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STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDPATEP)

Monitoring the Granada Convention:

Cyprus Pilot of the Granada Case Study Modules

Nicosia, 26-28th May, 2010

Aide Memoire

This document was prepared by Sarah Wolferstan, member of the Core working group or the Granada Convention Monitoring project. The participants appear in the list appended to this *Aide Memoire*.

1. The programme

The programme for the Cyprus Pilot Study Visit was as follows:

- Presentation and reception, Wednesday, May 26th 19:00
- Workshop 1 Thursday, May 27th 09:00-11:00 National level.
- Workshop 2 11:00 14:30 National level
- Workshop 3 Friday, May 28th 08:30-11:00 Local level
- Workshop 4 11:00 14:30 Heritage Communities
- Visit, and dinner

2. Organisation and participation

Official participation in the pilot was given by the CDPATEP member, Athena Aristotelous. The Herein Correspondent, Irene Hadjisavva, organised the pilot visit. The Council of Europe Secretariat, Anna Trigona, had forwarded the project description, the CSM questionnaire and brief prepared by the expert team. Although she was invited to contact Sarah Wolferstan to discuss participants, Irene interpreted the brief well and did not require assistance. A week prior to the pilot, Irene sent me with a list of organisations invited and asked for feedback. I believe she had been in contact, as suggested, with the Greek correspondent, Eleni Oeconomopolou, for her advice, due to Eleni's experience organising the Valletta CSM pilot mission in Athens during 2008.

3. Invitations and publicity material

Irene invited participants by letter, and followed this up by telephone to ensure each group was represented. Participants were sent all of the documents by post and email as soon as they had confirmed their attendance. Irene kept a register of attendance during the workshops (see annex 1). She prepared an excellent poster advertising the event (annex 2) which was displayed at the reception event and workshop location.

4. Presentation / Reception

The presentation and reception took place in a restored colonial building, owned by the municipality and used by the local community for events. It was well attended by around 30 participants. Having been introduced by Athena, there were two presentations which took around 45 minutes. The first was on the background to the mission and the content of the CSMs (Sarah and Paul) and another on the Faro convention (Dag). This was followed by the reception, with a delicious spread of food and drinks. This was very valuable as it gave the participants an opportunity to meet and catch up with each other and question the experts on the content of the workshops.

5. Methodology

As described in the project description and workshop brief (sent out in advance of the project together with the draft Granada Case Study Module (the questionnaire), the overall methodology was the same as that used in Valletta CSMs, structured questionnaires on themes of interest established by the Granada Working Group following a brainstorming session in December 2007 and consultations during 2008. However, the delivery of the pilots was different on this occasion. During the Valletta pilots, the questions were explained by the expert team, and then filled in over the next few months by the participants. At the end of the Valletta pilot project, we concluded that it was the feedback on the questions, rather than the answers themselves, which proved to be the most useful outcome. Thus during the Cyprus visit, we asked for participation to be limited to the workshop setting, when the questions would be refined.

The documents had been forwarded it to the participants and printed it out for the workshops themselves. I prepared a PowerPoint so that the questions could be placed on screen. The first 20-25 minutes of the workshop were taken up with introductions. Adrian introduced the background to the project; Dag reinforced the relevance of the Faro Framework convention. Paul led throughout the rest of the workshop, introducing the four CSMs, and going through each question, inviting comments. I annotated the CSM with the comments and suggestions throughout the four workshops. The other experts also annotated their copies and sent this to me so that they could be incorporated.

6. Workshop 1: National

This was attended by Irene's colleagues at the Department of Town Planning and Housing from all sections directly and indirectly involved with heritage. This group was the most specialised and made many helpful suggestions on the wording, structure, order and accompanying guidance for the questions. It is clear that we have to be specific when we are asking questions about the types of heritage protected through legislation covered in the Herein National Report and when we are asking about areas and non-protected heritage. There was some interesting discussion about conflicting values between public institutions over plans to renovate state-owned buildings.

7. Workshop 2: National

This was aimed at ministry level partners working at a national level dealing directly with heritage e.g. planners, and building archaeologists from the Department of Antiquities. There was some useful discussion on the conflict between departments where values such as antiquity were in conflict with public values such as finding a sustainable or new use for a heritage place or public space. It was clear that the legislation itself, although clear, was in conflict with other legislation and local priorities. It also seemed that the majority of decisions were made by those with expertise and power, drawing on their experience rather than through the implementation of policy guidance through a transparent and documented decision making process. There was also helpful discussion on the status of non-protected heritage, which had not been fully covered by the questions,

8. Workshop 3: Local

Participants included representatives of governmental or local authorities on local level dealing directly or indirectly with heritage, including spatial planners and conservation officers from the District authorities, as well as the head of a tourism agency. There was an interesting discussion during the CSM on communities about the changing demographics in the historic centres of old towns and cities in Cyprus, Nicosia especially being now mainly inhabited by immigrants, some of whom are reusing mosques.

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9. Workshop 4: Heritage Communities

Voluntary sector and education: NGOs with heritage as their main scope, or one of their scopes, universities. Participants included academics from the three new universities recently established in Cyprus, architects and engineers in private practice, and representatives from their professional bodies. NGOs both national (ICOMOS-Cyprus) and a local were represented. There was some fruitful discussion on the ability of non-government actors to comment on major proposals and the systems for such participation, and whether their voice had an actual impact and led to changes in proposals. There was also some limited discussion concerning the challenges of co-operation with the EU and UNDP and projects with Turkish Cypriot communities in the north of Cyprus.

10. Trips, dinner and summary

Irene very kindly walked with the group into the northern part of Nicosia, and organised a trip to Koirokotia World Heritage Site, listed for its Neolithic remains (<u>http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/848</u>). She also took the team to some of the historic areas of villages above Larnaca where she had been involved in some restoration work. On the Saturday evening, she invited the team to dinner at her house, where we met friends, family and other participants of the workshops for some delicious home cooking.

The workshops were very successful and achieved the aim of refining the questions, as many have been deleted, adapted and modified as a direct result of the help provided by the participants. Although it was not the aim, we were also provided with several examples that illustrated the questions, some of which have been highlighted above.

Given the current lack of an on-line resource, and the unwieldy paper based questionnaire, the slight shift in focus from explaining the questions and requesting answers (used for the five pilots in Valletta) to that used for the Cyprus pilot - asking feedback and advice on restructuring the questions during the workshop itself - was judged to be more useful by Adrian Olivier and myself, both of us having participated in both Valletta and Granada workshops.

The Herein correspondent, Irene Hadjisaava, commented that there was another direct benefit of the workshop; it allowed the Department of Town Planning and Houses (TPH) to initiate a working relationship with the new research bodies at the various universities, especially in light of CSM 4, which discusses technical research on the performance of buildings.

Annex 1 List of participants

NAME	INSTITUTION	e-mail
Organising group		
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