



STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE

CDCULT(2008)LD1def

22 May 2008

7th Plenary Session
Strasbourg, 5 – 6 May 2008

List of decisions

1. Opening of the meeting by the CDCULT Chair, adoption of the agenda and welcome by the Director of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage

The Committee:

- **adopted** the agenda of its 7th plenary meeting and thanked the Chair and the Director for their opening statements to the session.

2. Report by the Chair on his Chairmanship from 2006 – 2008

The Committee:

- **thanked** the outgoing Chair for his summary of progress achieved over the past two years, his substantial contribution to the implementation of a streamlined work programme and his committed leadership.

2.1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

2.2. Election of Bureau

The Committee:

- **elected** as the new Chair, Ms Deiana Danailova of Bulgaria and as the new Vice-Chair, Ms Christine Merkel of Germany for a one-year term of office (from the beginning of the plenary meeting 2008 until the beginning of the plenary session 2009, when they may be renewed for another year until the beginning of the plenary session 2010);
- **elected** six Bureau members for a two-year term of office expiring at the beginning of the plenary session of 2010, of which four members were newly elected (Ms Hanna Jedras of Poland, Ms Josefina Lopez-Conejos of Spain, Rev. Fr. Laurent Mazas of the Holy See, Ms Jasminka Lokas-Strpic of Croatia) and two Bureau members had their terms renewed (Mr Norbert Riedl of Austria, Ms Sevda Mammadaliyeva of Azerbaijan).

3. Recent developments at national level – short reports by CDCULT members

The Committee:

- **took note** of recent developments of importance in member states as reported by delegates.

4. Recent developments at the Council of Europe – report by the Director, including on CDCULT priorities in the context of the programme of activities 2008 and related budgetary issues

The Committee:

- **took note** of recent developments at the Council of Europe, the budgetary framework of future CDCULT work, areas of specific need and priority;
- **appreciated** the voluntary contributions by various member states to the CDCULT's work programme;
- **invited** member states to consider supporting the CDCULT's projects with voluntary contributions in line with their national priorities and interests.

5. Cultural policy information and monitoring activities

5.1. “CultureWatchEurope” – Cultural governance observatory function, including an exchange with the European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH)

The Committee:

- **approved** the approach to enhancing the Organisation’s cultural governance observatory function as set out in the working document on “CultureWatchEurope” by the optimal linking and strengthening of existing information and monitoring tools, networked resources and partnerships, the production of targeted policy and trend reviews by enhancing reports at European level;
- **supported** increased liaison opportunities between governmental stakeholders and other key partners such as civil society organisations in the cultural field, within the framework of “CultureWatchEurope”;
- **exchanged views** on the progress review providing elements towards a future comprehensive business plan for the “CultureWatchEurope” activity and asked the Secretariat to incorporate the results of this exchange into this plan, to be circulated with the Committee for their final written comments by 30 June 2008;
- **thanked** the representative of the European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH), for the organisations’ interest in future co-operation on “CultureWatchEurope”;
- **agreed** to set up an ad hoc informal working group on “CultureWatchEurope” - composed of Mr Kimmo Aulake/ Finland, Ms Christine Merkel/ Germany, Ms Zoe Kazazaki/ Greece, Ms Deiana Danailova/ Bulgaria and a representative of the CDPATEP Steering Committee to be nominated, to assist with the project’s practical development including definition of a financial strategy that might include, inter alia, voluntary contributions by member states and selected partners and foundations.

5.2. Compendium project:

- Compendium action plan 2008 onwards

- Follow-up to the UNESCO Convention at European level:

Oral report by the Director on the UNESCO Intergovernmental Conference, December 2007, Ottawa

The Committee:

- **took note** of the progress achieved on the Compendium project as a key component of “CultureWatchEurope” and approved the project’s medium-term strategic orientation targeting enhanced user orientation, diversification of information products and services as well as of partners and potential funders;
- **agreed on** the Action Plan for 2008 - 2009 as set out in the progress report;
- **thanked** the Azeri authorities for hosting the 2008 Compendium Authors’ Meeting in Baku in December 2008 as a side event to the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers of Culture and asked member states to support the participation of their national Compendium authors in the event;
- **thanked** the Spanish authorities for their offer to host the Compendium Authors’ Meeting in Madrid in spring 2009 during Spain’s Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers;
- **welcomed** the Compendium’s contribution to the future monitoring of the Convention on the Protection and the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;
- **confirmed** the Compendium as a flagship project of the cultural sector and asked member states to consider translating their country profiles into national languages and making voluntary contributions available to the project to help enable its further progress, in the framework of the CultureWatchEurope activity.

5.3. National Cultural Policy Reviews and sectoral studies

The Committee:

- **noted** progress concerning the National Cultural Policy Review Programme and welcomed the synopsis provided on this activity;
- **agreed** on its updated methodology to be further developed in the framework of “CultureWatchEurope” by the ad hoc working group;
- **underlined** the importance of a systemic approach taken by the CDCULT to its work in the cultural policy field and welcomed the widening perspective of cultural policy today as reflected in the Council of Europe’s updated project methodologies including possibilities for thematic and transversal review;
- **invited** member states who have not yet done so to participate in the programme or provide an update on the follow-up given in their countries to a previous review and its recommendations, using the Compendium system’s functions;
- **invited** member states to consider supporting the Review programme by seconding a staff member (*detaché*) to the Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage.

5.3.a. Cultural Policy Review of Turkey - Progress Report

The Committee:

- **took note** of the start of preparations for the Turkish Cultural Policy Review and thanked the Turkish authorities for the information provided in this respect.

5.3.b. Review of National Film Policies in Europe – Progress Report

The Committee:

- **took note** of progress in the preparation of a European Film Policy Forum scheduled to take place on 12 and 13 September 2008 in Krakow;
- **thanked** the Polish Film Institute and the Polish authorities for their generous support of the Forum and encouraged member states to nominate representatives specialising in film policy matters;
- **thanked** Bulgaria, Cyprus and Latvia for their voluntary contributions to this project;
- **resolved** to consider a recommendation on film policies and diversity at its next session and in the light of results of the Krakow Forum.

5.4. European Convention for the Protection of the Audiovisual Heritage and follow-up by the CDCULT

The Committee:

- **took note** of the preparations for setting up a Standing Committee for the Audiovisual Heritage Convention;
- **welcomed** the proposal to use the Compendium system for its specific monitoring whilst the Compendium country profiles could also reflect the variety of national approaches taken to safeguard the audiovisual heritage;
- **invited** member states, who are not yet States party to the European Convention for the protection of the audiovisual heritage, to consider signing and ratifying it;
- **asked** the Secretariat to keep the Committee informed of progress achieved on the follow-up to the Audiovisual Heritage Convention.

6. Activities related to Intercultural Dialogue

6.1. The Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue and its follow-up – oral report by the Council of Europe Co-coordinator for intercultural dialogue

The Committee:

- **thanked** the Council of Europe co-coordinator for intercultural dialogue, Ms Battaini-Dracconi, for her report on the successful finalisation of the White Paper;
- **expressed** its support to follow-up action on the implementation of the White Paper's recommendations at respective policy levels, and in the framework of the CDCULT's activities on Intercultural Cities, the Compendium's good practice collection on intercultural dialogue and the forthcoming Council of Europe conference of Ministers responsible for culture.
- **welcomed** wide dissemination of the White Paper and committed to assist with this at national level.

6.2. Intercultural Cities project – progress report

The Committee:

- **took note** of the results of the selection procedure for pilot cities and expressed its interest in seeing the project being enlarged in the future;
- **considered with interest** the conceptual and methodological documents developed in the context of the programme and of the plan of action 2008-2009;
- **welcomed** the conclusion of a co-operation agreement with the European Commission establishing Intercultural Cities as a joint action;
- **expressed** strong support for the partnerships established in the context of the programme, and in particular with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and EUROCIITIES.

6.3. “Cultural identities, shared values and citizenship” – project conclusions

The Committee:

- **took note** of the successful termination of the project on cultural identities, shared values and citizenship and committed to assist with wide dissemination of the results achieved.

7. Kyiv Initiative Regional Programme

The Committee:

- **took note** of the progress achieved on the Kyiv Initiative;
- **expressed** its interest in and support to the activity including its various work strands;
- **asked** for regular updates on further progress and developments.

8. Promotion of European identity through culture and heritage:

8.1. Council of Europe Art Exhibitions and Cultural Events

The Committee:

- **welcomed** the preparations for the next art exhibition on “Art after 1945” and encouraged the Secretariat to continue to develop the project along the same lines;
- **took note** of the first selection of three candidates for the Council of Europe Cultural Events label.

8.2. Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

The Committee:

- **thanked** the Luxembourg Institute for its important contribution to the development of the programme and to the Luxembourg Authorities for their continuous financial and political support;
- **welcomed** the proposal by the Spanish authorities to host and support a forthcoming meeting of the Advisory Council of the Cultural Routes programme;
- **took note** of the information presented in the progress report, in particular the celebration activities of the 20th Anniversary of the Cultural Routes Programme;
- **expressed** its interest in the activities foreseen in 2008;
- **took note** of the bilateral agreement being signed between Greece and the Luxembourg Institute concerning support to the Luxembourg Institute and the implementation of the Delphes initiative.

9. Working relations

9.1. Internal working relations with Council of Europe bodies including the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDPATEP), the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

The Committee:

- **welcomed** the enhanced co-operation with the CDPATEP Steering Committee and nominated Mr Irakli Metreveli/Georgia and Mr Mihaly Nagy/ Hungary as liaison officers in this respect;
- **welcomed** enhanced information exchange and co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of the Council of Europe on projects and issues of shared interest.

10. Exchange on Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Culture on Intercultural Dialogue, Baku, December 2008

The Committee:

- **welcomed** the initiative by the Azeri Government to host a Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Culture in Baku in December 2008 on the issue of intercultural dialogue as a basis for peace and sustainable development in Europe and its neighbouring regions;
- **exchanged views** on the draft background document for the conference, endorsed the overall approach proposed and asked the Secretariat to further focus the text in the light of the discussions held and of comments received by 15 May from the delegates and with the help of the conference task force, before circulating an updated version of the text with the CDCULT for information and final comments;
- **asked** the Secretariat to report to the GR-C at its meeting in June 2008 on the progress achieved on the conference preparation including presentation of a brief roadmap of events.

11. Preparations for the 7th Bureau Meeting of CDCULT (2 – 3 December 2008)

The Committee:

- **decided** to hold its next Bureau meeting at the occasion of the Ministerial conference in Baku in December 2008 (dates still to be confirmed).

12. Any other issues

12.1. Draft CDCULT opinion and proposals on the report and conclusions by the High Level Task Force on Social Cohesion (HLTF)

The Committee:

- **thanked** the representative of the Directorate General of Social Cohesion for her progress report on the work of the HLTF;
- **approved** the draft CDCULT proposals on the Report of the HLTF on Social Cohesion in the 21st Century and thanked the Hungarian delegate, Ms Szabó-Pap for her valuable contribution to this work;
- **welcomed** prospects for further co-operation with the Directorate General of Social Cohesion / HLTF on projects and issues of shared interest.

12.2. Preparation of CDCULT's opinion by the CDCULT on the Draft Declaration of the 8th Council of Europe Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth

The Committee:

- **took note** of the draft Declaration by the 8th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth and welcomed the invitation to express its view on the text;
- **designated** Ms Gabriella Szabó-Pap / Hungary to prepare a draft opinion on behalf of the CDCULT and submit it to the Secretariat by 15 June 2008 for appropriate follow-up.

14. Adoption of the list of decisions

The Committee:

- **asked** the Secretariat to circulate the list of decisions of its 7th Plenary Session for final comments by delegates before 20 May and subsequent circulation and adoption by written procedure.