere reserve to that end;
2. Draw up a summary management document covering all activities and setting out all the protection regimes (regional park, reserves, Natura 2000 sites, Ramsar site, Biosphere reserve, marine reserve) and translate this document into English and/or French; review the zoning if necessary, consider the possibility of a continuous Site of Community Importance (SCI) under the EU Habitats Directive and envisage extending the diploma-holding area;
3. Bring in replacement staff to cover retirements and annual leave. Envisage an increase in staff to meet new demands resulting from responsibility for the marine reserve, the extension of the Biosphere reserve and the designation of the Ramsar site;
4. Continue research and monitoring activities, and in particular:
 - Update the vegetation map;

- Implement and monitor water management measures linked to the drainage of farmland and the Massaciuccoli Lake;
 - Monitor the state of the dune area and continue protection activities there.
5. Continue and if necessary step up programmes to combat invasive alien species and control fallow deer and wild boar populations. Pursue a policy geared to the Park's protection regime where the renewal of forest cover is concerned;
 6. Pursue efforts to control sound and light pollution in the Park's vicinity; introduce measures restricting motorised vehicle traffic in the park and negotiate the setting up of a public transport system with the competent authorities;
 7. Pursue efforts to develop sustainable agriculture *inter alia* by reducing use of fertilisers and pesticides which have an adverse effect on water quality; consider the introduction of a regional label for products and services in connection with the extension of the Biosphere reserve;
 8. Translate the website and public information material into foreign languages so that the numerous foreign tourists attracted by the city of Pisa and its region can appreciate the Park's assets. Publish and provide to visitors at least a list of the species illustrated on the information panels, with their names in four languages, in addition to the scientific name;
 9. Maintain and consolidate the network of centres providing information on the region's nature, culture and history. Make more systematic use of international designation logos, particularly that of the European Diploma, providing suitable explanation;
 10. In the context of preparing the new Integrated Plan for the Park, pursue discussions on relocating craft activities from the area around the Massaciuccoli Lake. Include in the integrated plan in preparation specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term preservation of species and habitats typical of the area.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Vashlovani Protected Areas (Georgia)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2015)1 on the award of the European Diploma to the Vashlovani Protected Areas (Georgia);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Vashlovani Protected Areas (Georgia), until 3 June 2030;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. Finalise and start implementing in 2020 a new Management Plan for the next 9-year period. Include specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term preservation of species and habitats typical of the area;
2. Continue to fully implement the Pasture Management Plan as part of the general Management Plan. Carefully monitor the pasture activities and the respect of the lease contracts by the farmers. Secure the corresponding budgets from state and other sources;
3. Collect all the available scientific data and integrate them into the database under construction. Present a systematic list of habitats with a short description and respective coverage in the Vashlovani Protected Areas. Establish a comprehensive list of endemic, rare and threatened species with differentiation between the Caucasus, Georgian and local respective species;
4. Continue working closely with the local authorities and communities, especially in the field of eco-tourism and sustainable development;
5. Continue maintaining and improving the visitors' infrastructures in the park; carefully control the motor traffic on the roads inside the protected areas and monitor the visitors' activities;

6. Pursue and develop international collaboration with the Republic of Azerbaijan, especially focusing on ungulate and large carnivore conservation;
7. Use more frequently the European Diploma designation in promotional activities and display its logo; carefully consider other potential international designations, in order to avoid confusion among local authorities and population.

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Protected Areas awarded to the Ipolytarnóc Protected Area (Hungary)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(95)17 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Ipolytarnóc Protected Area (Hungary);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)15 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Ipolytarnóc Protected Area (Hungary);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Ipolytarnóc Protected Area, until 11 September 2030;

Attaches the following twelve recommendations to the renewal:

1. Further explore the site's high potential for discoveries of geological interest – especially the palaeontological excavations. It would be of significant added value if further promotion of internationalisation of research activities would take place by making the results of scientific research publicly available;
2. Take all appropriate measures to preserve and, if possible, exhibit the geological and paleontological resources. By 2025, engage in a careful (ensuring maximum respect of geological and paleontological features) renovation/replacement of buildings, primarily the exhibition halls along the geological trail. Additionally, renovate the visitor's centre and other visitor's facilities during the renewal period of ten years;
3. The site should further explore the possibilities of a central and active role in the integration in the Slovak-Hungarian trans-border Nógrád-Novohrad Geopark, in order to preserve and interpret the natural assets of the region and to further develop the focal, multilingual information point for geotourism;

4. Continue the gradual replacement of non-native tree species, in particular *Robinia pseudacacia* and regionally non-native *Pinus* species with native deciduous tree species (*Quercus* and others) by assisting the natural succession process through ecologically sensitive land management practices. Also take measures to control herbal invasive alien species such as *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*. Continue the control of game which is causing considerable damage to vegetation and protected animal species;
5. Maintain the balance between open spaces and wooded areas on the western side of the conservation area, close to the nearby settlement to preserve the mosaic structure of the landscapes there. Maintain the use of the regional breed/landrace of Racka sheep because of its added value from a historical husbandry point of view, and also to increase structural diversity in the herb-dominated vegetation. For agropastoral reasons, maintaining hay-cutting by local farmers and/or NGOs should be encouraged. Limiting management of open habitats to the use of sheep grazing alone would change the landscape into a mosaic of patches covered woody and herbal plant communities (so-called woodland), which would not comply with earlier recommendations (2010);
6. Replace the power line that runs between the village and the visitor centre by an underground infrastructure, respecting the current landscape and exhibitions;
7. Explore the feasibility of a video presentation, documentary film on the scientific evidence-based process of paleontological science (paleotaxonomy as well as paleoecology and ecosystem reconstruction/restoration). Particularly, the palaeontological method which seems to be able to reconstruct whole animals based on “simple” footprints is astonishing and will interest the general public and fellow scientists in life sciences;
8. As is already done in the Rock Park, further develop visualisations that make links between present and past (Miocene) ecosystems;
9. Improve documentation/reporting on management measures results through structured monitoring, as well as of public response (numbers of visitors, appreciation), etc;
10. Further enlarge local, regional and transnational public involvement and administrative cooperation, e.g. on the transnational N-N Geopark (to be undertaken by the Bükki NP authorities rather than the Ipolytarnóc management);
11. Consider citizen science projects in order to strengthen involvement and engagement of non-scientific stakeholders;
12. Continue to make good and systematic use of the logo and slogan of the European Diploma.

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Protected Areas awarded to the Szénás Hills Protected Area (Hungary)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(95)18 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Szénás Hills Protected Area (Hungary);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)16 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Szénás Hills Protected Area (Hungary);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Szénás Hills Protected Area, until 11 September 2030;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

By 2022 replace the current 5-year management plan (expired 2018) with a new approved 5-year plan.

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. Develop a long-term 25-year management strategy by 2023, including:
 - a) Objectives for the relative cover of grasslands and woodlands, their ecotones and connectivity between them, and the natural ecological processes and other management measures required to meet them; this should be based on sound evidence of the ecological value of these broad habitats and the ecological requirements of their characteristic species;
 - b) Enhanced understanding of the ecological requirements for particularly rare and endangered species; with strategies for appropriate species recovery programmes where necessary;
 - c) An assessment of the potential impacts of climate change on the priority habitats, species and related ecological processes, together with an adaptation plan where necessary;

- d) An assessment of future land use pressures, especially from recreation, tourism and urban development, and potential strategies for mitigating the negative impacts of these;
 - e) Determine and implement the range of management options and nature-based solutions necessary to meet the long-term challenges of maintaining the ecological interest of the Szénás Hills Protected Area, especially with regard to long-term ecological trends including climate change;
2. Continue the close co-operation by the Danube-Ipoly National Park Directorate, the Pilis Forest Company and the municipality of Pilisszentiván in the management of the protected area; ensure that nature conservation is the primary consideration on decisions affecting the protected area; enhance the co-operation between the managing authorities and the local municipalities by a) establishing equivalent trilateral agreements of co-operation with Nagykovácsi and Piliscsaba, and b) establishing more regular local forum meetings of officers and also the public;
 3. Continue to pursue EU funding to meet management objectives; ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of project delivery by including the employment costs of the appropriate project staff in the project bids and subsequent budgets;
 4. Where short-term EU funding is supporting longer term needs, secure an appropriate, predictable and sustainable budget to ensure stability of funding;
 5. Continue effective game management in line with previous commitments, to reduce populations of non-native mouflon and fallow deer to zero; establish a timeline, funding and appropriate methods to achieve this eradication within 10 years; continue to manage native large mammal populations, based on effective monitoring by the Pilis Forest Company. The game management can be effective only with the continuous maintenance of the state of the fence around the area and with combination of control methods (e.g. big game drives, shooting, trapping);
 6. Continue the eradication of non-native tree species, especially the black pine and black locust; especially for the black pine establish a timeline to complete the programme of clearance, with funding and appropriate methods to achieve the objective within 10 years; investigate with forest authorities where and how in appropriate locations black pine stands as well as other woodland areas might be restored to open grassland, considering appropriate techniques, costs and opportunities, and addressing the regulations which govern such open habitat restoration;
 7. Enhance the effectiveness of the buffer areas by the inclusion of appropriate regulations in land-use plans to limit inappropriate development; investigate the practicality of regulating other activities (e.g. fly tipping, introduction of non-native species) in these areas;
 8. Continue the effective management of visitor access for a range of user groups, including enhancing provision away from sensitive areas, e.g. horse-riding trails, and mountain bike routes, where this can relieve pressure on the protected area.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve (Czech Republic)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2000)15 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve (Czech Republic);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)5 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve (Czech Republic);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Karlštejn National Nature Reserve, until 20 June 2030;

Attaches the following eight recommendations to the renewal:

1. Continue the restoration of non-forested areas of forest steppes and xerophilous calcareous grasslands through appropriate management; make funding available to continue contractual agreements with the goatherds and/or shepherds in order to guarantee grazing, and thereby maintenance, in the long term;
2. Continue the restoration of the deciduous broad-leaved forests by gradually reducing conifer presence in the Reserve; monitor the results of these interventions as well as the occurrence of pest species in the area;
3. Continue to implement nature-based solutions and management in the face of climate change, ensuring the recovery of native tree species in the forested areas, the installation and adequate management of permanent grasslands or the restoration of the natural floodplains within the Reserve, among others;

4. Ensure that human and related construction pressure remains compatible with the natural values and conservation objectives of the National Nature Reserve;
5. Evaluate the need to review the land-use plans of all municipalities and explore the possibility of reinforcing the special legal competences of the reserve's staff and other authorities responsible for nature conservation; also stimulate the establishment of regular consultation procedures with relevant local and regional authorities, scientists and NGOs;
6. Stimulate the development of high-quality visitors' centres and organise environmental education for the wider public; encourage local authorities to disseminate information on the merits of the National Nature Reserve and its position in Europe in appropriate places (such as railway stations, camping sites, municipal halls, museums, etc.);
7. Ensure that the necessary budget and resources are available for the manifold functions and operational tasks of the reserve's staff, including administration, research, surveillance, education and training, as well as habitat management.
8. Improve signposting, notably by including some information in English or German, and by displaying the European Diploma logo on the signs.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area (Czech Republic)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2000)13 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area (Czech Republic);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2011)1 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area (Czech Republic);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area, until 20 June 2030;

Attaches the following five recommendations to the renewal:

1. Ensure that the necessary budget and resources are available for the manifold functions and operational tasks of the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area's staff, including administration, research, surveillance and habitat management;
2. Take strong measures to control non-native species from the national nature reserves and the other strictly protected areas. Continue the necessary negotiations with relevant stakeholders aiming at controlling non-native big game populations in the Protected Landscape Area. Ensure that the monitoring of the population of fallow deer in the Radejov hunting reserve is continued and regularly validated by Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area staff;

3. Continue to implement nature-based solutions and management in the face of climate change, ensuring the continuation of the current forestry policy of conversion to hardwood stands and encourage the natural regeneration of native hardwood forests;
4. Evaluate the need of and take the necessary actions for having a stronger presence of the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area during the preparation or review of the urban plans of the major urban areas within or bordering the Protected Landscape Area. Additionally, identify any areas where urban development may become a risk in the near future and evaluate the necessity of drafting an urban plan for these areas (if they do not have it yet);
5. The European Diploma logo and information about the European Diploma should be included in all promotion materials produced in the future as well as in any new signposts installed in the Bílé Karpaty Protected Landscape Area. The website of the Protected Landscape Area should also include the logo of the European Diploma with a link to the website of the Council of Europe.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve (Belarus)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(95)19 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve (Belarus);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)6 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve (Belarus);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve, until 11 September 2030;

Attaches the following two conditions to the renewal:

1. The protection regime and the ownership of the land should be kept unchanged;
2. Based on the findings of the studies on the effect of the road M3 on the fragmentation of the Biosphere Reserve, create at least 3 passages for large fauna above the road by the end of 2022. Vegetate the viaducts with native plants to improve their naturalness and encourage fauna to use them.

Attaches the following five recommendations to the renewal:

1. Draft and adopt by 2021 a new management plan for the long-term conservation of the Berezinsky State Biosphere Reserve for a duration consistent with the renewal of the European Diploma;

include specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term preservation of endemic species;

2. Sufficient resources need to be generated both by the Government and by the Reserve to protect effectively biodiversity and to continue scientific research. In addition to extra-budgetary sources of income, other sources should be tapped. Cooperation with NGOs and/or enterprises committed to corporate social responsibility should be promoted;
3. The ongoing studies on the dynamics of the mammal populations, animal movements and fauna migration between the core and the buffer zones should be continued, in order to follow the progress of the effect of hunting on the current situation and to manage the populations accordingly;
4. Continue with the efforts between the appropriate Ministries to ensure that the development of tourism is well controlled;
5. In order to mitigate possible risks and hazards connected with climatic changes and possible large-scale disturbances on the Reserve (like contamination by various pollutants, changes of the hydrological regime, invasive alien species, increasing frequency of extreme events, etc.) continuous analysis of the long-term data series should be made in order to detect early the effects on Berezinsky ecosystems. For instance, eventual reduction of rainfall, changes of the snow cover dynamics, temperature rises, possible maladjustments among species potentially due to increasing aridity or to modifications of the annual cycle, etc., should be characterised. The menace of fire should be seriously considered as an increasing risk and additional preventative measures should be considered for implementation.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Podyjí National Park (Czech Republic)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution ResDip(2000)14 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Podyjí National Park (Czech Republic);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)4 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Podyjí National Park (Czech Republic);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Podyjí National Park, until 20 June 2029;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. Pursue the collaboration with the operator of the hydroelectric power station at Vranov to manage a nature friendly flow regime and guarantee a minimum residual flow rate;
2. By 2022, adopt and begin the implementation of the management plan for the period 2020-2029. Prepare the management plan in a participatory manner, taking into account particularly: visitors management in light of the new allocation of quiet zones, the development of leisure activities on the Dyje river, the agreement on water use, the harmonisation of fishing regulations, the population control of ungulates in the buffer zone, and specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term conservation of threatened and rare species;

3. Continue and further develop the established good relations with municipalities and the local community in order to encourage sustainable management of their land within the national park, in line with the principles and rules laid down in the management plan;
4. In the management plan give special emphasise to the issue of extending vineyards on valuable dry grasslands. Promote traditional, small scale vinery within the National Park;
5. Continue improving the close to nature mitigation of agricultural areas, particularly in the buffer zones;
6. Continue to strengthen the co-operation with the Thayatal National Park in the frame of the existing twinning agreement;
7. Use more regularly the European Diploma logo on publications and appropriate infrastructures, promote the European Diploma more actively, encourage partners and stakeholders to use the European Diploma logo.

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/ResDip(2020)...

..... 2020

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)... on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve (Italy)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2020
at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution (65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(85)12 on the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve (Italy);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2010)12 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve (Italy);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 18 and 19 March 2020;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention,

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma,

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve, until 21 September 2030;

Attaches the following seven recommendations to the renewal:

1. Strengthen the co-operation and co-ordination with the Casentino Forest National Park, national, regional and local authorities towards coherent management, especially in visitors' management, management of wild ungulates and large carnivores;
2. The Nature Reserve should continue to stand out as a reference for nature protection in the region;

3. Prepare and secure funding for a long-term monitoring programme. National Park policy documents should encourage high standard scientific research within the Reserve and the whole National Park area;
4. Pay special attention to the management of the buffer zone, using all existing legal instruments, taking into account the requirements of the World Heritage site and of the European Diploma;
5. Avoid any further damage in the buffer zone, such as the laying of new roads or significant improvement work on the ski slopes;
6. Include in the management plan currently in preparation and in the Casentino Forest National Park management plan specific provisions dedicated to climate change (including research needs) and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term conservation of threatened and rare species;
7. Limit the visits to the core area to researchers and people with a genuine interest in the site and other visitors to the buffer zone;
8. Use more regularly the European Diploma logo on publications and appropriate infrastructures, promote the European Diploma more actively, encourage partners and stakeholders to use the European Diploma logo.