



Strasbourg, 15 July 2026

T-PVS(2026)07e

**CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND
NATURAL HABITATS**

Standing Committee
46th meeting
Strasbourg, 7-11 December 2026

**8th meeting of the
Working Group on Reporting
under Resolution No. 8 (2012)**

25th June 2026
(9.30 AM – 3.30 PM CET)
online meeting

- MEETING REPORT -

*Document prepared by
the Secretariat of the Bern Convention*

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the report and the outcomes of the 8th meeting of the Working Group;
- Take note of the analysis of the national reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012);
- Welcome the development of national summaries and national dashboards to enhance the dissemination and promotion of the data delivered under the reporting framework established by Resolution No. 8 (2012);
- Welcome the Pan-European assessments for a selected set of features and biogeographical regions;
- Advise the Secretariat on further steps to increase the visibility of the results of national reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012).

1. Opening of the meeting by the Secretariat and adoption of the agenda

The Secretary of the Bern Convention, Ms Grazia Alessandra Siino, opened the 8th meeting of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and welcomed the participants (see Appendix 2). She highlighted the importance of the reporting exercise under Resolution No. 8 (2012) as it provides valuable information on the conservation status of species and habitats at national and Pan-European levels. She expressed her appreciation to the European Environmental Agency for its cooperation and to the experts involved in this exercise for their support to the countries participating in the process. The Secretary also introduced changes in the Secretariat. Salome Nozadze, the former Chair of the Working Group, has recently taken up a new position within the Secretariat and has therefore resigned from her role as Chair. Mr. Ozkan Hamarat was introduced as the new administrative assistant in the Secretariat. The draft agenda was presented and adopted without objections.

2. Election of new Chair

The Secretariat informed participants that notification had been circulated among the Contracting Parties, inviting expressions of interest for the position of Chair. As no nominations had been received, participants were invited to express their interest at the meeting. The representative of Georgia, namely Ms Lika Giorgadze, put forward her candidacy and expressed the intention of Georgia to continue contributing to the work of the Working Group. As no objections were raised, Ms Lika Giorgadze was elected chair by consensus.

3. Conclusions of the 7th meeting of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and objectives of the 8th meeting

The Secretariat recalled the two meetings held in 2025 and presented the conclusions of the 7th meeting of the Working Group. Recognising the need to strengthen the capacity of the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat organised an online workshop on the most challenging reporting concepts, namely FRVs, habitat condition and future prospects. Later in the year, the Secretariat organised a technical training session in Copenhagen in collaboration with the European Environmental Agency. Following the launch of Reportnet3 in January 2026, Contracting Parties had additional opportunities for bilateral consultation. The 8th meeting of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) marked the first occasion for countries to receive feedback on their submitted reports.

The Chair introduced Terms of Reference of the Group as adopted by the Standing Committee at its 45th meeting. The Chair also introduced the objectives of the 8th meeting.

4. Conclusions of the analysis of Resolution No. 8 (2012) national data: existing gaps, data quality

Ms Laura Gavilán, consultant, presented the conclusions of the reporting exercise. She informed the group that eight Contracting Parties, namely Iceland, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, and the UK, submitted their national reports on time. She thanked the Contracting Parties, namely Norway, Switzerland and the UK for providing additional scientific information in comments.

The consultant highlighted significant improvements in data quality compared with the 2013-2018 reporting cycle. Overall, data were received on 753 species and 80 habitat reports. She also noted that the overall conclusions on conservation status remained unfavourable. The consultant flagged that only 4% of habitats and 6.3% of species were assessed as having a favourable conservation status. The consultant further noted that the conservation status of the majority of habitat reports was assessed as unknown and that 44.5 % of the data in habitat reports was missing. She stressed the importance of improving information on habitat condition and favourable reference area, particularly for EU accession countries, as these data will provide an essential basis for the development of future nature restoration plans.

The evaluation of species reports showed that 50.2% of species-related data were missing, especially in the case of population conclusions, favourable reference population and population trends within the Emerald Network as well as information on habitats supporting species in the Emerald Network. The results suggested that trends of species and habitats within the Emerald Network were lacking more data than general trends. The consultant emphasised the importance of this data for setting conservation objectives and measures within Emerald sites.

She also presented dashboards on data quality gaps. She noted that the fields with the most significant gaps may require additional support and resources from countries to ensure that the necessary information can be compiled and reported. The presentation slides are available via this [link](#).

5. Feedback from Contracting Parties on the reporting exercise

Contracting Parties generally outlined the challenges associated with the comprehensive reporting format and the large volume of data to be analysed. They thanked Ms Laura Gavilan and the Secretariat for their support and assistance throughout the process. Norway reported they had simplified the guidelines for reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) in order to make them more concise for national experts. Some Contracting Parties that submitted their reports, highlighted the importance of ensuring reporting requirements remain proportionate to the benefits achieved. They also emphasised that the exchange of experience between countries, such as Norway's work on simplifying reporting guidance, could be beneficial.

Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Georgia, reported they would continue their efforts to deliver the reports by the end of 2026, citing technical and institutional challenges, as well as limited human resources, as the main reasons for the delays.

The Secretariat informed participants that Reportnet3 had been closed and that submitted data could no longer be modified. However, it acknowledged that some Contracting Parties remained interested in submitting national reports and confirmed its availability to provide an opportunity for late submissions by the end of 2026.

6. Checklists after reporting

Ms Laura Gavilán, consultant, presented the changes made by the Contracting Parties to the checklists of species and habitats following the reporting exercise. Three out of eight Parties which delivered reports under Resolution No. 8 (2012), namely Iceland, Monaco, and UK, did not propose any changes to the checklists. Regarding the Parties that proposed changes to the checklist, Ms Laura Gavilán highlighted that justifications provided for the proposed changes were not always supported by scientific evidence in contrast with the evidence-based approach promoted by the Bern Convention.

The Secretariat and the expert highlighted the importance of ensuring consistency between the SDF databases and Emerald Reference List and the checklists of Resolution No.8 (2012). Changes to the checklist of Resolution No. 8 (2012) that are not reflected in the Emerald Network reference lists create inconsistency. They further underlined that only a biogeographical seminar following the submission of an Emerald Network database would allow to understand if these changes are scientifically justified. Contracting Parties were encouraged to carefully consider proposed changes and to provide stronger scientific justifications in the next reporting exercise on Resolution No. 8 (2012). The presentation slides are available via this [link](#).

7. Template of national summaries

Ms Laura Gavilán, consultant, presented the format and structure of the National Summaries, a new concept for the reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012). She informed participants that the national summaries would be prepared after the summer for the eight countries that had submitted their national reports. The submitted data and dashboard results will serve as the main sources for the preparation of national summaries. Country-specific evaluations, including observations on changes in the checklists, the identification of favourable reference values and conclusions drawn by the Parties will be incorporated. Participants were informed that the national summaries will be published on the website of the Bern Convention. The presentation slides for this item are available via this [link](#).

8. National reports: presentation of dashboards

Ms Laura Gavilán presented the interactive dashboards containing information delivered via national reports, including spatial data. She explained the structure of the dashboards and the various functionalities available, including the possibility of filtering data by country, conservation status, biogeographical region or specific features. She introduced separate dashboards for pressures and threats, conservation measures, Emerald Network, status and trends, among others. She further explained that dashboards include only mandatory data. Participants were informed that the dashboards would be made publicly available on the website of the Bern Convention. The presentation slides for this item are available via this [link](#).

9. Note of Favourable Reference Values (FRVs)

Mr Otars Opermanis, consultant, presented the outcomes of the evaluations of Favourable Reference Values (FRVs). He highlighted the challenges encountered during the calculation process and emphasised that, in future reporting exercises, Contracting Parties should aim to provide the best single value. This would ensure greater consistency with reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive and facilitate Pan-European assessments. He further noted that providing minimum and maximum values for FRVs limits the possibility of conducting correct conservation assessments of species and habitats. While acknowledging the challenges faced by Contracting Parties in establishing FRVs, he recalled that their primary purpose is to enable comparison with current values. The consultant also explained that using current populations as FRVs is not considered appropriate. He emphasised that, in order to fulfil the purpose of FRVs, their assessment should be based on the best available scientific data. The presentation slides on this item are available via this [link](#).

Several Contracting Parties voiced highlighted that establishing a specific best estimate value can be challenging when uncertainty exists regarding specific features. Ms Eleni Tryfon, representative of the European Environmental Agency, confirmed there similar concerns have been raised by EU Member States and informed about ongoing work to update the existing guidelines for establishing FRVs.

10. Country examples: Norway

Mr Balint Czucz shared the experience of Norway during the reporting exercise under Resolution No. 8 (2012). He outlined Norway's approach from the planning stage onwards, including the simplification of reporting guidelines and templates for the experts involved. He described the methods used for data analysis for species and habitats, including the analysis of spatial data. He explained that the simplified templates reduced both the volume and complexity of requested information, regrouped questions for clarity, and made the process more efficient for experts. In view of the interest expressed by Contracting Parties, Mr Balint Czucz informed participants that Norway would share the methods applied and the results obtained with interested colleagues (Zúcz, B., Halley, D., Adjei, K.P., Eide, N.E., Bengtsson, F.,

Bærum, K.M., Chipperfield, J., van Dijk, J., Dervo, B., Endrestøl, A., Hegre, H., Kolstad, A., Magerøy, J.H., Rød, J.K., Solstad, H., Støen, O.G., & Töpper, J.P. 2026. Assessing the conservation status of Norwegian species and habitats for the Bern Convention in 2025. NINA Report 2780.

Norwegian Institute for Nature Research <https://hdl.handle.net/11250/5531731>). The presentation slides are available via this [link](#).

11. Next steps: methodology for Pan-European assessments

Ms Laura Gavilán informed participants about the next steps and methodologies for Pan-European Assessments. She explained that Pan-European conservation assessments will be conducted using the same methodology as that applied by the European Environmental Agency for assessments under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive. The consultant introduced several methods for data aggregation, depending on the completeness of the data. She explained that at this stage, several specific areas could be targeted for Pan-European assessments, including possible assessments of salmon in the North Atlantic region and beaver population in the Alpine region. Countries were invited to propose features (species and/or habitats) for Pan-European assessments. Several Contracting Parties expressed support for the consultant's proposals. Others emphasised the importance of undertaking broader comprehensive assessments, similar to the State of Nature report. The United Kingdom expressed interest in Pan-European assessments focusing on features with transboundary populations assessed as being in "unfavourable-bad" condition. Such assessments would help to better understand the United Kingdom's contribution at the Pan-European level and compare the status of the same features across different countries. The presentation slides are available via this [link](#).

12. Next steps: the future of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012)

The Secretary of the Bern Convention, Ms Grazia Alessandra Siino, raised several discussion points regarding meeting frequency and the mandate for the Working Group. The group discussed that its mandate should remain within reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and refrain from extending it to reporting under Article 9 of the Bern Convention.

Ms Siino informed participants that the Secretariat intends to further enhance the visibility of the reporting work by presenting the findings of reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) at COP 17 in Armenia through a side event organised in cooperation with the European Environment Agency. The event would also showcase the links between these outcomes and the results of reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive.

13. Any other business

The Working Group was informed about the upcoming joint meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks (GoEPAEN) with the Working Group on Overseeing Implementation of the Strategic Plan scheduled for 29-30 September in Georgia. The Secretariat pointed out that the results of the reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) would be discussed during the meeting, with a focus on ensuring consistency between Resolution No. 8's checklists and Emerald Network reference lists.

In conclusion, the Secretariat reiterated that Contracting Parties engaged in or planning national reporting in 2026 would have the opportunity to deliver their data; however, the timeline is limited, and reports will be welcomed before the 46th meeting of the Standing Committee.

14. Conclusions of the meeting

The Chair thanked the consultants for their dedicated work on analysing the results of the reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and the members of the Working Group for their valuable contributions to the discussion.

Appendix 1 – Adopted Agenda

		Documents	Expected results
Thursday 25 June 2026			
9:30 AM	1. Opening of the meeting by the Secretariat and adoption of the agenda	Meeting agenda T-PVS/Agenda (2026)09 For decision	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are informed of the aims of the meeting and adopt the agenda.</i>
9:40 AM	2. Election of new Chair	For adoption	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) elect a new Chair.</i>
9:45 AM	3. Conclusions of the 7th meeting of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and objectives of the 8th meeting <i>Presentation by the Secretariat and the Chair</i>	For information Report of the 7 th meeting of the <i>Ad hoc</i> Working Group on Reporting T-PVS(2025)21 Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) T-PVS/Inf(2025)43	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are reminded of the outcomes of the 7th meeting and are informed of the expected objectives of the 8th meeting.</i>

10:00 AM	4. Conclusions of analysis of Resolution No. 8 (2012) national data: existing gaps, data quality <i>Presentation by Laura Gavilan</i>	For information and discussion	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are introduced the findings from the second reporting period (2019–2024), including identification of existing data gaps and data quality issues. The Secretariat is seeking advice on appropriate follow-up actions.</i>
10:25 AM	5. Feedback from Contracting Parties on reporting exercise <i>Tour de table</i>	For information and discussion	<i>Representatives of the Contracting Parties are invited to update the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) on the latest developments regarding the reporting exercise of Resolution No. 8 (2012). Contracting Parties from EU also have opportunity to exchange lessons learned from Article 17 reporting.</i>
11:10 AM	Break		
11:20 AM	6. Final checklist <i>Presentation by Laura Gavilan</i>	<u>Checklists after reporting</u> For information and discussion	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are informed of the changes made to the previously agreed checklists of species and habitats, as requested by Contracting Parties during the reporting period, and the implications of these modifications.</i>

11:40 AM	7. Template of National Summaries <i>Presentation by Laura Gavilan</i>	Template of national summaries For information	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are introduced to the newly developed National Summary Template. This exercise aims to provide an overview of trends and developments across all reporting fields and directions for Contracting Parties.</i>
12:00 PM	8. National reports: presentation of dashboards <i>Presentation by Laura Gavilan</i>	Dashboards national reports For information	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are informed about the dashboards containing the reporting data, which is the core information of the national reports.</i>
12:30 PM	Lunch		
2:00 PM	9. Note of Favourable Reference Values (FRV) <i>Presentation by Otars Opermanis</i>	Note on FRVs and relevant calculations – Resolution No. 8 (2012) For information	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are updated on various interpretations and calculation methods of FRVs at the pan-European level. The Members will understand different technical methodologies for recalculating FRVs from national to European scales, as well as feedback received from member countries.</i>

2:20 PM	10. Country examples: Norway <i>Presentation by Bálint Czúcz</i>	For information	<i>Members of the Ad hoc Working Group take note of the methodology used for preparation of a national report, using example of Norway.</i>
2:40 PM	11. Next steps: methodology for Pan-European assessments <i>Presentation by Laura Gavilan</i>	<u>Resolution No.8 (2012) - Pan-European assessment methodology</u> For information	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) are updated about vision and capabilities for various methodologies to be used in evaluating the state of play at the pan-European level. Contracting Parties are encouraged to contribute ideas and suggestions.</i>
3:00 PM	12. Next steps: the future of Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012)	For discussion and decision	<i>Members of the Working Group on Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) decide on the form and frequency of next meetings and visibility of the reporting results.</i>
3:10 PM	13. Any other business <i>Presentation by the Secretariat</i>	For information	
3:20 PM	14. Conclusions of the meeting		
3:30 PM	Thursday June 25, 2026 End of the meeting		

Appendix 2 – List of Participants

Contracting Party	Attendee
ANDORRA	Ms Maria SALAS Ministeri de Medi Ambient, Agricultura i Sostenibilitat
ARMENIA	Mr Hakob MATEVOSYAN Ministry of Environment
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	Mr Dejan RADOSEVIC Institute for Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage
GEORGIA	Ms Liana GIORGADZE Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture
MALTA	Mr Kristian PULIS Environment & Resources Authority
MONACO	Ms Astrid CLAUDEL RUSIN Direction de l'Environnement
MONTENEGRO	Mr Dragan ROGANOVIC Environmental protection Agency of Montenegro
NORWAY	Mr Tomas HOLMERN Norwegian Environment Agency Mr Balint CZUCZ NINA
SERBIA	Mr Ivan MEDENICA Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia
SWITZERLAND	Ms Lara VOLERY Info Fauna (Centre national de données et d'informations sur la faune)

TÜRKİYE	Mr Burak TATAR General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks, Ministry of Agriculture and Forest
UNITED KINGDOM	Mr Scott HARDY Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Experts	
Ms Laura-Patricia GAVILAN- IGLESIAS Consultant Spain	
Mr Marc ROEKAERTS Consultant Belgium	
Mr Otars OPERMANIS Consultant Latvia	
Other organisations	
Ms Eleni TRYFON European Environment Agency	
Secretariat	
Ms Grazia Alessandra SIINO Secretary	
Ms Marta MEDLINSKA Project Manager	
Ms Salome NOZADZE Policy Advisor	
Mr Ozkan HAMARAT Administrative Assistant	