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**BUREAU OF THE
STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE
(CDCPP)**

**MEETING "LANDSCAPE AND DEMOCRACY"
STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION**

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate of Democratic Governance
Democratic Institutions and Governance Department

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Introduction

The activities of the Working Group on Landscape and Democracy (Paris, Council of Europe Office, France, 17-18 March 2016),¹ chaired by Mrs Liv Kirstine Mortensen, Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, have been designed to implement the provisions of: the Programme and Budget 2016-2017 of the Council of Europe; the terms of reference of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) 2016-2017; and the Work Programme on the European Landscape Convention for 2015-2017, as approved by the CDCPP (Appendix to this document).

The Report of the Meeting ([CEP-CDCPP-WG \(2016\) 6-E – Report](#)) and the working documents ([Working documents](#)) are available on the Website of the European Landscape Convention: <http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention> / Meetings / Working Groups

Considering that the Member States of the Council of Europe in general, and the Parties to the European Landscape Convention in particular, are invited to take measures to protect, manage and plan the landscape and enhance its value for the society, work has notably focused on the following points:

1. National landscape policies
2. Good practices of Member States presented as part of the Alliance of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
3. Preparation of recommendations for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

1. National landscape policies

The 18th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops on "*National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities*", will be held in Yerevan, Armenia, from 5 to 7 October 2016. It will focus on the implementation of Article 5 of the European Landscape Convention and will cover the following aspects: strategies and policy documents; legal and financial instruments; integration, horizontal and vertical co-ordination. The contributions will present the lessons learned and the added value of the policies adopted, for the future. Reference will be made to the Information System of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (ELC L6).

¹ List of participants at the Meeting of the Working Group : Mrs Anna MOLES MARINE (Andorra), Mrs Mireille DECONINCK (Belgium), Mr Tapio HEIKKILÄ (Finland), Mr Julien TRANSY (France), Mrs Krisztina KINCSES (Hungary), Mrs Sanja LJESKOVIC MITROVIC (Montenegro), Mrs Liv Kirstine MORTENSEN (Norway), Mrs Maria José FESTAS, Former Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, Mr Yves LUGINBÜHL, Expert and Mrs Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Council of Europe.

The Working Group expressed the wish that on the occasion of its 5th Meeting (Strasbourg, 13-15 June 2016), the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP), may designate two contact persons on culture and cultural heritage in order to deal with the integration of landscape in cultural policies, in accordance with Article 5, c. of the European Landscape Convention.

The 9th Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention which will be held in the framework of the Cyprus Presidency of the Committee of Ministers will take place in Strasbourg from 20 to 24 March or from 27 to 31 March 2017, subject to availability of rooms in the Council of Europe.

2. Good practices of Member States presented as part of the Alliance of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

The [17th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on "Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 4th Session 2014-2015"](#) is being organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary, within the context of the Work Programme of the European Landscape Convention, in Budapest on 9-10 June 2016 (Vigadó Concert Hall, Vigadó tér 2, 1051 Hungary).

The experiences of high value achieved in the Member States of the Organisation on the occasion of the 4th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (<http://www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance>) will be presented in this Meeting ([Programme](#)). They show that it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape features of people's surroundings.

A study visit will be organised on 8 June 2016, to the area of the borderless co-operation of Hungarian and Slovenian local communities, for the landscape of 'Fabulous' Hetés (<http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/hungary>).

The ceremony of the 4th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe will be held on 9 June 2016, in the evening.

The meeting is aimed at government officials – Members of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) and the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, representatives of other ministries, representatives of local and regional authorities, universities, professionals, public and private governmental and non-governmental organisations, working in the fields of landscape and sustainable management, with its environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions.

The Chair of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) is invited to deliver an opening speech of the meeting, and the members of the Steering Committee CDCPP are cordially invited to participate ([Registration](#)).

3. Preparation of recommendations for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

The Working Group decided to prepare the following documents:

- an issue paper (a conceptual report for reference), as requested at the 8th Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention, on landscape and the European Landscape Convention's contributions to democracy, human rights and sustainable development;
- a draft Recommendation on the contribution of the landscape approach, as defined in the European Landscape Convention, to the exercise of democracy and human rights, in a perspective of sustainable development, based on the issue paper (conceptual report for reference);
- a draft Recommendation on principles for the participation of the general public in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies, as defined in the European Landscape Convention;
- an information brochure.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to take note of the results of the 2nd Meeting of the Working Group on Landscape and Democracy (Paris, Council of Europe Office, France, 17-18 March 2016), and to make any comments it deems necessary.

APPENDIX

Council of Europe activities 2016-2017 Elements referring to the European Landscape Convention

1. Documents adopted by the Committee of Ministers

a. Programme and budget 2016-2017 of Council of Europe (CM(2016)12/12/2015) *"Promote participation and diversity" (Elements referring to the European Landscape Convention)*

"Expected result

Member States have taken actions to implement ..., European Conventions in the area of ... Landscape to protect [manage and plan the] landscape and strengthen its value for the society.

Performance indicators

- Number of member States' national and regional reports on landscape policies (target 38);
- Number of member States best practices presented in the framework of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe (target 10);
- Number of specific Recommendations for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (target 2)."

b. Terms of reference of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) 2016-2017 *(Elements referring to the European Landscape Convention)*

"Main Tasks

Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, ..., and having regard to the Secretary General's reports on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law, and the relevant decisions by the Committee of Ministers, the CDCPP will oversee the Council of Europe's intergovernmental work in the field of ... landscape, and advise the Committee of Ministers on all questions within its area of competence. Taking due account of relevant transversal perspectives, the overall aim is to share information on policy, exchange best practice and develop standards as appropriate relating to culture, heritage and landscape in States Party to the Cultural Convention and other relevant Conventions. With this purpose, the Committee is instructed to:

- (i) act as a forum where States share information and good practices, devise innovative policies and strategies related to the sustainable management of ...landscape and contribute to the promotion of intercultural dialogue;
- (ii) at member States' request, facilitate the delivery of policy advice, technical assistance, co-operation and capacity building initiatives in the areas covered by these terms of reference and the relevant Council of Europe conventions [European Landscape Convention];

- (iii) promote and manage as appropriate European platforms, conferences and networks – including electronic ones (in particular ... , ELCIS [the Council of Europe Information System on the European Landscape Convention (ELC L6)], ...) – with a view to collecting best practice, exchanging experience and developing new approaches to policies and strategies on ... landscape and [its] value for society;
- (iv) follow up existing standards of the Council of Europe and, where necessary, develop new ones for ... landscape or adapt existing ones...;
- (v) ...;
- (vi) promote a high-level dialogue with representatives of the European Union, the United Nations/UNESCO, OSCE and other international organisations with a view to making use of each other's know-how and experience and identifying opportunities for co-operation and synergies ...;
- (vii) act as a catalyst for associating partner and observer organisations in the achievement of the goals of the Council of Europe in the fields of ... landscape, through synergies and collaborations;
- (viii) take due account of a gender perspective and to building cohesive societies in the performance of its tasks;
- (ix) take the pertinent aspects of the European Convention on Human Rights into consideration in its thematic work;
- (x) follow the implementation of the non-binding instruments that it has prepared as well as conventions for which it has been given supervision by the Committee of Ministers;
- (xi) contribute to co-operation and support activities to national initiatives in this field;
- (xii) without prejudice to the mandates of intergovernmental committees of the Council of Europe that already follow the work of monitoring mechanisms, follow the activities of the relevant monitoring and other bodies or convention mechanisms;
- (xiii) in accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, carry out, at regular intervals, within the limits of the available resources and bearing in mind its priorities, an examination of some or all of the conventions for which it has been given responsibility [European Landscape Convention, notably] in co-operation, where appropriate, with the relevant convention-based bodies, and report back to the Committee of Ministers.

Specific tasks

- At member States' request, facilitate the delivery of peer reviews, policy and legal advice and technical assistance in the field of landscape;
- Facilitate the use of and implementation by member States of tools and guidelines (including CM recommendations) on landscape ... policies at national, regional and local level, as appropriate;
- Prepare the 9th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention (2017) and take action on its outcomes;
- Perform the tasks given to it by the European Landscape Convention and in particular adopt proposals to the Committee of Ministers for the granting of the Council of Europe Landscape Award."

2. Document approved by the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP): Work Programme on the European Landscape Convention for 2015-2017

The Work Programme on the European Landscape Convention for 2015-2017,² approved by the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP), 4th Meeting Strasbourg, 1-3 June 2015 [CDCPP(2015)15], states that the main objectives of the Work Programme are to maintain and deepen dialogue and co-operation between public authorities and civil society for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention by:

- “1. Organising biennial Conferences of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (to be referred in the terms of reference of the CDCPP) and organising, at least one workshop for the implementation of the Convention every year.
2. Continuing the work (maintenance and up-dating) with the Information System of the Council of Europe European Landscape Convention (ELC L6) and launching the 2nd Phase of development tools.
3. Continuing the Sessions of the Council of Europe's Landscape Award.
4. Establishing a working group to explore the different possibilities of the Council of Europe and the States Parties to progress in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and emphasize its contribution to democracy, well-being, socio-cultural diversity and inclusion in Europe, namely by continuing the preparation of thematic reports, contributing to the preparation of the programmes of the conferences and the workshops, following the progress of L6. The working group is also asked, supported by expertise³, to explore the different possibilities of the Council of Europe and the States Parties to give more visibility to the European Landscape Convention and the work of the Council Europe's Landscape (Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, thematic reports, etc.).
5. Developing pedagogical material for secondary school (within a working group) and considering how to develop higher education and training for professionals in line with the Convention.
6. Establishing a working group, supported by expertise, on “Landscape and democracy” to follow up the report “Landscape and democracy: prospects”, in order to prepare an issue paper (taking into consideration the contribution of natural and cultural heritage and culture, as an expression of the social, economic, ecological, cultural and spatial diversity and identity of territories).

² The Work programme is proposed to cover the period between the 8th and the 9th Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention.

³ This support by expertise is going to be more on the basis of “brainstorming sessions”.
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7. Developing a common action on the three pillars of the CDCPP, using, namely, available methods on horizontal and vertical co-operation and broadly based participation (walks, discussions, photos, etc.) based on a joint reflection paper that could possibly finish with a workshop.”