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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN
WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

Group of Experts on Conservation of Invertebrates

1st meeting
Strasbourg, 23-25 April 1990

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate of Environment
and Local Authorities

1. Opening of the meeting by a representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Mr Fernandez-Galiano, from the Secretariat, welcomed participants (see Appendix 1) and recalled that the Group was to develop its work within the programme of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention). This implied that decisions on future activities had to be reported to the Standing Committee of the Convention for final adoption. He thanked the European Invertebrate Survey (EIS) for its suggestion for launching a group on invertebrate conservation within the Bern Convention (see document T-PVS (89) 34 revised).

At the request of some delegates, the Secretariat explained the differences between the work to be developed by the Group and other activities in the field of invertebrate conservation, such as those of the European Communities.

The Bern Convention counts at present 22 Contracting Parties, including the EEC. Ten of these Contracting Parties are states which do not belong to the European Community. Other states, such as Burkina Faso, Morocco, Poland, the Soviet Union and Tunisia have been invited to adhere to the Convention and they are likely to do so in the near future. Thus it is not excluded that in a few years most European states and a good number of African states will be Parties to the Convention. This implies that the geographical range of the Convention is to be much larger than the EEC states territory. The orientation of the work of the Group has to take this fact into consideration. Collaboration with the EEC was highly desirable to avoid double work but initiatives within the Bern Convention and the EEC will remain distinct.

2. Election of the Chairman

Mr Speight (Ireland) was elected Chairman.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as it appears in Appendix 2 to this document.

4. Examination of the Group's terms of reference

The Group examined its terms of reference (see Appendix 3 to this document).

It was evident, from the examination of those terms of reference, that the Group was asked to carry out different tasks on different time scales. This was perceived to imply that the Group would meet regularly (probably annually), but the final decision depended on the Standing Committee. It was pointed out by the Chairman that comparison between the terms of reference and the agenda made it clear that only a selection of the material included in the terms of reference could be considered at this meeting and that a specific effort would have to be made to include further material from the terms of reference at subsequent meetings of the Group.

The Chairman suggested that several issues were long term tasks which could be dealt with progressively at future meetings such as:

- a) Revision of the list of invertebrates in the Appendices of the Bern Convention (BCIs) (see Appendix 4)

It would be important to agree criteria to judge whether a certain species is or is not a good candidate for inclusion into the Appendices of the Bern Convention. The Chairman invited participants to send the Secretariat their proposals on criteria for discussion at the next meeting.

- b) Classification of BCIs habitats

The Chairman said that the CORINE classification of habitats (currently used for habitat classification at EEC and Council of Europe level) was not well fitted to describe habitats of many invertebrates and that the Group of Experts might wish to modify it at a later meeting.

- c) Classification of BCIs in different conservation categories

It was suggested that the invertebrates presently listed in the Appendices had very different conservation problems as some were under threat, while others were not and there had been different reasons for including them in the Appendices. Thus it became necessary to group them in different categories according to their conservation status. Several categories (using always IUCN categories) were suggested such as:

- i) species endangered throughout their European range,
- ii) species abundant in some European states but with endangered or vulnerable subspecies or populations in other states,
- iii) non-threatened species included in the Convention for educational purposes, etc.

It was agreed that a categorisation of species according to their habitat requirements would be of utmost importance.

A particular category of species (endangered species requiring urgent habitat conservation measures) was discussed under item 7 of the agenda.

5. Presentation of Michael Day's report "Threatened aculeate hymenoptera in Europe" (T-PVS (89) 2)

Mr Day presented his report which had been requested by the Standing Committee of the Convention before the creation of the Group of Experts. The report had been preceded by another of more general character entitled "The biological significance and conservation of Hymenoptera in Europe" by I.D. Gauld, N.M. Collins and M.G. Fitton.

Several delegates expressed favourable views on the quality of the report while drawing attention to some specific points they would like stressed or explained.

The report listed in an addendum (T-PVS (89) 2, Addendum) the species that had been mentioned in previous red lists of European invertebrates. Most participants agreed that those red lists needed revision but that it was nevertheless interesting to keep that information as an appendix to the report. It was suggested that the report could be useful in drawing up a proposed list of aculeate hymenoptera for eventual inclusion in the Appendices to the Convention. The Group asked the Secretariat to circulate the document to all Bern Convention delegations asking them to send their comments to the Consultant by 30 June 1990. Comments from participants at the meeting would also be welcome.

The Consultant agreed to revise the text and send a new version for its publication in the Nature and Environment Series, as requested by the Group.

With the recommendation for action from both reports on hymenoptera, the Secretariat prepared a draft recommendation "on the conservation of insects of the order Hymenoptera", that was discussed and modified by the Group and formally presented for possible adoption by the Standing Committee (Appendix 5).

6. Examination of Appendix IV to the Convention (prohibited means and methods of killing, capture and other forms of exploitation). Applicability of Appendix III invertebrates

The Group felt that Appendix IV to the Convention should be enlarged to include some prohibited methods of exploitation for Margaritifera margaritifera (the pearl mussel) and the two other species of Unionoids (Unio elongatulus and Microcondylaea compressa) as well as for the three species of crayfish listed (Astacus astacus, Austropotamobius pallipes and Austropotamobius torrentium).

Mr Woodward offered to present, for the next meeting, a short list of prohibited means of capture for Unionoids. He would consult, in particular, Mr Valovirta from Finland and Ms Kotchetova from the USSR. The Secretariat would consult the International Association of Astacology to propose a similar list of methods for crayfish. It was suggested that an alternative approach, of naming acceptable methods of exploitation and prohibiting all other forms of exploitation, was worthy of consideration as a long term solution to this problem. Adoption of this approach would remove the need constantly to revise lists of prohibited methods of exploitation, an action which would otherwise be required to keep abreast of changes in patterns and methods of exploitation.

7. Review of Appendix II species requiring special habitat conservation measures

The Group felt that they were not at present in a position to list all Appendix II species requiring special habitat conservation measures as data on many BCIs were scanty. However, the Group pointed out that the following species were in urgent need of special habitat protection, including the creation of reserves:

Coleoptera

Carabus olympiae
Buprestis splendens
Cucujus cinnaberinus

Lepidoptera

Coenonympha hero
Coenonympha oedippus
Maculinea arion
Maculinea teleius
Hypodryas maturna

The Group noted that this was not a full list of all BCIs requiring urgent habitat protection, but that for these species no further habitat loss was possible without severely risking their extinction.

8. Elaboration of data sheets on species listed in the Appendices to the Convention: role of the European Invertebrate Survey (EIS)

Draft data sheets for ten species were presented by different EIS members (T-PVS (90) 12). The data sheets had been produced as a test of what seemed would become an important task for the working Group in future years: production of data sheets by compilation of existing information and by filling in information gaps. The data sheets would be mainly aimed at the issuing of practical recommendations for the solution of the conservation problems of the species dealt with. The Group expressed concern that the lack of coherent sources of distribution data for BCIs in many member states was going to limit the efficiency of the Group's operations and referred to the terms of reference and existing records on data banks. The Group pointed out that the improvement of distribution data on BCIs was a high priority for action. EIS representatives pointed out that production of data sheets would be more difficult for some BCIs than for others and that for the more difficult species some sort of financial assistance would be needed to support the work involved in compiling the data.

The Group called the attention of the Standing Committee to the fact that some resources would have to be provided for the accomplishment of this task. The Secretariat informed the Group that, while the finance of original research to fill information gaps was beyond the financial means of the Standing Committee, some compilation work might be financed if the Committee so decided. It was suggested asking the Standing Committee to declare formally that research on BCIs was an important priority for the implementation of the Bern Convention so that national conservation agencies and other institutions or international organisations (such as the EEC and the Nordic Council) or international programmes (the CORINE-biotopes project, for instance), might be inclined to fund research and conservation action on them. The Group agreed that data sheets on BCIs are a basic requirement for its activities and that a reliable data sheet, compiled by a specialist, is needed for each BCI.

It was also suggested that a data bank to manage information on Bern Convention invertebrates would be a very useful working tool. The Secretariat was asked to contact the CORINE programme for possible cooperation on this issue. Mr Harding, who was representing the CORINE-biotopes project, agreed to proceed with consultations at the appropriate level.

The Group decided to include in the agenda of the next meeting a point concerning the format of future data sheets and the ways they were to be produced, in cooperation with the EIS, and revised. Participants were asked to send suggestions to the Secretariat on these topics. EIS representatives were hopeful that data sheets for a further group of BCIs could be prepared by EIS in time for the next meeting of the Experts Group, and suggested that wetland BCIs would be appropriate target species.

The examination of eleven data sheets concerning ten species listed in the appendices (document T-PVS (90) 12) would permit the presentation to the Standing Committee of some suggestions for action. It was decided to propose a recommendation on the conservation of Margaritifera margaritifera and other freshwater mussels (see Appendix 6), as well as a list of very concrete conservation actions (see Appendix 7).

The Group stressed that these were by no means all the actions needed for these ten listed invertebrates, but some urgent ones that might show the willingness of states to work for the species. The Group requested the Standing Committee to consider these proposals in depth.

9. Examination of the progress in invertebrate conservation in the territory of Contracting Parties to the Convention

The different delegations reported on the situation of some BCIs and/or the progress of invertebrate conservation in their states.

Belgium

Considerable research is being done in Gembloux on BCIs, particularly in monitoring threatened species.

Denmark

Several current actions on habitat protection were likely to have a favourable affect on invertebrates such as the protection of all freshwater meadows over a certain size. Nine insect species were included in a protection bill to be passed in September. Protection of the very rare Osmoderma eremita was secured through guidance given on the management of natural forests.

Finland

Much research and monitoring work has been done on Margaritifera margaritifera and on several species of butterfly.

France

Some species were threatened and declining locally, as was the case of Lycaena dispar. As biotopes could be protected by Prefectorial orders if they included threatened species, the listing of invertebrates in the Convention would be a useful tool for their protection. Some work was being done on Graellsia isabellae, Parnassius apollo and Carabus olympiae. It would be interesting to record BCIs in all protected areas.

Federal Republic of Germany

Research was in hand concerning a number of species particularly on threatened populations of Margaritifera margaritifera and Euphdryas maturna.

Greece

BCIs were not particularly relevant in Greece for invertebrate conservation even if 20 species were present. Most protection measures were not effective because they were difficult to implement. More Greek species should be added to the Appendices. There was a fundamental problem which was the lack of data, as records were not made systematically, even if data collection was progressing.

Ireland

Four BCIs exist in Ireland. They are soon (June 1990) to be listed as protected from all sorts of exploitation:

Geomalacus maculosus: not threatened,
Margaritifera margaritifera: more research is needed,
especially on the subspecies durrovensis,
Austropotamobius pallipes: in rapid decline in some
areas as a result of an introduced plague,
Euphdryas aurinia: not threatened.

Luxembourg

All BCIs are protected except Helix pomatia (partially protected). Most of the BCIs had been subject to recent research to evaluate their status.

Netherlands

The Nature Conservation Act protected four species Lycaena dispar, Lucanus cervus (very rare), Astacus astacus (only two populations survived) and Helix pomatia. A new act was being prepared that would include many more species of invertebrates. Two butterflies (Maculinea teleius and M. nausithous) are being reintroduced.

Norway

Nine BCIs were present in Norway. The two Parnassius had been protected thanks to the Bern Convention. More BCIs would also become protected. Osmoderma eremita was a very rare species. Astacus astacus was declining. Margaritifera margaritifera was not exploited.

Spain

No particular conservation action is being undertaken concerning invertebrates, apart from research on the Iberian fauna.

Sweden

Some species were protected by legislation such as Osmoderma eremita, Cerambyx cerdo and Lucanus cervus. The conservation status of some BCIs was very varied. A recovery programme on Margaritifera margaritifera was being undertaken.

USSR

More than 200 species had been included in the red data book. Parnassius apollo and Lucanus cervus had disappeared from some territories. Margaritifera margaritifera had sharply declined to about half of its former population, Hirudo medicinalis was endangered. Action was being undertaken in a number of fields. In Hymenoptera, for instance, three projects had been launched for Bombus species, Apis species and ants. Papilio machaon was also protected and a project on this species had been started. Public support had proved essential for these projects.

United Kingdom

Although the United Kingdom had introduced reservations for the only two Appendix II invertebrates occurring naturally in its territory (Coenagrion mercuriale and Euphydryas aurinia), their populations were being studied. Two other species were subject to reintroduction programmes (Maculinea arion and Lycaena dispar). Margaritifera margaritifera (Appendix III) was being monitored.

* * *

The Group felt that invertebrate conservation in Europe was far from what was desirable and that governments should be encouraged to dedicate more attention and resources to this end. Some conservation agencies would benefit from carrying out research on the BCIs present in their states to identify endangered species and embark on appropriate action. It was suggested that in future meetings delegations present short written statements on progress in invertebrate conservation during the previous year, providing, among other things, data on BCIs.

10. Invertebrate inventories in protection areas

The Group discussed the generally poor invertebrate records that existed in many protected areas and thought that was one reason that not enough attention was paid to conservation of these species. They thought it was important to encourage invertebrate registers in protected areas, particularly in biogenetic reserves.

The Group suggested that the European Diploma areas could be asked about the level of registering and monitoring of invertebrates. This would permit testing the level of attention paid to invertebrates in areas with a high environmental quality.

This proposal to collaborate with the Committee on Protected Areas (PE-ZP) would include the offer to launch in common one or several pilot projects in areas such as the national parks of Les Ecrins (France), Berchtesgaden (Federal Republic of Germany) or Teide (Spain). This offer would be presented by the Secretariat to the PE-ZP at its next meeting.

11. Suggestions for invertebrate conservation activities within the framework of the Bern Convention in 1991

Apart from proceeding with its current work concerning the elaboration of data sheets, the Group proposed to carry out in 1991 the following:

- i) a second meeting of the Group,
- ii) organisation, in collaboration with the Ramsar Convention, of a seminar on wetlands and invertebrates.

Both events would be coordinated to reduce travelling expenses. The Secretariat informed the Group that some contacts had already been made with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention, which they greeted with enthusiasm and expressed their intention to support it at the appropriate decision level. Although official confirmation had not yet been received, the delegate of Liechtenstein to the Standing Committee had offered that his country host such a meeting.

Special mention was made of the interest of such an event to further knowledge of BCIs. Indeed, many of the species listed at the Convention are related to wet environments. It was proposed that one session of the seminar be dedicated exclusively to those species, their status and specific problems.

A delegate suggested that the studies made in previous years by the Council of Europe (on butterflies, dragonflies, hymenoptera and aculeate hymenoptera) should be continued, for instance, with Ephemeroptera (mayflies), Trichoptera (caddis flies) or aquatic Coleoptera (aquatic beetles).

The Group agreed to this proposal and requested the Standing Committee to include it in one of its future work programmes.

12. Possible recommendations for adoption by the Standing Committee

Two draft recommendations were presented, on the conservation of insects of the order hymenoptera and their habitats (Appendix 5) and on the conservation of the pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) and other freshwater mussels (Unionoida) (Appendix 6).

13. Other business

No other business was raised.

APPENDIX 1

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APPENDIX 2

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting by a representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
2. Election of the Chairman
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Examination of the Group's terms of reference
5. Presentation of Michael Day's report "Threatened aculeate hymenoptera in Europe" (T-PVS (89) 2)
6. Examination of Appendix IV to the Convention (prohibited means and methods of killing, capture and other forms of exploitation) Applicability to Appendix III invertebrates
7. Review of Appendix II species requiring special habitat conservation measures
8. Elaboration of data sheets on species listed in the Appendices to the Convention: role of the European Invertebrate Survey
9. Examination of the progress in invertebrate conservation in the territory of Contracting Parties to the Convention
10. Invertebrate inventories in protected areas
11. Suggestions for invertebrate conservation activities within the framework of the Bern Convention in 1991
12. Possible recommendations for adoption by the Standing Committee
13. Other business

APPENDIX 3

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Gather old and new information on BCIs setting up a joint project with EIS, to compile these data into species data sheets which will seek to:
 - a. revise the status of BCIs,
 - b. propose precise conservation action to be carried out for BCIs,
 - c. produce inventories of BCIs in national parks and other protected sites of known international importance to conservation,
 - d. identify sites of special interest for the conservation of BCIs;
2. Identify priorities in relation to protection of BCIs, based on information derived from data sheet production;
3. Suggest studies on habitats of especial importance for European Invertebrates;
4. Follow progress on invertebrate conservation in Contracting Parties (including EEC efforts);
5. Suggest amendments to the Appendices (long term task), consulting with EIS and other bodies to this end;
6. Elaborate lists of sites of special invertebrate interest;
7. Discuss ways of co-ordinating efforts for conservation of transborder populations of BCIs;
8. Suggest legislative mechanisms potentially appropriate for conservation of invertebrates, for consideration by national governments;
9. Prepare for the attention of the Standing Committee recommendations to Contracting Parties concerning different aspects of invertebrate conservation;
10. Seek to identify mechanisms for promoting and popularising invertebrates and their conservation;
11. Other items of invertebrate conservation concern;
12. Report periodically to the Standing Committee of the Convention.

APPENDIX 4

APPENDIX II / ANNEXE II

Strictly protected fauna species / Espèces de faune strictement protégées

Arthropods / Arthropodes

INSECTA

*Mantodea**Apteromantis aptera**Odonata**Calopteryx syriaca**Sympecma braueri**Coenagrion freyi**Coenagrion mercuriale**Aeshna viridis**Stylurus (= Gomphus) flavipes**Gomphus graslinii**Ophiogomphus cecilia**Lindenia tetraphylla**Cordulegaster trinacriae**Oxygastra curtisii**Macromia splendens**Brachythemis fuscopalliata**Leucorrhinia albifrons**Leucorrhinia caudalis**Leucorrhinia pectoralis**Orthoptera**Baetica ustulata**Saga pedo**Coleoptera**Carabus olympiae**Dytiscus latissimus**Graphoderus bilineatus**Osmoderma eremita**Buprestis splendens**Cucujus cinnaberinus**Cerambyx cerdo**Rosalia alpina**Lepidoptera**Papilio hospiton**Papilio alexanor**Zerynthia polyxena**Parnassius apollo**Parnassius mnemosyne**Apatura metis**Fabriciana elisa**Euphydryas (Eurodryas) aurinia**Melanargia arge**Erebia christi**Erebia sudetica**Erebia calcaria**Coenonympha hero**Coenonympha oedippus**Lopinga achine**Lycaena dispar**Maculinea arion**Maculinea teleius**Maculinea nausithous**Plebicula golgus**Hypodryas maturna**Eriogaster catax**Hyles hippophaes**Proserpinus proserpina*

ARACHNIDA

*Araneae**Macrothele calpeiana*

Molluscs / Mollusques

GASTROPODA

*Sylommatophora**Leiostryla abbreviata**Leiostryla cassida**Leiostryla corneocostata**Leiostryla gibba**Leiostryla lamellosa**Geomalacus maculosus**Caseolus calculus**Caseolus commixta**Caseolus sphaerula**Discula leacockiana**Discula tabellata**Discula testudinalis**Discula turricula**Geomitra moniziana**Helix subplicata**Discus guerinianus**Discus defloratus**Elona quimperiana*

BIVALVIA

*Unionoida**Margaritifera auricularia*

APPENDIX III / ANNEXE III

Protected fauna species / Espèces de faune protégées

Arthropods / Arthropodes

INSECTA

*Coleoptera**Lucanus cervus**Lepidoptera**Graellsia isabellae*

CRUSTACEA

*Decapoda**Astacus astacus**Austropotamobius pallipes**Austropotamobius torrentium*

Molluscs / Mollusques

GASTROPODA

*Sylommatophora**Helix pomatia*

BIVALVIA

*Unionoida**Margaritifera margaritifera**Unio elongatulus**Microcondylaea compressa*

Annelids / Annélides

HIRUDINEA

*Arhynchobdellae**Hirudo medicinalis*

APPENDIX 5**DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON THE CONSERVATION OF INSECTS
OF THE ORDER HYMENOPTERA AND THEIR HABITATS**

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention;

Having regard to the aims of the Convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats;

Referring to Recommendation No. R (86) 10 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe concerning the Charter on invertebrates;

Considering that insects of the order Hymenoptera (hereinafter referred to as "Hymenoptera") are a large and often directly beneficial part of the fauna of Europe;

Recalling that Hymenoptera have a fundamental role in the maintenance of agricultural and natural ecosystems, as they pollinate many crops and wild plants, and naturally regulate populations of many phytofagous insects;

Noting that many species of Hymenoptera are declining as a result of habitat loss, habitat deterioration and an excessive use of pesticides;

Recognising the value of Hymenoptera, with their varied nesting and feeding habits, as indicators of valuable and rich natural habitats;

Noting that collection of Hymenoptera is not believed to be an important factor in their decline;

Convinced that a more ecologically-oriented management of natural ecosystems, agricultural land, industrial and suburban areas are necessary to ensure the maintenance of appropriate population levels of the different species of Hymenoptera;

Recommends that Contracting Parties:

1. Promote national and international recording schemes of Hymenoptera.
2. Draw up, if they do not already exist, national reports on the conservation status of wild Hymenoptera, correlating as far as possible the fauna described with the biotopes they occupy.
3. Give protection status to endangered Hymenoptera and their habitats.
4. Consider the protection of areas with particularly rich fauna of Hymenoptera.

5. Promote appropriate management of natural habitats and the fringes of agricultural, industrial and urban land so as to maintain the key features of importance for the nesting, foraging and host searching of a diverse range of Hymenoptera.
6. Survey Hymenoptera and other invertebrates on the assessment of the conservation value of candidate areas for protection.
7. Encourage those methods of pest and weed control that minimise impact on natural populations of beneficial and non-pest Hymenoptera, particularly bumble bees and other invertebrates.
8. Encourage research on all aspects of the conservation and biology of Hymenoptera, with a view to the development of effective conservation measures.
9. Avoid restricting unnecessarily the sustainable collection of Hymenoptera.
10. Develop and distribute educational materials to enable the public to appreciate better the value of Hymenoptera to mankind.

APPENDIX 6

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON THE CONSERVATION OF THE PEARL MUSSEL
(Margaritifera margaritifera)
AND OTHER FRESHWATER MUSSELS (Unionoida)

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention;

Recalling that Article 2 provides that each Contracting Party shall take requisite measures to maintain the population of wild flora and fauna at, or adapt it to, a level which corresponds in particular to ecological, scientific and cultural requirements, while taking account of economic and recreational requirements and the needs of sub-species, varieties of forms at risk locally;

Recalling that one species of Unionoida (Margaritifera auricularia) is a strictly protected species included in Appendix II to the Convention;

Recalling that three species of Unionoida (Margaritifera margaritifera, Unio elongatus and Microcondylaea compressa) are protected species included in Appendix III to the Convention.

Recalling Recommendation N° R (84) 14 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe concerning the introduction of non native species;

Noting that Margaritifera margaritifera is sharply decreasing in the territories of most of the states which are Contracting Parties to the Convention, mainly as a result of pollution and acidification of watercourses, uncontrolled activities of pearl fishing, alteration of the natural hydrological system of watercourses by hydro-electric schemes, fish farming, drainage schemes and artificial canalisation;

Considering that all Unionids need to receive greater conservation attention as many of the species of the group are in decline;

Noting that the Irish hardwater form of the pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera durrovensis) has sharply declined and is under particular threat by pollution;

Considering that to manage their populations more factual information on the biology and distribution of freshwater mussels is required;

Recommend that Contracting Parties:

1. Regulate or prohibit the exploitation of freshwater mussels, including the establishment of licences for pearl fishers of Margaritifera margaritifera, and the regulation of recreational and research collecting;

2. Consider the temporary prohibition of exploitation of the Irish sub-species Margaritifera margaritifera durrovensis in order to restore satisfactory population levels;
3. Regulate the sale and transport of native freshwater mussels, and the introduction of non-native species;
4. Consider the establishment of special mussel reserves;
5. Evaluate the impact of tourism, road development and pollution, in particular by silt from peat bog stripping, on freshwater mussel populations;
6. Carry out environmental impact assessment prior to the installation of new fish farms to ensure that they be located in areas devoid of important mussel populations;
7. Encourage research on all aspects of the biology and geographical distribution of freshwater mussels, including the realisation of surveys to locate important mussel populations.
8. Promote coordination at national and international level of survey and research programmes on freshwater mussels, with the eventual establishment of coordinating centres and data banks, in conjunction with the European Invertebrate Survey;
9. Investigate commercial viability of mussel cultivation for food, water filtration and purification, medicinal use, environmental monitoring and pearl production;
10. Consider the need to establish breeding and reintroduction programmes for threatened freshwater mussels.

APPENDIX 7**SPECIFIC ACTIONS URGENTLY REQUESTED FROM GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING SOME
BERN CONVENTION INVERTEBRATES****1. Margaritifera margaritifera**

The following states are asked to carry out surveys, or repeat surveys, of the geographical distribution and status of the species (and, if appropriate, of Margaritifera auricularia): Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Portugal and Spain.

The Republic of Ireland is asked to establish the status of the population of the subspecies Margaritifera margaritifera durronvensis and to protect all remaining populations of this taxon.

The United Kingdom is asked to regulate pearl fishing.

2. Geomalacus maculosus

Portugal and Spain are requested to provide information, as detailed as possible, on this species.

3. Macrothele calpeiana

No specific action is required for the moment.

4. Austropotamobius pallipes

A recommendation of the Standing Committee on crayfish was adopted in 1989.

The Irish Republic and the United Kingdom are encouraged not to introduce non native crayfish species into Ireland.

Greece is encouraged not to introduce non native crayfish species.

5. Euphydrias aurinia

The Netherlands is asked to carry out a reintroduction programme for this species, which became extinct in 1983 in that state.

6. Hypodryas maturna

The species being very inconspicuous, four states (Austria, Belgium, France and the Federal Republic of Germany) are requested to localise the remaining populations and carry out the ecological research needed to develop appropriate methodology for locating the animal when present.

7. Coenonympha oedippus

Italy is asked to carry out a recovery plan for the last remaining population in the Po valley.

Austria and Liechtenstein are asked to give appropriate protection to the populations in the Upper Rhine valley.

8. Lycaena dispar

France, Italy and Luxembourg are asked to survey the status of the species in their territories.

9. Maculinea nausithous

Spain is asked to carry out adequate surveys of the areas where the species is present (particularly in Picos de Europa and Soria Province). France and the Federal Republic of Germany are asked to survey the species and assess conservation problems.

10. Maculinea teleius

France and the Federal Republic of Germany are requested to take the same action recommended for Maculinea nausithous.

