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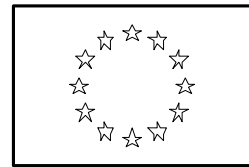
Czech Presidency  
of the Council of the EU

Présidence tchèque  
du Conseil de l'UE

2009



**WILD  
EUROPE**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## **EU Presidency and European Commission Conference “Wilderness and Large Natural Habitat Areas in Europe”**

### **AGENDA**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel, Prague  
27-28 May 2009**

#### **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

18.00 – 19.00      **Early Registration in Crowne Plaza Prague at Reception Desk**

#### **DAY 1, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

08.00 – 08.45      **Registration in Crowne Plaza Prague at Reception Desk**

09.00 – 09.45      **Session: Welcome and setting the Scene**

**Chair:** Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe initiative, UK

- Ladislav Miko, Minister, Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic
- Vaclav Havel, Former President, Czech Republic
- Michael Hamell, Acting Director, European Commission, DG Environment
- Luc Marie Gnacadja, Executive Secretary, United Nations CCD

10.00                **Press Conference** (parallel with the next session)

09.45 – 10.40      **Session: Protecting wilderness & wild areas**

**Chair:** Petr Roth, Ministry of Environment, Czech Republic

**Session Aim:** To provide definitional and spatial context for the Conference and define the nature of threats and challenges

- *Wild, what's in a word? Practical definition*, Wolfgang Schroeder, Professor, Center for Life Sciences. Technische Universitaet München, Germany
- *Where is wild? Mapping results, EC and adjacent countries*, Steve Carver, Senior Lecturer, School of Geography, University of Leeds, UK

Ministerstvo životního prostředí

Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

Ref: 326/M/09, 5280/ENV/09

Vršovická 65

100 00 Prague 10, Czech Republic

Tel.: (+420) 267 121 111 | Fax: (+420) 267 310 308

E-mail: [wild@mzp.cz](mailto:wild@mzp.cz) | [www.mzp.cz](http://www.mzp.cz)

- *What is happening with wilderness in Europe currently?*, Vlado Vancura, Conservation Manager, PAN Parks Foundation, Slovakia

10.40 – 11.10           **Coffee Break**

11.10 – 11.55           **Session: Wild areas & nature**

**Chair:** Martin Solar, Deputy Director, Triglav National Park, Slovenia

**Session Aim:** To demonstrate the biodiversity benefits of wilderness and large natural habitat areas, and reconcile dis-benefits

- *The role of wild lands in halting biodiversity loss*, Jeff McNeely, Chief Scientist, IUCN, Switzerland
- *Wild areas in the context of Natura 2000*, Alberto Arroyo, Natura 2000 Officer, WWF, Hungary
- *European wilderness in the Global context*, Harvey Locke, Wild Foundation, Canada

11.55 -12.55           **Session: Realizing the values of wild areas**

**Chair:** Guido Plassmann, director, ALPARC, France

**Session Aim:** The intrinsic values of wilderness and wild landscapes are literally priceless, and safeguards are needed to protect the natural qualities of the areas concerned. But alongside appreciation of their intrinsic and biodiversity qualities, there is need to demonstrate the scope for valuing the full range of their benefits

- *Environmental benefits - utilising the Climate Change Challenge*, Steve Prior, Director, Forest Carbon Ltd, UK
- *Social and cultural benefits - linking the urban agenda*, Jo Roberts, Director, Wilderness Foundation, UK
- *Economics of wild areas – nature tourism and beyond*, Jacqueline Baar, Senior Advisor, TripleEE Consultancy, Netherlands
- *The importance of valuing wild areas*, Pavan Sukhdev, Study Leader – TEEB & Project Leader, UNEP Green Economy Initiative, UK

12.55 – 13.00           **Introduction to Workshop Session I**

13.00 – 14.00           **Lunch break**

14.00 – 15.30           **Workshops Session I**

1. *Protecting wildlands. Rationale and components of a Wilderness Register*

**Location: Conference Hall**

**Aim:** To show why this is required and to determine the components for it

**Chair:** Jana Vavrinova, Ministry of Environment, Czech Republic

2. *Wild area benefits: utilising their value for key beneficiaries*

**Location: Neklan + Vasta rooms (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** To assess how to translate benefits into initiatives

**Chair:** Steve Prior, Director, Forest Carbon Ltd, UK

3. *Best practice in habitat management for different wild areas*

**Location: Bivoj room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** Making best use of experience in managing wilderness (pristine), non intervention areas and those that are nearly wild where some restoration is required. Developing a Compendium of best practice.

**Chair:** Rauno Väisänen, Head of Natural Heritage Service, Metsähallitus, Finland

4. *The State of play for undisturbed forests in EU*

**Location: Premysl room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** To identify key actions needed for improved protection

**Chair:** Erika Stanciu, President, Europarc Federation, Romania

5. *Law and policy for protection – guidelines for management*

**Location: Bruncvik room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** Assessment of existing provision and identification of gaps

**Chair:** Cees Bastmeijer, Senior Researcher, Tilburg University, Netherlands

6. *Wilderness and sustainable development*

**Location: Libuse room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** To assess how low impact non-extractive enterprise can best benefit local landholders and communities

**Chair:** Neil Birnie, Director, Conservation Capital, UK

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee Break**

Video from Swarovski Optik

16.00 – 17.00 **Plenary - Workshops I feedback**

**Chair:** Zoltan Kun, Director, PAN Parks Foundation, Hungary

The Chairs of various workshops report back to the plenary

**Aim:** To report back to the plenary from each workshop

17.00 – 18.00 **Building partnerships**

**Chair:** Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe Initiative, UK

**Session Aim:** Investigate the opportunities to build partnership with non conservation sector partners for the benefits of wilderness

- *Value added for local communities: the rural development agenda*, Case Study Bayerischer Wald, Karl Friedrich Sinner, Director, Bayerischer Wald National Park, Germany
- *Wilderness as seen from the forest sector*, Georg Frank, Senior Researcher, BFW, Austria
- *The business contribution to wild areas*, Ingrid Valks, Director, Performance Improvement, Netherlands
- *Incentives for landholders. Examples from across Europe*, Marie-Alice Budniok, Director of Legal & Administrative Affairs, European Landowners' Organisation, Belgium  
Charles Burrell, landowner and farmer, Sussex, UK

## Close of Day 1 - Summary and looking to Day 2

19.00 – 21.00 **Conference Banquet, Crowne Plaza Prague**

Libuse+Bruncvik+Premysl room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

During this banquet there will be a slide show:

“What We’re Campaigning For - The Wild Wonders of Europe”

21.30 Optional - films:

BBC Film “Alladale, Monarch of the Glen” (Habitat restoration and species reintroduction on a private estate in the Scottish Highlands)

“The Wild Wonders of Europe” longer version, introduction by Staffan Widstrand, WWE Founder, Sweden

Ballet in the Wilderness – a film of the Bayerischer Ballet, Germany

## Day 2, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May

09.00 – 09.50 **Session: Opportunities for restoration**

**Chair:** Eladio Fernandez Galiano, Director of Biodiversity, Council of Europe, France

**Session Aim:** to look at restoration opportunities within the framework of current legislation within and outside the European Union.

- *What and where are the opportunities for restoration? Components, future trends (CAP 2012) and mapping*, Magnus Sylven, International Projects, Buro Stoming (former Director of WWF European Programme), Switzerland
- *Advancing a connectivity agenda*, Graham Bennett, Director, Syzygy Consulting, Netherlands
- *Restoration examples throughout Europe*, Henrique Miguel Perreira, Senior Researcher, University of Lisbon, Portugal

09.50 – 10.00 **Introduction to Workshop Session II**

**Aim:** Workshops will be practical with output incorporated into recommendations

10.00 – 10.30 **Coffee Break**

10.30 – 12.00 **Workshop Session II**

1. *Restoration and connectivity – making it work*

**Location: Conference Hall**

**Aim:** To identify what ingredients are required for successful restoration initiatives

**Chair:** Stig Johansson, European Chair, WCPA, Finland

2. *Learning from best practice in restoration*

**Location: Neklan + Vasta rooms (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** Best practice in practical restoration management, developing a Compendium

**Chair:** Hans Kampf, Director, Large Herbivore Foundation, Netherlands

3. *Promoting wilderness: tailoring the messages*

**Location: Bivoj room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** To define a communication strategy, showing the need for clear messages, targeted and tailored

**Chair:** Harvey Locke, Wild Foundation, Canada

4. *Funding wild land objectives*

**Location: Premysl room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** To identify key current and future sources, how to access them and what reforms might be helpful

**Chair:** Paul Grigoriev, Regional Programme Coordinator, IUCN ROfE, Belgium

5. *Components of a Wildland Support Network*

**Location: Bruncvik room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** To assess requirement for a simple infrastructure that can support implementation of a coordinated strategy for wilderness and large natural habitat areas

**Chair:** Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe Initiative, UK

6. *Policy options for the EC and beyond*

**Location: Libuse room (2nd floor)**

**Aim:** to define outline policy recommendations for protection and restoration of wilderness and large natural habitat areas

**Chair:** Patrick Murphy, Desk Officer, European Commission DG Environment, Belgium

12.00 – 13.00 **Plenary - Workshops II feedback**

**Chair:** Zoltan Kun, Director, PAN Parks Foundation, Hungary

The Chairs of various workshops report back to the plenary

**Aim:** To report back to the plenary from each workshop

(Preparation of Message from Prague)

13.00 – 14.00 **Lunch break**

14.00 – 15.40 **Session: Action – Announcing New Initiatives**

**Chair:** Chris Mahon, Chair, IUCN National Committee, UK

**Session Aim:** To announce or trial new initiatives

- *From Unspoilt to Untamed – a field programme for creating European wilderness*, presented by Johan van de Gronden, CEO, WWF Netherlands
- *The Carpathian Forests: a Wilderness opportunity in the Heart of Europe*, presented by Harald Egerer, UNEP and Andreas Beckmann, WWF DCP, Austria
- *Bialowieza, Expanding Protection of Europe's Primeval Forest*, presented by Janusz Zaleski, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Environment, Poland

- *"If they can do it....." Enlarging the Dutch restoration: Oostvaardersplassen and beyond*, presented by Frans Vera, Fellow Researcher, Wageningen University c/o Staatsbosbeheer, Netherlands
- *Components of Wildland Support Network (Workshop 5 of Day 2)*, presented by Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe Initiative
- *Announcing a Business for Wilderness Forum and PAN Parks Wilderness Club*, presented by Derek Jacobs, Chairman Elstat Electronics Group, Hajnalka Schmidt, Business Development Manager, PAN Parks Foundation, Hungary

15.40 – 16.10           **Coffee break**

16.10 – 17.30           **Keynote presentations**

**Chair:** Erika Stanciu, President, Europarc Federation, Romania

**Session Aim:** closing the conference with providing the message and broader political context

- *Wild areas in Europe – a political perspective*, Joel Giraud, Member of the French Parliament, France
- *Message from the Conference*, Ladislav Miko, Minister of Environment, Czech Republic
- Michael Hamell, Acting Director, European Commission, DG Environment
- *Closing presentation*, Åsa Norrman, Director Of Nature of Ministry of Environment, Sweden

## CONFERENCE CLOSES

17.45                   **Press conference**

Accreditation can be gained through the Press Contact provided by the Czech Ministry of Environment (see the press contact at <http://www.wildeurope.org/index.php/contact/media>)

*A full version of this agenda, with detailed content for each session, can be obtained from the conference organizers via email: [info@wildeurope.org](mailto:info@wildeurope.org)*