

EUROPARC Federation Report to Council

Title:

Formal Approval of two methodologies for the implementation of Part II of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas

Summary:

The EUROPARC Federation Evaluation Committee, at its meeting in July 2011, carried out a technical assessment of two methodologies for the implementation of Part II of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism.

Recommendation:

- ❖ That the EUROPARC Federation Council formally approve both methodologies.

Background

The Evaluation Committee met on 1st and 2nd July in Djerdap National Park to consider, amongst other things, three methodologies that had been submitted:

1. a methodology submitted by Federparchi in 2010,
2. a methodology for the Baltic Sea region and
3. a methodology submitted by the EUROPARC Federation French Section.

Re. 1: Italian methodology

The Evaluation Committee had already carried out a technical appraisal of this methodology in 2010. At the time, the new procedure – whereby the EUROPARC Federation Council formally approves any new methodology – had not yet been in place. The consensus therefore was that this methodology had not yet been formally approved by the Council. The Evaluation Committee is content that the Italian methodology meets all current requirement and recommends to the Council that it be formally approved.

Re. 2: Baltic Sea region methodology

This new methodology was submitted in 2011 and circulated to all members of the Evaluation Committee before its meeting in July 2011. The Committee thoroughly appraised all technical details of the methodology and concluded that the new methodology for the Baltic Sea region meets all current requirement and recommends to the Council that it be formally approved.

Re. 3: Combined methodology as submitted by the EUROPARC Federation French Section

This methodology was before the EUROPARC Federation Council at its meeting in Schwerin. It was also part of the Evaluation Committee agenda in July 2011. The Evaluation Committee concluded that more work needed to be done on this combined methodology and referred it back to the EUROPARC Federation Directorate for further action.