

**Agreement of mutual cooperation
between the Northern Vosges Biosphere Reserve of France,
the Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve of Belarus and
Kampinos National Park (Biosphere Reserve „Puszcza Kampinowska”) of Poland**

The Northern Vosges Biosphere Reserve of France, the Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve of Belarus and Kampinos National Park (Biosphere Reserve “Puszcza Kampinowska”) of Poland called hereinafter the “contracting parties”

expressing the wish to develop cooperation in conformity with the MaB Program of UNESCO in the sphere of nature conservation, consideration of ecological problems, sustainable use of natural resources, education and the training of the local society,

having in mind that the Governments of France, Belarus and Poland take various measures to decrease the negative impact of management activities on ecosystems, to preserve biological diversity and to improve the functioning of the protected areas, and referring to international conventions and resolutions concerning conservation and sustainable use of the environment and natural habitats, agreed on the following fields of cooperation:

ARTICLE 1 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND DATA ON NATURE CONSERVATION, RESEARCH AND MONITORING

- Exchange of information (Geographical Information System, leaflets, posters, films, slides, documents etc.) on various aspects of conservation, planning, management, and restoration of ecosystems (of the biosphere reserve or the region as a whole) and exchange of reports on the activities of the biosphere reserves,
- Exchange of experience on conservation and restoration of plant communities, wildlife and abiotic elements of the ecosystem,
- Exchange of information on phenology and biology of plant and animal species present in the three biosphere reserves.

ARTICLE 2 EXCHANGE OF SPECIALISTS AND SCIENTISTS

- Exchange and post-doctorate internships of young scientists, post-graduates and students based on the three biosphere reserves
- Professional scientific assistance in the following fields: scientific research, environmental education, nature conservation, forestry management and participation of the local society in the management of the reserve.
- Exchange of the experiences in the field of databases and Geographical Information Systems

ARTICLE 3 ASSISTANCE CONCERNING COMMON PUBLICATIONS

Translation by each biosphere reserve of information about the other Reserves in publications of its country

ARTICLE 4 ECOLOGICAL TOURISM

Assistance in creating ecological trails and sustainable tourism development particularly in organising nature trips and assessment of the impact of tourists on the biotopes.

ARTICLE 5 ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Assistance and exchange of skills in establishing tools for ecological education and training sessions for the people involved in the activities of the three biosphere reserves.

ARTICLE 6 CULTURAL RESOURCES

The contracting parties will put special effort into the cultural exchanges between the region in which they are located.

ARTICLE 7 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

Each project will be implemented by a specific agreement, defining the responsibilities of the parties, financial conditions and the duration.

ARTICLE 8 MEETING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The contracting parties agree to participate in an annual meeting of the staff of the three biosphere reserves to evaluate the implementation of the projects set out on the basis of the agreement.

ARTICLE 9 DURATION AND VALIDITY OF THE AGREEMENT

The agreement runs for 5 years from the date of its signing by all the contracting parties.

Each of the contracting parties may propose modifications to the Agreement. Modifications are accepted by the accord of the three contraction parties and come into force from the date of the approval of the final modification.

All contracting parties will make an effort to get resources for the realisation of common projects.

Signed in three copies on the 17th of October, 2011

Andrej Prokoshin

**Director of Berezynski
Biosphere Reserve**

Jerzy Misiak

**Director of Kampinos
National Park
(Biosphere Reserve
“Puszcza Kampinoska”)**

Michael Weber

**The Chairman of
Northern Vosges
Biosphere Reserve**