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

**"FARO COMMUNITY"
REVISED MODALITIES AND ACTION PLAN**

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

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Introduction

The Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro Convention) was adopted by the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers on 13 October 2005 and entered into force on 1 June 2011. To date, 17 States have ratified it and five others have signed it.

The "Faro Action Plan" aims to illustrate the richness and novelty of the principles of the Faro Convention, as well as providing possibilities for interpretation in relation to current societal challenges. The Action Plan intends to generate common references, create mechanisms and tools to foster initiatives in line with the principles of the Convention.

The first "Faro Action Plan 2014-2015" adopted by the CDCPP in May 2013 led to the development of reference frameworks and tools, tested in four case studies in 2014. This further inspired other initiatives across member States and provided the Secretariat with constructive feedback, which emphasised the necessity to reformulate the existing documents and procedures with clearer guidance and terminology. Recognising this valuable feedback, some adjustments are proposed for the review and approval of the CDCPP Bureau.

Proposed adjustments

1. Principles

The implementation of the Faro Action Plan, with a spirit of the Convention, focuses on three main principles. Maintaining the essence of the concepts, the principles were reworded as follows:

- Connection to the community and landscape (territory) determines a sense of belonging;
- Social cohesion is founded on various forms (levels) of participation and commitment;
- Local democracy reinforced by developing civil society's capacities for action.

2. Criteria

Maintaining the essence of the concepts, the criteria were reworded as follows:

- a) Presence of an active civil society that has a common interest in a specific heritage;
- b) Emergence of a consensus on expanded common vision of heritage;
- c) Existence of a mainstream perception of a defined territory;
- d) Readiness of the group to engage in the process of developing narratives based on people and the territory;
- e) Presence of people who can convey the message;
- f) Engaged and supportive political players;
- g) Consideration of an alternative local economic model;
- h) A willingness to cooperate between local authorities and civil society;
- i) Openness to consider the civic action as an empowering act for democracy for all parties involved.

3. Faro Action was consolidated and presented in the following way in order to align the terminology and activities with the European Heritage Days and HEREIN. In this capacity, while the nature of the concepts remains the same, new terminology was introduced to make the documents more user-friendly and accessible.

The Faro Action is structured as follows (see the Faro Action structure on page 5)

3.1. Faro Community: In this component, the responsibility lies with the Faro Community, endorsed by the CDCPP, working towards a self-sustained and dynamic pan-European Faro Community network with extensive knowledge and resources, offering a framework for constructive dialogue and cooperation.

The Faro Community, with effective use of the HEREIN system, will accompany heritage communities through a process of becoming a part of the Faro Community, guided by the Faro Convention principles and criteria. While the methodology conceived as the "Faro Label" will be maintained, the term "label" will not be used, to retain the collective and non-competitive nature of the Community.

Proposed role of the Secretariat: To accompany the entire process, identify promising actions and assist them in meeting the criteria.

Proposed role of the CDCPP: Through the CDCPP Bureau, review and recognition of the actions endorsed by the Faro Community.

- 3.2. Faro in Action: In this component, the Secretariat takes a leading role with a more political tone, examining the role of heritage in addressing societal challenges in line with the organisational priorities set by the Secretary General. In this capacity, the extensive experience and resources of the Faro Community and the political guidance of the CDCPP will play an essential role in exploring opportunities and offering sound recommendations to member States.

Proposed role of the Faro Community: Provide knowledge (through Faro applications) and offer a variety of expertise based on local and national knowledge.

Proposed role of the CDCPP: Offer political guidance, policy suggestions, advocate for an increased role of heritage in addressing societal challenges.

- 3.3. Promotion of the Convention: There will be increased effort to promote the Faro Convention at community, national and international levels. In this capacity, in addition to Faro Workshops and Faro Walks, Faro Talks (inspirational talks from member State representatives, highlighting the good practices in their respective countries stimulated by the Faro Convention) will be organised. Consolidation of the work with HEREIN and the European Heritage Days will increase the visibility and promotional activities in the Action Plan in 2016-2017.

FARO ACTION PLAN 2016-2017 (see overview of the priorities on page 6)

In light of the proposed adjustments, the action plan 2016-2017 will have the following priorities;

1. Increased efforts for the promotion of the Convention and visibility of the actions (20%)
2. Faro Community; increased number of applications, creation of a pool of practitioners, appreciation visits (35%)
3. Faro in Action; work in Frampol [Poland]; Viscri [Romania]; Marseilles [France] (35%)
4. Linkage with HEREIN and European Heritage Days (5%)
5. Research and exploring new opportunities (5%)

The Secretariat is in the process of finalising the draft Action Plan 2016-2017 with proposed changes and revised supporting documents to be presented to the CDCPP on 13-15 June 2016.

Action required

The Bureau is invited to take note of the proposals and suggestions above, and provide guidance to the Secretariat as to the aspects and modalities to be clarified before finalisation.

1- PROMOTION OF THE CONVENTION – FARO WALKS; FARO TALKS; FARO WORKSHOPS

Heritage Communities in Action – Civic initiatives

Inquiry and Registration in **HEREIN** system

Initial Assessment – based on principles and criteria

Feedback by the Community

Response to Inquiry by the Secretariat

Request for **verification** visit by the community

Spotlight by the Secretariat

Expert visit – **Appreciation**

Recommendation by the Faro community

Endorsement by the CDCPP

Invitation to the Faro community

2 - FARO COMMUNITY

FARO
APPLICATIONS
(Knowledge and
practices)
*
POOL OF
PRACTITIONERS
*
FACILITATORS

3 - FARO IN ACTION
Secretariat addressing
societal challenges and
organisational priorities
through Faro –
anti-discrimination,
migration, radicalisation

FARO ACTION PLAN 2016-2017

PROMOTION OF THE FARO CONVENTION & VISIBILITY

Workshops - 3 in 2016 and 3 in 2017

Faro Walks 1 - in 2017

Quarterly newsletters

FARO COMMUNITY

Assessment (Appreciation) - 4 towns in 2016 and 4 towns in 2017

Applications - 4 in 2016 and 4 in 2017

Creation of a pool of practitioners

FARO IN ACTION

Marseilles, Viscri, Frampol

Production of a handbook in 2017

LINKAGE AND CONSOLIDATION WITH HEREIN AND EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS

RESEARCH & EXPLORE NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Use of Social Media