

10.11.2010

Report of the depositary (Germany)

Since the last report of the depositary (November 2009) the Convention entered into force for the following states:

Ethiopia 01.01.2010

Equatorial Guinea 01.08.2010

So far 114 contracting parties belong now to CMS (113 member states and the European Union).

The German activities to gain new parties proceed usually as follows:

In addition to efforts of the CMS secretariat promoting new parties the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs approaches the respective German embassies for help and assistance in the signature and ratification processes. Furthermore embassies on their own promote the accession.

Accession of Russia

The German Ministry for the Environment (BMU) is still active to care for the Russian accession to CMS and respective agreements in close and good cooperation with the CMS secretariat. 21.6.-22.6.2010 in a meeting of the German-Russian working group the subject CMS accession was on the agenda. The CMS secretariat was involved in the talks by the BMU. Result: obviously the biggest problem to overcome are still concerns of the Russian fishery side and their fears of interference with the sturgeon/caviar market.

During the Tiger summit in St.Petersburg (20.-23.11.2010) Germany will again try to reach progress in the CMS accession issue: the tiger conference and Russian considerations, that a tiger agreement might be well placed under CMS, could be a door opener for a Russian accession to CMS.

Accession of Kirgistan

With the help of the GTZ, a German development organisation, currently the accession of Kirgistan is promoted (in contact with the BMU): after the parliamentary election the new parliament came together 5.11.2010 and still within November the coalition talks might be finalized and subsequently the new government will be in power.

The legislative process to acced CMS is already prepared and might start as soon as the new Parliament is ready.

This might have positive effects on the accession of **Tajikistan** too.