

Minutes Summary and Key Decisions

14th GGN Advisory Committee Meeting – 28 November 2025

1. Agenda and Previous Minutes

- **Decision:**
 - The meeting agenda was **adopted unanimously**.
 - The **Minutes of the 5th/2025 GGN Advisory Committee Meeting (Kütralkura)** were **adopted unanimously**.

2. GGN Strategic Action Plan 2025–2027

- The Strategic Action Plan had already been formally adopted by the General Assembly; this meeting focused on **implementation and monitoring**.
- **Key Decision:**
 - All **national representatives** are required to **discuss the Strategic Action Plan at national level**, identify **priority actions**, and **present these priorities at the next Advisory Committee meeting in January**.
- Additional agreed directions (not formal votes but clear consensus):
 - Implementation should be **context-specific**, not all actions apply to all countries.
 - Reporting should focus on **priority actions**, not the entire plan.
 - Annual reporting is considered sufficient.
 - A structured reporting approach (e.g., adding a reporting column to the Action Plan) is supported in principle.

3. Annual Reports of Activities (2024)

- Concerns were raised about **low submission rates**, especially at individual geopark level.
- **Decisions:**
 1. Further discussion will take place on a **new, more integrated reporting approach** (potentially a single consolidated online report).
 - Once a draft document is prepared and approved by the Advisory Committee, it will be **submitted to the GGN Executive Board for adoption**.
 2. A **formal reminder** was issued to all members who have not yet submitted their **2024 SDGs reporting template**, urging immediate submission so that GGN can finalize its global SDGs report.

4. Reporting Framework Improvements

- **Consensus outcomes (directional decisions):**
 - There is strong support for:
 - A **standardized reporting template**.
 - Exploring the creation of **one unified reporting tool** combining annual, SDG, and strategic action plan reporting.
 - A **task force / working group** could be considered to prepare a concrete proposal before wider discussion.

5. Calendar of Events 2025–2026

- **Decision:**
 - The **GGN Calendar of Events 2025–2026**, including four Advisory Committee meetings in 2026 (January, April, June, November), was **accepted as indicative**.
- Members are invited to:
 - Propose additional international or regional events.
 - Participate in major tourism fairs (e.g., FITUR Madrid 2026, ITB Berlin 2026).

6. Other Strategic Directions (No formal vote, but agreed orientations)

- GGN will:
 - Explore collaboration with **UNEP** on disaster risk reduction monitoring.
 - Consider mechanisms to provide **feedback to geoparks and evaluators**.
 - Encourage thematic groups to reflect on the **role of Artificial Intelligence** in geopark activities.
 - Improve guidance materials for **new geopark managers and representatives**, particularly regarding reporting and revalidation timelines.

Closing

- The meeting concluded with acknowledgements of past leadership and recognition of the significant workload ahead.
- **Meeting closed at 14:01 GMT.**