



Report from Stakeholder Meeting in Rhakiv, Ukraine

Discussion of implementation of the Carpathian Convention Rhakiv, 2nd September 2005

General information

On September 2-4, 2005 in the town of Rhakiv in the Ukrainian Carpathians within the framework of the project supported by ANPED "**Strengthening Public Participation in the Implementation of the Carpathian Convention**" public discussion of implementation of the Carpathian Convention took place. The roundtable-event was one of events of the international Hutsul Conference "Ecological and social-economic aspects of ethnic-cultural and historical heritage conservation in the Carpathians ". The Conference was regarded as one of the items of the traditional annual 15th Hutsuls Festival.

Preparations

Preparation work preceded the discussion. There was consultation with a wide range of key persons whose activities concerned the Carpathian Convention. Consultations were held electronically and in face to face meetings. The range of stakeholders and possible participants of the discussion were determined. A draft of recommendations for discussion was prepared.

The level of knowledge about the Carpathian Convention and essence of expectations for Carpathian Convention was investigated by a questionnaire. The preparation meetings were carried out in the vilige of Kryvopilla (Verkhovina district) and in the town of Rhakiv. The discussion were determined partners concerning the discussion: Rahiv NGO "Ecoclub" and the Carpathian Biosphere Reserve. Necessary contracts was composed and agreed.

Posters publicising the event were prepared and the supporting materials were prepared and disseminated for the participant. All participants received the text of the Carpathian Convention and a copy of the draft recommendations for discussion. Articles, for submitted to the formal international conference were printed, edited and distributed among participants during registration.

For the participants of the Round table there was prepared a draft of the "Rules of procedure for the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians" (by the Interim Secretariat) and draft of the "Strategy of the realisation of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians" (by the Ministry for environmental Protection of Ukraine).

Hotel accommodation and restuarant facilities for the participants were provided on the highest level in Rhakiv.

Opening of the Conference

The opening of the Conference was a formal event. It was opened by the director of the Carpathian Biosphere reserve Prof. F. Hamor to the accompaniment of the trembitas (Hutsuls' trumpet) and Hutsuls' music executed by Hutsuls' ensemble from the local Culture House.

Participants were greeted by Head of Rakhiv District Government Administration Volodymyr Saik, Head of Rhakiv District Rada Mykola Berkela, Deputy of Verhovna Rada of Ukraine Orest Klimpusz, Deputy of Romanian Seym, Head of Assotiation of Ukrainians in Romania Stefan Bucuita.

Plenary session

All Conference events took place in the most presentable rooms of Rhakiv in local Administration building. The course of the discussion was registering by digital recorder.

The discussion began with the plenary session by speech of Mr. Yaroslav Movchan, from the Ministry of Environment. Other presentations outlining the further course of discussion were made during the Plenary.

Most significant appearances:

Y. Movchan (Ministry for environmental Protection of Ukraine) gave the report: Y. Movchan, I. Ivanenko at all Carpathian Convention: from idea to implementation (policy, science, practice)

P. Shkribliak (Hutsul's branch of Scientific Institute of the Knowledge about Ukraine) made a presentation about employment issues, and problems with administration reform in condition of mountains.

D. Stefluk (Association of Mountain Settlements, Public National Committee of Mountain, Verkhovina's Region's Council) spoke about administration reform and works on establishing Verkhovina National Park in Verkhovina district.

P. McCarthy (ANPED) presented the project "Strengthening Public Participation in the Implementation of the Carpathian Convention"

H. Foellmi (project FORZA) presented the Swiss-Ukrainian forest development project in Transcarpathia.

Questions and brief discussion took place to complete the plenary session.

Section workshops

After a break the discussion was continued according to Section sessions. Section on the Carpathian Convention was carried out in the Round Table format. 32 participants of the Round Table were registered.

Residents of four Carpathian regions (oblasts) predominated. The residents from Dnepropetrovsk (1) and Kiev (9) were present. Representatives of local communities

below oblast (region) level were present - 9 persons. The workers of scientific institutions and high schools attended. Representatives of NGOs were present in number 10 persons. The exponents of forest and tourist business were presenting by two persons. There were presented institution of central government (Y. Movchan) and of local self-council (D. Steflyuk).

The implementation of the Carpathian Convention was discussed in other sections of the conference as well.

Content of discussion at the Round Table

Speech of Y. Wasidlow About establishing of National Committee of Mountains. Carpathians Convention not for Carpathian residents only. About needs to widen Carpathian Convention principles to Crimean mountains.

Speech of E. Borshchuk About problems of social grounds of sustainable development criteria in mountain regions.

Speech of O. Chornous About situation of ethnic culture environment of Carpathians and natural influence on it.

Speech of Y. Stadnickiy About comparison of Carpathian and Alpine Conventions.

Speech of F. Hamor Idea of the Carpathian Convention was born here, in these walls, in 1998 during the conference on sustainable development of the Carpathians. The decision of the Ukrainian Government on the Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions is not realised. On 12.09.2002 Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine recommended to the Cabinet of Ministers to adopt this document by 1.07.2003. It is not realised until now. Dr. Hamor criticized the Ministry for Environment that it does not carry out the rule of law. It is determined by the Legislation to increase the level of protection in Carpathians up to 20%. It is not carried out. Within the country laws are not carried out. There's a threat that the Carpathian Convention will still be intention only. The Carpathians are defended by small group of enthusiasts against who profit by nature resources. And victory belong to person who profit.

Speech of V. Parpan Stated that everyone should be engaged in his own affairs on his own place. Every chief must implement the Carpathian Convention in his institution. Dr Parpan criticized Yaroslav Movchan's work with authorities of regions (oblasts), and criticized the realisation of scientist projects.

Speech of Y. Movchan About mechanism of decision-making. Much work is being done but Ministry can not cope. Dr Movchan praised the activity of citizens. There is a need of appropriate regulation of the society, and relation must appear in society.

Speech of Y. Wasidlow This concerned the survey which was carried out in 2004 and with similar questions in 2005. Community of environmentally active persons is well informed about fact of the existence of the Convention. But interest to this issue is lower. Expectation generally are optimistic even exalted. Different results were received in other two groups. In small mountain villages almost all people have no knowledge about the Convention and do not know what it is. Only one young teacher and one employer demonstrated primary knowledge, but they didn't have good knowledge of the Convention content. The persons who are living in flat part of country who are competent in biodiversity and forestry had no knowledge about Convention. Biodiversity, culture heritage and access for citizens – there were the priorities, provided by the evidence from this survey.

Speech of Y. Dovganych About the project "Diagnostic audit and developing a Guide on Implementation of the Carpathian Convention". Final results will be published on special meeting.

Speech of T. Malkova About festival and Round Table in Sheshory.

Speech of S. Stoyko About need of unit criterias and unit registers of valuable biological, culture and historical objects and areas.

Speech of Buzak About goals and objectives of education.

Speech of O. Melen About the potential use of present legislation, part of which is identical with some items of Convention.

Speech of Yu. Wasidlow About accepting of proposed draft of Recommendations on Carpathian Convention implementation.

Speech of O. Melen Remarks concerning Rules of Procedure for the Framework Convention on the Protect and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians.

Speech of Y. Wasidlow Proposition concerning draft of the governmental "Strategy of the implementation of the Framework Convention on the Protect and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians". To accept propositions in draft of the Recommendations. To be clear that it is a good document but there is a need to improve it.

Speech of T. Grycyshyn About basin approach in Carpathian development solution. Mr Grycyshyn on behalf of Dr Y. Chernobay, director of Nature Museum in Lvov, express support for proposed Recommendations on Carpathian Convention implementation.

There was other replicas, appearances, questions and answers except described above speeches.

The second half of the roundtable was a structured discussion upon governmental strategy and draft recommendations, facilitated by A. Krupiak, with final results recorded upon flipcharts.

Final plenary session

Section work, including that of the Carpathian Convention, was summed up at the final Plenary Session of the formal conference.

Conference Evening Reception.

In honour of the participants there was a formal dinner hosted by the organisers, to complete the Conference.

Festival activities

On the 3rd and the 4th of September participants of the Conference participated in celebratory opening of 15th Hutsuls Festival, including performances of folk ensembles on stage and visited exhibition of ethnic crafts.

Dissemination of information

Information about the Conference and discussion concerning the Carpathian Convention was disseminated through the mass-media.

List of Participants

Report from Stakeholder Meeting for the Carpathian Convention 2nd September 2005, Rhakiv, Ukraine

Nº	Name	Organisation	Location
1.	Yuri Wasidlow	Association 'Our Home'	Ivano-Frankivsk
2.	Ganna Popovich	School in Jblonica	Village Jablonica
3.	Yuri Stadnitskiy	Lviv Polytechnic, Social and Economic Development (Carpathians and Alps)	Lviv
4.	Vasyl Pokinchereda	Carpathians Biosphere Reserve and 'Ecoclub' Carpathians	Rhakiv
5.	Alexander Kislitsyn	Association 'Our Home'	Ivano-Frankivsk
6.	Mykola Skydaniuk	Association 'Our Home' Maniva Branch and Boyko Association	Maniava
7.	Fedir Hamor	Carpathian Biosphere Reserve	Rhakiv
8.	Oleksandra Zarutska	'Мама-86'	Kiev
9.	S. Lazareva	Institute of Post-Graduate Education	Chernivrtsy
10.	K Gorb	Customs and Duty Academy	Dnepropetrovsk
11.	D. Kruk	National University Lviv (ethnic culture)	Lviv
12.	L. Buzak	Owner of hostel 'Kozmeshchik'	Village Lazeshchina
13.	Zanna Buchko .	National University of Chernovtsy	Chernovtsy
14.	Y. Chornenkiy	Institute of New Technology	Lviv
15.	O Chernous	Institute of Regional Investigations	Lviv
16.	P. Samolotov	National Academy of Science	Lviv
17.	A. Melnik	National Univesrity Lviv	Lviv
18.	Mikhajlo Babydorych	Transcarpathian Agarian Institute	Village Velyka Bakta
19.	Jaroslav Dovganych	Carpathian Biosphere Reserve and Co-ordinator of REC Assessment project	Rhakiv
20.	Stepan Stoyko	Institute of Ecology of the Carpathians	Lviv
21.	Pam McCarthy	ANPED	Krakow
22.	Victoria Stolpnik	Carpathian Biosphere Reserve	Rhakiv
23.	Dmytro Stefuk	Head of Verkhovina Self-Council, Association of Mountain Settlements	Verkhovina
24.	Volodymir Shushniak	National University Lviv	Lviv
25.	Yuriy Stefurak	National Park 'Hutsulshchyna'	Kosiv
26.	Galina Pidberezna	Astrologer	Kiev
27.	Valetin Babenko	Newspaper ' Courier of Government '	Kiev
28.	Petro Suhorolski	National University Lviv	Lviv
29.	Olga Melen	Ecopravo Lviv	Lviv
30.	Tamara Malkova	'Green Dossier' Association	Kiev
31.	Ludmila Bokiy	Education Association 'Zodtpk'	Uzgorod
32.	Alla Bezusko	Mohilan Aacademy	Kiev
33.	Yarolsav Movchan	Ministry of Environment	Kiev
34.	Vasyl Parpan	Institute of Mountain Forestry 'Girls'	Ivano-Frankivsk
35.	Bogdan Godovanets	Ornithology Association	Rhakiv
36.	Taras Hrynchyshyn	Religion Information Service of Ukraine	Lviv
37.	Tatiana Bohzuk	Lviv Polytechnic	Lviv