



## STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

CDCPP(2014)15

Strasbourg, 14 February 2014

3<sup>rd</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 19-21 March 2014

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### ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GRANTING OF THE LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

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#### DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION

Item 6.8 of the draft Agenda

- The Committee is invited to take note:
  - of the decisions taken by the Committee of Ministers at its 1187th meeting (11-12 December 2013) on the attribution of the Landscape Award and Special Mentions for the 3rd Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (CM/Del/Dec(2013)1187);
  - of the holding of the 14th Workshop for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on "*Forum of the national selections for the Council of Europe Landscape Award – Session 2012-2013*", Wrocław, Poland, 11-12 June 2014;
  - of the launching of the 4th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, and of the fact that the Parties to the Convention were invited to present by 10 December 2015 the applications to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe;
- According to Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, the Committee is invited to nominate its representative who will be invited to take part in May 2015 in the International Jury of the 4<sup>e</sup> Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award of the European Landscape Convention.

## Presentation

The European Landscape Convention provides for a Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. In particular, it states that, on proposals from the committees of experts supervising the implementation of the Convention, the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the Landscape Award, adopt the relevant rules and confer the award (Article 11). The Committee of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe on 20 February 2008. The award is in keeping with the work done by the Council of Europe in favour of human rights, democracy and sustainable development, and promotes the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape features of people's living conditions.

The award was launched in 2008 and three sessions of the award were organised: in 2008-2009, 2010-2011 and in 2012-2013.

### Third Session of the Landscape Award (2012-2013)

At its 1187th meeting, 11-12 December 2013 (CM/Del/Dec(2013)1187), the Committee of Ministers in accordance with the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (CM/Res(2008)3), and as proposed by the International Jury of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP):

- attributed the Council of Europe Landscape Award for 2013 to: Preserving ecological value in the landscape of the Szprotawa river valley, Lower Silesian Association of Landscape Parks, Poland;
- attributed identical special mentions of the Council of Europe Landscape Award for 2013 to the following three nominations:
  - The rebirth of Alto Belice Corleonese through the recovery of land confiscated from the mafia organisations, Libera Association names and number against the Mafia, Italy (Special mention for strengthening democracy);
  - U-parks. U-turn we love, Utena district Municipality, Lithuania (Special mention for giving attention to the urban landscape as a common good);
  - The Gate of Gornje Podunavlje, NGO "Podunav" Backi Monostor, Serbia (Special mention for contributing to European ideals);
- took note of the abridged report of the 2nd meeting of the CDCPP (document CM(2013)111), which recognised the great value of the following achievements:
  - Hoge Kempen National Park, Regionaal Landschap Kempen en Maasland vzw, Belgium;
  - Environmental education in the town of Strakonice year by year or "Pilgrimage through the Contemplative Landscape", Municipality of Strakonice, Czech Republic;
  - The Landscape Projects of Hyypä Valley, City of Kauhajoki, Hyypä village association, Finnish Forestry Centre/Public Services, Unit of South and Central Ostrobothnia, Finland;

- Grand Pré Park, City of Langueux, France;
- Complex landscape rehabilitation and development program in the Gerecse Mountains and the Által Creek Valley, Association for the Restoration and Development of the Által Creek Valley (Tata), Hungary;
- Bere Island Conservation Plan, The Heritage Council and the Bere Island Project Group, Ireland;
- Dzintari Forest Park, Jurmala City Council, Latvia;
- Planning policy for conservation and sustainable development of 20 National Landscapes in the Netherlands, Stichting Nationale Landschappen (NGO), the Netherlands;
- Furnas Landscape Laboratory (Furnas LandLab), Azores Regional Directorate of the Environment, Portugal;
- Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection in Transylvania, ADEPT Foundation, NGO, Romania;
- Salvage, revival and operation of the Forest Railway in the Landscape of Cierny Balog Ciernohronska zeleznica NGO, Slovak Republic;
- Landscape and water-management restoration of Škocjanski Zatok nature reserve, DOPPS BirdLife Slovenia, Slovenia
- The sustainable revitalisation of the protected landscape of Geria, Consortium for the defense and promotion of the Geria Landscape, Spain
- South Pennines Watershed Landscape Project, Pennine Prospects, United Kingdom

The 14th Workshop for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Forum of the national selections for the Council of Europe Landscape Award – Session 2012-2013*”, will be organised in Wroclaw, Poland on 11-12 June 2014 (study visit on 10 June 2014 for participants in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Award). The Celebration of the Award and Special Mentions will be organised on this occasion.

#### **Fourth Session of the Landscape Award (2014-2015)**

The Parties to the Convention were invited to present by 10 December 2014 the applications to the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe (Appendix 1), according to the Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and in the framework of the organisation of the 4<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (Appendix 2).

An international jury being set up as a subordinate body of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention will meet on May 2015 in order to examine the applications and propose the award and possible special mentions.

The jury being composed in particular by a member of the committee of experts responsible for monitoring the Convention, the CDCPP is invited to appoint its representative.

**APPENDIX 1****SECRETARIAT GENERAL****Directorate General II - Democracy***The Director General*

Strasbourg, 16 January 2014

Dear Ambassador,

The European Landscape Convention is now ratified by 38 States and signed by two other States. It continues to be successful and creates great interest because of the fundamental messages contained in it.

The Convention aims to promote the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and to bring together European cooperation in this field. It is the first international treaty exclusively devoted to all dimensions of urban and rural landscape. Taking into account the landscape, natural and cultural values of the territory, it contributes to promoting the quality of life for human beings.

I have the pleasure in forwarding to you the Resolution on the Rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008 at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies. The Resolution draws attention to the fact that Article 11 of the Convention institutes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and that it is in keeping with the work carried out by the Council of Europe concerning human rights, democracy and sustainable development. It promotes effectively the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape for people's living conditions.

Opened to the Parties to the Convention, the Award is intended to raise civil society's awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them. Its objective is to reward exemplary practical initiatives aimed at successful landscape quality objectives on the territories of the Parties to the Convention. The criteria for conferring the Award are appended to the Rules as they appear in the Resolution.

The Parties to the Convention are invited to have these Rules translated into their national language(s) and promote them widely in their country. They are also invited to encourage media coverage of the Award so as to raise public awareness of the importance of landscapes.

Council of Europe

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The Award is conferred every two years and the files presenting applications must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by the end of the year preceding the year of Award.

The Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape decided that applications should be submitted to the Council of Europe Secretariat through the Permanent Representations of the Parties to the Convention, I therefore would be grateful if you could send by 10 December 2014 to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe the following elements established for your country on the basis of the proposals forwarded to you by the concerned Ministries:

- by E-mail, the Application form completed: [maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int](mailto:maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int);
- by post, a copy of the Application form completed together with a CD-Rom or DVD containing all the additional material: Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Council of Europe, F – 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex.

Yours sincerely



Snežana Samardžić-Marković

Encl.: Application form

Circular Letter sent to the Permanent Representatives to the Council of Europe

Copy:

Members of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention and of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)

Website of the European Landscape Convention:  
<http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>

## APPENDIX 2



**Resolution CM/Res(2008)3  
on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008  
at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers,

Recalling that Article 11 of the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176) (hereinafter "the Convention"), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 and opened for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000, institutes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (hereinafter "the award");

Bearing in mind that this article provides that the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the award, adopt the relevant rules and grant the award;

Bearing in mind that the award's purpose is to reward exemplary practical initiatives for the achievement of landscape quality objectives on the territories of parties to the Convention (hereinafter "the Parties");

Considering that the award is in keeping with the work done by the Council of Europe in favour of human rights, democracy and sustainable development and that it promotes the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape features of people's living conditions;

Convinced that the award is intended to heighten civil society's awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them,

Resolves as follows:

- I. The rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe are adopted as set out in the appendix to this resolution.
- II. The criteria for awarding the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe are appended to these rules.
- III. The Parties are invited to translate into their national language(s) and promote the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. They are also requested to encourage media coverage of the award so as to raise public awareness of the importance of landscapes.

*Appendix to Resolution CM/Res(2008)3*

**Rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe**

***Article 1 – Aim***

a. The award is an honorary distinction which acknowledges a policy or measures implemented by local or regional authorities or their groupings, or particularly remarkable contributions by non-governmental organisations, for sustainable protection, management and/or planning of landscapes. It takes the form of a diploma. Special mentions may also be awarded.

b. The award rewards a process of implementation of the Convention at national or transnational levels resulting in an effective, measurable achievement.

c. The award also helps to make people more aware of the importance of landscapes for human development, consolidation of the European identity and the well-being of individuals and society as a whole. It fosters public participation in the decision-making process concerning landscape policies.

***Article 2 – Qualification of candidates***

In accordance with Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention, the following may be candidates for the award: local or regional authorities and their groupings that have instituted, as part of the landscape policy of a party to this Convention, a policy or measures to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape, which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities in Europe. Non-governmental organisations having made particularly remarkable contributions to landscape protection, management or planning may also be candidates.

In accordance with paragraph 2 of the above-mentioned article, transfrontier local or regional authorities and groupings of local and regional authorities concerned may be candidates, provided that they jointly manage the landscape in question.

***Article 3 – Procedure***

The procedure consists of three stages:

**Stage 1 – Submission of candidatures**

Each Party may submit one candidature to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe. The candidature may be the result of a competition held by each Party taking into account the award criteria appended to these rules.

The application file, in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe (French or English), shall include:

- a presentation of the candidate (not more than three pages long);
- the description of a completed project for the protection, management and/or planning of a landscape, which has proved lastingly effective and can serve as an example. Mention shall be made of the convention provision concerned.

The description shall take the form of a paper document, approximately 20 pages long, accompanied by a digital copy in PDF format on CD-Rom and posters. The file may also include a video presentation lasting approximately five minutes. The materials submitted must be copyright-free for use by the Council of Europe in communications aimed at promoting the award or any other publications or activities relating to the Convention. The Council of Europe undertakes to cite the authors' names.

Files that are incomplete or fail to comply with the rules will not be taken into consideration.

The award is in principle conferred every two years. The files presenting candidatures must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by no later than 31 December of the year preceding the year of award.

## **Stage 2 – Consideration of candidatures**

An international jury set up as a subordinate body of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention shall determine whether candidatures are admissible. The jury is composed of:

- one member of (each of) the committee(s) of experts responsible for monitoring the Convention, appointed by the committee(s) concerned;
- one member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, appointed by the Congress;
- one representative of an international non-governmental organisation, appointed by the Secretary General on the proposal of the Grouping of INGOs enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe;
- three eminent specialists on landscape, appointed by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

The jury appoints a president.

The jury proposes the award winner from among the candidates admitted.

The proposals of the jury are taken by an absolute majority for the first two rounds of voting, and by a relative majority for the following round, based on the criteria set out in the appendix to these rules, stating the reasons for its choice. In case of equal votes, the vote of the president of the jury is decisive.

The reasons for the choice are explained.

The jury can propose to attribute one or more special mentions.

The committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention examine the proposals of the jury and forward their proposals concerning the award winner, and, wherever appropriate, special mentions, to the Committee of Ministers.

## **Stage 3 – Granting and presentation of the award and the special mentions**

In the light of the proposals of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention, the Committee of Ministers shall grant the award and any special mentions.

The award and the special mentions shall be presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his/her representative at a public ceremony.



*Appendix to the rules***Criteria for conferring the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe****Criterion 1 – Sustainable territorial development**

The completed projects submitted must give tangible form to the protection, management and/or planning of landscapes. This means that the projects must have been completed and open to the public at least three years, when the candidatures were submitted.

They must also:

- be part of a sustainable development policy and be in harmony with the territorial organisation of the area concerned;
- demonstrate their environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic sustainability;
- counter or remedy any damage to landscape structures;
- help enhance and enrich the landscape and develop new qualities.

**Criterion 2 – Exemplary value**

The implementation of the policy or measures that have helped to improve the protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned must set an example of good practice for others to follow.

**Criterion 3 – Public participation**

The policy or measures implemented with a view to the protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned should involve the active participation of the public, local and regional authorities and other players and should clearly reflect the landscape quality objectives.

The public should be able to participate simultaneously in two ways:

- through dialogue and exchanges between members of society (public meetings, debates, procedures for participation and consultation in the field, for example);
- through procedures for public participation and involvement in landscape policies implemented by national, regional or local authorities.

**Criterion 4 – Awareness-raising**

Article 6.A of the Convention provides that “each Party undertakes to increase awareness among civil society, private organisations and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them”. Action along these lines taken as part of the completed project concerned will be assessed.

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