

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

CDCPP (2013) 15

Strasbourg, 13 May 2013

**2nd meeting
Strasbourg, 27-29 May 2013**

REPORT AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE 7th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

DOCUMENT FOR DECISION

Item 3.5 of the draft agenda

- the Committee is invited to take note of the Report and Conclusions of the 7th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention (Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 26-27 March 2013) and to transmit them to the Committee of Ministers, in view of taking note and deciding on the follow-up to be given.



Strasbourg, 24 April 2013

CEP-CDCPP (2013) 12E

EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

CEP-CDPATEP

7th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

***Conference organised under the auspices of the Andorran Chairmanship
of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe***

REPORT

Council of Europe
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg
26-27 March 2013

*Secretariat document
Policy Development
Directorate of Democratic Governance*

TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2013

Opening of the Conference

Mrs Maria José FESTAS, Chair of the Conference on the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe, Deputy Chair of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) opened the Meeting (Appendix 3.1 to this report).

Mrs Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, welcomed the participants, the list of whom can be found in Appendix 1 to this report and delivered an opening speech which figures in Appendix 3.2 to this report.

Mr Francesc CAMP, Minister of Tourism and Environment of Andorra, on behalf of the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, delivered an opening speech which figures in Appendix 3.3 to this report.

The National Strategy for Landscape of Andorra was presented by Mr Marc ROSSELL SOLER, Director of Environment, Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Andorra and Mrs Anna MOLES, Representative of Andorra for the European Landscape Convention (Appendix 3.4 to this report).

Mrs Anne-Marie CHAVANON, President of the Committee on Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe, delivered an opening speech which figures in Appendix 3.5 to this report.

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

[Document for action: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 1]

The Chair proposed 3 amendments to the draft agenda, which were accepted. The agenda as set out in Appendix 2 was adopted.

Session 1 – Implementation of the European Landscape Convention

2. General activity report on the European Landscape Convention and status of signatures and ratifications

[Document for information: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 2]

Mrs Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS, Head of Division, Policy Development, in charge of the Conference:

- thanked the governments, the regional and local authorities, the delegates, the observers and the experts who, thanks to their work, their participation in the meetings, their efforts and their financial or in kind contribution, have contributed to bring to life and to implement the European Landscape Convention ;
- presented the General activity report on the European Landscape Convention of activities carried out by the Council of Europe's General Secretariat indicating that they aimed to: ensure the monitoring of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention; promote European co-

operation; collect examples of good practice; promote knowledge and research; raise awareness; foster access to information.

The Conference:

- recalled the decisions adopted by the 1st Plenary Session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) held in Strasbourg on 14-16 May 2012 (CDCPP(2012) 35 REV., Strasbourg, 6 June 2012) and by the Committee of Ministers' Deputies at their 1151^e Meeting – 18-19 September 2012 (CM/Del/Dec(2012)1151 du 20 September 2012);
- took note with satisfaction of the General activity report on the European Landscape Convention (Appendix 4 to this report) and welcomed the work carried out to promote implementation of the Convention (<http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>), and expressed its satisfaction at the continuation of activities, in accordance with the Work Programme;
- took note of the status of signatures and ratifications of the European Landscape Convention expressing the hope that all Council of Europe member states would sign and ratify the Convention;
- welcomed the translation of the European Landscape Convention, of the Recommendation CM/Rec (2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the “Guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention” and of the Resolution CM/Res (2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe on 20 February 2008 into numerous languages of the Member States of the Council of Europe, and invited the Parties to the Convention to translate these texts into their national language(s) and to communicate them to the Secretariat with a view to uploading those versions on to the Council of Europe European Landscape Convention website.

3. Presentation of the actions carried out by the Parties to the European Landscape Convention at national, regional and local levels for its implementation and addresses from representatives of States non Parties to the Convention
[Document for information: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 3]

The Conference:

- took note with interest of the interventions and addresses of the delegations of the States present at the Conference (the full versions of the written texts submitted to the Secretariat have been included in Appendix 5 to this report):
 - addresses from representatives of States Parties to the Convention: Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom;
 - Joint Statement on “*The Council of Europe activities within Landscape and Spatial planning*” from representatives of States Parties to the Convention and Signatory of the Convention: Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland;
 - addresses from representatives of States non Parties to the Convention: Estonia, Russian Federation;
- noted that the European Landscape Convention was already generating major progress in landscape policies in many Council of Europe member States at national, regional and local level;

- decided to endorse in the conclusions of the Conference the Joint Statement on “*The Council of Europe activities within Landscape and Spatial planning*”, presented by Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland.

4. Landscape policies in the Member States of the Council of Europe

[Document for information: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 5]

Considering Article 8 of the Convention, entitled “*Mutual assistance and exchange of information*”, the Conference:

- took note with great interest of the landscape policies in the Member States of the Council of Europe, presented on the basis of a document addressed by the Secretariat of the Council of Europe to the representatives of the Member States (Appendix 5 to this report);
- noted that the information collected will be updated, completed and adapted; according to the data presented by the Parties to the Convention in the Information System of the European Landscape Convention – L6 presently being established (voir point 6 de ce rapport);
- considered that the Council of Europe Information System on the European Landscape Convention will replace the current presentation of the national reports.

5. Classification of the Council of Europe conventions

Mrs Claudia LUCIANI, Director of the Directorate of Democratic Governance (DGII - Democracy), now responsible for the European Landscape Convention, stressed the need to ensure that the importance and political relevance of the work on Landscape of Council of Europe be enhanced. She thought that a lot more needed to be done both by the Secretariat and the representatives of the Conference. As way of example of such “discrepancy” she quoted the classification of the Landscape Convention in the Report by the Secretary General on the Review of Council of Europe Conventions SG/Inf(2012)12 Addendum of 16 May 2012

[https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=SG/Inf\(2012\)12&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=add&Site=COE&BackColorInternet=DBDCF2&BackColorIntranet=FDC864&BackColorLogged=FDC864](https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=SG/Inf(2012)12&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=add&Site=COE&BackColorInternet=DBDCF2&BackColorIntranet=FDC864&BackColorLogged=FDC864)

which in spite of the numerous ratifications is only listed in the 3rd category.

Following this information and the following discussion, and taking into account the numerous signatures and ratifications of the European Landscape Convention by the Member States of the Council of Europe and the importance of the Convention, considering the priorities of the Council of Europe for human rights and democracy, the Conference expressed the wish that the Convention should be reclassified among the key conventions of the Council of Europe. The Chair asked the interested Member States to take action on this, by analysing those criteria and making a note on the subject, asking for the review of the classification by the appropriate body.

6. Presentation of the 1st phase of the European Landscape Convention Information System and of its Glossary

[Document for action: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 4]

The Conference took note of the following elements:

- the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDPATEP) adopted, at its 2nd Meeting (Strasbourg, 12-13 May 2009), the “Guiding Principles of the Information System of the European Landscape Convention” which should be established by a group of specialists with the task of proposing the machinery to be developed for the European Landscape Convention in parallel to what is already being applied to the cultural heritage conventions; the Committee of Ministers of the

Council of Europe took note of the abridged report of the CDPATEP including this decision, on 23 September 2009 [CM/Del/Dec(2009)1066];

– the Report of the 6th Council of Europe Conference of the European Landscape Convention [CEP-CDPATEP (2011) 18E, 24 May 2011], states:

“8. *State of progress of the Council of Europe European Landscape Convention Information System of the European Landscape Convention (L6)*

[Document for decision: CEP-CDPATEP (2011) 9 – Council of Europe Information System on the European Landscape Convention]

The Conference:

– *underlined the value of the work of the working group on the Information System on the European Landscape Convention and expected that the activities continue to be developed as mentioned in the report of the last meeting the working group [CEP-CDPATEP (2011) COE/ELCDatabase 10E];*

– *expressed the wish to establish the Information System of the European Landscape Convention (L6), and renewed the terms of reference of the existing working group, in order to allow an active follow-up of the Convention, to encourage the exchange of information between the parties and to promote the value of landscape for Europeans”;*

– the abridge Report of the 1st Plenary Session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) held in Strasbourg on 14-16 May 2012 (CM(2012)120 22 August 2012) and whose Committee of Ministers’ Deputies took note at their 1151^e Meeting – 18-19 September 2012 (CM/Del/Dec(2012)1151 du 20 September 2012) states that the CDCPP supported the perspectives for 2012-2013 for the European Landscape Convention and supported their implementation”;

– the “Template information Grid for the presentation of Landscape policies in the Member States of the Council of Europe” (See Appendix to the Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 4) was prepared and tested by the Members of the Group of Experts for the establishment of the Information System on the European Landscape Convention *[See Report of the Meeting of the group of experts on the Information System of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention – CEP-CDPATEP (2011) COE/ELC Database 11 and written consultation CEP-CDPATEP (2012) COE/ELC Database 12, 21 March 2012]*.

CEP-CDPATEP (2011) COE/ELC Database 11 and written consultation CEP-CDPATEP (2012) COE/ELC Database 12, 21 March 2012].

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/ReunionGroupe/Groupe_en.asp

– the Glossary of the Information System on the European Landscape Convention which was prepared by Mr Jean-François SEGUIN, Expert Consultant of the Council of Europe and former Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, with the support of the Members by the Members of the Group of Experts for the Glossary of the Information System on the European Landscape Convention. *[Cf. Reports of the Meeting of the group of experts on the Glossary of the Information System of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention – CEP-CDCPP (2013) COE/Glossaire 1, 2, 3, 4 and L6]*

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/ReunionGroupe/Groupe_en.asp

– the public part of the application is available on:

https://elcl6.coe.int/WebForms/Public_List.aspx,

The Conference:

– thanked the members of the Group of Experts on the Information System on the European Landscape Convention and its Glossary for the important work done to prepare this first phase of the Council of Europe Information System on the European Landscape Convention - L6, and warmly thanked France and Switzerland for their financial support;

- approved the draft Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the Information System on the European Landscape Convention and its Glossary and decided to forward it to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) in view of its adoption by the Committee of Ministers;
- approved to start an enlarged testing phase of the L6 involving all the Member States, Parties and Signatory States;
- expressed the wish to pursue the work for the establishment of the Information System of the European Landscape Convention by preparing an improved the 2nd phase and proposed to the Member States of the Council of Europe, Parties to the European Landscape Convention and Signatory States to complete and support the establishment of the Council of Europe's Information System on the European Landscape Convention.

7. Conclusions of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

[Link for information:

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications_en.asp]

7.1. 10th Workshops on “Multifunctional landscape”, Evora, Portugal, 20-21 October 2011

[Document for action: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 6]

The Conference:

- noted that the abridged Report of the 1st Plenary Session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) held in Strasbourg on 14-16 May 2012 (CM(2012)120 22 August 2012) of which the Committee of Ministers' Deputies took note at their 1151st Meeting held on 18-19 September 2012 (CM/Del/Dec(2012)1151 du 20 September 2012) states: “*The CDCPP took note with satisfaction of the results of the Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Multifunctional landscape”, which took place in October 2011 in Portugal and of the “Evora Declaration on the European Landscape Convention”;*
- thanked warmly the General Directorate of Territorial Development of Portugal, for its co-operation with the Council of Europe in the organisation of the event;
- took note also with great interest of the ‘Évora Declaration on the European Landscape Convention’ adopted on the occasion of the 10th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, held on 20-21 October 2011 in Evora, Portugal (Appendix 7.1 to this report);
- noted that the proceedings of the meeting will be published in the Council of Europe “*European Spatial Planning and Landscape*” Series, 2013, No 96.

7.2. 11th Workshops on “Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011”, Carbonia, Italy, 4-5 June 2012

[Document for action: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 7]

The Conference:

- warmly thanked the Government of Italy – Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities of Italy, the Region of Sardinia, the Province of Carbonia Iglesias and the Municipality of Carbonia, for their cooperation with the Council of Europe in the organisation of the event.

- took note of the Conclusions presented by Mr Enrico BUERGI, President of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention 2001-2008 and President of the Jury of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe 2009 and 2011, of the 11th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention “*Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011*” held in Carbonia, Sardinia, Italy, on 4-5 June 2012 (Appendix 7.2 to this report);
- asked to the CDCPP to consider delivering them to the Committee of Ministers for further note taking;
- noted that the proceedings of the meeting will be published in the Council of Europe “*European Spatial Planning and Landscape*” Series, 2013, No 98.

7.3. 12th Workshops on “*Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: Landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning... Another way to see the territory involving civil society...*”, Thessalonica, Greece, 2-3 October 2012
[Document for action: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 8]

The Conference:

- warmly thanked the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of Greece, for its cooperation with the Council of Europe in the organisation of the event;
- took note of the Report of synthesis presented by Mrs Polyxeni ZEIKOU, Director of Spatial Planning, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Changes, and Mr Anestis GOURGIOTIS, Senior Official, Directorate of Spatial Planning and Urban Development, and of the Conclusions of the 16th International CEMAT Symposium and 12th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning... Another way to see the territory involving civil society...*” held in Thessalonica, Greece, on 2-3 October 2012 (Appendix 7.3 to this report);
- asked to the CDCPP to consider delivering them to the Committee of Ministers for further note taking;
- considered the interest of the cooperation established with CEMAT for the organisation of this Workshop, held together with the 16th International CEMAT Symposium, and expressed the wish that this experience could be repeated, either with CEMAT or with other committees or projects of the Council of Europe;
- noted that the proceedings of the meeting will be published in the Council of Europe “*European Spatial Planning and Landscape*” Series, 2013, No 99.

8. Presentation of the actions carried out by international governmental and non-governmental institutions and organisations dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention
[Document for information: CEP-CDPATEP (2013) 3 bis]

The Conference welcomed the support from international governmental and non-governmental institutions and organisations and their activities dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention. The written texts submitted to the Secretariat by CIVILSCAPE, the European Council of Town Planners (ECTP), the European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools (ECLAS), the International Association Rurality-Environment-Development (RED), the European

Network RECEP, the Association Trees and Roads and the European Foundation Il Nibbio (FEIN) have been included in Appendix 8 to this report.

An Official reception in the Blue Restaurant of the Palais de l'Europe was offered by the Andorra's Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers

WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH 2013

Session 2 – Information on other actions for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

9. Future Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

The Conference considered that the theme of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention should derive from the adopted work programme, while taking into consideration as far as possible the wishes of the co-organising Member States.

9.1. 13th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*The future of the territories, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy*”, Montenegro, 2-3 October 2013

The Conference warmly thanked the Government of Montenegro for its proposal to held the 13th Council of Europe meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*The future of the territories, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy*”, in Montenegro, on 2-3 October 2013.

10. Council of Europe thematic reports on the European Landscape Convention

[Link for information:

Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention
http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/PaysageDeveloppement%20_en.pdf

Landscape facets: Reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/Facettes_en.pdf

The Conference welcomed the two publications: “*Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention*” and “*Landscape facets: Reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*”, by the Council of Europe Publishing, which is a compilation of reports made by Council of Europe experts over recent years.

10.1. Report on “*Landscape education*”

[Document for action: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 9]

– considered Article 6 of the Convention on education which states that “*Each Party undertakes to promote: ... school ... courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning*”,

- took note with great interest of the report “*Landscape and education*” prepared by Ms Annalisa MANIGLIO CALCAGNO, produced under the Council of Europe’s work programme on the European Landscape Convention with the support of the Swiss Federal Office of the Environment and the Minister of Tourism and Environment of Andorra, and in particular its conclusions (as they figure in Appendix 9.1. to this report);
- decided to publish it in a Council of Europe publication of reports made by experts consultants of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention;
- adopted the Draft Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)... of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the landscape and education at primary and secondary school (as it figures in Appendix 10 to this report) and decided to forward it to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) in view of its adoption by the Committee of Ministers.

10.2. Report on “*Landscape and leisure*”

[Document for action: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 10]

The Conference:

- considered the Preamble of the European Landscape Convention which states:

“The member States of the Council of Europe signatory hereto,

...

*Noting that the landscape has **an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields**, and constitutes a resource favourable to **economic activity** and whose protection, management and planning can **contribute to job creation**;*

*Aware that the landscape contributes to the formation of local cultures and that it is a basic component of the European natural and cultural heritage, contributing to **human well-being** and consolidation of the European identity;*

*Acknowledging that the landscape is an important part of the **quality of life for people everywhere**: in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas;*

*Noting that developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques and in regional planning, town planning, transport, infrastructure, tourism and **recreation** and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy are in many cases accelerating the transformation of landscapes;*

*Wishing to respond to the **public’s wish to enjoy high quality landscapes** and to play an active part in the development of landscapes;*

*Believing that the landscape is a key element of **individual and social well-being** and that its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone”;*

- took note with great interest of the report “*Landscape and leisure*” prepared by Mr Niek HAZENDONK, Expert Consultant of the Council of Europe, and Mr BRINKHUIJSEN, Mr Ch. JONG, Mr H. DE JONGE and Mr D. SIJMONS, produced under the Council of Europe’s work programme on the European Landscape Convention, and in particular its conclusions (as they figure in Appendix 9.2. to this report);

- decided to publish it in a Council of Europe publication of reports made by experts consultants of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention.

11. Proceedings of the Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the opening for signature of the European Landscape Convention

[Link for information:

<http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/ActesFlorence.pdf>]

The Conference welcomed the publication of the Proceedings of the Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the opening for signature of the European Landscape Convention in the Council of Europe publishing.

12. Futuropa Magazine, for a new vision of landscape and territory, on “*Landscape and public space*”

[Link for information:

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/naturopa_en.asp]

The Conference welcomed the coming publication of the issue of the magazine “*Futuropa: for a new vision of landscape and territory*”, focusing on the European Landscape Convention, entitled “*Landscape and public space*”, No. 3, 2013.

13. Presentation of the Report

“The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning (CEMAT), considering landscape with its heritage values”

[For information – 16CEMAT-CHF 94 (2012) 3E]

The Conference:

- took note with great interest of the Report “*The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/ Regional Planning (CEMAT), considering Landscape with its Heritage Values*” prepared at the request of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by Mr Audun MOFLAG, Former Representative of Norway at the Committee of Senior Officials of the CEMAT and Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention in the capacity of Expert Consultant (Appendix 11 to this report);
- decided to forward it to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) in view of its transmission for information to the Committee of Ministers, considering its great reference value and usefulness for the future work;
- asked the Secretariat to prepare a leaflet based on the report.

Future work and closing of the Conference

14. Council of Europe Landscape Award – Third Session 2013

[Link for information:

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/LandscapeAwards_en.pdf]

[Document for information: CEP-CDCPP (2013) 11]

The Conference:

- took note of the following information elements:
- 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 3rd Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, the Parties to the Convention were invited to present through the Permanent Representatives of the Parties to the Convention by 15 December 2012 / 25 January 2013 the applications to the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe;

- the Secretary General of the Council of Europe received 18 application files from the following Parties: Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom;
- an international jury is being set up as a subordinate body of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention will meet on May 2013 in order to examine the applications and propose the award and possible special mentions; Ms Mireille DECONINCK was elected by the CDCPP as its representative in the Jury (Decision of the CDCPP at its 1st Plenary Session, Strasbourg, 14-16 May 2012, CDCPP (2012) 35 REV., Item 5.4.2);
- at its 2nd Meeting (Strasbourg, 27-29 May 2013) the CDCPP will examine the proposals of the jury and forward its proposals concerning the award winner, and, wherever appropriate, special mentions, to the Committee of Ministers;
- in the light of the proposals of the CDCPP, 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, with the participation of the President of the CDCPP and of the President of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, or their representatives at a public ceremony;
- a presentation of the whole candidatures appears on the Council of Europe Website of the European Landscape Convention, in a new section devoted to the Council of Europe Landscape Award;
- the candidature which was awarded as well as the candidatures recognised with special mentions will be presented at the 13th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops on the European Landscape Convention;
- noted that the 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) was translated namely in Armenian, Czech, Croatian, Finish, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian and Swedish, and invited the Parties to the Convention to translate it into their national language(s) and to communicate the text to the Secretariat in view of inserting the translated versions in the Council of Europe European Landscape Convention website.

15. Elections of the future Chair and future Vice-Chair of the Conference

Following the information given by the Chair that this would be her last Conference as delegate from Portugal, thus being necessary to elect a new chair, the Parties to the Convention unanimously elected:

The Parties to the Convention unanimously elected:

- Mrs Liv Kristine MORTENSEN (Norway) as Chair of the Conference of the European Landscape Convention;
- Mrs Sanja LJESKOVIC MITROVIC (Montenegro) as Vice-chair of the Conference of the European Landscape Convention.

Mrs Liv Kristine MORTENSEN and Mrs Sanja LJESKOVIC MITROVIC thanked the States party to the Convention for the confidence placed in them and expressed their willingness to promote the implementation of the Convention.

16. Working Programme

The Director of Democratic Governance, Mrs Claudia LUCIANI briefly presented the organisational restructuring undergone by the Secretariat of the Council of Europe and mentioned that the Work Programme of the European Landscape Convention should be in accordance with the priorities, projects and activities of the Council of Europe and of the Directorate and that the Directorate was open to consider proposals of work that fitted within this framework, taking into consideration the available budget.

The Conference:

- expressed its conviction that in the framework of the reform of the Council of Europe, due consideration must be given to the importance of landscape policies in their role to promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law;
- considered the need to continue the organisation of the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention, the meetings of the Council of Europe Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, the establishment of the Council of Europe Information System on the implementation of the Convention - L6, the holding of Groups of Experts when necessary and adequate, and the preparation of thematic reports, in accordance with the work programmes;
- expressed its willingness to participate in joint activities with other structures of the Council of Europe, considering also that the European Landscape Convention should be given more importance and visibility in existing projects and activities of the Council;
- warmly thanked the Government of Montenegro for hosting the 13th Council of Europe meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *“The future of the territories, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy”*, in Montenegro, on 2-3 October 2013;
- warmly thanked the Government of Turkey for hosting the 14th Council of Europe meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *“Landscape and economy”*, in Turkey in 2014.

17. Other business

Mrs Claudia LUCIANI informed that the activities of the ELC will continue in the framework of the new Division of Managing Diversity, all contacts being now ensured by Mr Gianluca SILVESTRINI, Head of that Division.

The Conference thanked her of this information.

18. Conclusions of the Conference

by Mrs Maria José FESTAS, Chair of the Conference on the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe

Mrs Maria José FESTAS, Chair of the Conference on the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe, presented the “Conclusions of the 7th Council of Europe Conference on the

European Landscape Convention”, which were approved by the participants, as they figure in the Appendix to this report.

Considering the importance that the Council of Europe continue holding Conferences on the European Landscape Convention every two years as a forum for dialogue and co-operation based on the Working programme of the Convention, and in view of the preparation of the 8th Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in 2015,

the Parties expressed the wish that:

- the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe would take note of this and to make sure that the Conference be included in the mandate of the steering committees concerned;
- the Council of Europe Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention should be organised at least once a year;
- the Information System of the European Landscape Convention - L6 should continue to be set up and developed in order to allow for an active follow-up of the Convention and of the Members States landscape policies, to encourage the exchange of information between the parties and to promote the value of landscape for Europeans;
- the number of signatures and ratifications of the Convention should be increased, and the representatives of States, local and regional authorities and non-governmental organisations should be mobilised to this end.

According to Article 10 of the European Landscape Convention on “ Monitoring of the implementation of the Convention” which states that “*Following each meeting of the Committees of Experts, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit a report on the work carried out and on the operation of the Convention to the Committee of Ministers*”, the Parties asked to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) to transmit the present Conclusions of the Conference and the Report of the Conference to the Committee of Ministers for consideration.

The Chair thanked the participants for their highly appreciated cooperation during her time as Delegate of Portugal and Chair of the Conference and offered her best wishes of success to the new Chair.

Mrs Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS warmly thanked Mrs Maria José FESTAS for her substantial contributions in support of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention during all these years.

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APPENDIX



CONCLUSIONS OF THE 7TH COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

Council of Europe
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg
26-27 March 2013

The participants at the 7th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, organised under the auspices of the Andorran Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe representatives of governments and with the participation of non-governmental organisations, held at the Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg on 26 and 27 March 2013,

Thanked the Andorran Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers, the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for their support for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention,

Considered the importance of the European Landscape Convention as a means of implementing the prime objectives of the Council of Europe in the field of human rights, democracy and the rule of law and to deal with the main problems facing the society today,

Asked to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) – according to the Article 10 of the European Landscape Convention on “Monitoring of the implementation of the Convention” which states that “Following each meeting of the Committees of Experts, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit a report on the work carried out and on the operation of the Convention to the Committee of Ministers”–, to forward the present Conclusions and Report of the Conference to the Committee of Ministers, in view of taking note and deciding on the follow-up to be given.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

Considering the following items, the participants at the Conference:

1. Status of the Convention

– *welcomed the high degree of support shown by Council of Europe member States for the European Landscape Convention, which at present has been ratified by 38 States of the Organisation and signed by a further two member States;*

- *expressed* the wish that all the Council of Europe member States could sign and ratify the European Landscape Convention as soon as possible.

2. General activity report on the European Landscape Convention and status of signatures and ratifications

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 2]

- *took note* with satisfaction of the General activity report on the European Landscape Convention and welcomed the work carried out to promote implementation of the Convention (<http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>), and expressed its satisfaction at the continuation of activities, in accordance with the Work Programme;

3. Actions carried out by the Parties to the European Landscape Convention at national, regional and local levels for its implementation and addresses from representatives of States non Parties to the Convention

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 3]

- *took note* with interest of the interventions and addresses of the delegations of the States present at the Conference:

- addresses from representatives of States Parties to the Convention: Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom,

- Joint Statement on “*The Council of Europe activities within Landscape and Spatial planning*” from representatives of States Parties and Signatory to the Convention: Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland,

- addresses from representatives of States non Parties to the Convention: Estonia, Russian Federation;

- *noted* that the European Landscape Convention was already generating major progress in landscape policies in many Council of Europe member States at national, regional and local level;

4. Landscape policies in the Member States of the Council of Europe

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 5]

- *took note* with great interest of the landscape policies in the Member States of the Council of Europe, presented on the basis of a document addressed by the Secretariat of the Council of Europe to the representatives of the Member States;

- *noted* that the information collected will be updated, completed and adapted; according to the data presented by the Parties to the Convention in the Information System of the European Landscape Convention – L6 presently being established;

- *considered* that the Council of Europe Information System on the European Landscape Convention will replace the current presentation of the national reports;

5. Classification of the Council of Europe conventions

- *expressed* the wish that the Convention should be reclassified among the key conventions of the Council of Europe, considering the numerous signatures and ratifications of the European

Landscape Convention by the Member States of the Council of Europe and the importance of the Convention for the priorities of the Council of Europe for human rights and democracy;

6. Presentation of the 1st phase of the European Landscape Convention Information System and of its Glossary

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 4]

- *thanked* the members of the Group of Experts on the Information System on the European Landscape Convention and its Glossary for the important work done to prepare this first phase of the Council of Europe Information System on the European Landscape Convention - L6, and warmly thanked France and Switzerland for their financial support;
- *approved* the draft Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on the Information System on the European Landscape Convention and its Glossary and decided to forward it to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) in view of its adoption by the Committee of Ministers;
- *approved* to start an enlarged testing phase of the L6 involving all the Member States, Parties and Signatory States;
- *expressed* the wish to pursue the work for the establishment of the Information System of the European Landscape Convention by preparing an improved the 2nd phase and proposed to the Member States of the Council of Europe, Parties to the European Landscape Convention and Signatory States to complete and support the establishment of the Council of Europe's Information System on the European Landscape Convention;

7. Conclusions of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

[http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications_en.asp]

7.1. 10th Workshops on “Multifunctional landscape”, Evora, Portugal, 20-21 October 2011

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 6]

- *thanked* warmly the General Directorate of Territorial Development of Portugal, for its co-operation with the Council of Europe in the organisation of the event;
- *took note* also with great interest of the ‘Évora Declaration on the European Landscape Convention’ adopted on the occasion of the 10th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, held on 20-21 October 2011 in Evora, Portugal;
- *noted* that the proceedings of the meeting will be published in the Council of Europe “European Spatial Planning and Landscape” Series, 2013, No 96.

7.2. 11th Workshops on “Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011”, Carbonia, Italy, 4-5 June 2012

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 7]

- *warmly thanked* the Government of Italy – Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities of Italy, the Region of Sardinia, the Province of Carbonia Iglesias and the Municipality of Carbonia, for their cooperation with the Council of Europe in the organisation of the event;
- *took note* of the Conclusions of the 11th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention “Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum

of National Selections Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011” held in Carbonia, Sardinia, Italy, on 4-5 June 2012);

- asked to the CDCPP to consider delivering them to the Committee of Ministers for further note taking;
- noted that the proceedings of the meeting will be published in the Council of Europe “European Spatial Planning and Landscape” Series, 2013, No 98.

7.3. 12th Workshops on “Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: Landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning... Another way to see the territory involving civil society...”, Thessalonica, Greece, 2-3 October 2012
[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 8]

- warmly thanked the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of Greece, for its cooperation with the Council of Europe in the organisation of the event;
- took note of the Report of synthesis and of the Conclusions of the 16th International CEMAT Symposium and 12th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning ... Another way to see the territory involving civil society...” held in Thessalonica, Greece, on 2-3 October 2012;
- asked to the CDCPP to consider delivering them to the Committee of Ministers for further note taking;
- considered the interest of the cooperation established with CEMAT for the organisation of this Workshop, held together with the 16th International CEMAT Symposium, and expressed the wish that this experience could be repeated, either with CEMAT or with other committees or projects of the Council of Europe;
- noted that the proceedings of the meeting will be published in the Council of Europe “European Spatial Planning and Landscape” Series, 2013, No 99.

8. Presentation of the actions carried out by international governmental and non-governmental institutions and organisations dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention
[Document CEP-CDPATEP (2013) 3 bis]

- welcomed the support from international governmental and non-governmental institutions and organisations and their activities dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

9. Future Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

9.1. 13th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “The future of the territories, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy”, Montenegro, 2-3 October 2013

- warmly thanked the Government of Montenegro for its proposal to held the 13th Council of Europe meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “The future of the territories, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy”, in Montenegro, on 2-3 October 2013.

10. Council of Europe thematic reports on the European Landscape Convention

[Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention
http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/PaysageDevelopment%20_en.pdf

Landscape facets: Reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/Facettes_en.pdf

- welcomed the two publications: “*Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention*” and “*Landscape facets: Reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*”, by the Council of Europe Publishing, which is a compilation of reports made by Council of Europe experts over recent years.

10.1. Report on “*Landscape education*”

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 9]

- considered Article 6 of the Convention on education which states that “*Each Party undertakes to promote: ... school ... courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning*”,
- took note with great interest of the report “*Landscape and education*”, produced under the Council of Europe’s work programme on the European Landscape Convention with the support of the Swiss Federal Office of the Environment and the Minister of Tourism and Environment of Andorra, and in particular its conclusions;
- decided to publish it in a Council of Europe publication of reports made by experts consultants of the Organisation on the European Landscape Convention;
- adopted the Draft Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)...of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the landscape and education at primary and secondary school (as it figures in Appendix 10 to this report) and decided to forward it to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) in view of its adoption by the Committee of Ministers.

10.2. Report on “*Landscape and leisure*”

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 10]

- took note with great interest of the report “*Landscape and leisure*”, produced under the Council of Europe’s work programme on the European Landscape Convention, and in particular its conclusions;
- decided to publish it in a Council of Europe publication of reports made by experts consultants of the Organisation on the European Landscape Convention.

11. Proceedings of the Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the opening for signature of the European Landscape Convention

[<http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/ActesFlorence.pdf>]

- welcomed the publication of the Proceedings of the Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the opening for signature of the European Landscape Convention in the Council of Europe publishing.

12. Futuropa Magazine, for a new vision of landscape and territory, on “Landscape and public space”

[http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/naturopa_en.asp]

- welcomed the coming publication of the issue of the magazine “*Futuropa: for a new vision of landscape and territory*”, focusing on the European Landscape Convention, entitled “*Landscape and public space*”, No. 3, 2013.

13. Presentation of the Report

“The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning (CEMAT), considering landscape with its heritage values”

[16CEMAT-CHF 94 (2012) 3E]

- took note with interest of the Report “*The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/ Regional Planning (CEMAT), considering Landscape with its Heritage Values*” prepared at the request of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by Mr Audun MOFLAG, former representative of Norway at the Committee of Senior Officials of the CEMAT and Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention in the capacity of Expert Consultant;
- decided to forward it to the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) in view of its transmission for information to the Committee of Ministers, considering its great reference value and usefulness for the future work;
- asked the Secretariat to prepare a leaflet based on the report.

14. Council of Europe Landscape Award – Third Session 2013

[http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/Publications/LandscapeAwards_en.pdf]

[Document CEP-CDCPP (2013) 11]

- took note of the following information elements:
 - 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 3rd Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, the Parties to the Convention were invited to present through the Permanent Representatives of the Parties to the Convention by 15 December 2012 / 25 January 2013 the applications to the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe;
 - the Secretary General of the Council of Europe received 18 application files from the following Parties: Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom;
 - 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 2013 in order to examine the applications and propose the award and possible special mentions; Ms Mireille DECONINCK was elected by the CDCPP as its representative in the Jury (Decision of the CDCPP at its 1st Plenary Session, Strasbourg, 14-16 May 2012, CDCPP (2012) 35 REV., Item 5.4.2);
 - at its 2nd Meeting (Strasbourg, 27-29 May 2013) the CDCPP will examine the proposals of the jury and forward its proposals concerning the award winner, and, wherever appropriate, special mentions, to the Committee of Ministers;

- in the light of the proposals of the CDCPP, 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, with the participation of the President of the CDCPP and of the President of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, or their representatives at a public ceremony;
- a presentation of the whole candidatures appears on the Council of Europe Website of the European Landscape Convention, in a new section devoted to the Council of Europe Landscape Award;
- the candidatures which were awarded or recognised with special mentions will be presented at the 13th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops on the European Landscape Convention.
- *noted* that the 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) was translated namely in Armenian, Czech, Croatian, Finish, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian and Swedish, and invited the Parties to the Convention to translate it into their national language(s) and to communicate the text to the Secretariat in view of inserting the translated versions in the Council of Europe European Landscape Convention website.

15. Elections of the future Chair and future Vice-Chair of the Conference

The Parties to the Convention unanimously elected:

- Mrs Liv Kristine MORTENSEN (Norway) as Chair of the Conference of the European Landscape Convention;
- Mrs Sanja LJESKOVIC MITROVIC (Montenegro) as Vice-chair of the Conference of the European Landscape Convention.

16. Working Programme

The participants at the Conference:

- *were informed* of the organisational restructuring undergone by the Secretariat of the Council of Europe;
- *considered* the need to continue the organisation of the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention, the meetings of the Council of Europe Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, the establishment of the Council of Europe Information System on the implementation of the Convention - L6, the holding of Groups of Experts when necessary and adequate, and the preparation of thematic reports, in accordance with the work programmes;
- *expressed* its willingness to participate in joint activities with other structures of the Council of Europe, considering also that the European Landscape Convention should be given more importance and visibility in existing projects and activities of the Council;
- *warmly* thanked the Government of Montenegro for hosting the 13th Council of Europe meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*The*

future of the territories, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy”, in Montenegro, on 2-3 October 2013;

- warmly thanked the Government of Turkey for hosting the 14th Council of Europe meeting of the Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape and economy*”, in Turkey in 2014.

17. Perspective for the future

Considering the importance of Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention as a forum for dialogue and co-operation based on the Working programme of the Convention and in view of the preparation of the 8th Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in 2015,

the Parties expressed the wish that:

- the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe would take note of this and to make sure that the biennial Conferences be included in the mandate of the steering committees concerned;
- the Council of Europe Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention should be organised once a year;
- the Information System of the European Landscape Convention - L6 should continue to be set up and developed in order to allow for an active follow-up of the Convention and of the Members States landscape’s policies, to encourage the exchange of information between the parties and to promote the value of landscape for Europeans;
- the number of signatures and ratifications of the Convention should be increased, and the representatives of States, local and regional authorities and non-governmental organisations should be mobilised to this end.

the Parties decided to endorse the Joint Statement on “*The Council of Europe activities within Landscape and Spatial planning*” from representatives of States Parties to the Convention and Signatory of the Convention: Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden and to include it in the Appendix to these conclusions.

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The Conference warmly thanked Mrs Maria José FESTAS for her substantial contributions in support of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention during all these years.

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Appendix

THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE ACTIVITIES WITHIN LANDSCAPE AND SPATIAL PLANNING

The national experts on the European Landscape Convention are concerned about the emphasis on landscape and spatial planning in the reform process and future priorities of the Council of Europe.

We highly appreciate the current activities relating to landscape and spatial development, human rights and democracy. Landscape and spatial development are important issues in any democratic society. In this context, the European Landscape Convention is a key convention. And the Council of Europe Conferences and Workshops provide very important venues for its implementation. In our opinion it is of great importance that the Council of Europe continues to organise pan European co-operation between its member states on these issues.

At its 1st Plenary Session (Strasbourg, 14-16 May 2012), the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP):¹

- adopted the perspectives for 2012-2013 for the European Landscape Convention;
- supported their implementation and wished that the working method developed for the European Landscape Convention to be continued with the organisation of the biannual Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

However, the terms of reference of the CDCPP expire on 31 December 2013. According to the foreword of the draft agenda for the 7th Conference, the holding of a new conference as well as its future activities will depend on a decision of the Committee of Ministers.

Also, the member states are informed that the Council of Europe has postponed the meeting of the Task Force of the Committee of Senior Officials of the CEMAT, which was planned in Strasbourg on 28 March 2013.

Key messages in short

The European Landscape Convention was initiated for the reason of democracy and participation

Landscape is the concern of all. Many people have come to realise that the quality and diversity of their surroundings and everyday lives are deteriorating – as a result of technical and economic developments, in which they have had no say. In 1994, the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (CLRAE) therefore set up an ad hoc drafting group. The Convention was adopted on 20 October 2000 in Florence (Italy) and came into force on 1 March 2004.

International exchange of knowledge and best practice is embedded in the Convention itself

The aims of the Convention are to promote landscape protection, management and planning, and to organise European co-operation on landscape issues. At present (March 2013), the Convention is ratified by 38 member states and signed by another 2. This indicates that 40 out of 47 member states

¹ See List of decisions, CDCPP (2012) 35 REV. Point 5.4.1. Perspectives of the European Landscape Convention – Proposals and follow-up [CDCPP (2012) 7].

call for co-operation on landscape issues within the framework of the Council of Europe (which is also a provision under Article 8 – Mutual assistance and exchange of information).

The activities within landscape and spatial planning should be clearly reflected in the future priorities of the organisation

The member states expect the Council of Europe to provide services of high quality and practical use. The size of the budget allocated to landscape and spatial planning is not the crucial issue. Put together, the member states themselves possess much of the expert knowledge. Most important are the Council of Europe functions as facilitator and common meeting ground in a pan European network of national experts, and its capacity in organizing exchange of knowledge and best practice.

Without this, the inflow of new ideas and thinking to the member states would be much poorer. And in a greater context, give weaker stimuli to the reinforcement of human rights, democracy and good governance throughout Europe.

Background

Role of the Council of Europe as common meeting ground and organiser on behalf of its member states

The Council of Europe activities within landscape and spatial planning are of utmost importance. They constitute a unique source of information and inspiration to work at the national level.

The Council of Europe is a major driving force in policy design and setting officially acknowledged standards and principles. The Council of Europe represents 47 member states across the entire European space – the 27 EU member states and 20 more in “Europe beyond the EU”. The 47 member states are reflecting a great ethnical, cultural and religious, as well as a great physical, natural and environmental diversity.

The Council of Europe provides fora for the member states to work together, on the basis of their national experience from the various parts of Europe. All 47 member states may participate on an equal footing. The Council of Europe is also offering important and wide fields of work at sub national level. This gives a great opportunity for acceptance by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Parliamentary Assembly and their activities.

The Convention itself implies such a meeting place. According to *Article 8 – Mutual assistance and exchange of information*, the Parties undertake to co-operate in order to enhance the effectiveness of measures taken under other articles in the Convention. Hence, the organising ability of the Council of Europe is crucial for the member states in fulfilling many important measures. This is a comparative advantage of the Council of Europe. At present, no other organisation may serve as an alternative pan European meeting place.

Interrelations between the human landscape (including cultural and natural heritage), spatial development, human rights and democracy

What do we mean by landscape?

The European Landscape Convention (ETS no. 176, Council of Europe) introduced a new and unique view on landscape, putting *man* in the centre – across natural, humanistic and social sciences.

“Landscape” is defined as an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors. In this way, the Convention adds *human* qualities to the territory – tangible as well as non-tangible.

The entire national territory is regarded as landscapes: wilderness, lakes, sea, cultural heritage, countryside, towns and cities. Along an axis from a pure natural environment to a pure urban environment, only the degree of human interaction varies. This includes landscapes that we think of as outstanding, quite ordinary or degraded – seen from a human point of view.

Why are good landscapes important?

The landscape – including its cultural and natural heritage – constitutes our living environment and our societies. At the same time it is also habitat for flora and fauna, and important for biodiversity. Any loss of biodiversity is reducing the value of the landscape also for humans.

Landscape is therefore not just some pretty countryside we look at – we live our lives in the midst of the landscape. We may like it, or not.

- Our perception of the landscape goes far beyond the visual aesthetics – ugly or beautiful. We perceive the landscape by all our senses – eyesight, hearing, smell, taste and touch.
- Not only does the landscape stimulate our senses. In any given situation, the landscape is also presenting physical opportunities and obstacles, influencing where we may move about and what we happen to experience along our way.
- This is in turn giving rise to emotional associations and personal identity: like sense of belonging, pride, self-confidence, security, recreation and coping with stress.

Landscape and spatial development

The spatial development affects our lives, may be far more than we are aware of. It affects everyone in society, regardless of age or background. It affects our choices concerning where and how to live, where to go to work or school, how to get there and subsequently what we happen to experience along our way. This applies also the emergence of streets, public places and points of contact – sometimes friction – between individuals and groups.

Quality of life, physical and mental health

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease or infirmity (The World Health Organisation). Today good health has become a resource – perhaps a country's most important resource for sustainable development.

Outdoor life gives us sun, fresh air and exercise. This has favourable effects on blood pressure, pulse and BMI. General psychological effects are pleasure, well-being and increased energy. Good landscape experiences may also foster mental health. Stress and stress-related illnesses – such as burnout syndrome, insomnia and fatigue, depression, feelings of panic, etc. – have increased dramatically among adults and children in Western societies. Besides the personal suffering involved, the costs of increasing ill health constitute a threat to our national welfare.

Landscapes that provide environments free from demands and stress, and that are available as part of everyday life, seem to have significant positive effects on the health of the citizens. The environment of children and youth are of particular importance. How is their everyday landscape? What is making up their childhood memories? This is also a matter of giving children roots.

Human rights – the Right to Landscape

The establishment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948 was an aspiration to guarantee both concrete necessities for survival and the spiritual/emotional/psychological needs that are quintessential to the human experience.

The landscape, with its tangible and intangible dimensions, overlaps with the rights that support both life and human dignity. Landscape is now being redefined as a vital public good, breaking fresh ground for the dialogue on the convergence of landscape and human nature and well-being².

Urban and rural development, social segregation

Today, well-educated people search for a good place to live for themselves and their children. The outdoor environment has become a decisive factor in their choices. Employers have to follow. Therefore, the landscape is now a competitive factor in the attempts by companies and local authorities to attract well-educated, mobile manpower and housing.

This fact works two ways. A degraded landscape may impair the quality of life of its citizens, causing accumulation of social problems: In a living environment that is no longer attractive, those who can afford it move out. The less resourceful do not have this option and stay behind. As the neighbourhood deteriorates further it attracts people with even less resources and turns into a downward social spiral.

A sensible spatial development requires political attention and long term policies

The development cannot be left to the market. In a market economy, land is mostly property. Property developers exploit the land and sea (from surface to bottom), normally with the objective of making money and profits in market circumstances. Overexploiting, touristification, pressure on parks and urban sprawl are well known problems. Besides, the market is discriminating between those who pay, and those who don't. For those reasons, market forces *alone* do not supply good landscapes for the citizens.

Municipalities and regions or county councils are responsible for the spatial development of their communities and the welfare of the citizens. This obligation is also a fundamental right in local and regional self-government – the right to evolve their own policies and strategies for urban and rural development and infrastructure, including how national policies should be applied within the community.

Spatial development based on the landscape qualities, encourages active citizens and active participation

Ultimately, the primary resource of a modern society is the knowledge, creativity and ingenuity of its population. In a decentralised democracy, it is acknowledged that local challenges are most effectively met by local initiatives. Mobilisation of local entrepreneurs, young people and voluntary associations has indeed brought new life to many communities.

In landscape issues, people do not appear as experts or non-experts of different significance. Professionals and citizens have all equal saying – regardless of academic, ethnical, social or cultural background. Everybody has an opinion on the place where they live. Nor does the landscape, according to the Convention, belong to one academic discipline alone. It is the common meeting ground for a number of professions.

Multicultural new approaches may sometimes emerge, where there are immigrants from other countries and continents. The characteristics of the landscape may also help them in getting acquainted with their new home country and in building a new identity.

² See *'The Right to Landscape' Contesting Landscape and Human Rights* (December 2011).

Edited by Shelley Egoz, Lincoln University, New Zealand, Jala Makhzoumi, American University of Beirut, Lebanon and Gloria Pungetti, University of Cambridge, UK. The book introduces a new discourse on landscape and human rights, serving as a platform to inspire a diversity of ideas and conceptual interpretations.

Active citizens' and public participation bring new life and new approaches to the political debate. If people do understand, do accept and do recognize the quality of their living environment, they will engage themselves and they will probably pursue solutions that they positively want to live with. And conscious voters give their politicians backing e.g. when facing developers presenting glossy schemes, likely to cause detrimental changes to their living environment.

Active citizens require transparency and openness in planning and decision making processes

Landscape and spatial planning is a 1:1 school in democracy and participation:

- raising the citizens' awareness and responsibility for their local community
- providing training and experience in participatory democracy
- generating policies and measures that the citizens themselves request

This is likely to encourage the political creativity, increase the spectre of feasible actions in local community and stimulate the institutional ability of its administration. Transparency and openness is going to discourage any liability to bribery and corruption.

Then, differences may be prevented or solved in open, transparent and democratic processes. We get a development based on political reasoning and democratic debate – rather than a society governed by developer profits, complicated legal procedures and court decisions.

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LIST OF APPENDICES

*[Documents available in the Addendum to this Report]
[CEP-CDCPP (2013) 12E Add.]*

Appendix 1 - List of participants

Appendix 2 - Agenda

Appendix 3 - Opening speeches

Appendix 4 - General activity report on the European Landscape Convention and status of signatures and ratifications

Appendix 5 - Presentation of the actions carried out by the Parties and non Parties to the European Landscape Convention at national, regional and local levels for its implementation

Appendix 5 bis - Landscape policies in the Member States of the Council of Europe

Appendix 6 - Draft Recommendation Rec(2013)... of the Committee of Ministers to Member States the Information System of the European Landscape Convention and its Glossary

Appendix 7 - Conclusions of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

7.1. *General Conclusions of the 10th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Multifunctional landscape”, Evora, Portugal, 20-21 October 2011*

7.2. *General Conclusions of the 11th 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 Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011”, Carbonia, Italy, 4-5 June 2012*

7.3. *Report of synthesis and General Conclusions of the 12th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: Landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning... Another way to see the territory involving civil society...”, Thessalonica, Greece, 2-3 October 2012*

Appendix 8 - Presentation of the actions carried out by international governmental and non-governmental institutions and organisations dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

Appendix 9 - Conclusions of the reports presented to the 7th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention

9.1. *Conclusions of the report on “Landscape and education”*

9.2. *Conclusions of the report on “Landscape and leisure”*

Appendix 10 - Draft recommendation CM/Rec(2013)... of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the Landscape and education at primary and secondary school

[Appendix 11](#)- Report on “The Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning (CEMAT), considering landscape with its heritage values”

[Appendix 12](#) - Programme of activities 2013 on the follow-up of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

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