



STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE

CDCULT(2009)LDdef

19 June 2009

8th Plenary Session
Strasbourg, 14 - 15 May 2009

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 8th plenary session and thanked the Chair and the Director for their opening statements to the session.

2. Report by the Chair on her Chairmanship over the last year

The Committee:

- **thanked** the Chair for her summary of progress achieved over the past year and her special contribution to the Committee's work by hosting extraordinary meetings of the CDCULT Bureau in Sofia, Bulgaria (March 2009, March 2010).

3. Elections

3.1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

3.2. Election of Bureau

The Committee:

- **renewed** Ms Deiana Danailova as Chair and Ms Christine Merkel as Vice-Chair of the CDCULT for another year in office (until spring 2010);
- **took note** of the need to elect three new Bureau members in spring 2010 as well as the possibility of renewing four Bureau members for another two years term.

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

The Committee:

- **took note** with interest of the recent developments at national level as reported by CDCULT delegates.

5. Recent developments at the Council of Europe - report by the Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport / Coordinator for intercultural dialogue and for the Anti-discrimination Campaign and the Director of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage, including on work priorities in the context of the programme of activities 2009/10 and related budgetary issues

The Committee:

- **thanked** the Director General of DG IV for her overview on the progress of the Council of Europe's work on intercultural dialogue and prospects for the CDCULT's work in the context of the Organisation's recent developments;
- **thanked** the Director of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage, Mr Palmer, for his assessment of work priorities 2009/10 onwards and related budgetary issues;
- **welcomed** the documents on the CDCULT work programme 2009 and 2010 and beyond as well as additional financial information provided during the session, allowing for planning of future work;
- **approved** the proposals made for work priorities 2010 relating directly to the Third Summit Action Plan and topical policy needs of governments, i.e. preparatory work for the establishment of an Intercultural City network, or an alternative framework, based on the results of the Intercultural Cities pilot programme, the implementation, on a pilot basis, of the Artists for Dialogue Programme and, in the framework of "CultureWatchEurope", the implementation of Cultural Policy Reviews (including Turkey), Compendium content and geographical development and the planning of a major conference on the impact of the financial crisis on the cultural sector and cultural

- institutions, as well as initial work on the assessment and updating of the European Convention on cinematographic co-production;*
- **asked** the Bureau to consider further the proposal and process for updating the European Cultural Convention of 1954 and report back to the Committee before 30 September 2009;
 - **asked** the Secretariat for adequate follow-up with Council of Europe decision making bodies to ensure the effective preparation of the Organisation's 2010 work programme;
 - **asked** the Bureau to prepare a paper for discussion for the 2010 Plenary Session, which gives delegates a more transparent presentation of the combination of resources in the different programme lines and on possible scenarios of further streamlining the Committee's programme of activities, and asks the Secretariat to include this point on the agenda for the next regular plenary session.

6. Working Methods and Relations

6.1. Working relations with Council of Europe bodies including the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape

The Committee:

- **thanked** the Chair of the CDPATEP, Mr Bruno Favel, for his report on the CDPATEP's activities and the potential for co-operation with the CDCULT;
- **re-iterated** its interest in co-operation with the CDPATEP on projects and issues of shared concern, such as the cultural routes programme.

6.2. Renewal of the Terms of Reference of the CDCULT for 2010 – 2012 and reflection on the Committee's working methods

The Committee:

- **took note** of the results of a recent study on Council of Europe Committees initiated by the GT.REF-INST working party;
- **welcomed** proposals for further improvement of the CDCULT's working methods and decided to submit its comments / preferences as to the suggested measures by 15 June 2009 to the Secretariat in view of the preparation of an action list to be endorsed by the CDCULT Bureau at its autumn session;
- **asked** the Secretariat to revise the CDCULT draft Terms of Reference 2010-12 in the light of comments made and to send it, along with the edited version of the previous terms of reference (2008-09), to delegations for their approval by 15 June 2009, before submitting it for follow-up to Council of Europe bodies and eventually, the Committee of Ministers;
- **asked** the Secretariat to prepare the agenda for the 2010 Plenary session of the Committee in a way that would allow for in-depth exchange on strategic and budgetary issues.

7. Cultural policy information and monitoring activities

7.1. "CultureWatchEurope" – Council of Europe Cultural governance observatory function

The Committee:

- **took note** of the progress achieved on the creation of a joint access portal for "CultureWatchEurope" which would promote improved access to the Compendium, HEREIN and the European Audiovisual Observatory and **welcomed** its launch in summer 2009;
- **endorsed** the proposal by the CDCULT Bureau of March 2009, within the framework of CultureWatchEurope, to study in more detail the impact of the financial crisis regarding

culture, especially related to the impact on public institutions and **welcomed** the initial survey carried out by the Secretariat with CDCULT members, to be followed in 2010 by a cultural policy event to discuss the results;

- **asked** the Secretariat to organise a restricted meeting of the “CultureWatchEurope” Task Force in early summer 2009 to plan actions for 2010, including the development of partnerships with relevant civil society bodies and further technical improvements that will strengthen the platform.

7.2. Conference on culture and development in Europe 20 years after the fall of communism, Krakow, 4 – 6 June 2009

The Committee:

- **welcomed** the preparation of the Krakow conference on “Culture and development in Europe 20 years after the fall of communism” to be held as a first event under the banner “CultureWatchEurope” (4-6 June 2009) and the draft background document and conference programme;
- **thanked** the Polish Ministry of Culture, the City of Krakow and the International Cultural Centre of Krakow for their support in organising the event;
- **welcomed** the co-operation with the CDPATEP Steering Committee in the preparation of the event and the thematic input provided on cultural heritage and tourism;
- **asked** the Secretariat to keep the Steering Committee informed of the conference outcomes and follow-up and send the final conference reader to all delegations.

7.3. Compendium project: latest developments and resource mobilisation

The Committee:

- **thanked** the Government of Azerbaijan for having hosted the 2008 Compendium Authors’ meeting (Baku, 4-5 December 2008), the Spanish Government for having hosted the 2009 meeting (Madrid, 7-8 May 2009) in the framework of the Spanish Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and the Swiss Government for hosting the 2010 Authors’ Meeting in the framework of the Swiss Presidency of the Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers;
- **took note** of the progress made on the Compendium project in 2008, welcomed the growth in use of the system, the newly launched online version and endorsed the project work plan for 2009;
- **recognised** the need for a substantial resource mobilisation for the Compendium to secure and improve its long-term maintenance and optimal development;
- **invited** member states to make available voluntary contributions to the project;
- **requested** the Bureau of the CDCULT to elaborate proposals for a more regular support system by member states, to evaluate operational frameworks and then report back to the Committee via written procedure by 15 September 2009;
- **underlined** the importance of a fully operational, well funded Compendium project as a key component of “CultureWatchEurope” and a flagship instrument of the Steering Committee.

7.4. National Cultural Policy Reviews and sectoral studies

7.4.a. Cultural Policy Review Programme - Progress Report

The Committee:

- **took note** of the progress achieved on the Turkish Cultural Policy Review and the first visit of the Council of Europe expert team to Turkey in July or September 2009;
- **thanked** the Turkish Authorities for their commitment to the review process and expressed its interest in the review process and its hope for a timely completion of the exercise with a presentation at the CDCULT’s Plenary Session in spring 2010;

- **thanked** the Bulgarian Government for having organised in March 2009 in Sofia a hearing on cultural policy developments ten years after the Bulgarian review was launched;
- **took note** with interest of the possibility of engaging in updates of previous Cultural Policy Reviews of member states, and embarking on the update for the Russian Federation in 2010, subject to the signing of a Framework Agreement with the Russian Federation Ministry of Culture that is currently under discussion, as well as the interest expressed by Malta in possibly undergoing a Cultural Policy Review.

7.4.b. Review of National Film Policies in Europe: Draft Recommendation

The Committee:

- **approved** the Draft Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to the Council of Europe member States on national film policies and the diversity of cultural expressions with minor adaptations of the text and **agreed** to forward it to the Committee of Ministers for adoption;
- **warmly thanked** Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark (through the European Think Tank on European Film and Film Policy), Latvia, Norway, Poland, Spain and Switzerland for their contributions to the financing of the film policy review process.

8. Activities related to Intercultural Dialogue

8.1. Conference of Ministers responsible for Culture, 2 - 3 December 2008, Baku, Azerbaijan: Follow-up action including the Artists for Dialogue initiative

The Committee:

- **thanked** the Government of Azerbaijan for its generous hosting of the Ministerial Conference of 2-3 December 2008 including their special support to the Artists for Dialogue initiative and took note of the information provided on the Conference of Ministers of Culture of Islamic States (Baku 13-15 October 2009) to which some fifteen European States would be invited by the Government of Azerbaijan;
- **welcomed** the conference report drawn up by an expert, the production of a comprehensive online conference reader by the Secretariat and a film presenting the highlights of the event;
- **took note** of the follow-up to the conference, including in the framework of existing Council of Europe projects (Kyiv Initiative, Intercultural Cities, Compendium), the Artists for Dialogue programme and follow-up events on intercultural dialogue upon the initiative of the Government of Azerbaijan.

The Committee:

- **took note** of the draft outline for the implementation of the Artists for Dialogue programme as of 2009 including a meeting of experts in July 2009 in Baku, Azerbaijan, and endorsed the approach taken;
- **thanked** the Azeri government for financial support to the Artists for Dialogue programme;
- **welcomed** the possibility of an official launch of the Artists for Dialogue programme on the occasion of the Conference of Ministers of Culture of Islamic States (Baku, 13-15 October 2009);
- **invited** member states to actively support the Artists for Dialogue project through voluntary contributions.

8.2. Intercultural Cities project – progress report

The Committee:

- **took note** with great satisfaction of the results achieved so far by the Intercultural cities joint programme of the Council of Europe and the European Commission, both in relation to the testing of the intercultural integration concept on the ground, and in internal policy developments in cities;
- **supported** the work on the development of a set of indicators and benchmarks for intercultural urban governance and policy;
- **encouraged** the Secretariat to prepare a concept and seek partnerships with the European Commission and other organisations and interested parties with a view to broader implementation of the Intercultural Cities pilot programme after the end of the pilot phase (2010), possibly in the form of an Intercultural Cities network, or an alternative framework.

8.3. Council of Europe Art Exhibitions – Progress Report Art after 1945

The Committee:

- **took note** with satisfaction of the progress of preparations for the triptych exhibition “Art after 1945”, and its direct relevance to the core issues of the Council of Europe, which will be included in the Council of Europe exhibition series subject to positive recommendation by the Group of Consultants at their next meeting;
- **welcomed** the broad geographic scope, the focus on the way in which art in the second half of the 20th century dealt with issues such as human rights, democracy and solidarity and the collaborative cross-border approach of the triptych;
- **encouraged** the Secretariat to undertake further work on a new support including a finance strategy for Council of Europe exhibitions, taking as a starting point the exhibition “Art after 1945” triptych;
- **thanked** Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovak Republic and Poland for their commitment to actively support the exhibition project and invited other member states to follow this example.

8.4 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

The Committee:

- **took note** of the report of the 16th meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Council of Europe Cultural Routes in Madrid on 15 April 2009 and thanked the Spanish authorities for their hospitality;
- **thanked** Ms Roberta Alberotanza for her remarkable work during two terms as Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Cultural Routes, and took note of the election of Ms Zoe Kazazaki as Chair and Mr. Alfredas Jomantas (member of the CDPATEP) as Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee, and of Ms Alberotanza as the Advisory Committee’s representative to the Governing Board of the European Institute of Cultural Routes;
- **warmly thanked** the European Institute of Cultural Routes for its competent work with the project leaders and the Luxembourg authorities for the major financial support they provide to the Institute;
- **granted** the Council of Europe Cultural Route certification to Iter Vitis;

- **granted official approval** as networks supporting Council of Europe Cultural Routes to:
*the Al Andalus Foundation,
 the Transromanica Association,
 the Routes of the Olive Tree Network,
 the European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage,
 the Saint Martin Cultural Centre Network,
 GEIE Phoenicians' Routes;*
- **thanked** the Greek authorities for offering to organise in autumn 2009, as part of the Delphi Initiative, a Forum on the European Cultural Routes as a tool for intercultural dialogue, sustainable development, cultural tourism and European integration;
- **recommended** that the Secretariat contact the relevant UNESCO and ICOMOS departments to discuss closer co-operation on the Cultural Routes;
- **confirmed** the mandates of its representatives on the Advisory Committee: Zoe Kazazaki, Roberta Alberotanza and Fernando Gómez Riesco and elected France Lebon as the new CDCULT representative.

9. Kyiv Initiative

The Committee:

- **took note** with interest of the recent developments of the Kyiv initiative and expressed its interest in following up on these in the future.

10. Preparations for the 8th Meeting of the CDCULT Bureau (Fall 2009)

The Committee:

- **decided** to hold the forthcoming autumn meeting of its Bureau in co-ordination with the CDPATEP Steering Committee so as to allow for a joint session of one half-day;
- **asked** the Secretariat to identify appropriate dates and communicate them to the Bureau members.

11. Information on the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Social Cohesion – Final Declaration

The Committee:

- **thanked** the representative of the Directorate General for Social Cohesion for her update on the recent Council of Europe conference of Ministers responsible for Social Cohesion and took note of the final declaration issued at this occasion.

12. Any other business

12.1. Draft CDCULT reply to Congress Recommendations 261 and 266 of 2009

The Committee:

- **decided** to react on the draft CDCULT reply to Congress Recommendations 261 and 266 of 2009 via written procedure returning its answers by 15 June 2009 to the Secretariat for adequate follow-up with Council of Europe bodies.