

DECISIONS
of the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian
Convention

List of Decisions

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Decision COP1/1

Agenda item 4

Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties

decides to adopt the rules of procedure for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention as contained in Annex I.

Decision COP1/2

Agenda item 5

Financial rules for the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

decides to adopt the Financial Rules for the Administration of the Trust Fund for the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, as contained in Annex II, in the understanding that the budget in the Annex to the Financial Rules can only be filled once the arrangements and location of the Permanent Secretariat have been decided, and that the scale of contributions is decided in the context of the decision COP1/3 on the Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention.

Decision COP1/3

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

1. welcomes and adopts the work programme of the Carpathian Convention as contained in Annex I of the UNEP/CC/COP1/4;
2. welcomes and supports the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project as a good background for the development of the work programme and as an important tool fostering implementation of the Carpathian Convention, as contained in Annex II of the UNEP/CC/COP1/4;
3. furthermore welcomes the additional activities related to the Carpathian Convention as presented in the Annex III of the UNEP/CC/COP1/4;
4. decides to establish the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee in accordance with Article 14 (e) of the Carpathian Convention, as its subsidiary body, and requests the interim Secretariat to prepare the related terms of reference for approval by the Bureau;

5. requests the interim Secretariat to prepare the first meeting and, furthermore, to service and support the work of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee, in particular, as it relates to overseeing the establishment and convening of the Working Groups, their terms of reference and their activities;

6. requests the interim Secretariat to ensure a continuous exchange and inter-linkage between the work and activities under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee and the work and activities contained in the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project;

7. stresses the importance of the ongoing interactive process to prepare the Carpathian Environment Outlook (KEO) report, which will provide a holistic and integrated assessment of the current state and future trends of the Carpathian environment. As a cross-cutting document, covering the key environmental and related social-economic issues in the region, KEO will provide scientific support and guidance for the implementation of the Carpathian Convention;

8. decides that Carpathian countries shall make contribution to assist in meeting the core cost of the work programme of the Carpathian Convention, which will amount to a **total € 139,000.00 per year**;

9. acknowledges the voluntary contributions of the Parties-Signatories to the Carpathian Convention since 2004, and encourages the Parties, which not have done so, to provide their voluntary contribution for 2006;

10. recommends the proposed scale below to be used to share the overall contribution between the Carpathian countries:

State	Year 2007	Year 2008
The Czech Republic	21,500.00	21,500.00
The Republic of Hungary	21,500.00	21,500.00
The Republic of Poland	21,500.00	21,500.00
Romania	21,500.00	21,500.00
Serbia	10,000.00	10,000.00
The Slovak Republic	21,500.00	21,500.00
Ukraine	21,500.00	21,500.00
TOTAL €	139,000.00	139,000.00

11. requests the interim Secretariat to prepare and provide the Parties to the Carpathian Convention with annual financial reports, and prepare and submit an overall financial report to the COP2.

Decision COP1/4

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (a) of the annotated agenda

Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity – Article 4 of the Carpathian Convention

1. decides to support the establishment of a Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee, which will include a sub-group on wetlands composed of National Focal Points for the Carpathian and Ramsar cooperation;
2. requests the interim Secretariat to convene the first meeting of the Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity in order to define its terms of reference and initiate its concrete work;
3. requests the interim Secretariat to inform the CBD through its Secretariat of the contributions to the implementation of the CBD at the sub-regional level;
4. requests the interim Secretariat to continue to contribute in particular to the work programmes on protected areas and on mountain ecosystems of the CBD; and to continue to contribute to PEBLDS, with the view of halting the loss of biodiversity in the Carpathians by 2010;
5. takes note of the Draft Protocol on Conservation of Biological and Landscape Diversity submitted by Ukraine;
6. submits the Draft Protocol on Conservation of Biological and Landscape Diversity to the Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity for consideration and finalization possibly before the COP2.
7. having considered the issue of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) and the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative (CWI), takes note of:
 - the Proposal for the establishment of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) by the CNPA meeting hosted by the WWF-Danube Carpathian Programme Office (WWF-DCPO) on 11 September 2006 in Vienna;
 - “Enhancing the CNPA through the Carpathian Ecological Network Project, Project Summary for the 2nd Preparatory Meeting to the COP1, 11th-12th September 2006, Vienna, Austria;
 - Recommendations of the Third Meeting of the CNPA Partnership Steering Committee 13-14 May 2004, Zakopane, Poland on establishing the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA);
 - Declaration of the Workshop “Integrated Management of Protected Areas” in Mala Fatra (Slovakia) from 1st to 3rd of June 2006, organised by the Alpine Network of Protected Areas in Mala Fatra National Park, Slovakia between 1st and 3rd of June 2006;.
 - Final Report “Towards a Carpathian Network of Protected Areas” Alpine Network of Protected Areas, 06/2004;
 - Carpathian Wetlands Initiative and its links to the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas and the Carpathian and Ramsar Conventions contained in the Secretariat note on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management UNEP/CC/COP1/6.
8. acknowledges the preparatory work undertaken by the Steering Committee for the establishment of a CNPA, which had been officially designated by the Carpathian Convention Focal Points; and the contributions by the Project “Carpathian Network of Protected Areas and Ramsar Sites”, by the WWF International – Danube Carpathian Programme, by the Carpathian EcoRegion Initiative, by UNEP – interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention in cooperation with the Alpine Network of Protected Areas;
9. welcomes the support by the Alpine countries, in particular by Germany, France and Monaco, the Danone-Evian Group (France) and the support by Norway to projects in support

of the establishment of the CNPA, and invites interested countries and organizations to continue to support the CNPA and CWI operations;

10. highly appreciates the ongoing support by the Alpine Network of Protected Areas and recommends to further enhance the cooperation of the CNPA established under the Carpathian Convention with the Alpine Network of Protected Areas.

11. appreciates the strong support and concrete contributions to the CNPA and CWI offered by Romania, Slovak Republic, in particular in terms of preparatory work done for putting CNPA and CWI in operation;

12. decides to establish the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas, constituting a thematic network of cooperation of mountain protected areas in the Carpathian region, and to designate one CNPA Focal Point in each Party to start up and encourage cooperation in the management of protected Areas within and between the Carpathian countries;

13. decides to establish the CNPA Steering Committee composed of the CNPA Focal Points of each country,

14. requests the Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity in consultation with the CNPA Steering Committee to prepare the terms of reference of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas and the Carpathian Wetland Initiative;

15. requests the interim Secretariat to service the CNPA and its Steering Committee, and to coordinate the activities of the CNPA with the other bodies of the Carpathian Convention (the Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity and the Conference of the Parties), pending the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention;

16. requests the interim Secretariat to support the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) and the Carpathian Wetland Initiative (CWI) through the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project, in particular by providing support to the cooperation of CNPA and CWI Focal Points and servicing the CNPA Steering Committee on an interim basis, and by supporting a Conference of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas, to be organized in the year 2007, in cooperation with the Alpine Network of Protected Areas;

17. requests the interim Secretariat to submit through the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee a report highlighting experiences made in the interim phase of the CNPA, and a compilation of proposals for a permanent arrangement for the CNPA, to the COP2.

Decision COP1/5

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (b) of the annotated agenda

Sustainable and integrated water/river basin management – Article 6 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the concrete contribution of the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative and the Ramsar Convention Secretariat to the Carpathian Convention process;
2. takes note of information submitted by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic as contained in Annex I to UNEP/CC/COP1/6;
3. takes note of the submitted information on the UNDP/GEF project “Establishing Mechanisms for Integrated Land and Water Management in the Tisza River Basin” as contained in Annex II to UNEP/CC/COP1/6;
4. welcomes the fruitful cooperation with ICPDR on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management – Article 6 of the Carpathian Convention;
5. requests the interim Secretariat to continue to coordinate its activities with ICPDR and the Ramsar Convention Secretariat;
6. requests the interim Secretariat to develop and sign a Memorandum of Cooperation with ICPDR, and to submit it to the COP2 for endorsement;
7. requests the Working Group on spatial planning to deal with the issue of sustainable water management in the context of the Carpathian Spatial Development Vision;
8. requests the Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity to address the issue of Carpathian wetlands and Ramsar sites.

Decision COP1/6

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (c) of the annotated agenda

Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge – Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the concrete contribution of ANPED to the Carpathian Convention implementation process, and takes note of information submitted by ANPED on cultural heritage and traditional knowledge as contained in the Annex to the UNEP/CC/COP1/7/Rev.1.;
2. decides to support the establishment of a Working Group on cultural heritage and traditional knowledge under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee;
3. requests the interim Secretariat to convene its first meeting in order to define the terms of reference for the Working Group and initiate its concrete work.

Decision COP1/7

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (d) of the annotated agenda

Sustainable agriculture, rural development and forestry – Article 7 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the concrete contribution of FAO/SARD-M and FAO SEUR to the Carpathian Convention implementation process;
2. takes note of information submitted in the Annexes to the Secretariat note on sustainable agriculture, rural development and forestry – Article 7 of the Carpathian Convention UNEP/CC/COP1/8 and in UNEP/CC/COP1/INF.3;
3. decides to support the establishment of a Working Group on sustainable agriculture, rural development and forestry under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee;
4. requests the interim Secretariat to convene its first meeting in order to define the terms of reference for the Working Group and initiate its concrete work.

Decision COP1/8

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (e) of the annotated agenda

Sustainable energy – Article 10 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. takes note of the submitted information on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Implementation of Article 10 of the Carpathian Convention with regard to Energy Policy, Sustainable Energy Use and the Development of Distributed and Efficient Energy Sources, as contained in the Annex to the Secretariat note on sustainable energy – Article 10 of the Carpathian Convention UNEP/CC/COP1/9;
2. submits the aforementioned MoU to the follow-up work in the Working Group on sustainable industry, energy, transport and infrastructure for further consideration;
3. requests the interim Secretariat to pursue the cooperation with the DG TREN of the European Commission, with the Secretariat of the Energy Community as well as with the

Secretariat of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), in the fields of mutual interest.

Decision COP1/9

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (f) of the annotated agenda

Sustainable transport – Article 8 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the concrete contribution of the Central European Initiative (CEI) to the Carpathian Convention and welcomes the scientific support provided by EURAC;
2. takes note of the information submitted in Annex to the Secretariat note on Sustainable transport –Article 8 of the Carpathian Convention UNEP/CC/COP1/10;
3. decides to support the establishment of a Working Group on sustainable industry, energy, transport and infrastructure under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee;
4. requests the interim Secretariat to convene the first meeting of the aforementioned Working Group in order to define its terms of reference and initiate its concrete work.

Decision COP1/10

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (g) of the annotated agenda

Sustainable tourism – Article 9 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the contribution of CEEWEB and the EU INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project to the Carpathian Convention implementation process;
2. decides to support the establishment of a Working Group on sustainable tourism under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee, aiming at the elaboration of a strategy for the future tourism development of the Carpathians and of a tourism protocol;
3. requests the interim Secretariat to convene the first meeting the of the Working Group on sustainable tourism in order to define its terms of reference and initiate its concrete work;

4. invites governments at all levels, international and non-governmental organisations and initiatives, as well as indigenous peoples, local communities, the private sector and other stakeholders to contribute to the actions related to the future cooperation under the Carpathian Convention and its implementation in the framework of sustainable tourism, e.g. by electronic consultation, and welcomes the continuous inputs provided by CEEWEB;

5. invites national, regional and international funding organisations as well as the private sector to find ways and means to financially contribute to the actions related to the implementation of the Carpathian Convention, in the framework of sustainable tourism.

Decision COP1/11

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (h) of the annotated agenda

Spatial planning – Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the concrete contribution of the Carpathian Environmental Outlook (KEO) to the Carpathian Convention process;
2. appreciates the contribution of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) into the Carpathian Project, as an important source of support for the Carpathian Convention implementation process;
3. takes note of the information submitted in the Secretariat note on spatial planning – Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention UNEP/CC/COP1/12;
4. decides to support the establishment of a Working Group on spatial planning under the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee;
5. requests the interim Secretariat to convene the first meeting of the Working Group on spatial planning in order to define its terms of reference and initiate its concrete work;
6. requests the Secretariat to inform the Council of Europe's European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional/Spatial Planning (CEMAT) of its activities promoting the implementation of Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention, and invite CEMAT to contribute to the meeting(s) of the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Spatial Planning.

Decision COP1/12

Agenda item 6

Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention

Item 6 (i) of the annotated agenda

**Cross-cutting issues, including awareness raising, education and public participation –
Article 13 of the Carpathian Convention**

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the contribution of ANPED, EURAC, REC and the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea to the Carpathian Convention implementation process and encourages and invites their further contributions to the Carpathian Convention process, as contained in the document UNEP/CC/COP1/13 and its Annexes.
2. takes note of information submitted in the Annexes, as contained in the Secretariat note on cross-cutting issues, including awareness raising, education and public participation UNEP/CC/COP1/13, and in UNEP/CC/COP1/INF.5, UNEP/CC/COP1/INF.6, UNEP/CC/COP1/INF.7 and UNEP/CC/COP1/INF.8;
3. stresses the importance of the ongoing interactive process to produce national and regional assessments of the policy, legislative and institutional frameworks for implementation of the Carpathian Convention, prepared by the REC and EURAC with the support of Italy.
4. requests the interim Secretariat to support public participation in decision-making relating to the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians, and to the implementation of the Carpathian Convention;
5. supports and recommends to establish and develop national mechanisms to foster the implementation of the Carpathian Convention, including information, involvement and capacity building of all relevant stakeholders and civil society, related to the progress and the further development of the Carpathian Convention;
6. requests the interim Secretariat to strengthen the cooperation with the Aarhus Convention Secretariat, and with the assistance of the interim Secretariat and the involvement of ANPED, REC and other interested partners, including REC, to ensure the practice and outreach of the Carpathian Convention following Aarhus principles;
7. requests the interim Secretariat to provide for opportunities for outreach, involvement and the active participation of civil society in the development of the Convention, through its official work, and development of protocols and projects;
8. requests the interim Secretariat to work with ANPED and other interested partners to establish a communication system to provide for distribution of information on the progress of the Convention to the wider civil society;
9. requests the interim Secretariat to ensure that the adequate links are been made between the work on cross-cutting issues and the work and activities of the Working Group on spatial planning.

Decision COP1/13

Agenda Item 7

Cooperation with the European Union

The Conference of the Parties

1. recalling the experience of the INTERREG III B Alpine Space Programme as a valuable framework for project development and implementation in support of the Alpine Convention;
2. noting the European Council Regulation no. 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund;
3. welcoming the INTERREG III B CADSES Carpathian Project as an essential instrument for shaping the transnational framework of and implementing the Carpathian Convention towards the sustainable development of the Carpathian Space;
4. requests both the Parties and other stakeholders to fully support the implementation of and follow-up to the INTERREG III B CADSES Carpathian Project in the common transnational framework of the Carpathian Convention;
5. expresses interest in the development of an operational programme by the EU, supporting the sustainable development of the Carpathian Space, building on the transnational framework of the Carpathian Convention;
6. requests the interim Secretariat in close consultation with the Parties and the appropriate EU institutions, to develop and further negotiate the follow-up projects and the operational programme, pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 above;
7. invites the European Community to accede to the Carpathian Convention.

Decision COP1/14

Agenda Item 8

Cooperation with other conventions and international bodies

The Conference of the Parties

1. welcomes and encourages exchange of information and cooperation with relevant international organizations, MEAs and other entities active in the areas of focus of the Carpathian Convention;
2. welcomes the cooperation with the Alpine Convention as an important contribution to the international Mountain Partnership and to the Environment for Europe process;
3. endorses the Memorandum of Understanding for the cooperation between the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention, and requests and authorizes its President and the interim Secretariat to sign the Memorandum;
4. welcomes the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Executive Secretariat of the Central European Initiative (CEI) and the interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and;
5. welcomes the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Carpathian EcoRegion Initiative (CERI) and the interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention;

6. welcomes the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention and the interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention;

7. requests the interim Secretariat to continue to prepare and conclude Memoranda of Cooperation with other interested international organizations, MEAs and other entities active in the areas of focus of the Carpathian Convention.

Decision COP1/15

Agenda Item 9

Scope of application of the Carpathian Convention – Article 1 of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

1. appreciates the report on the scope of application of the Carpathian Convention, prepared by EURAC;
2. appreciates also the submissions by the Parties/Signatories, related to the scope of application of the Carpathian Convention,;
3. recognizes the map contained in the Annex IV of document UNEP/CC/COP/16 as the basis for further work in relation to the KEO process;
4. recognizes the need for further consultations, with a view to reach consensus on the scope of application of the Carpathian Convention, and requests the Parties/Signatories to the Convention to expedite the dialogue on the subject matter;
5. requests the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee to review the issue of the scope of application of the Carpathian Convention, based upon the outcome of consultations referred to in paragraph 4 and other relevant inputs, including proposals from countries, and to submit a report to the COP2 for its consideration and decision.

Decision COP1/16

Agenda Item 10

Permanent Secretariat arrangements of the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties

requests the interim Secretariat to collect further information on the proposals concerning the Permanent Secretariat arrangements of the Carpathian Convention in consultation with the Carpathian countries in order to further substantiate the offers, to service the intergovernmental consultation process, as appropriate, and to present an updated compilation of proposals to the COP2, as a basis for decision-making.

Decision COP1/17

Agenda Item 11

Input on Mountain Initiatives to the Belgrade Conference 2007

The Conference of the Parties

1. welcomes the inclusion of the Agenda item on “Mountain initiatives” into the draft agenda of the Belgrade Conference;
2. welcomes initiatives undertaken in other regions aiming at the protection and sustainable development of trans-boundary mountain ranges, and reiterates the readiness of the Carpathian Convention partners to continue to share experiences in the development of mountain related partnerships and frameworks;
3. endorses the proposal to refer to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians as the “Kyiv Convention”;
4. expresses the hope that the Belgrade Conference 2007 will underline the importance of the Kyiv Convention and related initiatives of the International Mountain Partnership for the protection and sustainable development of mountain regions in the world.

Decision COP1/18

Agenda Item 12

Other matters

Date and Venue of the COP2

The Conference of the Parties

1. decides to convene the 2nd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Romania, spring 2008, and requests the interim Secretariat make the necessary arrangements, in consultation with the host Government and the Bureau of the COP;
2. requests the interim Secretariat to undertake the necessary preparations in consultation with all interested partners and stakeholders;
3. invites interested partners to make a financial contribution to the organization of the COP2.

Decision COP1/19

Agenda item 2.2

Review of credentials of representatives to the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

having considered the report on credentials of the Executive Secretary of the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the recommendations contained therein,

approves the report on credentials submitted by the Executive Secretary of the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as contained in the Annex III.

Annex I

Rules of Procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

Rule 1

These rules of procedure shall apply to any meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians convened in accordance with Article 14 of the Convention.

DEFINITIONS

Rule 2

For the purposes of these rules:

- (a) "Convention" means the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians adopted in Kyiv, Ukraine, on 22 May 2003;
- (b) "Parties" means Parties to the Convention;
- (c) "Conference of the Parties" means the Conference of the Parties established in accordance with Article 14 of the Convention;
- (d) "Meeting" means any ordinary or extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties convened in accordance with Article 14 of the Convention. "Session" means a part of any ordinary or extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- (f) "President" means the President elected in accordance with rule 16, paragraph 1, of the present rules of procedure;
- (g) "Secretariat" means the Secretariat established under article 15 of the Convention;
- (h) "Subsidiary body" means a subsidiary body established in accordance with Article 14 paragraph 2(e) of the Convention that may include thematic working groups or committees;
- (i) "Parties present" means Parties present at the session at which decision-making takes place;
- (j) The "Bureau" means the executive body established under rule 16 of the present rules of procedure.

PLACE OF MEETINGS

Rule 3

Each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall decide on the place of the following ordinary meeting, unless other appropriate arrangements are made by the Secretariat in consultation with Bureau.

DATES OF MEETINGS

Rule 4

1. Ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held every three years. The Conference of the Parties may at any time review the periodicity of its ordinary meetings in the light of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Convention.
2. At each ordinary meeting, the Conference of the Parties shall set the indicative date for the opening and the duration of the next ordinary meeting.
3. Extraordinary meetings of the Conference shall be held at such other times as may be decided either by the Conference at a ordinary meeting or at the written request of any Party, provided that, within three months of the request being communicated to all the other Parties by the Secretariat, it is supported by at least two third of the Parties.
4. In the case of an extraordinary meeting convened at the written request of a Party, it shall be convened not later than ninety days after the date at which the request is supported by at least two third of the Parties in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Rule.

Rule 5

The Secretariat shall notify all Parties of the dates and venue of the ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties at least three months before the meeting is due to commence and of the extraordinary meeting at least two months before it is due to commence.

AGENDA

Rule 6

In agreement with the President, the Secretariat shall prepare the provisional agenda of each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Rule 7

The provisional agenda of each ordinary meeting shall include, as appropriate:

- (a) Items arising from the articles of the Convention, including those specified in Article 14 of the Convention;
- (b) Items the inclusion of which has been decided at a previous meeting;
- (c) Items referred to in Rule 13 of the present rules of procedure;
- (d) Any item proposed by a Party and received by the Secretariat before the provisional agenda is produced;
- (e) The proposed budget as well as all questions pertaining to the accounts and financial arrangements.

Rule 8

The provisional agenda, together with supporting documents, for each ordinary meeting shall be distributed at least six weeks before the opening of the meeting, in the working language provided by the Secretariat in accordance with Rule 36.

Rule 9

The Secretariat shall, in agreement with the Bureau, include any item, which is proposed by a Party or an Observer and has been received by the Secretariat after the provisional agenda has been produced, but before the opening of the meeting, in a supplementary provisional agenda.

Rule 10

The Conference of the Parties shall examine the provisional agenda together with any supplementary provisional agenda. When adopting the agenda, it may add, delete, defer or amend items. Only items, which are considered by the Conference of the Parties to be urgent and important, may be added to the agenda.

Rule 11

The provisional agenda for an extraordinary meeting shall consist only of those items proposed for consideration in the request for the holding of the extraordinary meeting. It shall be distributed to the Parties at the same time as the invitation to the extraordinary meeting.

Rule 12

The Secretariat shall report to the Conference of the Parties on the administrative and financial implications of all substantive agenda items submitted to the meeting, before they are considered by it. Unless the Conference of the Parties decides otherwise, no such item shall be considered until the Conference of the Parties has received the Secretariat's report on the administrative and financial implications.

Rule 13

Any agenda item of an ordinary meeting, consideration of which has not been completed at the meeting, shall be included automatically in the agenda of the next ordinary meeting, unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties.

REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 14

Each Party participating in a meeting shall be represented by a delegation consisting of a head of delegation and such other accredited representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as it may require. A representative may be designated as an alternate head of delegation. An alternate representative or an adviser may act as a representative upon designation by the head of delegation.

Rule 15

The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Conference of the Parties or the representative of the Executive Secretary if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Executive Secretary or the representative of the Executive Secretary.

OFFICERS

Rule 16

1. At the commencement of the first session of each ordinary meeting, each Party shall nominate a member of the Bureau. From these Bureau members, a President, a Vice-President and a Rapporteur are to be elected by the Conference of the Parties.
2. The President of the Conference of the Parties shall be held in turn by each Party in alphabetical order of the names of the Parties in English language, unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties.
3. The Bureau, including the President, the Vice-President and the Rapporteur elected at an ordinary meeting shall remain in office until their successors are elected at the next ordinary meeting. Their function in the intervening period shall be to serve in the capacity at any extraordinary meeting and to provide guidance to the Secretariat with regard to preparations for and conduct of meetings of the Conference of the Parties.
4. The President shall participate in the meeting in that capacity and shall not at the same time exercise the rights of a representative of a Party. The Party concerned shall designate another representative who shall be entitled to represent the Party in the meeting.

Rule 17

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon the President elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of the meeting, preside at the sessions, ensure the observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions for decision-making and announce decisions. The President shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat.
2. The President may propose to the Conference of the Parties the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times each representative may speak on a question, the adjournment or the closure of the debate and the suspension or the adjournment of a session.
3. The President, in the exercise of the functions of that office, remains under the authority of the Conference of the Parties.

Rule 18

The President, if temporarily absent from a session or any part thereof, shall designate the Vice-President to act as President. The Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.

Rule 19

If an officer of the Bureau resigns or is otherwise unable to complete the assigned term of office or to perform the functions of the office, a representative of the same Party shall be named by the Party concerned to replace the said officer for the remainder of that officer's mandate.

Rule 20

At the first session of each ordinary meeting, the President elected at the previous ordinary meeting, or in the absence of the President, the Vice-President, shall preside until the Conference of the Parties has elected the new President of the Conference of the Parties.

SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Rule 21

1. The Conference of the Parties may establish such subsidiary bodies, including thematic working groups, as are deemed necessary for the implementation of the Convention, regularly review reports submitted by its subsidiary bodies and provide guidance to them. The subsidiary bodies, including thematic working groups established in accordance with Article 14 paragraph 2 (e), shall provide the Conference, as necessary, with technical assistance, information and advice on specific issues related to the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians.
2. Where appropriate, meetings of subsidiary bodies shall be held in conjunction with meetings of the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties may decide that any such subsidiary bodies may meet in the period between ordinary meetings.
3. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties, the chairperson for each such subsidiary body shall be elected by the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties shall determine the matters to be considered by each such subsidiary body and may authorize the President, upon the request of the chairperson of a subsidiary body, to make adjustments to the allocation of work.
4. Subject to paragraph 3 of this rule, each subsidiary body shall elect a Chair Person, a Vice-Chair Person and a Rapporteur.
5. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties, these rules shall apply mutatis mutandis to the proceedings of subsidiary bodies, except that the Chairperson of a subsidiary body may represent the Party in the meeting.

SECRETARIAT

Rule 22

1. The Head of the Secretariat of the Convention shall be nominated by the Conference of the Parties and shall be the Executive Secretary of the Convention. The Executive Secretary or the representative of the Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference of the Parties and of subsidiary bodies.
2. The Executive Secretary shall provide and direct the staff required by the Conference of the Parties or subsidiary bodies.

Rule 23

The Secretariat shall, in accordance with these rules:

- (a) Prepare, publish and circulate documents of the meeting to the Parties; it shall furthermore post these documents on the website;
- (b) Make and arrange for keeping of sound recordings of the meetings;
- (c) Arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of the meetings;
- (d) Generally perform all other work that the Conference of the Parties may require;
- (e) Make available documents accessible to the public for its active participation.

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 24

1. Sessions of the Conference of the Parties shall be held in public, unless the Conference of the Parties decides otherwise.
2. Sessions of subsidiary bodies shall be held in public unless the subsidiary body concerned decides otherwise.

Rule 25

The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed if at least a majority of the Parties to the Convention are present.

Rule 26

1. No one may speak at a session of the Conference of the Parties without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Subject to rules 27, 28, 29 and 31, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Secretariat shall maintain a list of speakers. The President may call a speaker to order if the speaker's remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
2. The Conference of the Parties may, on a proposal from the President or from any Party, limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on a question. Before a decision is taken, two representatives may speak in favour of and two against a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call the speaker to order without delay.

Rule 27

The chairperson or rapporteur of a subsidiary body may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by that subsidiary body.

Rule 28

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be put to the decision-making immediately and the ruling shall stand unless overruled by consensus of the Parties present. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 29

Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference of the Parties to discuss any matter or to adopt a proposal or an amendment to a proposal submitted to it shall be put to decision-making before the matter is discussed or a decision is made on the proposal or amendment in question.

Rule 30

Proposals and amendments to proposals shall normally be introduced in writing by the Parties and handed to the Secretariat, which shall circulate copies to delegations. Nevertheless, the President may, in exceptional circumstances and in cases of urgency, permit the discussion and consideration of proposals, amendments to proposals or of procedural motions even though these proposals, amendments or motions have not been circulated.

Rule 31

1. Subject to rule 33, the following motions shall have precedence, in the order indicated below, over all other proposals or motions:

- (a) To suspend a session;
- (b) To adjourn a session;
- (c) To adjourn the debate on the question under discussion; and
- (d) For the closure of the debate on the question under discussion.

2. Permission to speak on a motion falling within (a) to (d) above shall be granted only to the proposer and, in addition, to one speaker in favour of and two against the motion, after which it shall be put immediately to the decision-making.

Rule 32

A proposal or motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before a decision on it is made, provided that the motion has not been amended. A proposal or motion withdrawn may be reintroduced by any other Party.

Rule 33

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same meeting, unless the Conference of the Parties by consensus of the Parties present, decides in favour of reconsideration. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to the mover and one other supporter, after which it shall be put immediately to the decision-making.

DECISION-MAKING

Rule 34

All decisions of the Conference of the Parties on all matters shall be reached by consensus.

PARTICIPATION OF OBSERVERS

Rule 35

1. Any other State, and any national, intergovernmental or non-governmental organization with activities related to the Convention may participate as observer at the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the Conference.

2. The Secretariat shall compile and regularly update the list of such organizations, agencies and entities. Such a list shall be communicated by the Secretariat to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties prior to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

3. The Secretariat shall notify the observers of the dates and venue of a meeting at least one month before the meeting is due to commence.

4. The observers may participate, in the deliberations of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, on questions within their competence or scope of activities.

5. Such observers may present any information or report relevant to the objectives of the Convention.

LANGUAGES

Rule 36

1. The working language of the Conference of the Parties shall be English.
2. A representative of a Party may speak in a language other than the working language, if the Party provides for interpretation into the working language.
3. Official documents of the meetings shall be produced in the working language provided by the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Rule.

AUDIO RECORDS OF THE MEETINGS

Rule 37

Audio records of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and whenever possible of its subsidiary bodies, shall be kept by the Secretariat in accordance with the practice of the United Nations.

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 38

These rules of procedure may be amended by consensus by the Conference of the Parties.

OVERRIDING AUTHORITY OF THE CONVENTION

Rule 39

In the event of any conflict between any provision of these rules of procedure and any provision of the Convention, the Convention shall prevail.

Annex II

Financial Rules for the Administration of the Trust Fund For the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

Rule 1

The Conference of the Parties shall designate an organization, body or entity (hereinafter referred to as the Trustee), which shall establish and manage the Trust Fund for the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (hereinafter referred to as the Carpathian Trust Fund) in accordance with these rules.

Rule 2

For the purposes of these rules:

- (a) "Convention" means the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, adopted in Kyiv, Ukraine, on 22 May 2003;
- (b) "Parties" means Parties to the Convention;
- (c) "Conference of the Parties" means the Conference of the Parties established in accordance with Article 14 of the Convention;
- (d) "Trustee" means an organization, body or entity, which shall establish and manage the Trust Fund for the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;
- (e) "Trust Fund" means the Trust Fund for the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;
- (f) "Executive Secretary" means the head of the Secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;
- (g) "Secretariat" means the Secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians.

Rule 3

The Trust Fund shall be used for funding the administration of the Convention, including the functioning of the Secretariat.

Rule 4

The Trust Fund shall be financed from:

- (a) Contributions made by Parties based on the scale set forth in the Annex;
- (b) Additional contributions made by Parties;

(c) Contributions from sources available through other programmes and undertakings;

(d) Contributions from States not Parties, as well as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and other sources.

Rule 5

The Conference of the Parties shall determine the scale of contributions referred to in paragraph (a) of Rule 4. Such contributions shall be due on 1 January of each calendar year.

Rule 6

All contributions shall be paid in Euro or its equivalent in a convertible currency and into a bank account to be specified by the Trustee. In conversion of currencies into Euro, the United Nations operational rate of exchange shall be used.

Rule 7

Accounting records shall be kept in such currency or currencies as the Trustee deems necessary.

Rule 8

Budget proposals expressed in Euro covering the expenditure and income from contributions referred to in paragraph 3 (a) of Rule 4 shall be prepared by the Executive Secretary for periods of three calendar years. At least 90 days before the date of the opening of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties, these budget proposals shall be dispatched by the Executive Secretary to all Parties.

Rule 9

The budget shall, in accordance with Rule 16, be approved by the Conference of the Parties and, if necessary, be revised at an ordinary or extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Rule 10

Contributions referred to in paragraphs 3 (b), (c) and (d) of Rule 4 shall be used in accordance with any terms and conditions agreed between the Executive Secretary and the respective contributor. At each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary shall present a report on contributions received and expected as well as their sources, amounts, purposes and conditions.

Rule 11

The Executive Secretary may commit resources against the Trust Fund only if such commitments are covered by contributions already received. In the event that the Trustee anticipates that there might be a shortfall in resources over the financial period as a whole, it shall notify the Executive Secretary, who shall adjust the budget so that expenditures are at all times fully covered by contributions received.

Rule 12

The Trustee, on the advice of the Executive Secretary and by agreement of the Bureau may make transfers from one budget line to another within the budget.

Rule 13

Contributions referred to in paragraph 3 (a) above from States that become Parties after the beginning of a financial period shall be made pro rata temporis for the balance of that financial period. Consequent adjustments shall be made at the end of each financial period for other Parties.

Rule 14

Contributions not immediately required for the purposes of the Trust Fund shall be invested and any interest so earned shall be credited to the Trust Fund.

Rule 15

It is for the Conference of the Parties and the Trustee to agree on an administrative support charge to be paid to the Trustee.

Rule 16

At the end of each calendar year, the Trustee shall transfer any balance to the following calendar year and submit to the Conference of the Parties, through the Executive Secretary, the certified and audited accounts for that year as soon as practicable. The Trust Fund shall be subjected to the internal and external auditing procedure, as decided by the Conference of the Parties.

Rule 17

In the event that the Conference of the Parties decides to terminate the Trust Fund, a notification to that effect shall be presented to the Trustee at least six months before the date of termination selected by the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties shall decide, in consultation with the Trustee, on the distribution of any unspent balance after all liquidation expenses have been met.

Rule 18

The Parties shall reach agreement on all matters by consensus.

Rule 19

Any amendments to these rules shall be adopted by the Conference of the Parties by consensus.

**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 200... , 200... AND 200...FOR THE FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
OF THE CARPATHIANS**

(THOUSANDS OF EURO)

DESCRIPTION OF FUNCTIONS	Year 200...	Costs in Euro	Year 200...	Costs in Euro	Year 200...	Cost in Euro
<p>1. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Executive Secretary</i> • Assistant to the Executive Secretary • <i>Secretary</i> <p>Subtotal 1</p>						
<p>2. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Officer • Administrative Assistant • Secretary 						

<p>Subtotal 2</p> <p>3. INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Servicing of COP meetings (1 languages, 3 working days) • Travel of staff to COP <p>Subtotal 3</p>						
<p>4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Assistance Officer / Biodiversity Officer • Secretary • Consultants <p>Subtotal 4</p>						
<p>5. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and Communication Officer • Data Base Operator • Secretary <p>Subtotal 5</p>						

<p>6. EQUIPMENT</p> <p>Subtotal 6</p>						
<p>7. PREMISES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent • Security services • Building maintenance • Utilities (gas, electricity, etc) • Insurance <p>Subtotal 7</p>						
<p>8. MISCELLANEOUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary assistance and overtime • Communications (phone, fax, e-mail, etc) • Recruitment costs/travel on Interviews • Relocation of staff and removal • Expenses • Hospitality 						

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other 						
Subtotal 8						
Subtotal 1-8						
CONTINGENCIES (...% subtotal 1 to 8)						
<i>GRAND TOTAL</i>						

**SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY STATE PARTIES TO THE TRUST FUND FOR
THE THREE YEARS 200... - 200...200 FOR
THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CARPATHIANS**

(THOUSANDS OF EURO)

State Party	Year 200...	Year 200...	Year 200.....
The Czech Republic			
The Republic of Hungary			
The Republic of Poland			
Romania			
Republic of Serbia			
The Slovak Republic			
Ukraine			

Annex III

Report on Credentials by the Executive Secretary

Introduction

1. In accordance with Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure for the Conference of the Parties, each Party participating in a meeting shall be represented by a delegation consisting of a head of delegation and such other accredited representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as it may require. A representative may be designated as an alternate head of delegation. An alternate representative or an adviser may act as a representative upon designation by the head of delegation.

2. Furthermore, in accordance with Rule 20 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Conference of the Parties or the representative of the Executive Secretary if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Executive Secretary or the representative of the Executive Secretary.

3. The present report is submitted to the Conference of the Parties in the light of the foregoing.

Credentials of the Parties of the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention

4. On 12 December 2006, the Executive Secretary of the Conference of the Parties examined the credentials delivered by the Parties/Signatories to the Convention*.

5. The credentials of the Representatives of the Parties/Signatories were found to be in conformity with the Rules of Procedure for the Conference of the Parties. It is therefore proposed that the Conference of the Parties recognize their validity.

* The Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Serbia, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine.