



Strasbourg, 10 September 2024

T-PVS(2024)08

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

WORKING GROUP
ON OVERSEEING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN
FOR THE BERN CONVENTION FOR THE PERIOD TO 2030

2nd meeting
29 August 2024
Online meeting, 10:00 – 16:30 CET

- Meeting Report –

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The Chair, Mr Jan Plesnik (Czech Republic) welcomed members to the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on Overseeing Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention for the period to 2030.

He recalled that according to the workplan for 2024 ([T-PVS/Inf\(2024\)4](#)) agreed on by the Working Group at its 1st meeting, the objective of the meeting would be to discuss proposals of indicators related to objectives 1-5 of the Strategic Plan, agree on a simple questionnaire in relation to voluntary national updates on Strategic Plan implementation and discuss next steps for 2025. With this in mind, the Chair underlined that the agenda of the meeting ([T-PVS/Agenda\(2024\)12](#)) would focus essentially on items 2a, 2f and 3. The other items had been addressed during the 1st meeting of the Working Group in April.

2. Follow-up of implementation of the Strategic Plan – Workplan for 2024:

a. Further advancing technical work on the Monitoring Framework and indicators for the Strategic Plan

At its first meeting on 10 April 2024, the Working Group considered document [T-PVS/Inf\(2024\)10](#) on Advancing work on indicators for the Strategic Plan, which provides updated details of the suggested approach, metrics, data sources, baseline considerations, linkages, responsibilities for each of the sixteen agreed indicators in the Plan.

The Working Group noted that further work was required to bring the indicator set into full operation and agreed to provide detailed written comments following the meeting on the “Advancing work” document, advice on concrete actions required to operationalise each of the indicators, and on the overall monitoring regime for the Strategic Plan.

A brief two-part pro-forma template for this was duly circulated among members of the Working Group. 4 completed forms (three Parties and one Observer) were received.

Mr. Dave Pritchard, consultant, presented to the Working Group the outcomes of the written consultation along with some comments and suggestions collated in the document Strategic Plan indicators – results of Working Group consultation April-May 2024, and next steps ([T-PVS\(2024\)06](#)).

Under the guidance of Mr Pritchard, members of the Working Group examined the comments received and the suggested way forward. The Working Group agreed on actions as next steps towards operationalisation of each indicator of the Strategic Plan as reflected in document [T-PVS\(2024\)12](#).

b. considering linkages between the Strategic Plan and other instruments of the Bern Convention for implementation, including action plans;

See report of the first meeting ([T-PVS\(2024\)2](#))

c. ensuring ongoing complementarity of the Strategic Plan with other relevant international instruments and strategies;

See report of the first meeting ([T-PVS\(2024\)2](#))

d. providing proposals on how to translate priority goals of the Strategic Plan into the annual programme of activities of the Convention;

See report of the first meeting ([T-PVS\(2024\)2](#))

e. increasing the visibility of the Strategic Plan.

See report of the first meeting ([T-PVS\(2024\)2](#))

f. Voluntary national updates on the Strategic Plan implementation – draft questionnaire

[Recommendation No. 220 \(2023\)](#) on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention for the period to 2030 provided for national updates to the Standing Committee every year.

To this end, Mr Dave Pritchard, consultant, presented to the Working Group a draft questionnaire for voluntary national updates on the Strategic Plan implementation ([T-PVS/Inf\(2024\)12](#)). The questionnaire did not aim to carry out a performance assessment but to provide for a minimal template so every Contracting Party can feedback.

The questionnaire consisted in 4 simple questions aiming to understand whether the Vision and Strategic Plan were reflected in Contracting Parties' national policies, their major achievements, what challenges they were facing and what were their priorities.

Members of the Working Group suggested a number of amendments and agreed to possibly review the questionnaire in 2025 in light of the lessons learnt from the first national updates.

3. Next steps and timeline

The Secretariat informed members of the Working Group on Overseeing Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention for the period to 2030 that the questionnaire on voluntary national updates on the Strategic

Plan implementation would be presented to the Bureau to the Standing Committee at its meeting from 10 to 12 September 2024 prior it is sent to Contracting Parties.

Furthermore the agreed follow up actions agreed on by the Working Group for the operationalisation of the indicators of the Strategic Plan would serve as a basis for drafting a workplan for 2025 and possibly beyond.

4. Any other business

There was no other business, and the meeting was closed.

Appendix – List of Participants

Contracting Party	
Czech Republic	Ms Eliška ROLFOVÁ Department of Species Protection and Implementation of International Commitments Ministry of the Environment <i>Chair of the Group of Experts on Amphibians and Reptiles</i> Mr Jan PLESNIK Adviser to Director for International Relations Nature Conservation Agency <i>Chair of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma</i>
Finland	Ms Maria WESTERMAN Senior Ministerial Adviser Ministry of the Environment Department of the Natural Environment, Biodiversity
France	Mr Charles-Henri DE BARSAC Chargé de mission "accords internationaux et européens faune sauvage" sous-direction de la protection et de la restauration des écosystèmes terrestres Ministère de la Transition Ecologique et Solidaire <i>Chair of the Ad hoc Drafting Group of an Amending Protocol</i>
Switzerland	Ms Danielle HOFFMANN Office fédéral de l'environnement OFEV Division Biodiversité et paysage Section Faune sauvage et conservation des espèces <i>Chair of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks</i>
United Kingdom	Ms Leah FARQUHARSON International Biodiversity Advisor, JNCC
Honorary members- Chairs of Groups of Experts & Working Groups	
Estonia	Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI <i>Chair of the Standing Committee</i>
Observer	
CEE Bankwatch Network	Mr Andrey RALEV Biodiversity Campaigner Czech Republic
EUROPARC Federation	Ms Sanna Kaisa JUVONEN Policy Development Manager Germany

Independent consultant	
	Mr Dave PRITCHARD
Bern Convention Secretariat	
	Mr Mikaël POUTIERS Secretary of the Bern Convention Ms Emilie DECKER Trainee