

134th Session of the Committee of Ministers (Luxembourg, 14 May 2025)

3. Implementation of the Reykjavík Declaration – follow up decisions

b. Council of Europe and the environment

Reference documents

CM(2025)51-final, CM(2025)51-addfinal, CM(2025)52-final, CM(2025)52-addfinal

Decisions

The Committee of Ministers

1. welcomed the progress made in strengthening the work of the Council of Europe in this field, making the environment a visible priority, focusing and streamlining the Organisation's activities, and identifying the challenges raised by the triple planetary crisis of pollution, climate change and loss of biodiversity for human rights, rule of law and democracy and the possible responses thereto;
2. adopted the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment, as it appears in document CM(2025)51-final, took note of the Action Plan, as it appears in document CM(2025)51-addfinal, and entrusted its Deputies with ensuring the implementation, in the light of their decisions of 2 April 2025 (CM/Del/Dec(2025)1524/4.2);
3. for this purpose, invited its Deputies to consider setting up an intergovernmental multidisciplinary committee on environment in the context of the negotiation of the Programme and Budget for the next biennium;
4. adopted the Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law, as it appears in document CM(2025)52-final, and took note of its Explanatory Report as it appears in document CM(2025)52-addfinal;
5. invited their Deputies to decide on the date and place of the opening for signature of the Convention as soon as possible;
6. strongly encouraged member States to implement its Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)20 on human rights and the protection of the environment, and instructed its Deputies to move forward as quickly as possible in their consideration of a possible binding or non-binding instrument in this field;
7. welcomed the informal Ministerial Conference marking the 25th anniversary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention in Florence on 20 and 21 October 2025."