

PRESS RELEASE

ECNC Board meets in Greece

15 November 2004

The Board of ECNC-The European Centre for Nature Conservation held its annual meeting at the offices of the Greek Biotope Wetland Centre (EKBY) in Thessaloniki on 12 November 2004.

EKBY became an ECNC Network partner in November 2003. According to ECNC's Executive Director Rob Wolters, "EKBY is a well renowned institution, contributing highly to the conservation and wise use of nature in Europe.

Mrs Nicki Goulandris, president of the Goulandris Natural History Museum in Greece, is an honorary Vice President of ECNC and attended the Board meeting in the EKBY offices. Mr Albert Klinkenbergh, ECNC's founding father, stepped down as ECNC Board member after having served on the Board from its very beginning. Mr Klinkenbergh was proclaimed as honorary ECNC Vice-President, for his distinguished services and for guiding ECNC from a pioneering organization towards an established European institution.

During its meeting, the ECNC Board discussed amongst other things the possibilities to increase cooperation with EKBY in South-East Europe. ECNC and EKBY already work closely together on the development of the Pan-European Ecological Network for South-Eastern Europe. Both organizations will start elaborating more joint projects as soon as possible.

ECNC's President, Sir Brian Unwin, expressed his appreciation and gratitude to EKBY for its hospitality. He said he was fully confident that the future cooperation between EKBY and ECNC will have great benefits for nature and biodiversity in the South East European area and in Europe as a whole.

For more information:

Rob Wolters, Executive Director ECNC, Tel: +31-(0)13-5944944, email: wolters@ecnc.org

EKBY, Tel.: +30 2310 473320, email: web@ekby.gr