APPROVED

Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus

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PLAN

of events for participation in 2011 celebrations dedicated to 40^{th} anniversary of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat

No	Activities	Deadlines	Responsible
1.	Organisation and conduction of the regional conference on sustainable management of wetlands in transboundary context.		Ministry of Nature, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
2.	Provision of implementation: National Strategy for Protected Natural Areas Development and Management up to 1 January 2015 approved by the Decree of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus on 29 December 2007 No. 1920; State Programme of Specially Protected Natural Areas Development for the period 2008-2014, approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus on 6 March 2008, No. 146; Strategy on Realisation of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat, approved by the Decree of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus on 10 February 2009, No. 177.		Ministry of Nature, Republican governmental bodies, regional executive committees, Minsk City Executive Committee

3.	Media coverage of the 2011 celebrations of 40 th Anniversary of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat celebration's activities on TV and radio		Belarusian TV and Radio Company, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Nature
4.	Creation of a TV programmes series on wetlands, biological and landscape diversity, specially protected natural areas, ecological tourism	During the year	Belarusian TV and Radio Company, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Nature, regional executive committees, Minsk City Executive Committee
5.	Organisation and conduction of a press-conference, dedicated to the International Wetlands Day (2 February) and celebrations of the 40 th Anniversary of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat.		Ministry of Nature, Ministry of Information
6.	Creation and maintenance in working condition of sections (pages), devoted to SPNAs, including wetlands of international importance at the web-sites of Republican governmental bodies, Regional Executive Committees, Minsk City Executive Committee.	During the year	Republican governmental bodies, regional executive committees, Minsk City Executive Committee
7.	Development and publication in mass media of a series of ecological and educational, information and promotion materials on wetlands of international importance	During the year	Ministry of Nature, Ministry of Information
8.	Organisation and conduction of activities, including press-conferences, dedicated to celebration of the key ecological dates: International Wetlands Day International Forests Day; International Bird Day; International Climate Day; International Biodiversity Day; World Environment Day;	During the year 2 February 21 March 1 April 26 April 22 May 5 June	Ministry of Nature, Ministry of Information
	World Day to Combat Desertification/ Land degradation; World Tourism Day;	17 June 27 September	

	World Habitat Day; World Animal Day; World Natural Protected Areas Day	1 October 4 October 6 October	
9.	Creation of a presentation film about specially protected natural territories in Belarus in the Russian and English languages	November	Ministry of Nature
10.	Preparation and publication of a directory "Specially Protected Natural Territories of Belarus"	October	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus
11.	Organisation and conduction of exhibitions, devoted to wetlands of Belarus and 40 th Anniversary of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat in regional and district lore museums	During the year	Regional executive committees, Ministry of culture
12.	Organisation of exposition "Wild Nature"	May	Ministry of Nature, State Museum of Nature and Ecology of the Republic of Belarus
13.	Organisation and conduction of an exposition of botanic collections on the base of State Research Enterprise "Central Botanical Garden of the National Academy of the Sciences of the Republic of Belarus"	April, September	National academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus, Ministry of Nature
14.	Organisation of photo exhibition "Wetlands of Belarus"	November	Ministry of Nature
15.	Organisation of topical demonstrations of chronicle and documentary films and social clips on ecological subjects in the cinema theatres of the Republic of Belarus	During the year	Regional executive committees
16.	Publishing of an envelope with original post stamp and conduction of a special commemorative stamping dedicated to the 40 th Anniversary of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat		Ministry of Communications
17.	Organisation and conduction of republican Web-based contest of students' scientific and research papers	March-May	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Nature

18.	Conduction of presentations, children's exhibitions, meetings, forums and other events, dedicated to wetlands in Belarus and 40 th Anniversary of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat	During the year	Ministry of Education
19.	Organisation and conduction of the XXII Republican contest of scientific biological and ecological works of students from secondary education establishments and establishments of out-of-school education and training	February	Ministry of Education
20.	Conduction of educational seminar on ecological tourism development for top management of state nature protection agencies, which involved into SPNAs management	September	Ministry of Nature
21.	Conduction of a working meeting on creation of transboundary nature territories	During the year	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus, Ministry of Nature
22.	Conduction of field trainings for students at the base of SPNAs	May-September	State nature protection agencies, which conduct management of SPNAs
23.	Organisation and conduction of "Mushroom Festival" in the village of Dretun	August – September	Polotsk District Executive Committee
24.	Organization and conduction of an international environmental action "The March of Parks"	May	Department for Presidential Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Ministry of Nature, Berezino Biosphere Reserve, State nature protection agencies, which conduct management of SPNAs
25.	Conduction of ecotourism festival "Zaborsky Fest"	June	Rossony District Executive Committee , State production enterprise "Eco-Rosy"
26.	Organisation and conduction of hand hey mowing championship	July	Bereza District Executive Committee, Republican Biological Reserve "Sporovsky"

27.	Implementation of events to prevent overgrowing of open low-land wetlands (fens, river-beds) at "Sporovsky", "Zvanets" and "Middle Pripyat" Reserves	During the year	Brest Region Executive Committee, State nature protection agencies, which conduct management of "Sporovsky", "Zvanets" and "Middle Pripyat" Reserves
28.	Enhancement of landscape and flower gardening at the territory of populated areas	During the year	Regional executive committees, Minsk City Executive Committee, Minsk Housing and Communal Committee, Minsk Department for Construction and Architectural Affairs
29.	Publication of brochures on the issues of biological diversity, SPNAs, national ecological network	October	Ministry of Nature, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
30.	Preparation of proposals on signing of co-operation agreements in the sphere of nature protection and sustainable management transboundary protected natural areas: between Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus and Ministry of Environment of the Lithuanian Republic; between Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Environment of Ukraine	November	Ministry of Nature, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
31.	Information support from the side of diplomatic representations and consulate sections of the Republic of Belarus in implementation of activities in the framework of the 40 th Anniversary celebrations of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat	During the year	Ministry of Nature, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus
32.	Preparation of rationale on expediency of the Republic of Belarus acceding to the Bern Convention	During the year	Ministry of Nature, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
33.	Elaboration and implementation of SPNAs management plans	During the year	Department for Presidential Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Ministry of Nature, Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve, Belovezhskaya Pushcha, State nature protection agencies, which conduct management of SPNAs

34.	Organisation and conduction of an action "Bird Watching Days"	October	Ministry of Nature, Ministry of Education
35.	Organisation and conduction of an action "Nightingale Nights"	May	Ministry of Nature
36.	Organisation and conduction of republican competitions: on the best composition on landscaping and territory improvement; on improvement and maintenance of public rest places in boundaries of water objects protected areas; photo contest "This is Your Land"	During the year	Ministry of Nature
37.	Preparation of a report for Ramsar Convention Secretariat on wetland of international importance especially as water fowl habitat on 2011 celebrations in Belarus of the 40 th Anniversary of Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially as water fowl habitat	December	Ministry of Nature

World Wetlands Day 2011

The issues of co-operation on conservation and sustainable management of wetlands in Belarus between the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus and international organizations became the key topic of the field press conference, which took place in the "Sporovsky" Reserve (Bereza District, Brest Region of Belarus) on World Wetlands Day 2 February 2011. Sporovsky Reserve was the first protected area in Belarus to receive the status of a Ramsar Site in 1999.

The main objective of the conference was to raise the awareness of a broad audience of the <u>extrinsic value</u> of wetlands in terms of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development at the local level. The representatives of the Ministry of Nature, regional and district authorities as well as international and non-governmental organizations presented the main achievements and problematic issues on wetlands management in Belarus to national and local media. The participants also discussed ways to improve and strengthen co-operation of local and national stakeholders with international partners (UNDP, GEF, RSPB) on conservation and sustainable management of wetlands. Special attention was paid to mechanisms of more active involvement of local communities into the process.





