



Conférence générale

32e session
Projet de résolution

Генеральная конференция

32-я сессия
Проект резолюции

dr

Paris 2003

General Conference

32nd session
Draft resolution

المؤتمر العام

الدورة الثانية والثلاثون
اللجنة الأولى

Conferencia General

32ª reunión
Proyecto de resolución

大会

第三十二届会议
决议草案

32 C/DR.13*
(COM.III)
3 September 2003
Original: French

Item 4.2 of the provisional agenda

Amendment to the Draft Programme and Budget for 2004-2005 (32 C/5)

Submitted by: **BELARUS, UKRAINE**

Part II.A – Major Programmes, Projects relating to cross-cutting themes

- Major Programme II – Natural sciences
- Programme II.1 – Science, environment and sustainable development
- Subprogramme II.1.1 – Water interactions: systems at risk and social challenges
- Resolution
(32 C/5 Para. No.): – 02110
- Budgetary implications
indicated by the sponsor: – \$250,000
- Source of financing
proposed by the sponsor: – Regular programme

Proposed modification, deletion or addition:

Insert in paragraph 02110, paragraph (a), subparagraph (i), penultimate line, between “water” and “management” the words “**and marshland**” so that this part of the subparagraph will read: “developing integrated catchments or watershed approaches to land, water **and marshland** management which emphasize sustainability and security in line with WSSD recommendations and relevant MDGs;”

* This proposal was received by the Secretariat on 12 August 2003.

Explanatory note:

Pursuant to 31 C/DR.68 and 31 C/DR.69 a series of activities were carried out by the MAB National Committees of Belarus, Poland and Ukraine, which gave rise to a regional seminar entitled “Strategy for the safeguarding and use of freshwater resources and biological diversity in the Polessia region” held in May 2003 under the auspices of UNESCO and attended by international and regional organizations. The plan of action adopted by the seminar’s participants deals with transborder activities for the preservation of biological diversity and freshwater resources in the marshy and forested Polessia region, situated in Belarus, Ukraine and Poland.

This region’s water and biological balance has been influenced considerably by the draining of the marshes in the 1960s to 1980s. Another factor that is a threat to Polessia’s population is the radioactive contamination of part of its territory after the explosion of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant (1986).

The finalization of the Plan of Action on Polessia would be an effective regional contribution under Main line of action 4: (Joint IHP/MAB) Land-water interactions: towards sustainable development under Major Programme II – Natural sciences.

This activity will also serve to strengthen cooperation between UNESCO and UNDP in view of their Memorandum of Cooperation on Polessia signed at the above-mentioned seminar.