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Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

## Summer.

The season of the year when the weather is warmest. The season for having breakfast on the balcony. But also, the season for seeking tranquility, filling up on energy and ideas and for enjoying the breathtaking scenery of the Alps. I hope you had the chance of creating some beautiful memories during this summertime.

Since I took up my role as Secretary General of the Alpine Convention in mid-July, I have already had some inspiring meetings with Alpine Countries, Observers and Partners of the Alpine Convention. I am looking forward to continuing and intensifying this exchange of information and expertise, since only by working together we can address the challenges the Alps are facing and shape a more sustainable future for the people living within this beautiful mountain area in the heart of Europe.

The Indian summer promises not only a beautiful palette of colors in the Alps, but also a rich palette of activities of the Alpine Convention. The delegates of the Alpine Convention Contracting Partners and Observers Will meet for the first time under French Presidency on 14-15 November 2019 in Monaco during the 68<sup>th</sup> Permanent Committee. The Thematic Working Bodies already kicked-off their activities. Within the Permanent Secretariat, the preparations for the 5<sup>th</sup> Reading Mountains Festival are in full swing, as are those of the Convention S 2020 calendar which will feature the winning pictures of our Photo Contest.

After 22 editions, the Alpine Convention so Newsletter is taking a well-deserved break and will be back with new energy and a new concept. In the meanwhile, <a href="www.alpconv.org">www.alpconv.org</a> is there for you with Alpine <a href="news">news</a>, facts and figures and we keep you informed via our social media channels.

Yours sincerely,

Alenka Smerkolj Secretary General of the Alpine Convention











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