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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE (CDDG)

PROMOTION OF THE 12 PRINCIPLES OF GOOD DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN MEMBER STATES: UPDATE

For discussion and action

Secretariat Memorandum prepared by the Directorate General of Democracy Democratic Governance Department

Introduction

One of the CDDG's main tasks under its terms of reference 2018-2019 is to "(iv) promote the implementation of the Twelve Principles of Good Governance through targeted action and the use of the tools of the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform."

Specific task (vi) further instructs the CDDG to "Report to the Committee of Ministers on a regular basis on the work and achievements of the European Stakeholders Platform which delivers the accreditation to the national platforms or bodies authorised to grant the European Label of Governance Excellence (ELoGE)".

Further to the information provided to the CDDG Bureau at its meeting on 27 April 2018 in Paris, an overview of the current state of play and possible accreditation requests is presented in appendix.

12 Principles of Good Democratic Governance

The attention of the CDDG is further drawn to E-Learning tool on each of the 12 Principles of Good Democratic Governance developed by the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform.

This E-Learning tool is scheduled for presentation at the present meeting.

Action required

The CDDG is invited to take note of the information presented.

APPENDIX

ELoGE: Current status and accreditation requests

Country/ organisation	Status
Bulgaria – Ministry of Regional Development	Implements Strategy and ELoGE regularly since 2010; the process has been financed by EU Structural Funds. The last awards ceremony took place in October 2017. A new round is foreseen for 2020. In the meantime, the implementation and benchmark are being evaluated with a view to improving procedures, disseminate good practices and enhance capacity building on the basis of identified practice and to encourage more municipalities to participate in the ELoGE programme. The Bulgarian authorities wish to exchange experiences with other countries in relation to the procedures and implementation of ELoGE.
Cyprus, Slovenia, Slovak Republic	Implementation of ELoGE is included in the project proposals submitted to the Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS-) funding by Cyprus, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia.
France – CNFPT (national Training Centre for local authorities) INET (Institut National des Etudes Territoriales)	On 5 July 2018, CNFPT submitted a letter of interest in relation to an official application for ELoGE accreditation. A workshop held on ELoGE, its implementation and rules was held for representatives of the CNFPT and of INET at workshops took place on 20 September 2018 in Strasbourg. This was attended by representatives of a number of municipalities. INET representatives participated in the workshop with ALDA on 13-14 September.
FRANCE - ALDA - Association of Local Democracy Agencies.	A request for accreditation was submitted by ALDA. Representatives attended a presentation on ELoGE, its implementation and rules at a workshop in Strasbourg on 13-14 September 2018. Applications by transnational associations and organisations are currently under examination.
Greece - Institute of Local Administration (ITA) and Ministry of Interior	Submitted accreditation request in April 2017. The project is a part of the technical assistance programme in Greece implemented by the Centre of Expertise and financed by the EU. The first ceremony took place in March 2018 – 15 out of 25 municipalities received the Label and the case study/Report will be available on the Centre's website. A second ceremony is envisaged for 2020.
Lithuania (Training Centre Dainava)	The Lithuanian authorities have confirmed that implementation of ELoGE is included in the request for financing under the Structural Reform Service Programme (SRSP) of the EU.

Malta – Ministry for Culture and Local Government, Department for Local Government (DLG)	Applied and received accreditation in 2016, piloted benchmarking with the support of the Centre of Expertise as a part of the CoE project financed by the EEA Norway Grants. The award ceremony envisaged for December 2017 did not take place. 3 municipalities received the Label through the pilot project with UDITE (as well as Irish, Portuguese, and Spanish municipalities).
Poland – Foundation for Local Democracy	Received accreditation in 2017, the first ELoGE Ceremony took place on 8 October 2018.
Spain – Basque Country – Association of local authorities (EUDEL) and Regional government	Submitted request and received accreditation in 2017. The project is implemented in cooperation with the Centre of Expertise. Following the first ELoGE Ceremony in March 2018 where 5 out of 9 municipalities received the Label, the second round is being implemented. The next ceremony is planned on 19 December 2018. The Catalan associations expressed their interest and are discussing the possibilities of ELoGE for the Catalan region.