



COUNCIL OF EUROPE      CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 19 November 2001

T-FLOR 1 (2001) 3

**EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION  
– Florence Convention –**

***FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING AND  
SIGNATORY STATES TO THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION***

*Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg  
22-23 November 2001  
Room 10*

**Welcoming speech**

*by*

*M. Hans-Christian KRÜGER*

*Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe*

*Document by the Secretariat General  
prepared by the Regional Planning and Technical Co-operation and Assistance Division*



Welcome speech by Mr Hans Christian KRÜGER, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

The meeting was opened by Mr H. C. KRÜGER, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, who welcomed the participants (the list of participants is set out in Appendix 1 of T-FLOR 1 (2001) 19).

Mr KRÜGER pointed out that he was present at the Ministerial Conference of the Council of Europe in Florence, organized for the opening of the European Landscape Convention for signature. In this regard, he would like to thank Italy, the host country of the Conference, for its tremendous welcome and the work accomplished. He also welcomed the fact that progress had been made since the signing of the Convention by twenty-two States and its approval by Norway on 23 October 2001.

He recalled that nature and culture constituted the two sides of the same coin and that the Convention responded perfectly to the missions of the Council of Europe, which were to promote human rights and democracy and to find solutions to major problems of society. He pointed out that the Council of Europe's Secretariat General was proud of this new Convention and remained at the disposal of Governments in order to facilitate the work that would lead to its entry into force. He wished the work carried out to be very successful and thanked the participants for their attention.