

Ständiger Ausschuss der Alpenkonferenz
Comité permanent de la Conférence alpine
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Stalni odbor Alpske konference

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A Poročilo Stalnega sekretariata

Ministri pogodbenic Alpske konvencije so se na VII. alpski konferenci leta 2002 v Meranu v izjavi, sprejeti k 2. točki dnevnega reda (mednarodno leto gora), izrecno zavzeli za to, da se izkušnje iz alpskega procesa vnesejo v mednarodno partnerstvo za trajnostni razvoj na gorskih območjih (Mountain Partnership), ki je bil sklenjeno na Svetovnem vrhu o trajnostnem razvoju v Johannesburgu in dopolnjeno na srečanju Global Mountain Summit v Biškeku v Kirgizistanu. Za sodelovanje so bila prednostno določena naslednja gorska območja: Karpati, Kavkaz in Srednja Azija (Pamir, Tjanšan). VIII. alpska konferenca v Garmischu leta 2004 je ta sklep potrdila in nadaljnji razvoj gorskih partnerstev kot ključno dolgoročno nalogo vključila v Večletni program dela Alpske konference za obdobje 2005–2010. IX. alpska konferenca v Alpbachu je območja sodelovanja Alpske konvencije razširila še na balkansko regijo in sklenila, da se sodelovanje s Karpatsko konvencijo še okrepi.

Pričujoče poročilo vsebuje pregled gorskih partnerstev Alpske konvencije v obdobju od novembra 2006 do marca 2009 ter obsega tako skupne projekte kot tudi dejavnosti posameznih alpskih držav. Poročilo je nastalo na podlagi rednih poročil, ki jih je Stalni sekretariat pripravljal za Stalni odbor (dokumenti PC35/12, PC36/15, PC37/15 in PC38/17) ter pisnih prispevkov pogodbenic Nemčije, Italije, Lihtenštajna in Avstrije (glej prilogo 1).

- **Karpati**

Na podlagi Memoranduma o soglasju, ki sta ga na prvi konferenci pogodbenic Karpatske konvencije 13. decembra 2006 v Kijevu podpisala francosko predsedstvo Alpske konference in Stalni sekretariat s predstavniki predsedstva in začasnega sekretariata Karpatske konvencije, se je v času poročanja med Alpami in Karpati razvilo živahno sodelovanje (glej prilogo 2).

Tako so se predsedstvo Alpske konference in Stalni sekretariat ter predstavniki Italije in Avstrije udeležili tudi druge ministrske konference Karpatske konvencije, ki je potekala 19. junija 2008 v Bukarešti. Ministrska deklaracija, ki je bila sprejeta ob tej priložnosti, opozarja še na en pomemben dosežek sodelovanja med Alpsko in Karpatsko konvencijo: gre za Memorandum o soglasju (MoU), ki so ga s Konvencijo Združenih narodov o biotski raznolikosti (CBD) podpisali predsedujoče države in sekretariati vseh treh konvencij v okviru 9. konference pogodbenic CBD 29. maja 2008 v Bonnu (glej prilogi 3 in 4).

Namen predstavitve tekočih dejavnosti Karpatske konvencije na področju turizma na ključni prireditvi predsedstva na temo trajnostnega turizma na 36. seji Stalnega odbora v Bolzanu je bil poglobiti institucionalne stike. Predstavitve je vodila predstavnik Čške republike, ki trenutno predseduje delovni skupini za turizem pri Karpatski konvenciji.

Izmenjava izkušenj med Alpsko konvencijo in sestrsko konvencijo se je nadaljevala tudi v okviru drugih prireditev. Tako je Stalni sekretariat na delavnici o konceptih trajnostnega razvoja gorskih območij, ki je 20. in 21. septembra 2007 potekala v Budimpešti v organizaciji madžarske akademije znanosti, na primeru Alpske in Karpatske konvencije predstavil institucionalni okvir in tekoče dejavnosti v Alpah. Na regionalni delavnici o obnovljivih virih energije na območju Karpatov, ki je potekala 6. in 7. maja 2008 v Lvovu v Ukrajini in sta jo organizirali UNIDO in Karpatska konvencija, je Stalni sekretariat predstavil predvidene ukrepe akcijskega načrta za podnebje na področju energije, osnutek poglavja o vodni energiji iz 2. poročila o stanju v Alpah ter določbe Protokola o energiji. Še naprej so redno potekali stiki med Stalnim sekretariatom Alpske konvencije in začasnim sekretariatom Karpatske konvencije. Pomembna tema razgovorov je bila krepitev evropske dimenzije Alpske in Karpatske konvencije s skupnim lobiranjem za gorska območja na ravni EU.

Pomembna uspeha krovne projekta, ki ga je usklajeval začasni sekretariat Karpatske konvencije, finančno podprla Italija, znanstveno podporo zagotovila regionalni okoljski center za Srednjo in Vzhodno Evropo ter Evropska akademija iz Bolzana, sta izdaja priročnika o Karpatski konvenciji in sestava pregleda nacionalnih pravnih in institucionalnih okvirjev posameznih karpatskih držav. Omenjeni pregled je na voljo v jezikih posameznih držav in v angleškem jeziku.

V okviru programa INTERREG III B CADSES – območje Karpatov, katerega cilj je bil utrjevanje podlage za okoljske informacije, razvoj strategij in političnih instrumentov ter izvajanje pilotnih dejavnosti v zvezi s trajnostnim razvojem Karpatov in ki se je končal oktobra lani (2008), so bili zbrani okoljski podatki, vnesene javno dostopne baze podatkov, izdelan je bil kartografski material ter znanstveni in institucionalni elementi, namenjeni delovnim skupinam kot pripomoček za urejanje prihodnjih protokolov Karpatske konvencije. Italija je podprla projekt z objavo zbirke dokumentov, ki se navezujejo na Karpatsko konvencijo po vzoru zbirke dokumentov o Alpski konvenciji „Collectio“, organizirana pa je bila tudi vrsta srečanj ekspertov, katerih namen je bila izmenjava izkušenj.

Z vidika sprejetja Protokola Karpatske konvencije o biotski raznovrstnosti na drugi konferenci pogodbenic je sodelovanje na področju povezovanja med zavarovanimi območji prednostna

naloga v okviru sodelovanja med Alpami in Karpati. T. i. Task Force za zavarovana območja pri Stalnem sekretariatu je v času poročanja brez prekinitev sodelovala z Mrežo zavarovanih območij v Karpatih (CNPA). Postavljena je domača spletna stran CNPA (<http://www.carpathianparks.org>) s povezavami na Alpsko konvencijo in Mrežo zavarovanih območij v Alpah, prav tako je pripravljena informativna brošura v sedmih jezikih z območja Karpatov in angleščini vključno z novo verzijo obstoječe karte zavarovanih območij v Karpatih. Projekt so sofinancirali Nemčija, Francija, Monako in nemški sklad Heidehofstiftung. Pri tem razviti instrumenti delovanja na področju odnosov z javnostmi in obveščanja upravljavcev zavarovanih območij se uporabljajo pri vseh nadaljnjih oblikah sodelovanja. Poleg tega je Task Force za zavarovana območja pri Stalnem sekretariatu pripravil predlog delovnega načrta CNPA za l. 2009, večletnega načrta dela za zavarovana območja na Karpatih (obdobje 2010–2015), srednjeročnega strateškega dokumenta ter dokumenta, ki vsebuje najpomembnejša področja sodelovanja med zavarovanimi območji v Alpah in Karpatih, in jih predložil Mednarodnemu usklajevalnemu odboru CNPA. Poleg tega se je Task Force udeležil prve generalne skupščine CNPA, ki je bil 23. in 24. septembra 2008 v Brasovu v Romuniji.

Nemčija, Francija, Lihtenštajn, Monako in nemški sklad Heidehofstiftung nameravajo tudi v obdobju 2009–2010 finančno podpirati dejavnosti, namenjene povezovanju zavarovanih območij. Projekt za leto 2009, ki je že bil odobren, se bo ukvarjal s tematiko, ki je enako pomembna za Alpe in Karpate, tj. s strategijami zavarovanih območij za upravljanje in raziskovane populacij velikih zveri ter delovanje na področju odnosov z javnostmi.

Dolgoročno sodelovanje med Alpami in Karpati je potrebno tudi zaradi izboljšanja pogojev za vzpostavitev ekoloških koridorjev, ki omogočajo selitev vrst in genetsko izmenjavo med populacijami. Sodelovanje med zavarovanimi območji obeh evropskih gorovij tako predstavlja pomemben prispevek k nastajanju globalne mreže zavarovanih območij v smislu CBD. Uresničevanje ekološke povezanosti v Alpah na podlagi harmonizacije geografskih podatkov, analize fizičnih in pravnih ovir in oblikovanja skupne tehnologije, se izvaja v okviru projekta ECONNECT, ki ga sofinancira program EU za območje Alp. Pri njem sodelujejo tudi nacionalni in regionalni upravni organi, zavarovana območja, znanstvenoraziskovalne ustanove ter mednarodne nevladne organizacije iz Nemčije, Francije, Italije, Lihtenštajna, Avstrije in Švice. Projekt se je začel novembra 2007, trajal pa bo do novembra 2011.

Na koncu je treba omeniti, da so na srečanju predsednikov Mednarodnega usklajevalnega odbora Mreže zavarovanih območij v Alpah ter predstavnikov CNPA z nemškim državnim sekretarjem Müllerjem 4. decembra 2008 v Berlinu ugotovili, da so rezultati vmesnega pregleda dejavnosti v okviru sodelovanja pozitivni.

- **Srednja Azija**

V okviru gorskega partnerstva med Alpami in Srednjo Azijo je bilo po vzoru Omrežja občin „Povezanost v Alpah“ in ob upoštevanju konkretnih pogojev, ki vladajo v gorskih sistemih Pamir in Tjanšana, ustanovljeno Omrežje občin. Pri tem so bila upoštevana tematska področja, ki so prednostnega pomena za trajnostni razvoj tega območja, to so tla in gospodarjenje z vodo, varstvo naravnih virov, pašno gospodarstvo in energija. Celoten projekt se izvaja na gorskem območju Kirgizistana, Tadžikistana in Kazahstana v okviru dolgoročnega programa srednjeazijskega gorskega partnerstva CAMP, ki ga vodi Švica. Drugi partnerji z območja Alp so še Nemčija in Lihtenštajn ter CIPRA International in Omrežje občin „Povezanost v Alpah“.

V času poročanja je svoja prizadevanja za razvoj Zveze srednjeazijskih gorskih vasi AGOCA nadaljevala Nemčija, ki je finančno podprla letno generalno skupščino te organizacije in njen forum za trajnostni razvoj srednjeazijskih gorskih območij. Prav tako je Lihtenštajn skupaj s turkmenistanskim ministrstvom za varstvo narave ter Inštitutom za botaniko in krajinsko ekologijo iz Greifswalda finančno podprl izvedbo podiplomskega študija iz varstva narave in krajine.

V skladu s pooblastilom, ki ga je Stalni odbor podelil na svoji 37. seji, je Stalni sekretariat z AGOCO sklenil pogodbo o dodelitvi finančne podpore, ki opredeljuje načine sofinanciranja njenih dejavnosti v letu 2008. Nemčija, Francija, Lihtenštajn, Avstrija, Švica in Slovenija so AGOCO finančno podprli na treh področjih delovanja (institucionalna krepitev, izmenjava informacij in izkušenj ter izvajanje čezmejnih projektov za razvoj gorskih vasi). Ko bo predloženo končno poročilo o delu AGOCE, ki mora biti pripravljeno najkasneje do 30. aprila 2009, bo Stalni sekretariat poročal Stalnemu odboru o uresničevanju sofinanciranih dejavnosti in ocenil rezultate z ozirom na dolgoročne projekte Alpske konference na področju gorskih partnerstev. Prvi vmesni pregled doseženih rezultatov na področju izboljšanja instrumentov upravljanja samoupravnih organov v vaseh je obetaven.

Udeležba predsednika AGOCE na X. alpski konferenci v Evianu bo omogočila nadaljnjo poglobitev stikov med Alpami in srednjeazijskimi gorskimi območji.

- **Kavkaz**

V smislu izvajanja sklepa VIII. alpske konference v Garmischu, po katerem naj bi izkušnje iz alpskega procesa uporabili pri izdelavi Kavkaške konvencije, so se na povabilo Lihtenštajna in Programa ZN za okolje (UNEP) 15. in 16. novembra 2007 v Vaduzu srečali ministri in razpravljali o procesu regionalnega sodelovanja na Kavkazu. Stalni sekretariat je ob tej priložnosti predstavil zasnove trajnostnega razvoja gorskih območij, ki jih je uresničila Alpska konvencija, njen institucionalni okvir in tekoče dejavnosti v Alpah. V sklepni izjavi na konferenci so se ministri zavzeli za krepitev partnerstev za varstvo Kavkaza in njegov trajnostni razvoj (glej prilogo 5).

V okviru projekta „Trajnostni razvoj gorskih regij Kavkaza – lokalna agenda 21“, ki ga finančno podpirata Nemčija in Lihtenštajn ter usklajujeta regionalna centra za okolje Južni Kavkaz (RECC) in Rusija (RREC), so bili od leta 2003 dalje izdelani razvojni programi za osem kavkaških vasi po vzoru Agende 21. Omenjeni razvojni programi so se v času poročanja izvajali v okviru trinajstih manjših projektov ob finančni podpori Lihtenštajna in Nemčije ter dveh lihtenštajnskih ustanov. Projekti so na primer obsegali gradnjo šol in centra za osnovno medicinsko oskrbo, ustanovitev mladinskega centra, zasaditev vinograda z namenom oživitve vinogradniške tradicije. Poleg tega je Lihtenštajn odločilno prispeval h krepitvi RECC. Obenem se je z dovoljenjem kavkaških držav začelo sodelovanje tamkajšnjih vasi iz Armenije, Azerbajdžana, Gruzije in Rusije, kar predstavlja jedro čezmejnega omrežja občin na Kavkazu. 6. avgusta 2006 so se v Chiori v Gruziji srečali predstavniki omenjenih vasi in sklenili, da bodo ustanovili čezmejno omrežje po vzoru Omrežja občin „Povezanost v Alpah“. Na drugem srečanju gorskih vasi 7. in 8. junija 2007 v Tiflisu sta bili sprejeti ustanovna listina in razvojna strategija kavkaškega omrežja.

Z regionalnim centrom za okolje REC Kavkaz se je nadaljevala izmenjava elektronske korespondence v zvezi z nalogo, ki jo je Stalni odbor na svoji 34. seji v Alpbachu poveril Stalnemu sekretariatu, da na Kavkazu podpre vzpostavitev čezmejnega omrežja gorskih vasi. Delo v zvezi z dokončanjem programa in proračuna ustanovitvene konference so bile pred izbruhom vojnih spopadov poleti 2008 v sklepni fazi, zaradi vojne med Gruzijo in Rusijo avgusta 2008 pa izvajanje projekta trenutno miruje.

Zaradi zapletenih političnih razmer na Kavkazu trenutno ni možnosti, da bi prišlo do uradne ustanovitve čezmejnega omrežja gorskih vasi na Kavkazu. Vendar pa Stalni sekretariat meni, da je mogoče v prihodnje s čezmejnimi sodelovanjem na lokalni ravni prispevati k večji varnosti in trajnostnemu razvoju na Kavkazu. Zato predlaga, da bi prek stikov z RECC,

pristojnimi organi kavkaških držav in sodelujočimi kavkaškimi gorskimi vasmi sam preveril, ali je ob trenutnih političnih razmerah mogoče nadalje sodelovati in na kakšen način, o rezultatih tega poizvedovanja pa bo Stalnemu odboru poročal na naslednji seji.

- **Proces „Okolje za Evropo“ in Balkan**

Od 10. do 12. oktobra 2007 je v Beogradu potekala 6. ministrska konferenca z naslovom Okolje za Evropo, ki je bila organizirana v okviru Ekonomske komisije ZN za Evropo (UN ECE). Predsedstvo Alpske konference in predstavniki Stalnega sekretariata so sodelovali pri oblikovanju s strani UNEP predloženega dokumenta kategorije I za morebitno delovanje na ministrski ravni na temo sodelovanja in priprave okvira za varstvo in trajnostni razvoj gorskih območij v Evropi (glej prilogo 6). Namen dokumenta je prikazati napredek, ki je bil v zadnjih letih dosežen pri razvoju gorskih partnerstev na območju Alp, Karpatov ter v gorskih regijah JV Evrope, Kavkaza in Srednje Azije. Poleg tega sta se predsedstvo in Stalni sekretariat udeležila spremljajočih dogodkov (side events), ki jih je organiziral Program ZN za okolje (UNEP) na temo “pravni instrumenti gorskih partnerstev”, kot tudi dogodkov v organizaciji Nemčije, Lihtenštajna in Švice o sodelovanju med Alpami, Kavkazom in Srednjo Azijo na lokalni in regionalni ravni.

Beograjska konferenca je mejnik tudi za partnerstvo z balkansko regijo, saj so udeleženci konference poudarili, da bi bilo zelo pomembno oblikovati konvencijo o varstvu in trajnostnem razvoju gorskih območij v JV Evropi.

- **Andi**

Andska pobuda je nastala leta 2004 v kraju Cuzco in predstavlja mednarodni okoljskopolitični proces za spodbujanje trajnostnega razvoja v Andih. Trenutno se v državah članicah – Argentini, Boliviji, Kolumbiji, Ekvadorju, Peruju in Venezueli – ustanavljajo nacionalni odbori za varstvo gora, kar bo institucionalna podlaga za izvajanje ustreznih dejavnosti. Argentinski odbor za gorska območja je prevzel odgovornost za stike z Avstrijo.

Avstrija je skupaj z omenjenim odborom organizirala seminar o trajnostnem razvoju na gorskih območjih, ki je potekal 9. maja 2007 v Buenos Airesu in 11. maja 2007 v andskem mestu San Juan. Na seminarju so bili predstavljeni primeri zagotavljanje finančne podpore malim in srednjim podjetjem na avstrijskih gorskih območjih.

6. in 7. julija 2007 je na italijanskem zunanjem ministrstvu v Rimu na pobudo čilskega veleposlaništva potekal seminar o podnebnih spremembah in ledenikih. Na seminarju so predstavniki vlad, univerz in znanstvenoraziskovalnih ustanov iz Argentine, Čila, Nemčije, Francije, Italije, Norveške, Švice in Združenega kraljestva skupaj s Stalnim sekretariatom oblikovali priporočila za raziskovanje in nadziranje ledenikov v Andih, Skandinaviji in Antarktiki.

Na povabilo argentinske vlade se je Stalni sekretariat udeležil srečanja Andske pobude, ki je potekalo od 5. do 7. septembra 2007 v kraju San Miguel de Tucumán, in ob tej priložnosti predstavil koncept Alpske konvencije za uveljavljanje trajnostnega razvoja. Cilj srečanja, na katerem je Stalni sekretariat v soglasju s Programom ZN za okolje (UNEP) zastopal tudi Karpatsko konvencijo, je bil oblikovanje izhodišč za sodelovanje z andsko regijo. Predstavniki pogodbenic Andske pobude so sprejeli deklaracijo (gl. prilogo 7), v kateri so Alpsko konvencijo prosili za sodelovanje in izmenjavo izkušenj na področjih delovanja, ki jih Andska pobuda opredeljuje kot prednostna. Ta področja zajemajo ohranjanje biotske raznovrstnosti in kulturne dediščine, podnebne spremembe in njihov vpliv na gorska območja ter presečne teme, kot so izobraževanje, enako obravnavanje obeh spolov, delovanje v omrežjih in udeležba v lokalnem javnem življenju. Zastopnica Andske pobude iz Argentine je na 36. seji Stalnega odbora v Bolzanu predložila prošnjo za sodelovanje. Ker ima Alpska konvencija na številnih od naštetih področij bogate izkušnje in ker sodelovanje obeta pozitivne učinke pri obravnavi številnih aktualnih tem v okviru globalne okoljske politične agende, je Stalni odbor na 36. seji zaprosil Stalni sekretariat, da Alpska konvencija izrazi Andski pobudi svojo pripravljenost za sodelovanje in izmenjavo izkušenj, kar je bilo s pismom potrjeno 20. novembra 2007.

S predlaganim načinom dela v tem trenutku še ni povezana razširitev prednostnih območij sodelovanja Alpske konvencije na Ande.

Avstrija je v okviru izmenjave izkušenj na področju naravnih nesreč v gorah podprla obisk argentinske strokovnjakinje, ki se je udeležila mednarodnega kongresa v Dornbirnu od 26. do 30. maja 2008, poleg tega pa je obiskala tudi projekte za urejanje hudournikov in sanacije plazov v Avstriji.

- **Gorsko partnerstvo**

Stalni sekretariat ima redne stike s sekretariatom Gorskega partnerstva (Mountain Partnership) pri FAO v Rimu. Tako je Stalni sekretariat za informacijski bilten Peak to Peak prispeval članek o podpisu Memoranduma o soglasju med Alpsko in Karpatsko konvencijo in

redno poročal o projektih, ki jih je Alpska konvencija izvajala v vlogi članice Gorskega partnerstva.

Stalni sekretariat je julija 2007 in septembra 2008 generalni skupščini Združenih narodov predložil poročilo o sodelovanju Alpske konvencije, pri tem pa obravnaval zlasti dejavnosti, ki jih je ta izvajala v okviru Gorskega partnerstva.

Italijansko zunanje ministrstvo in odbor Ev-K2-CNR sta v sodelovanju s sekretariatom Programa ZN za okolje (UNEP) na Dunaju v vlogi začasnega sekretariata Karpatske konvencije, EURAC iz Bolzana in skupino Prijatelji gora iz italijanskega parlamenta ob 15. zasedanju Komisije Združenih narodov za trajnostni razvoj (CDS) v New Yorku 9. maja 2007 organizirala tako imenovani spremljajoči dogodek, posvečen podnebnim spremembam in trajnostnemu razvoju v visokogorju in odročnejših območjih. Dogodek je v javnosti naletel na velik odziv.

Italija je poleg tega na sejmu Alpi 365, ki je potekal od 4. do 7. oktobra 2007 v Torinu, kot tudi na številnih drugih prireditvah, ki so sledile, širši javnosti predstavila gorska partnerstva v okviru Alpske konvencije in Gorskega partnerstva.

Navsezadnje je treba omeniti tudi redno finančno podporo, ki jo Avstrija namenja začasnemu sekretariatu Karpatske konvencije pri Evropski pisarni v okviru Programa ZN za okolje (UNEP) na Dunaju. Istočasno je pisarna tudi kontaktna točka gorskega partnerstva za Evropo.

- **Druge dejavnosti**

S posredovanjem CIPRE Nemčija je sodelavec s tadžikistanskega ministrstva za kmetijstvo in varstvo narave od 21. januarja do 26. februarja 2008 opravljal enomesečno prakso v Stalnem sekretariatu, kjer se je ukvarjal z vprašanji prenosa strokovnega znanja in izkušenj iz Alp v Pamir. Praksa je bila del programa usposabljanja za mednarodne vodilne kadre na področju trajnostnega regionalnega razvoja na gorskih območjih, ki ga je podjetje InWEnt organiziralo po naročilu nemškega Zveznega ministrstva za gospodarsko sodelovanje in razvoj. Stalni sekretariat je poleg tega 12. marca 2008 v Feldafingu pri Münchnu 25 udeleženkam in udeležencem tega programa usposabljanja predstavil dejavnosti Alpske konvencije v okviru gorskih partnerstev.

Na podlagi v tem poročilu predstavljenega raznovrstnega, deloma poglobljenega sodelovanja alpskih deležnikov z njihovimi partnerji Stalni sekretariat v predlogu svojega sklepa Alpski konferenci priporoča nadaljnji razvoj gorskih partnerstev na območjih sodelovanja Alpske konvencije.

B Predlog sklepa

Stalni odbor

1. se seznanj s poročilom Stalnega sekretariata in se z njim strinja,
2. prosi Stalni sekretariat, da do naslednje seje Stalnega odbora preveri možnosti in način nadaljnega sodelovanja s kavkaškimi gorskimi vasmi v trenutnih političnih razmerah ter mu predloži poročilo o rezultatih tega preverjanja,
3. priporoča Alpski konferenci, da sprejme naslednji sklep:

„Alpska konferenca

1. se je seznanila s poročilom Stalnega sekretariata in se z njim strinja,
2. pozdravlja nadaljnji razvoj gorskih partnerstev na območjih sodelovanja Alpske konvencije,
3. prosi pogodbenice in opazovalce, da še naprej in skladno s svojimi zmožnostmi v okviru skupnih dejavnosti in s posameznimi prispevki finančno in vsebinsko podprejo gorska partnerstva na območjih sodelovanja Alpske konvencije.“



alpenkonvention • convention alpine
convenzione delle alpi • alpska konvencija

Ständiger Ausschuss der Alpenkonferenz
Comité permanent de la Conférence alpine
Comitato Permanente della Conferenza delle Alpi
Stalni odbor Alpske konference

40

TOP / POJ / ODG / TDR

11

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OL: EN

ANLAGE/ANNEXE/ALLEGATO/PRILOGA

1



Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit, KI II 3, 11055 Berlin

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X. Alpenkonferenz
Bericht des Ständigen Ausschusses zu den Bergpartnerschaften
Nationaler Beitrag Deutschland

Protokoll 38. Ständiger Ausschuss/ TOP 17 Pkt.3.
Aktenzeichen: KI II 3 - 45070 - 2 /5
Berlin, 16.01.2009
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**Bericht über den Beitrag Deutschlands zu den Bergpartnerschaften
der Alpenkonvention im Zeitraum zwischen der IX. und X. Alpen-
konferenz (11/2006 bis 03/2009)**

1. Hintergrund

Die "Internationale Partnerschaft für nachhaltige Entwicklung in Bergregionen" (International Mountain Partnership) wurde im Rahmen des Weltgipfels für nachhaltige Entwicklung in Johannesburg vereinbart und auf dem "Global Mountain Summit" zum Abschluss des internationalen UN-Jahres der Berge 2002 in Bischkek, Kirgisistan, weiterentwickelt. Die Vertragsstaaten der Alpenkonvention haben auf der VII. Alpenkonferenz 2002 beschlossen, die Erfahrungen aus dem Alpenprozess in die "Internationale Partnerschaft für nachhaltige Entwicklung in Bergregionen" einzubringen und für die Zusammenarbeit vorrangig die Bergregionen Karpaten, Kaukasus, Zentralasien (Pamir, Tienschan) benannt. Die VIII. Alpenkonferenz unter deutschen Vorsitz hat dies im November 2004 bekräftigt und die Fortentwicklung der Bergpartnerschaften als einen langfristigen Schwerpunkt in das Mehrjährige Arbeitsprogramm der Alpenkonferenz (MAP) 2005 bis 2010 aufgenommen. Die IX. Alpenkonferenz (2006) hat die Kooperationsgebiete der Alpenkonvention auf das Balkengebirge ausgedehnt und eine besonders inten-





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sive Zusammenarbeit mit der Karpatenkonvention beschlossen. Die Karpatenkonvention und das Netzwerk der Schutzgebiete der Karpaten bauen auf den Erfahrungen des Alpenprozesses auf. Auch mit den politisch sensiblen Bergregionen Kaukasus und Zentralasien wurde die Fortsetzung der Zusammenarbeit in gemeinsamen Projekten beschlossen.

In diesem Rahmen fördern die Vertragsstaaten, Netzwerke und Nichtregierungsorganisationen der Alpenregion seit 2003 konkrete Projekte in den Partnerschafts-Bergregionen. Die Projekte der Bergpartnerschaften werden sowohl als gemeinsame Aktivitäten der Vertragsstaaten und Beobachter als auch durch nationale Beiträge einzelner Vertragsstaaten oder Beobachter gefördert.

Die gemeinsamen Aktivitäten sind vorrangig auf die nachhaltige Entwicklung der Bergregionen unter Berücksichtigung der konkreten Bedingungen in der jeweiligen Bergregion gerichtet. Die Alpenkonvention konzentriert sich hierbei auf die Förderung der grenzübergreifenden Zusammenarbeit und die Einbindung der lokalen Bevölkerung der Bergdörfer. Auf der Grundlage der langjährigen erfolgreichen Kooperation in der Alpenregion können den Partnerschaftsregionen insbesondere Erfahrungen zum Aufbau grenzübergreifender Netzwerke wie dem Gemeindefeldnetzwerk „Allianz in den Alpen“ und dem Netzwerk „Alpiner Schutzgebiete“ zur Verfügung gestellt werden.

2. Deutsche Aktivitäten im Rahmen der Internationalen Bergpartnerschaft der Alpenkonvention

In Übereinstimmung mit den Beschlüssen der VIII. und IX. Alpenkonferenz hat sich Deutschland im Zeitraum 2007/2008 darauf konzentriert die bestehenden Partnerschaften mit den Bergregionen Karpaten, Kaukasus und Zentralasien kontinuierlich weiterzuentwickeln und damit nachhaltig zu gestalten. Die deutsche Unterstützung ist dabei auf die Schaffung grenzübergreifender Netzwerke nach den Modellen der Alpenregion gerichtet. Im Berichtszeitraum hat Deutschland die Bergpartnerschaftsaktivitäten der Alpenkonvention mit **insgesamt 339.000 Euro** gefördert.

Bergpartnerschaft mit den Karpaten

In der Karpatenkonvention ist die Einrichtung eines Netzwerks der Schutzgebiete (CNPA) als offizielle zwischenstaatliche Implementierungsinitiative der Konvention ausdrücklich geregelt (Artikel 4).





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Die Aktivitäten der Karpatenstaaten zur Gründung dieses Netzwerks ihrer Schutzgebiete wurde 2007/2008 gemeinsam von Deutschland, Frankreich, Monaco und der deutschen Heidehof-Stiftung unterstützt. Deutschland hat diese gemeinsamen Projekte 2007/2008 mit 32.000 Euro gefördert. Im Rahmen dieser Projekte wurden für das Netzwerk der Karpatenschutzgebiete die Kommunikationsinstrumente (CNPA-Website, Informationsbroschüre und Pressematerialien) entwickelt, sowie die Strategiedokumente für das CNPA und die erste CNPA Konferenz vorbereitet.

Eine Förderung ist im Rahmen der Internationalen Bergpartnerschaften der Alpenkonferenz auch für 2009/2010 vorgesehen. Das bereits bewilligte Projekt 2009 befasst sich mit dem Thema „Große Beutegreifer – Strategien der Schutzgebiete zu Management, Forschung und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit“. Das Thema ist für beide Bergregionen sehr aktuell; die Alpenkonferenz bereitet die Einrichtung einer alpenweiten Plattform zum Thema „Große Beutegreifer“ vor. Die Förderung erfolgt gemeinsam durch Deutschland, Liechtenstein, Monaco und die Heidehofstiftung (Deutschland). BMU beteiligt sich mit 15.000 Euro.

In diesem Zusammenhang begleitet das Netzwerk Alpiner Schutzgebiete das Kooperationsprojekt Alpen - Karpaten. Eine langfristige Zusammenarbeit zwischen den Alpen und den Karpaten ist notwendig, um die Möglichkeit ökologischer Korridore für Artenwanderungen und genetischen Austausch zu schaffen sowie Know-how und Erfahrungen zwischen den Schutzgebieten der beiden europäischen Gebirge austauschen zu können.

Die Schutzgebiete in den Alpen und Karpaten leisten damit einen signifikanten Beitrag zu einem globalen Schutzgebietsnetzwerk im Sinne des Übereinkommens der Vereinten Nationen über die biologische Vielfalt (CBD). Am Rande der 9. Vertragsstaatenkonferenz der CBD im Mai 2008 in Bonn wurde hierzu durch hochrangige Vertreter der Vorsitz führenden Staaten der drei Konventionen und ihre Generalsekretäre ein Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) zwischen der Alpen- und Karpatenkonvention und der CBD unterzeichnet. Das Side Event wurde durch Deutschland organisiert und mit einem Beitrag von 10.000 Euro finanziert.

Am 4. Dezember 2008 fand im Bundesumweltministerium ein Treffen des Parlamentarischen Staatssekretärs, Michael Müller mit den Präsidenten der Internationalen Lenkungsausschüsse des Netzwerks Alpiner Schutzgebiete (ALPARC), Dr. Michael Vogel und des Netzwerks der Karpatenschutzgebiete (CNPA), Mircea Verghelet (Ministerium für





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Forst, Rumänien) statt. An dem Gespräch nahmen auch der Direktor der Task Force Schutzgebiete des Ständigen Sekretariats der Alpenkonvention, Dr. Guido Plassmann, und der Zuständige für Feuchtgebiete des CNPA, Dr. Jan Kadlecik (Slowakisches Umweltministerium), teil.

Das Treffen diente dazu, Bilanz über die bisherige erfolgreiche Kooperation der Schutzgebiete der beiden größten europäischen Bergregionen zu ziehen und Prioritäten für die weitere Zusammenarbeit zu vereinbaren. Der Parlamentarische Staatssekretär, Michael Müller, würdigte die Internationale Bergpartnerschaft zwischen den Bergregionen Alpen und Karpaten und hob hervor, dass mit dem Aufbau eines Netzwerks der Schutzgebiete der Karpaten nach dem Vorbild des Alpiner Netzwerks, ganz konkrete Erfahrungen aus dem Alpenraum zur Verfügung gestellt werden können, die sich hier bereits langjährig bewährt haben. Gleichzeitig werden Alpen- und Karpatenkonvention direkt umgesetzt.

Diese Zusammenarbeit leistet einen aktiven Beitrag zum Erhalt der Biodiversität und zur Schaffung eines ökologischen Verbundes insbesondere in den sensiblen Bergregionen Alpen und Karpaten.

Bewertung

Die Zusammenarbeit zwischen den Netzwerken der Karpaten- und Alpiner Netzwerke hat zur Strukturierung des räumlichen Naturschutzes in den Karpaten geführt; bisher bestand hier in den Karpaten keine internationale Kooperation. Wichtige Themen wie – Waldmanagement, Management Großer Beutegreifer, Tourismus in Schutzgebieten - werden nun gemeinsam angegangen. Durch die Kooperation der beiden größten europäischen Bergmassive Alpen-Karpaten werden diese Themen nun auch europaweit betrachtet (insbesondere NATURA 2000, Große Beutegreifer).

Aus deutscher Sicht wird eine weitere Förderung der Kooperation des Netzwerks der Karpaten- und alpinen Schutzgebiete, insbesondere vor dem Hintergrund des signifikanten Beitrags zum globalen Schutzgebietsnetz im Sinne der CBD, empfohlen.

Bergpartnerschaft mit Zentralasien

Im Rahmen der Bergpartnerschaft Alpen - Zentralasien (Tienschan / Pamir) wird unter Berücksichtigung der konkreten Bedingungen der zentralasiatischen Bergregion ein Gemeindefeldnetzwerk nach dem Modell des Gemeindefeldnetzwerkes „Allianz in den Alpen“ aufgebaut. Dabei werden die für nachhaltige Entwicklung vor Ort prioritären Themen – nachhaltiges Wirtschaften, Regionalwirtschaft, Ressourcenschonung, Selbsthilfe,





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Landwirtschaft, Wasser, Umweltschutz, Naturschutz, Energie, Wald und Klima - berücksichtigt.

Das komplexe Projekt wird vor Ort im Rahmen des Zentralasiatischen Bergprogramms (CAMP) der Schweiz durchgeführt. Das Programm arbeitet seit 2000 im Berggebiet von Kirgisistan, Tadschikistan und Kasachstan und wird von der Schweiz finanziert.

Das BMU beteiligt sich seit 2003 an der Förderung der zentralasiatischen Bergdorfallianz (AGOZA). Die Beteiligung im Rahmen des Bergprogramms CAMP der Schweiz ermöglicht eine effektive Projektförderung, da die funktionierenden Projektstrukturen des Schweizer Programms zur Verfügung stehen und die Gesamtfinanzierung durch die beträchtlichen Mittel der Schweiz über einen Zeitraum von 8 Jahren gesichert ist.

Weitere Partner aus der Alpenregion sind u.a. das Fürstentum Liechtenstein, die Internationale Alpenschutzkommission CIPRA und das Gemeinденetzwerk „Allianz in den Alpen“.

Deutschland hat 2007 und 2008 die Generalversammlung der Zentralasiatischen Bergdorfallianz AGOCA sowie das jährliche Forum für nachhaltige Entwicklung in Bergregionen Zentralasiens mit 50.000 Euro gefördert. Mit einem Beitrag von 6.000 Euro hat sich Deutschland an dem gemeinsamen Projekt der Alpenstaaten zur Förderung von AGOCA in 2008 beteiligt.

Aus der Internationalen Klimaschutzinitiative Deutschlands (Erlöse aus dem Emissionshandel) wird AGOCA von Deutschland 2008/2009 mit einem Förderbeitrag von 106.000 Euro bei der Umsetzung von Maßnahmen zur Energieeffizienz in den Bergdörfern der Allianz unterstützt. Liechtenstein hat sich der Förderung dieses Programms zur Energieeffizienz mit einem Budget von 50.000 Euro angeschlossen.

Bewertung

Aus deutscher Sicht gehört der Aufbau der Zentralasiatischen Bergdorfallianz zu den erfolgreichsten Ergebnissen der Bergpartnerschaftsinitiative. Die positiven Erfahrungen des Alpenen Gemeinденetzwerks werden hier erfolgreich angewandt und an die politischen und administrativen Bedingungen und Möglichkeiten Zentralasiens angepasst. Im Ergebnis arbeiten bisher fast 50 Gemeinden der drei Staaten grenzübergreifend zusammen. Das Netzwerk unterstützt die nachhaltige Entwicklung der Dörfer u.a. durch Ausbildung und Training, institutionelle Entwicklung, Verbreitung von Maßnahmen zur Energieeffizienz, Boden- und Wasserbewirtschaftung, nachhaltige Ressourcenbewirtschaftung, Schaffung von Einkommen für die Dörfer, Vergabe von Kleinkrediten.

AGOCA arbeitet selbständig, hat eine Zusammenarbeit mit den staatlichen Strukturen der drei Staaten aufgebaut und wirbt erfolgreich Mittel





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aus nationalen und internationalen Finanzquellen ein, die das Überleben dieser grenzübergreifenden Kooperation auf lokaler Ebene ermöglicht.

Aus deutscher Sicht wird eine weitere Förderung der Zentralasiatischen Bergdorfallianz durch die Alpenkonvention empfohlen.

Bergpartnerschaft mit dem Kaukasus

Deutschland fördert seit 2003 gemeinsam mit Liechtenstein das Projekt „Nachhaltige Entwicklung der Bergregionen des Kaukasus – lokale Agenda 21“. Im Rahmen des Projektes wurde für acht Dörfer der Kaukasusstaaten Russland, Georgien, Armenien und Aserbaidshan ein Entwicklungsprogramm nach dem Muster der Lokalen Agenda 21 erarbeitet und parallel die Zusammenarbeit dieser Dörfer als Kern eines grenzübergreifenden Gemeindeforschungsnetzwerks im Kaukasus begonnen. In 2006 wurde die Gründung eines Kaukasischen Gemeindeforschungsnetzwerks vereinbart.

Deutschland hat diese Aktivitäten 2007/2008 mit 120.000 Euro gefördert. Durch Ausbruch des Krieges zwischen Russland und Georgien im August 2008 musste das Projekt unterbrochen werden. Gegenwärtig wird geprüft, ob und wie eine grenzübergreifende Zusammenarbeit der Berggemeinden unter den gegenwärtigen politischen Bedingungen im Kaukasus fortgesetzt werden kann. Eine Entscheidung wird im ersten Halbjahr 2009 getroffen.

Bewertung

Die Förderung einer grenzübergreifenden Kooperation im Kaukasus im Bereich Nachhaltige Entwicklung der Berggebiete wird als ein Beitrag im Kontext Umwelt und Sicherheit gesehen. Vor dem Hintergrund der komplizierten politischen Verhältnisse zwischen den Kaukasusstaaten (Armenien/Aserbaidshan; Russland/Georgien, Armenien/Türkei), die eine Zusammenarbeit auf staatlicher Ebene weitestgehend ausschließt, wurde der Weg der lokalen Kooperation der Bergdörfer mit Billigung der Staaten beschritten.

Nach dem Krieg 2008 hat sich die Situation soweit verschärft, dass dieses Konzept angepasst werden muss. Wir gehen aber weiterhin davon aus, dass durch lokale grenzübergreifende Kooperation ein Beitrag zur Annäherung der Kaukasusstaaten geleistet werden kann.

Über die Fortsetzung der Förderung des Aufbaus eines grenzübergreifenden Gemeindeforschungsnetzwerks im Kaukasus durch die Bergpartnerschaft der Alpenkonvention sollte Mitte 2009 entschieden werden.

Silvia Reppe



Information für das ständige Sekretariat der Alpenkonvention bezüglich der
österreichischen Aktivitäten im Bereich „*mountain partnerships*“
(Zeitraum: November 2006-Februar 2009)

Regional Office for Europe, Wiener Büro

Das Büro in Wien des *UNEP Regional Office for Europe* wird im Wesentlichen von Österreich finanziert. Dieses Büro fungiert als das europäische *focal point* für das „*mountain partnership*“.

Zusammenarbeit mit der „*Iniciativa Andina*“

Die „*Iniciativa Andina*“ wurde im Jahr 2004 in Cuzco ins Leben gerufen und stellt einen internationalen umweltpolitischen Prozess dar, welcher die Nachhaltigkeit in den Anden fördern soll. Die drei Schwerpunkte der *Iniciativa Andina* sind: 1) Nachhaltigkeit im Gebirge; 2) Naturschutz und Schutz des kulturellen Erbes; 3) Stärkung der Institutionen. Diese lateinamerikanische Initiative, die sich in der Entstehungsphase befindet, stellt einen ähnlichen umweltpolitischen Prozess wie die *Alpenkonvention* dar. In jedem der Mitgliedsstaaten der *Iniciativa* wird gerade eine institutionelle Basis für die Förderung der Nachhaltigkeit im Gebirge geschaffen: *Nationales Komitee zum Schutz der Berge*.

Unser Ansprechpartner in der *Iniciativa Andina* ist das argentinische Bergkomitee (*Comité para el Desarrollo Sustentable de las Regiones de Montaña de la República Argentina*). Das Lebensministerium (Abt. V/9) organisierte zusammen mit diesem Komitee ein Seminar zum Thema *Nachhaltigkeit im Gebirge*, welches am 9. Mai 2007 in Buenos Aires und am 11. Mai in der Andenstadt San Juan stattfand. Unter anderem wurden im Rahmen dieses Seminars Beispiele für österreichische Initiativen, welche Klein- und Mittelbetriebe in Gebirgsgebieten fördern, präsentiert.

Weiters nahm auf Initiative der Abt. V/9 der Generalsekretär der Alpenkonvention, Herr Dr. Marco Onida, am ersten Treffen der *Iniciativa Andina* in Tucumán (Argentinien) im September 2007 teil.

Im Oktober 2007 konnte eine Kollegin des argentinischen Bergkomitees (Frau Mag. María Lidia Testani) mit finanzieller Unterstützung der Abteilung V/9 am 36. *Ständigen Ausschuss der Alpenkonvention* in Bozen teilnehmen bzw. dort diese lateinamerikanische Initiative vorstellen.

Die Abteilung V/9 unterstützte auch den Besuch einer argentinischen Expertin (Dr. Mónica Gabay, *Secretaria de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable*) in Österreich (Mai/Juni 2008) zum Erfahrungsaustausch u.a. zum Thema Naturgefahren im Gebirge. Die Expertin nahm auch an der internationalen Konferenz über Naturgefahren Interprävent 2008 in Dornbirn (Vorarlberg) teil. Nach der Konferenz konnte Frau Dr. Gabay Projekte des österreichischen Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauungsdienstes im Rahmen einer Exkursion besichtigen.



AMT FÜR WALD, NATUR UND LANDSCHAFT
FÜRSTENTUM LIECHTENSTEIN

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Ihr Schreiben
38.Ständiger
Ausschuss
TOP 17 /3

Aktenzeichen
9087

Sachbearbeitung
FN/fl

Vaduz
26. Januar 2009

X. Alpenkonferenz

Bericht des Ständigen Ausschusses zu den Bergpartnerschaften

Beitrag Liechtensteins zu den Bergpartnerschaften der Alpenkonvention in den Jahren 2007/08

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren

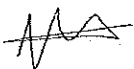
Die von der Alpenkonferenz der Umweltminister beschlossene Partnerschaftsinitiative mit Gebirgsregionen im Balkan, in den Karpaten, im Kaukasus und in Zentralasien bildet für das Ministerium für Umwelt und Raum, Land- und Waldwirtschaft den Rahmen für die grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit. Dabei geben die Leitlinien, für welche die „Internationale Partnerschaft für nachhaltige Entwicklung in Bergregionen“ (International Mountain Partnership) eintritt, die Handlungsfelder vor: Gemeinsame Aktivitäten der Vertragsstaaten in den Bereichen „Governance“ und „Capacity Building“ oder zur Förderung der grenzüberschreitenden Zusammenarbeit werden ebenso unterstützt wie bilaterale und multilaterale Projekte zur Förderung einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung in Berggebieten. Die Zusammenarbeit mit lokalen und regionalen Regierungs- und Nichtregierungsorganisationen und der Aufbau oder die Stärkung von Netzwerken vor Ort bilden dabei einen tragenden Pfeiler der Zusammenarbeit.

In den Jahren 2007 und 2008 hat Liechtenstein mit einer Gesamtsumme von **CHF 620'000** Bergpartnerschaftsaktivitäten gefördert. Beispielhaft sollen folgende Projekte angeführt werden:

- Projekte zur Verbesserung der Energieeffizienz in Zentralasien; Partner: Zentralasiatische Bergdorfallianz (AGOCA) und Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit, Deutschland.
- Institutionelle Stärkung der zentralasiatischen Bergdorfallianz (AGOCA) zusammen mit CIPRA, dem Gemeindeforschungsnetzwerk „Allianz in den Alpen“ und dem Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit, Deutschland.
- Unterstützung eines Nachdiplom-Studiums im Bereich Natur- und Landschaftsschutz; Partner: Ministerium für Naturschutz, Turkmenistan und Institut für Botanik und Landschaftsökologie, Greifswald.
- Zusammen mit der UNO-Umweltorganisation UNEP richtete Liechtenstein in Vaduz für die sieben Kaukasus-Anrainerstaaten eine Ministerkonferenz aus mit dem Ziel, die Zusammenarbeit im Umweltbereich zu stärken und langfristig eine institutionelle Zusammenarbeit einzuleiten.
- Mit Partnern aus den Vertragsstaaten der Alpenkonvention unterstützte Liechtenstein Aktivitäten des Netzwerks Alpiner Schutzgebiete in den Karpaten.
- Seit dem Jahr 2002 unterstützen Liechtenstein und das Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit, Deutschland, das Projekt „Nachhaltige Entwicklung von Bergregionen im Kaukasus – Lokale Agenda 21“ in den vier Kaukasusländern Armenien, Aserbaidschan, Georgien und Russische Föderation. Insbesondere im vergangenen Jahr leistete Liechtenstein massgebliche Beiträge zur Erhaltung und Stärkung des Regionalen Umweltzentrums (REC Caucasus) für die Länder Armenien, Aserbaidschan und Georgien.

Als Ergebnis eines in 8 Pilotdörfern durchgeführten partizipativen Prozesses standen seitens Liechtenstein in den vier Kaukasusländern mit den Partnern REC Caucasus und REC Russia dreizehn Kleinprojekte zur Umsetzung an. Mittel dazu steuerten bei das Land Liechtenstein, die Medicor Foundation, Liechtenstein und die VP Bank Stiftung Liechtenstein. Projekte umfassten beispielsweise den Bau einer Grund- und Hauptschule, einer Dorfwasserversorgung, eines Zentrums für die medizinische Grundversorgung, einer Almhütte, im weiteren die Anlage eines Weinberges zwecks Wiederaufbau der Weinbautradition oder die Einrichtung eines Zentrums zur Honigverwertung. Im sozio-kulturellen Bereich wurden gefördert die Errichtung eines zentralen Dorfplatzes als Begegnungsstätte, ein Jugendzentrum und ein Kulturzentrum.

Freundliche Grüsse



Dr. Felix Näscher



RAPPORTO SULLE ATTIVITÀ DELL'ITALIA NELL'AMBITO DEI PARTENARIATI MONTANI INTERNAZIONALI

novembre 2006 – marzo 2009

L'Italia si è da sempre impegnata a sostegno della promozione e dello sviluppo di partenariati montani internazionali nello spirito della condivisione delle esperienze maturate nell'ambito della Convenzione delle Alpi. In risposta alla richiesta del Segretariato permanente rivolta a tutte le Parti Contraenti segue un breve rapporto delle principali iniziative sostenute dall'Italia nel corso dell'ultimo biennio.

COP 2 della Convenzione dei Carpazi

L'Italia, assieme all'Austria e alla Presidenza e al Segretariato della Convenzione delle Alpi, ha partecipato quale osservatore alla seconda Conferenza delle Parti della Convenzione dei Carpazi, tenutasi a Bucarest dal 17 al 19 giugno 2008. Nel corso della COP è stato firmato il Protocollo Biodiversità, primo protocollo della Convenzione, ed è stata adottata una Dichiarazione Ministeriale in cui si dà ampio risalto all'importanza della partnership tra la Convenzione delle Alpi e quella dei Carpazi.

Progetto Umbrella: manuale e bilanci nazionali della Convenzione dei Carpazi

Nell'ambito del progetto Umbrella sostenuto e finanziato dal Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano è stato finalizzato, con il sostegno scientifico del REC e dell'EURAC e il coordinamento del Segretariato ad interim della Convenzione dei Carpazi gestito dall'UNEP di Vienna, un manuale (*handbook*) e un bilancio nazionale (*national assessment*) per ciascuno delle sette Parti Contraenti la Convenzione dei Carpazi, disponibile non solo nella lingua nazionale, ma anche in lingua inglese. Il manuale ha lo scopo di analizzare gli aspetti contenutistici e istituzionali della Convenzione dei Carpazi, fornendo dei casi esemplificativi di ciascun elemento, mentre i bilanci nazionali rappresentano dei rapporti approfonditi sul quadro legislativo e istituzionale di ciascuno Stato carpatico. Entrambe le pubblicazioni sono state ampiamente disseminate tra gli attori interessati.

Progetto CADSES Carpathian Project

Sin dalle fasi iniziali il Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano ha seguito con interesse lo sviluppo del progetto INTERREG III B CADSES Carpathian Project a sostegno della ricerca scientifica per la tutela ambientale e lo sviluppo sostenibile del territorio dei Carpazi e dello sviluppo delle istituzioni della Convenzione dei Carpazi.

Nell'ambito del Carpathian Project sono stati raccolti numerosi dati e create banche dati, nuove mappe, strumenti internet; sono stati poi forniti elementi scientifici e istituzionali per il lancio di gruppi di lavoro tecnici per la redazione di futuri protocolli alla Convenzione dei Carpazi; sono stati infine sostenuti numerosi progetti pilota e sono state portate avanti alcune iniziative nell'ambito dell'informazione e dell'educazione alla protezione e allo sviluppo sostenibile delle aree montane nei Carpazi. Il Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano ha sostenuto in particolare la realizzazione di una raccolta di documenti sulla Convenzione dei Carpazi, nello spirito della *collectio* già pubblicata nell'ambito della Convenzione delle Alpi, che è stata ampiamente distribuita e di cui si è subito resa necessaria una seconda edizione.

Il Carpathian Project si è concluso lo scorso ottobre e il Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano, che ha mantenuto lo status di osservatore del progetto, segue con attenzione lo sviluppo di nuove proposte progettuali che perseguono i fini già del Carpathian Project in programmi quali INTERREG IVC, CENTRAL e SEES.

Progetto ECONNECT: miglioramento della connettività ecologica dalle Alpi ai Carpazi

Il Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano figura tra i partner principali del progetto ETC Spazio alpino ECONNECT sul miglioramento della connettività ecologica nelle Alpi, in particolare per quanto riguarda l'analisi delle barriere giuridiche e l'implementazione dei risultati del progetto in alcune aree pilota. In tale veste il Ministero si farà promotore del coinvolgimento dell'UNEP in qualità di Segretariato ad interim della Convenzione dei Carpazi per la diffusione dei risultati di questo importante progetto anche nei Carpazi e per garantire al progetto un'ottimale continuità nelle altre aree montane e con le istituzioni europee e internazionali.

Conferenza "Environment for Europe" e side event di Belgrado

Come menzionato alla riunione di Lanslebourg, il 10-12 ottobre 2007 si è tenuta a Belgrado la 6ª Conferenza "Environment for Europe". I partecipanti hanno insistito sull'importanza del processo di elaborazione di una convenzione per la protezione e lo sviluppo sostenibile delle aree montane dell'Europa sud-orientale (Balcani), tra cui lo stesso presidente della Serbia Boris Tadic nel suo discorso di apertura dei lavori; si tratta di un processo che l'Italia ha sostenuto sin dalle prime fasi, per esempio ospitando a Bolzano due riunioni preparatorie dei

rappresentanti e degli esperti degli Stati dell'Europa sud-orientale, una a dicembre 2005 e l'altra a novembre 2006.

Nel corso della conferenza, il 10 ottobre è stato organizzato un side event su "Strengthening mountain partnerships through legal agreements: challenges and opportunities in Europe". Il side event è stato organizzato dall'UNEP Vienna ISCC nello stand di UNEP, UNDP e EEA. Il side event è stato patrocinato, tra gli altri, dal Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano. Al side event hanno partecipato anche la Presidenza francese e il Segretariato permanente della Convenzione delle Alpi, nonché alcuni delegati degli Stati parte e numerosi attori interessati. Nel corso del side event è stato lanciato il Carpathian Environmental Outlook (KEO) dal Direttore Generale dell'UNEP Achim Steiner.

Side event di New York alla CSD

Come annunciato alla riunione del Comitato permanente della Convenzione delle Alpi di Lanslebourg, il 9 maggio 2007 presso il quartier generale delle Nazioni Unite di New York si è tenuto il side event alla 15ª sessione della CSD (Commissione Sviluppo Sostenibile) su "Climate Change and Sustainable Development in High Altitude and Remote Areas". Il side event è stato organizzato dalla Direzione Generale Cooperazione allo Sviluppo del Ministero degli Affari Esteri italiano, dal Comitato Ev-K2-CNR, in collaborazione con l'UNEP Vienna ISCC, l'EURAC di Bolzano e dal gruppo "Amici delle Montagne" del Parlamento italiano, e ha ricevuto il sostegno istituzionale del Ministero degli Affari Esteri e del Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano. Il side event, a cui hanno partecipato un centinaio di persone tra cui molte di rango ministeriale, si è soffermato in particolare sulla rilevanza delle aree montane e su esempi himalayani, alpini e carpatici ed è stato un successo in termini di spessore partecipativo e scientifico.

In seguito a contatti instaurati nel corso del side event di New York, la Direzione Generale Cooperazione allo Sviluppo del Ministero degli Affari Esteri italiano ha poi ospitato a Roma una riunione tra il Segretariato permanente della Convenzione delle Alpi e il Cile per condividere le esperienze della Convenzione delle Alpi in ambito andino.

Stand ed eventi alla biennale Alpi 365 di Torino

Il 4-7 ottobre 2007 si è tenuta a Torino la prima biennale Alpi 365, una fiera dove si sono ritrovati numerosi attori nazionali e internazionali coinvolti nella tutela dell'ambiente e nello sviluppo sostenibile del territorio alpino. Il Ministero dell'Ambiente italiano è stato presente con uno stand, nel quale sono state presentate, tra le altre, le varie attività nell'ambito della Convenzione delle Alpi, e ha ospitato quello del Segretariato permanente. La Direzione Generale Ricerca Ambiente Sviluppo del Ministero dell'Ambiente ha poi organizzato una serie di eventi tematici sui partenariati montani internazionali, sul progetto INTERREG

LexAlp e sugli strumenti giuridici per la cooperazione transfrontaliera. Per quanto riguarda l'evento sui partenariati montani sono stati invitati in particolare l'UNEP Vienna ISCC, il Segretariato della Mountain Partnership e il Comitato Ev-K2-CNR e sono stati affrontati i temi della condivisione di esperienze tra le regioni alpine e carpatiche con le altre regioni montane in Europa e nel mondo e della Mountain Partnership.



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First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

CARPATHIAN DECLARATION

We, the Ministers and High Representatives of the seven Parties and Signatories to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (hereafter Carpathian Convention), the Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Serbia, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine, gathering in Kyiv on 13 December 2006, for the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention;

Reaffirming the commitment to implement the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable development;

Recalling the UN General Assembly resolutions proclaiming and celebrating the International Year of Mountains in 2002 drawing attention of governments, organisations and individuals to the particular role mountains play for biodiversity, wildlife and cultural heritage preservation, water and energy supply, providing benefits for a significant proportion of humanity, in both mountain and lowland areas;

Appreciating the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (“Mountain Partnership”) as an important platform for cooperation and experience-sharing between mountain regions of the world;

Underlining that the Carpathian Convention is an important instrument to enhance the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathian region, based on its exceptional natural and cultural heritage.

Have expressed the following:

Achievements

We express our satisfaction with the entry into force of the Carpathian Convention on 4 January 2006 and *underline* our commitment to faithfully implement the Carpathian Convention;

We note with satisfaction that the Carpathian Convention unites seven Carpathian countries in a unique partnership, providing a transnational framework for cooperation and multisectoral policy integration, an open forum for participation by stakeholders and the public, and a platform for developing and implementing transnational strategies, programmes and projects for protection and sustainable development;

We recognize the important political support provided by the European Community and its Member States to the implementation of the Carpathian Convention through the EU INTERREG III B CADSES “Carpathian Project”. *We furthermore appreciate* the contribution of the other organizations and institutions to the implementation of the Carpathian Convention as reflected in the section on Cooperation and Partnerships;

We appreciate the activities of the interim Secretariat provided by UNEP in Vienna in preparation of COP 1, and *welcome* its activities in the development and leading of the Carpathian Project;

We underline the importance of the Carpathian Convention as an instrument to enhance the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathian region, based on its exceptional natural and cultural heritage of global importance.

Challenges

We are aware that the Carpathian region represents a unique and dynamic living environment, ecologically valuable and rich of cultural heritage, having enormous ecological and economic potential, but currently facing rapid environmental, social and political changes;

We note with concern that unbalanced and spontaneous development patterns in the Carpathian region can lead to loss of traditional knowledge and values, livelihoods, and local practices;

We emphasize that more environmentally-friendly practices and technologies will need to be implemented, along with appropriate policies to support the development of sustainable transport, organic farming, energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, sustainable forest management and sustainable tourism, creating new jobs in these sectors. Regional policy coherence and consistency between national policies are among the major prerequisites to achieve sustainability in the Carpathians;

We are aware that the challenge is to preserve and valorise the region’s potential, specificity and uniqueness, while increasing its sustainability. This will require responsible actions, taking into account global, regional and trans-boundary contexts and linkages, in order to enhance both the Carpathian environment and human livelihoods;

We underline that the process of enlargement of the European Union provides the opportunity to strengthen the environmental protection and sustainable development in the Carpathian region, through the application and implementation of EU policies, programmes and legislation.

Cooperation and Partnerships

We recall with appreciation that the Alpine States have actively supported the development of the Carpathian Convention, and *welcome* the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding for the cooperation between the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention;

We express our gratitude to the Government of Austria for its support to the Carpathian Convention, notably by continuing to host and co-finance the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention on an interim basis;

We appreciate the continued support of the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, and the efficient cooperation and partnership with UNEP, the European Academy EURAC in Bolzano, Italy, and the Regional Environmental Centre (REC);

We appreciate the successful cooperation with the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation), which resulted in the assessments of the SARD-M (sustainable agriculture and rural development in mountains);

We note with appreciation the contribution of the Carpathian Environmental Outlook (KEO), to develop a holistic, integrated and strategic environmental assessment of key issues in the Carpathian region for the implementation of the Carpathian Convention;

We appreciate the efforts of the Visegrad Group countries (the Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic) to foster the dialogue with the European Commission;

We encourage full participation and involvement of the Carpathian communities in decision-making and implementation of relevant development policies, in accordance with the Aarhus principles;

We note that the experiences of cooperation of the “Alpine Space” reveal the need for long-lasting commitment and structural support by the European Union, to fully benefit of the considerable potential of the mountains for regional development;

We express our conviction that cooperation with and support from the European Community and its Member States will be crucial to the development of the “Carpathian Space”, as an area of economic, social and environmental progress and sustainability in the heart of Europe, building on the region’s advantages and potentials, and addressing the challenges of mountain regions in an innovative and coordinated manner;

We invite the European Community to accede to the Carpathian Convention and *also invite* the European Community and its Member States to join the transnational platform of the Carpathian countries, and to continue to support the protection and sustainable development of the “Carpathian Space” through relevant instruments and programmes.

Done in Kyiv, Ukraine, 13 December 2006



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3

Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

We, the Ministers and other Heads of Delegations responsible for environment of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Serbia, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine, attending the high-level segment of the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (hereafter Carpathian Convention), held in Bucharest, Romania on 19 June 2008;

Recalling Resolution 62/196 of the General Assembly of the United Nations of 30 November 2007, which “notes with appreciation the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, adopted and signed by the seven countries of the region to provide a framework for cooperation and multisectoral policy coordination, a platform for joint strategies for sustainable development and a forum for dialogue between all involved stakeholders”;

Recalling also the Ministerial Declaration of the Belgrade Conference held in October 2007, which welcomed “the mountain partnerships within and between the Alps, the Carpathians, the South-Eastern European mountain region, the Caucasus and the mountain regions of Central Asia”, recognized “the benefits from the existing legally binding instruments for the protection and sustainable development of the mountain regions like the Alpine and the Carpathian Convention”, welcomed “the initiative of South-Eastern European and Caucasian countries to develop such instruments”, and encouraged the Mountain Partnership “to promote and foster exchanges of experience and expertise with other mountain regions in the world”;

Reaffirming the commitments made in the Carpathian Declaration and the decisions adopted at the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties on 13 December 2006, in Kyiv, Ukraine;

Have declared the following:

We express our satisfaction with the ratification of the Carpathian Convention by all its seven Signatories;

We welcome the progress achieved in the implementation of the Carpathian Convention;

We take note of the important role of the Carpathian Convention as a coherent framework for transnational and cross-sectoral cooperation for the implementation of activities through out the Carpathian region;

We acknowledge the role and contribution of the Carpathian Convention in the implementation of the relevant global and regional programmes;

We stress the importance of participation and further involvement of the regional and local authorities as well as other stakeholders in the implementation of the Carpathian Convention;

We highly welcome the adoption of the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity to the Carpathian Convention (hereinafter as the Biodiversity Protocol) and *call for* its ratification;

We look forward to developing the Strategic Action Plan as an implementation tool for the Biodiversity Protocol;

We appreciate the ongoing work on following protocols such as Protocol on Sustainable Forestry, Protocol on Sustainable Tourism and Protocol on Sustainable Transport and *look forward* to the finalization of these documents in order to enable more efficient implementation of the Convention and achieve its main objectives;

We welcome the development of a “Vision and Strategy for the Carpathian Area” as a strategic basis for the future sustainable development of the Carpathian region and other implementation strategies;

We welcome the successful work of the Carpathian Wetland Initiative as a partnership established in the framework of the Carpathian and Ramsar Conventions;

We note with appreciation the establishment of a regional platform for sustainable agriculture and rural development in the Carpathian region resulting of the fruitful cooperation with the FAO;

We support the development of an Inventory of Carpathian Heritage as well as other practical activities in support of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge of the local people;

We welcome the Carpathian renewable energy partnership and programme for a regional competence network established in cooperation with UNIDO and the FAO, which should promote sustainable use and production of renewable energy while ensuring environmental sustainability;

We recognize the important support provided by the EU INTERREG III B CADSES “Carpathian Project” for the achievement of this progress in the implementation of the convention’s goals;

We underline the importance of continuing the structural support for the Carpathian region from the relevant European Union programmes, in particular the European Regional Development Fund, to support the follow-up projects prioritized in the framework of the Carpathian Convention;

We reiterate our call for the creation of a stand-alone “Carpathian Space” Programme of the European Regional Development Funds, following the successful example of the Alpine Space programme, supporting the general objectives of the Carpathian Convention, and request the interim Secretariat in cooperation with the EU Member States that are Parties to the Convention to undertake all necessary steps;

We appreciate the activities of the interim Secretariat provided by UNEP in Vienna in servicing the Carpathian Convention and leading the Carpathian Project, and we call upon the interim Secretariat to further support the Convention’s implementation by coordinating follow-up activities and projects;

We express our gratitude to the Government of Austria for its support to the Carpathian Convention, notably by continuing to host and co-finance the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention on an interim basis;

We appreciate the continued support of the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, and the efficient cooperation and partnership with UNEP, the European Academy EURAC in Bolzano, Italy, and the Regional Environmental Centre (REC);

We express our gratitude to Switzerland for its commitment to support the Carpathian Convention implementation as part of the Swiss Contribution for EU enlargement;

We express our gratitude to ALPARC and the Task Force Protected Areas of the Alpine Convention for their support to the cooperation activities of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas;

We reiterate our invitation to the European Community to accede to the Carpathian Convention;

We appreciate the signature of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions and the Convention on Biological Diversity, supporting the implementation of the CBD in the Carpathian region;

We take note with concern of the impacts of climate change on mountainous areas and emphasize the need of a coordinated approach for coping with this global challenge within the Carpathian region;

We express our satisfaction with the Carpathian Convention joining the Mountain Partnership and emphasize our readiness to experience-sharing with other mountains regions;

We reaffirm our commitment to faithfully implement the Carpathian Convention;

We express our gratitude to the Government of Romania for having hosted the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention.

Done in Bucharest, Romania, 19 June 2008



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Memorandum of Cooperation
Between
The Convention on Biological Diversity
And
The Alpine Convention
And
The Carpathian Convention

The Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter referred to as the CBD), represented by its Presidency and its Executive Secretary, the Alpine Convention, represented by its Presidency and its Secretary General, and the Carpathian Convention represented by its Presidency and the Head of the Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention;

Recalling the objectives of the CBD namely the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;

Recalling the programme of work on Mountain biological diversity approved by the 7th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD which constitutes a set of actions addressing characteristics and problems that are specific to mountain ecosystems;

Recalling the programme of work on Protected Areas approved by COP7 of the CBD which constitutes a set of actions addressing protected areas that constitutes an important tool of preservation of mountain ecosystems;

Recognizing that the Framework Convention for the protection of the Alps (hereinafter referred to as the Alpine Convention) and the Framework Convention for the Protection and the sustainable





development of the Carpathians (hereinafter referred to as the Carpathian Convention) are binding international legal instruments for the sustainable development of mountainous regions with an integrated approach;

Recalling the Protocol on Conservation of Nature and Landscape to the Alpine Convention, that entered into force in 2002 and reflects the CBD orientations laying down the framework for regional cooperation on this subject;

Recalling art. 4 of the Carpathian Convention “Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity” which reflects the CBD principles and constitutes a solid basis for cooperation among the countries on this topic;

Noting with appreciation the negotiation among the Contracting Parties of the Carpathian Convention of a protocol on Biological and Landscape Diversity and calling for its early conclusion;

Recalling the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions signed at the COP1 of the Carpathian Convention in Kiev in 2006 with its collaboration themes including collaboration in the field of protected areas;

Underlining that cooperation will lead to better implementation of the CBD in the Contracting Parties which are also Parties to the Alpine Convention or the Carpathian Convention, thus benefiting also indirectly the implementation of the CBD by the European Community.

Recognizing that both the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions are platforms for regional cooperation for the protection of the environment and the sustainable development in mountain regions;

Appreciating that the Secretariats of the CBD, of the Alpine Convention and of the Carpathian Convention are collaborating in the context of the Mountain Partnership and, together with their





constituencies are working for the sustainable development in other mountain regions, including by facilitating, where appropriate, the development of regional platforms and legal tools for cooperation;

Recognizing the role of UNEP Vienna also as the Environmental Reference Centre of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat;

Recalling further that the CBD stresses the importance of, and the need to promote international, regional and global cooperation among States and intergovernmental organizations and the non governmental sector, and desires to enhance and complement existing international arrangements for the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components;

Recalling further decision VI/27 of the COP to the CBD which acknowledges the important role that regional and subregional mechanisms and networks play in promoting the implementation of the CBD, providing fora for the preparation of regional inputs to the meetings of the CBD and for translating COP decisions into regional actions;

Recalling also decision VII/26 of the COP to the CBD, which recognized that enhanced cooperation and improved coordination at national level will be important in efforts to meet the CBD biodiversity 2010 Target; and urged further enhanced cooperation between the CBD and all relevant international conventions, organizations and bodies, strengthening and building on existing cooperative arrangements to enhance synergies and reduce inefficiencies, in a manner consistent with their respective mandate, and resources;

Have reached the following understanding:





I. Institutional Cooperation

1. The CBD, the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention acting through their Secretariats (hereafter “the Secretariats”) will cooperate, as appropriate, for the preparation of the meetings of their respective governing and subsidiary bodies and invite each other to relevant meetings, subject to the applicable procedures.
2. The Secretariats will inform their respective Member States/Contracting Parties of their cooperative activities, with a view of promoting synergies at national level.
3. The Secretariats will cooperate in promoting exchanges of experiences and best practices on issues of relevance for their mandate, including, as appropriate, through the Clearing House Mechanism of the CBD.
4. The Secretariats will cooperate, in the framework of the Mountain Partnership, to promote participatory sustainable mountain development with all the relevant stakeholders including youth, women, NGOs, local authorities, local communities and the private sector.

II. Exchange of information and experience

The Secretariats agree to exchange information on matters of mutual relevance including, as appropriate:

- a. Scientific and technical information including ongoing consultations, discussions, and fact-finding processes on new and emerging issues;
- b. Technical guidance to the Conventions and to the sustainable mountain development in general;
- c. Components of the programmes of work implemented under the Conventions that are of mutual interest, including in particular the programme of work on protected areas and the activities of networks thereof, invasive alien species, plant conservation wetland conservation and management and adaptation to climate change;



- d. Activities related to monitoring status and trends of relevant components of biodiversity regarding global and European targets.

III. Collaboration on the implementation of the Conventions and their respective Programme of Work

1. The Secretariats will cooperate, as appropriate, in the organization of regional meetings and facilitating the reporting of the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biodiversity.
2. The Secretariats will cooperate, as appropriate, to support the implementation of the CBD, the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention in Europe and the achievement of the 2010 Biodiversity Target.
3. The Secretariats will explore the possibility of collaboration on the implementation of relevant programmes of work, including those mentioned under II. paragraph c above.

IV. Programme of work on Mountain Biodiversity

1. The Secretariats will endeavour to cooperate in fundraising for joint projects, such as on training and support, where applicable, to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition to assist in the effective implementation of the programme of work on mountain biodiversity, and call upon the Environmental Reference Centre of the Mountain Partnership to support these efforts.
2. The Secretariats will cooperate in collecting, reviewing, evaluating and sharing, through the Clearing-house Mechanism and other means, existing information about the role of mountain ecosystems in producing and maintaining freshwater resources, and about the consequences of climate change and desertification on mountain biological diversity.
3. The Secretariats will especially cooperate in order to facilitate the creation of continuity and connectivity of natural and semi-natural habitats.



V. Reporting

1. The Secretariats will report on the implementation of this Memorandum to their respective governing bodies according to the respective applicable procedures and, as appropriate, will seek further guidance on possible new areas of co-operation.

VI. Effectiveness, Amendment and Termination

1. This Memorandum will take effect upon signature by all sides.
2. The CBD, the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention represented by their respective Presidencies and Secretariats may, by mutual agreement, review and amend this Memorandum.
3. This Memorandum may be terminated by the CBD, the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention represented by their respective Presidency and Secretariat giving a six month written notice.

Signed this 29 day of July 2008 at Bonn

CBD	Presidency	Secretariat
Alpine Convention	Presidency	Secretariat
Carpathian Convention	Presidency	Secretariat





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Vaduz Ministerial Statement

We, the Ministers and high-level representatives of the Governments of the countries of the Caucasus region: Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Russian Federation and Republic of Turkey, meeting in Vaduz, Liechtenstein at the invitation of the Ministry of Environmental Affairs, Land Use Planning, Agriculture and Forestry of Liechtenstein and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP):

AWARE that the Caucasus region, which is one of the unique mountainous ecosystems of Earth, rich with biological and landscape diversity and one of the ancient centres of civilization, constitutes a source of diverse ecosystems, species and genetic resources;

RECOGNISING that this statement will not affect the sovereign rights of the countries and their related international policy;

CONSIDERING the Caucasus region in terms of its geographic, environmental, economic and social potential;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the different economic, social and environmental conditions in the countries;

AIMING at improving the social and economic conditions and the quality of life of the inhabitants of the Caucasus region, as well as taking into account the strong linkages between mountain regions and the lowlands;

EMPHASISING the need for encouraging public participation in sustainable development undertaken in the Caucasus region;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT relevant multilateral environmental agreements to which our Governments are parties;

NOTING the work of the Environment and Security Initiative and the Mountain Partnership in participating countries;

RECALLING the Declaration “Building Bridges to the Future” adopted in Belgrade 12 October 2007 by Ministers of the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE);

AIMING at the involvement of all Caucasus countries in the protection and sustainable development of the Caucasus region, drawing on the experience of UN agencies, interested countries and international organisations, as deemed appropriate by the concerned countries of the region;

Have agreed to

1. Invite the countries of the Caucasus region to strengthen partnerships, as appropriate, for the protection and sustainable development of the mountain regions of the

Caucasus, taking into account generally recognised principles and norms of international law,

2. Appreciate the work done by UNEP in mountain protection and sustainable development in the Caucasus region and encourage UNEP to continue to promote partnerships in this area,
3. Welcome the sharing of experience with the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions, inter alia, within the Mountain Partnership, as appropriate, and call upon UN agencies and organisations to continue to support the efforts to this end,
4. Appreciate the activities of the REC Caucasus, the Russian REC and the REC Turkey, as international NGOs, in support of the efforts of the Caucasus countries towards protection and sustainable development of the region and encourage them to continue their work, as deemed appropriate by the respective countries of the region,
5. Express our gratitude to the Ministry of Environmental Affairs, Land Use Planning, Agriculture and Forestry of Liechtenstein for organizing this meeting of Ministers and high level-officials on strengthening partnerships for the protection and sustainable development of the Caucasus region,
6. Welcome the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host a next meeting and request UNEP to solicit the views of the Governments of the region,

Vaduz, 16 November 2007



alpenkonvention • convention alpine
convenzione delle alpi • alpska konvencija

Ständiger Ausschuss der Alpenkonferenz
Comité permanent de la Conférence alpine
Comitato Permanente della Conferenza delle Alpi
Stalni odbor Alpske konference

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ANLAGE/ANNEXE/ALLEGATO/PRILOGA

6

ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/27

ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE
UN ENVIRONNEMENT POUR L'EUROPE
ОКРУЖАЮЩАЯ СРЕДА ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ
ЖИВОТНА СРЕДИНА ЗА ЕВРОПУ

BELGRADE, 10-12 October 2007



SIXTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
“ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE”

BELGRADE, SERBIA
10-12 October 2007

**COOPERATION AND FRAMEWORKS FOR THE PROTECTION AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTAIN REGIONS
IN EUROPE**

submitted by

the United Nations Environment Programme

through the Ad Hoc Working Group of Senior Officials



UNITED NATIONS

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Sixth Ministerial Conference
“Environment for Europe”
Belgrade, 10-12 October 2007
Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda

PARTNERSHIPS

**PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

**COOPERATION AND FRAMEWORKS FOR THE PROTECTION AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTAIN REGIONS IN EUROPE**

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Executive Summary

Following the discussions at the second meeting of the Working Group of Senior Officials (29–30 June 2006) regarding the agenda of the Sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” to be held in Belgrade from 10 to 12 October 2007, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was invited to provide updates, as appropriate, on activities under the “Documents of Category I and II” in accordance with the framework for the agenda of the Conference. This Category I paper for the Conference is intended to report on the progress made in the cooperation for the protection and sustainable development of mountain regions in Europe.

Consequently, the Conference is invited to take note of and welcome the progress made in the development of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the South-East European Mountain Region, and to express its support for the mountain partnerships within and between the Alps, the Carpathians, the Caucasus, and the mountain regions of Central Asia.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations, in General Assembly resolution 53/24 of 19 November 1998, declared 2002 to be the International Year of Mountains (IYM), with the goal of raising international awareness about mountains, their global importance, the fragility of their resources, and the necessity of sustainable approaches to mountain development. Mountain initiatives build on the process initiated by the 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the outcome of which, Agenda 21, highlights in its chapter 13 the urgency for action to achieve sustainable mountain development.
2. The most detailed reference to and international mandate for the elaboration of regional mountain instruments is contained in the recently adopted Mountain Biodiversity Programme of Work of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Programme of Work aims to establish “regional and transboundary collaboration and the establishment of cooperative agreements” on mountains. UNEP is one of the leading United Nations agencies supporting diverse mountain initiatives by providing its expertise, services and assistance for mountain regions worldwide, and plays a key role in promoting chapter 15 of Agenda 21, on “Conservation of biological diversity”. UNEP has initiated and/or facilitated negotiations for many multilateral environmental conventions, which address the major environmental issues of today, including agreements on protection and sustainable mountain development.

II. MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP

3. The Mountain Partnership, launched at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002, is a broad alliance of countries, intergovernmental organizations and major groups working towards improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments

around the world. Its Secretariat is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome, with the participation of UNEP. The First Global Meeting of the Partnership, held in Merano, Italy, in October 2003, was a landmark event, presenting the Partners with a unique opportunity to exchange views, to compare practices; to identify common needs, priorities and concerns; and to explore key issues related to the structure, membership and governance of the Partnership. Countries in Central and Eastern Europe as well as in Central Asia have taken this opportunity to propose initiatives for the protection and sustainable management of major transboundary mountain ranges in Europe and Central Asia. The Second Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership held in Cusco, Peru, in 2004, reconfirmed the initiatives directed towards making mountain challenges a priority issue of attention at the international level.

4. Adopted in 1991, the Alpine Convention brought together all the Alpine countries and the European Community to collaborate on mountain development and protection, and has provided much inspiration in this regard, particularly in Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa. Accordingly, in IYM 2002, UNEP assisted in launching a European mountain initiative aimed at facilitating partnerships and increasing cooperation between and among Governments and stakeholders of various regions, for the protection and sustainable management of transboundary mountain ranges.

III. ALPINE CONVENTION

5. The Alpine Convention, which entered into force in 1995, was the first regional convention created worldwide for the protection and sustainable development of a mountain region. Under this framework convention, eight protocols have been negotiated and adopted on a broad range of issues, including nature protection and landscape conservation, mountain agriculture, spatial planning and sustainable development, transport, mountain forests, energy, soil protection and tourism, as well as a special protocol on dispute settlement. All these protocols entered into force in December 2002. Since the seventh meeting of the Alpine Conference, the Contracting Parties have supported the establishment of mountain partnerships. At their eighth meeting in 2004, they decided both to include the development of mountain partnerships in their multi-annual work programme for 2005–2010 and to join the Mountain Partnership. The latter decision took effect in January 2006.

6. During the ninth meeting of the Alpine Conference held in November 2006 in Alpbach, Austria, the priority cooperation areas of the mountain partnership activities performed by the Alpine Convention – for instance, the Carpathians, the Caucasus and Central Asia – were extended to the Balkans, and a declaration was adopted in which the Alpine States and observers from various mountain regions of the world expressed their desire to support cooperation between mountain regions. The declaration takes “note with appreciation” of the partnerships formed and to be developed between the Alpine States and the countries of the Carpathians, Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia “to pass on the manifold experiences made in the Alpine process to other mountain regions”. It also notes with appreciation “the commitment of the Alpine States in the implementation of the Local Agenda 21 project ... aiming at establishing a transboundary alliance of mountain communities in the Caucasus”.

7. Recognizing the fact that climate change poses one of the greatest threats to the mountain ecosystems of the Alps, the ninth Alpine Conference adopted a declaration on climate change in the Alps and, to promote implementation of the declaration, requested the Alpine Convention's Standing Committee to produce an action plan containing recommendations for activities specific to the Alpine region in time for the tenth Alpine Conference, to be held in 2008.

8. During the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Carpathian Convention), held in Kiev on 13 December 2006, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Alpine Convention was signed to facilitate the long-term cooperation of the two sister Conventions. Collaboration is foreseen in all areas of environmental protection and sustainable development covered by the Conventions, and in particular in the subject areas of the protocols to the Alpine Convention and the provisions of the Carpathian Convention.

IV. CARPATHIAN CONVENTION

9. In 2001, UNEP was requested by the Government of Ukraine to service a regional cooperation process for the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians, a major transboundary mountain range shared by seven countries in Central and Eastern Europe (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine). In 2002, an Alpine-Carpathian partnership was initiated by the Ministry of the Environment and Territory of Italy. At the Fifth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe", held in Kiev in May 2003, the Carpathian countries adopted the Carpathian Convention. Since its establishment, Austria has continuously hosted and supported the Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention provided by UNEP in Vienna. France, Germany and Monaco have provided continuous support for the establishment of a network of protected areas in the Carpathians through concrete projects.

10. The Carpathian Convention entered into force on 4 January 2006. Its first meeting of the Conference of the Parties was held from 11 to 13 December 2006 in Kiev. The meeting adopted the Convention's Programme of Work for 2006–2008. This ambitious Programme, facilitates the practical implementation of the Convention, including benefits to the health and well-being of the environment and local communities of the Carpathians.

11. The Conference established the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee as the Subsidiary Body of the Convention. The Committee will oversee the activities of the six newly established Working Groups, co-financed by the European Union's INTERREG IIIB¹ CADSES² "Carpathian Project", on the conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity; cultural heritage and traditional knowledge; sustainable agriculture, rural development and forestry; sustainable industry, energy, transport and infrastructure; sustainable

¹ Interreg IIIB is a European Community initiative which aims to stimulate transnational cooperation in the EU between 2000-06.

² Central, Adriatic, Danubian and South-Eastern European Space (CADSES).

tourism; and spatial planning. Starting the development of protocols, a first Protocol on the Conservation of Biological and Landscape Diversity is being negotiated.

12. Finally, the Conference adopted a decision inviting the European Community to accede to the Carpathian Convention.

V. SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

13. Significant steps towards closer cooperation in the South-Eastern Europe (SEE) region are being made with the support of the Mountain Partnership. UNEP was requested by the Ministry of the Environment and Physical Planning of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to support and service a regional cooperation process, aimed at addressing the need for sustainable mountain development in SEE.

14. After a series of preparatory workshops, including discussions at the Cusco Conference in 2004, the meeting, “Sharing the Experience – Capacity-Building for the Protection and Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions in South East Europe”, was organized by UNEP and supported by the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea. The meeting took place on 12 and 13 December 2005 in Bolzano, Italy, with the technical and scientific support of the European Academy in Bolzano (EURAC) and the cooperation of the Balkan Foundation for Sustainable Development (BFSD). At the meeting, experts and government representatives from the SEE countries were extensively briefed about the collaborative arrangements and activities in the Alpine and Carpathian regions, and subsequently expressed the wish for a formal subregional process, leading to closer cooperation in the SEE region.

15. Consequently, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia hosted the intergovernmental consultation on the “Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions in South-East Europe”, in Pelister, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on 12 and 13 May 2006. The meeting reviewed a study conducted by the BFSD, the “Assessment on the current situation and needs of cooperation on the protection and sustainable development of mountain regions/areas in South-Eastern Europe (Balkans)”, expressed its support for developing a legal framework for cooperation in SEE, and recommended that a draft text of a legal instrument be prepared for negotiation.

16. Supported by Italy and in collaboration with the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC-CEE), a partner of UNEP in the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) and a contributor to many aspects of its work, a third meeting was organized at EURAC in Bolzano on 3 and 4 November 2006. The meeting completed an expert reading of the draft convention text and suggested that all SEE countries join in a negotiation process. Consultations are under way to organize a next negotiation meeting in the region, with a view to advancing the agreement and conclusion of the proposed framework convention.

17. The 2007 Belgrade Conference is expected to be a landmark event for facilitating and launching the formal process of cooperation for the protection and sustainable development of mountain regions in SEE.

VI. CAUCASUS

18. In June 2001, in the context of the preparations of the IYM, Armenia, Georgia and the Russian Federation gathered in Yerevan to discuss the possibility of a legal instrument for the protection of the mountain ecosystems in the Caucasus. Underlining the principle of integrity of the Caucasian region in terms of its geographical, ecological and social dimensions, as a basic principle, they requested UNEP to continue to provide assistance. It was further agreed to engage the REC for the Caucasus (RECC) to raise public awareness of the initiative and WWF Caucasus to provide technical know-how.

19. In July 2003 the RECC organized a conference, “Sustainable Development of Mountainous Regions of the Caucasus”, which was attended by governmental authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and scientific experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Russian Federation and Turkey. The conference concluded that “the solution of the existing environmental problems and the addressing of the challenges related to the rational use of natural resources are only possible subject to the intersectoral, interregional and interstate cooperation, which could serve as the basis for drafting in the future the Caucasus Convention, as a guarantor of the social, economic and environmental security of the mountainous regions of the Caucasus”.

20. Supported by Italy and serviced by UNEP, representatives of the Ministries for the Environment and Ministries for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation and Turkey (Armenia was unable to attend because of technical problems) met at EURAC in Bolzano in December 2005, and were briefed on the collaboration and work under the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions. Reconfirming “the principle of integrity of the Caucasian eco-region in terms of its geographical, environmental, economic and social dimensions”, the participants resolved that they were “aiming at involvement of all Caucasian countries, other interested countries and international organizations in cooperation processes for development of a legal instrument on sustainable development, with special emphasis on sustainable land use and protection of the Caucasian mountainous ecosystems”.

21. Consultations are under way to arrange a high-level meeting between the six Caucasus States, at which the formal commitment to the commencement of the process is to be given. At the same time, the meeting will take stock of existing initiatives and programmes in the region such as the Alliance of Mountain Communities of the Caucasus and the Council for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Resource Use, as well as activities under the South Caucasus Water Program and other initiatives involving the Governments and NGOs such as the RECC and WWF. Supported by a number of intergovernmental organizations and donor countries, including the Alpine Convention, Germany, Liechtenstein and the United States, the meeting will aim to create the basis for the development of a framework agreement for the protection and sustainable development of the mountain regions in the Caucasus.

VII. CENTRAL ASIA

22. The degradation of mountain ecosystems is considered a serious problem in the Central Asian region, one accompanied by population growth, a rise in unemployment and poverty, the lack of energy resources, unsatisfactory infrastructure, and other economic and social problems. The vital necessity of cooperation and coordination of the activities of the Central Asian countries for the conservation of the mountain ecosystems at regional level has been recognized by all stakeholders. The Working Group of Central Asian Countries' Senior Officials in cooperation with the Central Asian REC (CAREC) has submitted a Category I document to the Belgrade Conference on the "Central Asian Initiative on Sustainable Development: Progress and Prospects", making ample reference to the issue of mountain protection and sustainable development, as well as to various joint activities with partners in other mountain regions of the world.

23. Following the initiative of the Government of Kyrgyzstan, the Global Mountain Summit took place in Bishkek, crowning the International Year of the Mountains 2002. As the facilitator of the first Global Mountain Summit, Central Asia is particularly committed to resolve the problems it faces in the area of sustainable development of mountain regions with a focus on halting the degradation of mountain ecosystems, as one of the results of global climate change and increasing human-induced pressure. The Central Asian countries are further adamant to increase the level of public awareness of the importance of sustainable development of mountain regions and to disseminate their experiences and knowledge about caring for vulnerable mountain ecosystems. The Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development for Central Asian countries has taken the decision to establish the Central Asian Mountain Centre, which will be located in Kyrgyzstan, and to address the donor community on issues that can be resolved only with the help of the international community.

24. Another example of successful mountain cooperation is the Central Asian Mountain Partnership (CAMP) programme, which promotes sustainable mountain development by encouraging the sustainable use of resources, product development and marketing, village development, and policy dialogue among different stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan. CAMP is financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. In November 2005 representatives of mountain villages of the Alps, the Altai, the Carpathians, the Caucasus and Central Asia met in Bishkek on the occasion of a conference on the role of local governance in sustainable development organized by CAMP and financed by the Contracting Parties of the Alpine Convention, which gave considerable impetus to the replication of the process in other mountain regions.

VIII. OTHER MOUNTAIN REGIONS

25. Within the framework of the global Mountain Partnership, and in close consultation with its partners in FAO and the Mountain Forum, which facilitates global communication and information exchange on mountain issues, UNEP is sharing its experience on the Carpathian Convention with other mountain regions such as the Andes and the Hindu Kush-Karakoram-Himalaya (including the cooperation with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)).

IX. SUGGESTIONS FOR THE WAY FORWARD

26. Sustainable mountain development can be advanced considerably through regional and subregional initiatives, cooperation and actions. The Alpine region offers a wealth of experience in the field of sustainable development as well as many knowledge repositories of mountain-related information, which are increasingly made available to interested mountain stakeholders. Innovative regional and local development approaches are now being implemented in the Carpathians with European Union structural funds supporting the Carpathian mountain range cooperation, which can provide food for thought and the sharing of experience with other mountain regions such as in SEE, Caucasus or Central Asia. The Mountain Partnership offers a promising international platform for interlinking this experience with other mountain regions in the world.

27. In order to be successful and achieve lasting results, collaboration among mountain regions must address a great variety of interlinked areas: agriculture and forestry, energy and transport, landscape planning and water basin management, and sustainable tourism and biodiversity protection. Joint action in mountain regions will also directly contribute to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its programme of work on mountains; assist in the achievement of the 2010 target to halt the loss of biological diversity of the Pan European Ecological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS); as well as support European nature conservation policies in mountain ecosystems.

28. Collaborative arrangements such as the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions have proven themselves to be useful approaches and powerful incentives for mountain-related action and support. It is hoped that negotiations on framework conventions on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the SEE and Caucasus mountain regions will advance, and that they will receive the necessary backing and support from all partners involved.

The Sixth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe", to be held in Belgrade from 10 to 12 October 2007, is invited to take note of, welcome and support the mountain partnerships within and between the Alps, the Carpathians, the South-East European Mountain Region, the Caucasus, and the mountain regions of Central Asia, including the development of framework instruments for the protection and sustainable development of the South-East European and Caucasus mountain regions; to encourage the international Mountain Partnership to promote and foster exchanges of experience and expertise with other mountain regions in the world; and to call upon donors and the international community to continue to support and service mountain partnerships and initiatives in Europe and other parts of the world.



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convenzione delle alpi • alpska konvencija

Ständiger Ausschuss der Alpenkonferenz
Comité permanent de la Conférence alpine
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Stalni odbor Alpske konference

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7

PRIMERA REUNION SUBREGIONAL ANDINA DE LA INICIATIVA DE LOS ANDES

DECLARACION DE SAN MIGUEL DE TUCUMAN

En la ciudad de San Miguel de Tucumán, República Argentina, del 5 al 7 de septiembre de 2007, tuvo lugar la Primera Reunión Sub-regional Andina de la Iniciativa de los Andes, en el marco de la Alianza para las Montañas, asistiendo representantes de los siguiente países andinos de América del Sur: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Venezuela. Asimismo, hicieron lo propio representantes de organismos internacionales y de numerosas organizaciones no gubernamentales. La lista completa de representantes se adjunta como Anexo I.

Asimismo, destacamos la presencia y facilitación del Coordinador de la Secretaría de la Alianza para las Montañas, señor Douglas McGuire y la participación del Secretario General de la Convención de los Alpes, señor Marco Onida.

Los representantes de los países declaran:

1.- EXPRESAR su complacencia por el nivel de concertación alcanzado por los países andinos dentro del marco político de la Alianza para las Montañas y renuevan su decisión de seguir trabajando conjuntamente a través de la Iniciativa Andina, convencidos de que la misma es una plataforma adecuada para promover el desarrollo sostenible de las zonas de montaña de la subregión.

2.- RECUERDAN los esfuerzos orientados al desarrollo sostenible de las montañas, tales como, el Capítulo 13 de la Agenda 21 "Manejo de Ecosistemas Frágiles- Desarrollo Sostenible de las Montañas"; el Plan de Aplicación de la Cumbre de Johannesburgo sobre Desarrollo Sostenible, 2002, en particular el Párrafo 42; el Documento de Bali sobre la Alianza de Montañas; las Conclusiones de la Primera Reunión Mundial de los Miembros de la Alianza de Montañas (Merano, Italia, 5 y 6 de octubre de 2003); el Programa de Trabajo sobre la Diversidad Biológica de Montañas aprobado por la VII Conferencia de las Partes de la Convención de Diversidad Biológica (Kuala Lumpur, Malasia, febrero de 2004); los resultados del Taller Internacional sobre Ecosistemas de Montañas: Una visión del Futuro (Cusco, Perú, 2001); la Declaración de Huaráz, resultado de la Reunión Mundial de Ecosistemas de Montañas, "Las Montañas al 2020: Agua, Vida y Producción" (Huaráz, Perú, 2002); la Declaración de Adelboden sobre Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural Sostenible en Regiones de Montaña (Adelboden, Suiza, junio de 2002); la Declaración de los Andes, resultado de la Segunda Reunión Mundial de los Miembros de la Alianza de Montañas (Cusco, Perú, 28 y 29 de octubre de 2004); y los resultados de la Reunión Preparatoria de la Iniciativa Andina (Lima, 26 y 27 de junio de 2006).

3.- DESTACAR que se lanzó, formalmente, la Iniciativa Andina, reafirmando los compromisos oportunamente acordados en las reuniones mencionadas en el punto anterior.

4.- RECONOCER el papel de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO) y de la Secretaría de la Alianza para las Montañas, entre otros, así como los esfuerzos realizados por los diversos grupos nacionales, regionales e internacionales.

5.- CONTRIBUIR al cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio – ODM – integrando la región andina en procesos de desarrollo nacional y regional de manera equilibrada para que las regiones de montaña contribuyan y se beneficien del desarrollo económico, social y político.

6.- En adición a los tres Ejes Temáticos identificados como prioritarios en el marco del desarrollo territorial en la Reunión Preparatoria de Lima, a saber:

- Medios de Vida Sostenibles en Áreas de Montaña;
- conservación de los ecosistemas y preservación del patrimonio cultural y natural; y
- consolidación de la capacidad institucional en la temática de montañas.

ACUERDAN incorporar en el segundo Eje de los citados precedentemente a la Biodiversidad, por considerarla de suma importancia en la temática de montañas.

7.- TENIENDO EN CUENTA la importancia que ha cobrado el tema del cambio climático, debido a las peligrosas consecuencias que este tiene sobre los frágiles ecosistemas de montaña y de la urgencia de su tratamiento, los países acordaron incluirlo como Eje Temático.

Consideran que la adaptación ante sus efectos es fundamental y debe estar combinada con esfuerzos para reducir al mínimo los daños, para lo cual se requiere el apoyo de la cooperación internacional basada en los Principios de la Cumbre de Río de Janeiro de 1992, tales como el Principio de Responsabilidad Común pero Diferenciada.

8.- ESTABLECER áreas prioritarias y un conjunto de acciones a desarrollar que cuentan con el apoyo de todos los puntos focales y de los representantes gubernamentales de los países presentes, según se detalla en el Anexo II.

9.- MANIFESTAR su firme compromiso de establecer una red de información e intercambio a nivel regional e internacional, que brinde a las Partes la posibilidad de intercambiar información y datos precisos sobre experiencias de carácter nacional que puedan ser extrapoladas a sus respectivos territorios.

10.- DESTACAR la importancia y vulnerabilidad de los páramos andinos como ecosistemas de montaña, vitales para el bienestar de las poblaciones andinas por sus servicios ambientales, en especial el almacenamiento y regulación hídrica, soporte de biodiversidad endémica y depositarios de una rica herencia cultural. En este sentido, la Iniciativa Andina mantendrá una permanente interacción con el proyecto Páramo Andino, el cual inició sus acciones en el año 2006, sumando esfuerzos que potencien los impactos positivos sobre la conservación y buen uso del ecosistema de páramo.

11.- RECOMENDAR a los países el fortalecimiento de la recolección de datos de parámetros biofísicos y antrópicos, imprescindibles para el conocimiento de los procesos que soportan el manejo de los ecosistemas y los riesgos ambientales, así como el análisis y difusión de la referida información básica.

12.- CONSIDERAR que el manejo integrado y sostenible de cuencas es una prioridad, teniendo en cuenta la estrecha relación existente entre los ecosistemas de montañas y el aprovisionamiento de agua. Reconocer la importancia del manejo integrado de los ecosistemas asociados a las fuentes hídricas.

12.- CONSIDERAR que el manejo integrado y sostenible de cuencas es una prioridad, teniendo en cuenta la estrecha relación existente entre los ecosistemas de montañas y el aprovisionamiento de agua. Reconocer la importancia del manejo integrado de los ecosistemas asociados a las fuentes hídricas.

13.- REITERAR que las condiciones de gran diversidad y extrema vulnerabilidad económica, social y ambiental de los ecosistemas de montaña, requieren de una gestión integrada, bajo un enfoque ecosistémico, desde el nivel local, nacional y regional, que permita fortalecer el manejo y uso sostenible de la biodiversidad en zonas de montañas para mejorar la calidad de vida de sus habitantes.

14.- AGRADECER el apoyo determinante para la realización de este encuentro que brindaron, entre otros el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo y la Agencia Suiza para el Desarrollo y la Cooperación.

15.- ARTICULAR acciones con otras convenciones internacionales en aras de aunar esfuerzos y potenciar los resultados de la Iniciativa Andina.

16.- EXPRESAR nuestro agradecimiento al Gobierno argentino y al Gobierno y pueblo de Tucumán por la cordial acogida que han brindado a nuestras delegaciones.

Hecha en la ciudad de San Miguel de Tucumán, República Argentina, a los siete días de dos mil siete.

ARGENTINA

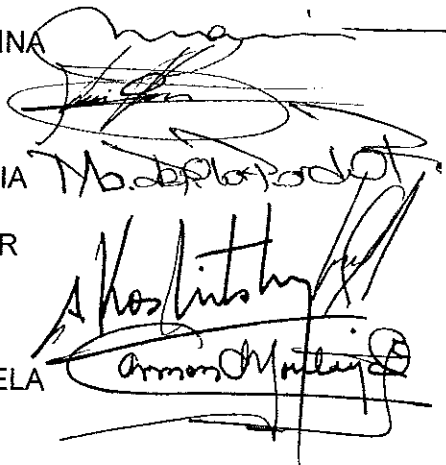
BOLIVIA

COLOMBIA

ECUADOR

PERU

VENEZUELA

The image shows a list of country names on the left, with corresponding handwritten signatures on the right. The signatures are written in black ink and are somewhat stylized. The countries listed are Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela. The signatures are written over the names, with some overlapping lines.

ANEXO I

PUNTOS FOCALES PARTICIPANTES DE LA PRIMERA REUNION SUBREGIONAL ANDINA DE LA INCIATIVA DE LOS ANDES.

ARGENTINA:

Sra. Directora General de Asuntos Ambientales del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto, Dña María Esther BONDANZA.

BOLIVIA:

Sr. Cónsul General de la Republica de Bolivia en Tucumán, D. Héctor PAZ LUNA

COLOMBIA:

Sra. Coordinadora General de Ecosistemas del Ministerio de Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial, Dña. María del Pilar PARDO FAJARDO.

Sra. Coordinadora del Proyecto Andes del Instituto Alexander Von Humboldt, Dña. Inés CAVELIER.

ECUADOR:

**Dirección General de Derechos Humanos, Asuntos Sociales y Ambientales de la Cancillería del Ecuador
Representante del Comité de Montañas
D. Jorge CAMPAÑA.**

PERU:

Sr. Director General de Medio Ambiente del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores del Perú, Embajador D. Sergio KOSTRITSKY.

VENEZUELA:

**Sra. Directora Estadual Ambiental del Estado de Trujillo.
Dña. Carmen Cecilia MONTOYA.**

Primera Reunión Subregional Andina de la Iniciativa de los Andes de la Alianza para las Montañas.

Plan de Acción para el Desarrollo Sostenible de las Montañas Andinas.

En la ciudad de San Miguel de Tucumán, República Argentina, del 5 al 7 de septiembre de 2007, tuvo lugar la Primera Reunión Subregional Andina de la Iniciativa de los Andes, asistiendo representantes de los siguientes países andinos de América del Sur: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Venezuela. Asimismo, hicieron lo propio representantes de organismos internacionales, de numerosas ONGs y representantes de los pueblos originarios.

Tomando en cuenta lo establecido en el apartado 8 de la Declaración de San Miguel de Tucumán suscrita por los representantes de dichos países, se acuerda encarar el desarrollo de las iniciativas incluidas en el presente Plan de Acción, las que se encuentran insertas dentro de los ejes temáticos y criterios establecidos para la presente reunión.

Los mismos han sido seleccionados tomando como punto de partida lo discutido en la Reunión de Lima (Junio, 2006) y, sumado al aporte realizado en la presente reunión, en base a las experiencias concretas expuestas, los ejes definidos para las acciones prioritarias de los miembros para los próximos 4 años son:

1. Medios de Vida Sostenibles en Áreas de Montaña
2. Conservación de los ecosistemas y preservación de la biodiversidad y del patrimonio cultural y nacional
3. Consolidación de la capacidad institucional en la temática de montañas
4. Cambio climático y su incidencia en las áreas de montaña
5. Ejes transversales (educación, sensibilización y capacitación, género, juventud y tercera edad, articulación de redes y participación local)

Los miembros han identificado estos cinco ejes como los de mayor relevancia para iniciar un trabajo común lo que no excluye en el futuro que se acuerden nuevos ejes y acciones concretas. Dentro de los mismos, se han identificado los siguientes objetivos, líneas prioritarias y proyectos específicos.

Eje 1: Medios de Vida Sostenibles en Áreas de Montaña.

Objetivos y acciones prioritarias:

- Fortalecer la conservación y el manejo de la agrobiodiversidad y los sistemas productivos andinos en base a los saberes y prácticas tradicionales.
- Fortalecer las cadenas de valor con énfasis en la comercialización de los productos de montañas
- Fortalecer las redes de turismo rural sostenible en los Andes

Proyectos específicos:

- Promoción de cultivos y otros productos andinos
- Desarrollo de acciones en materia de turismo de base comunitaria.
- Energías renovables, incluyendo a la pequeña hidráulica

Otras acciones regionales/nacionales identificadas: REDAR, Programa INTA de Cultivos Andinos, Sierra Exportadora, Programa Producto de Montañas (FAO).

Eje 2: Conservación de los ecosistemas y preservación de la biodiversidad y del patrimonio cultural y nacional

Objetivos y acciones prioritarias:

- Favorecer la síntesis y réplica de metodologías que han sido validadas para mantener la producción de bienes y servicios ambientales al tiempo que promueven un uso productivo de dichos ecosistemas.
- Impulsar la creación y adaptación de metodologías para promover la conectividad y manejo ecosistémico.
- Promover la síntesis y la difusión de las experiencias de pago (compensación) por servicios ambientales
- Coordinar estrategias con actores locales que propendan a la conservación y preservación del patrimonio cultural (material e inmaterial) en relación al Programa Qhápac Ñan, entre otros.

Proyectos específicos:

- Ampliación y replicación del proceso participativo desarrollado en el proyecto de Bosque Modelo a zonas más amplias y/o a otras temáticas.
- Estrategia regional para la conservación y uso racional de los humedales Altoandino – Neotrópico.

Otras acciones regionales/nacionales identificadas: Grupo de Conservación de Flamenco Alto Andinos, proyecto Paramos Andinos, proyecto

Humedales Alto Andinos, Programa Camino Principal Andino (Qhapac Ñan), Proyecto Andes.

Eje 3: Consolidación de la capacidad institucional en la temática de montañas.

Objetivos y Acciones prioritarias:

- Promover un diagnóstico de las políticas internacionales, regionales y binacionales con incidencia en los ecosistemas de montañas, sobre la base de las acciones de las diferentes iniciativas regionales.
- Identificar los efectos, amenazas y oportunidades derivadas de políticas nacionales y subnacionales sobre las montañas; incluyendo políticas implícitas no formales derivadas de acuerdos consuetudinarios.
- Promover la generación de instrumentos de política (a todos los niveles) para superar las barreras identificadas en el desarrollo sostenible del ecosistema de montañas.
- Promover las instancias de coordinación interinstitucional con el fin de facilitar la implementación de políticas de montaña.
- Apoyar la consolidación de espacios institucionales (Comités nacionales, Mesas de Concertación, Grupos de trabajo) requeridos para garantizar la coherencia y articulación entre los distintos niveles de gestión de gobierno y de éste con la sociedad civil.
- Promover el desarrollo de capacidades en actores de la sociedad civil para que se inserten de manera adecuada a los procesos de incidencia en las políticas de montañas.

Proyectos específicos:

- Fortalecimiento de la capacidad institucional a nivel regional (creación, articulación y desarrollo de sinergias entre actores representativos de los ámbitos públicos y de la sociedad civil). Asegurar la "apropiación" de esa institucionalidad por parte de los actores locales.
- Mejoramiento de los sistemas de comunicación desde las instancias interinstitucionales de modo que lleguen a los beneficiarios directos y a los demás actores de la sociedad, haciendo uso en lo posible de las Tecnologías de la Información y el Conocimiento (TIC's).
- Replicabilidad de los esquemas exitosos en articular las instituciones con los beneficiarios como en el caso del uso y la administración de los recursos hídricos.

Otras acciones regionales:

SARD-M, Proyecto Paramo Andino, ECOBONA, BioAndes, Cordillera Real Oriental, Estrategia de Humedales Alto Andinos,

Eje 4: Cambio Climático y su incidencia en las áreas de montaña

Objetivos y Acciones prioritarias:

- Diagnóstico sobre situaciones de riesgo y vulnerabilidad ante el cambio climático
- Medidas de adaptación para contrarrestar los efectos del cambio climático

Eje 5: Ejes transversales (educación, sensibilización y capacitación, género, juventud y tercera edad, articulación de redes y participación local)

Objetivos y Acciones prioritarias:

- Políticas de inclusión de género fomentando la complementariedad, así como la articulación de redes y la participación social.

Proyectos Específicos:

- Material de educación adecuado destinado a los distintos actores con énfasis en los tomadores de decisión y la población, especialmente la de edad escolar porque permitirá la comprensión de la región montañosa y sus dinámicas y procesos.
- Conformación de una base de datos conteniendo metadatos de los aspectos físicos y antrópicos e institucionales. Establecimiento de una red de información oficial e intercambio a nivel regional, teniendo en cuenta los esquemas existentes.

A efectos de concretar estos proyectos, los países de la Iniciativa Andina coinciden en solicitar la cooperación de la Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional, de la Oficina Técnica de Cooperación Internacional Italiana, de la Convención de los Alpes y otras instituciones. Se procurará entonces que la cooperación que se obtenga llegue de la manera más directa a las comunidades de base en los proyectos en que resulte apropiado.

Hecha en la ciudad de San Miguel de Tucumán, República Argentina, a los siete días del mes de septiembre de dos mil siete.