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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION  
CONVENTION EUROPEENNE DU PAYSAGE

Strasbourg, 25 April 2007

T-FLOR (2007) 14

## **EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION – Florence Convention –**

### **COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON “THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION”**

#### **REPORT**

Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg  
22 and 23 March 2007

*Secretariat document  
Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Spatial Planning Division  
Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage*

## **I. Opening session**

### **1. Introductory speeches**

The meeting was opened by Ms Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport, representing the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. She welcomed the participants, who are listed in Appendix 1 to this report. The text of her speech is in Appendix 2.

Ms Eleonora PETROVA-MITEVSKA, Representative of the Committee of Ministers, Chair of the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C), gave an introductory speech, the text of which is contained in Appendix 3 to this report.

Mr Etienne VAN VAERENBERGH, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Sustainable Development of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, gave an introductory speech, the text of which is contained in Appendix 4 to this report.

Mr Enrico BUERGI, Chair of the Conference on the European Landscape Convention when the latter entered into force, gave an introductory speech, the text of which is contained in Appendix 5 to this report.

### **2. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Conference**

Mr Daniel THEROND, Deputy Director of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage, held the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Conference. Mr Jean-François SEGUIN, the representative of France, was proposed by the representative of Belgium and elected Chair of the Conference by acclamation. Ms Nataša BRATINA-JURKOVIC, the representative of Slovenia, was proposed by the representative of France and elected Vice-Chair of the Conference by acclamation.

### **3. Adoption of the agenda**

*[Document for decision: T-FLOR (2007) 3]*

The agenda, as set out in Appendix 6 to this report, was adopted.

## **Session 1 – Progress of European co-operation**

### **4. Information**

#### **– Implementation of Article 10, para. 1 of the Convention, concerning monitoring of the implementation of the Convention**

Mr Daniel THEROND said that the draft terms of reference of a new steering committee, which would deal in particular with follow-up to the European Landscape Convention, were being drawn up and would be submitted for consideration to the Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C).

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#### ***Interruption of the sitting***

*Ms Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS expressed her deep regret at the news of the death that morning of Alexandre Charles KISS, a founding father of international environmental law. A Council of Europe expert since 1968, he had been a distinguished lawyer and had been particularly committed to the promotion of international environmental law and human rights. His very numerous articles and other works were evidence of his convictions, his activities and his academic rigour. The Council Secretariat would remember him as a much-admired person with a deep-seated sense of humanity and a great passion for meeting other people and for discussing the principles that were the common heritage of the Council of Europe member States.*

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– **Follow-up to the Recommendation of the Parliamentary Assembly concerning landscape**  
[Information paper: T-FLOR (2007) 4]

The Conference participants noted with interest the reply adopted by the Committee of Ministers, on 18 January 2007 at the 984th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies, to Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1752 (2006) on the conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe (CM/Del/Dec. (2007)984 22 January 2007), contained in Appendix 7 to this report. They thanked the Parliamentary Assembly for its active role in the promotion of the European Landscape Convention.

– **Conclusions of the meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention**

[Information paper: T-FLOR (2007) 5]

Mr Terry O'Reagan, representative of *Landscape Alliance Ireland*, presented the conclusions of the 3rd meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on "*Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas*", held in Cork, Ireland, on 16 and 17 June 2005.

Ms Nataša BRATINA-JURKOVIC, representative of Slovenia, and Mr Christian MEYER, Council of Europe expert, presented the conclusions of the 4th meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on "*Landscape and society*", held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 11 and 12 May 2006.

Mr Florencio ZOIDO, Council of Europe expert, presented the conclusions of the 5th meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on "*Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice*", held in Girona, Spain, on 28 and 29 September 2006.

The Conference participants warmly thanked the Irish, Slovenian and Spanish national, regional and local authorities and their partners, especially Landscape Alliance Ireland and the Catalonian Landscape Observatory, for enabling the three Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention to be held. They took note of the conclusions, which are contained in Appendix 8 to this report.

– **Conclusions of the national seminars on the European Landscape Convention**

[Information paper: T-FLOR (2007) 6]

Ms Christina HERTIA, representative of Romania, presented the conclusions of the *Information Seminar on sustainable spatial development and the European Landscape Convention*, held in Tulcea, Romania, on 6 and 7 May 2004.

Ms Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS, head of the Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Spatial Planning Division, presented the conclusions of the seminar on "*Spatial planning and landscape*", held in Moscow, Russian Federation, on 26 and 27 April 2004. She announced that the 15th session of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning of the member States of the Council of Europe (CEMAT/CoE) would be held in the Russian Federation in 2009 and noted that the CEMAT Committee of Senior Officials, had, at the suggestion of the Russian Chairmanship, included the subject of "*Future challenges: sustainable spatial development of the European continent in a changing world*" in its 2006-2009 Work Programme.

Ms Déjeant-Pons also presented the conclusions of the seminar on "*The contribution of Albania to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*", held in Tirana, Albania, on 15 and 16 December 2005, reminding the participants that its aim had been to bring together the main governmental and non-governmental players on the basis of a cross-disciplinary approach in order to consider spatial planning from a landscape perspective.

The Conference participants warmly thanked the national authorities of Romania, the Russian Federation (especially the Moscow *oblast*) and Albania for enabling the national information seminars on the European Landscape Convention to take place. They took note of the conclusions of these three seminars, which are contained in Appendix 9 to this report.

## – Council of Europe publications

The Conference participants took note of the following publications issued by the Council of Europe in 2005-2006:

- *Proceedings, First meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (23-24 May 2002)*, Council of Europe Publishing, European spatial planning and landscape series, 2006, No. 74, 130 p.;
- *Proceedings, Second meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (27-28 November 2003)*, Council of Europe Publishing, European spatial planning and landscape series, 2005, No. 72, 276 p.;
- Proceedings of the seminar on “*Spatial planning and landscape*”, Moscow, Russian Federation, 26-27 April 2004, Council of Europe Publishing, European spatial planning and landscape series, 2006, No. 77, 84 p. ;
- Proceedings of the seminar on “*Sustainable spatial development and the European Landscape Convention*”, Tulcea, Romania, 6-7 May 2004, Council of Europe Publishing, European spatial planning and landscape series, 2006, No. 78, 148 p.;
- Proceedings of the seminar on “*The contribution of Albania to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*”, Tirana, Albania, 15-16 December 2005, Council of Europe Publishing, European spatial planning and landscape series, 2006, No. 81, 151 p.;
- “*Landscape through literature*”, *Naturoipa/Culturoipa*, no. 103, 2005 (special issue, European Landscape Convention);
- “*Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention*”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006.

## – European Landscape Convention website

The Council of Europe Secretariat said that the European Landscape Convention website (<http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>) was laid out as follows:

- Presentation of the European Landscape Convention,
- State of signatures and ratifications of the European Landscape Convention,
- Conferences of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention,
- Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention,
- National Seminars on the European Landscape Convention,
- Reference texts on landscape,
- National policies,
- Network of partners of the European Landscape Convention,
- Landscape calendar,
- Publications,
- Contacts.

The participants were asked to let the Convention Secretariat ([maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int](mailto:maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int)) have information or data they considered useful so that the website could be updated.

## 5. Presentation of national and regional initiatives geared to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Chapter III, Articles 7, 8 and 9)

*[Information document: T-FLOR (2007) 7 – Synoptic presentation of the status of landscape policies pursued by the member States of the Council of Europe]*

*[Information document: T-FLOR (2007) 13 – Statements]*

The Council of Europe Secretariat thanked the representatives of Belgium, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Slovak Republic, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey and the United Kingdom for sending her their synoptic presentations of their landscape policies in the form set out in document *[T-FLOR (2007) 7]*. She called on the representatives of the States that had not yet been able to do so to provide the information requested in the Appendix to that document if they so wished.

– *Several delegates of governments that had ratified the Convention* drew attention to national and regional initiatives designed to promote its implementation.

The representative of Belgium mentioned the data in the synoptic presentation detailing the implementation of the Convention in Belgium. She believed that data provided by such instruments as *Corine Land Cover* were useful but insufficient as the landscape issue was not limited to land cover. It was necessary to incorporate the relationship between nature, culture and society more fully.

The representative of Bulgaria said that three ministries (Public Works, Environment, and Culture) were responsible for the implementation of the Convention and that there was no specific law on landscape. However, various laws dealt with landscape issues (spatial planning, environment, forestry, protection of agricultural land, biodiversity, tourism, etc).

The representative of Croatia said that two ministries were involved (the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Physical Planning, Environmental Protection and Construction) and that a national committee on landscape was being set up.

The representative of the Czech Republic hoped that work could be carried out to assess how the European Union instruments could contribute to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

The representative of Finland said that the Ministry of the Environment was in charge of the implementation of the Convention.

The representative of France reported various developments: the decision of the Ministry for Ecology and Sustainable Development to draw local authorities' attention to the Convention by setting up 100 landscape projects in the 100 French *départements* (each year, representatives of central government, the local authorities and associations would be invited to a meeting to set the landscape quality objectives); development in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of the Convention relating to the identification and assessment of landscapes; landscape atlases in the *départements*; the opportunity for the public to consult studies carried out; a request to the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) to draw up social indicators of landscape development; the development of cross-border co-operation with Belgium (Walloon Region), Spain and notably Catalonia, Italy and the United Kingdom; the adoption of a decree establishing a National Landscape Prize in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the award of a prize on 26 February 2007 to the Parc de la Deûle, in the Lille Métropole Dublin area.

The representative of Ireland provided information on the work gradually being done in Ireland to implement the Convention.

The representative of the Italian Ministry of Heritage and Cultural Activities mentioned the link between culture and landscape and the need to identify the general aspects of land management. A considerable effort should accordingly be made to co-plan territorial development and the issues of local management and the influence of infrastructure on the landscape needed to be addressed. A new Landscape Act had been passed and sectoral policies had to be guided along the appropriate lines. The representative of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture provided information on the Strategic National Rural Development Plan for 2007-2013 and said that it included landscape, which was considered an added value.

The representative of Moldova stated in particular that a Landscape Act was currently being drafted.

The representative of the Netherlands said that measures to implement the Convention were being put in place.

The representative of Portugal mentioned the results of an Interreg IIC project to identify and assess landscapes that had been completed in Portugal in co-operation with Spain. The European Union Territorial Agenda to be discussed in Leipzig under the German presidency of the EU took account of landscape and its link with the quality of life. As a former Chair of the CEMAT Committee of Senior Officials, she congratulated the Council of Europe on the way in which the Convention had been implemented and said how important it was to include the landscape issue in sectoral policies and ensure the involvement of all the ministries concerned.

The representative of Romania said that a new Landscape Act might soon be passed, that the first generation of landscape architects was beginning to appear and that a landscape agronomy section had now been established at the University.

The representative of the Slovak Republic said that the Convention was now in force in her country and that progress was being made in three areas: the institutional framework for implementing the Convention, work on identifying and assessing landscapes, and efforts to take account of landscape considerations in planning processes. She thought it was necessary to set up a committee that networked with representatives who spoke the same language in the following sectors: regional development, culture, education, agriculture, transport, business, community work, foreign affairs, and the urban environment. She believed that legislation should take account of landscape values and important features of the landscape.

The representative of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” said that the Minister for the Environment and Spatial Planning and the Minister for Transport, Water Use and Culture were involved in follow-up to the Convention and that two laws – on heritage protection and on the cultural heritage – had been passed to deal with the issues of landscape and culture. Inter-sectoral co-operation was accordingly necessary and a national committee was being set up with representatives of ministries, NGOs and various institutions. Preparations for methodology work and a website were under way.

The representative of Slovenia said that a major project on landscape typology and regional distribution had been completed in 1999 and that work on implementing the Convention should be continued.

The representative of Turkey mentioned the development of a national strategy bringing together representatives of ministries, universities and various institutions and said that, in the light of Article 1 of the Convention, it was necessary to consider how to set up a national landscape programme and take account of landscape in the urban planning and natural and cultural heritage sectors. She pointed to the particular need to promote good practice and produce landscape inventories and atlases.

The representative of Ukraine mentioned the existence of a national action plan and a framework landscape law and said that a seminar on landscape fragmentation had been organised in 2006.

The representative of the United Kingdom said that his country had ratified the Convention on 21 November 2006 and referred to the work under way to implement it.

– *Several delegates of governments that had ratified the Convention* reported national and regional initiatives conducive to the implementation of its provisions.

The representative of Andorra said that administrative arrangements were being made to sign the Convention, that the latter had been translated into Catalan and that a legal report and a study on landscape units would be produced.

The representative of Malta described the work being done in the cultural heritage sector in his country. The potential heritage values of landscape had been acknowledged in a legal instrument and a project was under way to produce a computer program for a landscape inventory system.

The representative of Spain (Ministry of the Environment) thanked the Council of Europe for all its efforts and described the work carried out by the government authorities with the autonomous communities. The Ministries of Culture and the Environment had taken steps to bring about the early ratification of the Convention; a Landscape Atlas had been produced and the 5th meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention had been held in Girona in September 2006 in co-operation with the Council of Europe. The representative of the Spanish Ministry of Culture had described the draft national plan concerning the cultural landscape. The representative of the *Generalitat* of Catalonia, in his capacity as a member of the Spanish delegation, had referred to the powerful wave of support for landscape policies and mentioned three words to summarise his thoughts: 1) action (it was necessary to move from words to deeds, as shown by the title of the Girona meeting of the Workshops: “*Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice*”); 2) education (public participation and education should be encouraged: from the 2007-2008 school year, all the upper secondary schools in Catalonia would have a course on towns, regions and landscape, which constituted an effective investment in support of the landscape); 3) outreach (it was necessary to co-operate on the subject of landscape with third countries, especially the States on the southern shore of the Mediterranean. He had referred to Stefan ZWEIG, who had said it was necessary to move away from Europe in order to get to know it better (*El tiempo de ayer: memorias de un Europeo*)).

The representative of Sweden mentioned the work done by the National Heritage Board in support of the Convention, saying that a Conference entitled “Holistic perspectives of the landscape” that had brought together 600 natural, cultural heritage and planning specialists had been held in Stockholm on 29 and 30 November 2006 and that it had been possible to present the European Landscape Convention on that occasion. Work was being done with the participation of regional development players, NGOs and universities.

The written speeches handed in to the Secretariat are contained in Appendix 10 to this report.

## **6. Presentation of activities of governmental and non-governmental organisations dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention**

*[Information document: T-FLOR (2007) 13 – Statements]*

– *Several delegates from governmental organisations* reported initiatives that individually and collectively contributed to promoting the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

As former Chair of the Committee of Senior Officials of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning of the Council of Europe member States (CEMAT/CoE), the representative of Portugal referred to the provisions of the Lisbon Declaration on “*Networks for sustainable spatial development of the European continent: Bridges over Europe*”, adopted by the Ministers responsible for Regional Planning at the 14th CEMAT, held in Lisbon on 27 October 2006. The Declaration states: “*Landscapes, in particular cultural ones, being a significant part of European natural and cultural heritage, contribute to the European identity and development potential. Their diversity and quality should provide the basis for a European landscape network in the framework of the European Landscape Convention.*”

The representative of the European Environment Agency described the work done by her organisation, especially with regard to land use and land cover and habitat fragmentation, having regard to the social, economic and environmental situation, and said the Agency was willing to co-operate and provide support when it came to promoting the Convention’s Guidance.

The representative of the Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) described the MCPFE Guidelines for the implementation of cultural values in the sustainable management of forests and offered his co-operation and support for the purposes of promoting the Convention’s Guidance.

– ***Several delegates from governmental and non-governmental organisations*** mentioned initiatives that individually or collectively contributed to promoting the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

The ICOMOS representative described the work done to protect cultural landscapes and natural monuments. He made particular reference to the ICOMOS website and to various events held on the subject in connection with the world heritage concept. The standards required for the registration of a cultural landscape related to specific categories and criteria, to the concept of territorial integrity, to the existence of management plans and buffer zones and to recognised international values.

The representative of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) described the important research work done in support of archaeology at the European level since 1993, with regard to both research and the exchange of information, and said that a newsletter was published on the activities carried out.

The ECLAS representative described in particular the work done in the context of urban and peri-urban areas and mentioned the timetable for the forthcoming annual conferences, which would be held in Genoa in 2008, Sheffield in 2009 and Istanbul in 2010.

The EFLA representative said that the organisation had been a member of IFLA since 1 January 2007 and that work was also being done at the global level by IFLA.

The INSULA/UNESCO representative described the situation of landscapes in island territories and announced that a conference was to be held on that subject in Sicily at a later date.

The ENELC representative referred to the situation of the European Network of Local and Regional Authorities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and said that a meeting had been held in the days leading up to the current conference.

The representative of the European Foundation Il Nibbio (FEIN) mentioned the summer universities on the subject of landscape that had been organised for the past several years and were very successful. The next meeting would be held in Lugano on 29 and 31 August 2007 on peri-urban landscapes. Three themes had already been dealt with: the European Landscape Convention, landscape and tourism, and landscape and oenogastronomy, and the proceedings of these meetings had been published.

The representative of Landscape Europe mentioned the action plan for an NGO platform in support of the European Landscape Convention and described the NGOs’ key role regarding the implementation of the Convention. He drew attention to the need to transfer knowledge, for example in connection with the promotion of dry stone walls.

The representative of the INGO grouping Rurality-Environment-Development (RED) referred to the considerable support for the European Landscape Convention provided by the INGOs with participatory status at the Council of Europe and the outstanding link that existed, as a result of RED’s activities, between the Council of Europe and the European citizens. He believed that the Convention touched on human rights and made it possible to promote the role of the European citizens. He referred to the structural funds – ERDF and the Rural Development Fund – and to the work done by ESPON on the subject of landscape, which, owing to the development of research and the transfer of knowledge, helped to support the implementation of the Convention. RED had also developed the concept of an “internal village landscape”, held a bilingual exhibition, published a number of texts, carried out visits and organised conferences, addressing the issue of the living environment in connection with the

attractiveness of particular areas. He believed that territorial agriculture should be promoted for the maintenance and management of landscapes and that the Common Agricultural Policy should be taken in a new direction.

The representative of the Mediterranean Landscape Workshop described the action research work carried out since 2002 to raise awareness and encourage creativity among local inhabitants with the aim of ensuring that greater consideration was given to the social dimension of landscape. She also mentioned work that had been done to promote people's relationship with the rural landscape.

The representative of Landscape Alliance Ireland reminded the participants of the Council of Europe's role as a proving ground for ideas. He also stressed the value of petitions in support of landscape and the need to address the issue of spoilt landscapes in particular.

The representative of the Landscape Research Group (LRG) reported on the work done by his organisation, which supported the European Landscape Convention. That work was helping to promote the flow of ideas and an interdisciplinary approach and to strengthen the link between researchers and practitioners. In particular, an expert seminar would be held at the University of Sheffield in September 2007.

The representative of the Network of French Major Sites reported on the results of the landscape conference "*Etats généraux du paysage*", which had been held in Paris on 8 February 2007 and had been attended by almost 500 people representing more than 200 bodies. The aim of the conference had been to draw attention to uncontrolled changes to the landscape and draw up proposals for ensuring that more account was taken of the landscape.

The representative of Petrarca expressed interest in the work of the Convention.

The written speeches handed in to the Secretariat are contained in Appendix 11 to this report.

The Chair summarised the proceedings as follows:

- the progress made was admirable even though a number of difficulties had been encountered;
- the way in which European local and regional authorities and NGOs had been stirred into action to improve well-being was impressive;
- full account should be taken of all landscape categories;
- the nature of the relationship between the instruments of the European Union and landscape policies should be discussed in the light of the principle of subsidiarity.

## *Session 2 – New instruments of implementation*

### **7. Draft document: "Guidance (*Orientations*) for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention"**

*[Discussion paper: T-FLOR (2007) 8]*

Mr Jean-François SEGUIN, Chair of the working group responsible, introduced the draft document "Guidance (*Orientations*) for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention". He explained that that document was a response to a desire for innovation and that the group asked to draw it up had met on five occasions at the invitation of the Council of Europe Secretariat, namely on 14 January, 22 April and 19 September 2005 and 11 January and 9 February 2007 (meeting reports, documents T-FLOR (2005) 1, 5 and 6 and T-FLOR (2007) 1, 2). Two written consultations of members of the working group had been organised, on 13 April and 23 June 2006. The representatives of the following governments had been involved in its preparation: Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Switzerland. Mr Graham FAIRCLOUGH (United Kingdom) had also contributed. Representatives of the European Council for Environmental Law (CEDE) and the International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (CIDCE) had also participated in some of the work.

The contents of the document were described by Ms Lionella SCAZZOSI, Mr Yves LUGINBHUL and Mr Michel PRIEUR, Council of Europe experts charged with drawing up the document. Mr Régis AMBROISE had contributed to it as a Council of Europe expert.

The participants took note of the results of the activities of the working group responsible for drawing up the *Orientations* for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, in accordance with the provisions of the 2005 Work Programme on the European Landscape Convention (Document T-FLOR

(2004) 15). They thanked the members of the working group for their efforts and proposed various amendments, which are set out in the document contained in Appendix 12 to this report.

In particular, they made the following points:

- the document would be useful in connection with the application of the Convention in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity and for the purposes of devising appropriate strategies;
- the aim was to protect, manage and develop an area in all its dimensions;
- account should be taken of the relationship between natural and human factors;
- public participation should be encouraged;
- there was a need to promote good practice and obtain concrete examples of implementation;
- it was necessary to involve people with spatial planning skills, such as engineers, designers and managers;
- the issue of how to manage landscape changes should be addressed.

The participants said they would like the document, as revised, to be submitted to the committees of experts responsible for follow-up to the Convention so that it could then be adopted in the form of a recommendation from the Committee of Ministers to the member States. The United Kingdom representative also proposed checking the terminology used in the English text.

The representative of Italy proposed that a conference be held in her country in 2008 to examine in greater depth how to implement the Orientations document. The participants warmly thanked her for this offer.

## **8. Integration of the landscape into national policies**

- Landscape, towns and suburban and peri-urban areas  
*[Information paper: T-FLOR (2007) 9]*
- Landscape and transport infrastructures: roads  
*[Information paper: T-FLOR (2007) 10]*

The participants thanked Mr Dietrich BRUNS, Council of Europe expert, for the presentation of the report on “Landscape, towns and suburban and peri-urban areas”, and Mr Ignacio ESPAÑOL ECHÁNIZ, Council of Europe expert, for the presentation of the report on “Landscape and transport infrastructures: roads” and congratulated them on the quality of their work. The participants said they would like a policy on publication of these reports to be adopted so that the lessons learned from the implementation of the European Landscape Convention could be better disseminated.

## **9. Draft rules of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (Article 11 of the Convention) – Discussion on the document to be submitted to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe**

*[Discussion paper: T-FLOR (2007) 11]*

The participants examined the draft rules of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe contained in the above-mentioned document and proposed various amendments, which are set out in the document in Appendix 13 to this report. The participants expressed the wish that the revised document be presented to the committees responsible for follow-up to the Convention before being adopted by the Committee of Ministers.

## **10. Exchange of views on the Programme of activities for 2007**

*[Discussion paper: T-FLOR (2007) 12]*

The participants took note of the Programme of activities for 2007 submitted by the Secretariat. The representative of the Netherlands proposed adding two activities to this work programme: the relationship between landscape and leisure and the role of the NGOs. The representative of the Slovak Republic proposed that the 7th meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention be held in his country in 2008 during the Slovak chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The representative of Italy proposed that a meeting also be held in Rome in 2008 on the Orientations for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

The Council of Europe Secretariat reminded the participants that the members of the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage (CDPAT), of the Committee of Senior Officials of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning of the member States of the Council of Europe (CHF-CEMAT), and the government officials charged with the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and other partners could indicate to the Secretariat whether they wished to make voluntary contributions to the execution of some of the activities mentioned in the supplemented work programme, contained in Appendix 14 to this document.

## 11. Other business

None.

### *Closing session*

## 12. Conclusions of the Conference and follow-up to the activities by the Chair of the Conference

The Chair presented the following final conclusions of the Conference:

### FINAL CONCLUSIONS

*Participants at the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention*, representatives of governments, international governmental and non-governmental organisations, held at the Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg on 22 and 23 March 2007,

*Considering* the importance of the European Landscape Convention as a means of implementing the prime objectives of the Council of Europe in the field of human rights, democracy and the rule of law:

- *welcomed* the high degree of support shown by Council of Europe member States for the European Landscape Convention, which at present has been ratified by 26 States and signed by a further 8;
- *expressed* the hope that all Council of Europe member States could sign and ratify the European Landscape Convention as soon as possible;
- *noted* that the European Landscape Convention was already giving rise to progress in landscape policies in many Council of Europe member States at national, regional and local level [*Document T-FLOR (2007) 7 – Synoptic presentation of the status of landscape policies pursued by the member States of the Council of Europe and Appendix 10 of Document T-FLOR (2007) 14*];
- *took note* of the reply adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 18 January 2007, at the 984<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies, to Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1752 (2006) on conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe (CM/Del/Dec(2007)984, 22 January 2007);
- *welcomed* the publication of "*Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention*" by Council of Europe Publishing (2006), which is a compilation of reports by Council of Europe experts in recent years;
- *welcomed* the publication of the special issue of *Naturopa/Culturopa*, No. 103, 2005 focusing on the European Landscape Convention, entitled "*Landscape through literature*" which has helped raise awareness of landscape;
- *thanked* the national, regional and local authorities of Ireland, Slovenia and Spain, and in particular the *Generalitat* of Catalonia, the non-governmental organisations, institutes and monitoring centres in these countries, particularly Landscape Alliance Ireland and the Catalonian Landscape Observatory, for organising, in conjunction with the Council of Europe, the following meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

- “*Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas*”, 16 and 17 June 2005, Cork, Ireland,
  - “*Landscape and Society*”, 11 and 12 May 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia,
  - “*Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice*”, 28 and 29 September 2006, Girona, Spain;
- *took note of* the conclusions of these three workshops, as reproduced in Appendix 8 of document *T-FLOR (2007) 14*, and expressed their satisfaction that the proceedings of these meetings would shortly be published;
  - *thanked* the national, regional and local authorities of the Russian Federation, and in particular Moscow Oblast, Romania and Albania, and the non-governmental organisations and institutes in those countries for organising, in conjunction with the Council of Europe, the following national information Seminars on the European Landscape Convention:
    - “*Spatial planning and landscape*”, Moscow, Russian Federation, 26 and 27 April 2004,
    - “*Sustainable spatial development and the European Landscape Convention*”, Tulcea, Romania, 6 and 7 May 2004,
    - “*The contribution of Albania to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*”, Tirana, Albania, 15 and 16 December 2005;
  - *took note of* the conclusions of these Seminars, as reproduced in Appendix 9 of document *T-FLOR (2007) 14*, and expressed their satisfaction that the proceedings of those meetings had already been published by Council of Europe Publishing in the European Spatial Planning and Landscape series;
  - *noted with interest* the two reports compiled:
    - Landscape, towns and suburban and peri-urban areas [*Document T-FLOR (2007) 9*],
    - Landscape and transport infrastructures: roads [*Document T-FLOR (2007) 10*],

and *hoped*, in view of their publication, that an editorial policy would be introduced for a better diffusion of the messages of the European Landscape Convention.

- *welcomed* the work carried out to promote implementation of the European Landscape Convention, and in particular the Convention website (<http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>), and expressed their satisfaction at the continuation of activities, in accordance with the Work Programme [*Document T-FLOR (2007) 12*] as revised, taking account of the comments expressed at the Conference [*Appendix 14 of Document T-FLOR (2007) 14*];
- *welcomed* the support from numerous national, regional and local authorities, and from many non-governmental organisations, institutes and universities belonging to the *Network of partners of the European Landscape Convention*, as it appears on the Convention website (<http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>) [*See also Appendix 11 of Document T-FLOR (2007) 14*];
- *expressed the hope that*:
  - the draft document “*Guidance for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*”, as revised, taking account of the comments expressed at the Conference [*Appendix 12 of Document T-FLOR (2007) 14*], would be forwarded via the relevant committees to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for adoption, in the form of a Committee of Ministers recommendation to member States;
  - the draft rules for the Council of Europe Landscape Award, as revised, taking account of the comments expressed at the Conference [*Appendix 13 of Document T-FLOR (2007) 14*], would be forwarded via the relevant committees to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for adoption and that the Council of Europe Landscape Award could be launched in 2008;

- *considered* that it was important that the Council of Europe continue holding regular Conferences on the European Landscape Convention every two years as a forum for dialogue and co-operation, and hoped that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe could take note of this;
- *emphasised* the importance of what the working group was doing for the discussions and work to prepare the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention;
- *formulated* three objectives so that collective action could be taken in preparation for the next Conference:
  - increase the number of signatures and ratifications of the Convention and, to that end, enlist the support of central, local and regional government officials and non-governmental organisations;
  - raise public awareness across all age groups and all member States, encourage the transfer of research findings and develop closer relations with the press on the issues addressed in the European Landscape Convention;
  - pave the way for active monitoring of the Convention by assigning terms of reference to a working group.

*The Parties:*

- *appreciated* the work done to promote the European Landscape Convention through the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention, the working group and the meetings of the Workshops. In an effort to improve performance and taking fully into consideration the provisions of Article 10 of the Convention on the monitoring of the implementation of the Convention, they wish to move towards holding a Council of Europe conference of the Parties that would allow further work in support of the implementation of the Convention;
- *felt* there was a need to look at how the European Union instruments can contribute to the achievement of the Convention's objectives and instructed a working group to prepare a document to be discussed at the next Conference.

**13. Closing of the conference**  
by the Council of Europe Secretariat

The Council of Europe Secretariat thanked Ms Carmela Natalina CALLEA, Director of the Italian Institute of Culture, for presenting a magnificent exhibition on “*Colours of Italy: Umbria*” set up in the Committee of Ministers’ Ante-room.

The Council of Europe Secretariat also once again warmly thanked everyone present at the Conference for their encouragingly active participation.

## APPENDIX 1

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

#### I – STATES WHICH HAVE RATIFIED THE CONVENTION / ÉTATS AYANT RATIFIÉ LA CONVENTION

##### ARMENIA / ARMENIE

Mrs Ruzan ALAVERDYAN, Deputy Minister of Urban Development, Ministry of Urban Development, 3 Government House

Republic Square, AM - 375010 YEREVAN

Tel: +3741 56 0145

Fax: +3741 52 32 00

E-mail: ruzan\_a@yahoo.com

W/L: E

Mrs Hasmik GHALACHYAN, Head of Plant Resources Management Division, Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia, Republic Square

3rd Government Building, AM - YEREVAN

Tel: +374 (0)10 58 07 11

Fax: +374 (0)10 52 79 52

E-mail: hasmikgrigan@yahoo.com

W/L: E

*(excused)*

##### BELGIUM / BELGIQUE

Mme Gislaïne DEVILLERS, 1ère Attachée, Ministère de la Région Wallonne, Direction Générale de l'Aménagement du territoire, du Logement et du Patrimoine

Rue des Brigades d'Irlande 1, B - 5100 NAMUR

Tel: +32 81 33 21 64

Fax: +32 81 33 22 93

E-mail: g.devillers@mrw.wallonie.be

W/L: F

Mme Mireille DECONINCK, Docteur Sciences géographiques, Attachée, Ministère de la Région Wallonne, Direction Générale de l'Aménagement du Territoire

du Logement et du Patrimoine

Rue des Brigades d'Irlande 1, B - 5100 NAMUR

Tel: +32 81 33 25 22

Fax: +32 81 33 25 67

E-mail: M.Deconinck@mrw.wallonie.be

W/L: F

M. Jacques STEIN, Attaché, Ministère de la Région Wallonne - DGRNE - Direction de la Nature, Avenue Prince de Liège 15, B - 5100 JAMBES Namur

Tel: +32 81 33 58 60

Fax: +32 81 33 58 22

E-mail: j.stein@mrw.wallonie.be

W/L: F

##### BULGARIA / BULGARIE

Mrs Rayna POPOVA, State Expert, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, 17-19 Sv. Sv. Kiril I Metodii Str., BG - 1202 SOFIA

Tel: +359 294 054 27

Fax: +359 298 725 17

E-mail: rpopova@mrrb.government.bg

W/L: E

Ms Violina VASILEVA, Junior Expert, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, 17-19 Sv. Sv. Kiril I Metodii Str., BG - 1202 SOFIA

Tel: +359 294 054 85

Fax: +359 298 786 50

E-mail:

W/L: E

##### CROATIA / CROATIE

Ms Mirna BOJIC, Head of Section, Ministry of Culture, Runjaninova 2, HR - 10000 ZAGREB

Tel: +385 1 6106 477

Fax: +385 1 6106 904

E-mail: mirna.bojic@min-kulture.hr

W/L: E

Mr Aleksandar BASIC, Head of Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Building, Ul. Republike Austrije 20, HR - 1000 ZAGREB

Tel: +385 1 378 24 47

Fax: +385 1 371 71 04

E-mail: aleksandar.basic@mzopu.hr

W/L: E

*(excused)*

**CZECH REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE**

Mrs Martina PASKOVA, Head of Department, Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic, Vršovická 65, CZ - 100 10 PRAGUE 10

Tel: +420 2 67 12 20 68

Fax: +420 2 481 325 277

E-mail: martina\_paskova@env.cz

W/L: E

**CYPRUS / CHYPRE****DENMARK / DANEMARK****FINLAND / FINLANDE**

Mr Tapio HEIKKILÄ, Senior Adviser, Ministry of the Environment, P.O. Box 35, FIN - 00023 GOVERNMENT

Tel: +35 20 490 7127

Fax: +35 9 1603 9364

E-mail: tapio.heikkila@ymparisto.fi

W/L: E

Mrs Tuula HEIKKURINEN-MONTELL, Curator, M.A., National Board of Antiquities, P.O. Box 913, FIN - 00101 HELSINKI

Tel: +358 9 4050 9269

Fax: +358 9 4050 9262

E-mail: tuula.heikkurinen-montell@nba.fi

W/L: E

*(excused)*

**FRANCE**

Mr Jean-François SEGUIN, Chef du Bureau des Paysages - Direction de la nature et des paysages, Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable, 20 avenue de Ségur, F - 75302 PARIS 07 SP

E-mail: jean-francois.SEGUIN@ecologie.gouv.fr

W/L: F

**IRELAND / IRLANDE**

Mr Patrick O'SULLIVAN, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Spatial Policy

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government

Custom House, IRL - DUBLIN 1

Tel: +353 1 888 22 69

Fax: +353 1 888 27 16

E-mail: patrick\_o'sullivan@environ.ie

W/L: E

**ITALY / ITALIE**

Mme Danielle GATTEGNO MAZZONIS, Sotto Segretario di Stato, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Via del Collegio Romano 27, I - 00186 ROMA

Tel: +39 06 67 23 27 17

Fax: +39 06 67 23 25 03

E-mail: mazzonis.segreteria@beniculturali.it

W/L: F

Mme Anna DI BENE, Director of Landscape Service, Service IV- Landscape, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Direzione generale per i beni architettonici e il paesaggio

Via di S. Michele 22, I - 00153 ROMA

Tel: +39 06 584 34 554

Fax: +39 06 584 31 416

E-mail: a.dibene@bap.beniculturali.it

W/L:

Mme Lionella SCAZZOSI, Expert, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Prof. Di Restauro architettonico e di Architettura del Paesaggio al Politecnico di Milano,

Via Golgi, 39, I - 20133 MILANO

Tel: +39 02 23 99 50 63

Fax: +39 02 56 92 637

E-mail: lionella.scazzosi@tiscali.it

W/L: F

Mr Mauro AGNOLETTI, Ministero per le Politiche Agricole e Forestal, I - ROMA / Università di Firenze, Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Ambientali Forestali, Via San Bonaventura 13, I - 50145 FIRENZE

Tel: +39 055 3288676

Fax: +39 055 3288676

Ms Lucia MARZANO, Représentation Permanente de l'Italie auprès du Conseil de l'Europe

Tel: +33 3.88.60.82.07

Fax: +33 3.88.61.47.83

E-mail: lucia.marzano@esteri.it

W/L: F

## **LITHUANIA / LITUANIE**

### **LUXEMBOURG**

M. Jean-Paul FELTGEN, Conseiller de Direction 1ère classe, Ministère de l'Environnement, 18, Montée de la Pétrusse, L - 2918 LUXEMBOURG

Tel: +352 478 6813

Fax: +352 478 6835

E-mail: jean-paul.feltgen@mev.etat.lu

W/L: F

(excused)

### **MOLDOVA**

Mrs Veronica JOSU, Principal Specialist, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, 9, Cosmonautilor Str. Room nr. 607, MD - 2005 CHISINAU

Tel: +373 22 20 45 37

Fax: +373 22 22 68 58

E-mail: josu@mediu.gov.md

W/L: F

### **NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS**

Mr Kees VERBOGT, Drs., Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Ministerie van LNV, Willem Witsenplein 6, Postbus 20401, NL - 2500 EK DEN HAAG

Tel: +31 70 378 5794

Fax: +31 70 378 6146

E-mail: k.verbogat@gmail.com

W/L: E

Mr Niek HAZENDONK, Senior Beleidsmedewerker Platteland, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, Directie Kennis, Senior policy advisor Directorate Knowledge, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, PB 20401, NL-2500 EK Den Haag

Tel: +31 318 822 862

Fax: +31 318 822 550

E-mail: n.f.c.hazendonk@minlnv.nl

W/L: E

## **NORWAY / NORVEGE**

## **POLAND / POLOGNE**

### **PORTUGAL**

Ms Maria José FESTAS, Senior Officer, Directorate General for Spatial Planning and Urban Development, Campo Grande, 50, P - 1749-014 LISBOA

Tel: +351 21 782 50 11

Fax: +351 21 782 50 03

E-mail: gabdg@dgotdu.pt

W/L: E

### **ROMANIA / ROUMANIE**

Ms Cristina HERTIA, Senior Advisor, Ministry for Transport, Construction and Tourism, General Division for Regional and Urban Planning

Dinicu Golescu Av., nr 38

Sector 1, RO - 010873 BUCHAREST

Tel: +40 21 312 16 59

Fax: +40 21 312 16 59

E-mail: habitat2@mt.ro

W/L: F

Mr Samad John SMARANDA, Senior Counsellor, Ministry of Environment and Water Management, Liberatii Boulevard, N° 12

Sector 5, RO - 040129 BUCHAREST

Tel: +40 21 31 60 287

Fax: +40 21 31 60 287

E-mail: jsamad@parks.ro

W/L: E

## **SAN MARINO / SAINT-MARIN**

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE**

Ms Dasa SZABOOVA, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, Mierova 19, SK - 82715 BRATISLAVA

Tel: +421248541427 Fax: +421 248 543321  
E-mail: dszaboova@economy.gov.sk W/L: E

Mrs Pavlina MISIKOVA, Adviser, Ministry of the Environment, Namestie L. Stura c.1, SK - 81235 BRATISLAVA

Tel: +421 2 5956 2190 Fax: +421 2 5956 2551  
E-mail: misikova.pavlina@enviro.gov.sk W/L: E

Mrs Anna KRSAKOVA, Director of a Regional Office, Slovak Environmental Agency, Tajovskeho 28, SK - 975 90 BANSKA BYSTRICA

Tel: +421 48 4374172 Fax: +421 48 4152890  
E-mail: anna.krsakova@sazp.sk W/L: E

## **SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE**

Mrs Nataša BRATINA-JURKOVIC, Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning, Dunajska 47, SLO - 1000 LJUBLJANA

Tel: +386 14787080 Fax: +386 14787010  
E-mail: Natasa.Bratina-Jurkovic@gov.si W/L: E

## **"THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA" / "L'EX-REPUBLIQUE YUGOSLAVE DE MACEDOINE"**

Mrs Valentina CAVDAROVA, Advisor, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Department of the Nature Heritage Protection, Drezdenska 52, MK - 1000 SKOPJE

Tel: +389 2 366 930 ext 153 Fax: +389 2 366 931  
E-mail: V.cavdarova@moepp.gov.mk W/L: E

## **TURKEY / TURQUIE**

Mrs Aynur GÖNÜL, Landscape Conservation Division Manager, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, General Directorate of National Parks and Nature Protection

Landscape Protection Division

Sogutozu Cad 14/E, 14 Kat B/Blok, TR - ANKARA

Tel: +90 312 207 58 87 Fax: +90 312 207 59 81  
E-mail: aynurgonul1@yahoo.com W/L: E

Mrs Munevver DEMIRBAS OZEN, Landscape Architect, Msc-Expert, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, General Directorate of National Parks and Nature Protection, Landscape Protection Division, Sogutozu Cad 14/E, 14 Kat B/Blok, TR - ANKARA

Tel: +90 312 207 58 89 Fax: +90 312 207 59 81  
E-mail: munevverdemirbas@yahoo.com W/L: E

## **UKRAINE**

Mr Oleksander MAZNYCHENKO, Directeur Adjoint de la Cooperation Culturelle et Humanitaire, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de l'Ukraine, 1, place Mykhailivska, UA - 01018 KYIV

Tel: +38 44 238 15 37 Fax: +38 44 238 18 36  
E-mail: ukgs@mfa.gov.ua W/L: F

Ms Yuliya BONDARENKO, Lead Expert, Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Division of EcoNet Development and Biodiversity Conservation

Directorate of Biotic Resources and EcoNet, UA - KYIV

Tel: +38 44 206 3147 Fax: +38 44 206 3147  
E-mail: bondarenko@menr.gov.ua W/L: E

## **UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI**

Mr Graham FAIRCLOUGH, Head of Historic Environment and Landscape Characterisation, English Heritage, 23 Savile Row, GB - W1S 2ET LONDON

Tel: +44 20 7973 3017

E-mail: Graham.Fairclough@english-heritage.org.uk W/L: E

Mr Mark BAXTER, Policy Officer, DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), Sponsorship, Landscape and Recreation Division, Landscape Conservation Branch, Zone 1/03, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, GB - BS1 6EB BRISTOL

Tel: +44 117 372 6265

E-mail: Mark.Baxter@defra.gsi.gov.uk W/L: E *(excused)*

Mrs Clare HAMILTON, Lawyer, DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), Area 3C, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, GB - SW1P 3JR LONDON

Tel: +44 20 7238 3356

Fax: +44 20 7238 3398

E-mail: clare.hamilton@defra.gsi.gov.uk W/L: E

Mr Hugh LLEWELYN, Team Leader, Landscape Conservation, DEFRA (Department for Environment), Food and Rural Affairs, DEFRA, Zone 1/03, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, GB - BS1 6EB BRISTOL

Tel: +44 117 372 8201

Fax: +44 117 372 8250

E-mail: hugh.llewelyn@defra.gsi.gov.uk W/L: E

Mr Richard PARTINGTON, Senior Specialist, Natural England, John Dower House, GB - GL50 3RA CHELTENHAM

Tel: +44 1398 324 504

E-mail: richard.partington@naturalengland.org.uk W/L: E

Mrs Laura BAILIE, International Policy Manager, Historic Scotland, Room 2.6, Longmore House, GB - EH9 1SP EDINBURGH

Tel: +44 131 6688082

E-mail: laura.bailie@scotland.gsi.gov.uk W/L: E

## II - SIGNATORY STATES / ETATS SIGNATAIRES

### AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAÏDJAN

Mr Faig SADIGOV, Lead Advisor, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, B. Aghayev Str., AZ - 100 BAKU

Tel: +994 12 492 60 23

Fax: +994 12 492 59 07

E-mail: azeri7@mail.az W/L: E *(excused)*

### GREECE / GRECE

Mrs Sofia MARKOPOULOU, Head of the Physical Planning Division, Ministry for the Environment, 17, Amaliados str, GR - 11523 ATHENS

Tel: +30 210 6442917

Fax: +30 210 6458690

E-mail: s.markopoulou@dxor.minenv.gr W/L: F

### HUNGARY / HONGRIE

Mrs Erzsébet MAGO, Head of Department, Ministry of Local Authorities and Regional development, Kéthly Anna tér. 1., H - 1077 BUDAPEST

Tel: +36 1 441 77 50

Fax: +36 1 441 77 42

E-mail: erzsebet.mago@meh.hu W/L: E

Mr László KOLLANYI, Associate Professor, Corvinus University Budapest, Villányi St. 35-43, H - 1118 BUDAPEST

Tel: +36 1 482-6311

Fax: +36 1 482-6338

E-mail: laszlo.kollanyi@uni-corvinus.hu W/L: E *(excused)*

### LATVIA / LETTONIE

### MALTA / MALTE

Mr Mark Anthony MIFSUD, Assistant Curator, Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, 138, Melita Street, M - VALLETTA

Tel: +356 2123 0711

Fax: +356 2125 1140

E-mail: mark.a.mifsud@gov.mt

W/L: E

Mrs Anja DELIA, Senior Planning Officer, Malta Environment and Planning Authority, MEPA  
St Francis Ravellin, M - FLORIANA

Tel: +356 22901611

Fax: +356 22902295

E-mail: anja.delia@mepa.org.mt

W/L: E

(excused)

### **SPAIN / ESPAGNE**

Mrs Margarita ORTEGA DELGADO, Chef de Division de l'Unité de Développement Territorial, Ministère de l'Environnement, Plaza San Juan de la Cruz s/n, E - 28071 MADRID

Tel: +34 91 597 68 67

Fax: +34 91 59768 60

E-mail: MOrtega@mma.es

W/L: E

Mrs Carmen AÑON, Ministry of Culture, c/Puerto de Santa María 49, E - 28043 MADRID

Tel: +34 91 721 93 55

Fax: +34 91 721 93 55

E-mail: carmenanon@telefonica.net

W/L: F

Mr Florencio ZOIDO NARANJO, Oficial Experto, Ministerio de Medio Ambiente-España, Universidad de Sevilla, Fac de Geografía e Historia, Dep de Geografía física y analisis geografico regional, C/. Maria de Padilla, E-41004 SEVILLA

Tel: +34 954 55 13 69

Fax: +34 954 55 69 88

E-mail: fzoido@us.es

W/L: F

M. Joan GANYET I SOLÉ, Director, Direcció General d'Arquitectura i Paisaje, Generalitat de Catalunya, Departamento de Política Territorial, Arago, 244 - 248, E - BARCELONA

Tel: +34 93 495 80 48

Fax: +34 93 567 05 89

E-mail: joan.ganyet@gencat.net

W/L: F

Mme Maria Linarejos CRUZ-PEREZ, Technicienne en Patrimoine, Institut du patrimoine historique espagnol, Ministère de Culture, c/Greco 4, E - 28040 MADRID

Tel: +34 91 550 44 06

Fax: +34 91 550 44 44

E-mail: linarejos@iphe.mcu.es

W/L: F

Ms Pascual RIESCO-CHUECA, Experto, Ministerio de Medio Ambiente-España, Universidad de Sevilla, E - SEVILLA

Tel: +34 95 44 87 482

E-mail: riescochueca@us.es

W/L: E

Miss Esther RODRIGUEZ, Technical Advisor, Ministry of Culture, Plaza del Rey s/n, E - 28071 MADRID

Tel: +34 91 701 73 50

Fax: +34 91 701 73 81

E-mail: ester.rodriguez@mcu.es

W/L: E

### **SWEDEN / SUEDE**

Mrs Erika NILSSON, Programme Officer, National Heritage Board of Sweden, Box 5405, S - 114 84 STOCKHOLM

Tel: +46 8 51918186

Fax:

E-mail: erika.nilsson@raa.se

W/L: E

Miss Johanna ALTON, Antiquarian, National Heritage Board of Sweden, County Administrative Board of Stockholm, Box 22067, S - 10422 STOCKHOLM

Tel: +46 8 785 44 48

Fax: +46 8 785 44 10

E-mail: johanna.alton@ab.lst.se

W/L: E

### **SWITZERLAND / SUISSE**

M. Enrico BUERGI, Président Conférence Convention Européenne de Paysage à son entrée en vigueur, Casa al Ronco, CH - 6654 CAVIGLIANO

Tel: +41 78 792 04 12  
E-mail: enrico.buergi@gmx.ch

Fax: +41 31 324 75 79  
W/L: F

Mr. Andreas STALDER, Sektionschef, Bundesamt für Umwelt, Wald und Landschaft, CH - 3003 BERN

Tel: +41 31 322 93 75  
E-mail: Andreas.Stalder@bafu.admin.ch

Fax: +41 31 324 75 79  
W/L: F

### III - OBSERVERS / OBSERVATEURS

#### 1. MEMBER STATES / ETATS MEMBRES

##### ALBANIA / ALBANIE

M. Stefan KOÇI, Expert des Relations Internationales et de l'Intégration, Ministère du Tourisme, de la Culture, de la Jeunesse et des Sports, Rruga "Abdi Toptani", AL - TIRANA

Tel: +355 69 22 14 223  
E-mail: stefan\_koci@yahoo.fr

Fax: +355 4 271 259  
W/L: F

##### ANDORRA / ANDORRE

Ms Silvia CALVÓ, Directrice, Departament de Medi Ambient - Govern, Prat de la Creu 62 - 64, AND - 500 ANDORRA LA VELLA

Tel: +376.87.57.07  
E-mail: silvia\_calvo@govern.ad

Fax: +376 869 833  
W/L: F

Mme Natalia ROVIRA, Conseillère, Departament de Medi Ambient - Govern, 62 - 64 Prat de la Creu, AND - 500 ANDORRA LA VELLA

Tel: +376 875 707  
E-mail: natalia\_rovira@govern.ad W/L: F

Fax: +376.86.98.33

Mr Josep RIVAS, Tècnic del Dep de Patrimoni Natural, Govern d'Andorra, c/Dr Vilanova 13

Edif. Davi 5e, AND - 500 ANDORRA LA VELLA

Tel: +376 875 712

E-mail:

Fax: +376 875 638

W/L: E (excused)

##### AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE

##### BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE

##### ESTONIA / ESTONIE

##### GEORGIA / GEORGIE

Mr Irakli GHVALADZE, Deputy Minister of Environment, Ministry of Environment of Georgia, 6 Gulua Street, GE - 0114 TBILISI

Tel: +995 32 27 57 03  
E-mail: ighvaladze@hotmail.com

Fax: +995 32 27 57 00  
W/L: E (excused)

Mr Giorgi SHONVADZE, Head of Protected Areas Department, Ministry of Environment of Georgia, 6 Gulua Street, GE - 0114 TBILISI

Tel: +995 32 27 57 03  
E-mail: ighvaladze@hotmail.com

Fax: +995 32 75 23 53  
W/L: E (excused)

Ms Nino ENUKIDZE, Head of Legal Department, Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia, 12 G. Chanturia Street, GE - 0108 TBILISI

Tel: +995 32 93 67 66  
E-mail: enukidze@econom.ge

Fax: +995 32 92 02 20  
W/L: E (excused)

##### GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE

## **ICELAND / ISLANDE**

## **LIECHTENSTEIN**

### **RUSSIAN FEDERATION / FEDERATION DE RUSSIE**

M. Andrei NIKIPHOROV, Chef de la sous-Direction des Monuments Historiques et des Zones Protégées, Service Fédéral du Patrimoine Culturel Rosohrancultura, 7 Kitaigorodsky Proesd, RUS - 109074 MOSCOU

Tel: +495 625 01 20

Fax: +495 625 01 20

E-mail: nikiphorov@km.ru

W/L: F

Mr Alexander RABOTKEVICH, Chef de la sous-Direction du Patrimoine Culturel, Service Fédéral du Patrimoine Culturel Rosohrancultura, 7 Kitaigorodsky proezd, RUS - 109074 MOSCOU

Tel: +495 625 00 81

Fax: +495 625 01 20

E-mail: rabotkevich@mail.ru

W/L: E

## **SERBIA / SERBIE**

## **2. OBSERVER STATES / ETATS OBSERVATEURS**

### **HOLY SEE / SAINT-SIEGE**

Mgr José Manuel DEL RIO CARRASCO, Commission Pontificale pour les Biens Culturels de l'Eglise, Holy See

Tel: +39 06 698 87 617

Fax: +39 06 698 87 567

E-mail: pcbcc@pccch.va

W/L: F

## **3. INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS / ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

### **EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EEA) / AGENCE EUROPEENNE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (AEE)**

Miss Agnieszka ROMANOWICZ, Project Officer, European Environment Agency, Kongens Nytorv 6, DK - 1050 COPENHAGEN

Tel: +45 33 36 72 21

Fax:

E-mail: agnieszka.romanowicz@eea.europa.eu

W/L: E/F

### **UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION / ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'EDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE (UNESCO)**

M. Jean-Michel ARMENGOL PETIT, Secrétaire Général, Comissio Nacional Andorrana, per a la UNESCO, Av. Fiter i Rossell, 71, AND - ESCALDES ENGORDANY

Tel: +376 82 57 00

Fax: +376 86 19 11

E-mail: jmarmengol@andorra.ad

W/L: F

### **MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF FOREST IN EUROPE (MCPFE) / CONFÉRENCE MINISTÉRIELLE SUR LA PROTECTION DES FORÊTS EN EUROPE (CMPFE)**

Mr Mauro AGNOLETTI, Ministero per le Politiche Agricole e Forestal, I - ROMA / Università di Firenze, Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Ambientali Forestali, Via San Bonaventura 13, I - 50145 FIRENZE

Tel: +39 055 3288676

Fax: +39 055 3288676

## **3. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS / ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES**

### **3.1. INTERNATIONAL / INTERNATIONALES**

### **INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES (ICOMOS) / CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES (ICOMOS)**

Mr Luigi ZANGHERI, Président du Comité Scientifique International des Paysages Culturels ICOMOS-IFLA, ICOMOS, Università di Firenze, Via Michelin n. 8, I - 50121 FIRENZE

Tel: +39 055 204 9448 Fax: +39 055 275 6584  
E-mail: luigi.zangheri@unifi.it W/L: F

Ms Susan DENYER, World Heritage Adviser, ICOMOS, 66 Brand Street, GB - SE10 8SR LONDON  
Tel: +44 20 7566 0031 Fax: +44 20 7566 0045  
E-mail: susandenyer@icomos-uk.org W/L: E

Mr Joan REGUANT, Membre, Comité andorran de l'ICOMOS, Av. Fiter i Rossell, 71, AND - ESCALDES  
ENGORDANY  
Tel: +376 825 700 Fax: +376 861 911  
E-mail: seturia@andorra.ad W/L: F

Ms Irmela SPELSBERG, Member of ICOMOS Germany - Member of CDPAT, ICOMOS,  
Friedrichshallerstr. 38, D - 14199 BERLIN  
Tel: +49 30 82 31 705 Fax: +49 30 82 31 705  
E-mail: irmela.spelsberg@gmx.de W/L: E/F

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ARCHAEOLOGISTS (EAA)/ ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE  
DES ARCHÉOLOGUES (EAA)**

Mr Graham FAIRCLOUGH, Head of Historic Environment and Landscape Characterisation, European  
Association of Archaeologists, 23 Savile Row, GB - W1S 2ET LONDON  
Tel: +44 20 7973 3017  
E-mail: Graham.Fairclough@english-heritage.org.uk W/L: E

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS (ECLAS) / CONSEIL  
EUROPÉEN DES ÉCOLES D'ARCHITECTURE DU PAYSAGE (ECLAS)**

Mme Ingrid HERLIN, Senior Lecturer, Treasurer of ECLAS, ECLAS European Council of Landscape  
Architect Schools, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Landscape Planning, Horticulture,  
Agriculture, P.O. Box 58, S - 230 53 ALNARP  
Tel: +46 40 41 54 07 Fax: +46 40 46 54 42  
E-mail: ingrid.sarlov-herlin@ltj.slu.se W/L: E

Mr Diedrich BRUNS, Professor, ECLAS European Council of Landscape Architect Schools, Universität  
Kassel  
Gottschalkstrasse 26, D - 34109 KASSEL  
Tel: +49 561 804 3559 Fax: +49 561 804 2388  
E-mail: bruns@asl.uni-kassel.de W/L: E

**EUROPEAN FOUNDATION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE (EFLA) / FONDATION  
EUROPÉENNE POUR L'ARCHITECTURE DU PAYSAGE (EFLA)**

Mr Michael DOWNING, Hon Sec General, European Foundation for Landscape Architecture, 48 Montagu  
Avenue, GB - NE3 4JN NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE  
Tel: +44 0191 2854974 Fax: +44 0870 130 9182  
E-mail: downings48@aol.com W/L: E

Ms Kine HALVORSEN THORÉN, Professor Dr. Scient., European Foundation for Landscape Architecture  
EFLA, Dept of Landscape Architecture & Spatial Planning, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, P.O.  
Box 5003, N - 1432 ÅS  
Tel: +47 64 96 53 60  
E-mail: kine.thoren@umb.no W/L: E

Mr Gertjan JOBSE, EFLA European Foundation of Landscape Architecture, Editor, Vlakestraat 41, NL-  
4301 XJ ZIERIKZEE  
Tel: +31 0 6 490 162 42  
E-mail: gertjanjobse@yahoo.co.uk W/L: E

**INSULA/UNESCO**

Mr Pier Giovanni D'AYALA, Secretary General, INSULA (International Scientific Council for Island  
Development), 1, rue Miollis, F - 75015 PARIS

Tel: +33 01 45 68 40 56 Fax:  
E-mail: pg.d-ayala@unesco.org W/L: E/F

**RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET RÉGIONAUX POUR LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DE LA CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE (RECEP) / EUROPEAN NETWORK OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION (RECEP)**

Mme Gabriella CUNDARI, Présidente du RECEP, Assesore all'Urbanistica, alla Politiche del territorio, Giunta Regionale della Campania, Centro Direzionale Isola A/6  
I - 80143 NAPOLI, ITALIE  
E-mail: info@recep-enelc.net

**EUROPEAN FOUNDATION IL NIBBIO / FONDAZIONE EUROPEENNE IL NIBBIO (FEIN)**

Mr Giovanni BANA, Président de la FEIN, Via S. Antonio 11, I-20122 MILANO  
Tel. +39 02 583 03974 Fax: +39 031762162  
E-mail: fein@nibbio.org or info@studiobana.it W/L: E

**LANDSCAPE EUROPE / PAYSAGE EUROPE (ALTERRA)**

Mr Bas PEDROLI, Senior Researcher, ALTERRA Wageningen UR, Landscape Centre, P.O.Box 47, NL - 6700 AA WAGENINGEN  
Tel: +31 317477833 Fax: +31 317419000  
E-mail: bas.pedroli@wur.nl W/L: E

**“COUNTRYSIDE AND ENVIRONMENT GROUPING” / REGROUPEMENT « MONDE RURAL ET ENVIRONNEMENT »**

M. Patrice COLLIGNON, Président du CEIRE - Centre Européen d'Intérêt Rural et Environnemental, Regroupement "Monde Rural et Environnement" de la Conférence des ONG, RED - Ruralité - Environnement - Développement, 304 rue des Potiers, B - 6717 ATTERT  
Tel: +32 63 23 04 90 Fax: +32 63 23 04 99  
E-mail: red@ruraleurope.org W/L: F

**MEDITERRANEAN LANDSCAPES WORKSHOP / ATELIER DES PAYSAGES MÉDITERRANÉENS / ATELIER DEI PAESAGGI MEDITERRANEI**

Mme Rita MICARELLI, Scientific Committee, Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei - Toscana, via P.A. Mattioli 43, I - 50139 FIRENZE  
Tel: +39 055 480 152 Fax: +39 055 480 152  
E-mail: rita.micarelli@libero.it W/L: F

Mr Giorgio PIZZIOLLO, Scientific Committee, Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei - Toscana, via P.A. Mattioli 43, I - 50139 FIRENZE  
Tel: +39 055 480 152 Fax: +39 055 48 01 52/0333 4743514  
E-mail: pizziolo@unifi.it W/L: E

M. Maurizio CIUMEI, Presidente, Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei, Villa Sismondi  
Via Sismondi, I - 51017 PESCIA PT  
Tel: +335 58 86 581  
E-mail: dorialandi@virgilio.it W/L: (excused)

Mme Doria LANDI, Assistente-Segretaria, Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei, Via Sismondi - Villa Sismondi, I - 57017 PESCIA PT  
Tel: +39 05 72 49 22 19 / +39 33 83 09 70 46 Fax: +39 05 72 47 69 13  
E-mail: dorialandi@virgilio.it W/L: F (excused)

**LANDSCAPE RESEARCH GROUP (LRG) / GROUPE DE TRAVAIL SUR LE PAYSAGE (LRG)**

Mrs Maggie ROE, Senior Lecturer, Landscape Research Group LRG, School of Architecture, Planning & Landscape, Clarmont Tower, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, GB - NE1 7RU NEWCASTLE- UPON-TYNE

Tel: +44 0 191 22 87 22

Fax: +44 0 191 22 8811

E-mail: m.h.roe@ncl.ac.uk

W/L: E

**WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF) FONDS MONDIAL POUR LA NATURE (WWF)**

Mme Edith WENGER, Senior Fresh Water Policy Officer, WWF - Germany, Rebstöcherstr. 55, D - 60326 FRANKFURT

Tel: +49 69 79 144 131

Fax: +49 69 79 144 231

E-mail: Wenger@wwf.de

W/L: F

**PETRARCA**

Mr Hans ZEHNTER, Editor, Biologist, PETRARCA & The School of Nature & Goetheanum, Freie Hochschule für Geisteswissenschaften Goetheanum, Brunnweg 4, CH - 4143 DORNACH

Tel: +41 61 706 44 66

Fax: +41 61 706 42 51

E-mail: h.c.zehnter@goetheanum.ch

W/L: E

*(excused)*

Ms Hatsune HATANAKA, PETRARCA, NWS am Goetheanum, Postfach 1, CH - 4143 DORNACH

Tel: +41 61 706 4210

Fax: +41 61 706 4215

E-mail: hatsu\_hatanaka2002@yahoo.co.jp

W/L: E

**WILDLIFE HABITAT FOUNDATION (WHF) / FONDATION POUR LA PROTECTION DES HABITATS DE LA FAUNE SAUVAGE**

M. Edouart-Alain BIDAULT, Président, Fondation pour la Protection des Habitats de la Faune Sauvage WHF, 13, rue du Gal Leclerc, F - 92136 ISSY LES MOULINEAUX

Tel: +33 1 41 09 65 10

Fax: +33 3 20 41 45 66

E-mail: eab@fondationfaunesauvage.com

W/L: F

M. Gilles DUPERRON, Directeur exécutif, Fondation Pour la Protection des Habitats de la Faune Sauvage WHF, 13, rue du Général Leclerc, F- 92136 ISSY LES MOULINEAUX CEDEX

Tel: +33 06 77 32 30 15

Fax: +33 03 20 41 45 66

E-mail: gduperron@nordnet.fr

W/L: F

**3.2. NATIONAL / NATIONALES****CENTRO STUDI PAN**

M. Felice SPINGOLA, Président Comité Scientifique, Centro Studi PAN, Via Moscatello 17, I - 87020 VERBICARO

Tel: +39 097 15 77 86

Fax: +39 0985 60363

E-mail: info@centrostudipan.it

W/L: F

**LANDSCAPE ALLIANCE IRELAND**

Mr Terry O'REGAN, Co-ordinator, Landscape Alliance Ireland, Old Abbey Gardens, IRL - WATERFALL, CORK

Tel: +353 21 4871460

Fax: +353 21 4872503

E-mail: bhl@indigo.ie

W/L: E

**RÉSEAU DES GRANDS SITES DE FRANCE / RÉSEAU DES GRANDS SITES DE FRANCE**

Mme Anne VOURC'H, Directrice, Réseau des Grands Site de France, Grand site de Solutré BP 80015, F - 71012 CHARNAY LES MACON CEDEX

Tel: +33 01 42 65 33 38

Fax: +33 01 42 65 33 38

E-mail: annevourch@grandsitedefrance.com

W/L: F

**CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH WITHIN CORNWALL (CERES) / CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH WITHIN CORNWALL (CERES)**

Mr John FLEET, Head, CERES, 16 Centenary Street, Cambourne, GB - TR14 8HR CORNWALL  
Tel: +44 0 1209 715 642 Fax: (excused)  
E-mail: ceres.sec@freeuk.com W/L: E

**ITALIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY / SOCIÉTÉ GÉOGRAPHIQUE ITALIENNE**

Prof. Maria ZERBI, Professeur Universitaire, Società Geografica Italiana, Università degli Studi di Milano,  
Via Festa del Perdono 7, I - 20122 MILANO  
Tel: +39 02 96 70 23 32 Fax: +39 0250 31 25 09  
E-mail: mariachiara.zerbi@unimi.it W/L: F

**ATELIER INTERNATIONAL POUR LE PAYSAGE BELLINZONA**

Mrs Cristiana STORELLI, Coordinatrice, Atelier International pour le Paysage Bellinzona, BP 2567, CH -  
6500 BELLINZONA  
Tel: +39 091 825 43 12 Fax: +39 091 825 87 04  
E-mail: cristorelli@hotmail.com W/L: F

**ARBRES ET ROUTES / TREES AND ROADS**

Mme Chantal PRADINES, Arbres et Routes, 4, rue Morée, F - 88350 TRAMPOT  
Tel: +33 3 29 06 78 50 Fax: +33 3 29 06 60 28  
E-mail: chantal.pradines@wanadoo.fr W/L: F (excused)

**SPECIAL GUESTS / INVITÉS SPÉCIAUX**

M. Mohammed ALAOU BELRHITI, Consul Général du Royaume du Maroc, 7 rue Erckmann Chatrian, F -  
67000 STRASBOURG  
Tel: +33 3 88 35 88 11 Fax: +33 3 88 35 68 51  
E-mail: consumastras@noos.fr W/L: F

Mme Natalina CALLEA, Directeur, Istituto Italiano di Cultura, 7, rue Schweighaeuser, F - 67000  
STRASBOURG  
Tel: +33.3.88.45.54.04 Fax: +33.3.8841.14.39  
E-mail: iic.callea@wanadoo.fr W/L: F

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE EXPERTS / EXPERTS DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

Mr Diedrich BRUNS, Professor, ECLAS European Council of Landscape Architect Schools, Universität  
Kassel, Gottschalkstrasse 26, D - 34109 KASSEL  
Tel: +49 561 804 3559 Fax: +49 561 804 2388  
E-mail: bruns@asl.uni-kassel.de W/L: E

Mr Ignacio ESPAÑOL ECHÁNIZ, Senior Lecturer, Universidad de Castilla la Mancha, Calle Rey Francisco  
n° 16, 3ºDcha., E - 28008 MADRID  
Tel: +34 91 54 26 707  
E-mail: ignacioespanol@yahoo.es W/L: E

M. Yves LUGINBÜHL, Directeur de recherche 1, UMR LADYSS CNRS - Universités de Paris 1, 8 et 10,  
UMR LADYSS, 2, rue Valette, F - 75005 PARIS  
Tel: +33 144077627 Fax: +33 1 44 07 76 03  
E-mail: yves.luginbuhl@pop.free.fr W/L: F

M. Christian MEYER, Urbaniste Qualifié, Enseignant, Université Marc Bloch Strasbourg 2, 18, rue des  
Carolingiens, F - 67200 STRASBOURG MONTAGNE VERTE  
Tel: +33 6 80 03 29 17 Fax: +33 3 88 75 79 42  
E-mail: meyerlemoine@free.fr W/L: F

M. Michel PRIEUR, Professeur de Droit, CRIDEAU Université de Limoges, Faculté de Droit et des Sciences Economiques, CRIDEAU-UPRESA 6062 CNRS, Hotel de la Bastide, 32, rue Turgot, F - 87000 LIMOGES

Tel: +33 5 55 34 97 25 /24

Fax: +33 5 55 34 97 23

E-mail: michel.prieur@unilim.fr

W/L: F

Mme Lionella SCAZZOSI, Expert, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Prof. Di Restauro architettonico e di Architettura del Paesaggio al Politecnico di Milano

Via Golgi, 39, I - 20133 MILANO

Tel: +39 02 23 99 50 63

Fax: +39 02 56 92 637

E-mail: lionella.scazzosi@tiscali.it

W/L: F

Mr Florencio ZOIDO NARANJO, Oficial Experto, Ministerio de Medio Ambiente-España, Universidad de Sevilla, Fac de Geografia e Historia, Dep de Geografia fisica y analisis geografico regional, C/. Maria de Padilla, E - 41004 SEVILLA

Tel: +34 954 55 13 69

Fax: +34 954 55 69 88

E-mail: fzoido@us.es

W/L: F

M. Régis AMBROISE, Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche et de la Ruralité, MAAPR/DGFAR, 78, rue de Varenne, F-75007 PARIS

Tel: +33 1 49 55 50 58

Fax: +33 1 49 55 50 58

E-mail: regis.ambroise@agriculture.gouv.fr

W/L: F

(excused)

## **COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

### **- COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS / COMITE DES MINISTRES**

Mme Eleonora PETROVA-MITEVSKA, Représentante du Comité des Ministres, Présidente du Groupe de Rapporteurs sur l'Education, la Culture, le Sport, la Jeunesse et l'Environnement (GR-C) / Representative of the Committee of Ministers, President of the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C)

### **- PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY / ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE**

Mr Valery SUDARENKOV, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Member of Russian Federation Senate, 26, B. Dimitrovky, RU - MOSKOW

Tel./Fax: +7495 692 63 01

E-mail: cfp@pace.council.gov.ru (excused)

### **- CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF THE COUNCIL EUROPE / CONGRÈS DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET RÉGIONAUX DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

Mr Etienne VAN VAERENBERGH, Vice-président de la Commission du développement durable du Congrès / Vice President of the Committee on Sustainable Development of the Congress

## **GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE/ SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

### **Secretariat of the Committee of Ministers / Secrétariat du Comité des Ministres**

Mme Francine ARNOLD-PAULI, Secrétariat du Comité des Ministres, Conseil de l'Europe, F-67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

### **Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly / Secrétariat de l'Assemblée parlementaire**

M. Alfred SIXTO, Head of the Secretariat, Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs / Chef du Secrétariat, Commission de l'Environnement, de l'Agriculture et des Questions Territoriales

**Secretariat of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe / Secrétariat du Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux du Conseil de l'Europe**

M. Ulrich BOHNER, Chief Executive / Directeur exécutif (excused)

Mme Antonella CAGNALOTI, Deputy Chief Executive / Directrice exécutive adjointe (excused)

Mme Marité MORAS, Secretary of the Committee on Sustainable Development / Secrétaire de la Commission du Développement durable (excused)

Mme Ruth GOODWIN, Co-Secretary of the Committee on Sustainable Development, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe,  
Avenue de l'Europe, F – 6775 STRASBOURG Cedex  
Tel. : +33 (0)3 88 41 22 33 Fax : +33 (0)3 88 41 37 47 E-mail : ruth.goodwin@coe.int F

**DGIV - Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport / DG IV - Éducation, Culture et Patrimoine, Jeunesse et Sport**

Mme Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Director General / Directrice Générale, Conseil de l'Europe, F-67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0) 3 88 41 21 72 Fax: +33 (0) 3 88 41 27 50

E-mail: gabriella.battaini-dragoni@coe.int W/L: E/F

**Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage / Direction de la Culture et du Patrimoine Culturel et Naturel**

M. Daniel THEROND, Deputy Director / Directeur Adjoint, Direction de la Culture et du Patrimoine culturel et naturel, Conseil de l'Europe, F-67075 STRASBOURG-CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0) 3 88 41 22 52 Fax: +33 (0) 3 88 41 27 51

E-mail: daniel.therond@coe.int W/L: F

Mme Françoise BAUER, Assistante administrative principale, Division du patrimoine culturel et de l'aménagement du territoire et du paysage, Conseil de l'Europe, F - 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0)3 88 41 22 61 Fax +33 (0) 3 88 41 37 51

E-mail: francoise.bauer@coe.int W/L: F

Mme Danielle SCHMITT, Assistante administrative principale, Division du patrimoine culturel et de l'aménagement du territoire et du paysage, Conseil de l'Europe, F - 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0)3 88 41 24 44 Fax +33 (0) 3 88 41 37 51

E-mail: danielle.schmitt@coe.int W/L: F

Mme Flore CHABOISSEAU, Assistante administrative, Direction de la Culture et du Patrimoine culturel et naturel, Conseil de l'Europe, F - 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0)3 88 41 38 81 Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 37 51

E-mail: flore.chaboisseau@coe.int W/L: F

Mlle Laetitia HAMM, Assistante, Division du patrimoine culturel et de l'aménagement du territoire et du paysage, Conseil de l'Europe, F - 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0)3 88 41 21 55 Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 37 51

E-mail: laetitia.hamm@coe.int W/L: F

\* \* \*

Mme Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS, Head of the Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Spatial Planning Division / Chef de la Division du patrimoine culturel et de l'aménagement du territoire et du paysage, Conseil de l'Europe, F - 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0) 3 88 41 23 98 Fax +33 (0) 3 88 41 37 51

E-mail: maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int W/L: F

Ms Gillian FRENCH, Assistant, Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Spatial Planning Division Division, Council of Europe, F - 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0)3 88 41 31 70 Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 37 51

E-mail: landscape@coe.int

W/L: E

Mle Barbara HOWES, Stagiaire, Division du patrimoine culturel et de l'aménagement du territoire et du paysage, Conseil de l'Europe, F - 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0)3 90 21 51 34

Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 37 51

E-mail : barbara.howes@coe.int

W/L: F

### **INTERPRETERS /INTERPRETES**

Mme Jenny GRIFFITH, Chef d'équipe

Mme Angela BREWER

M. Olivier OBRECHT

## APPENDIX 2

### OPENING ADDRESS

*Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI*

*Director General of DG IV, Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport,  
Council of Europe Secretariat*

Ladies and gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Strasbourg today for this major event focusing on the current status and future of the European Landscape Convention, and indeed of European landscapes.

You do not need me to remind you that the landscape which is all around us forms our everyday living environment, our common home, and that we have a duty to work together to look after it. We live and breathe our landscape every day, it permeates us, we are immersed in it. Landscape is the backdrop against which our lives unfold. It is the great theatre of life, if you like.

The Council of Europe has the noble task of promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law, and of addressing the major problems facing contemporary society. The European Landscape Convention is at the heart of these myriad, overlapping issues:

– *democracy*: community participation and involvement form the keystone of the European Landscape Convention. The support, involvement and good will of the public are crucial today if we are to preserve, manage and develop our land in a way that is sustainable;

– *human rights*: in these early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is important to recognise that human rights, as defined in the 1950s in the wake of the second world war and as enshrined and recognised in the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter, must gradually evolve to accommodate new concerns, with due regard for what may be termed “the territorial and heritage aspect of human rights”. Admittedly, this concept needs to be explored and developed further, but it is difficult to see how we can possibly not be concerned about what happens to the land around us, land that is, by nature, finite and which it is up to us to pass on to future generations. Or how we can possibly not care about what happens to our natural and cultural heritage, an invaluable asset yet one that is all too often irreversibly threatened. It is important, therefore, to consider these new rights, but also the new duties and responsibilities that go with them. The European Landscape Convention talks about “*rights and responsibilities for everyone*” while the Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society refers to “*rights and responsibilities relating to cultural heritage*”. That means working together to look after our territories for future generations, and finding the best ways to protect, manage, develop and shape them, as it were.

– *the rule of law*: the Convention is an international treaty, involving obligations for the States which have signed and ratified it. The Convention, however, is what may be described as a “new generation” treaty. It sets out various areas of work, broad lines and a programme of action, which are the basis of any good territorial governance and sound territorial management strategy. Many States and regions in Europe have already introduced new or expanded existing legislation in order to incorporate the provisions laid down in the Convention and for this, we are profoundly grateful to them;

– I mentioned the Council of Europe’s role in addressing the *major problems facing society*. At the third Council of Europe summit in 2005, heads of state and government of the organisation’s member States pledged to improve “*the quality of life for citizens*”. In the section of the Action Plan on “*promoting sustainable development*”, they recognised that the Council of Europe would, on the basis of the existing instruments, further develop and support integrated policies in the field of environment, landscape and spatial planning, in a spatial development perspective. The European Landscape Convention sets out to secure precisely this quality of life for citizens, as is stated in its preamble: “*landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas*”. It is wrong to suppose that the quality of a given area is irrelevant or unimportant, or a luxury we cannot afford. Quality of territory is synonymous with quality of life: ecological life, social life, cultural life and

economic life. Landscape is where all four pillars of sustainable development converge. It is the cornerstone of sustainable development.

To conclude, I would like to thank you for taking the trouble to come here today to review the situation and the work accomplished to date, to report on progress and experiences and on the problems and obstacles encountered and, lastly, to decide where we go from here, by examining the documents that are to be forwarded to the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers for adoption and the courses of action to be pursued.

I would like firstly to thank the representatives of the three statutory bodies of the Council of Europe, namely the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, whom we are honoured to have with us today.

I would like to thank the representatives of the governments of Council of Europe member States, states which have observer status with the Council of Europe and representatives of the other international governmental organisations gathered here today, for their support and commitment to promoting landscape and ensuring effective implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

I am especially grateful to Mr Mohamed ALAOUI BELRHITI, Consul General of the Kingdom of Morocco and guest of honour, whose presence here today represents and symbolises this commitment to openness and intercultural dialogue that we hold so dear, and that we are seeking to foster in the Council of Europe's work.

I also wish to thank Ms Carmela Natalina CALLEA, Director of the Italian Institute of Culture, for organising a magnificent exhibition in the Committee of Ministers' ante-room on "*Colours of Italy, Umbria*", which will be presented tomorrow.

I wish to thank the representatives of the international and national NGOs for their efficiency, talent and enthusiasm in promoting the European Landscape Convention all over Europe. Their help and support in this common endeavour have been crucial.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Council of Europe experts whose intelligence and vision have enabled us to succeed in our work so far.

Before I conclude, I wish to pay tribute to the major efforts made in recent years by numerous prominent figures in the field of landscape. Many of them are present here today. Ratified by 26 States and signed by a further 8, the Convention is among those Council of Europe treaties which have generated a great deal of interest in a relatively short space of time. This is an important development and one that ought to be taken seriously because it is indicative of the concerns felt by society at large.

Among the prominent figures that I mentioned, there is one in particular whom I wish to thank and that is President Enrico BUERGI, who has tirelessly defended and promoted the cause of landscape as something that is of fundamental value to society. I wish to thank him most sincerely for all he has done in support of the European Landscape Convention.

I would like now to give the floor to the representatives from the Committee of Ministers' Rapporteur Group, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, and to Mr BUERGI.

I wish you every success in your endeavours.

## APPENDIX 3

### OPENING SPEECH

*by Mrs Eleonora PETROVA-MITEVSKA,  
Representative of the Committee of Ministers, President of the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture,  
Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C)*

General Director,  
Representative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe,  
President,  
Government delegates and Representatives of international governmental and non-governmental organisations,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be with you today for this Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention.

The European Landscape Convention is thriving. Twenty-six States have already ratified it and eight others have signed it with a view to an early ratification. Thus, thirty-four of the forty-six Council of Europe member States have already expressed their firm intention to assign a high level of priority to the landscape issue in their national policies and to place it on the political agenda of international debates. As Representative of the Committee of Ministers, I am especially pleased by this success and by the path that the European States have decided to follow.

Landscape affects us, it can disturb us or bring us ease or it can be tedious, but we are never, consciously or unconsciously, indifferent to landscape. It leaves its mark on us, we absorb it and it helps to transform us. How therefore can we deny its crucial importance or fail to take it into account?

As an organisation upholding human rights and democracy, the Council of Europe could not cross the threshold of the 21<sup>st</sup> century without realising this “territorial dimension of human rights”.

Accordingly, two fundamental instruments have been adopted:

- the European Landscape Convention, adopted in 2000, and
- Recommendation Rec (2002) 1 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent which subsumed the text adopted at the 12<sup>th</sup> CEMAT in Hanover also in the year 2000.

The European Landscape Convention is one of the visionary instruments of the new century. What will become of our European landscapes in this era of globalisation? How can we ensure that they are cared for, that they do not deteriorate or lose what is special to them? How can we monitor the changes that they undergo, and guide the process of modernisation? These are the major challenges we must address.

The Convention makes the point that landscape is an important factor in the general interest, culturally, ecologically, environmentally and socially, and it constitutes a resource for economic activity, notably in relation to tourism. It is an expression of the concern on the part of the Council of Europe Member States to achieve sustainable development based on the right balance between social needs, the economy, the environment and, of course, culture.

It is desirable that the territorial and the landscape dimension should henceforth be taken fully into account in the international debates conducted on the theme of sustainable development and human rights. Regarded by some as the first sustainable development convention for attaining perfection in its combined approach to environmental, social, cultural and economic considerations, it resituates mankind at the centre of our concerns.

I wish you all much success in your work to implement the Convention.

Thank you.

## APPENDIX 4

### OPENING SPEECH

*Statement by Mr Etienne VAN VAERENBERGH,  
Member of the Committee on Sustainable Development  
of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe*

Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with a particular pride that I thank you for inviting me to address you today because, if the European Landscape Convention was the fruit of a fertile and constructive collaboration between many different structures, both within and outside the Council of Europe, the first signs of its germination were apparent in the Congress some ten years ago.

This is not surprising. The Congress, which has always worked at the level closest to the citizen, is well-placed to respond to the growing clamor from the general public to better protect their landscape and environment, to have a real say in how their surroundings are shaped and managed. To preserve our environment is essential because it is an intrinsic part of our culture and our history.

There is a pervasive intimate link between landscape and wellbeing, between landscape and cultural identity, and between landscape and health. Landscape is the ether we live in; we can read it. Our cultural identity is inscribed in landscape: in every country the slope of the roofs is one of the surest indications of the climate. Landscape affects mood; it affects quality of life. Harmonious landscapes, both natural and constructed, provide solace, stimulation and a sense of belonging. Everyone has a private landscape that soothes, that comforts and that offers escape.

But the reality is that much of Europe's landscape is subject to widespread degradation due to the impact of pollution, economic activity, and poor urban, regional and national planning. Biodiversity is at risk in rural areas due to extensive and homogenized agricultural practices. It is also at risk in our towns and cities, where urbanization and pressure on green spaces are threatening many species of flora and fauna. At the same time there is a growing desire expressed by many citizens across Europe for organic foods and for more locally-produced foodstuffs. Too many people live in an aggressive, unhealthy and unpleasant environment and are suffering from it.

In order to respond to this demand, we must constantly ask ourselves what is best for the citizen as well as for the landscape, what is best for the economy as well as for the environment. Do we bring in a big enterprise that creates jobs and boosts local economy or do we prioritize the environment and avoid pollution? How do we balance the often conflicting demands of the fast-growing tourist industry with the protection of what is, inherently, a unique and distinctive part of our heritage? Indeed in all spheres, territorial policies must find the right balance between these different demands and must not shy away from ethically driven questions. Local and regional authorities have to make difficult choices in striking the right balance.

Our joint efforts are critical to the effectiveness of their decisions. The Congress has a very important role to play in this field. It is the unique forum where local and regional elected representatives from across our continent can address such challenges, a forum that can raise awareness about the crisis facing our environment. Sustainable development is part and parcel of local democracy and the Congress is a key player in its advancement and mainstreaming. Together we need to develop the tools and policies that will help territorial authorities address these complex issues. The European Landscape Convention is a crucial tool in helping all levels of governance towards sustainable development policies.

The European Landscape Convention is the first international document to link landscape quality to the quality of life throughout Europe. It offers an all-encompassing approach, acknowledging everyday areas as well as outstanding locations, degraded landscapes as well as well-kept ones.

One of the Convention's features is the key role it assigns to local and regional authorities in landscape protection, management, development and enhancement.

The European Landscape Convention offers politicians and planners a unique tool to conserve and reinforce the protection of the landscape, to restore and recreate the lost or damaged cultural as well as natural heritage. The integrated approach of the European Landscape Convention is becoming a model for territorial authorities who have learned to work transversally and across regional and national frontiers to succeed in their joint actions. They have thereby maximized their impact throughout Europe. The policies and programmes, the exchanges, the training and the research carried out within the framework of the European Landscape Convention have all helped to create a pan-European vision of landscape custodianship and governance.

We must build upon this already considerable experience and develop a truly integrated approach to offer solutions to some of the most pressing environmental problems facing our planet. Our success in managing, protecting and planning a balanced and ecological landscape will also contribute to our success in addressing the vital environmental issues which all our countries, our regions and our cities are being forced to face, with an ever-growing urgency.

The European network of local and regional authorities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (ENELC) – which held its first Annual General Meeting this week here in Strasbourg – offers a powerful, flexible structure to build upon the Convention, to ensure that territorial authorities are encouraged to make the most of it, to exchange good practices and to transform its proposals into action.

We in the Congress are pleased to see how, first the Convention, and now the Network, have blossomed. We are delighted to be able to participate in continuing to ensure that the vision of the European Landscape Convention becomes ever more visible in our daily environment. Our local and regional authorities are increasingly involved in promoting the ideas, values and processes advanced by the Convention and a forthcoming activity of the Committee on Sustainable Development will build upon precisely this by looking at innovative local and regional public actions which include the landscape dimension.

## APPENDIX 5

### OPENING ADDRESS

*Mr Enrico BUERGI*

*President of the Conference of the European Landscape Convention on its entry into force*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention here in Strasbourg.

I would like to begin by focusing briefly on some of the key features of the Convention.

Its main aim is to promote the protection, management and planning of landscapes and organise European co-operation in this area. Each Party undertakes to raise awareness about landscape values and promote education on the subject, including school and university teaching. The Parties also agree to identify their own landscapes throughout their territories, to categorise them and to set quality objectives for each of them, as well as implementing the necessary policy tools.

Furthermore, each Party undertakes:

- to recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity;
- to establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning;
- to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and the authorities concerned; and
- to integrate landscape into any other policies with a direct or indirect impact on the landscape (including spatial or town planning policies and cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies).

The Convention is the first international treaty devoted exclusively to the landscape; it was adopted in Florence (Italy) on 20 October 2000, came into force on 1 March 2004 after being ratified by ten States and has now been ratified by 26 States and signed by eight others. It covers all types of landscape, because – as I already mentioned – it applies to the entire territory of the contracting parties, thereby encompassing natural, rural, urban and peri-urban landscapes.

It goes without saying that it applies to outstanding landscapes. However, it should not be forgotten that it also covers everyday and degraded landscapes.

Its main goal therefore is to preserve and improve each individual's quality of life and well-being and the environment in which we all live.

It is primarily human beings who bear the responsibility for the quality of the landscape because they have the ability to make a tangible impact on it. The same goes for the natural world, its flora and fauna and their habitats, towards which humankind must take responsibility by acting in accordance with their needs.

The Convention is worded in simple, accessible language. Its goals are clear and do not require any detailed explanation. The 26 States which have ratified it to date will have begun by examining its content and repercussions in detail; they would definitely not have ratified a convention whose content was set out in uncertain terms.

Above all, the Convention poses a challenge. A challenge which most of us will be determined to meet, particularly the many of us who have political responsibilities, namely the challenge of quality of life, which is so closely tied up with the quality of landscape. It is a challenge whose implications are obvious to everyone, as everywhere in Europe people are aware of the differing standards of landscapes, which can be high, average or mediocre. And nobody is left indifferent when standards are inadequate and urban, rural, natural or, above all, peri-urban landscapes are degraded. Everyone is capable of making the comparison

with landscapes that are respected by, and satisfy the needs of, human beings – landscapes that bear witness to the responsibility of humans for their environment as a whole.

It should be emphasised again that the European Landscape Convention fills a major gap in an area that lies at the core of the Council of Europe's activities, namely human rights. High landscape standards and a high quality of living environment for all, building on the potential of the landscape as a mark of history, a cradle of cultural identity, a common heritage and the reflection of a pluralist Europe, are a central pillar of human rights. Human rights cannot be separated from their historical and sociological context and this is why, today, they must also encompass aspects of well-being.

Along with the organisers of the three latest workshops, in Cork, Ljubljana and Gerona, and the three seminars, in Moscow, Tulcea and Tirana, I welcome the fact that all these events were highly successful and yielded particularly outstanding results, which will be presented here today during the first session.

I would like to compliment the Council of Europe on all its work and the publications it has produced, which will be presented at the same session, and among which I would single out the document entitled "*Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention*" for a special mention.

During the second session, the discussion will turn to the draft Guidance for the implementation of the Convention, the integration of the landscape into national policies and the draft rules of the Council of Europe Landscape Award, all under the heading "New instruments of implementation."

In September of this year, in Sibiu, Romania, there will be a meeting of the workshops of the European Landscape Convention on the subject of rural landscapes, which are often very vulnerable and require special attention when the Convention is being implemented.

An essential part of the quality of a landscape is its colours, both during the day and at night. Increasingly, however, the quality of the night landscape is being spoiled by artificial light, which has harmful effects not only on nocturnal birds and a multitude of insect species but also on human beings, who are less and less able to experience the real nightscape and admire the stars.

On 19 and 20 April 2007, a conference will be held in La Palma, Spain, on the subject "*Starlight – a common heritage*", with the aim of launching an international campaign to preserve the quality of night skies. I would like therefore to draw your attention to this project, covering a highly topical aspect of the landscape.

Lastly, I would like to emphasise the fact that one of the key provisions of the UN's Convention on Climate Change, the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, is intended to improve citizens' quality of life. Improving the quality of life, this time through the quality of the landscape, is also the main focus of the European Landscape Convention, and so the two Conventions actually complement each other extremely well.

I would like to thank DG IV of the Council of Europe sincerely for organising this conference here in Strasbourg, particularly the Director General, Ms Battaini-Dragoni, and the Head of the Spatial Planning and Landscape Division, Ms Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, as well as all their colleagues and assistants, and I wish all the participants rewarding discussions and positive results.

## APPENDIX 6

### AGENDA

#### ***Presentation of aims of the Conference***

*The European Landscape Convention was adopted in Florence (Italy) on 20 October 2000 and came into force on 1 March 2004, with the aim of promoting European landscape protection, management and planning, and organising European co-operation in this area. The Convention is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with all aspects of European landscape. It applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes.*

*The Convention represents an important contribution to the implementation of the Council of Europe's objectives, namely to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law and to seek common solutions to the main problems facing European society today. By taking into account landscape, cultural and natural values, the Council of Europe seeks to protect Europeans' quality of life and well-being.*

*As of 20 March 2007, 26 States had ratified the Convention: Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.*

*8 States had signed but not ratified it: Azerbaijan, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.*

*The aim of the Conference is to present to all member and observer States of the Council of Europe, and to international governmental and non-governmental organisations, the progress of achievements to date in the implementation of the Convention, and to deal with practical questions following its entry into force.*

\* \* \*

#### **THURSDAY 22 MARCH 2007**

<b><i>Opening of the session</i></b>
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9.00-9.30      *Welcome of participants*

9.30-10.00

#### **Introductory speeches**

Mrs Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport, Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Mrs Eleonora PETROVA-MITEVSKA, Representative of the Committee of Ministers, President of the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C)

Mr Etienne VAN VAERENBERGH, Vice President of the Committee on Sustainable Development of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Mr Enrico BUERGI, President of the Conference of the European Landscape Convention on the occasion of its entry into force

## Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Conference

10.00-10.30 *Break*  
*Press conference*

10.30-12.30

### Adoption of the Agenda

[Document for decision: T-FLOR (2007) 3]

#### Session 1 – Progress of European cooperation

##### 1. Elements of information

- Implementation of article 10, para. 1 of the Convention, concerning the implementation of the Convention
- Follow-up of the Recommendation of the Parliamentary Assembly concerning landscape  
[Document for information: T-FLOR (2007) 4]
- Conclusions of the Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention  
[Document for information : T-FLOR (2007) 5]

– “*Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas*” (article 5, d. of the Convention), 16-17 June 2005, Cork, Ireland  
– “*Landscape and society*” (preamble to the Convention), 11-12 May 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia,  
– “*Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice*” (article 6 of the Convention, C, D, E), 28-29 September 2006, Girona, Spain,

- Conclusions of the National Seminars on the European Landscape Convention  
[Document for information : T-FLOR (2007) 6]

– Seminar on “*Spatial planning and landscape*”, Moscow, Russian Federation, 26-27 April 2004,  
– Seminar on “*Sustainable spatial development and the European Landscape Convention*”, Tulcea, Romania, 6-7 May 2004  
– Seminar on “*The contribution of Albania to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*”, Tirana, Albania, 15-16 December 2005

- Publications

– “*Landscape and sustainable development; challenges of the European Landscape Convention*”, Editions du Conseil de l’Europe, 2006  
– “*Landscape through literature*”, *Naturopa/Culturoropa*, n° 103, 2005 (special issue, European Landscape Convention)  
– Proceedings of the Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention  
– Proceedings of the National Seminars on the European Landscape Convention

- European Landscape Convention Website

12.30-14.30 *Lunch*

14.30-16.30

**2. Presentation of the national and regional initiatives aimed at the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Chapter III, Articles 7, 8, 9)**

*[Document for information: T-FLOR (2007) 7 – Synoptic presentation of the status of landscape policies pursued by the member States of the Council of Europe]*

*[Document for information: T-FLOR (2007) 13 - Statements]*

Communications of the participant State delegations.

16.00-16.30 *Break*

16.30-18.00

**3. Presentation of activities of governmental and non-governmental organisations dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention**

*[Document for information: T-FLOR (2007) 13 - Statements]*

Communications by delegations of governmental and non-governmental organisations.

18.00-19.30 *Official Reception in the Restaurant Bleu of the Palais de l'Europe*

**FRIDAY 23 MARCH 2007**

9.00-10.30

**Session 2 – New instruments of implementation of the Convention**

**1. Draft document: “Guidance for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”**

*[Document for discussion: T-FLOR (2007) 8]*

10.30-11.00 *Break*

11.00-12.30

**2. Integration of the landscape into national policies**

– Landscape, towns and suburban and peri-urban areas

*[Document for information: T-FLOR (2007) 9]*

– Landscape and transport infrastructures: roads

*[Document for information: T-FLOR (2007) 10]*

12.30-14.30 *Lunch*

14.30-15.30

**3. Draft rules of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (article 11 of the Convention) – Discussion about the document to submit to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe**

*[Document for discussion: T-FLOR (2007) 11]*

15.30-16.00 *Break*

16.00-17.00

**4. Exchange of views about the Programme of activities for 2007**

*[Document for discussion: T-FLOR (2007) 12]*

**5. Other business**

***Closing session***

*17.00-17.30*

**Conclusions of the Conference and follow-up of the activities**

by the Chair of the conference

**Closing of the Conference**

by the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe

## APPENDIX 7

### REPLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS ON 18 JANUARY 2007,

*at the 984<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies, to Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1752 (2006) on the conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe (CM/Del/Dec(2007)984 22 January 2007)*

#### *Ministers' Deputies*

#### **Decisions**

**CM/Del/Dec(2007)984** 22 January 2007

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#### **984th meeting, 17 and 18 January 2007**

Decisions adopted

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*984th meeting – 17 and 18 January 2007*

#### ***Item 7.3***

**Conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe –  
Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1752 (2006)**  
(REC\_1752 (2006) and CM/AS(2006)Rec1752 prov)

#### *Decision*

The Deputies adopted the reply to Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1752 (2006) on the conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe, as it appears at Appendix 25 to the present volume of Decisions.<sup>1</sup>

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#### **Appendix 25**

(Item 7.3)

#### **Reply to Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1752 (2006) on the conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 18 January 2007  
at the 984th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

1. The Committee of Ministers has noted with interest Recommendation 1752 (2006) on the conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe and thanks the Parliamentary Assembly for having referred to Recommendation Rec(2002)1 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guiding principles for sustainable spatial development of the European continent.

2. Like the Assembly, the Committee of Ministers attaches great importance to the Council of Europe's legal instruments relating to the protection and management of the natural and cultural heritage, and to regional/spatial planning. It therefore encourages member States that have not yet done so to consider

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<sup>1</sup> See also document CM/AS(2007)Rec1752 final.

signing and/or ratifying the European Landscape Convention, in order to create an extensive pan-European area of landscape protection, management and planning.

3. In the view of the Committee of Ministers, the European Conference of Ministers Responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT), to which the Assembly so rightly refers, is a very useful body for the exchange and co-ordination of common objectives and strategies in the field of spatial development throughout Europe. For this reason, it has forwarded Recommendation 1752 (2006) to the Committee of Senior Officials of the European Conference of Ministers Responsible for Regional Planning (CSO-CEMAT), requesting its comments on the strategic measures advocated by the Assembly. It has also forwarded the recommendation to the other committees responsible for implementing the European Landscape Convention, ie the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage (CDPAT) and the Committee for the Activities of the Council of Europe in the field of Biological and Landscape Diversity (CO-DBP).

4. In response, the above committees have forwarded to the Committee of Ministers a substantive and detailed opinion, appended to this reply.

5. The Committee of Ministers wishes to inform the Assembly, with reference to its recommendations, that in the light of the budgetary context it is undertaking an in-depth discussion on refocusing the Council of Europe's activities in the field of sustainable development and the environment. The Assembly's observations and any comments from the relevant committees will be of considerable value in deciding on the way forward in this field.

*Appendix to the reply*

**Comments of the Committees of Experts in charge of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:**

- *the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage (CDPAT)*
- *the Committee for the Activities of the Council of Europe in the field of Biological and Landscape Diversity (CO-DBP)*
- *the Committee of Senior Officials of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning (CSO-CEMAT)*

In accordance with Article 10 of the European Landscape Convention and the decisions adopted at the 718th meeting on 19 July 2000 and the 840th meeting on 28 May 2003 of the Committee of Ministers (CM/Del/Dec(2000)718 and CM/Del/Dec(2003)840), the Committees of Experts responsible for implementation of the European Landscape Convention, namely the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage (CDPAT), the Committee for the Activities of the Council of Europe in the field of Biological and Landscape Diversity (CO-DBP) and the Committee of Senior Officials of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning and Landscape, thanked the Parliamentary Assembly for adopting Recommendation 1752 (2006) on conservation and use of the landscape potential of Europe.

Concerning the preamble of the recommendation, the Committees considered notably that it should be necessary: at paragraph 2, to refer to the Granada and Valetta Conventions; at paragraph 8, to mention the several Committees of Experts and to deal with management and planning as well as protection; at paragraph 9, to take into consideration the respective definitions of landscape and biodiversity; and, at paragraph 10, to take into consideration the conclusions of the current activities.

They pronounced on the following paragraphs as recommended to the Committee of Ministers by the Parliamentary Assembly, and decided to transmit them to the Committee of Ministers.

*11.1 ask the governments of member States to sign and/or ratify the European Landscape Convention if they have not already done so and, if necessary, ensure that it is transposed into existing legislation and implemented:*

The Committees noted that at 23 November 2006, 26 States had ratified the Convention – Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway,

Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom – and that seven further States had signed it – Azerbaijan, Greece, Hungary, Malta, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

They therefore noted the firm commitment already being shown by many Council of Europe member states to the European Landscape Convention, and invited those governments which had not yet done so to sign or ratify the Convention. Moreover, they encourage them to develop landscape policies in accordance with the philosophy of the European Landscape Convention. They considered notably essential to promote specific measures concerning awareness-raising of the population, education and training.

*11.2 set up Europe-wide programme to establish a “pan-European system of national socio-natural landscapes as a genuine mechanism for sustainable development”:*

The Committees noted that according to Article 2 of the Convention the latter “applies to the entire territory of the Parties” to the extent that, as stated in the Preamble, the landscape was an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas. This meant that the Convention covered natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It included land, inland water and marine areas. It applied not only to landscapes that could be considered outstanding but also to everyday and degraded areas.

While bearing in mind that the Convention covered the entire territory, the Committees concluded that natural, cultural, rural, urban and peri-urban networks could make a useful contribution to the implementation of the Convention as they favour exchange of information and the definition of common policies. Therefore, they encouraged these developments and decided to promote the creation of landscape networks under the Convention work programme.

*11.3 set up a pan-European international landscape centre:*

The Committees noted that with reference to the provisions of the European Landscape Convention several landscape observatories, centres and institutes were beginning to emerge throughout Europe. They encouraged this development and the setting-up of local, regional, national and international landscape centres.

They advocated continuing to network the bodies in question under the work programme of the European Landscape Convention of the DG IV of the Council of Europe, as publicised on the Council of Europe website on the Convention, <http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>, under the heading “Network of partners of the European Landscape Convention”.

*11.4 ask the governments of member States to use all the financial, scientific and technical resources at their disposal to preserve the cultural and natural heritage and ensure that it is provided for in national and European sustainable development programmes:*

The Committees agreed that in accordance with the Warsaw Declaration and Action Plan adopted on 17 May 2005 at the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the member States of the Council of Europe it was vital to promote sustainable development and cultural diversity. The Heads of State and Government had undertaken to improve the quality of life of citizens, adding that “the Council of Europe shall ..., on the basis of the existing instruments, further develop and support integrated policies in the fields of environment, landscape (and) spatial planning ... in a sustainable development perspective”.

The Committees recalled that the Council of Europe member States signatory to the European Landscape Convention declared in the Preamble to the Convention that they were “concerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment”, and noted that “the landscape has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields” and “constitutes a resource favourable to economic activity and whose protection, management and planning can contribute to job creation”. They also stressed that “the landscape contributes to the formation of local cultures and that it is a basic component of the European natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human

well-being and consolidation of the European identity”.

The Committees therefore acknowledged the importance of using all available financial, scientific and technical resources to protect that cultural and natural heritage and ensure that it was provided for in national and European sustainable development programmes.

*11.5 ask member States to make due provision in their regional/spatial planning policies for landscape measures, prudent management of urban ecosystems, effective rural development schemes, the preservation of particularly vulnerable landscapes, particularly in mountain and coastal regions and on islands, and the development of transfrontier co-operation:*

The Committees recalled that under the terms of the European Landscape Convention “each Party undertakes to integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape”. This was why they considered it vital to make due provision in regional/spatial planning policies for landscape measures, prudent management of urban ecosystems, effective rural development schemes, the preservation of particularly vulnerable landscapes, particularly in mountain and coastal regions and on islands, and the development of transfrontier co-operation. They therefore expressed the wish that the work programme of the European Landscape Convention should continue to pursue these goals.

*11.6 instruct the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT), in conjunction with the Committee for the Activities of the Council of Europe in the field of Biological and Landscape Diversity and the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage, to:*

The Committees recalled that Article 10 of the European Landscape Convention states that “existing competent committees of experts set up under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe shall be designated by the Committee of Ministers ... to be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Convention”. The European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT) (cf. document T-FLO(2004)16) should be involved in the monitoring mechanism of the European Landscape Convention, as it will be put into place by the Committee of Ministers depending on the structure of the steering committees.

*11.6.1 organise a pan-European landscape forum or hold an international landscape congress to enable member States to share their experiences in such areas as landscape legislation and give thought to a European landscape policy:*

The Committees thanked the Parliamentary Assembly for its proposal, and observed that the “meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”, which had been going on since 2002, were intended, despite their different headings, to serve as a forum for encounters among landscape operators at the pan-European level in order to pool the experiences of member States. For instance, the 3rd meeting of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention had taken place in Cork on 16 and 17 June 2004 on the subject of “Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas”, the 4th in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 11 and 12 May 2006 on the theme of “Landscape and society”, the 5th would be held in Girona, Spain, on 28 and 29 September 2006 on “Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”, and the 6th in Sibiu, Romania, in 2007 on the theme of “Rural heritage and landscape” as part of “Sibiu, European Capital of Culture Year”.

*11.6.2 adopt an integrated pan-European system of landscape typology and classification:*

The Committees will include this item on the agenda of their subsequent meeting. However, the complexity and diversity of European landscape may not be suitable to an integrated and might make it difficult for individual member States to have their own tailor-made approach best suited to their individual needs. An analysis must be also made on the aims of the classification, criteria and methods used.

*11.6.3 prepare model framework legislation on the landscape for use by Council of Europe member States:*

The Committees recalled that the programme of the joint meeting of the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage (CDPAT) and the Committee for the Activities of the Council of Europe in the field of Biological and Landscape Diversity (CO-DBP), which had taken place in Strasbourg on 18 June 2004, provided for holding a working group meeting on a model landscape law. They noted that work was already proceeding on this text, and the results should be presented in due course, in the appropriate framework.

Taking into consideration the multiplicity and diversity of landscapes, the Committees considered useful to deal, in the working programme of the European Landscape Convention, with questions common to the different States.

## **APPENDIX 8**

### **CONCLUSIONS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

1. Conclusions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas”, 16-17 June 2005, Cork, Ireland
2. Conclusions of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape and society”, 11-12 May 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia
3. Conclusions of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”, 28-29 September 2006, Girona, Spain

**1. Conclusions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas”, 16-17 June 2005, Cork, Ireland**

*by Mr Diedrich BRUNS, Expert of the Council of Europe*

1. During this meeting, suburban, peri-urban, and other types of urban landscapes have been described. They may exist in many different forms, but are always made up of the same ingredients. It was suggested to simplify definitions and, for practical purposes, use the term “Urban Landscapes”.

2. The series of “Workshops for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention” have been successful in identify a number of issues relevant to “Urban Landscapes”, and it was found that “Urban Landscapes” provide many challenges. During this Third Meeting of the Workshops in Cork, it was concluded that, while problems will continue to be identified, it is equally important to look for solutions, and to take action. These should include policies relevant to “Urban Landscapes”, and also best practice examples.

3. From the presentations and discussions, it was concluded that “Urban Landscapes” are characterised by dynamic and complex processes. As these processes result not only from natural forces but largely from inputs made by people, it would seem to be important to deepen the involvement of stakeholders (“all interested parties”). Important prerequisites for “deep involvement” are democratic processes, improved communications, general and specific education, and a widening of the public dialogue on landscape. In doing so, “Urban Landscapes” should be considered with regards to identity of place, with regards to changing population, to mobility, to different cultures, and others.

4. These tasks require holistic and, at the same time, interdisciplinary approaches. It was recommended to build trans-sectoral (“horizontal”) partnerships, and to continue to strengthen sectoral ones (“vertical” partnerships). In presentations and discussions, it was found that, although participants of the meeting may come from different countries and different fields, all appear to have identified similar problems, formulate similar questions, and are looking for relevant solutions. It was suggested, therefore, to continue to build the international co-operation that has been formed on the basis of the European Landscape Convention, and to use this basis for an “Urban Landscape Network”.

5. As co-operation regarding the European Landscape Convention is growing, and the envisioned “Urban Landscape Network” is strengthened, it seems to be recommendable to connect the European Landscape Convention, and especially activities relevant to Urban Landscapes, with other important guidances, for example the European Urban Charter.

6. During presentations and discussions it was found that, as landscapes are changing, perceptions of landscapes are changing as well. It was concluded that it seems to be important to monitor landscape change, and also to monitor how landscape appreciation changes. This monitoring may be one of the tasks of future Workshops, and of a group that would provide (methodological) guidance and consistency.

7. It was suggested that it would be important to have a special “Landscape Committee”. This committee would provide the guidance and consistency needed, not only for monitoring landscape, but also for reporting on the “State of the Landscape” in Europe, and for guidance on co-operation with regards to landscape across Europe (including assessments of public policies, of standards, landscape research, education, planning, etc.).

8. It was observed that, in order to continue to send the “Landscape Message” outside, several steps should be taken. These are, among others, to:

- integrate landscape into general and sectoral policy and plans; and to
- bring landscape to the public, including all cultural groups, age groups...

In order to disseminate results of this and other workshops, it was suggested to implement the European Landscape Convention not only in national and regional policies, and plans, but to bring it directly to neighbourhoods, and to individual people. This would also require, among other activities, the involvement of communities who are managing landscape change.

### **From policy to practical action**

- There are substantial measures in place at the different levels of planning and decision making; it would appear to be advisable that all levels be better connected (from region to project).
- Public policies on landscape would appear to benefit from greater attention, articulation, and also from good examples of “best practice”.
- Urban landscapes are where more and more people live. They are the places where the best opportunities for public participation exist. These opportunities should be taken.

### **Forming an Urban Landscape Network**

- There appears to be a need for greater integration, vertically and horizontally, between all who have a stake in and responsibilities for landscape.
- It appears to be advisable to set up a “Landscape Committee” that would co-ordinate activities, including those of an Urban Landscape Network, landscape research, landscape monitoring, etc.
- Landscape related learning and education appears to need attention, including the attention to the Urban Landscape Network, as people educate each other about their landscape, but also about participative and democratic processes (sophisticated “expert” knowledge, accessible knowledge).

## **2. Conclusions of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape and society”, 11-12 May 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia**

*by Mr Christian MEYER, Expert of the Council of Europe*

We have now completed a fine exercise in collective intellectual production. My contribution is to provide an overview of these two days of reflection and pooling of experience, and to propose avenues for the ongoing implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

The numerous statements offered novel perceptions and brought up to date the outstanding questions concerning the methods and approaches being applied to implement the European Landscape Convention. In many cases, the questions raised by some speakers are partially answered by the comments of others.

Here are the main areas of enquiry that emerge from the discussions:

### **1. Perception of landscape**

“Beauty is in the eye of the beholder”. This saying quoted by Maria José Festas should finally convince us that landscape quality has no absolute. The Convention does not concentrate entirely on exceptional landscapes.

The scrutiny of landscape via people’s perception of it has taught us that landscape embodies the values of the individuals and the society who not only perceive it but also conceive, develop and manage it. It can even become the symbol of a nation, as Ms Ana Kučan demonstrated.

This perception-oriented approach makes us aware that, like everything cultural, the beauty of a landscape is an essential ingredient for the harmonious development of societies.

### **2. Choice of tools and methods for implementing the European Landscape Convention**

Three levels of current actions must firstly be distinguished: the process of signature and ratification of the Convention by Council of Europe member States; transcription of the Convention into the national laws and regulations; also, the inclusion of the Convention’s values in national policies.

These actions progress hand in hand but cannot rely on the same instruments and methods:

- the first action depends on a national political decision;
- the second action is founded on the institutional and legal instruments of the state concerned;
- the third action also involves establishing common values and guidelines. These values are consolidated by the comments and queries raised during the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

In the fields of diagnoses and analyses of territories and scientifically observable landscape components, the tools and methods are well developed. But to implement the Convention, it is not enough to perform analyses and to apply legal constraints for protecting landscapes; also, and most importantly, one must have projects to promote. Indeed, where methods are concerned, the Convention introduces the project-based approach. Collecting scientific data, for a definite purpose of course, is useful in assessing a territory.

Under the project-based approach, the intentions and the objectives to be attained are first determined, before analysing the context. The data collected then serve as tools for setting up the project. This involves the practical application of the values conveyed by the Convention. Only when the terms of the project are stated should the legal rules be laid down. Rules, especially if prohibitive, cannot make a project. Conversely, a reasoned project may need a legal framework to be legitimately authoritative.

Consequently, this is where much work has to be done on methodological development to accomplish the implementation of the Convention in a practical way. The project-based approach requires a prior forecasting

procedure to ascertain the intentions of the authorities who commission projects – generally governments and public or semi-public entities.

Proper definition of project objectives requires a change of outlook, taking account of the needs of the land and the inhabitants. The evolution of this environment, and the new aspirations of society, must also be appreciated – really a matter of “listening to the grass grow”.

### **3. Thinking about “wherefores” and “wherewithal” in that order**

Besides choosing tools and methods, the “wherefores” or objectives pursued have to be considered before devising sophisticated and superabundant tools as the “wherewithal”.

Mr Carl Steinitz puts this question: “We want to preserve and protect, but against whom, against what? The technique is no longer a problem today, but before collecting data let us enquire, for the sake of our research priorities, what information we seek. It is better to have 65% of data delivered on time than 70% too late”.

Some presentations showed that the application of the ideas in the Convention must occur at various levels: national, regional and local. Others pointed out the importance of interdepartmental co-operation. To bring a quality European landscape into being, we must in fact alter our mindset and introduce an approach that accommodates sustainable development concerns – as many speakers asserted, with demonstrations of how they put this into practice:

– Mr Alberto Clémenti in particular, suggests a change of stance in order to lend more effectiveness to landscape protection. He objects to separate management of landscape, and thinks we should move towards a definition of general spatial planning objectives. For that purpose, he seeks to wed town planning with landscape and create what he calls “the urban development of landscape”. What must also change, he thinks, is the mode of governance: the different levels of landscape management need to be blended, and the population frankly informed by elaborating the urban development plans in an understandable medium of expression (video for example).

– Mr Nicolas Sanaa too, in his presentation of the French regional nature parks, demonstrated that their functions – protection and management of the natural, cultural and landscape heritage, spatial planning, economic and social development, experimentation and receiving, educating and informing the public – were goals of sustainable development well before its time, having been established in 1967. In fact a park’s organisation, relying on local players, revolves round a concerted project founded on two keywords: protection and enhancement. The State classifies the regional nature park for a term of twelve years by decree. After an appraisal, the classification can be renewed on submission of a new scheme. This area-based scheme is sealed by a charter, drawn up by a local body in consultation with the players concerned. The municipalities and their residents involved in the process benefit from the offerings of a pleasant residential setting, preserved landscapes, and improvements and services meeting their expectations. The force of the charter and the ability to protect landscapes without imposing penalties stem chiefly from the fact that the partners are the best guarantors of its application, having realised what is at stake on a wider plane.

Mr Sanaa thus described the impression which he had gained on discovering the European Landscape Convention – that it was written for these parks. Our impression is rather that the approach of working from the project and founding its implementation on the involvement of the players from the earliest stages was tried out in order to be the inspiration of this new stance allowing the European Landscape Convention to be implemented bearing in mind the concerns of sustainable development.

### **4. The role of the players**

As we found, the mindset has to change in order that the implementation of the Convention may be effective at a further stage than that of binding rules. This new mindset already motivates many experts and delegates, but all players concerned must evolve likewise.

Production of quality landscapes is a matter for everybody or at least for a large number of players: the authorities, experts, planners, the population concerned. Hitherto, the instructions have often come from above – from the European level – and are transposed into national law under the authority of the state entities. Their actual implementation is left to the

initiative of the local tier and it is stipulated that residents should be informed, made to appreciate the landscapes around them so that the preservation decided at a higher level receives their support or at least approval.

This stance has nevertheless shown its limitations. Moreover, the existence of the workshops for monitoring the implementation of the Convention shows that the signature of an international convention does not suffice for it to be applied. The transcription of the rules into national law is a legal convenience.

The national bodies must therefore take account of the realities on the ground, genuinely and pragmatically. The local tier is indeed very often underestimated and called upon merely as a “lower” level, only fit for executing the rules framed at the national level. But this is the level where most projects are devised, and above all where democracy is practiced, as Ms Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons reminds us by saying that an interest should be taken in the territorial dimension of human rights.

So that the Convention’s implementation may accommodate sustainable development concerns, and especially the dimension of grassroots democracy, all players have a role to perform. “The population has no need to be educated”, as Felice Spingola points out, “this directive attitude must be discarded, drawing instead on the ground truth as known to the population, for they are the true experts on their landscape!”

Which role should the professionals assume, then? Facilitators serving the public interest. They know about scientific analysis, they are called upon to define and perform actions, they must also mainstream the contexts and the environment into those actions. It is therefore for them to produce a project with all these ingredients. This alchemy is more germane to art than to scientific demonstration, but that is the type of professionals we need.

Awareness-raising should perhaps be aimed more at the politicians. The population, the associations are often quicker to appreciate the qualitative issues, and are responsive and well-informed. The political leaders in touch with them then have a sense of being supported in upholding innovative ideas of benefit to society at large.

The civil servants working for the politicians must supply them with the arguments for asserting that beauty, a pleasant setting enabling a society to develop harmoniously and peaceably, are fundamental. What nobler calling is there for a politician?

## **5. The strategic positioning of the approach**

The landscape’s economic value is recognised. But why do the other economic and political spheres not take an interest in it? In fact, this begs the question, “Why should they?” The financial stake is so small and, as people say in Slovenia, “No money, no music.”. The 7 billion Euro announced over 5 years under the Interreg programmes are insignificant beside the budgets devoted to infrastructures for example. And landscape is built above all on perfectly real developments, not fabricated from studies!

## **6. Proposals**

It rests with the Council of Europe policy-makers to issue recommendations to the partners. As an expert, my role is purely to make practical proposals to redirect the action of implementing the Convention according to the change of stance expressed during the current meeting:

– first of all I suggest producing a practical guide to help design projects mainstreaming the sustainable development approach. It should not deal with analyses but rather project-based approaches that speak a pragmatic language about choosing the appropriate scales, the partnerships employed, the way to bring a project into being with the various players, the forecasting methodology, and the public consultation technique. The guide should be written by a project team made up of persons representative of civil society. It would be advisable to work from experiences gathered in the partner countries or elsewhere.

The target audiences are the arbiters of what can be called the “collective volition”: elected representatives, representatives of government departments, local government and regional leaders, heads of associations, and professionals who think out and create our landscapes. It would also be useful to make this practical guide known to the other European agencies, perhaps by means of a communication operation;

- as a further step, I suggest that official grants (European Union, States, regions) in all areas with an impact on our landscapes be made subject to the condition of incorporating European Landscape Convention objectives;
- it is necessary moreover to support financially those projects which mainstream the sustainable development approach, area-based forecasting, and monitoring aimed at high-quality implementation. On the accounting side, these grants should be made under the head of operational, not capital, expenditure;
- support should also be given to training courses introducing sustainable development, project technique and forecasting into the crafts of spatial design and management;
- finally, prominence should be given to local initiatives, a level at which there are more ideas and inventions than at global level;
- I propose in conclusion to amplify the Johannesburg slogan “Think globally, act locally”.

### **3. Conclusions of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”, 28-29 September 2006, Girona, Spain**

*by Mr Florencio ZOIDO, Expert of the Council of Europe*

#### **1. Acknowledgements**

– The V Meeting attendees of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention thank the organising institutions – European Council, Spanish Government, Catalonia Generalitat (Regional Government) and the Girona Town Council – for the work carried out and for their attention during the meeting was held. They would specifically like to acknowledge Ms Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, responsible for the European Council Territory and Landscape Planning Division, Ms Margarita Ortega Delgado, assessor of the General Secretariat for Territory and Landscape of the Ministry for the Environment, Mr Joan Ganyet i Solé, General director of Architecture and Landscape of the Department of Territorial Policy and Public Works, R. Joan Nogué i Font, director of the Observatory of Landscape of Catalunya, and Ms Ana Pagáns i Gruartmoner, mayoress of Girona.

– They would also like to acknowledge the cooperation and participation of all readers and speakers, all those who have taken part and enriched the debates with their thoughts and opinions, to the translators for their strenuous dedication to be able to transmit all the ideas put forward in English, French, Spanish and Catalanian, and to the all the employees that with their efficient work they have made this meeting possible and pleasant.

#### **2. General comments**

– In general, and related to the workshops previously held (Strasbourg, Cork, Ljubljana) the papers, communications and debates in Girona highlight the following facts:

- the high level of acceptance, development and implementation of the European Landscape Convention at the various political levels (national, regional and local);
- in the scientific scope, the increase in the educational and researching entities considering the landscape outstanding, highlighting the intensity and enthusiasm with which the topic is tackled and to which profound natural and cultural meanings are attributed;
- this greater scientific attention given to the landscape and the progresses in its knowledge are making of a matter, which was until very recently considered ambiguous, reach a higher conceptual precision and share, in a greater extent, a common scientific language;
- on the other hand, the convergence of a greater political and scientific dedication is giving rise to new action dynamics, also made up by administrative and regulatory reasons, allowing going from the theory to the practice; the landscape is becoming in a large part of Europe in a fact and useful concept for the regulation of the territory;
- nevertheless, the European landscape richness and diversity does not allow simple formulas for its treatment. The intervention in the European landscapes, both public and private, should be based on a deep and detailed knowledge of each one of them.

#### **3. Identification, characterisation and qualification of the European landscapes**

– Currently there is widespread activity given to the identification of landscapes at a national, regional and local level in most parts of Europe. Very valuable and useful atlas, maps, databases, catalogues and indicating systems are being carried out.

– For the correct characterisation of the European landscapes it is still necessary the knowledge on the natural principles of the landscapes and the historical processes on which they are based on continue to be being essential. This knowledge should include the regional and local scales. Completing said detailed study task in such basic area scales will still require considerable scientific efforts. The research of the European landscapes demands for greater dedication of human and economic resources.

- In the knowledge of the European landscapes the analysis, explanation and valuation of their dynamics are worthy of a growing interest. This aspect needs greater conceptual, methodological developments and specific studies, as the landscapes are, in their essence, changing realities, active systems of relationships that change constantly.
- The knowledge of the landscapes as dynamic realities requires the study of the natural, social and economic processes that explain them, which is essential to be a useful concept in the regulation of the territory. The consideration of the landscape should move from the protectionist concept that it is still present, to the necessary landscape management and regulation of the common, daily or even degraded areas.
- As important as the identification and characterisation of the European landscapes is the qualification of the same, an aspect that should never be mistaken for the above concepts. The qualification of the landscapes comes essentially from their social perception and involves the participation of the general public, in its widest sense, including the scientific and artistic acknowledgement of their values of uniqueness and excellence.
- The qualification of the European landscapes requires the application and the development of methods and procedures able to reveal shared and explicit social values. These said methods require the carrying out of detailed field work, consultation and assessment, as well as the greater efforts for the creation of participation and expression scopes of all the social agents.
- At the same time, for the qualification of the European landscapes it is necessary to be aware of the fact that the attributed significance is not identical for the different social groups and that the attributed values evolve constantly. Amongst these considerations, the respect for both individual and collective creative actions should also be included.

#### **4. Landscape qualification and social participation objectives**

- The Florence Convention lays down as one of its most important precepts (article 6) the definition of quality objectives for each identified landscape. This decision has not been sufficiently developed in any of its different dimensions, neither conceptual, procedural or in its implementation. For most of the European territories neither the debate nor the necessary agreement on their landscape quality objectives has taken place.
- At each political level, according to the current legal regulation, the responsible authorities should formulate landscape quality objectives by means of public consultation and participation; but so far, the rules clearly specifying to which authority it corresponds, or on which criteria the authorities should act, or how the formulated landscape quality objectives are validated, are not being sufficiently developed.
- For the definition and approval of the landscape quality objectives it is to include all the know-how, all the knowledge on the territory and on the landscapes. It is also necessary to establish the procedural sequence to validate the landscape quality objectives from an initial social participation and its scientific and regulation verification, to its political implementation in planning and management tools.

#### **5. Development of landscape policies**

- Since the coming into force of the European Landscape Convention the number of countries ratifying the same has increased. At this moment of time the Parties assuming the new international are clearly in a majority agreement, in terms of as number of countries concerned, the population and territory in a pan-European scale and the communitarian political involved level.
- The European Union has included the landscape in various documents of analysis or programmes of great interest (Dobris Report, European Territorial Strategy) but its consideration as a whole is still partial (protected landscapes, cultural landscapes). In this political scope with such important impacts in all Europe, and even at a global scale, there should be a reflection and express comments on the landscape as understood by the Florence Convention. The final aim will be and real to achieve greater and more real landscape benefits from communitarian actions such as the agricultural policy or that of the protection of the nature.

- For most of the signing States of the Florence Convention changes and institutional, regulatory and planning adaptations are taking place, allowing the conceptual requirements and objectives of the new international agreement to rise up. It is important to demand that in these adaptation processes not only a wider understanding of the landscape should be understood, but also that the change from protection to management and regulation criteria should also take place. This is established as the main challenge in the formulation of landscape policies.
- It is also mostly significant the increasing entailment of landscape and territorial regulation policies. The physical and spatial convergence of the subjects of attention, and the synergies between both public actions, are showing that spatial planning can be the adequate tool for landscape policies, whose principles can also arise from other action scopes and political objectives related to this planning (welfare, sustainability, general public, economic efficiency, etc.).
- The increase in the attention being paid to the landscape from other cross and sectorial policies is also noticeable, mainly from the environmental protection of nature conservation and cultural heritage policies, but also from the water, infrastructures, agriculture and tourism policies, amongst others. In all of them, a greater consideration of the landscape can carry out two important functions: set out a general coherent framework for the planning tools or for specific actions, and contribute to the qualification or final re-qualification of the action areas.
- During this fifth Workshop the growing interest in landscape from the regional and local public entities has been very clearly shown. Without their participation, the landscape policies would end up being just regulations or limited to simple declarations of principles. The creation and possible development of the European Network of Local and Regional Entities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (RECEP) is considered a very powerful tool for action.
- The creation of complex reflection and action systems are also seen as essential tools for the carrying out of landscape policies. In this respect we can highlight the experience carried out in Catalonia with the creation of the Landscape Observatory –created under the agreement between the regional administration and numerous public or general public entities- and its connection with the Regional Ministry for Territorial Policy and Public Works, by means of the General Directorate of Architecture and Landscape.

## **6. Landscape policies in Spain**

- In Spain changes are being extremely rapid in different landscapes (coastal, metropolitan, intensive agriculture areas, in high mountain areas with new recreational uses, uninhabited rural areas, etc.). The present situation of economic and consumption growth, together with the mobility of people and goods, require an answer from the public sector, which up to the present time has not been sufficient.
- It is essential to ratify, as soon as possible, the European Landscape Convention, as Spain was one of the initial signing parts in Florence in October 2000. The coherence with this initial commitment and the rapid evolution of the Spanish landscapes (on many occasions with a clear decrease in its environmental and scenic quality) requires express action with sufficient political repercussion in order to reverse the current negative tendencies.
- The ratification of the European Landscape Convention should give way to the development of tools guaranteeing the implementation of the same throughout the entire Spanish territory, as well as the development of recognisable landscape policies guaranteeing basic aspects, such as favouring the existence of quality life areas in rural and urban areas, the protection of singular landscapes, the existence of appropriate tools for trans-border and bordering landscapes, amongst other possible action lines applicable to Spain.
- The actions of the Autonomous Communities regarding landscapes find a valuable starting point in the pioneering attitudes of Catalonia and of the Valencian Community showing influencing effects on others. It will be of enormous help institution and maintenance inter-institutional events (sector committees, technical meetings, on-line forums...) that allow the exchange of information and experiences.

## 7. The future of European landscapes

- The future of many of the European landscapes starts in the past. Valuable landscapes have been transmitted by those living before us and that should be handed down to the future generations. The present landscapes include valuable answers and solutions for the current management with great vision.
- The advances that are being carried out in the knowledge and in the landscape policies have not yet managed to produce the inflection point in which the negative tendencies presented by most European landscapes are reverted. It is necessary to know the real consequences of this situation with sufficient detail, to know which is the real balance between the growing concern on the landscape by the European societies and the progressive and constant degradation of many of them. In this paradoxical situation it is essential to increase all types of resources and intensify the actions allowing an appropriate protection, management and regulation of the European landscapes.
- For the maintenance and improvement of the European landscapes a greater social participation in all the political levels and decision scopes is required. To consolidate this social implication, the knowledge and the transmission of the landscape values should be reinforced in the educational system, specifically in the more basic training levels and general to the population. The training of the landscape specialists and the qualification of the public civil servants responsible for the regulation of the actions with landscape influence is of similar importance.
- The promotion of the innovation and creativity in creating new landscapes and the management of the existing ones should also be highlighted. The new approaches and searches, which some of which were present in this Workshop (landscape dynamics, movement landscapes, fractal landscapes...), as well as the new artistic languages should be encouraged in order to maintain the deepest and transcendental sense that the societies attribute to the landscapes.
- Finally, in this meeting on landscapes, held in Catalonia, is necessary to recall the pioneering task of the expert in territory and landscape Nicolás María Rubió Tudurí (1891-1981) who in his book *Del paraíso al jardín latino* (From *Paradise to the Latin garden*, 1953) showed us that from the highest aspirations (the paradise), the most appropriate and usual practices are born, (the practical quality common landscapes) and that, in order to follow this path, the opposite route is a great deal more difficult and infrequent.

## **APPENDIX 9**

### **CONCLUSIONS OF THE NATIONAL SEMINARS ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

1. Declaration adopted by the participants of the Information Seminar on “Spatial planning and landscape”, Moscow, Russian Federation, 26-27 April 2004
2. “Declaration of Tulcea” of the Information Seminar on “Sustainable spatial development and the European Landscape Convention”, Tulcea, Romania, 6-7 May 2004
3. Conclusions of the Seminar on “The contribution of Albania to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”, Tirana, Albania, 15-16 December 2005

**1. Declaration adopted by the participants of the Information Seminar on “Spatial planning and landscape”, Moscow, Russian Federation, 26-27 April 2004**

The participants at the Seminar on “Spatial Planning and Landscape” held in Moscow on 26 and 27 April 2004 agree that:

1. The principles of the European Landscape Convention help to:
  - identify landscape as an object of planning activity;
  - acknowledge the concept of landscape in Russian legal, geographic, urban-planning, social, environmental and cultural practice;
2. Landscape in a unit of measurement of local, regional and national identity and thus is an object of spatial planning;
3. Sustainable landscape in an essential basis for sustainable development;
4. The European Landscape Convention does not go against the international obligations of Russian Federation (Article 12 of the Convention);
5. The European Landscape Convention is one of the essential components of implementing the Recommendation Rec (2002) 1 of the Committee of Ministers to the Members States on the Guiding Principles for Sustainable development of the European Landscape Continent (GPSSDEC-CEMAT) and put in practice in priority in the « CEMAT Model Regions »;
6. The European Landscape Convention should be understood both as a platform and as an instrument of international cooperation in:
  - the care of the human environment at the continental scale;
  - protection, management and planning of the natural and cultural heritage;
  - recognising the value of the diversity and unique properties of every locality, regions and States.

The participants commit themselves to supporting, signing and ratifying the European Landscape Convention by all European States, including the Russian federation.

## **2. “Declaration of Tulcea” of the Information Seminar on “Sustainable spatial development and the European Landscape Convention”, Tulcea, Romania, 6-7 May 2004**

Over 80 participants from Austria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Morocco, Moldova, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland were gathered at the Information Seminar on “Sustainable Spatial Development and the European Landscape Convention”, which was organised in Tulcea (Romania) on 6 and 7 May 2004 under the auspices of the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Tourism of Romania.

### **With regard to implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Romania,**

taking account of the inestimable value of Romania’s landscapes and the key role they play in the well-being of the population and promoting sustainable tourism that shows due regard for the cultural and natural heritage, the participants:

1. welcome the shared determination shown by the representatives of three Romanian ministries – Transport, Construction and Tourism, Culture and Religion, and Environment and Water Management – to co-operate in implementing the European Landscape Convention, which Romania ratified on 7 November 2002;
2. underline the importance of implementing without delay a national Strategy for the European Landscape Convention, initially geared to:
  - legal recognition of landscape;
  - the establishment and implementation of landscape policies;
  - the establishment of procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities;
  - the integration of landscape into spatial and urban planning and cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape;
  - the incorporation in spatial and urban planning policies of historical, geological and geomorphologic data and the cultural and natural heritage;
3. believe it is necessary:
  - to include the issue of landscape in Romanian education and training programmes and to involve the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth in implementing the European Landscape Convention;
  - to use the media to raise public awareness and launch an information campaign on landscape;
  - to collect examples of best practice that can be followed elsewhere;
4. highlight the importance of promoting both horizontal, interdepartmental and interdisciplinary co-operation and also vertical co-operation between national, regional and local authorities;
5. call for the dissemination among the key players in Romania of the “Guide to the effects of the European Landscape Convention on spatial and town planning” and the “European Rural Heritage Observation Guide – CEMAT”, both of which have been published in Romanian in 2004, and Recommendation Rec (2002) 1 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent (GPSSDEC-CEMAT) to be disseminated among the key players in Romania;
6. call for the organisation of national Workshops on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention involving landscape experts, architects, engineers, geographers, museologists, academics, local authorities and non-governmental organisations, as well as a national Forum of cultural and natural heritage players.

### **With regard to the landscape of the Danube delta,**

the participants:

1. reiterate the importance of the Agreement between the Ministry of Environment and Territorial Planning of the Republic of Moldova, the Ministry of Waters, Forests and Environmental Protection of Romania and the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of Ukraine on the cooperation in the zone of the Danube Delta and Lower River Prut nature-protected areas prepared under the auspices of the Council of Europe and signed in Bucharest on 5 June 2000, which specifically refers to landscape;
2. take note of the current situation in the Danube delta, which, according to the report by UNESCO-MAB mission and the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention, seems to be critical, and call for it to be carefully studied through an impact survey;
3. believe that, as the three countries concerned – Moldova, Romania and Ukraine – have now ratified the European Landscape Convention, Article 9 on transfrontier landscapes should be implemented through a joint programme for enhancing the landscape of the Danube delta.

**With regard to European co-operation,**

the participants hope that international partnerships, studies and projects can be developed under the European Landscape Convention, which is a platform for co-operation.

### **3. Conclusions of the Seminar on “The contribution of Albania to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”, Tirana, Albania, 15-16 December 2005**

*by Mr Thymio PAPAYANNIS, Expert of the Council of Europe.*

*A vision for the future*

#### **Introduction**

The European Landscape Convention – having been ratified by more than 20 States and signed by 12 more – is now a reality in Europe and serious activities have started in many countries for its implementation.

In parallel, the necessary methods and tools are being developed through Seminars in several countries, addressing landscapes of various types and at different scales.

The present Seminar in Tirana is placed within this framework and has a triple aim:

- to transfer knowledge and experience from the rest of Europe to Albanian scientists and decision-makers;
- to assist Albanian authorities and experts in managing their landscapes effectively and with sensitivity;
- to broaden the perspectives of the European Landscape Convention from the experience emerging from this small but highly individual country.

#### **Landscapes in Albania**

As documented by various speakers during the Seminar, landscapes in Albania are characterised by a high degree of diversity, which is due:

- to the variety of habitats and ecosystems found in a relatively limited territory, ranging from harsh high Balkan mountains to soft Mediterranean coastlines, from large freshwater inland lakes to saline lagoons, from traditional urban centres to dispersed rural hamlets;
- to the habitation of the land by human beings since the ancient times and the continuous impact of human activities since millennia;
- to the sensitive geopolitical location of the country as a gate between Western / Central and South-eastern Europe and the Middle East.

This diversity has been strengthened by the actions of great empires, such as the Roman, the Byzantine and the Ottoman, that have left their traces on the historic landscapes of the country through numerous archaeological sites, historical buildings and monuments<sup>2</sup>.

During the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and until the political changes in the early 1990s, the isolation of the country and its slow rates of development left the landscapes in a static state with limited and slow evolution.

#### **Current trends and threats**

After the fall of the Communist regime, rapid change occurred. In a first phase, popular reaction to the past political system led to certain negative actions, such as the cutting of forests and orchards and the destruction of selected building infrastructure and other public facilities.

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<sup>2</sup> Such as the remains of the Ancient Greek and Roman city of Apollonia, visited by the participants on 17 December 2005.

Extreme poverty in certain areas and lack of resources has caused landscape degradation. Thus, the reliance on biomass as a major source of energy has resulted in extensive deforestation and consequent erosion and water management problems.

The main change, however, during the past 15 years has been the massive migration of the population from inland rural areas to the Mediterranean coastline and its urban centres, in search of better employment and living conditions.

This has led to an unregulated building boom – much of it illegal – that has resulted in serious degradation of the natural and anthropogenic environment, and in particular coastal landscapes. It is still continuing, in spite of efforts by the central government and local authorities to curb the building activity and channel it in accordance with land use plans. According to Albanian experts, speaking with courage during the Seminar, the enforcement of legal measures is ineffective and corruption plays at times a negative role.

Thus, traditional urban centres such as Saranda and Vlora have been disfigured and have lost much of their former appeal, while coastal areas suitable for quality tourism development have been severely degraded and their economic potential has been minimised.

The situation has been exacerbated by a low level of understanding of the importance of landscapes in the planning of human activities, both among decision-makers and the wider public.

These negative aspects are the result of profound historical, social and economic developments in Albania that have had a major impact on the life of the country.

### **Rationale for landscape conservation**

The concern for landscapes in a country such as Albania, with rapid rates of development and with credible expectation for membership in the European Union in the medium future, is important for a number of reasons. The main ones are summarised below.

Landscapes are an integral part of the natural and cultural heritage of the country and Albania has every reason to protect them. They also provide an appropriate scale for conservation efforts of the natural and cultural wealth of the country.

Landscapes in a good condition are a necessary asset for quality tourism development and a comparative advantage of Albania in the strong competition that occurs in this sector.

They are also important for maintaining the quality of life of local inhabitants and of Albanians in general. This will become even more important once development efforts have reached a satisfactory level and poverty has been minimised.

### **Necessary measures**

The majority of the speakers and other participants in the Seminar realised that – to safeguard and restore landscape values in Albania – an integrated programme of measures will be necessary during the coming years. Some of the measures discussed are summarised below.

#### *1. Public awareness of landscape values*

First and foremost, the understanding and appreciation of landscapes must be cultivated. The present Seminar is one first step, but considerable additional work will be needed so that both decision-makers and the public develop an understanding and appreciation of the multiple potential of landscapes – cultural, environmental, social and economic.

An area in which the efforts must focus is youth and especially children in schools, in order to secure broad and long-term results.

The arts – such as landscape painting, photography and the cinema – can play an important role in making landscapes better understood and rendering people more sensitive to their values.

## 2. *Scientific and technical measures*

On the scientific level, a typology of Albanian wetlands should notably be established, followed by an inventory that should cover the entire country, starting with the most sensitive coastal areas. During this inventory, the conditions of each landscape should be described and the threats of degradation identified. Such work has been already carried out in a number of European countries (such as The Netherlands and Portugal) and technical assistance could easily be provided to the appropriate Albanian services.

A national strategy for Albanian landscapes should notably then be drafted to prioritise and co-ordinate the necessary activities during the next ten years. In this, the work done in other European countries – such as Slovenia – could provide very useful lessons.

## 3. *Capacity building*

To carry out such scientific and technical work, national expertise in landscape analysis and planning must be developed. This could be done effectively by instituting a special course for landscape experts in the Faculties of Engineering, Urban and Regional Planning and/or Geography of Albanian universities.

In addition, a short but well-planned introductory training course on landscape issues should be organised for central and local government staff responsible for physical planning, nature conservation and tourism development. It should be repeated with appropriate training modules every few years.

## 4. *Administrative and legal measures*

Policies and legal arrangements positive for landscape conservation should be promoted in the framework of the appropriate European Union Directives, which are being gradually adopted in Albania, as well as in accordance with the objectives of the European Landscape Convention.

Such measures should be introduced to physical planning and sustainable development policies and strategies.

More specifically, the designation of protected areas under the V<sup>th</sup> IUCN Category on “Landscape Protection”, should be encouraged. This would be a positive step in safeguarding some of the most significant landscapes and the natural beauty of the country.

Adequate resources, however, for managing effectively these protected areas must be secured.

### **Albania and the European Landscape Convention**

Further to the Tirana Seminar held on 15-16 December 2005, the presence of the European Landscape Convention in Albania should be strengthened. This could be done best through:

- the exchange of experience and know-how with other European countries that are already implementing the Convention, as mentioned above;
- development of activities and projects in Albania that will build capacity and implement in the field pilot demonstration actions.

The Secretariat of the Convention should assist the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration to develop such activities.

In parallel, Albania should be encouraged to sign and ratify the European Landscape Convention in the near future (not later than in 2008). The presence during the start of the Seminar of three Albanian Ministers and their strong statements in favour of the Convention demonstrates that a clear political will is present for rapid accession. Until this formal process is completed, Albania should participate actively in the work of the Convention with an observer status.

## APPENDIX 10

### PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INITIATIVES AIMED AT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

#### STATES WHICH HAVE RATIFIED THE CONVENTION / ETATS AYANT RATIFIÉ LA CONVENTION

##### ARMENIA / ARMENIE

##### BELGIUM / BELGIQUE

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** Mireille Deconinck [mailto:M.deconinck@mrw.wallonie.be]

**Envoyé :** Tuesday 27 March 2007 11:32

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** conférence convention européenne du paysage 22-23/03/2007

Nous félicitons le Conseil de l'Europe pour la tenue de cette Conférence car il est de la plus grande importance pour la mise en œuvre effective de la Convention européenne du Paysage que ce genre d'événement se déroule de manière récurrente.

La complexité institutionnelle de la Belgique n'a nullement empêché la signature le 20 octobre 2000 et la ratification le 28 octobre 2004 de la Convention européenne du paysage. Elle est entrée en vigueur le 1<sup>er</sup> février 2005.

Pour ce qui concerne plus particulièrement sa mise en œuvre en Région wallonne, nous avons déjà eu l'occasion d'en présenter quelques éléments lors de diverses manifestations du Conseil de l'Europe.

Signalons cependant quelques développements récents :

L'article 8 de la Convention prône, au niveau européen, l'assistance mutuelle et l'échange d'informations.

S'inscrivant dans cette optique, la Région wallonne a participé à l'atelier transfrontalier franco-wallon organisé par le Ministère de l'Écologie et du Développement durable de la France. Cet atelier consacré aux atlas de paysages s'est tenu à Monthermé les 15 et 16 septembre 2005.

Un des résultats de cet échange fut l'élaboration d'une « grille de lecture des atlas de paysages » permettant de mettre en évidence les éléments constitutifs d'un tel document.

Confortée par cet atelier transfrontalier, la Région wallonne a décidé de se lancer dans la production d'atlas de paysages et en a confié la réalisation à la Conférence permanente du développement territorial (CPDT).

Cette action s'inscrit dans le respect de l'article 6c de la Convention européenne du Paysage.

Au départ du travail des « Territoires paysagers de Wallonie », l'échelle territoriale choisie est celle des ensembles paysagers. A terme, la Région wallonne sera donc couverte par 13 atlas de paysages.

L'Atlas de paysages se veut un document de connaissance, de référence et de gestion du territoire mais aussi un outil de dialogue avec tous les acteurs du paysage dont la population.

Le premier Atlas qui concerne l'ensemble de l'Entre-Vesdre-et-Meuse, territoire frontalier des Pays-Bas et de l'Allemagne devrait être achevé en 2007.

Enfin, en regard notamment des articles 6 et 9 de la Convention européenne du Paysage, la Région wallonne a développé des partenariats avec les acteurs locaux. En effet, selon l'esprit de la Convention, la matière du paysage ne relève pas uniquement des compétences des administrations nationales ou régionales. Les autorités locales mais aussi les structures associatives doivent être impliquées.

Les fonds structurels européens ont constitué pour certaines de ces structures une opportunité de développer un projet paysage en partenariat avec la Direction générale de l'Aménagement du Territoire, du Logement et du Patrimoine (DGATLP). Deux types de programmes européens sont mis en œuvre : les programmes Interreg et Leader +.

Par définition, les programmes Interreg ont un caractère transfrontalier ce qui répond à une des préoccupations exprimées par la Convention européenne du paysage : la gestion et la mise en valeur des paysages communs à plusieurs États. Ainsi le Contrat de rivière Semois - Semoy développe un partenariat orienté sur la gestion du cours d'eau et de ses abords de chaque côté de la frontière Wallonie – France. Le projet Val de Sambre établit un dialogue entre le territoire de la Haute Sambre de part et d'autre de cette même frontière. Le parc naturel des Plaines de l'Escaut développe ses activités en concertation avec le parc naturel régional français Scarpe-Escaut tandis que le parc naturel des deux Ourthe s'associe à la Fondation Hëllef fir'Natur du Grand Duché de Luxembourg.

Les programmes Leader + favorisent davantage la mise en réseau et la promotion de la qualité des terroirs dont le paysage est une caractéristique essentielle. Les Groupes d'Action Locale (Gal) de l'Entre-Sambre et Meuse, Culturalité en Hesbaye brabançonne et Beau Canton (Gaume) ont ainsi initié une démarche paysagère.

La multiplication des initiatives a incité l'administration à mettre en place une plate forme d'échanges d'information et de mise en cohérence des activités de ces structures.

La plupart des partenaires ont déjà indiqué leur intention de poursuivre leurs actions dans le cadre de la nouvelle programmation des fonds structurels.

Nous sommes convaincus que les futures conférences et les ateliers pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du Paysage organisés par le Conseil de l'Europe fourniront les forums nécessaires pour des échanges d'informations et de bonnes pratiques entre responsables, experts, chercheurs et ONG.

## **BULGARIA / BULGARIE**

## **CROATIA / CROATIE**

## **CZECH REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE**

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Martina\_Paskova@env.cz [mailto:Martina\_Paskova@env.cz]

**Sent:** Tuesday 20 March 2007 21:02

**To:** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Subject:** small contribution to ELC meeting

*Future landscape evolution / development!?*

*Landscape planning approach?*

Directive - regulation.....

..... voluntary - motivation ?

*Link to a European legislation*

*Article 10 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora*

– Member States shall endeavour, where they consider it necessary, in their land-use planning and development policies and, in particular, with a view to improving the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network, to encourage the management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora.

– Such features are those which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure (such as rivers with their banks or the traditional systems for marking field boundaries) or their function as stepping stones (such as ponds or small woods), are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.

*Tools.....?*

landscape policies

- landscape planning
- public participation in the landscape evaluation, planning and management process (community planning)
- interdisciplinary educational curricula
- international (European) co-operation
- motivation on all decision-making levels
- mediation of landscape problems and challenges

*Landscape planning*

*General principles*

*Landscape planning objectives in relation with nature conservation*

*Czech Implementation Strategy*

*European Union Landscape Politics?*

- common landscape policy?
- directive?
- resolution?
- recommendation?
- guidelines?
- (interdisciplinary) working groups, networks?
- motivation schemes (awards, competitions etc.)?
- best practises dissemination?
- experience exchange support?

**CYPRUS / CHYPRE**

**DENMARK / DANEMARK**

**FINLAND / FINLANDE**

**FRANCE**

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** Jean-François SEGUIN [mailto:Jean-Francois.SEGUIN@ecologie.gouv.fr]

**Envoyé :** Thursday 5 April 2007 15:03

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** rapport de la conférence des 22 et 23 mars derniers



### **Mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage en France**

1) *Circulaire relative à la promotion et à la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage (1<sup>er</sup> mars 2007)*

2) *Identification et qualification des paysages français : les Atlas de paysages*

3) *Mise en place d'indicateurs sociaux d'évolution*      65 *des paysages*

4) Ateliers transfrontaliers sur l'identification et la qualification des paysages

5) Le Prix du paysage

\* \* \*

**1) Circulaire relative à la promotion et à la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage (1<sup>er</sup> mars 2007)**

La ministre de l'écologie et du développement durable  
à

Mesdames et Messieurs les Préfets de région et de département

**Objet : La politique des paysages – promotion et mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage**

**Résumé :**

*Dans le cadre de l'affirmation d'une politique publique des paysages, je vous demande d'organiser annuellement une journée d'échange d'informations et de concertation associant les principaux acteurs du paysage de votre territoire.*

*Le paysage constitue un élément essentiel du bien-être individuel et social et une ressource économique reconnue ; il est constitutif du patrimoine commun de la nation. Cette journée d'échange permettra d'identifier et de qualifier les paysages, à travers notamment les atlas de paysages. Une attention particulière sera également portée aux zones de développement de l'éolien.*

*Certains sujets, comme la pression de la publicité, ou certains espaces, comme les zones littorales et montagnardes, méritent un traitement particulier. L'attention des différents acteurs sera, de façon générale, appelée sur la valeur économique des paysages et les objectifs de qualité paysagère seront débattus au cours de la journée d'échange annuelle. Vous arrêterez ainsi des objectifs de qualité paysagère qui seront portés à la connaissance des décideurs publics.*

*L'intégration du paysage dans les politiques sectorielles est un objectif que chacun doit prendre en compte. On pense en premier lieu aux politiques d'aménagement du territoire, mais il ne faut pas être limitatif. Chaque projet, chaque plan, chaque programme, doit faire l'objet d'une réflexion de ses incidences sur les paysages. Cette prise en compte des paysages dans les études d'impact et autres évaluations environnementales sera un axe de travail à développer dans les processus de concertation, de régulation et d'autorisation conduits par la puissance publique.*

*Les travaux engagés feront l'objet d'un porter à connaissance publique afin de participer à l'information et à la sensibilisation du public sur les paysages.*

L'entrée en vigueur, le 1<sup>er</sup> Juillet 2006 (publication au JO du 22 décembre 2006), de la Convention européenne du paysage dans notre pays doit donner une impulsion nouvelle à la politique des paysages, dont je suis responsable au sein du gouvernement et qui doit être portée par l'ensemble des autorités publiques. Persuadée que les paysages de notre pays appellent une mobilisation forte, je souhaite que les orientations de ce texte soient présentées et expliquées à l'ensemble des collectivités publiques qui sont, chacune en ce qui la concerne, garantes et responsables des paysages, patrimoine commun de la nation selon l'article L.110-1 du code de l'environnement.

Le paysage constitue un élément essentiel du bien-être individuel et social, une ressource économique reconnue pour l'activité touristique, pour la promotion des produits du terroir comme pour l'attractivité et le développement de tous les territoires.

A cet effet, et conformément à la Convention européenne du paysage, il me paraît particulièrement utile de rappeler les quatre axes essentiels qui structurent la politique des paysages dans notre pays :

– l'identification et la qualification des paysages ;

- la définition des objectifs de qualité paysagère ;
- l'intégration du paysage dans les politiques sectorielles ;
- l'information et la sensibilisation du public.

Aussi, je vous demande d'organiser, dans chaque département et annuellement, une journée d'échange d'informations et de concertation associant les principaux acteurs du paysage de votre territoire, qu'il s'agisse des élus des collectivités territoriales ou leurs représentations et notamment des parcs naturels régionaux, des établissements publics de l'Etat, et notamment ceux des parcs nationaux, des conseils d'architecture, d'urbanisme et d'environnement (CAUE), des réseaux professionnels et des associations. Les membres des Commissions départementales de la nature, des paysages et des sites (CDNPS), comme les réseaux éventuellement déjà constitués autour du paysage, les écoles de formation au paysage, seront bien évidemment associés à ces échanges. En outre, les paysages n'étant pas toujours en cohérence avec les limites administratives, vous veillerez à associer également les principaux acteurs des parties des départements voisins concernées. Enfin, vous pourrez également proposer, à l'échelle régionale, une réunion ou un colloque pour coordonner ces échanges ou en effectuer une synthèse.

Les services de la Direction régionale de l'environnement (DIREN), dans leur rôle de coordination des stratégies et programmes départementaux, sont à votre disposition pour vous assister dans cet exercice qui devra mobiliser les principaux services départementaux de l'Etat en charge de politiques d'aménagement et de protection des territoires (Direction départementale de l'équipement, Direction départementale de l'agriculture et de la forêt, Service départemental de l'architecture et du patrimoine), politiques qui doivent intégrer la problématique des paysages. Les paysagistes-conseils de l'Etat affectés auprès des directeurs départementaux de l'équipement et du directeur régional de l'environnement pourront être également mobilisés.

L'organisation de ces journées annuelles d'échange et de concertation sera, bien entendu, adaptée aux éventuelles pratiques déjà en place et aux enjeux à considérer.

Les échanges auront pour finalité première une concertation entre ces principaux acteurs pour que des objectifs de qualité paysagère puissent être formulés, afin de guider les décideurs et les collectivités dans la définition des politiques du paysage conduites aux différentes échelles. En outre, cette première édition devra être l'occasion de définir les principaux enjeux liés à l'évolution des paysages afin de préparer sur le plan national un premier rapport sur la mise en œuvre en France de la Convention européenne du paysage.

Cette journée vous permettra de valoriser et renforcer les politiques, programmes et actions déjà mis en œuvre. Elle devra être organisée en suivant les principaux axes de la Convention européenne du paysage, selon les quatre thématiques rappelées plus haut, à savoir :

### **Identification et qualification des paysages**

La nécessaire cohérence entre les politiques publiques, qu'elles soient celles des différentes collectivités (Etat, région, département, intercommunalités et communes) ou celles des différents secteurs de l'intervention publique (urbanisme, transport, patrimoine, agriculture, énergie...), trouve son principe dans l'unicité du territoire où elles interviennent. Cette unicité repose non seulement sur le fait qu'il n'existe qu'un seul territoire, mais aussi sur le fait que ce territoire présente un paysage caractéristique qui en fait la singularité et, par-là, l'intérêt. En effet, la diversité et la qualité des paysages français sont sans doute ce qui en fait l'originalité et la renommée à l'échelle européenne comme internationale.

Or les évolutions constatées de nos paysages montrent souvent des tendances à la banalisation ou à la standardisation de certains nouveaux quartiers d'habitat, de commerce ou d'industrie, urbains ou péri-urbains, à la simplification de certains paysages ruraux ou à la déprise agricole. Afin de préserver durablement la diversité des paysages français, il est nécessaire d'identifier et de qualifier très clairement ces paysages et leurs dynamiques d'évolution, ce qui est l'objet des *Atlas de paysages* qui ont déjà permis d'identifier de l'ordre de 2000 paysages singuliers. L'achèvement en cours de la toute première couverture du territoire national par des Atlas de paysages est une priorité. Cette couverture viendra enrichir le Système d'information sur la nature et les paysages (SINP).

La réunion que je vous demande d'organiser sera donc l'occasion de présenter l'état d'avancement de l'Atlas de paysages et de débattre de la qualité et de

l'actualité des données de paysages qu'il contient, données qui devront être actualisées tous les 10 ans. A ce titre, vous présenterez le programme d'établissement des indicateurs sociaux d'évolution des paysages, programme qui vient d'être engagé et testé dans cinq départements grâce à l'apport des derniers résultats de la recherche en la matière.

*Quant aux enjeux liés aux paysages les plus remarquables, la liste indicative des principaux sites restant à classer jointe à ma circulaire du 2 octobre 2006 sera également présentée au cours de cette réunion et cela en tenant compte des éventuelles observations dont vous m'avez fait part. Au-delà de l'officialisation de ces projets de protection, vous proposerez un débat sur les autres enjeux territoriaux déjà identifiés et inscrits par les services des DIREN dans un répertoire annexe des sites à classer.*

Enfin, en application des instructions relatives aux zones de développement de l'éolien terrestre (ZDE) en date du 19 juin 2006, vous présenterez les enjeux paysagers mis en évidence par les projets de ZDE qui vous auront été présentés.

Les débats et informations recueillies devront mettre en évidence les principales évolutions constatées et les tendances prospectives, afin d'identifier clairement les principaux enjeux de paysage concernant chaque département.

Au titre du suivi et de l'évaluation nationale de ces politiques, vous me transmettez avant la fin de chaque année un bilan qualitatif en la matière mettant en évidence les principales difficultés rencontrées au regard des paysages, et notamment du fait de dynamiques particulières, tel le développement de l'éolien. En outre, au terme des débats engagés, pour les paysages emblématiques d'intérêt national, vous pourrez également me proposer, après avis de la CDNPS, des ajustements à apporter à la liste indicative des sites restant à classer.

### **Définition des objectifs de qualité paysagère**

Parmi les dynamiques et les tendances d'évolution des paysages, vous porterez une attention particulière à celles qui déstructurent les paysages ou présentent un risque important de banalisation ou de consommation excessive des espaces. Ces situations, qui préoccupent nos concitoyens, sont souvent liées à l'étalement urbain, au développement des zones commerciales, à la création d'infrastructures de transport ou de production et de distribution d'énergie, notamment des lignes électriques et des éoliennes, ou encore à la simplification ou à la mutation des paysages ruraux.

Pour contenir la pression de la publicité sur les paysages, vous présenterez les principaux enjeux de paysage et les situations où une maîtrise accrue de la publicité et des enseignes sera jugée nécessaire (axes commerciaux, pré-enseignes hors agglomération...). En effet, les critiques liées à cette réglementation et à son application, notamment en périphérie des villes et agglomérations, sont nombreuses. Il est important donc de veiller à ses conditions d'application en particulier à son contrôle, et cela sans attendre une évolution de la réglementation qui devrait permettre de mieux associer les citoyens et les associations de défense des paysages à l'établissement des règlements locaux de publicité et à faciliter une approche intercommunale en la matière.

Enfin, certaines parties de notre territoire sont à la fois fragiles et soumises à de fortes pressions. La circulaire que je vous ai adressée le 20 juillet 2006, conjointement avec le ministre chargé de l'équipement, insistait sur la nécessité d'appliquer la loi littoral avec rigueur et volontarisme. Le littoral fera en conséquence l'objet d'une concertation particulièrement approfondie sur les enjeux liés à son urbanisation et au développement touristique, en particulier en ce qui concerne l'évolution des formes de camping et d'accueil des maisons mobiles. La loi « littoral », notamment ses articles L. 146-4 et L. 146-6, les Schémas de mise en valeur de la mer, le Conservatoire de l'espace littoral et des rivages lacustres, et les projets de gestion intégrée des zones côtières sont des outils qui doivent être mobilisés.

De même, la loi montagne vise explicitement la protection des paysages. Il convient de rappeler expressément aux comités de massif qu'ils peuvent mobiliser deux outils spécifiques de préservation des espaces et milieux remarquables du patrimoine naturel et culturel montagnard : les prescriptions particulières de massif et les recommandations particulières aux secteurs de haute montagne. Concernant les autorisations au titre de la procédure des unités touristiques nouvelles (UTN), il vous appartient d'apprécier si le dossier de demande a pris en compte les paysages à la hauteur des enjeux qu'ils représentent en montagne. Dans

l'arc alpin, ce cadre est renforcé par la Convention alpine et ses protocoles, qui ont été ratifiés par la France et l'Union européenne.

D'une manière générale je vous demande d'appeler l'attention des acteurs sur la valeur des paysages, qu'ils soient source de satisfaction pour les résidents ou de retombées économiques locales, y compris en termes d'emploi, qu'il s'agisse de la conception ou de l'entretien des paysages, ainsi que de l'attractivité touristique qu'ils induisent. Des études réalisées mettent en évidence la valorisation de ces paysages dans le prix des propriétés foncières, ce que des résidents consentiraient à payer pour continuer à bénéficier d'une qualité de paysage et ce que des visiteurs peuvent être prêts à payer dans des sites remarquables pour y avoir accès. Sur le long terme, la pérennité de ces retombées est conditionnée par l'exigence de maintenir la qualité paysagère, dans une optique de développement durable.

Face à ces enjeux territoriaux vous proposerez aux collectivités de débattre des principaux objectifs de qualité paysagère, ainsi que les orientations, actions et indicateurs que vous aurez identifiés à l'échelle du département avec l'aide de vos services.

Les principaux enjeux paysagers retenus au terme de ces débats seront portés à la connaissance des collectivités au titre de l'association de l'Etat aux procédures d'élaboration des documents d'urbanisme, comme les SCOT, PLU, « SMVM-SCOT ».

Ces enjeux pourront également conduire à engager ou à conforter, en partenariat avec les collectivités, des démarches de Plans de paysage. Leur accompagnement par l'Etat devra s'effectuer en priorité sur les territoires qui présentent un intérêt manifeste, stratégique ou démonstratif ou qui concernent un espace transfrontalier. Aussi, vous me signalerez avant la fin de l'année 2007, les Plans de paysage sélectionnés et retenus pour bénéficier d'un soutien de l'Etat, en me précisant la programmation envisagée et liée à leur mise en œuvre. Ce signalement permettra de compléter l'inventaire national des plans de paysage qui devaient être mis en place auprès des préfets de département depuis 2001.

### **Intégration du paysage dans les politiques sectorielles**

Vous inscrirez à l'ordre du jour de cette journée annuelle d'échange la prise en compte des paysages dans les études d'impact et dans les évaluations des incidences des plans et programmes sur l'environnement. Cette orientation inscrite dans la Convention européenne du paysage est encore trop imparfaitement traitée. Ma circulaire du 12 avril 2006 sur l'évaluation de certains plans, schémas, programmes et autres documents de planification rappelle entre autres que le paysage est un élément explicitement visé par cette évaluation des incidences dans le rapport environnemental mentionné à l'article R. 122-20 du code de l'environnement. L'analyse de l'état initial de l'environnement doit permettre d'apprécier l'étendue, la valeur, la vulnérabilité et la protection des espaces concernés en fonction de leurs caractéristiques paysagères. En outre, l'analyse des effets probables de la mise en œuvre du plan ou du document sur l'environnement doit prendre en compte son impact sur le paysage.

J'appelle votre attention sur la responsabilité qui est la vôtre, conformément aux directives européennes, en tant qu'autorité administrative de l'Etat compétente en matière d'environnement, de veiller à ce que ces éléments soient pris en compte dès l'élaboration du rapport environnemental, lors de la phase de cadrage préalable, mais également dans l'avis que vous rendrez sur le rapport environnemental. Une meilleure capacité à organiser la cohérence entre les nombreuses décisions publiques qui modèlent le territoire dépend à la fois d'un dialogue entre les autorités responsables et de la mobilisation d'outils adaptés. Je vous rappelle à ce titre que le paysage est un élément de première importance dans le contenu de l'étude de l'impact des projets sur l'environnement décrite à l'article R. 122-3 du code de l'environnement, en particulier sur ses effets directs ou indirects, temporaires et permanents. Je suis attachée à ce que soient mieux vérifiées la pertinence et l'effectivité des mesures réductrices ou compensatoires prévues.

A cet égard, vous proposerez une réflexion en vous appuyant sur quelques projets particulièrement prégnants et récemment réalisés en les mettant en regard des études d'impact qui ont fondé les décisions prises. Ces projets pourront concerner des projets aussi bien publics que privés, tels par exemple des infrastructures, des projets éoliens, des carrières...

Enfin, et au titre d'outil d'évaluation des politiques des paysages, vous présenterez l'intérêt de l'Observatoire photographique du paysage tant pour le suivi des

politiques du paysage mises en œuvre localement que pour son enrichissement dans le cadre du Système d'information sur la nature et les paysages. En outre, vous me signalerez les observatoires photographiques locaux qui pourraient contribuer au fond national et à sa valorisation.

### **Information et sensibilisation du public**

En matière de paysage, comme dans les autres domaines de l'environnement, l'information du public est non seulement une obligation en application de la Convention sur l'accès à l'information, la participation du public au processus décisionnel et l'accès à la justice en matière d'environnement, mais aussi un puissant argument pour l'engagement du public en faveur des paysages. Je souhaite en conséquence que les travaux engagés et les comptes rendus des réunions annuelles d'échanges d'information et de concertation que vous organiserez soient publiés et accessibles au plus grand nombre.

Ces publications permettront en outre de dresser, par leur agrégation au niveau national, un tableau des évolutions et enjeux de l'ensemble des paysages français. Elles compléteront utilement les programmes d'éducation et de formation au paysage et à l'environnement.

\* \* \*

Ainsi voulons nous donner une impulsion nouvelle pour que nos paysages, identifiants de notre patrimoine national, soient valorisés et participent à la qualité du vivre sur nos territoires.

Vous voudrez bien me faire connaître, le cas échéant, les difficultés rencontrées dans la mise en œuvre de ces instructions.

Nelly OLIN

### **2) Identification et qualification des paysages français : les Atlas de paysages**

*La Convention européenne du paysage est entrée en application en France au 1<sup>er</sup> juillet 2006. En plus de donner une définition du paysage « partie de territoire telle que perçue par les populations, dont le caractère résulte de l'action de facteurs naturels et/ou humains et de leurs interrelations », elle indique dans son article 6C les mesures d'identification et de qualification :*

Les Atlas de paysages permettent de traduire sur le territoire la définition littérale de paysage (article 1 de la Convention européenne).

Le programme des atlas de paysages mis en œuvre par le ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable a pour objectif que les collectivités publiques, Etat (les DIREN), Régions et Départements, réalisent ensemble un « état des lieux » des paysages sur chacun des 100 départements français. Ces *documents de référence partagée* contribuent à la définition et l'harmonisation des politiques de paysages des différentes collectivités.

La méthode pour la réalisation de ces atlas de paysages repose sur trois analyses simultanées :

#### *1. Identification et caractérisation des unités paysagères*

Cette première analyse à caractère géographique s'appuie sur des analyses cartographiques enrichies d'observations de terrain. Les éléments pris en compte sont le relief, les réseaux hydrographiques, la végétation, les réseaux (routes, chemins, voies navigables) et les éléments bâtis (habitat, bâtiments agricoles et industriels...)

#### *2. Mise en évidence des perceptions culturelles et sociales*

Il s'agit de collecter et de formuler l'ensemble des représentations à différentes échelles, du global au local, concernant aussi bien les paysages remarquables, que ceux qui sont caractéristiques des lieux ou ceux « du quotidiens » qui constituent le cadre de vie des populations. Pour cela, les atlas de paysages analysent différents systèmes de représentation :

- les « paysages institutionnalisés » c'est à dire des paysages protégés au titre de lois spécifiques ou figurant dans des inventaires sans effets réglementaires (de jardins, d'ouvrages d'art ou d'arbres remarquables) ;
- les œuvres picturales (peintures, gravures, photographies) ou littéraires qui constituent des références sur les paysages concernés ;
- les paysages d'intérêt local, dont la notoriété n'a pas justifié une protection par l'Etat ou la production d'œuvres artistiques importantes, mais qui, cependant, sont importants pour les populations.

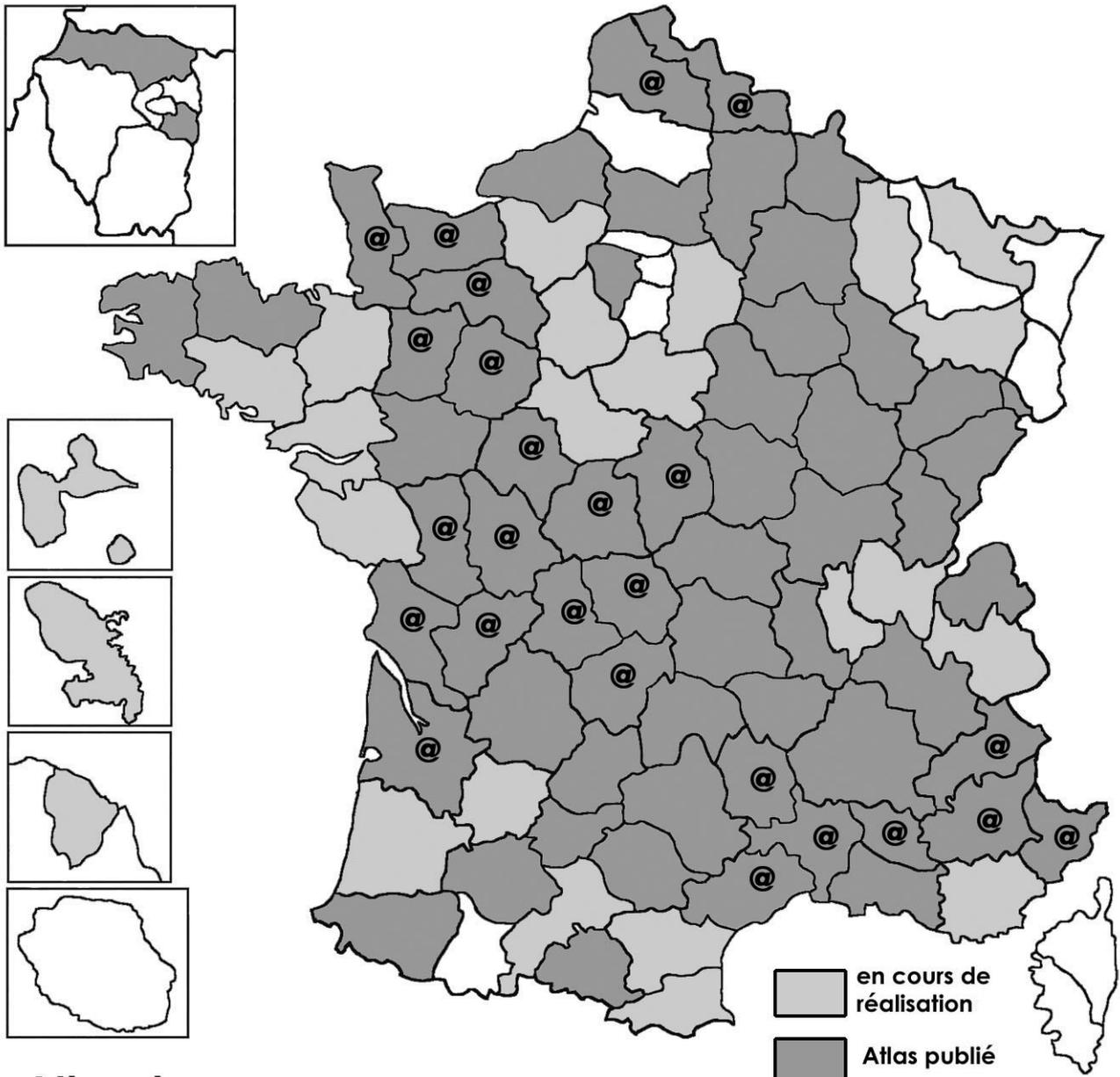
### 3. *Evaluation des dynamiques des paysages et tendances prospectives*

Une politique des paysages s'inscrit dans une préoccupation prospective. Il est donc important de comprendre les dynamiques des paysages pour pouvoir les accompagner ou les infléchir. Cette évaluation analyse trois points :

- l'identification des *signes visibles d'évolution* ;
- la mise à jour des *tendances d'évolution* par l'étude de fichiers statistiques ;
- l'identification des *projets des collectivités et des entreprises*

Initiés en 1994 par la publication du document *Méthode pour des Atlas de paysages – Identification et qualification*, les atlas de paysages sont réalisés à l'échelle des départements et régions, en général au 1:100 000. Cette Méthode a fait l'objet d'une mise à jour en 2004, téléchargeable sur le site du Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable à l'adresse suivante : <http://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/ext/docs/MethodeAtlasPaysages-2004.pdf>.

Aujourd'hui, 62 départements disposent d'un atlas publié, dont certains font l'objet d'une mise en ligne sur le site internet des DIREN.



**Atlas de paysages**  
 état d'avancement au 1er janvier 2007

*Atlas de paysages  
disponibles sur internet*

Région	Département	Titre
Aquitaine	Gironde	<a href="http://www.urbanisme.equipement.gouv.fr/cdu/texteintegral/gironde/sommaire.htm">http://www.urbanisme.equipement.gouv.fr/cdu/texteintegral/gironde/sommaire.htm</a>
Basse-Normandie		<a href="http://www.basse-normandie.ecologie.gouv.fr/Inventaire.html">http://www.basse-normandie.ecologie.gouv.fr/Inventaire.html</a>
Centre	Cher	<a href="http://www.cher.pref.gouv.fr/atlas-cher/">http://www.cher.pref.gouv.fr/atlas-cher/</a>
Centre	Indre	<a href="http://www.centre.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas/atlas_indre/atlas_indre.htm">http://www.centre.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas/atlas_indre/atlas_indre.htm</a>
Centre	Indre-et-Loire	<a href="http://www.centre.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas/atlas_indre_loire/atlas_indre_loire.htm">http://www.centre.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas/atlas_indre_loire/atlas_indre_loire.htm</a>
Languedoc-Roussillon	Lozère	<a href="http://www.languedoc-roussillon.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas.asp">http://www.languedoc-roussillon.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas.asp</a>
Languedoc-Roussillon	Gard	<a href="http://www.languedoc-roussillon.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas.asp">http://www.languedoc-roussillon.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas.asp</a>
Languedoc-Roussillon	Hérault	<a href="http://www.languedoc-roussillon.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas.asp">http://www.languedoc-roussillon.ecologie.gouv.fr/atlas.asp</a>
Limousin		<a href="http://diren.dev.e-services.fr/donnees/sites_paysages/rendu.asp?page=paysages_presentation&amp;switch=8">http://diren.dev.e-services.fr/donnees/sites_paysages/rendu.asp?page=paysages_presentation&amp;switch=8</a>
Nord – Pas-de-Calais	Nord et Pas-de-Calais	<a href="http://www.nord-pas-de-calais.ecologie.gouv.fr/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=26">http://www.nord-pas-de-calais.ecologie.gouv.fr/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=26</a>
PACA	Alpes-de-Haute-Provence	<a href="http://www.paca.ecologie.gouv.fr/docHTML/atlas05/index.html">http://www.paca.ecologie.gouv.fr/docHTML/atlas05/index.html</a>
PACA	Alpes-Maritimes	<a href="http://www.alpes-maritimes.equipement.gouv.fr/06_ENVIRONNEMENT/polesig/deroulant/Listefamille.htm">http://www.alpes-maritimes.equipement.gouv.fr/06_ENVIRONNEMENT/polesig/deroulant/Listefamille.htm</a>
PACA	Hauts-Alpes	<a href="http://www.paca.ecologie.gouv.fr/docHTML/atlas05/index.html">http://www.paca.ecologie.gouv.fr/docHTML/atlas05/index.html</a>
PACA	Vaucluse	<a href="http://www.paca.ecologie.gouv.fr/docHTML/atlas84/index.html">http://www.paca.ecologie.gouv.fr/docHTML/atlas84/index.html</a>
Pays-de-la-Loire	Mayenne	<a href="http://www.pays-de-loire.ecologie.gouv.fr/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=56">http://www.pays-de-loire.ecologie.gouv.fr/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=56</a>
Pays-de-la-Loire	Sarthe	<a href="http://www.pays-de-loire.ecologie.gouv.fr/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=56">http://www.pays-de-loire.ecologie.gouv.fr/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=56</a>
Poitou-Charentes		<a href="http://www.paysage-poitou-charentes.org/">http://www.paysage-poitou-charentes.org/</a>

### 3) Mise en place d'indicateurs sociaux d'évolution des paysages

#### Enquête auprès des Conseillers généraux sur les évolutions des paysages français

Note préalable importante :

Ce questionnaire s'inscrit dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage que la France a ratifiée et qui est entrée en vigueur en juillet 2006. Cette convention implique que soient connues, d'une part l'évolution des caractéristiques des paysages et d'autre part les perceptions que la (ou les) population(s) en ont. Dans ce contexte, le Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable, responsable de la politique des paysages, a engagé une double action : la première se concrétise par la réalisation des Atlas de paysages qui couvrent aujourd'hui pratiquement les deux tiers du territoire national et qui seront achevés prochainement. La seconde action consiste à interviewer des personnes qui connaissent bien à la fois les paysages de leur territoire et les avis des populations sur les transformations qu'ils connaissent. Le choix s'est donc porté sur les Conseillers généraux qui, à eux tous, connaissent la totalité du territoire national. Ils constituent, en outre un échantillon de la population à la fois suffisant et pas trop nombreux pour la conduite d'une enquête dans de bonnes conditions.

Il vous est ainsi demandé de remplir ce questionnaire avec précision ; en particulier, inscrire les noms des lieux et des communes conformément à la cartographie topographique (IGN 1/25000°) afin de pouvoir lors du dépouillement de l'enquête établir des relations entre les réponses et les documents cartographiques existants, notamment les atlas de paysage. Vous pourrez proposer des cartes de votre canton que vous pourrez annoter et sur lesquelles vous indiquerez les lieux et les territoires correspondant aux réponses aux questions.

Les résultats attendus visent à réaliser un tableau de la vision que vous-mêmes, Conseillers Généraux, avez des évolutions des paysages et des perceptions de la société. La mention « commentaire éventuel » qui accompagne les questions est destinée à compléter les réponses directives qui ne vous auraient pas permis d'exprimer votre avis avec clarté et pertinence.

Les résultats de cette enquête vous seront communiqués.

Ce questionnaire est conçu sur le mode directif pour une exploitation par un traitement statistique informatisé. Chaque question comporte des items qui permettront de coder la réponse afin de l'insérer dans un fichier informatique destiné à être transféré dans le logiciel de traitement statistique.

#### Questions sur les paysages de votre canton.

1. Quelle importance accordez-vous au paysage ?

situez votre réponse sur l'échelle de valeur ci-dessous :

pas d'importance 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 beaucoup d'importance

Commentaire éventuel :

.....

2. Y a-t-il dans votre canton des paysages auxquels vous êtes particulièrement attachés ? Si oui, lesquels ?

Citez s.v.p des noms de lieux-dits et le nom de la commune associée

.....

3. Y a-t-il dans votre canton des paysages que vous n'appréciez pas ? Si oui, lesquels ?

Citez s.v.p des noms de lieux-dits et le nom de la commune associée

.....

4. Quels sont les paysages du canton que vous préférez d'un point de vue esthétique ?

Citez s.v.p des noms de lieux-dits et le nom de la commune associée

.....

5. Quels sont, selon vous, les paysages du canton auxquels les habitants sont le plus attachés ?



#### **4) Ateliers transfrontaliers sur l'identification et la qualification des paysages**

En application de l'article 6C-2 de la Convention européenne du paysage (*Les travaux d'identification et de qualification seront guidés par des échanges d'expériences et de méthodologies, organisés entre les Parties à l'échelle européenne en application de l'article 8*), le Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable a initié une série d'ateliers transfrontaliers, portant sur les méthodes et les résultats des actions de connaissance des paysages, telles que prévues à l'article 6C-1 :

« En mobilisant les acteurs concernés conformément à l'article 5.c et en vue d'une meilleure connaissance de ses paysages, chaque Partie s'engage :

- à identifier ses propres paysages, sur l'ensemble de son territoire ;
- à analyser leurs caractéristiques ainsi que les dynamiques et les pressions qui les modifient ;
- à en suivre les transformations ;
- à qualifier les paysages identifiés en tenant compte des valeurs particulières qui leur sont attribuées par les acteurs et les populations concernés. »

La séquence de ces ateliers est la suivante :

- Atelier 1 (France – Wallonie, 2005) architecture générale des Atlas de paysages ;
- Atelier 2 (France – Espagne, 2006) unités, structures et éléments du paysage ;
- Atelier 3 (France – Italie, 2007) les perceptions sociales ;
- Atelier 4 (France – Catalogne, octobre 2007) les indicateurs de paysage ;
- Atelier 5 (France – Royaume-Uni - 2008) les dynamiques paysagères.

\* \* \*

- **Conclusions de l'Atelier 1 Franco-Wallon (Septembre 2005)**

#### *Grille de lecture des Atlas de paysages*

Cette grille a été proposée et validée lors de l'atelier franco-wallon en Septembre 2005 à Monthermé. Les documents support de ce travail étaient « l'Atlas de la région Champagne-Ardenne » pour la France et « Les territoires paysagers de Wallonie » pour la Belgique.

Cette grille permettra, en France notamment, de mettre en évidence de façon synthétique les éléments constitutifs des différents atlas couvrant le territoire national.

#### *Titre - année de publication*

1. Objectifs et finalités affichés du document
2. Organisation de la maîtrise d'ouvrage :
  - Maîtrise d'ouvrage unique ou partenariale ;
  - Constitution d'un comité de pilotage qui peut associer :
    - Pour la France : les services déconcentrés de l'Etat, le Conseil Régional, le Conseil Général, les communes, le CAUE, les associations concernées ;
    - Pour la Wallonie : la région wallonne, les communes, les associations concernées.Le comité de pilotage est invité à une réflexion sur la sélection des données utiles à l'élaboration de l'atlas et à leur transmission au chargé d'étude ;
  - Maîtrise d'œuvre, composée d'une équipe pluridisciplinaire qui peut (doit) associer une bonne approche de terrain et des compétences en traitement de données.
3. Identification des unités paysagères (F) ou territoires paysagers (W)
  - limites, composants caractéristiques, dénominations des unités ;
  - échelles (échelles d'analyse, échelles de restitution cartographiques, emboîtement d'échelles).

- 4.a. Identification et caractérisation des paysages (systèmes de représentations)
  - paysages « institutionnalisés » (paysages protégés au titre de législations existantes) ;
  - Identification de paysages « témoins » (de l'histoire des lieux) ;
  - Représentations artistiques (ou « savantes ») des paysages ;
  - Identification des sites (parties de paysage) d'intérêt local.
- 4.b. Les systèmes de valeurs – critères d'évaluation
- 5. Evaluation des dynamiques des paysages
  - Identification des signes visibles d'évolution des paysages ;
  - Mise au jour des tendances et des processus d'évolution ;
  - Identification des projets individuels et collectifs ;
  - Enjeux du paysage et jeux des acteurs.
- 6. Validation
  - Formelle par le comité de pilotage ;
  - Par les utilisations constatées (études d'impact, schéma éolien...) ;
  - Par la diffusion, la communication (supports, nombres d'exemplaires).
- 7. Mise en place d'un système de suivi en vue de l'actualisation
  - ***Conclusions de l'Atelier 2 Franco-Espagnol (Juillet 2006)***

*Unités et structures paysagères dans les travaux d'identification et de qualification des paysages*

Cette « fiche » a été élaborée suite à l'atelier franco-espagnol qui s'est déroulé en juillet 2006 à Bayonne réunissant les écoles de paysage françaises (enseignants et étudiants), le laboratoire LADYSS du CNRS, des invités européens (Espagne, Italie, Belgique) et des agents du Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable. Les documents support de ce travail étaient « l'Atlas de paysages des Pyrénées-Atlantiques » pour la France et « l'atlas des paysages d'Espagne » pour l'Espagne.

- Les Atlas de paysages et leurs équivalents réalisés dans les pays européens, constituent des documents scientifiquement acceptables et opérationnellement assumables ;
- Les Atlas de paysage font partie des outils que les administrations mettent en œuvre, ils sont inspirés par une problématique de l'action ;
- L'échelle conventionnelle des Atlas de paysages est celle qui permet la définition des objectifs de qualité paysagère. Ainsi, à l'échelle d'un département, on peut s'accorder sur une échelle d'analyse au 1/25 000 et une échelle de restitution au 1/100 000 ;
- L'identification des unités paysagères est attachée à l'échelle conventionnelle définie précédemment. Il peut y avoir des agrégations sur des territoires plus larges (familles, ensembles, types...). Ces découpages répondent à des objectifs opérationnels ;
- La connaissance des dynamiques, passées, présentes et futures, est nécessaire pour élaborer et mettre en œuvre une politique du paysage qui trouve un écho dans la société. Ceci implique que l'échelle à laquelle cet outil est élaboré doit permettre aux acteurs d'intervenir ;
- Les Atlas de paysages ont une mission pédagogique :
  - pour faire connaître la diversité des paysages à l'échelle des décisions politiques,
  - pour enrichir la culture du paysage du grand public ;
- Le point précédent implique le choix de vecteurs de restitutions appropriés pour que les Atlas de paysages soient effectivement des outils pédagogiques (synthèses compréhensibles, blocs diagrammes par exemple...), manipulables et accessibles ;
- Le public est associé à l'identification ou la caractérisation des paysages pour enrichir le travail des experts et des élus et non s'y substituer. Cette participation du public est une voie pour une requalification du rôle des experts et des élus ;

– Les structures paysagères sont un objet hybride, traits caractéristiques des unités paysagères, produit de l'interaction entre des dynamiques biophysiques et des dynamiques sociales.

– On peut définir :

- *Les unités paysagères*

- Une unité paysagère correspond à un ensemble de composants spatiaux, de perceptions sociales et de dynamiques paysagères qui, par leurs caractères, procurent une singularité à la partie de territoire concernée. Elle se distingue des unités voisines par une différence de présence, d'organisation ou de formes de ces caractères ;

- Dans les Atlas de paysages, les unités paysagères sont identifiées à l'échelle du 1:100 000, et correspondent au terme « *paysage donné* » de la Convention européenne du paysage ;

- Il est possible de poser l'équivalence une unité paysagère = un paysage.

- *Les structures paysagères*

- Les structures paysagères correspondent à des systèmes formés par des objets, éléments matériels du territoire considéré, et les interrelations, matérielles ou immatérielles, qui les lient et/ou à leur perception par les populations. Ces structures paysagères constituent les traits caractéristiques d'un paysage. Elles participent au premier chef à l'identification et la caractérisation d'un paysage. Un « *paysage donné* » est caractérisé par un ensemble de structures paysagères, formées pendant les siècles ;

- L'analyse du paysage nécessite un exercice de sélection des composants pour leurs relations, leur organisation particulière, leur capacité à structurer ;

- Les structures paysagères reflètent l'interaction entre les structures sociales, historiques et actuelles, et les structures biophysiques ;

- Les structures paysagères offrent l'armature des projets de protection, de gestion et/ou d'aménagement du paysage ;

- Les outils de représentations des structures paysagères doivent être mis en place de façon rigoureuse. Ils constituent une allégorie de la structure paysagère identifiée. Les « *blocs paysagers* » paraissent pertinents à cet égard.

- *Éléments de paysage*

Peuvent être considérés comme éléments de paysage, d'une part, les objets matériels composant les structures et, d'autre part, certains composants du paysage qui ne sont pas des systèmes (un arbre isolé par exemple) mais n'en possèdent pas moins des caractéristiques paysagères, c'est à dire qu'il sont perçus non seulement à travers leur matérialité concrète, mais aussi à travers des filtres historiques, naturalistes, d'agrément ... (arbre remarquable tel que arbre de la Liberté ou curiosité botanique).

– ***Préparation de l'Atelier 3 Franco-Italien (26-27 avril 2007)***

*La prise en compte des perceptions par les populations*

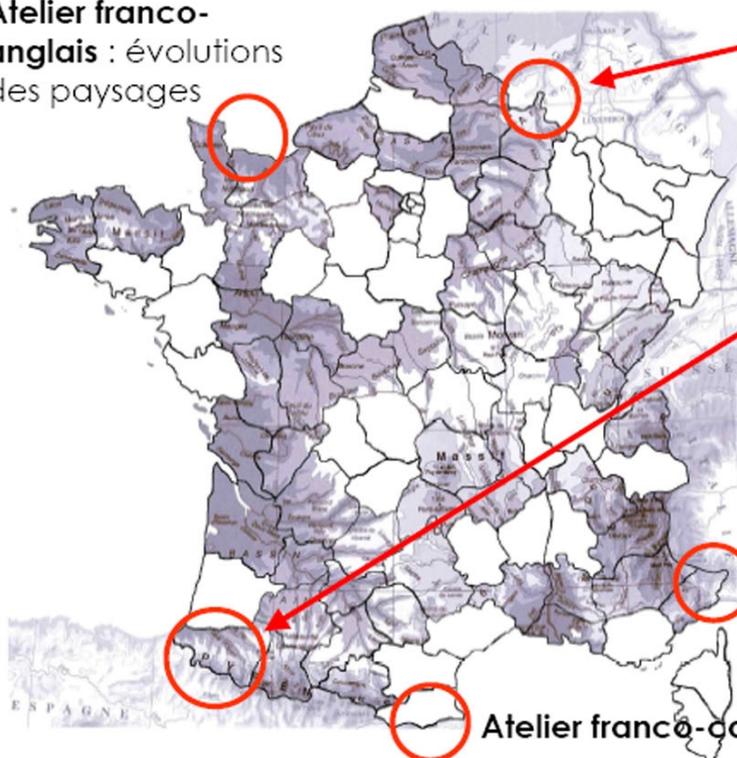
La thématique de ce troisième atelier est la prise en compte des perceptions par les populations dans l'élaboration des documents de connaissance des paysages, appelés en France Atlas de paysages.

La prise en compte des perceptions sociales prend une importance particulière au regard des définitions de paysage (*désigne une partie de territoire telle que perçue par les populations, dont le caractère résulte de l'action de facteurs naturels et/ou humains et de leurs interrelations*) et d'objectif de qualité paysagère (*formulation par les autorités publiques compétentes, pour un paysage donné, des aspirations des populations en ce qui concerne les caractéristiques paysagères de leur cadre de vie*).

Par ailleurs, l'article 6 invite à « à qualifier les paysages identifiés en tenant compte des *valeurs particulières qui leur sont attribuées par les acteurs et les populations concernés* ». Il est donc important de s'interroger sur la façon de recueillir et de rendre compte de ces perceptions dans les documents produits.

## Les Ateliers transfrontaliers

**Atelier franco-anglais :** évolutions des paysages



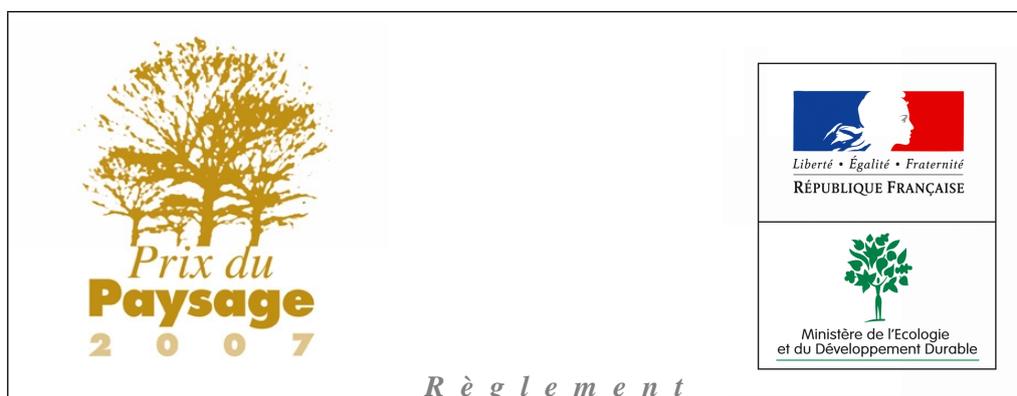
**Atelier franco-wallon :** automne 2005 : validation de la « grille de lecture » des documents produits

**Atelier franco-espagnol :** été 2006. validation des concepts unités, structures, éléments

**Atelier franco-italien :** printemps 2007 : validation de la prise en compte des perceptions sociales

**Atelier franco-catalan :** indicateurs de paysage

### 5) Le Prix du paysage



#### Article 1 : Prix du paysage

Organisé annuellement par le ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable, le PRIX DU PAYSAGE récompense une réalisation exemplaire, achevée depuis au moins trois ans, soit avant le 1<sup>er</sup>

juillet 2004. Il distingue, conjointement, le maître d'ouvrage public et le maître d'œuvre, paysagiste français ou européen, ainsi que, le cas échéant, la ou les associations qui se sont impliquées dans l'opération.

Le Prix du paysage est ouvert à toutes les communes, à leur regroupement, à toutes les collectivités territoriales et aux organismes et établissements publics, français, de Métropole et d'Outre-Mer.

Les opérations doivent s'inscrire dans des politiques de protection, de gestion ou d'aménagement des paysages qui répondent à des objectifs de qualité paysagère, au sens de l'article 1<sup>er</sup> de la Convention européenne du paysage. Des opérations réalisées dans le cadre de programmes transfrontaliers peuvent être présentées.

Ce prix a vocation à distinguer l'adéquation entre la formulation d'une décision publique et la capacité de réponse des paysagistes. Il a aussi pour objectif de mettre en valeur des démarches exemplaires tant à l'échelle nationale qu'europpéenne.

### *Article 2 : Candidature*

Les dossiers de candidature devront être présentés conjointement par le maître d'ouvrage public et le maître d'œuvre et, le cas échéant, la ou les associations qui y auraient contribué.

Ils devront être envoyés, au plus tard le 23 mai 2007 (le cachet de la poste faisant foi), à l'adresse suivante :

Ministère de l'écologie et du développement durable  
Direction de la nature et des paysages  
« PRIX DU PAYSAGE 2006 »  
20, avenue de Ségur  
75302 PARIS 07 SP

Les dossiers de candidature devront comporter :

- La fiche de candidature ci-jointe renseignée et signée,
- Une note de présentation de l'aménagement (20 p. maximum, format A4), reproductible (CD Rom par exemple), comportant un plan de situation et un plan d'ensemble. Deux coupes au moins préciseront la topographie. Des graphiques et photographies mettront utilement en valeur les atouts de la réalisation.

La présentation de la réalisation devra être complétée par des informations sur :

- la problématique et les enjeux,
- la place éventuelle du projet dans une politique du paysage plus large (plan de paysage notamment),
- les objectifs poursuivis,
- la place de la concertation et de la participation du public concerné,
- des éléments de coût (investissement, gestion),
- des éléments de bilan.

Après vérification de la recevabilité des dossiers, il sera demandé deux planches (format A 1) présentant au moins:

- des illustrations de l'état initial et de la réalisation nécessaires à la compréhension de l'opération,
- des photographies avant et après, légendées et localisées.

### *Article 3 : Jury*

Le Prix du paysage est décerné par la ministre en charge de la politique des paysages sur proposition du jury, présidé par le directeur de la nature et des paysages. Le jury est composé de membres désignés par la ministre. Il comprend des personnalités qualifiées dans le domaine du paysage,

françaises et européennes, des représentants de collectivités territoriales et d'organisations professionnelles.

#### *Article 4 : Sélection*

Seuls les dossiers complets, remplissant les conditions indiquées à l'article 2 seront examinés par le jury.

Le jury attachera une égale importance aux réalisations, qu'elles soient de protection, de gestion ou d'aménagement des paysages. Les opérations liées à la planification spatiale (plan de paysage par exemple) seront prises en considération dès lors qu'au moins une réalisation concrète permettra d'évaluer l'intérêt.

Pour désigner le lauréat, le jury établira sa décision à partir des critères suivants :

- L'adéquation de la réalisation par rapport aux objectifs formulés,
- Les principes de conception et de gestion dans une optique de développement durable,
- La préservation et la mise en valeur de la diversité des paysages,
- La qualité de la concertation,
- Le caractère exemplaire ou innovant de l'opération.

Le Prix sera attribué conjointement au maître d'ouvrage et au maître d'œuvre, et le cas échéant, à la ou aux associations qui se sont investies de manière significative dans le projet.

Le jury se réserve la possibilité de décerner une mention spéciale.

La remise du Prix par la ministre de l'Ecologie et du développement durable sera accompagnée par la publication d'une plaquette bilingue présentant l'opération.

Le lauréat du Prix du paysage a vocation à être présenté au Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe.

#### *Article 5 : Engagement*

La participation au Prix du paysage entraîne l'acceptation, sans réserve, du présent règlement ainsi que les décisions du jury.

## **IRELAND / IRLANDE**

## **ITALY / ITALIE**

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** Mauro Agnoletti [mailto:mauro.agnoletti@unifi.it]

**Envoyé :** Wednesday 28 March 2007 13:31

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** documents

**Initiatives for the implementation of the European Landscape convention: Landscape in the Italian Rural Development Plan 2007-2013**, by Prof. Mauro Agnoletti – mauro.agnoletti@unifi.it, Coordinator – working group on landscape, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry – Rome

An important opportunity to implement the European Landscape Convention is represented by the actions and strategies developed for the Italian National Strategic Plan for Rural Development 2007-2013. Although Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is not directly promoting landscape conservation and the new rules allowing subsidies to farmers independent of production will probably further favor abandonment of traditional landscapes, the CAP offer some opportunities to promote traditional landscapes through the National Plans. These plans are required of all member states by the European Commission, and they represent the framework in which all the initiatives concerning the development of the rural territories are planned, supported by the EU funds of the Common Agricultural Policy. In

the case of Italy, the plan is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest Policy. Five working groups were established, each with the task of addressing one relevant issue for the development of the rural territory. One of these was dedicated to landscape.

The creation of the landscape working group is a real innovation in the way rural development and landscape resources have been perceived and interpreted in recent decades. All the laws and regulations concerning landscape enacted between 1923 and 2004, including those to promote nature conservation, aimed at preserving portions of the territory by limiting human activities that are potentially damaging valuable landscape, and certain land use changes. The conservation of landscape can be better achieved, however, not simply placing limits on private or public activities, but by including them in an economic development process in which the advantage of preservation are superior to the benefits of degradation. This can be done with initiatives acknowledging the importance of services linked to landscape and slightly changing the traditional role of farmers often seen simply as “producers”. It is worth remembering that the added value of agritourism is higher than agriculture and forestry production in many rural areas.

The document produced by the working group on landscape presents a state of knowledge report based on a survey at the national scale, but also reports the results of more detailed analyses at the regional level. The document also analyzed forest, agricultural and environmental policies and their influence on landscape, as well as the economic importance of landscape resources. The final chapter of the document includes a list of strategies and actions for preserving and developing landscape resources, related to each of the 4 main axes in which the Common Agricultural Policy is organized. It is the first time that Italy is developing a program like this, and while this is a positive step, there are inherent weaknesses that are related to the current situation of state-region relationships and the structure of the National Plan. Although the main frame of the document relates to all Italy it does not require the regions to accept all the strategies and actions. Therefore, the document on landscape is basically providing a number of possible actions that the regions may choose to include in their rural development plans. This situation is due to the present constitutional framework of the Italian State regulating the relationship between the central government and the regional governments. Nevertheless, we believe that this initiative is of interest also for the other European countries interested in the application of the European Landscape Convention and should be proposed to the attention of the European Commission

**LITHUANIA / LITUANIE**

**LUXEMBOURG**

**MOLDOVA**

**NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS**

**NORWAY / NORVEGE**

**POLAND / POLOGNE**

## PORTUGAL

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** Maria José Festas [mailto:gabdg@dgotdu.pt]

**Envoyé :** Monday 19 March 2007 23:24

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** Statement

We congratulate and welcome the initiative of the Council of Europe in convening this Conference. Portugal signed the European Convention in October 2000, in Florence, and ratified it in December 2004.

The regular convening of these Conferences is of the utmost importance for the implementation and management of the European Landscape Convention. Only by involving all the Member states in its management and implementation can the principles and objectives of the Convention become a reality in the field.

The workshops, although having a different nature, are important as well for the exchange of information and experiences between the Member states, researchers, experts and NGOs.

Since 1976, the “landscape” is mentioned in the Portuguese Constitution. Landscape enhancement is stated as one of the goals of spatial planning. Landscapes must be classified and protected with citizen’s involvement and participation.

The Environmental Act (1987), the Forest Policy Act (1996) and the Cultural Heritage Act (2001), all approved by Parliament, also consider the need to take into account or protect landscape values.

The Spatial and Urban Planning Policy Act, approved by Parliament in 1998, states that the improvement of the population’s living and working standards shall take into account the cultural, environmental and landscape values. It also states that all buildings must be integrated in the existing landscape and contribute to its enhancement and, as well, that man-made landscapes, characterized by its diversity, harmony and their supporting socio-cultural systems must be protected and enhanced.

The first strategic goal of the National Spatial Policy Programme, currently being discussed in Parliament, is “*To conserve and enhance biodiversity, resources and the natural, cultural and landscape heritage to use in a sustainable way, energy and geological resources and prevent or minimize hazards*”.

Within this strategic goal one specific goal is “*To protect and enhance landscapes and cultural heritage*”, as a basis of collective memory, contributing to territorial and cultural identity. Landscape diversity and quality are recognized as crucial territorial resources.

Two of its priority measures are:

– To prepare and implement a National Landscape Rehabilitation and Enhancement Programme, to be started in 2007, to implement the European Landscape Convention and to establish a National Landscape Policy, in coordination with the spatial planning policy, in order to promote and stimulate landscapes’ quality, both in urban and in rural areas;

– To encourage municipalities to define, classify and manage landscape protected areas.

As a result of the current revision of Law 380/99, defining the Portuguese Territorial Management System, landscape shall be given wider and deeper consideration in the framework of spatial and land-use plans.

Besides the implementation of the Convention in the framework of the territorial management system, another priority is to integrate landscape policy in all sectorial policies with territorial impacts.

The basis for this work already exists, as a result of a study on the identification and characterization of Portuguese landscapes, carried-out between 1998 and 2000 by DGOTDU. Besides characterizing the Portuguese landscapes, this study identifies the major existing problems and gives general guidelines for the management of the landscape units it defines.

Landscapes can be and have been changed without any awareness of the consequences for the quality of life of human communities.

Implementing the European Landscape Convention, both at European and at national level, is a priority for us. We are willing to contribute to its implementation at European level, and are working towards it at national level, because the landscape is part of Europe's and each country's identity, while being at the same time a territorial resource to be used in a sustainable way.

To do this we have to be ready:

- To protect “outstanding” or exceptional landscapes, classified as a result of a set of elements and criteria to be defined by consensus with the different sectors, experts and population; after reaching that consensus, these landscapes have to be managed for protection;
- To manage, in a dynamic and sustainable way, all the ordinary landscapes, so that they can answer to the economic, social and cultural needs of the population;
- To rehabilitate simplified landscapes to give them complexity and character, and even more of the need to rehabilitate derelict landscapes;
- To seriously consider the need to plan, design and build “new landscapes”, adapted to the 21 century. “New landscapes” that, while showing the changes and realities of this century, by its quality and character can become a new landscape heritage for future generations.

**ROMANIA / ROUMANIE**

**SAN MARINO / SAINT-MARIN**

**SLOVAK REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE**

**SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE**

**“THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA” / "L'EX-REPUBLIQUE YUGOSLAVE DE MACEDOINE"**

**TURKEY / TURQUIE**

**UKRAINE**

**UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI**

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Baxter, Mark (SLR) [mailto:Mark.Baxter@defra.gsi.gov.uk]

**Sent:** Friday 2 March 2007 10:26

**To:** landscape

**Subject:** UK Speech at the ELC Conference March 2007

The UK Government was delighted to ratify the European Landscape Convention on 21 November 2006. In carefully considering the terms of the Convention the UK considers that it is already compliant with its requirements. Nevertheless we aim to continue to improve performance and we are committed to looking for opportunities to do so as policy is reviewed internally. The UK Government, with its devolved administrations and appropriate agencies, in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, will work to an internal programme of implementation which we shall carefully monitor.

## **SIGNATORY STATES / ETATS SIGNATAIRES**

**AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAÏDJAN**

**GREECE / GRECE**

**HUNGARY / HONGRIE**

**LATVIA / LETTONIE**

**MALTA / MALTE**

-----Original Message-----

From: Anja Delia [<mailto:Anja.Gollnest@mepa.org.mt>]

Sent: Friday 2 March 2007 14:00

To: landscape

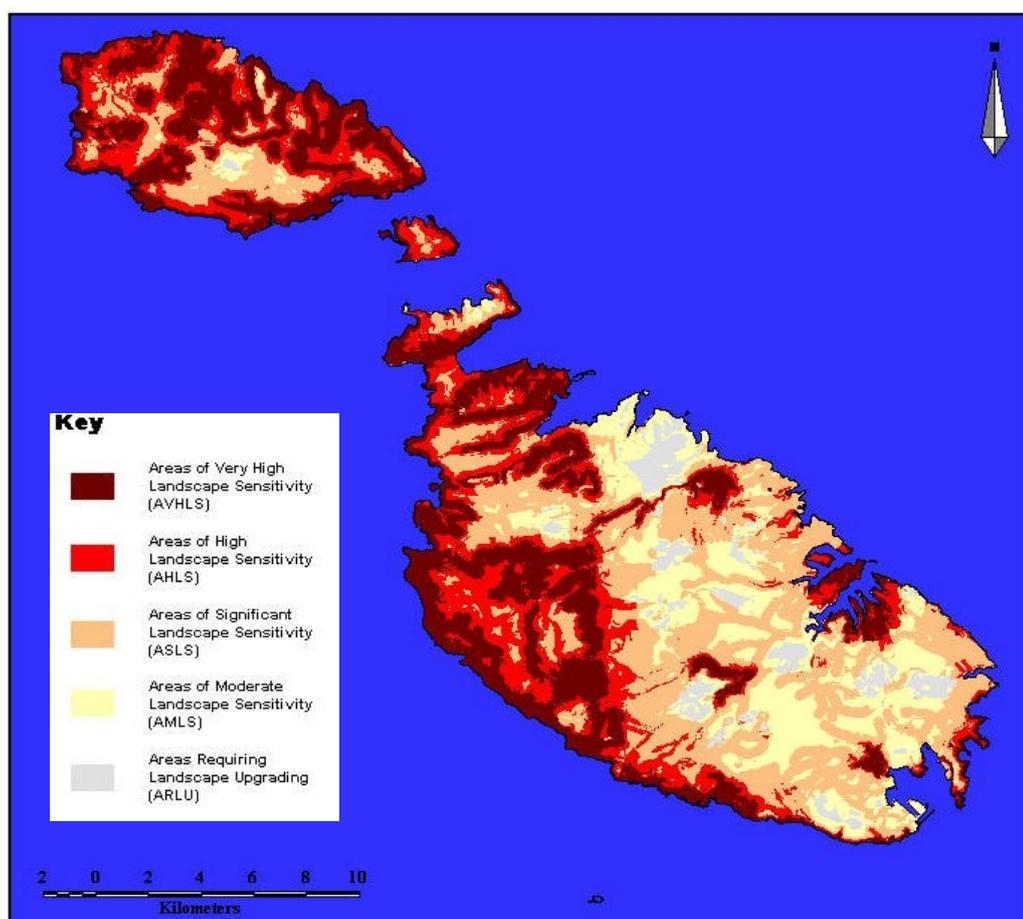
Subject: Presentation for Strasbourg 22.-23.03.07

### **Landscape Sensitivity Assessment Model for Malta - Public Consultation Survey**

#### **Introduction**

Malta has been in the process of preparing a revision of its strategic land-use plan – i.e. the Structure Plan for the Maltese Islands. A number of studies were compiled to support the planning policies which are being developed for this plan. One of them was the Landscape Assessment Study for the Maltese Islands. This study focused on the aesthetic qualities of the Islands and included landscape character assessment, landscape trends and issues as well as the outcome of a landscape sensitivity model.

This model proposes a five-level hierarchy of landscape sensitivities for the Maltese Islands. The scope of this exercise was to develop a framework which provides guidance for future strategic planning. The model is principally based on the Formal Aesthetic Model coupled with aspects of the Psychophysical model of assessing landscapes. It includes a range of natural and man-made parameters which influence landscape sensitivity. The results of the model resulted in the following map:



*Figure 1: Landscape Sensitivity Map of the Maltese Islands*

However, this study represents the opinion of a small group of people. Whatever the approach, the subjective element can never be completely eliminated from landscape assessment. Therefore, in order to validate or otherwise the method developed for Malta, the model was tested with the general public through a carefully formulated questionnaire which was designed to measure the degree of correlation between the landscape sensitivity assessment model and public perception of landscape sensitivity.

This survey also satisfies the provisions in the European Landscape Convention (which Malta has signed in October 2000) which require the signatory states to involve the local population in the identification and evaluation of local landscapes. These provisions also indicate the need of public involvement in landscape assessment as well as the development of policies related to landscape.

## **Methodology**

### **The Questionnaire and the Interview**

The survey was designed around a series of photographs which were shown to the respondents. The selected persons were asked to rate each photo according to a hierarchy. These scores were designed to directly correspond to the hierarchy of landscape sensitivities that emerge from the landscape sensitivity assessment model.

The exercise was based on good quality photographs of areas which are representative of the varied landscape characteristics found within the Maltese Islands. The distribution of areas depicted in the photos was designed in such a manner as to be located on points which are evenly distributed

throughout the Maltese Islands and to reflect the different landscape values emerging from the landscape sensitivity assessment model. The photos were taken to cover medium to long distance views as the model was based on macro-element evaluation rather than the isolated features of the Maltese landscape. Vantage points were often selected for the photographic exercise. Care was taken to ensure that the images were obtained during clear weather conditions, in broad daylight, with the lens covering the same angle of view and with the viewpoints located at roughly similar distances from the main landmarks. Attention was also paid to avoid foreground clutter although this was not always entirely possible.

From a large number of photos a sample of 40 representative images was selected. This number was chosen to limit the interviewing period to around 20 minutes. The photos were sorted by geographical location (going from north to south) and numbered consecutively. Labels were intentionally avoided to reduce bias, since many people would judge the photos with the associations in mind that certain place names evoke, rather than assessing the inherent features of the image.

Participants of the survey were asked to evaluate the photos according to the scenic quality of the areas depicted. This was an intuitive assessment based on the perception of the individual participating in the questionnaire. The respondents were asked to assign a rating between 1 (least pleasant scenery) and 5 (most pleasant scenery) to each photo. The scores were designed to be directly correlated to the 5-level hierarchy emerging from the landscape sensitivity assessment model. Comments by respondents regarding reasons why certain scores were given, were also recorded by the interviewer.

Potential participants were initially contacted over the phone, and if they accepted to participate in the survey, they would be visited by the interviewer in a place of their choice (mostly at their homes).

## **The Participants**

The survey was carried out with a sample of 300 participants. This number was deemed large enough to render the results statistically reliable. Furthermore, other studies in this field had used similar or even lower numbers for their samples. Initially, 300 people were chosen by random selection from the Electoral Register of Malta, which had been stratified by region, age and gender. Furthermore, another list of 600 people was drawn up by the same method, to be used as a reserve in case people on the initial list did not accept to participate, or when it was not possible to get in touch with them. Where it was not possible to get people from the original list to participate, they were replaced by people of the same gender, age group, and – where possible – locality, in order to retain the representation of the sub-samples that had been calculated before.

## **Sampling**

The method used to obtain the sample for this survey is proportionate stratified sampling. This type of sample includes sub-samples that are homogenous regarding a certain variable (e.g. age, gender, etc.), and whose size is based on their proportion in the population. For the purpose of this survey the sample was stratified by:

- Region (Urban area of mainland Malta, Rural area of Malta, and Island of Gozo);
- Age (Age groups 18-35, 36-55, and over 55);
- Gender.

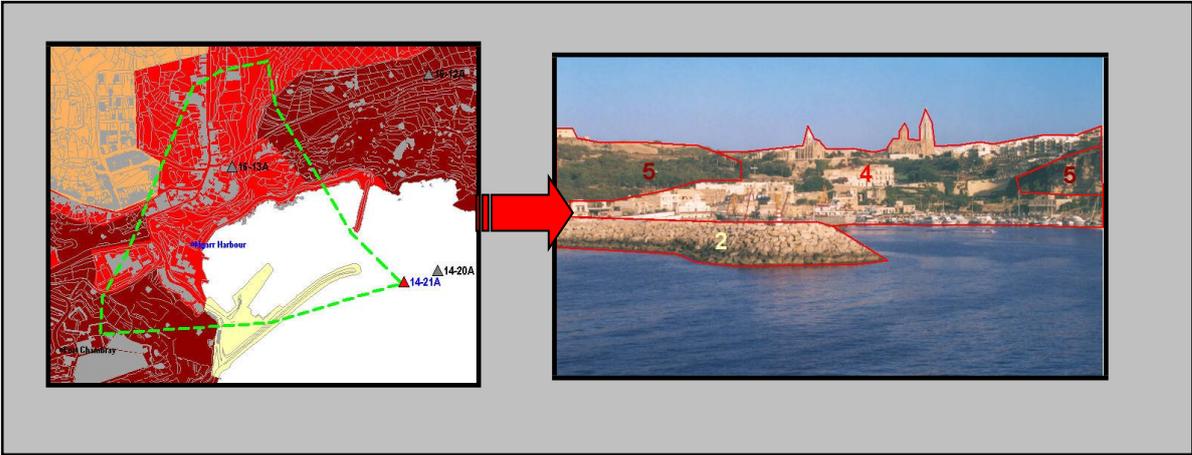
It was assumed that all three parameters influence the way people perceive landscape, and these assumptions were subsequently confirmed by analysing the different sub-samples separately. The lists of the Electoral Register were initially sorted by the above-mentioned parameters (stratification). From the stratified lists, the proportion of each sub-group in relation to the whole population was

established, the same proportion applied to the sample - thus the numbers needed for each sub-sample were obtained.

**Mean Value of Areas Depicted on Photos**

Since the landscape depicted on most of the photos does not have a uniform landscape value, the following method was used to obtain a mean Landscape Model value for each photo (unless the whole area shown on the image had the same value):

- The approximate area as seen on the photo was delineated on the map, with the model output layer underneath, the colours representing the 5 different landscape value levels (see Figure 2 below, image on the left);
- The areas covered by the different levels on the photo were delineated on the photo itself (image on the right), and then the percentage of each assigned sensitivity value to the land area projected on the image was calculated (sky and sea are excluded as they do not have a value in the model).



$$\begin{aligned}
 22\% \times \text{Value } 5 &= 1.08 \\
 58\% \times \text{Value } 4 &= 2.30 \\
 21\% \times \text{Value } 2 &= 0.42
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$= \quad \mathbf{3.80} \text{ (Mean value of area depicted on photo)}$$

*Figure 2: Example for Deriving Model Value for Photos from Map*

**Statistical Methods Used**

The results obtained from the questionnaire had to be correlated with the scores emerging from the model. This was proposed to be undertaken by using the correlation analysis formula according to Pearson.

The correlation factor r according to this method ranges from -1 to 1. Negative correlation factors indicate an inverse correlation, i.e. the larger one parameter, the smaller the other. A positive r factor

indicates a positive correlation. The closer the result is to either of the extremes, the stronger the correlation between the two compared parameters. A correlation factor of 0 means that there is no correlation. In the case of this study, if it transpired that the degree of correlation was higher than 0.75, then it could be inferred that the assumptions undertaken in the generation of the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment Model were basically sound. Otherwise, the exercise had to serve as an indicator of which assumptions were not valid and the degree to which these assumptions were not valid.

Furthermore, the frequency distribution of the five possible answers was calculated for each photo and displayed graphically, for the whole sample as well as for each of the sub-sets. This facilitated recognising trends and sorting the photos according to the popularity of the area.

### **Analysis of Responses**

During the interviews, the participants expressed a range of opinions, and certain patterns in people's perceptions were also observed. Those will be summarised in the following section, since they provide some insights on why people gave particular ratings. This is followed by a description of trends observed in the responses of the different sub-groups, while the various datasets were analyzed.

### **Observations during Interviews**

Apart from the actual assessment of the 40 photographs presented during the questionnaire session, general observations by the interviewers were recorded and later discussed.

A general perception that emerged was that scenic beauty is often associated with cleanliness and tidiness – e.g. there are some high marks for the airport, Hal Far Industrial Estate and the Freeport, to which people remarked that they “used to be much worse”. When people knew an area, they often judged what they *knew* rather than what they *saw* on the photo. Some respondents remarked that the areas looked different on the photos than in reality, possibly nicer – they sometimes pointed out that an eyesore was present just outside the field of view. This is one of the shortcomings of using photography in the questionnaire. On a photo, one can only capture a certain segment of an area. Outside of this segment, the landscape might look very different – this applies particularly to the Maltese landscape, as it is so heterogeneous. Under ideal conditions, the participants of the survey should have been taken on site all at once, so that they could get a 360° view of the areas. However, the practicality of this approach introduces constraints (e.g. logistical problems) which would overcome the advantages accrued by resorting to this particular approach.

Relatively smaller but prominent features in the Maltese landscape were not evaluated in the landscape sensitivity assessment model. However they appear on the photos and are taken into consideration by the person assessing the landscape through the photo. The same applies to clutter. Furthermore, many people knew the areas that were depicted, so they would recognise unsightly features even if those were located in the background of the photo.

In general, the more buildings there were in the photo, the lower the score that the area obtained. Respondents tended to give middle scores to areas they did not know. The landfills of Qortin and Magtab were not always recognised, in which case they sometimes received much higher marks than the model was indicating. The judgement of some people was influenced by the consideration that a certain feature was necessary (e.g. Freeport, Power Station), which resulted in higher scores. Respondents living near the main landfill site or the Freeport tended to give these sites more negative scores than other people, since they are most affected by them.

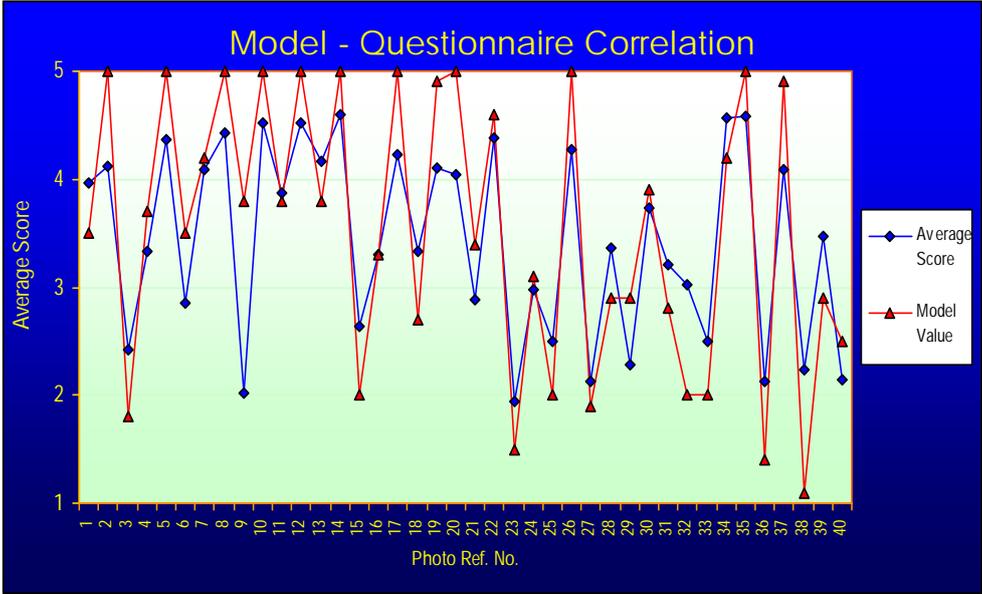
### **Trends in Responses within Sub-Samples**

The stratification of the sub-samples for region, age and gender was undertaken during the sampling phase, as highlighted in Section 2. Subsequently, for each of these sub-samples the mean values and

frequency distribution curves of the responses were calculated and displayed graphically. The results reveal the following trends:

- Regions: Responses from the island of Gozo differed significantly from the ones from mainland Malta, while there was not much difference between the urban and the rural areas of Malta. Most areas received lower ratings from Gozitans than from Maltese, and the difference between the ratings was more pronounced for areas in Malta than for the ones in Gozo.
- Age Groups: Younger people tended to use the full scale of ratings more than older people (over 55 years of age), who were much more reluctant to give low ratings. The older generation often preferred places with some form of building in it (e.g. a church, a palace) to places with “only” greenery. Older people also tended to prefer very green areas to natural but rockier areas (e.g. cliffs, valleys). Therefore, they sometimes even gave the Dwejra Quarries high marks because of the green surroundings. Younger people (18-35) were more critical with all photos that had buildings or some form of clutter in them, but appreciated natural habitats much more than the older generation (e.g. garrigue in the valleys).
- Gender: A very clear pattern emerged - excluding very few areas, men gave lower ratings to the photos than women.

**Quantitative Analysis**



*Figure 3: Correlation of Model Values and Average Scores of Survey*

When comparing the mean values of the responses for each photo to the values assigned to them through the model, a pattern of close correspondence emerges for most of them (see graph below). On average, the mean scores deviate from the model values by 0.5 points, and only for one photo the deviation is more than 1 point. Applying the Pearson correlation formula as explained in **section 2.5**, the result is a correlation factor of 0.88, i.e. a very high positive correlation. This correlation factor also exceeds the target of 0.75 set initially, which proves the Landscape Model valid.

## Interpretation of Results

The results of the public consultation exercise confirm the choice of macro-elements for the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment Model, which were deemed to have a significant influence on the scenic value of the Maltese landscape, as well as whether that influence was positive or negative:

- Landscapes with a varied topography and steeper slopes (average scores ranging from 4.0 to 4.6) scored higher than plains (averages between 2.4 and 4.2). Greener and less built-up areas were also rated highly, and they mainly coincide with the higher and steeper areas, since major developments are mostly located on level and lower ground.
- The proximity to the coast was affirmed to be a major factor contributing positively to landscape values, since open countryside near the coast achieved the highest average ratings. Furthermore, the sea being visible in the photo even raised the scores of urban and industrial areas.
- Valleys received mostly high and very high marks, especially when the vegetation was very green and lush (photos of valleys scored between 4.0 and 4.4 on average).
- Fortifications were also perceived to be of high or very high value; however they tend to be surrounded by other, more modern buildings, which detract from their value according to people's perception (photos of fortifications were rated between 3.3 and 4.2).
- Settlements, as in the model, were on average perceived to be of neutral value – the full range of marks was given, depending on whether people concentrated more on the church in the centre, or the usually modern buildings on the fringe of the settlement, or weighed both against each other.
- Industrial areas, quarries and landfill sites were judged to detract from the scenic value to a great extent. Their average scores ranged from 1.9 to 2.8. However, many of the participants commented that if the areas were rehabilitated (e.g. filling up of quarries and turning them back into agricultural land, or planting on the landfill mounds), their scenic value would increase.

The mean ratings from the public survey compare with the values from the model with a correlation factor of 0.88; i.e. there is a high correlation between them. If one also takes into account that many features visible on the photos (e.g. vegetation, rubble walls, churches, pylons) are not included in the model, this result can be judged even more positively. This implies that the parameters used to develop the model and the evaluation methods correspond to a great extent with public perceptions of the scenic value of the landscape. This exercise has therefore demonstrated that the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment Model could be adopted as a springboard for further strategic policy development in the review of the Structure Plan for the Maltese Islands.

## SPAIN / ESPAGNE

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** linarejos@MCU.ES [mailto:linarejos@MCU.ES]

**Envoyé :** Monday 9 April 2007 13:34

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** RE: RE : Reunion Strasbourg



### *Qu'entendons-nous par paysage culturel*

Il faut entendre par paysage culturel une idée, émanant d'une réalité dynamique et complexe. Cette idée implique la connaissance d'une réalité qui, une fois perçue, est à l'origine d'une image dans l'esprit.

Il s'agit d'une réalité dynamique puisqu'elle est le résultat d'une série de processus de divers genres, qui se sont succédés dans le territoire au fil du temps et qui ont déterminé au fur et à mesure la configuration du caractère du paysage, tel qu'il a été perçu à chaque moment et tel que nous le percevons actuellement.

Il s'agit d'une réalité complexe puisqu'elle est constituée de composantes de natures diverses - culturelles et naturelles, matérielles et immatérielles, tangibles et intangibles – d'une variété de disciplines concernées et d'un grand nombre d'agents impliqués.

### *Approximation au paysage culturel*

Le paysage culturel nécessite une interprétation étant donné qu'il ne s'agit pas de la simple contemplation de ce qui s'offre à la vue du spectateur, mais de son essence, du processus de formation et de sa signification historique. On doit donc faire une lecture diachronique des activités menées sur le territoire, qui constituent la composante fonctionnelle par rapport à l'économie, les modes de vie, les croyances, la culture, etc., et qui déterminent le caractère du paysage.

### *Pourquoi un projet sur les paysages culturels ?*

Le projet Plan de paysages culturels surgit en réponse à la nécessité de trouver les mesures appropriées pour la protection de cette figure qui, à cause de son incorporation récente à l'idéologie patrimonial, ne jouit pas encore de la couverture légale pertinente.

Il constitue le premier pas pour la création d'un Plan National de Paysages Culturels, qui réalise le Ministère de Culture en collaboration avec les Communautés Autonomes, dont le but essentiel réside dans l'identification, la protection et la gestion d'un patrimoine qui, par sa propre spécificité, est très vulnérable et se trouve exposé à une détérioration progressive.

Il cherche à devenir une référence et à établir des critères solides pour le traitement de ce type de patrimoine, aussi bien complexe que nécessitant de l'attention.

### *Objectifs du projet*

Ce projet surgit avec l'objectif fondamental d'impulser la prise de conscience au sujet de la nécessité de reconnaissance des paysages culturels et d'encourager les mesures adéquates pour l'application de traitements appropriés qui, sans entraver un développement cohérent, préservent leur authenticité.

Dans ce sens, l'un des buts essentiels de ce projet est la réalisation d'Études servant de base à la planification de futures actions, qu'elles soient de nature culturelle, touristique, environnementale, d'urbanisme ou d'implantation d'infrastructures. De telle sorte que tant les administrations que les promoteurs ou tout autre agent impliqué dans des actions sur des paysages culturels, disposent d'un outil qui leur fournisse les renseignements nécessaires et leur facilite la planification.

Ce n'est que partant de la connaissance préalable que l'on peut mener à bien une quelconque intervention permettant de rendre compatible le développement socio-économique et la préservation des valeurs culturelles du paysage.

### *Lignes directrices générales pour l'étude de paysages culturels*

Afin d'atteindre les objectifs proposés, toute Etude doit partir de la définition d'un **contenu** et des **ressources** minimales pour sa réalisation. Toujours sur la base de deux paramètres indissociables : espace et temps, qui procurent l'échelle territoriale et le caractère diachronique des processus ayant configuré un paysage aux caractéristiques déterminées.

#### CONTENU DE L'ÉTUDE

- **Identification** du paysage culturel. Définition et délimitation de la portée de l'étude.
- **Valeurs naturelles**
  - Substrat naturel. Géologie et morphologie
  - Climat
  - Hydrologie
  - Biodiversité : sol, flore, végétation, faune et écologie de paysage
- **Valeurs culturelles**
  - Identification des usages et de l'exploitation des ressources naturelles existantes. Types et distribution (minéraux, forêts, eau, etc.) Utilisation du sol dans le passé et de nos jours.
  - Les constructions. Agglomérations de population et établissements humains de natures diverses, types de bâtiments et d'installations et leur distribution. Établissement des conditions qui déterminent leur emplacement et la relation existant entre eux.
  - D'autres éléments isolés et infrastructures associées aux activités sociales et économiques.
  - Sites historiques et archéologiques enregistrés
  - Voies de communication et de transport : des vieux chemins, routes, chemin de fer, etc.
  - Aspects sociaux, intangibles et immatériels : célébrations, mythes et légendes, traditions, etc.
- **Perception**
  - Comment cela est perçu visuellement et intellectuellement de nos jours
  - La perception historique, à travers les documents, les témoignages de spécialistes et de voyageurs, de la littérature, la peinture ou la photographie.
  - La vision pratique, du point de vue de la consommation: le tourisme culturel, les itinéraires, belvédères, centres d'interprétation, etc.
  - Points de vue et opinions des institutions, des habitants de la zone et des experts en la matière.
- **Interprétation**

Identification des éléments clé qui configurent le caractère du paysage culturel et qui déterminent sa singularité.
- **Situation juridique.** Données relatives à la propriété et aux réglementations légales qui la concernent, par exemple portant sur l'urbanisme.
- **Forces et faiblesses.**
  - Identification des aspects ou éléments les plus solides et représentatifs du paysage, qui servent à garantir sa conservation.
  - Identification des aspects négatifs et/ou des menaces qui altèrent ou sont susceptibles d'altérer l'intégrité du paysage, avec une évaluation de leurs incidences.

- L'étude doit inclure finalement des **propositions** en vue d'établir les bases de gestion du paysage culturel, fondées sur les résultats obtenus.

#### RESSOURCES POUR SA RÉALISATION

- Toponymie. Toponymes anciens et actuels
- Cartographie. Toutes les éditions existantes des cartes suivantes doivent être utilisées, sur toutes les échelles disponibles : topographiques, d'usages du sol, thématiques, géologiques, historiques.
- Photographie aérienne. Actuelle et antérieure, si elle existe.
- Sources documentaires. Documentation écrite et graphique (plans, photos, etc.) des archives.
- Sources bibliographiques

Mars, 2007



#### *What we understand by a cultural landscape*

Cultural landscape must be understood as an idea derived from a dynamic and complex reality. This implies the awareness of a reality that, when perceived, generates a mental image.

Reality is dynamic because it results from a series of diverse processes which have taken place in a territory over time. These processes have gradually defined the character of landscape, just as it has been perceived at each moment as well as it is perceived at present.

Reality is complex because it comprises components of different nature (cultural and natural, material and immaterial, tangible and intangible) and too due to the variety of aspects concerned and the different agents involved.

#### *Approach to landscape*

Landscape requires an interpretation since it is not merely what is visible to spectators. Its essence is related to how it was formed and to its meaning in history. Thus, a diachronic understanding of the activities and processes which determined their changes and evolution is required. Processes related to economy, lifestyles, beliefs, cultures, etc., determined the features and character of landscape.

#### *Why a project on cultural landscapes*

The *Plan of Cultural Landscapes* has arisen in response to the need to adopt appropriate measures for the protection of this concept that, because their recent incorporation into the idea of cultural heritage, does not find yet an adequate legal protection framework.

This project is the first step towards the creation of a National Plan for Cultural Landscapes, which it's implemented by the Ministry of Culture with the collaboration of the Autonomous Communities. Its aim is to identify, protect and manage landscapes. This heritage due to its specific extensive nature, is extremely vulnerable and exposed to increasing deterioration

This plan intends to provide a reference system of quality values as well as to establish consistent criteria to deal with this specific heritage which is as complex as needed of attention

### ***Goals of the project***

This project has been created to promote awareness on cultural landscapes and to favour adequate measures to preserve landscape character without hindering coherent development. A main goal of the project is to carry out studies. These will be used as planning basis for subsequent actions of different nature including cultural, environmental, touristic, land use planning and infrastructures initiatives. Authorities, developers, communities and any other agent operating in landscape will be provided with an information and a guidance tool to help planning processes.

Only the deep knowledge and information will allow to carry out adequately any social and economic development which is to be compatible with the preservation of landscape values.

### ***General guidelines for the study of cultural landscapes***

Studies on landscapes must first establish their **contents** and identify available **resources** of landscape information. They must take account the space and time and their relationship considering the territorial scale and the diachronic nature of processes which have shaped the landscape and its specific features

#### CONTENTS OF THE STUDY

- **Identification** of cultural landscapes. Definition and delimitation of the field of the study.
- **Natural values**
  - Natural substrate. Geology, morphology
  - Climate
  - Water and Hydrology
  - Biodiversity: soil, flora, vegetation, fauna and landscape ecology, etc.
- **Cultural values**
  - Natural resources and their exploitation along time: land use, water catchments, mining, forestry, cropping, fishing, etc. Land use in the past and at the present time.
  - Settlement pattern along time: townships, nuclei and towns, installations, infrastructures and buildings. Establishment of the constructions determining the landscape's location and the relationships between them.
  - Other social and economic infrastructures and equipments from past and present: harbours of fishing, stables, wood industries, etc.
  - Historic and archaeological sites
  - Communication systems along time: old roads, paths, railroad, etc.
  - Social, intangible and immaterial aspects: Celebrations, myths and legends, traditions, etc.
- **Perception**
  - How they are visually and intellectually perceived at the present.
  - How they have been perceived over time, through the documents, comments from travellers and those who have studied the landscapes, references in literature, painting or photographs.
  - The pragmatic view, from the standpoint of consumers: cultural tourism, itineraries, belvederes, information centres, etc.
  - Viewpoints and opinions of institutions, inhabitants in the area and experts in the matter.
- **Interpretation**  
Identification of the key elements making up the character of cultural landscapes and determining their singularity.
- **Legal status.** Details on land ownership and the statutory instruments affecting them, for instance town planning regulations.
- **Strengths and weaknesses.**
  - Identification of the firmest and most representative aspects or elements of the landscapes that can guarantee their conservation.
  - Identification of the negatives (or potentially) aspects altering the integrity of the landscapes, with an assessment of their impact.
- Finally, the study must include **proposals** to establish the guidelines for managing the cultural landscapes, based on the results obtained.

RESOURCES FOR CARRYING OUT THE STUDY

- Toponymy. Former and current toponyms
- Maps. Access must be had to all editions in existence, at all available scales, of the following maps: Topographical maps, Land use maps, Thematic maps, Geological maps, Historical maps.
- Aerial photography. Current and previous, if available.
- Documentary sources. Written and graphic documentation (plans, photographs, etc.) in archives.
- Bibliographical sources.

*March, 2007*

**SWEDEN / SUEDE**

**SWITZERLAND / SUISSE**

**III - OBSERVERS / OBSERVATEURS**

**1. MEMBER STATES / ETATS MEMBRES**

**ALBANIA / ALBANIE**

**ANDORRA / ANDORRE**

**AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE**

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE**

**ESTONIA / ESTONIE**

**GEORGIA / GEORGIE**

**GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE**

**ICELAND / ISLANDE**

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION / FEDERATION DE RUSSIE**

**SERBIA / SERBIE**

**OBSERVER STATES / ETATS OBSERVATEURS**

**HOLY SEE / SAINT-SIEGE**

## APPENDIX 11

### PRESENTATION OF ACTIVITIES OF GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS DEDICATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS / ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EEA) / AGENCE EUROPEENNE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (AEE)

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION / ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'EDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE (UNESCO)

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF FOREST IN EUROPE (MCPFE) / CONFÉRENCE MINISTÉRIELLE SUR LA PROTECTION DES FORÊTS EN EUROPE (CMPFE)

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** Mauro Agnoletti [mailto:mauro.agnoletti@unifi.it]

**Envoyé :** Wednesday 28 March 2007 13:31

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** documents

#### **Guidelines for the implementation of cultural values in Sustainable Forest Management**

The “Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe” (MCPFE) is a high-level political initiative for co-operation. It addresses common opportunities and threats related to forests and forestry and promotes sustainable management of forests in Europe. Launched in 1990, it is the political platform for the dialogue on European forest issues. Around 40 European countries and the European Community are represented in the MCPFE. Furthermore non-European countries and international organisations participate as observers. Thus, the MCPFE provides not only a forum for co-operation of ministers responsible for forests, but also allows non-governmental and intergovernmental organisations to contribute with their knowledge and ideas. In this framework MCPFE has produced pan-European indicators for sustainable management supporting also the development of forest certification standards.

Certification was introduced as a market-based effort to foster sustainable management of forests, including aspects such as human rights of indigenous populations, poverty alleviation, and respect for conservation legislation. The initial interest, however, was driven mainly by concerns over the exploitation of tropical forests and reported losses of some species from these forests. It is apparent that none of the existing certification protocols in the world have made specific efforts to articulate the importance of culture and history as a guide for land management decisions, nor even as a major component of management plans. These protocols also do not fully identify landscape histories or culturally important landscapes as central considerations for future management decisions.

European forests have been shaped by millennia of human that have affected all their features, and they represent a fundamental part of the cultural heritage of the continent. Their origins and present features cannot be fully understood without considering their historical evolution and the role they play in the European landscape. Socioeconomic development, the abandonment of marginal lands, renaturalization, and inappropriate policies are rapidly erasing cultural values and contributing to the globalization of landscape, often simplified into areas either managed for commercial exploitation or areas left to natural evolution. Although, timber production is regulated and the ecological functions and natural values protected by a number of EU directives, cultural values in forestry are not preserved

by specific European initiatives at management and only partially recalled in certification standards and Pan European indicators for SFM. Failure to coherently address culture and history may very well be a growing weakness that will have to be reconciled if the public is to have any confidence in the protocols designed to recognize well-managed forests and, ultimately, sustainable management.

Taking into consideration the lack of important initiatives on this issue, MCPFE has finally recognized the importance of culture for SFM. The resolution 3, produced during the last Conference held in Vienna in 2003 entitled "Preserving and enhancing the social and cultural dimension of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe" has not only clearly recognized that the relationships between people and forests are reflected in landscape, but also started a process to include cultural values in SFM, promoting a number of scientific meetings. After the last meeting held in Florence in June 2006, clearly addressing the role of landscape values in SFM, a proposal for the implementation of the declaration 3 was discussed within the International Union of Forestry research Organization and MCPFE. On the occasion of the MCPFE Expert Level Meeting held on 9-10 October 2006 in Warsaw, Poland, it was proposed to develop scientific guidelines for implementation of Vienna Resolution 3. This proposal was unanimously welcomed by the participants of the Expert Level Meeting and supported also by the United Nation Forum for Forests. In the development of the guidelines, also the need for additional pan-European indicators addressing landscape values will be considered. Ultimately, the guidelines could form an annex to the General Declaration of the 5th Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, to be convened in November 2007.

According to the role of Coordinator of the international expert group established to develop the guidelines, I am proposing the collaboration and support of the European Landscape Convention for the development and promotion of the guidelines.

The coordinator  
Prof. Mauro Agnoletti

Prof. Mauro Agnoletti  
[www.forestlandscape.unifi.it](http://www.forestlandscape.unifi.it)

**NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS /  
ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES**

***INTERNATIONAL / INTERNATIONALES***

**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES (ICOMOS) / CONSEIL  
INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES (ICOMOS)**

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ARCHAEOLOGISTS (EAA)/ ASSOCIATION  
EUROPÉENNE DES ARCHÉOLOGUES (EAA)**

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** FAIRCLOUGH, Graham [mailto:Graham.Fairclough@english-heritage.org.uk]

**Envoyé :** Monday 19 March 2007 16:39

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** RE: RE : March 07 Conference – EAA

The European Association of Archaeologists is a membership-based society open to all archaeologists and related individuals or bodies. We are the only formal organisation of individual archaeologists operating at European level. Working from offices in Prague, we bring together archaeologists in heritage boards and government agencies, commercial organisations, Universities and Museums. Founded in 1993, it has since 1996 held observer status in the Council of Europe and works closely with the European Archaeological Council. The Association's aims, summarised very broadly, include the promotion of archaeological research and information exchange, the management and

interpretation of Europe's archaeological heritage and co-operation with other organisations with similar aims.

The Association publishes an annual journal and a more frequent on-line newsletter, and its members contribute to a great many other publications in many countries. Many working groups come under its aegis, covering topics such as the trade on antiquities, comparative studies of archaeological legislation in European countries, or the effect of modern agricultural change on the archaeological landscape. One of its primary activities, however, is its annual meeting and conference. This moves around Europe and since the first in Santiago de Compostella in 1995 it has been held across Europe, from Gothenburg to Ravenna and from Lisbon and Cork to Riga and St Petersburg. The 2007 conference will be in September in Zadar, Croatia.

The Association's membership numbers well over 1000, from 41 countries, mainly in Europe but also world-wide, including archaeologists from most European countries but also from the Americas, Africa, Australia and Asia. It is one of the Association's strengths, however, that this membership is not static. About 50% of the membership each year reflects the location of that year's meetings and thus over the years several thousands of archaeologists have aligned themselves with, and contributed to, the Association's aims. We are in this way creating very large and influential networks of archaeologists.

Landscape is a central concept to archaeological theory and practice, just as history and the material remains of the past and their understanding in the present day are essential aspects of landscape. There are always several sessions on landscape at every annual conference. These generally include Round Tables on the Convention and comparative discussions of how the heritage management of landscape is carried out in different countries. As a result, there are communities of archaeologists in most countries able to play a role in developing the inter-disciplinary understanding and management of landscape that is envisaged by the Convention.

The Association is fully supportive of the aims of the Landscape Convention, as it is of the Council's other heritage conventions. I am therefore very pleased on behalf of the membership to offer the support of the Association, at European or national level, for the Convention's implementation; we have members and associates in every country whose knowledge of landscape and expertise of landscape management can assist with implementation at national, regional and European level.

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS (ECLAS) /  
CONSEIL EUROPÉEN DES ÉCOLES D'ARCHITECTURE DU PAYSAGE (ECLAS)**

-----Message d'origine-----

De : Ingrid Sarlöv-Herlin [mailto:Ingrid.Sarlov-Herlin@ltj.slu.se]

Envoyé : Monday 5 March 2007 16:18

À : DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

Objet : ECLAS presentation for conference

**ECLAS and the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.**

*By Richard STILES, Department of Landscape Architecture Vienna University of Technology, Austria and Ingrid SARLÖV HERLIN, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Landscape Planning, Horticulture and Agriculture, SLU, Sweden. (To be presented by Ingrid SARLÖV HERLIN).*

Landscape architecture is the discipline concerned with the conservation and development of the landscape together with its associated meanings and values for the benefit of current and future generations, through landscape planning, design and management. The European Landscape Convention commits signatory states to provide: 'training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations' (Article 6), and calls on them to exchange information, research results and landscape specialists (Article 8). The interests of ECLAS, The European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools, and the Council of Europe clearly coincide very closely. Therefore ECLAS acknowledges very much the fact that the organisation is invited to play an active role in the Workshops on the

implementation of the Convention which are organised by the Council of Europe. Here the current contributions of ECLAS to the implementation of the Convention will be presented:

ECLAS was set up to further cooperation between university landscape architecture programmes across Europe and to represent the discipline in a broader European context. The goals are to: ‘foster and develop scholarship in landscape architecture throughout Europe by strengthening contacts and enriching the dialogue between members of Europe’s landscape academic community, by representing the interests of this community within the wider European social and institutional context and by making the collective expertise of ECLAS available, where appropriate, in furthering the discussion of landscape architectural issues at the European level.’

The LE:NOTRE Project (‘Landscape Education: New Opportunities for Teaching and Research in Europe’) is a European Union funded Thematic Network in Landscape Architecture. Since the start of the project in October 2002 the number of member universities has increased from 72 to more than 100. A wide range of professional and other stakeholder organisations participate in the Network. One of the central goals of LE:NOTRE has been to make use of the funding to strengthen European cooperation by developing effective tools to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project outcomes. Central to this has been the creation of the project web site ([www.le-notre.org](http://www.le-notre.org)), which has evolved into a powerful and richly interactive means of communicating and sharing information between all project members.

JoLA is a new peer-reviewed ‘Journal of Landscape Architecture’. It appears biennially and was established by ECLAS with the help of the LE:NOTRE Project. The launch of the JoLA in 2006 coincided with a time of significant change in Europe and a burgeoning of intellectual confidence in Landscape Architecture. The rich and diverse cultural backgrounds of European Landscape Architecture require exposure to global contexts and vice versa. Although JoLA has a European base, its perspective is international and it seeks to draw in global perspectives, both in terms of submissions and readership.

The establishment of the European Urban Landscape Partnership through the LE:NOTRE Project is both a reaction to the request of the funding agency to involve public authorities in the work of Thematic Networks, and an initiative responding to the growing recognition of the importance of the urban landscape within various fields of European policy. The European Landscape Convention is the first treaty to put the landscape at the centre of European policy; it is also significant because it stresses the equal importance of urban and peri-urban landscapes with natural and rural ones. The European Union’s Thematic Strategy for the Urban Environment also puts the focus of attention on the quality of the urban environment and makes specific reference to the importance of green space within urban areas. The European Urban Landscape Partnership intends to build on the many bilateral relationships that already exist between university landscape architecture departments and their local municipal authorities. The new European network of cities and universities aims to support the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in urban areas.

ECLAS has recently made significant contributions to European higher education policy through being part of the ‘Tuning Project’ via LE:NOTRE, and to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention. In its January 2006 higher education policy document, ‘From Bergen to London: The EU Contribution’, the European Commission states: At higher education level, the preparation of sectoral EQFs (European Qualification Frameworks) has started by groups of academics working together in a Commission supported project called Tuning Educational Structures in Europe. The Tuning project develops reference points for common curricula on the basis of agreed competences and cycle level descriptors for a series of subject areas. In the present phase 2005-2006, it has expanded its scope from the 9 initial fields to 18 more subject areas, totalling 27 fields of study and work. Through the ECLAS’s LE:NOTRE project, landscape architecture has become one of the core areas in the Tuning Project and thus one of the 27 fields of study referred to above. The annual ECLAS conference provides the main mechanism for this international exchange. Since 1991, when the first conference was held at Wageningen in the Netherlands, international conferences have been

hosted in all corners of Europe, from Oslo to Ankara and from Berlin to Lisbon. The ECLAS Conference 2007 will be held in Belgrade; 2008 in Genoa, 2009 in Sheffield and 2010 in Istanbul.

**EUROPEAN FOUNDATION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE (EFLA) / FONDATION EUROPÉENNE POUR L'ARCHITECTURE DU PAYSAGE (EFLA)**

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gertjan Jobse [mailto:gertjanjobse@yahoo.co.uk]

**Sent:** Friday 9 March 2007 02:08

**To:** landscape

**Subject:** summary presentation EFLA

**The contribution of landscape architects for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention**

*By Michael DOWNING (UK), Kine HALVORSEN THORÉN (Norway) and Gertjan JOBSE (the Netherlands). (To be presented by Gertjan JOBSE). Secretariat: efla.feap@skynet.be*

**1. Who we are: EFLA/IFLA**

EFLA represents the landscape architect profession within the Council of Europe area.

EFLA is the professional organization for landscape architecture in Europe; membership is open to national associations in countries which are members of the Council of Europe.

EFLA has 18 member associations and 16 candidate associations and represents around 6000 landscape architects within the Council of Europe.

From 1st January 2007 EFLA is the European Region of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA).

**2. What we do: our aims/partners**

The Foundation's main aims are to promote the profession of landscape architecture at a European level, to represent the profession to the institutions of the European Union, the Council of Europe and to other pan European bodies

The other main aim is to provide an active framework for spreading information about landscape architecture both within and outside the profession, and particularly to ensure high and comparable standards of education and professional practice.

**3. What is the main contribution from our profession to implement the ELC?**

- Work with all kinds of landscapes mentioned in the convention: the everyday landscape, the rural landscapes and the “red list” landscapes.
- Think prospective about (the) future (of) landscapes, e.g. by using scenario methods.
- We focus on design as well as planning and management, so not only conservation.
- Assessment of landscape values. Our contribution is the 3 dimensional understanding of the landscape combined with peoples needs and the dimension of time.
- Public participation as an essential part of contemporary planning practice; to reach out to the public and actors in the field,.
- Show the need for good planning practice: set quality standards, focus on the process of planning and show best practices from the field.

**4. What will EFLA / IFLA do**

EFLA commits itself to active promotion of the European Landscape Convention, formulation of proposals for concrete action and contribute to the implementation of it.

**– We want to support countries that have not signed or ratified the Convention**

We will bring practical information of useful experiences and good examples from other countries. What kind of work has been done to influence national governments?

We will support national associations in a few selected countries, as they are the most effective level. e.g. We are invited by the Icelandic landscape architect association to inform them about our work with the ELC.

Pass information to the members: information about the European Landscape Convention can be communicated using the EFLA homepage and newsletter.

Attending the Council of Europe conferences/working groups. We will at least send 2 representatives to the conferences (at this conference we are 3 representatives).

– **We want to get an overview of the status of implementation**

We need more knowledge from each EFLA country about the status of the implementation of the convention; questions could be: has anything happened to legislation, to professional practice, with public participation, within the education, with the assessment methods used, etc.

– **We need educated professionals**

How can we bring more information about the convention to the landscape architect education? How can the convention be used in the education of landscape architects?

One of the actions planned is contacting universities of ‘target’ countries regarding education on the ELC and inform/update/exchange information. An example of this is that the landscape architect education at University of Life Sciences at Aas in Norway describes that the study is in accordance with the ELC in the main goal.

We will help to communicating information about the European Landscape Convention to the professional and academic community, using journals to present best practices. An example of this is the recently published book “Fieldwork, landscape architecture Europe” that gives an overview of cross-cutting projects throughout Europe.

EFLA collaborates with the European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools (ECLAS) and with the European Landscape Architects Students Association (ELASA) on education, research and training. One idea might be to arrange a common student competition or a European Summer School?

– **We need to network and cooperate**

We do work closely with governmental bodies that develop directives and policies concerning the natural and man-made environment. An example of this is the EU monitoring group within EFLA. This group wants to set a standard for monitoring landscape in EU policy and lobby for policies affecting landscape.

EFLA is a member of the European Environment Bureau (EEB) and aims to work closely with other related pan-European professional bodies, such as the Architects Council of Europe (ACE), the European Council of Town Planners (ECTP) and the European Council of Interior Architects (ECIA).

We want to cooperate in the NGO network that is going to be established. We need to influence people. We believe it is important to work with other actors such as NGOs and market parties. We need to work together to voice our opinion and to start a debate on issues affecting landscapes.

**INSULA/UNESCO**

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** D’Ayala, Pier Giovanni [mailto:pg.d-ayala@unesco.org]

**Envoyé :** Wednesday 4 April 2007 11:17

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Objet :** texte intervention

Mr Chairman, Dear colleagues,

It is with interest that my organisation INSULA follows the progress in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention adopted in Florence on 20 October 2000 and entered in force on 1st March 2004, with the aim of promoting European landscape protection, management and planning, and organising European co-operation.

The present meeting offers us examples of interesting achievements in several countries having adhered to the convention, and offers new windows for further progress.

Nevertheless Mr Chairman, allow me to call your attention on the fact that no reference is made in the convention's instruments nor in the case studies to the specificities of the European Islands. Specificities which were recognized by the E.U. since 1997 in the treaty of Amsterdam.

European Islands and coastal zones are, you may agree Mr Chairman, vulnerable territories with limited resources, while their natural and cultural landscapes highly diversified and fragile represent a precious common heritage deserving all our attention.

Sustainable development of such territories means above all the understanding of their handicaps and relative advantages, shading lights upon and orienting the appropriate policies and management approaches. It is within such a methodological framework that INSULA and its institutional partners, UNESCO and the European Commission, have promoted the islanders strategies for progress.

The concept of natural and cultural landscapes as developed by the Florence Convention and subsequent elaborations, offer in the case of islands convincingly strong hermeneutic qualities. This is why we propose for 2008 a first International gathering on island landscapes, as the basis for a development strategy of a consistent protected area (140.000 hectares), the Nebrodi Regional Park, located on the North-East Coast of Sicily, representing a transect from 1400 meters above the sea level till the Tyrrhenian coast . An area endowed with unique biodiversity and cultural values.

The meeting will be organized in cooperation with UNESCO, the Italian authorities and the Sicilian Regional Government within the Frame of the "Piano Strategico dei Nebrodi" (the Nebrodi Strategic Plan) implemented by the municipality of Sant'Agata di Militello, heading a coalition of the municipalities of the Nebrodi Park.

INSULA of course offers its technical support for the endeavour. In the name of the organizers, Mr chairman, I have the privilege to invite the honourable representatives of the countries participating in our present Conference, and of course the Council of Europe to join us in Sicily and share with our hosts experience, know-how and of course Friendship and peace.

Thank you for your attention.

Short presentation by Pier Giovanni d' Ayala,  
Secretary General of INSULA,  
International Scientific Council for Island Development,  
c/o UNESCO MAB,  
1, rue Miollis,  
75015 Paris (France)  
insula@unesco.org  
www.insula.org  
<http://insula.aceboard.com>

**RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET RÉGIONAUX POUR LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DE LA CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE (RECEP)/ EUROPEAN NETWORK OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION (RECEP)**

-----Message d'origine-----

**De :** Riccardo Priore [mailto:[riccardo\\_priore@fastwebnet.it](mailto:riccardo_priore@fastwebnet.it)]

**Envoyé :** Wednesday 25 April 2007 17:05

**À :** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Cc :** Presidente della RECEP; Milena Di Pede

**Objet :** texte intervention Mme Cundari Strasbourg, 22.03.07

**Importance :** Haute



RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET RÉGIONAUX  
POUR L'APPLICATION DE LA CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE

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Naples, 22.03.07

**Texte de l'intervention de Mme Gabriella Cundari, Présidente du RECEP - Ministre de l'aménagement du territoire de la Région Campanie - à l'occasion de la Conférence des Etats membres du Conseil de l'Europe sur la *Convention européenne du paysage* - Strasbourg, 22-23 mars 2007 (le texte prononcé fait foi)**

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Monsieur le Président de la Conférence, Mesdames, Messieurs,

Je souhaite tout d'abord vous remercier vivement pour votre accueil chaleureux.

Comme nous le savons, en sa qualité de traité international, la Convention européenne du paysage (CEP) établit des principes qui engagent les Etats contractants à adopter des politiques et des mesures susceptibles de promouvoir la qualité du paysage sur l'ensemble de leur territoire national, et ce, en impliquant les populations concernées dans les processus décisionnels correspondants. Dans cette perspective, la CEP représente une expression juridique internationale d'un projet politique visant à l'affirmation d'une nouvelle approche publique du thème du paysage à l'échelle continentale.

Les dispositions de la CEP relatives à la répartition des responsabilités publiques se réfèrent explicitement au principe de subsidiarité et à l'autonomie locale. Sur cette base, la CEP engage les Etats contractants à impliquer les autorités locales et régionales dans la définition et la mise en œuvre des politiques du paysage, dans les processus d'identification et de qualification des paysages ainsi que dans la formulation des objectifs de qualité et l'intervention dans les territoires concernés. L'entrée en vigueur de ces dispositions à l'échelle nationale a poussé un nombre croissant de collectivités territoriales à renforcer leur engagement institutionnel en matière de paysage. Dans certain cas, ceci demande une adaptation de leur outillage technique, administratif, réglementaire et/ou législatif.

Conscient de l'ampleur de cet engagement, le Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux (Congrès), institution du Conseil de l'Europe à l'origine de la CEP, dans sa Résolution 178 (2004) a formellement incité les collectivités territoriales du continent à mettre en place un organisme de coopération chargé de les soutenir dans leurs activités de mise en œuvre de la CEP à l'échelle locale et régionale.

En réponse à cette Recommandation, le 30 mai 2006, à l'initiative de la Région Campanie (Italie), vingt-deux collectivités territoriales européennes ont constitué à Strasbourg, auprès du Conseil de l'Europe, le Réseau européen des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage (RECEP). Suite aux dernières adhésions, les Membres du RECEP sont actuellement trente-trois<sup>4</sup>. D'autres collectivités locales et régionales sont candidates à l'adhésion ou ont manifesté un intérêt à cet égard.

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<sup>4</sup> Situation au 22 mars 2007.

Formellement établi sous l'égide du Congrès du Conseil de l'Europe, le RECEP est une organisation internationale non gouvernementale constituée d'autorités publiques de niveau infra-étatique. Son objectif statutaire est de soutenir les collectivités locales et régionales sur les plans scientifique, technique, politique et administratif dans leurs activités de mise en œuvre des principes de la CEP au sein de leurs territoires.

Le RECEP vise à favoriser l'approfondissement et la diffusion des connaissances en matière de paysage. Au sein du RECEP, les Membres ont l'opportunité de coopérer dans un cadre spécifique, avec le soutien d'une structure internationale, en établissant de contacts avec les organisations internationales compétentes, les institutions communautaires, les autorités concernées des Etats, les organisations non gouvernementales, les universités ainsi qu'avec d'autres entités intéressées par la mise en œuvre des principes de la CEP.

Conformément aux Statuts, les organes du RECEP sont l'Assemblée générale, le Conseil de direction, le Groupe technique de coordination et le Comité scientifique. Lors de sa première réunion (Strasbourg, Conseil de l'Europe, 20 mars 2007), l'Assemblée générale :

- a arrêté les lignes directrices du travail pour les deux prochaines années ;
- suite à sa réélection, a élu M. Joaquim Nadal i Farreras, Ministre de l'Urbanisme et de l'Aménagement du territoire et les Travaux publics de la Région Catalogne (Espagne), Mme Giuliana Motti, Ministre de la Culture et du Paysage de la Province de Reggio Emilia (Italie) et M. Etienne Van Varenbergh, Conseiller municipal de la Commune de Lennik (Belgique) en tant que Vice-présidents du Réseau ;
- a exprimé sa volonté de confirmer M. Riccardo Priore, fonctionnaire du Conseil de l'Europe, dans sa position de Directeur général<sup>5</sup>.

Les personnes souhaitant obtenir des renseignements complémentaires sur le RECEP peuvent nous contacter directement [email : [info@recep-enelc.net](mailto:info@recep-enelc.net)] ou consulter notre site web [[www.recep-enelc.net](http://www.recep-enelc.net)].

Merci beaucoup de votre attention.

Association internationale de collectivités territoriales placée sous l'égide du Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux du Conseil de l'Europe. Adresse postale: RECEP c/o Assessorato all'Urbanistica della Regione Campania, Centro Direzionale Isola A/6 - 80143 Napoli - I - Italie / Tél.: (+39) 081 7967105 Fax: (+39) 081 7967110 / Web: [www.recep-enelc.net](http://www.recep-enelc.net) / E-mail: [info@recep-enelc.net](mailto:info@recep-enelc.net)

## **EUROPEAN FOUNDATION IL NIBBIO (FEIN) / FONDATION EUROPÉENNE IL NIBBIO (FEIN)**

-----Original Message-----

From: Giovanni Bana [<mailto:gb@studiobana.it>]

Sent: Monday 12 March 2007 20:09

To: landscape

Subject: Convention Européenne sur le Paysage - 22/3/07 (16h30 / 17h30)

-----Message d'origine-----

De : Giovanni Bana [<mailto:gb@studiobana.it>]

Envoyé : Monday 26 March 2007 11:56

À : DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

Objet : R: RE : Fondation Européenne Il Nibbio

**L'Université d'été, Colloque de Arosio sur le paysage**  
Arosio 29-30-31/08/2007

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<sup>5</sup> Afin d'exercer cette activité, M. Priore a été autorisé par le Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe.

*En collaboration avec le CSDPE et l'UAE*

Nous sommes un groupe d'amis qui se sont connus à travers la Convention européenne du paysage, à l'occasion de diverses Conférences sur les sujets les plus différents mais touchant principalement au territoire. Chacun de nous avait un rapport particulier avec le territoire, soit par nos professions, soit par notre attitude vers la nature et la société, soit encore par nos engagements sociaux. Nous étions convaincus dès la première heure que la CEP représentait un document pas comme les autres, qu'il y avait quelque chose de plus, de différent, d'enthousiasmant aussi. Mais comment, avons-nous pensé, transmettre notre enthousiasme, qui était naturellement rempli de sens responsabilité envers les lieux qui perdaient peu à peu leur caractère pour ne pas en assumer toujours des plus qualifiés et portaient souvent au gaspillage des ressources et à la destruction du patrimoine ?

L'idée est sortie comme ça et à cause de tout ça : on va faire quelque chose qui puisse rassembler les amis et tous ceux qui voudraient se rallier à nous pour essayer une contribution originale à la diffusion et la mise en œuvre de la CEP.

Il est de notre intention de sauvegarder non seulement les traditions culturelles, mais aussi de protéger l'identité du paysage des grandes transformations qui investissent nos territoires et les lieux où nous habitons, lesquels en viennent toujours plus à se présenter comme des endroits inédits et que nous ne contrôlons pas. Ces transformations altèrent souvent irrémédiablement le grand patrimoine historique et environnemental de nos Pays.

Comment pouvons-nous affronter cette difficile situation ?

Au niveau européen a été élaboré un instrument basé sur une nouvelle conception du paysage : *la Convention européenne du paysage*. C'est une hypothèse novatrice, en même temps que naturaliste, écologique, culturelle, territoriale et, plus particulièrement, sociale et perceptive, en défense aussi et surtout des traditions locales, qui se développe suivant une idée du Paysage dynamique et relationnelle, complexe mais également unitaire et directement communicative.

Nous considérons que pour comprendre notre condition actuelle sur le territoire ou pour pouvoir intervenir de façon à en orienter le changement, il est intéressant de faire recours à cette idée de paysage.

*L'Université d'été* est née comme espace ouvert aux administrations publiques d'abord, aux étudiants, à la population locale et aux professionnels, dans lequel débattre les thèmes émergents et repérer quelque réponse. Dans les trois éditions (cette année on va organiser la quatrième) nous avons pu constater l'intérêt suscité et l'élargissement des « aficionados », des fidèles, qui deviennent acteurs et donnent de l'impulsion à l'organisation.

Nous avons obtenu l'Alto Patronato du Président de la République Italienne et du Conseil de l'Europe, l'adhésion de diverses institutions et le soutien de la Région Lombardie, de l'Université de l'Insubria, de l'Université de Milan et celle de Florence, du CSDPE (Centre d'études de droit pénal européenne) en directe collaboration avec l'UAE (Union des avocats européens) et des divers sponsor, qui ont contribué à la bonne réussite: ce qui démontre l'intérêt que nous avons pu créer. *L'Université d'été* est désormais bien rodée avec son siège permanent dans la Commune de Arosio (Province de Como) et non seulement bien acceptée.

Le Cours se propose de faire connaître ce nouvel instrument, dans sa rigueur scientifique et dans son efficacité opérationnelle, et d'en activer l'expérimentation concrète.

C'est dans ce sens que le cours est ouvert à de nombreuses catégories de personnes, en particulier les jeunes et les techniciens intéressés par la connaissance, la compréhension et l'application des principes novateurs introduits par la Convention.

On veut affirmer, autrement dit, que dans chaque région on a su élaborer au cours des siècles des systèmes d'utilisation du territoire, modelés sur la conformation naturelle et géologique de l'environnement, qui assurent des caractères absolument originaux et diversifiés et qui demandent, aujourd'hui plus que jamais, un effort de protection qui implique, en premier lieu, les populations qui y résident et qui représentent les héritiers de ceux qui précédemment ont créé, modelé et conservé ce territoire.

Que l'on pense aux typiques fermes de la campagne lombarde, aux terrassements des Cinq Terres, à la Côte romagnole ou aux douces et universellement connues pentes de l'Apennin toscan, uniquement pour citer quelques exemples ; mais que l'on pense aussi que l'Italie, sous ce profil, présente une variété de paysages uniques au monde, d'une valeur telle à être en mesure de donner fondement à des identités régionales qui se reconnaissent en premier lieu dans le partage d'un type d'environnement particulier.

D'autre part, comme il a été rappelé au cours du Cda de la FEIN (Fondation Européenne Il Nibbio) du 9 septembre 2003, c'est justement la mise en place de la Convention du Conseil de l'Europe sur le paysage qui encourage une vaste participation sociale aux processus de compréhension et de sauvegarde des paysages européens : participation sociale qui implique, avant tout, la responsabilisation de chaque communauté locale et régionale, et des institutions qui les gouvernent, dans la conservation et la valorisation du paysage.

La structure consiste en un *Comité d'organisation* et un *Comité scientifique* avec un Président (Maître Giovanni Bana de Milan).

Quant à son organisation elle se développe en trois journées, dont une dédiée aux introductions, une au laboratoire, c'est-à-dire une expérience-étude sur le terrain pour terminer avec les propositions et la remise des attestations de participation et de certification universitaires. La participation, qui a vu la présence dans chaque édition d'environ 150 personnes, ne demande des conditions particulières sinon une taxe d'inscription de €160,00.

Nous tenons à faire remarquer la présence (sollicitée et obtenue) des représentants des institutions, (communes, régions, provinces), des universités, d'organisations et de collaborateurs provenant de divers pays, ce qui donne d'ailleurs le caractère international à *l'Université d'été*.

L'Université d'été a créé le site [www.nibbio.org](http://www.nibbio.org) (tel/Fax 0039 31 762162, E-mail [fein@nibbio.org](mailto:fein@nibbio.org)).

Arosio/Milano février 2007

FEIN - Université d'Eté

Président

Avv. Giovanni Bana

(tel. 031/762162 - fax 0258305005 - [fein@nibbio.org](mailto:fein@nibbio.org))

- 2004 : Les principes de la Convention européenne du paysage
- 2005 : Un tourisme éco-soutenable
- 2006 : Ruralité et œno-gastronomie
- 2007 : Le paysage rurale dans les espaces péri-urbains

## LANDSCAPE EUROPE / PAYSAGE EUROPE (ALTERRA)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Pedroli, Bas [<mailto:Bas.Pedroli@wur.nl>]

**Sent:** Monday 5 March 2007 21:52

**To:** landscape

**Cc:** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Subject:** RE: Conference on The European Landscape Convention

## LANDSCAPE EUROPE / PAYSAGE EUROPE (ALTERRA)

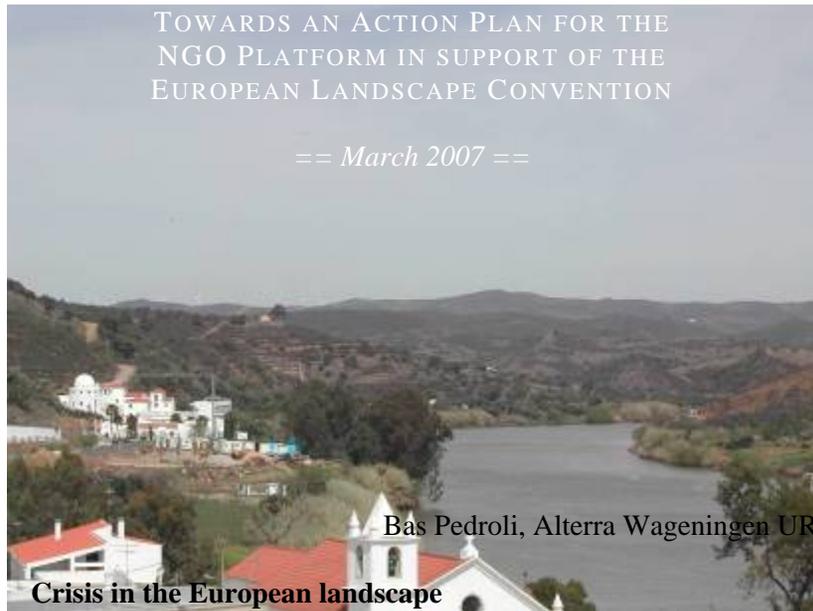
-----Original Message-----

**From:** Pedroli, Bas [mailto:Bas.Pedroli@wur.nl]

**Sent:** Monday 12 March 2007 08:12

**To:** landscape

**Subject:** RE: Conference on The European Landscape Convention



Europe is facing a serious crisis in its landscapes. Abandonment of remote areas leads to loss of identity, on the other hand urban encroachment is taking old landscapes by surprise. The common agricultural policy of the enlarged European Union will inevitably lead to disappearance of many small farmers in the newly accessed countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Nature reserves may be planned in the areas left over, which may be good for the biodiversity, but also nature reserves require care, which is difficult to guarantee when no income from the land is available. In other areas, the land is gradually being transformed into large scale mono-

cropping, leading to non-attractive production landscapes. The urban people – are not all European citizens gradually being transformed into people with an urban consciousness? – have increasing difficulties in identifying themselves with specific landscapes. Landscapes without people connected to them and committed to personally taking care for them, are no more living landscapes.

### *European Landscape, a major asset for civil society*

The European Landscape Convention is an answer to overcome the controversy between the requirements of global economic development and local cultural values: every landscape is worth to be taken care of. Landscape is the mirror of our innermost selves, as it is said on the brochures of the European Landscape Convention. Every person has the right to get involved in his/her landscape. This means landscape is a public responsibility! But does this ask for landscape protection and reserves, or on the contrary for improved rural and landscape management?

For the European Landscape Convention landscape management means action with the perspective of sustainable management to ensure the regular upkeep of landscape and to guide and harmonise changes brought about by social, economic and environmental processes. Participation in landscape planning and management is a right and a responsibility for all.

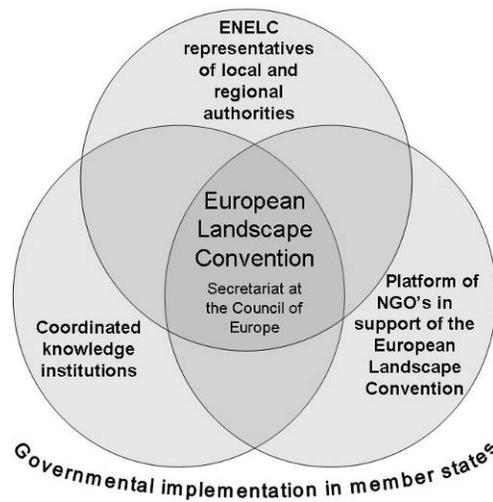


**NGO's, key players in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention**

So, the European landscape is there for everybody. The beautiful and the neglected, the rural and the urban, the special and the every-day landscapes: they all contribute to Europe's identity, including the identity of its citizens. Only when people – individually but also collectively – are connected to their local environment, living landscapes with a sustainable future can develop. NGOs (non-governmental organisations) play a key role in this process.

Recently three organisations in support of the European Landscape Convention are being established:

- o the *European Network of Local and Regional Authorities for the Implementation of the Euro-*



pean Landscape Convention (ENELC),

- o a *Network of Knowledge Institutions*, and
- o a *Platform of NGO's*, thus complementing the official public interests with those of civil society.

### **Landscape NGO's meet in Girona 28 September 2006**

To promote this work at European level, five representatives of the Dutch Manifesto Group (see text box) visited the 5th Meeting of the Workshops for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Girona (Catalunya, Spain). They invited the other NGO's present for a gathering on 28 September 2006, 14:30 in the Sala Petita of the Palau de Congressos. A short presentation stressed the need of this work and gave some examples of action in the Netherlands.

#### **The Landscape Manifesto of NGO's in The Netherlands**

On November 1st 2005, 33 Dutch NGO's active in the sphere of landscape signed a mutual agreement inspired by the European Landscape Convention: the Landscape Manifesto. With this Manifesto, the Dutch NGO's wish to express their support and show their commitment to work together in enhancing the quality of the Dutch landscape and the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

The Manifesto is the result of a growing concern among NGO's that radical changes in rural and suburban areas are apparent, strongly affecting the quality of the Dutch landscape. Changes like spatial scale enlargement in agriculture, stringent water management measures and new economic activities in the countryside (new infrastructure, new industrial areas, etc) have large impacts on the local and regional landscape. The participating NGO's would invest their efforts to take these changes in spatial planning as a challenge for achieving improved landscape quality.

International contact: Dutch Manifesto Group c/o Landschapsbeheer Nederland:  
[g.j.van.herwaarden@landschapsbeheer.nl](mailto:g.j.van.herwaarden@landschapsbeheer.nl) [www.landschapsmanifest.nl](http://www.landschapsmanifest.nl)



- exchange of experiences focussing on local projects (including excursions),
- strategy development to influence national and EU-policies affecting landscape and to put landscape on the European Agenda,
- stimulation of cross- and transnational projects on landscape management.

On the short term it will be needed to prepare a constitutional document for the Platform and organise a constituting meeting in 2007, possibly in Florence. At this meeting it can be discussed whether a Platform Office should be established.

#### *Why a Platform of NGO's in the sphere of Landscape?*

There are two main reasons to establish a European Platform of NGO's in the sphere of landscape.



#### *Towards a NGO Platform in support of the European Landscape Convention*

Many NGO's from all over Europe have since expressed their interest and commitment to participate in the NGO-Platform, and contributed with ideas how to intensify the action.

Main focus would be:

- transfer of knowledge concentrating on landscape management (actor participation, financing landscape management, quality objectives, assessment methods, etc.),

On a general level it is felt as a deficiency that there does not exist today a structure uniting the NGO's active in the sphere of landscape in

the various European countries. Many regional and national NGO's would feel more mutual support if they could fall back on their colleagues abroad across Europe.

But there is also a more particular reason. In the discussions on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention there is a need to complement the levels of a) the local and regional authorities (ENELC) and b) the knowledge institutions, with c) representatives of civil society.

Although NGO's have played a major role in the discussions around the development of the European Landscape Convention, their role in the future could certainly win from more concerted action and exchange of ideas and experiences.

**Initiative:** Gerrit-Jan van Herwaarden (*Stichting Landschapsbeheer Nederland*) & Bas Pedrolì (Alterra WUR / *PETRARCA*), on behalf of the Landscape Manifesto Group, The Netherlands.

**NGO's involved thus far** (February 2007):

- Landscape Manifesto Group (33 Landscape NGO's, NL)
- Heimatbund Thuringen e.V. (D)
- Sand Glass Foundation (BG)
- ECOVAST (int.)
- Association Dévorateurs d'Espaces (F)
- ECLAS (int.)
- Centro Studi PAN (I)
- Bund Heimat und Umwelt (D)
- PETRARCA (int.)
- International Landscape Association (CH)
- Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei (I)
- Landscape Alliance Ireland (IE)
- EFLA (int.)
- and others



### ***Assumptions for good functioning***

Of course the establishment of an effective platform of NGO's requires that some basic boundary conditions be fulfilled. A preliminary set of such conditions can be defined as follows: the Platform should be

- a learning organisation, open, independent and initiative-driven (*'Community of Practice'*)
- combining practise and research on various knowledge levels
- recognisable by the public as representing the interests of civil society
- effective, efficient and flexible in its organisation structure, using a minimum of administration
- using as much as possible modern infrastructure (internet, existing websites, mailings of other organisations, administration at existing organisations).

### ***A simple organisation structure should do***

Since NGO's, especially regional and national ones, are generally dependent on donations, and usually have no specific statutory objectives on the European level, the organisation structure of the Platform should be kept as simple as possible. It might be sufficient to establish an Association with straightforward regulations and members gathering once a year. Members would pay a symbolical fee to confirm their commitment. They would elect representatives for specific functions each year.

### ***Funding needed for special actions***

The organisation as such would not need substantial funding. But to allow for special actions like excursions, exchange of knowledge and information, development of an informative website, targeted funding will have to be secured. This should be organised by the NGO's committed to these actions. Potential donors are trusts, regional and national governments, and private sponsors. But also the European Commission could provide support, e.g. through the Culture Programme of the EU Education, Audiovisual & Cultural Executive Agency. It should be kept in mind that most probably 2008 will be denoted by EU institutions as the *European Year of Intercultural Dialogue*, and landscape could be a perfect vehicle for such dialogue.



### ***Towards an action plan***

The action plan should be the basis for concerted action. It will be filled in the coming months with actions proposed by NGO's involved, indicating their willingness to invest time and energy in these actions (and their funding). Part of these actions could also be concerted with specific actions defined by the Secretariat of the European Landscape Convention, or with existing national and European actions. A first gross list of possible actions could look like:

- develop a website to easily find all European NGO's active in the sphere of landscape, and their activities and newsletters
- organise excursions to good examples of landscape practice
- exchange experience with public-private landscape initiatives
- organise international courses on practical landscape management
- develop a web-based handbook on landscape management
- organise cross-border happenings to draw attention to continuity of landscape
- establish a speaker's corner for volunteers in landscape management

- organise landscape exhibitions
- study risks and opportunities of ‘marketing’ the landscape
- define promising potentials of urban-rural relationships.

*photos: Bas Pedroli, Wanne Roetemeijer*

### ***Time schedule and facilitation***

On the Conference on the European Landscape Convention in Strasbourg 22-23 March 2007 this Platform will be launched, giving indications on its Action Plan.

The Netherlands government has secured funding for Alterra Wageningen UR (an independent landscape research institute) to facilitate knowledge exchange within the framework of the European Landscape Convention, in close cooperation with the Dutch Manifesto Group (see above). This can also be used to facilitate the preparation of the launching of the NGO Platform.

### ***Call for partners throughout Europe***

All European NGO’s interested in this Platform are invited to express their interest (mail to [BAS.PEDROLI@WUR.NL](mailto:BAS.PEDROLI@WUR.NL)). They will be kept informed on the developments around this initiative, and eventually be invited for meetings where further actions will be decided upon.



**“COUNTRYSIDE AND ENVIRONMENT GROUPING” / REGROUPEMENT « MONDE RURAL ET ENVIRONNEMENT »**

**MEDITERRANEAN LANDSCAPES WORKSHOP / ATELIER DES PAYSAGES MÉDITERRANÉENS / ATELIER DEI PAESAGGI MEDITERRANEI**

-----Original Message-----

From: Rita Micarelli [<mailto:rita.micarelli@libero.it>]

Sent: Monday 19 March 2007 13:57

To: landscape

Subject: intervention succincte

**“Identity Card”**

The Atelier of Mediterranean Landscapes is a No Profit Association (ONLUS) formed by several Town Councils and Local Associations which pursues the creation of condition for social protection, promotion and evolution of Landscapes, Mediterranean in particular. These conditions are realizable throughout various experimental activities like aesthetic, scientific and participative planning. The Association is structured with a President, a Direction Group, a Scientific Committee, a Guarantor's International Committee. The Atelier recognizes itself in the European Convention of Landscape and participated since long time in initiatives of promotion and implementation of European Convention.

The Atelier of Mediterranean Landscapes carries out its activities at various levels:

- *Landscape experimentation* and Introductory Researches for *Landscaping Actions* (Territories of Pescia and Buggiano, Tuscany, IT);
- *Participations* with Lectures in a lot of International Scientific Meetings-Symposia (Soria-SP 2001, Antequera -SP 2003, Cosenza- IT, 2002, Castrovillary –IT 2004, International Institute for advanced Studies and Cybernetics - Germany- Baden Baden 2004- 2005, Bordeaux- FR, 2004 « Colloques de Bordeaux - De la connaissance à l'action paysagère », University of Catania,- IT, 2005);
- *Accreditation*, as expert ONG, in European Meetings to the Council of Europe: Strasbourg, 2001- 2004 – *Contributions in debates*: Cork, 2005-*Lecture*;
- *Participation* in two European INTERREG Projects addressed to Western Mediterranean Areas. In Ruralmed Project the Atelier is Leader of a specific Thematic Line: “The landscapes of contemporary rural condition”;
- *Collaborations* in many research activities with University of Firenze (Faculties of Agriculture and Architecture), University of Genova (Faculty of Architecture);
- *Experimental researches* in several areas in Central Italy, appropriately presented in Conferences and Workshops;
- *Collaboration in the formation of an European Network* in Ticino Canton (CH) for Landscaping Participated Experiences in agreement with the principles of European Convention of Landscape in connection with Calabrian, Sicilian, Sardinian groups.

The Atelier of Mediterranean Landscapes undertakes every *Landscaping Action-Research* promoting social awareness, protection, management and transformation of their own life environment, as indicated in European Convention of Landscape, highlighting the social dimension of Landscape (perception, friendly learning creativity).

For further Information contact our Secretary's office.

**« Carte d'identité »**

L'Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei est une association non gouvernementale entre Institutions locales et Associations locales, qui a pour fin de sauvegarder, de promouvoir et de créer des conditions pour l'évolution des paysages, en particulier les paysages méditerranéens, par une activité scientifique, sociale, esthétique et de projet, à caractère expérimental. L'association est structurée par un Conseil Directif de cinq membres, un Président, un Conseil scientifique, un Comité de Garants

(international). L'Atelier développe ses finalités en se reconnaissant intégralement dans la Convention européenne du paysage (signée à Florence en l'an 2000 et ratifiée par l'Italie en janvier 2006) et a déjà développé diverses activités de promotion et de mise en œuvre de la Convention.

Cette activité concerne plusieurs niveaux comme :

- Expérimentations paysagères et recherches propédeutiques d'Action paysagère chez les Communes de Pescia et de Buggiano (Toscane) ;
- Communications chez plusieurs Sièges scientifiques internationaux sur les expérimentations déroulées : (Soria - SP, 2001, Antequera (SP) 2003, Regione Calabria à Castrovillari, 2004 ; et à Cosenza 2002 ; Germania - Baden Baden - International Institute for advanced Studies and Cybernetics, 2004 et 2005; France, Bordeaux "*Colloques de Bordeaux - De la Connaissance à l'action paysagère*", 2004; Université de Catania, 2005) ;
- Participations aux rencontres du Conseil d'Europe pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention (Strasbourg, 2001-2004 ; Cork, 2005). L'Atelier a été accrédité à cette participation en qualité d'organisation non gouvernementale, ayant apporté des contributions et communications ;
- Participation à deux projets Interreg entre Pays de la Méditerranée. Dans le second, encore en cours, l'atelier est le Chef de file pour la Ligne thématique « Les paysages de la ruralité contemporaine » ;
- Collaboration avec l'Université de Florence (Faculté d'Agronomie et faculté d'Architecture), l'Université de Gênes (Faculté d'Architecture) ;
- Activités de recherche expérimentale (Recherche-Action) sur les zones de la Toscane, Ligurie, Ombrie, présentées et discutées dans plusieurs réunions d'Ateliers et débats disciplinaires ;
- Formation d'un Réseau européen d'expériences paysagères participées, dans le cadre de la Convention européenne, avec le Réseau du Canton Ticino (CH) et en contact avec les expériences Ruralmed en cours en Calabre et Cerdagne.

Dans ses activités de *Recherche-Action* l'Atelier encourage les populations locales, leur conscience et leur créativité vers la construction participée de l'environnement de vie, et développe la dimension sociale du paysage (perception, apprentissage en amitié et projets créatifs).

Informations, mise à jour, références bibliographiques, à notre Secrétariat.

***Charte de Bellavista (Séminaire / Rencontre «Les paysages de la ruralité contemporaine»), Buggiano, Villa Bellavista, 20-21 septembre 2006***

La communauté rurale locale, dans ses diverses formes, dans sa complexité, articulation et devenir, est reconnue comme sujet, à reconstruire et relancer, de ce qui est défini « ruralité contemporaine ». La ruralité contemporaine est reconnue comme « phénomène territorial complet », en même temps productif, social, paysagiste, participé, jusqu'à définir l'idée d'une *Ruralité paysagère relationnelle*.

Une ruralité qui trouve dans le paysage (comme il est entendu dans la Convention européenne du paysage) le moment de synthèse économique, culturelle, scientifique et territoriale de toutes les composantes de la complexité et le moment de prise de conscience esthétique et sociale de tels phénomènes. Une ruralité donc qui en elle-même se pose comme terme de relations entre de multiples inputs et qui tend à ouvrir toujours de nouveaux liens relationnels entre des personnes, produits et organisations du territoire qui y convergent. Cette ruralité est « organique » dans tous ses composants, et elle est « intégrée » avec les autres manifestations territoriales. Dans ce sens, elle entre dans un rapport interactif et dialectique avec les phénomènes métropolitains et devient un élément essentiel pour aboutir à une nouvelle « vision évolutive » des dynamiques territoriales elles-mêmes, celle de la *biorégion*, entendu comme « contexte vital » pour l'urbain et pour le territoire de référence, contexte à l'intérieur duquel la ruralité peut sans aucun doute jouer un rôle fondamental.

Pour consolider ces acquisitions et pour pouvoir les pratiquer la route est encore longue, mais possible. Cette Charte met en évidence, ce qui pourrait être les premiers objectifs de cette œuvre de diffusion et

d'expérimentation réalisatrice, dans la perspective de programmes et d'actions rurales de *vitalité, de soin participé des lieux, de « créativité chorale »*.

De la recherche Ruralmed ont émergé, en effet, plusieurs intéressantes orientations, théoriques et d'expérimentation :

- l'idée de « *marché relationnel* » (lieu d'échanges complexes de produits, idées, expériences),
- l'idée de « *mobilité relationnelle* » (où entre en rapport non hiérarchique temps, espaces et rythmes des *cadres de vie*, différemment organisés entre eux),
- le concept de « *paysage comme bien commun* », d'un nouveau « *style de vie* » des citadins/ruraux,
- et enfin l'idée des processus de « *conscience/attributions de valeur/envers des gestions directes et des choix créatifs* » dans la choralité d'une Participation réellement active.

Ces idées, concepts et hypothèses ne doivent être considérés que comme les premières acquisitions de l'activité expérimentale qui doivent, pourtant, s'étendre et continuer, en de nombreuses autres hypothèses de travail ou d'expériences comparables, tout en gardant toujours bien présent à l'esprit les deux « *références guides* » qui ont orienté la recherche Ruralmed. La dimension sociale du paysage, selon les indications de la Convention européenne du paysage et que *l'Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei* a activé avec ses expérimentations. La procédure de la recherche / action participée, capable de s'auto-évoluer à l'intérieur du processus cyclique et ouvert, « *d'action/ réflexion/créativité/ ultérieure action...* » qui peut être seulement de type « *participatif actif* », dans chaque phase, sans qu'il existe d'observateurs ou de projeteurs externes mais en posant tous les participants et tous les « *savoirs* » dans l'écoulement et le devenir du processus lui-même... vers justement la « *créativité chorale* », et la définition de règles de transparence et de régulation du processus, basées toutefois non sur des *a priori* mais qui émergent de l'expérience processuelle elle-même .

Ce difficile, fascinant parcours peut être réalisé seulement grâce à l'engagement de tous à développer les activités suivantes :

- promotion, dans tous les sièges (Organismes publics, universités, associations...) des orientations contenues dans la Charte de Bellavista, afin de stimuler le débat et la réflexion ;
- engagement de référer au niveau européen les résultats obtenus et ceux à promouvoir en particulier au Conseil de l'Europe (direction d'actualisation de la Convention européenne) et de l'Union européenne, de l'Etat et des régions pour que les orientations et les financements relatifs aux diverses mesures communautaires (PAC, Projets pilotes, Projets de recherche, Programmes Leader...) puissent tenir compte de la complexité de la ruralité post moderne (et au-delà), comme cela ressort de la recherche « *les paysages de la ruralité contemporaine* » ;
- ouvrir des liaisons et connexions entre tous les opérateurs, en terme de « *réseaux* », c'est-à-dire, en terme de Structures de Relation (beaucoup plus profondes et plus interactives que le simple « *réseau* ») comme cela s'est créé progressivement dans l'expérience toscano-ombrienne-émilienne de Ruralmed :
- coordination régionale et interrégionale, même au-delà des partenaires actuels ;
- coordination nationale, à commencer des partenaires de Ruralmed mais à étendre immédiatement à d'autres Ateliers et à toute réalité locale intéressée ;
- coordination méditerranéenne, non seulement européenne, en commençant par les partenaires Ruralmed ;
- coordination, et comparaison des recherches, en commençant par celles qui sont présentes à ce séminaire et intéressées par ce sujet ;
- coordination pour les politiques communautaires et pour la recherche de financements ;
- liaison avec des expériences d'avant garde ou en difficulté, en Méditerranée (par exemple jardins potagers urbains spontanés autogérés dans le quartier Born de Barcelone, réseau de producteurs écoruraux au Liban, maintenant détruit (cf . l'activité de *Kamal Mouzawak...*) ;

- faire avancer la réflexion sur le rapport entre participation, instruments législatifs de planification et de recherche ;
- présenter la *Charte De Bellavista* à Grenade, durant le séminaire conclusif de Ruralmed.

Afin d'établir une continuité de travail entre Ruralmed et les activités successives, l'*Atelier dei Paesaggi Mediterranei*, le Laboratoire de recherche et projets territoriaux « Leprot » du Département d'urbanisme et planification de la Faculté d'architecture de Florence et le Département d'économie agraire de la Faculté agraire de Florence, donne leur disponibilité à devenir siège provisoire des coordinations et de toute autre activité concernant la Ruralité paysagiste relationnelle, seulement jusqu'à la constitution d'organisations structurées et reconnues, en même temps toujours plus participées, pour la gestion de cette importante perspective

Giorgio Pizziolo et Rita Micarelli

### **LANDSCAPE RESEARCH GROUP (LRG) / GROUPE DE TRAVAIL SUR LE PAYSAGE (LRG)**

-----Original Message-----

From: M H Roe [mailto:m.h.roe@newcastle.ac.uk]

Sent: Monday 5 March 2007 16:11

To: landscape

Subject: Strasbourg - European Landscape Convention Conference March 2007

Landscape Research Group (LRG) ([www.landscaperesearch.org](http://www.landscaperesearch.org)) is a registered UK charitable association, established in 1967 and run by a Board of Trustees. It is a voluntary non-profit organisation. With an international membership in 24 countries, LRG is an interdisciplinary group that aims to foster co-operation and the exchange of ideas, views and understandings. We do this by promoting communication between a wide variety of disciplines and professions through the publication of high quality research papers in *Landscape Research* a peer-review, international journal published five times a year (<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/carfax/01426397.html>); through a short news publication *Landscape Research Extra* ([young@airphotointerpretation.com](mailto:young@airphotointerpretation.com)); and by organising a variety of activities and events which focus on areas of current interest in landscapes around the world. Landscape Research Group is concerned with all types and aspects of landscape, from wilderness to cities.

Landscape Research Group applauds the progress towards implementation of the European Landscape Convention, in particular the recent ratification of the UK (November 2006). The Group is committed to lend its support to the efforts of the Council of Europe to help realise the aims and objectives of the ELC.

Landscape Research Group wishes to encourage debate and influence policy thinking about the future of European landscapes. We believe it is important that organisations are enabled to come together in a multi-disciplinary context to express their views; in particular we are interested in:

- Bridging the gaps between nations, particularly languages used in order to ensure circulation of ideas and findings in research;
- Dispersal of papers *between* disciplines interested in the ELC;
- Closing the gap between researchers and practitioners (monitoring, reviewing, assessing achievements).

The Landscape Research Group plans to sponsor a series of conferences and workshops relating to the European Landscape Convention over the next few years. The first of these events will be an expert seminar to be held in September 2007 at Sheffield University, England. This seminar will aim to provide an overview of issues related to the ELC and its implementation to date plus examine case studies of implementation in selected countries. The experiences of Armenia, Eire, Malta, Norway and Slovakia are amongst those being considered, but we are pleased to hear from experts in other

countries with useful contributions to make. In particular it is proposed to focus within workshops on the following issues:

- Interpretation of the Articles of the Convention,
- Strengths and weaknesses already evident in implementing the Convention;
- Monitoring arrangements, and
- Networking opportunities (e.g. Research )

We would like to emphasise that this is intended as an interdisciplinary event which aims to provide a forum for information exchange, discussion and debate on implementation in particular, following up on the debates during the Council of Europe Conference (March 2007). Support has already been forthcoming from a variety of government agencies and environmental organizations in the UK and we would like to ask for expressions of interest for those of you who would wish to attend this event. The event will be free of charge; we are able to pay travel and accommodation expenses for those expert speakers invited. We are also willing to provide formal invitations. Attendance will be limited to 50 people.

In order to help us confirm the final programme we would like to gain information from all countries about issues relating to implementation of the ELC. We need to learn about your problems and difficulties so that we can share information at the expert seminar. Further enquires and information should be sent as soon as possible to: Gareth Roberts, LRG [gcs.roberts@gmail.com](mailto:gcs.roberts@gmail.com).

The Group is also open to the consideration of supporting academic research to help implement the Articles of the ELC (contact: [admin@landscaperesearch.org](mailto:admin@landscaperesearch.org)) and we welcome submissions for publication in *Landscape Research* on issues related to this implementation. These may be full research papers, review papers or short communications relating to work in progress. We are always willing to discuss submission proposals for *Landscape Research* (contact [m.h.roe@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:m.h.roe@ncl.ac.uk)) or news pieces for *Landscape Research Extra* ([young@airphotointerpretation.com](mailto:young@airphotointerpretation.com)).

Maggie Roe, Deputy Editor, Landscape Research  
Board Member, Landscape Research Group (LRG)  
On behalf of Landscape Research Group

Contact Information:                   Landscape Research Group  
  PO Box 53  
  Horspath  
  Oxford OX33 1WX  
  Email: [admin@landscaperesearch.org](mailto:admin@landscaperesearch.org)

**WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF) FONDS MONDIAL POUR LA NATURE (WWF)**

**PETRARCA**

**WILDLIFE HABITAT FOUNDATION (WHF) / FONDATION POUR LA PROTECTION DES HABITATS DE LA FAUNE SAUVAGE**

**NATIONAL / NATIONALES**

**CENTRO STUDI PAN**

**LANDSCAPE ALLIANCE IRELAND**

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Terry O Regan [mailto:bhl@indigo.ie]**Sent:** Monday 12 March 2007 11:58**To:** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne**Subject:** T O'Regan presentation**'The Landscape Circle Template': A European Landscape Action Campaign for Local Communities****Introduction**

This paper is intended to provide a brief outline of a community-based landscape management template that I have developed for use in Ireland. I believe that it may be universally applicable throughout Europe.

I am inviting feedback from delegates to establish if the template has a role to play elsewhere. There may well be more effective templates already at work, or my template might productively hybridise with other templates. I have looked at some other templates and believe that the Landscape Circle may address a specific gap in the current landscape scenario.

My template is a step or two below Landscape Character Assessment (LCA), but should improve the value of community participation in the LCA process.

It has similarities with Local Area Action Plans and Village Design Statements – each has a useful role to play but the former lacks real local ownership, the latter currently appears to involve too high a level of expert input and is settlement-focussed.

The Parish Map movement<sup>6</sup> in the UK is very locally anchored but whilst it must send out a strong signal regarding the community's priorities it does not appear to function as an active engagement tool.

The impressive ECOVAST<sup>7</sup> 'Landscape Identification – A guide to good practice' would appear to be a 'light' version of a full LCA exercise, still requiring a significant degree of academic competence, invaluable for countries lacking the resources for the 'heavy' version of LCA and its 'lightness' is likely to attract more community involvement. As with LCA the Landscape Circle template should provide a useful grassroots data base for the ECOVAST template.

**Context**

Now that the European Landscape Convention (ELC) is in force in many countries, local communities urban and rural will turn to the convention for support, direction and encouragement.

The Convention places great stress on consultation, but the citizen must believe that they have a role beyond mere consultation to play on a day to day basis, if the high quality European landscape envisaged by the Convention is to be achieved and sustained.

The definition of landscape quality objectives in the general provisions of the convention states that the objective for a specific landscape must be formulated on the basis of the "aspirations of the public with regard to the landscape features of their surroundings". The specific measures under article 6 stress the importance of raising awareness amongst the civil society.

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<sup>6</sup> [www.commonground.org.uk](http://www.commonground.org.uk)

<sup>7</sup> European Council for Village and Small Town – [www.ecovast.org](http://www.ecovast.org)

Fred Aalen in the 'Atlas of the Irish Rural Landscape'<sup>8</sup> wrote: "The involvement of local communities in the management of their landscapes, including the setting of long-term objectives and guidelines, is a relatively unexplored area but experimentation is underway in various European countries which may serve as a guide for Irish initiatives."

'The Landscape Circle' is a template that might serve to bring the convention to the very heart of European civil society – the local community.

### **Landscape Foot-soldiers**

The term campaign is mentioned in the subtitle of this paper and my paper is about a bloodless military-style campaign.

The difficulty with many a military campaign is that the decisions are all too often taken by the generals, the officers and the military experts, whilst the foot soldiers have no voice at the general's table - they are however left to do the dirty work. Many a war was lost because the foot-soldiers did not see themselves as part of the process. With the ELC, governments, administrators and experts risk inadvertently making the same mistake by excluding the local communities of Europe.

Communities are the landscape foot-soldiers. They must be equipped with the necessary landscape weapons and they must know how to use them?

### **'The Landscape Circle' provides Weapons and Training!**

The 'Landscape Circle' is an integrated template designed to assist local communities to become proactively involved in caring for and shaping their landscape, through the process of identifying, assessing, valuing and managing the elements of their landscape, enabling them to proactively protect existing landscape quality and to intervene creatively in the processes of change and development at work in the local landscape.

Like a 'Landscape Shamrock', it combines three interlinked processes in a trinity of landscape actions involving a novel circle-based scoping approach, the LANSWOT analysis tool – a variation of the well-known SWOT<sup>9</sup> (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis business management tool, coupled with a Landscape Image Observatory (inspired by the French Landscape Photographic Observatory)<sup>10</sup>.

Embedded in the 'people's landscape', it ensures a 'sense of place and belonging' to one's own area and articulates the importance of local distinctiveness in reinforcing key life values. It is equally applicable in the urban and rural landscape. It will function as a stand-alone study or may be incorporated in a general heritage training course covering the built and natural heritage as well as landscape where landscape plays a valuable integration role.

Critically it results in a document recording the outcome of the LANSWOT analysis, an illustrated Landscape Image Observatory and the identification of recommended actions and the actors involved – a Landscape Action Plan.

### **Scoping the Landscape Circle**

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<sup>8</sup> F H A Aalen, Kevin Whelan & Matthew Stout, (1997) 'Atlas of the Irish Rural Landscape', Cork University Press, Cork

<sup>9</sup> SWOT analysis approach is also proposed as common methodological approach in Landscape Europe publication 'Learning from European Transfrontier Landscapes' Wascher & Perez-Soba, (2004) <http://landscape-europe.net/whole3web%20II.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> The Observatory was established in 1992 by the Landscape division of the French Ministry for the Environment, in recognition of a need to detect the qualitative changes which landscape undergoes with the passing of the years.

It is based on a series of photographs of indicator landscapes taken over time from exactly the same viewpoint, providing a time sequence record of landscape change.

Using a 1:50,000 map a landscape circle is selected for the study area, it may have a landscape of consistent character and distinctiveness or there may be a number of centres of intense landscape character and distinctiveness which will wax and wane from area to area. If the area is large and diverse, a range of interlaced landscapes may be involved spreading into neighbouring areas. Neighbouring communities undertaking independent studies will overlap each other's circles. Each circle can be given the identity of the settlement or place name closest to the centre of the circle.

Landscape circles should be small enough to be studied with the resources available, but must be large enough to encompass a range of landscape diversity. The study commences at the centre and works out in concentric bands and may be enlarged or reduced in response to the progress of the study. Initial research suggests a radius of at least 1 km and a typical radius of 2 - 3 kms. Rural landscapes of low complexity could have significantly higher radii.

### **The European Rural Heritage Observation Guide<sup>11</sup>**

Study groups will need to research the landscape of their country and local area including the local, national and European legislation. A general understanding of the meaning of landscape can be provided to study groups by trained and experienced facilitators, but can also be gleaned from many publications. Each country will also have its own reference publications. In Ireland we are fortunate to have the likes of 'The Atlas of the Irish Rural Landscape'.

The European Rural Heritage Observation Guide – CEMAT is recommended, being readily available and speaking clearly of reading the landscape in a very tangible, non-technical, vernacular and Europe-embracing manner.

### **The Landscape Image Observatory**

"One picture is worth ten thousand words". The word-value of appropriate landscape images is beyond measure, images of the same landscape over time further multiplies the value and provides the best understanding of landscape, its evolution and the process of change. An Observatory serves as a tool to assist communities in understanding and communicating the concept of landscape quality and monitoring the process of change taking place in their landscape.

Study areas that enjoy distant panoramic views to landscape features located outside the study area may require an outer 'vista ring'. Viewpoints and camera positions must be carefully 'mapped' and described for future recording of the view on a programmed basis.

### **Information Gathering and Analysis**

The identification of landscape elements will range over the built, natural and archaeological heritage as well as 'non-heritage' elements. It also adds its own important component – an understanding of the composition of the landscape and the interrelationship between existing built and natural heritage and present-day interventions by way of construction in the landscape or changed land use practices.

### **The LANSWOT Analysis**

The LANSWOT analysis – landscape strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats analysis as a landscape version of the well-known business tool is highly suited to analysing the diverse elements of our landscape in the context of their role in defining and deciding landscape quality. It lends itself to community use avoiding the complexity of deep scientific analysis, yet invites communities to adopt a

<sup>11</sup> The European Rural Heritage Observation Guide was produced by the Council of Europe thanks to the work of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional/Spatial Planning (CEMAT). It was based on two Guides on rural heritage edited by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

([http://www.coe.int/t/e/cultural\\_co-operation/environment/cemat/paneuropean\\_co-operation/Guide\\_EN.pdf?L=E](http://www.coe.int/t/e/cultural_co-operation/environment/cemat/paneuropean_co-operation/Guide_EN.pdf?L=E))

structured, critical approach in their assessment of their landscape. Its structured approach also has the advantage of enabling communities in different locations to compare and contrast their conclusions.

### **Categorising Landscape Elements into the LANSWOT columns**

Landscape Assessment involves classifying and ranking the elements in order of their importance. This is about ‘understanding’ the landscape. The reason why a landscape is distinctive may not always be immediately obvious. Elements will be important because of the extent by which they shape and define the landscape for better or worse. They will be very important where they add to or remove distinctiveness from the landscape.

A landscape strength adds to or enhances the quality of the landscape, a landscape weakness has the potential to be improved. A landscape opportunity involves a new situation with the potential to create a landscape strength, whilst a landscape threat is poised to damage or destroy existing landscape quality – removing existing strengths/weaknesses and not compensating with new strengths.

A keynote element identifies or characterises a landscape on its own and influences our perception of landscape even where it is not visible – it has a ‘presence in the landscape’. It may be an iconic mountain or hill, an old or a new building, a church with spire or tower or even a chimney stack.

A landscape pattern relates to a recurring element in the landscape such as the type of field boundaries. A particular style of wall construction or an ensemble of buildings may define a landscape, or the design consistency of a particular artefact. A busy craftsman may have influenced the building styles in an area and thereby defined the distinctive landscape character of an area.

Land use activities create their own patterns in the landscape; despite CAP Reform agriculture is still a major influence, with distinctive field patterns being associated with different crops and farm animal enterprises.

Threats might include the homogenising effect of replicated universal building designs, layouts and materials. A native or more commonly an introduced plant species may define the landscape.

The composition of the landscape may be a strength, two different landscapes could have a similar list of elements but one could be more satisfying or ‘successful’ than another because consciously or unconsciously it is more successfully composed or strategically arranged. New interventions must to be assessed in relation to their wider impact on the composition of the greater landscape.

Landscape composition is often defined by the public face of the private realm – a fact not always easily acknowledged – for example a large private building (a mansion or industrial plant!) located on private property in a prominent location can influence the landscape character of a large tract of land.

The importance attached to landscape elements may have local, district, county, regional, national, European or international significance.

### **Actions and Actors in the Landscape**

Having identified and assessed the elements that define the local landscape character *Landscape Management* involves identifying/recording the actors and the actions to be taken in response to the LANSWOT analysis, encouraging best practice, leading where possible to conserving elements or ensuring that change in the landscape maintains a ‘continuity’ of these elements within the landscape and in the character of the interventions in order to:

- Reinforce the Strengths
- Address the weaknesses
- Realise the opportunities
- Avert or mitigate the Threats

This stage is about ‘owning’ the landscape and participating actively rather than passively in the landscape management process in a manner appropriate to the scale involved. On the larger scale the activities of the major ‘forces for change’ in the greater landscape can give rise to profound widespread change across a large area - where the ‘actors’ may be remote from the landscape concerned and are likely to be ‘faceless’ government and company officials.

On a smaller scale the local immediate landscape can be dramatically changed by quite small interventions such as the demolition of a prominent building, the construction of a new prominent building, the felling of a few large trees, the clearing of a large shrub thicket, the planting of a small area of woodland/forestry. Here the ‘actors’ may be very local, even a neighbour.

The cumulative impact of many small actions can also significantly change the overall character and quality of a landscape.

Landscape impact mitigation actions would involve a balanced mix of landscape preservation, protection, planning, design, creation and restoration. Interventions in the landscape might be guided in such a fashion as to enrich and enhance the landscape whilst reducing or avoiding ill-considered developments which can take from or homogenise the character of the landscape.

The ‘forces for landscape change’ must be landscape-sensitized at an early stage - the landscape circle template provides communities with the foresight, understanding and confidence to engage in that process. Community activists must not alone identify the ‘actors’ but also the mechanisms and channels, legislative and otherwise available to the local citizen and community to influence the actors.

The concept of carrying out an audit on landscape interventions is useful. The ‘balance sheet’ for proposed change in the landscape may show a loss, gain or a neutral outcome. The Landscape circle template is intended to result in a very healthy landscape balance sheet.

### **The Landscape Circle Outputs**

Implementing and communicating the outcome of a Landscape Circle Study enables Landscape Management Actions to be undertaken in an informed and effective manner.

Actions might include questionnaires and exhibitions, booklets, video/dvds, web sites, creating landscape awareness via normal community social contacts, providing informal advice to prospective ‘landscape actors’, participating in the development/local area plan/ village design statement processes, intervening in the planning application process, lobbying politicians

Landscape Circle Study Archives would be a most valuable outcome on a city, county or national basis – a historical and a dynamic landscape management resource. The outputs of the studies have a limited ‘shelf life’ (1 and 3 years?). Reviewing and updating on a regular basis (every 3 years?) would have an on-going active impact on landscape interventions and further enhance the value of the exercise.

### **Conclusion**

A Landscape Circle Study becomes an important community ‘line in the sand’ of the local landscape.

Whilst the template is still being refined and improved, it has been well-received by community activists from West Cork. It will be tested with other Irish communities this year. We will have information on the template on our web site – [landscape-forum-ireland.com](http://landscape-forum-ireland.com), shortly.

I would greatly appreciate feedback from delegates and others, if it is applicable elsewhere it could form the basis for networking and information-exchange between communities, further heightening landscape awareness.

**RESEAU DES GRANDS SITES DE FRANCE / RESEAU DES GRANDS SITES DE FRANCE**

-----Original Message-----

**From:** lucienchabason [mailto:lucienchabason@wanadoo.fr]

**Sent:** Thursday 15 March 2007 09:22

**To:** DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne

**Subject:** CEP/Anne Vourch/intervention 22 mars/Etats généraux du paysage-France

**La mobilisation de la société civile pour l'organisation des « Etats généraux du Paysage »**

Anne Vourc'h, directrice du Réseau des Grands Sites de France (annevourch@grandsitedefrance.com)

Le 8 février 2007 se sont déroulés à Paris les « Etats généraux du paysage », regroupant près de 500 personnes représentant plus de 200 organismes d'horizons divers, soudés par leur volonté d'alerter l'opinion sur les mutations non maîtrisées et brutales des paysages et surtout par le souhait de faire connaître leurs propositions pour améliorer la prise en compte des paysages dans les décisions.

L'intitulé de cette grande réunion les « Etats généraux » n'est bien sûr pas anodin dans le contexte français ! Il fait référence aux « Etats généraux » convoqués par le Roi Louis XVI en 1789, assemblée au cours de laquelle se sont exprimées les doléances et souhaits du peuple qui marque le déclenchement de la Révolution française.

Disons tout de suite que les Etats généraux du paysage n'ont pas eu de conséquence aussi brutales qu'en 1789, même si les participants venant des différentes régions françaises ont appelé à des changements radicaux dans nos façons de considérer le territoire et son aménagement !

Mais cette manifestation a été une occasion majeure de faire remonter les préoccupations des acteurs des territoires, les aspirations et les propositions des citoyens et organismes sensibles à la question du paysage.

Il faut noter que ces « Etats généraux » n'ont pas été menés dans un esprit de revendications adressées à un Etat et à des pouvoirs publics sommés de régler tous les problèmes. Ils ont au contraire été guidés par un esprit de responsabilisation, chacun étant appelé à agir à son niveau pour contribuer, dans son action quotidienne, à contribuer à la mise en place d'une politique paysagère garante du bien commun à léguer aux générations futures.

Cette manifestation, la plus importante organisée sur ce thème depuis longtemps en France, a été le résultat d'une forte mobilisation.

Lancée par la société civile au moment où la ratification par la France de la Convention européenne du paysage<sup>12</sup> était en cours, elle est une étape dans un processus qui devrait trouver d'autres développements dans les années à venir.

– **L'organisation de la mobilisation**

***L'élément déclencheur : la publication du « Livre blanc pour les paysages » en 2004***

L'origine de cette mobilisation se situe en octobre 2004 avec la publication d'un Livre blanc « *La fin des paysages ?* », édité par la Fédération des Sociétés aménagement foncier et d'établissement rural (FNSAFER), organisme technique du secteur agricole, chargé d'organiser la mise à disposition des

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<sup>12</sup> La France a ratifié la Convention européenne du paysage le 13 octobre 2005. La Convention est entrée en vigueur le 1<sup>er</sup> juillet 2006 et a été publiée par décret du 20 décembre 2006.

terres pour les agriculteurs, de participer à l'aménagement du territoire et de protéger l'environnement. Ce texte exprimait une inquiétude très forte face à la consommation considérable et accélérée des terres agricoles.

La publication de cet ouvrage <sup>13</sup> a rejoint des préoccupations déjà très vives des Conservatoires d'espaces naturels, organismes gestionnaires d'espaces naturels acquis à des fins de protection de la biodiversité. Des contacts noués entre la Fédération nationale des Conservatoires d'espaces naturels et la FNSAFER ont permis de faire naître l'idée, sur la base du Livre Blanc, de proposer aux principaux organismes intervenant dans le domaine du paysage et de la gestion des espaces naturels de se réunir afin de confronter leurs analyses et envisager un travail en commun.

Une quarantaine d'organismes ont immédiatement répondu favorablement à cette proposition et ont participé à trois réunions d'échange, signe que cette préoccupation et ce cri d'alarme était bien reçu et partagé par un nombre important d'organismes.

### **2005 - Mars 2006, du Livre blanc à la signature du Manifeste pour les paysages**

Très vite est née l'idée de lancer un « Manifeste pour les paysages » texte court, percutant, texte d'alerte et de mobilisation <sup>14</sup>. Ce petit texte, que chacun (organisme national, régional ou local, de tous horizons, ainsi que particuliers) était appelé à signer, se concluait par un appel à se retrouver début 2007 à Paris pour des « Etats généraux du Paysage ».

La large diffusion de ce texte a été assurée par chaque participant à ces réunions et un site internet dédié a été créé. Outre l'appui de particuliers, les signatures de 150 organismes ou d'associations ont été recueillies, dont une part prépondérante de têtes de réseaux et d'organismes nationaux ; ce texte a donc été discuté et approuvé par les conseils d'administration et instances dirigeantes de très nombreux organismes.

Le Manifeste a rassemblé une gamme large d'acteurs : les collectivités locales, les milieux agricoles et de la forêt, les architectes, urbanistes et paysagistes, les associations de protection du patrimoine culturel, les associations écologiques, les réseaux des gestionnaires d'espaces protégés, les établissements de formation, etc.

Le 15 mars 2006 a été organisée une cérémonie officielle de signature de ce document, qui a eu lieu, symboliquement, à l'Assemblée nationale (le parlement). Ce manifeste a été rendu public et présenté à la presse à cette occasion.

### **Mars 2006 - 8 février 2007, la préparation des Etats généraux du paysage**

A la suite du succès emporté par le Manifeste, le noyau des deux « chefs de file » (la FNSAFER et la Fédération des Conservatoires d'espaces naturels), s'est enrichi d'un collectif d'une dizaine d'organismes regroupés pour piloter l'organisation des Etats Généraux. Il faut noter que ce collectif s'est constitué de façon spontanée, sans existence juridique, ce qui ne l'a pas empêché de mener à bien ce projet, avec l'appui technique d'une association spécialisée dans l'organisation d'événements<sup>15</sup>. L'ensemble de ce processus a été rendu possible par le soutien en nature ou financier des organismes impliqués, ainsi que par l'appui financier de l'Etat.

<sup>13</sup> La fin des paysages ? Livre blanc pour une gestion ménagère de nos espaces ruraux, Fédération nationale des SAFER, octobre 2004, 47 pages. Consultable sur [www.safer.fr](http://www.safer.fr)

<sup>14</sup> Le Manifeste pour les paysages et la liste des signataires est consultable sur [www.etatsgenerauxdupaysage.org](http://www.etatsgenerauxdupaysage.org), rubrique « Contribuer au Manifeste » / le Manifeste / les signataires/

<sup>15</sup> Le collectif est composé ainsi : FNSAFER ; Fédération des Conservatoires d'espaces naturels ; Fédération Française du paysage ; Fédération des Parcs naturels régionaux ; Fédération nationale des Conseils en architecture, urbanisme et environnement ; Réseau des Grands Sites de France ; Rivages de France ; Fédération nationale des associations de sauvegarde des sites et ensembles monumentaux ; Société pour la protection du patrimoine et de l'esthétique de la France ; Maisons paysannes de France ; Mairie-conseils Caisse des dépôts et consignations.

Ces huit mois de préparation ont été une période intense d'échange, de débats, de propositions particulièrement enrichissants.

Quatre groupes de travail ont été constitués, chacun chargé d'un thème : « Créer des paysages contemporains de qualité », « Coordonner les interventions des acteurs du paysage », « Protéger, gérer, valoriser le patrimoine paysager », « Etre plus économes de nos ressources ». Ouverts à tous les organismes signataires du Manifeste, ces groupes de travail ont associé une vingtaine de personnes par groupe, généralement les têtes de réseaux nationaux. Afin d'enrichir la réflexion et d'exprimer les attentes de terrain, plusieurs organismes ont mené des enquêtes auprès de leurs membres locaux. Chaque groupe était coordonné par un volontaire qui a assuré l'animation des réunions de travail (5 pour chaque thème environ), rassemblé les contributions de tous, rédigé les textes de synthèse, etc.

Ces textes d'analyse et de propositions préparés par chaque groupe de travail ont été présentés le 8 février, portés à la connaissance des 500 participants, amendés le cas échéant, puis présentés en séance plénière des Etats Généraux <sup>16</sup>.

#### – **L'apport de la Convention européenne du paysage**

Le processus de mobilisation a démarré en 2004 sans lien véritable avec la Convention européenne du paysage. De nombreux participants ne connaissaient pas la Convention et ne l'ont découverte qu'en cours de route.

Cette initiative a été portée par la société civile, c'est-à-dire des associations et des organismes au contact avec les réalités de terrain, décidés à réagir face à une évolution négative des paysages, soumis aux effets de l'accélération technologique, de l'individualisation des comportements, de l'étalement urbain et du gaspillage des terres agricoles.

C'est courant 2006, durant les réunions de préparation des Etats généraux du Paysage, alors que la France venait de ratifier la Convention européenne du Paysage, que tous les participants se sont réellement appropriés le texte de la Convention. Ils ont de ce fait pris conscience que leurs préoccupations étaient partagées par un grand nombre de personnes, au-delà de nos frontières et que leurs travaux contribuaient à mettre en œuvre les engagements nouveaux pris par la France en signant la Convention. Il faut souligner que tous les participants se sont très facilement retrouvés dans les préoccupations portées par la Convention, la vision ouverte et tournée vers l'avenir qu'elle exprime, le souci de concertation et de partage qui la sous-tend.

Le texte de la convention a permis de structurer la réflexion (ce n'est donc pas un hasard si les 4 thèmes de travail autour desquels ont été préparés les Etats généraux sont en concordance complète avec les orientations de la Convention !). Elle a également apporté une légitimité forte à cette initiative, confortée par l'intervention d'un représentant du Conseil de l'Europe en ouverture des Etats Généraux.

#### – **A ce stade, quel bilan en tirer ?**

D'ores et déjà, l'ensemble des documents issus des Etats généraux du paysage sont en cours de diffusion auprès de toutes les autorités du pays, ainsi qu'auprès des candidats aux élections présidentielles, en espérant que l'attention à la question des paysages sera renforcée dans les années à venir aux plus hauts sommets de l'Etat.

Parmi les points forts, on retiendra que ce processus a permis à de nombreux organismes qui n'ont pas l'habitude de travailler ensemble de se rencontrer et de se connaître, favorisant le décloisonnement

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<sup>16</sup> Les documents et propositions formulées à l'occasion des EGP ainsi que leur programme sont consultables sur [www.etatsgenerauxdupaysage.org](http://www.etatsgenerauxdupaysage.org)

entre les organisations du secteur de l'écologie et celles de la défense du patrimoine, entre les professionnels et experts du paysage et les milieux agricoles, les associations protestataires et les organismes de gestion, les autorités locales et les organismes de formation, etc... Celui-ci a été conduit dans un esprit constructif et a abouti sans heurts majeurs, alors que les sujets de divergence sont actuellement assez vifs, par exemple sur la question des éoliennes, promues par les associations environnementales et combattues par les associations de défense des paysages. C'est, nous l'espérons, un acquis positif pour l'avenir de cette mobilisation en faveur des paysages qu'il faut continuer à animer, développer, faire vivre, pour que s'améliorent de façon concrète et profonde nos politiques, nos façons d'intervenir sur le territoire, nos savoir-faire, à tous les niveaux de responsabilité, tant publics que privés.

**CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH WITHIN CORNWALL (CERES) / CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH WITHIN CORNWALL (CERES)**

**ITALIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY / SOCIÉTÉ GÉOGRAPHIQUE ITALIENNE**

**ATELIER INTERNATIONAL POUR LE PAYSAGE BELLINZONA**

**ARBRES ET ROUTES / TREES AND ROADS**

## APPENDIX 12

### DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL

*as revised, taking account of the comments expressed at the Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention, to be forwarded via the relevant committees to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for adoption, in the form of a Committee of Ministers Recommendation to Member States*

#### **Introduction**

This document contains a series of theoretical, methodological and practical guidelines for the legal implementation of the European Landscape Convention. It is intended for Parties to the Convention wishing to draw up and implement a landscape policy based on the Convention.

It puts forward proposals taking account of advances and developments in the concept of landscape in Europe and of the various completed and ongoing experiments in applying the Convention.

The concept of landscape is passing through a period of rapid and profound change accompanied by significant advances. Together with the documents relating to its implementation, the Convention constitutes a genuine innovation compared with other international documents on the cultural and natural heritage. It has already led to developments in numerous European States, irrespective of whether or not they have officially acceded to it, not only in their national and regional legislation but also at the various administrative levels, as well as in methodological documents and experiments with active participatory landscape policies.

This situation has come about both in States which have long been active in this area and which have tried and tested landscape policies and instruments, and in States which are not yet at that stage. The Convention is used as a reference by various countries to initiate a process of profound change in their landscape policies; for others less well equipped it has constituted, and continues to do so, an opportunity to define their policy.

The Guidance and suggestions below are put forward with due regard for the freedom, and particularly the creativity, of the authorities of each state to draw up legal, operational, administrative and technical landscape-related instruments. They avoid narrow or restrictive interpretations of the text of the Convention or guidelines that have already been applied but found wanting. The courses of action chosen by each state for application of the Convention will form a common resource useful to all other States.

Some general principles and key measures are presented below:

- the general principles are designed to provide guidance on some of the fundamental articles of the European Landscape Convention;
- the key measures are intended to explain the foundations of the actions to be carried out at technical and operational level in order to promote, on the one hand, spatial protection, management and planning according to landscape quality objectives (administrative and institutional questions) and, on the other, integration of the landscape dimension into all sectoral policies with landscape implications (criteria and instruments for implementing landscape policies). The awareness-raising, training and education determine all these actions.

The regular meetings of the Workshops on Implementation of the European Landscape Convention organised by the Council of Europe have already carried out, and will continue to do so, in-depth studies of useful themes as references for implementation of the Convention.

The Guidance is designed to facilitate translation of the above principles and measures into national, regional and local regulations.

## **PART I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

The general principles are designed to provide guidance on some of the fundamental articles of the European Landscape Convention.

### ***Main objectives***

#### *1. Considering the territory as a whole*

The Convention applies to the entire territory and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It includes land, air, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that may be considered outstanding as well as everyday and degraded landscapes.

#### *2. Recognizing the founding role of knowledge*

The identification, description and assessment of landscapes constitute the preliminary phase of any landscape policy. This involves an analysis of morphological, historical, cultural and natural characteristics and their interrelations, as well as an analysis of changes. The social perception of landscape by the public must also be analysed from the viewpoint of both its historical development and its recent significance.

#### *3. Promoting awareness-raising*

Active public involvement means that specialised knowledge must be accessible to all, ie it must be easily available, structured and presented in a way understandable even by non-specialists.

#### *4. Promoting training and education*

Training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operation and multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned must be promoted school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning must be instituted and/or developed.

#### *5. Promoting horizontal and vertical integration of policies*

Landscape should be fully taken into account via appropriate procedures allowing systematic inclusion of the landscape dimension in all policies that influence the quality of sites. Integration concerns both the various administrative bodies and departments on the same level (horizontal integration) and the various administrative bodies belonging to different levels (vertical integration).

#### *6. Integrating landscape dimension in territorial policies*

The landscape dimension must be included in the preparation of all spatial management policies, both general and sectoral, in order to lead to higher-quality protection, management or planning proposals.

#### *7. Drawing landscape strategies*

Each administrative level (national, regional and local) should draw up specific and/or sectoral landscape strategies within the limits of its competences. These are based on the resources and institutions which, when co-ordinated in terms of space and time, allow policy implementation to be programmed. The various strategies must be linked by landscape quality objectives.

8. *Promoting public involvement*

All action taken to define, implement and monitor landscape policies should be preceded and accompanied by procedures for participation by the public and parties concerned, with the aim of enabling them to play an active role in formulating, implementing and monitoring landscape quality objectives appropriate to their environment.

9. *Promoting conformity of action taken*

Every planning action or project must comply with landscape quality objectives. It should in particular improve the landscape quality or at least not bring about a decline. The effects of projects, whatever their scale, on landscapes must therefore be evaluated and rules and instruments corresponding to those effects defined. Each intervention must not only match, but also be appropriate to the features of the locations.

10. *Developing mutual assistance and exchange of information*

Information exchange, the circulation of theoretical, methodological and empirical ideas, landscape specialists and students and the drawing of lessons from experience are of fundamental importance in encouraging the social and territorial relevance of the European Landscape Convention and achieving its objectives.

The Convention can give rise to creative experimentation on the basis of certain general innovative principles.

## 1. Definition of landscape

*“For the purposes of the Convention: a “Landscape” means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors” (Article 1 of the European Landscape Convention – Definitions)*

*“Subject to the provisions contained in Article 15, this Convention applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It includes land, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes.” (Article 2 of the European Landscape Convention – Scope)*

The concept of landscape in the Convention differs from the one that may be found in certain documents, which sees in landscape only an “asset” (heritage concept of landscape) and assesses it (as “cultural”, “natural” etc landscape) by considering it part of physical space. This new concept expresses, on the contrary, the desire to confront, head-on and in a comprehensive way, the theme of the quality of the places and notably the surroundings where a population lives; this is recognised as a precondition for individual and social well-being (understood in the physical, physiological, psychological and intellectual sense) and for sustainable development, as well as a resource conducive to economic activity.

Attention is focused on the territory as a whole, without distinguishing between the urban, peri-urban, rural and natural parts, or between parts that may be regarded as outstanding, everyday or degraded; it is not limited to cultural, artificial and natural elements: the landscape forms a whole whose constituent parts are considered simultaneously in their interrelations. Underground landscapes (caves) and submarine landscapes as well as skyscape (firmament), should be taken into consideration.

The concept of sustainable development is understood as fully integrating the environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions in an overall and integrated fashion, ie by applying them to the entire territory.

The sensory (visual, auditory, tactile, olfactory and gustative) and emotional perception which a population has of its environment and recognition of the latter's diversity and special historical and cultural features are essential for the respect and safeguarding of the identity of the population itself and for individual enrichment and that of society. It implies a recognition of the rights and duties of the population to play an active role in the processes of acquiring knowledge, taking decisions and managing the quality of the places where it lives. Public involvement in decisions to take action and in the implementation and management of such decisions over time is regarded not as a formal act but as an integral part of management, protection and planning procedures.

## 2. Legal recognition of landscape

*“Each Party undertakes: a) to recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people’s surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity;” (Article 5 of the European Landscape Convention – General measures)*

The legal recognition of landscape implies rights and responsibilities on the part of all institutions and citizens of Europe towards their physical surroundings. The landscape in which they live is the simultaneous result of many change-producing actions resulting perhaps from the activity of various parties in territorial processes in highly varied ways and on differing scales of time and space. Such activities may be the outcome of action by public authorities in establishing a large-scale infrastructure or of individual action in a restricted space.

## 3. Landscape policies

*“For the purposes of the Convention: ...b) “Landscape policy” means an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscapes;” (Article 1 of the European Landscape Convention – Definitions)*

From the operational viewpoint, the Convention presupposes:

- the drawing up of specific landscape policies and concurrently the systematic inclusion of the landscape dimension in all sectoral policies that have a direct or indirect influence on changes to the territory. Landscape is therefore not a sectoral theme that can just be tacked on to other themes but is an integral part of them;
- a transition from a policy based only on protecting a territory's features and parts recognised as outstanding to a policy based on the quality of all living surroundings, whether outstanding, degraded or everyday;
- the definition and experimentation of new forms of collaboration between the various bodies and the various levels of administration;

- a new approach to observing and interpreting landscape, which must henceforth:
  - view the territory as a whole (and no longer just identify places to be protected);
  - include and combine several approaches simultaneously, linking the ecological, historical, cultural, perceptive and economic approaches;

#### **4. Landscape operations**

The Convention gives definitions of landscape activities such as protection, planning and management.

*“For the purposes of the Convention: ... d) “Landscape protection” means actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity;”(Article 1 of the European Landscape Convention – Definitions)*

The concept of *protection* includes the idea that landscape is subject to changes which, within certain limits, must be accepted. Protection actions, which are now the subject of numerous experiments, must not be designed to stop time nor to restore disappeared natural or human-influenced characteristics; however, they may guide changes in sites in order to pass on the majority of their specific, material and immaterial features for the future. A landscape’s characteristics depend on economic, social, ecological, cultural and historical factors, the origin of which often lies outside the sites concerned. Landscape protection must find the ways and means of acting, on the right scale, not only on the characteristics present at sites but also on external factors.

*“For the purposes of the Convention: e) “Landscape management” means action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes;” (Article 1 of the European Landscape Convention – Definitions)*

*Management* of landscape is a continuing action aimed at influencing any activity liable to change the landscape. It can be seen as a form of adaptive planning which itself evolves as societies transform their way of life, their development and surroundings. It can also be seen as a territorial project which takes account of new social aspirations, anticipated changes in biophysical and cultural characteristics and access to natural resources.

*“For the purposes of the Convention:... f) “Landscape planning” means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.” (Article 1 of the European Landscape Convention – Definitions)*

*Planning* of landscape may be regarded in the same way as a territorial project and concerns forms of change that have a capacity to anticipate new social needs by taking account of ongoing developments. It must also be consistent with sustainable development and allow for the ecological and economic processes that may occur in the medium and long terms. Planning also covers the rehabilitation of degraded land (mines, quarries, landfills etc) so that they meet the stipulated landscape quality objectives.

Landscape action is a combination of protection, management and planning conducted over one and the same territory: certain parts and features can be protected, others must be managed and still others must be deliberately changed.

## **PART II. KEY MEASURES**

The key measures are intended to explain the foundations of the measures to be taken at technical and operational level in order to promote, on the one hand, spatial protection, management and planning according to landscape quality objectives (administrative and institutional questions) and, on the other, integration of the landscape dimension into all sectoral policies with landscape implications (criteria and instruments for implementing landscape policies). The awareness-raising, training and education determine all these actions.

## 1. Administrative and institutional questions

*“Each Party shall implement this Convention, in particular Articles 5 and 6, according to its own division of powers, in conformity with its constitutional principles and administrative arrangements, and respecting the principle of subsidiarity, taking into account the European Charter of Local Self-government. Without derogating from the provisions of this Convention, each Party shall harmonise the implementation of this Convention with its own policies.” (Article 4 of the European Landscape Convention – Division of responsibilities)*

*Certain States in Europe have long implemented landscape policies, both co-ordinated and sectoral, based on legislation on the historic heritage or on nature dating from the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; policies are generally based on regulations relating to certain areas or features regarded as particularly worthwhile for different reasons (the dominant concept was generally natural or picturesque beauty, panoramic views etc) associated with the cultural models of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (paintings of nature etc). In some of those States, administrative authority has been assigned to bodies responsible, at different levels, for the historic heritage and culture.*

*Other States have, especially over the past few decades, developed policies focusing particular attention on matters connected with regulation of the environment (air, water, earth, flora and fauna) and the landscape theme has often been placed on the same level as the environment. In several countries, landscape responsibilities have been assigned to administrative bodies responsible for managing nature, the environment or ecology.*

*In yet other States, specific responsibilities are included among those attributed to spatial-planning bodies.*

*Because of the complexity of the whole landscape subject, other solutions have been found in the past few years at both national level and, particularly, at regional and local levels, and landscape-related responsibilities have sometimes been conferred on sectors concerned with land-use and construction policies, sometimes on public-works sectors and sometimes on sectors concerned with agriculture etc.*

\* \* \*

Each state decides on its own institutional organisation in landscape matters according to its own overall institutional organisation (centralised, decentralised, federal) at the existing government levels (from national to local levels) and according to its own administrative and cultural traditions and existing structures.

However, it is advisable for landscape matters to receive specific recognition involving autonomy both in the allocation of administrative responsibilities and in knowledge-based and operational activities, irrespective of whether or not they are included in larger administrative sectors.

Competences should be allocated to the different administrative levels in line with the subsidiarity principle, under which the institutional level closest to the citizen is assigned responsibility. However, higher administrative levels must assume the tasks of guidance and co-ordination etc when these are not dealt with at local level (eg guidance, co-ordination, specialist data banks, national and regional

planning policies and instruments etc) or when this would lead to greater efficiency. The experience of the different States and regions can be used as references when deciding on courses of action.

In order to make sure that the landscape dimension is incorporated into territorial policies, it is essential to engage in consultation, particularly prior consultation, between the different levels responsible for administering the area concerned (government and local-authority departments) and between the different bodies and sectors of the same level (horizontal and vertical consultation).

Consultation should cover both the formulation of general strategies and operational decisions. In this way it will be possible to transcend the unrelated and particularistic interests inherent in a view of quality based only on the protection of specific areas and avoid the risk of different or indeed contradictory policies on the part of the various public-service sectors.

At national level, it would therefore be useful to arrange for permanent consultation instruments and procedures and regular meetings between bodies with the most central administrative responsibility (ministries) in order to define and agree strategies and prepare consultation bodies (eg a standing interdepartmental conference). The same could apply vertically between ministries and lower administrative levels (eg state-region conferences) and also within the different administrative levels. In addition to these permanent bodies, procedures can be drawn up for collaboration between the different bodies and institutes (public and/or private) specialising in particular national and local problems, especially collaboration between departments responsible for different operational sectors in the regions, in supra-municipal bodies or in municipalities themselves.

Arrangements should also be made for national, regional and local bodies of an advisory and guidance nature to provide assistance to the above-mentioned technical and administrative services (landscape monitoring centres, landscape councils, landscape centres and institutes etc). These bodies could be composed of representatives of the administrative authorities, the scientific and professional communities concerned with landscape questions, and associations.

Within its landscape-administration structures and procedures each state must define the criteria for public participation and ways of organising it.

The public authorities should devote human and financial resources to landscape policy; such resources can either be specifically earmarked or come from other sectors (eg the environment, tourism, public works, culture etc), perhaps with the introduction of landscape considerations into the aforementioned sectoral policies.

## **2. Criteria and instruments for the realisation of landscape policies**

The fundamental stages in the process leading to landscape action are:

- knowledge of the landscapes concerned: identification, characterisation and assessment;
- definition of landscape quality objectives;
- participation between institutions and the population, horizontal and vertical, which favour consultation, pooling of ideas and approval should be organised at all stages in this process;
- attainment of these objectives by the establishment of a landscape policy with management over a period of time (ordinary and exceptional actions and measures, monitoring of changes, evaluation of the effects of policies and possible redefinition of choices).

The legal framework should concentrate more on principles than specific operational methods, which should be left to more technical instruments that can be more easily modified over time (implementation rules, appendices etc); they should encourage creativity in the research and

experimentation which are already in hand in different States or which form part of collaboration between several States.

Landscape knowledge constitutes the first fundamental stage in a process either of formulation of choices or of the involvement of the stakeholders whose activities influence the landscape; it leads to the establishment of landscape quality objectives and to landscape action.

### **2.1. Landscape knowledge: identification, characterisation and assessment**

*“ ... C. Identification and assessment*  
*1. With the active participation of the interested parties, as stipulated in Article 5.c, and with a view to improving knowledge of its landscapes, each Party undertakes:*  
*a. i) to identify its own landscapes throughout its territory;*  
*ii) to analyse their characteristics and the forces and pressures transforming them;*  
*iii) to take note of changes;*  
*b. to assess the landscapes thus identified, taking into account the particular values assigned to them by the interested parties and the population concerned.*  
*2. These identification and assessment procedures shall be guided by the exchanges of experience and methodology, organised between the Parties at European level pursuant to Article 8.” (Article 8 of the European Landscape Convention – Specific measures)*

*The various texts relating to the Convention and the various experimental practices already being developed or operational in different European States show a diversity of approach to knowledge production that also reflects the diversity of cultural concepts. However, there is an acute awareness that the most frequently used theoretical and methodological instruments fail to meet operational requirements; too often they belong to compartmentalised disciplinary universes, while the landscape demands adequate responses within cross-disciplinary time and space constraints which can meet the need for a knowledge of the permanent changes at local level that require monitoring. Approaches include:*

- one that may be described as “characterisation-interpretation”; this attempts to meet the requirement for knowledge imposed by instruments and measures for managing territorial changes (general plan, sector plan, landscape projects etc);*
- approaches that are more analytical and descriptive, relatively independent and having operational purposes.*

*The term “identification” should therefore be understood in its broad sense as the expression of this preliminary requirement; it is composed of a phase of comprehension and analysis of specific characteristics (characterisation) and a phase of quality problem identification (assessment), which may vary according to the complexity of situations and objectives. The term identification should not be interpreted simplistically nor be limited to an inventory of landscapes but should be linked to the establishment of landscape quality objectives.*

\* \* \*

Landscape knowledge must be developed according to an identification, characterisation and assessment process, which includes:

- an understanding and description of the specific physical characteristics of the sites in their existing state, revealing the traces left by natural and human processes and recognising that landscape characteristics result from the action of natural and/or human factors and their interrelations;*

- examination of their developmental processes and highlighting (i) the past, present and foreseeable time-related forces due to either human or natural factors and (ii) the pressures and risks facing them;
- recognition of characteristics and value systems based on analysis by experts or knowledge of the social perceptions of landscape. This knowledge can be gained through various forms of public involvement in the process of landscape policy definition and through analysis of the geographical distribution of the population.

Guidelines for measures should not be too interventionist as regards the methods, stages and parties involved in the process of knowledge production: certain public authorities may provide *landscape catalogues* or *atlases* for use as a stand-alone instrument, with bodies having specific responsibility for producing them. Depending on the state, such documents have various titles: landscape atlas, landscape catalogue, landscape map, landscape character assessment map and so on. These supply a common reference framework and constitute a common language which makes communication easier between the parties; other documents may leave it to the experts to choose whether to use *characterisation analysis* or *interpretative characterisation* as the first stage in obtaining the knowledge required by the instruments of landscape policy definition and implementation, depending on the administrative level, scale, objectives, tools (programmes, plans, charters etc).

Measures should be taken to:

- promote integration of the different knowledge-production approaches to observation of the territory (economic, social, environmental, historic/cultural, perceptive/visual etc);
- impose analyses concerning the entire territory (which take account of outstanding, everyday and degraded parts) and not only parts or features regarded as significant or exceptional;
- ensure ease of access, clarity and transparency in the organisation and presentation of knowledge, with the particular aim of securing public involvement in landscape policy choices;
- encourage the establishment and availability of landscape data banks; such data should concern the state of the landscapes, the past and present forces acting on them, pressures, risks and both natural and human aspects. Information should be updated regularly, and more frequently when changes are rapid. They should comply with nationally, and where possible internationally, recognised criteria so as to encourage exchanges of experience between States, regions and territorial communities at other levels.

## 2.2. *Definition of landscape quality objectives*

*“ ... D. Landscape quality objectives  
Each Party undertakes to define landscape quality objectives for the landscapes identified and assessed, after public consultation in accordance with Article 5.c.” (Article 6 of the European Landscape Convention – Specific measures)*

*Certain natural and/or historic elements of sites may be given particular attention in order to preserve their specific role, particular historical meaning, and environmental and other potential, for example, in parts of the territory devoted to agriculture, hedges, planted areas, dry-stone or earth walls, terraces, individual monumental trees, springs or historic canal networks. The instruments used may range from forms of legal protection to financing granted to owners and farmers for upkeep, replanting or integration and to forms of improvement accompanied perhaps by teaching material which provides guidance and passes on traditional methods of landscape upkeep.*

*Specific instructions and regulations may be introduced for certain types of operation and change that strongly influence the quality of sites, eg electricity lines, light installations, telephone networks and masts, wind farms, quarries, mines, commercial and political advertising, leisure facilities (eg campsites, caravans, recreational facilities) and so on.*

*Certain urban development themes and problems, which should be categorised according to the particular features of the different areas, may be the subject of specific instructions and regulations and may be mentioned as topics for special landscape studies: for example, town approaches, town-country boundaries, peri-urban approaches and areas, linear links between historically different centres (ribbon developments) and so on.*

*Conditions for public access to landscapes must be guaranteed with due respect for private property, but access roads, roads, lanes and paths should allow the landscape to be enjoyed; to this end, in agreement with the parties concerned, the authorities may arrange for the removal of visual obstacles or for the construction of viewing corridors on a landscape deserving such treatment. Such access roads must also provide facilities for the welfare of users, ie for their comfort and safety and comply with sustainable-development requirements.*

\* \* \*

The definition of quality objectives should be based on knowledge of the specific characteristics and qualities of the sites concerned, identification of the forces acting on them and of their potential and on how the landscape is perceived by the public. Certain landscape questions or aspects may receive special attention. Landscape quality objectives represent the end result of the process of devising landscape operations, which implies knowledge production, public consultation, policy formulation and action and monitoring strategies.

The objectives should constitute the preliminary guidelines for drawing up the measures to be taken to protect, manage and plan landscapes and manage them over time. They should be drawn up, linking the social requirements and values attached to the landscape by the public to the choice of policy decisions made concerning the substance of the landscape components. Particular importance should be devoted to the range of social perceptions, which reflect a population's diversity.

The concrete application of protection, management and planning choices must cover the whole landscape and refrain from dividing it into the number of elements composing it: landscape is characterised by the interrelations between several fields (physical, functional, symbolic, cultural and historic, formal etc) that constitute ancient and recent landscape systems; the latter may be interwoven and superimposed in the same section of territory. Landscape is not simply the sum of its constituent parts.

Landscape quality objectives should be defined by general landscape policy instruments for the different levels (national, regional, local etc) and formally implemented by town and country planning and development documents, as well as by sectoral instruments; in return, these documents can make a specific contribution to the formulation of landscape quality objectives.

To make the process successful, it is necessary to consult the public and all parties concerned right from the outset and secure their approval and involvement.

### **2.3. *Establishment of procedures of participation***

*“Each Party undertakes:  
... c. to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies*

*mentioned in paragraph b. above;” (Article 5 of the European Landscape Convention – General measures)*

*The certainty that strengthening the relationship between the population and its living surroundings underpins sustainable development affects the whole process of landscape policy definition. Moreover, participation is regarded as an instrument for strengthening the identities of populations, which recognise themselves in their surroundings.*

*Public involvement, which may entail contradictions resulting from the diversity of the value systems espoused by the various social groups, must be regarded as an enrichment and as an opportunity to validate knowledge and define objectives and action.*

*Participation implies two-way communication from experts and scientists to the population and vice versa. The population possesses empirical knowledge (local and naturalistic knowledge) that may be useful in supplementing scientific knowledge and giving it its due importance.*

*This also has an influence on “assessment” activity, understood as a dialectical comparison between analyses by experts and the values attached by the population to landscape, in the knowledge that different systems of “values” and “non-values” exist that are either well-entrenched or in the process of definition (universal, specific to national cultures, to local cultures, to each individual’s culture); these value systems belong to scholarly culture and to popular culture: they are qualitative and not quantifiable and some of them are sometimes mutually opposed. The concept of participation involves taking into account the social perception of landscape and popular aspirations in choices regarding landscape protection, management and planning. In this sense, the concept of landscape proposed by the Convention implies an exercise in democracy whereby differences are accepted, common characteristics found and operational compromises eventually reached; these represent an alternative to the drawing up by experts of hierarchical classifications of landscape qualities.*

\* \* \*

The means of participation must be chosen by each state from among methods appropriate to the different problems identified, taking account of current consultation and comparison customs, the different administrative organisations, the characteristics of the various territorial situations, the types of operational instruments used, the scales of operation, and experience both past and present at international level. In any case, participation should involve all the parties concerned: national, regional and local authorities, the population directly affected, the general public, non-governmental organisations, economic operators and landscape professionals and scientists.

Participation should be a feature of all the different phases in the processes of drawing up and implementing landscape policies, in particular, those of landscape appraisal, definition of landscape quality objectives, decision-making and implementation of actions over time. Participation must also be regarded as a system for the mutual information of the various parties involved. It is particularly important that the participation be done at all stages of its implementation, from the diagnostic to the implementation of actions decided by concertation, that is to say in the realisation of projects done by all the actors.

In defining the procedures for approving choices, reference may be made to already tried and tested instruments such as consultation, public inquiries, information meetings and educational exhibitions. These instruments may also be used simultaneously.

#### **2.4. Establishment of landscape policies**

*“...E. Implementation*

*To put landscape policies into effect, each Party undertakes to introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.”*

The means of implementing landscape policies or introducing the landscape dimension into sectoral policies may be either regulatory or contract-based. New methods of action may also be used. The choice of means to be used can depend on the local situation, which will vary even within the same country.

Implementation of landscape policies or of policies to introduce the landscape dimension into sectoral policies may combine these different means according to the ends in view, the specific characteristics of the territory, the population and administrative organisation concerned, and so on. This applies to all landscape situations and all activities that shape them. Implementation may be included in general and sectoral instruments at the different administrative, programming and spatial-planning levels; it may provide for land acquisition by the competent authorities.

### ***Regulatory means***

Regulatory implementation depends on the legislation that exists and the type of objective; ie it depends on what it is desired to achieve in terms of protection, management or planning; measures may be included in spatial-planning documents or provide for specific instruments.

- *Inclusion of objectives in a protection policy:* measures must ensure the conservation and upkeep of significant or characteristic aspects of a landscape; protection must be accompanied by a phased management plan. Specific legislation, where it exists, may be used or, where it does not, it should be drawn up.
- *Inclusion of objectives in a management policy:* measures may provide for the upkeep of existing landscape structures (some of these may be acquired by the competent authority).
- *Inclusion of objectives in a planning policy:* the measures may provide for planning schemes or for appropriate new facilities. Financial provisions for financing the proposed actions and/or technical and operational aids may be laid down.

### ***Contractual means***

Contractual implementation is based on agreements, charters, quality labels or contracts between the authorities and parties concerned. It may involve financial provisions for funding the proposed actions and/or technical and operational assistance. It may include the following:

- *in the case of a protection policy:* an agreement providing for the upkeep of a landscape. If necessary, compensation may be awarded to parties affected by the impact of a landscape-friendly measure;
- *in the case of a management policy:* contracts or agreements providing for the upkeep of existing landscape structures. If necessary, funding equivalent to the cost of upkeep may be granted (eg upkeep of hedges, canals, paths etc);
- *in the case of a planning policy:* contracts or agreements providing for the creation of new structures or facilities with appropriate financing. These new structures or facilities must blend in with the existing landscape, ie must comply with defined landscape quality objectives.

### ***The general planning and development process***

To implement landscape policies, a *general planning and development process* should be introduced: this should use specific instruments and provide for the landscape dimension to be included in sectoral instruments. It should be based both on general principles at national level, even if decentralisation is anticipated, and on the linkage of competences at several levels and several types of implementation instruments.

Instruments are already being put to use in several countries and each of them can be a model for either the creation of new instruments or the improvement of existing ones.

The main categories of instruments, presented in Appendix 1 to this document are, or concern:

- landscape planning: landscape study plans included in spatial planning;
- inclusion of landscape in sectoral policies and instruments;
- shared charters, contracts, strategic plans;
- impact and landscape studies;
- evaluations of the landscape effects of operations not subject to an impact study;
- protected sites and landscapes;
- relationship between landscape and regulations concerning the cultural and historic heritage;
- human and financial resources;
- landscape awards ;
- landscape monitoring centres;
- reports on the state of the landscape and landscape policies;
- transfrontier landscapes.

### **3. Awareness-raising, training and education**

#### **3.1. Awareness-raising**

##### *“A. Awareness-raising*

*Each Party undertakes to increase awareness among the civil society, private organisations, and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them.” (Article 65 of the European Landscape Convention – Specific measures)*

*The need to make civil society, private organisations and public authorities aware of the value of landscapes, their role and changes in them does not mean that these bodies are not sensitive to the quality of their environment. It means instead that existing sensitivities are not always in working order and that the parties do not always recognise the link between landscape and their day-to-day surroundings. Awareness-raising is therefore a way of making clear the relations that exist between physical surroundings, the activities pursued by all parties in the course of their daily lives and the characteristics of the natural environment, housing and infrastructure; but awareness-raising based on personal contacts is made up of the experience gained from exchanges between local people affected by the planning decisions to be taken and persons possessing scientific and technical knowledge, ie scientists and experts.*

\* \* \*

Various forms of awareness-raising may be used on a permanent, periodic or occasional basis:

- publications, exhibitions, audiovisual means, simulations and shows by artists and photographers may be employed nationally, regionally or locally. Already widely used, written and audiovisual materials may take the form of illustrated booklets, slide shows with sound or exhibitions, all on various scales. These methods are often used at local level to talk about the landscape of a municipality or a number of municipal territories. They may also be the subject of presentations followed by a debate with the local population, which enables the views of local people to be

ascertained. Landscape simulation or representation tools employing 3-D methods or block diagrams lead to better understanding and discussion between the parties;

- television broadcasts, which are still inadequate, should be developed for both general issues and local experiences;
- local awareness-raising experiences, such as guided visits to an area involving local people, elected representatives and experts or scientists. Such experiences may give rise to a debate and lead to collective thinking about the future of the landscape. Some of these experiences may take the form of a festive occasion.

Awareness-raising must include not only local people, elected representatives and representatives of the public authorities but also companies, non-governmental organisations, the scientific and technical community and artists. Awareness-raising should be understood as a knowledge-spreading process operating in all directions from policymakers to field personnel and local inhabitants and vice versa.

### 3.2. *Training*

*“ ... B. Training...  
Each Party undertakes to promote:  
a. training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations;  
b. multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned;” (Article 6 of the European Landscape Convention – specific measures)*

*Many States now have training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations. Such training should be encouraged and developed. Courses should be geared to a view of landscape based on sustainable development, ie they should train people in the relationship between landscape and economic development, between landscape and the renewal of natural resources and between landscape and social justice.*

*Courses of this nature are aimed at training designers, managers, engineers and technicians specialising in landscape protection, management and planning. They cover both the commissioning and management of projects. They lead to a state-recognised diploma and are now part of a European educational programme under which university exchanges between countries are possible.*

\* \* \*

Training meets the needs of the parties involved for specialist and refresher education:

- national and local institutions and bodies responsible for landscape and training should promote the setting up of specialist courses aimed at training, on a multi-disciplinary basis, landscape appraisal and operations specialists and at landscape research training;
- non-specialist university courses should allow for the introduction of landscape themes into the training of technicians whose activities influence a territory's landscape characteristics;
- special information and in-service training programmes should be provided for elected representatives, the technical staff of public authorities of all levels and sectors, professionals in the private and public sectors whose activities affect the landscape (agriculture, cultivation etc in such a way as to increase the inclusion of landscape in sectoral policies) and the associations concerned;
- theoretical and applied research programmes on landscape should be developed on a multi-disciplinary basis and promoted by States and the other administrative levels in a context of

international co-operation. The anticipated contributions of landscape research concern theoretical knowledge, relations between landscape and sustainable development, public policies and their evaluation, links between landscape research and education, landscape economics, the history of landscape and its representations, the relationship between landscape appraisal approaches and public action, the integration of sectoral disciplinary viewpoints in order to appraise places from the landscape perspective, participation of the parties concerned in drawing up and implementing landscape policies and the definition of policy implementation instruments. On the whole, research should be directed more specifically at “action research” whereby there is a close relationship between fundamental research and public action. This linkage between the two can bring about valuable results for landscape protection, management and planning on the theoretical, methodological and operational levels.

### 3.3. *Education*

#### *B. ... education*

*Each Party undertakes to promote:*

*c. school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning.” (Article 6 of the European Landscape Convention – Specific measures)*

*While schools in certain States already offer landscape training, such training must be strengthened so as to develop children’s sensitivity to questions which they are likely to experience when looking at their surroundings. Furthermore, this is a way of reaching a population through the family.*

*This can come about through education in several disciplines, whether geography, history, the natural sciences, economics, arts, literature, architecture or engineering disciplines, or civics education.*

\* \* \*

School curricula at the various levels should foster an awareness of landscape themes through learning to read landscapes and through sensitisation to relations between one’s surroundings and the landscape, to relations between ecology and landscape problems and to social and economic questions.

Landscape constitutes a teaching resource because, when reading it, pupils are brought face to face with visible signs of their surroundings that relate to spatial-planning issues. Landscape reading also makes it possible to understand current and historical approaches to landscape production as an expression of a community’s identity.

## *Appendix 1*

### *Examples of instruments used to implement the European Landscape Convention*

*The purpose of this Appendix is to clarify certain points not fully covered in the guideline document for the European Landscape Convention. It can be supplemented by the experiences of States parties to the Convention in their own territories, which will provide useful lessons for improving the approach to landscape action. It is proposed that each state contribute to the setting up of a database to appear on the website of the Council of Europe's European Convention. "Toolbox", the database would help provide mutual technical and scientific assistance through the collection and exchange of landscape experience and research, as provided for in Article 8 of the European Landscape Convention on mutual assistance and exchange of information.*

#### **1. Landscape plans and studies as part of spatial planning**

It is necessary to stress the need to deal with landscape matters through a systematic landscape planning process adapted to the different levels, from national to local, throughout the whole territory, including urban and extra-urban areas: the process could take the form of a proper landscape planning and development system endowed with specific instruments and interconnected at the different administrative levels (*landscape plan*) or the systematic introduction of the landscape dimension into ordinary planning supplemented by specific studies and instructions (*landscape study*). All spatial planning must have a landscape dimension.

*Landscape plans and studies* incorporated into the planning process may be mandatory or optional; they may be operationally autonomous or linked operationally to the instruments of normal spatial planning, of which they form an integral part. Such choices may present themselves simultaneously in a range of situations, even within one and the same state.

Irrespective of the question of regulatory and operational autonomy, it is important that there should always be specific studies on the appraisal of surroundings from the landscape perspective or that the direction of operations should be specifically defined: according to the definition in the European Landscape Convention, such studies and directions should concern protection of the characteristics of sites already recognised as being high-quality, the ordinary quality of sites or reassessment and rehabilitation problems.

It is also important to make maximum use in such a planning process of instruments for preliminary vertical and horizontal consultation between the different levels and sectors concerned with the administration of the territory. Encouragement should be given for this to be made an obligation or to promote its use for the implementation of plans by means of administrative procedures.

It would also be useful to specify periods of validity, updating or renewal of landscape plans and studies, taking account of the different factors, eg speed of change according to the areas concerned, the actual possibilities for involving public authorities in devising such instruments, public sensitivity to such issues and opportunities for sustainable development as revealed by consideration of the landscape quality of the sites concerned.

A landscape plan or study will take the form of mapping documents and reports stating the objectives and proposed measures. It will contain operational provisions concerning protection, management and planning, re-assessment and/or rehabilitation, educational provisions on informing and raising the awareness of the public and economic operators, and measures for as effective a level as possible of direct participation by local people.

### ***Principal characteristics of landscape plans or studies***

1. In accordance with the results of the knowledge acquired through activities focusing specifically on the entire territory, it is necessary to identify clearly-defined and demarcated “landscape units”. The expression “landscape unit” is used to emphasise the importance of systematically studying the places concerned from the landscape perspective. It would be wrong to focus solely on just one form of analysis (eg ecological, geographical, visual or other). However, several terms based on different forms of landscape description and site interpretation may be used, as already happens in various States, eg unit, area, system etc.
2. The landscape plan or study sets “landscape quality objectives” for each landscape unit; these cover:
  - conservation and upkeep of quality features (morphology, constituent elements, colours etc, also taking account of construction methods and materials and symbolic characters and places etc);
  - provision for hubs of development in accordance with the various recognised landscape features, ensuring that development does not degrade landscape quality;
  - re-assessment and/or rehabilitation of degraded or problematic areas in order to restore their qualities or create new ones;
3. Definition of general and operational requirements and activities relating to the area’s landscape quality (protection, management, planning, re-assessment etc), devoting special attention to the measures needed for enhancing the landscape and for the public use and accessibility of the sites concerned;
4. The landscape plan or study may also include provisions on awareness-raising, training and information to the public and to the different stakeholders whose activities affect the landscape (economic operators, technicians, administrators etc);
5. Landscape plans or studies may also include agreements, grants and financing for the upkeep of landscape components, creation of structures and recreational and educational activities etc, either by using specifically earmarked funds or indicating and emphasising the possibility of using funds belonging to particular sectors such as agriculture, tourism, culture, public works etc;
6. A short-term or medium-term management plan or programme is necessary in all circumstances and places;
7. It is essential to have a means of monitoring landscape changes and the effectiveness of operations. This will help in the process of reviewing and reformulating landscape quality objectives and in periodically redefining all phases of landscape policy and its resources.

## **2. Inclusion of the landscape in sectoral policies and instruments**

It is particularly important in the present context for:

- all spatial planning and development instruments, whether sectoral or partial, to comply with the provisions contained in *landscape plans or studies*;
- all spatial planning, development and management programmes and instruments to include the landscape dimension in both the appraisal and operational phases;
- numerous forms of vertical and horizontal consultation between the competent bodies to be provided for and implemented;

- an integrated landscape approach to be present in the various sectoral instruments in the area concerned.

In particular, by way of example, landscape plans and studies should be part of energy management programmes, infrastructure (all types) and transport programmes and projects; plans for catchment areas; tourism programmes and plans; programmes, regulations, plans, actions and financial instruments for farming activities and existing legal nature-protection instruments (eg parks and reserves etc).

### **3. Shared strategic charters, contracts and plans**

Consultation and negotiation instruments are spreading and have become more common over the past few decades: they can be used for landscape matters and there are already some positive experiences. In this case, they should involve the common validation of landscape identification and description, the drawing up and approval of quality objectives and medium-term and long-term control strategies by the different landscape players; they should include reciprocal commitments on better implementation of landscape policy through a programme of practical and sustainable action.

The various administrative bodies are responsible for defining the characteristics of such instruments in line with their own particular situation: developers, forms of involvement of the parties, forms of negotiation and contract, ways in which choices are made, responsibility for co-ordination, legal procedures for defining and implementing the necessary action.

On the basis of existing experience, stress should be placed on the importance of broader involvement by the various parties (public and private, individual and collective, national, regional and local levels, general or sectoral etc), the contribution of landscape technicians during the different phases, provision to the public of a clear and validated framework of preliminary knowledge. Prior consultation of all parties involved is essential in order to guarantee success and can take various forms.

### **4. Impact and landscape studies**

The impact study procedures – evaluation of environmental effects and strategic environmental evaluation – required by the European Union in order to assess the consequences of planning projects for the environment are extremely useful instruments for studying the direct and indirect effects of projects on sites and identifying the measures needed to counter or reduce those effects, where necessary. These procedures may also be used in States that are not members of the European Union. However, current experience points to the frequent inadequacy of methods of analysing and evaluating the landscape dimension, which is often regarded as a sectoral theme representing just another environmental component (like air, water, earth), to be assessed in many cases through quantitative indicators. It is therefore imperative to have a proper qualitative evaluation of the effects of development projects on the landscape.

A change in the content of these procedures is essential for an overall integrated interpretation of sites according to the different viewpoints.

It is essential to introduce landscape quality objectives (landscape plans, area development plans with a landscape content etc) into impact studies in order to ensure that projects are as consistent as possible with those objectives.

In any case, it is essential to arrange for action to mitigate and offset any negative effects produced by development projects on the surroundings, from the viewpoint of the landscape and environment (integration of the two viewpoints).

It would be useful to apply the guiding principles of strategic environmental evaluation with a view to the estimation and verification of spatial-planning plans and programmes, since such evaluation involves a comprehensive and overall consideration of the whole landscape and particularly of its capacity to tolerate the planned developments.

## **5. Evaluation of the landscape effects of operations not subject to impact studies**

All development projects, whatever their nature, generally on a local scale, must take account of landscape quality factors. Certain States have adopted specific instruments in this field. Evaluation should contribute to decision-making by administrative bodies and educate and accustom technicians, administrators and private individuals to take account of the landscape dimension as soon as the process of project definition starts.

A specific procedure must therefore be established for the landscape evaluation of all projects for which official permission is required (and which are not yet subject to an environmental impact study (EIS) or to a strategic environmental evaluation (SEE)).

It must be stressed, however, that the documentation required and the procedure involved are not highly expensive or technically complicated. Furthermore, evaluation of landscape effects must be considered separately from the infrastructure or construction project and involve a specific procedure and documentation, whilst allowing an overall integrated analysis of the relationship between the sites concerned and the development project.

The documentation should:

- show how the project fits into the different contexts (the “close” context which it is proposed to develop (approaches), the “halfway” and “distant” contexts, which present problems of visibility and intervisibility of sites in the largest areas; the link with materials, colours and building techniques; impact on biotic and abiotic aspects;
- show the condition of the sites and contexts before work is carried out; demonstrate the consistency of the project characteristics with the contexts; simulate how the site will look afterwards;
- demonstrate that landscape planning and development instruments (plans, charters etc), where they exist, comply with landscape quality objectives;
- assess the effects of the proposed development on the sites concerned and introduce, where necessary, mitigatory measures which will ensure the maintenance of good landscape quality in those sites and compensation measures contributing to environmental quality.

## **6. Protected sites and landscapes**

It is important to encourage a policy to ensure the quality of the territory as a whole by defining policies for appraising, planning, developing and managing everyday or degraded landscapes, rather than identifying and protecting exceptional sites. The latter category, which has long been the subject of experiment in many countries, including monuments and natural sites, has been showing signs of crisis for some time, particularly when it overrides other policies and constitutes passive defence of sites isolated from the territory as a whole; as a result, permits to carry out modifications are subject only to the opinion of specialists and professionals.

While it may be considered a good idea to introduce specific regulations for particular sites (or amend existing laws), it is necessary to reach broad agreement on positions capable of resisting unproven and unsupported conceptual processes. The particular features of each state must be taken into account. It seems preferable to avoid reasoning of the “picturesque feature”, “natural beauty” and “outstanding feature” type, which belong to cultural concepts specific to legislation on the protection of monuments

and sites of the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Reasoning based on a site's specific characteristics may be supplemented or replaced by reasoning based on particular sensitivities or risks.

For such sites, each state should specify according to its own needs:

- general and specific protection measures and instruments: eg a classification or just a list; use of existing institutional instruments such as parks and reserves (cultural parks, regional parks, archaeological reserves etc); creation of new instruments; its own provisional protection measures;
- the characteristics of listing and protection instruments: eg description of the site and the main reasons for protecting it, with official notification to the public and private owners.

Specific, binding or simply guideline regulations should ideally be drawn up for each protected site according to its size and features etc, or specific landscape plans drawn up for each protected site or for certain particular types. In any case, the rules concerning them should be made part of general landscape planning and development.

## **7. Relationship between landscape and regulations on the cultural and historic heritage**

Generally speaking, every state already possesses legislation, an administrative organisation and specific instruments for safeguarding its own cultural and historic heritage, which is now receiving increased public attention; having a policy in this area has been becoming increasingly common throughout Europe since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The landscape dimension must also be included in this sector. Specifically, the protection and upkeep of the individual, linear and surface elements making up a cultural and historic heritage (eg historic centres, villas, industrial archaeology, historic gardens etc) should take account of the way such heritage blends in with the landscape.

The approaches to historic monuments may be the subject of particular plans or of regulations designed to preserve the physical, historic, symbolic, visual and compositional relationship with close and distant contexts: in other words, it is essential to cease devoting attention (and therefore protection) limited solely to exceptional simple and individual elements and instead focus attention on the whole system of which those elements are often just a component.

Identification of significant items in the historic heritage should be included, highlighting their role within a system of historical, material and immaterial relations, that instruments capable of safeguarding and enhancing such a system should be devised. Structures and sites should also be covered by instruments for regulating development activities (regulations, specific programmes, inclusion in ordinary planning, etc).

## **8. Human and financial resources**

The resources needed to draw up and implement a landscape policy may be both financial and human.

Specific resources can be earmarked, with a landscape fund being set up at different administrative levels, through public and private financing (bodies, associations, foundations etc). The inclusion of landscape aspects in sectoral policies (environment, tourism, agriculture, public works, culture etc) will allow use to be made of the resources earmarked for these sectors simultaneously for landscape protection, management and planning.

In order to encourage the landscape dimension to be taken into account in all public and private decisions, special measures involving tax rebates and grants may be adopted. These measures must be adapted to the different types of landscape, their constituent elements and implementation instruments and to the needs of the local communities concerned (direct incentives).

Other types of incentive may be also used, for example technical assistance to private parties in drawing up plans and projects, exploitation of the sites concerned through tourism policies, support for high-quality agricultural products etc (indirect incentives).

Specific initiatives can be taken to encourage the involvement of associations (non-governmental organisations) in the definition and implementation of landscape policies at the different administrative levels in connection with the various types of implementation instruments (plans, charters etc) and the different operational phases (protection, management, planning etc).

Major public works, projects and facilities should devote a minimum percentage of their budget to landscape considerations. This course is already being followed in certain countries.

## **9. Landscape Award**

Unlike other forms of recognition which focus mainly on the exceptional nature or significance of places, whether this is inherited or recently created, the Landscape Award referred to in the Convention is intended mainly to raise awareness, by awarding a prize for exemplary action carried out by public authorities and non-governmental bodies.

It would be possible to make an award at national, regional and local level for exemplary action involving the restoration or safeguarding of threatened or degraded landscapes, activities relating to good everyday and ordinary management, drawing-up and implementation of landscape plans and management plans, successful experience of public involvement, in-service education and training policies, experience of horizontal and vertical consultation in landscape planning and management, transfrontier experience, studies and research possibly involving a number of administrative operators, either national or supranational etc. Each state could institute a national landscape award which would serve as a means of pre-selection for participation in the Council of Europe Landscape Award.

Each state could adapt its national landscape award to its own requirements, necessities and opportunities. In this way it could specify the content of the award (cash, financial, technical and operational support for the parties' action etc), the forms in which the results are to be published (exhibitions, demonstrations, publications etc), administrative levels concerned, subject categories, frequency and composition of the judging panel.

However, it is advisable for choices concerning national and infra-national awards to be based on the Guidance and choices for the Council of Europe Landscape Award as part of a process of universally accepted participatory action.

## **10. Observatories, centres or institutes**

The strong forces surrounding contemporary landscapes and the many problems connected with landscape protection, management and planning necessitate continuous observation and a forum for exchanging information; the creation of landscape monitoring bodies, centres or institutes could prove useful for this purpose. Such observatories, centres or institutes would allow observation on the basis of appropriate study protocols employing a range of indicators; they would also allow for the collection and exchange of information on policies and experience. They could be independent or part of a broader observation system.

These landscape monitoring bodies, centres or institutes could be set up at various levels – local, regional, national, international – employing interlocking observation systems, and providing the opportunity for ongoing exchanges. Thanks to these bodies, it should be possible to:

- describe the condition of landscapes at a given time;

- exchange information on policies and experience concerning protection, management and planning, public involvement and implementation at different levels;
- use and, if necessary, compile historic documents on past landscapes which could be useful for knowing how the landscapes concerned have developed (archives, text, photographs etc);
- draw up quantitative and qualitative indicators to assess the effectiveness of landscape policies;
- furnish data leading to an understanding of trends and to forecasts or forward-looking scenarios.

Exchanges of information and experience between States, regions and territorial communities, which already take place, must be based on exemplarity but should always be set against the political, social, ecological and cultural context of the original landscape.

The choice of the composition of monitoring bodies is a matter for the administrative organs concerned but should allow for collaboration between scientists, professionals and technicians from the public authorities and the public.

#### **11. Reports on the state of the landscape and of landscape policies**

States and regions should draft a report on the state of landscapes in their territories at suitable intervals on the basis of work of the landscape monitoring bodies, centres or institutes. The report should include a policy review in order to check the effectiveness of legislation and action taken.

This type of document drawn up by administrative bodies, landscape monitoring bodies, centres or institutes or other bodies and/or in collaboration between those different entities should enable the comparison of what is actually happening in the sites in question with the landscape guidelines and measures implemented, highlight the results, solutions and problems encountered and indicate new directions. The document should stand on its own or be part of a broader report in which a specific section is devoted to the landscape. However, it should not be a substitute for the regular meetings which States must hold for the purpose of implementing the European Landscape Convention and its effects.

#### **12. Transfrontier landscapes**

Transfrontier co-operation may result in joint landscape protection, management and planning programmes and take the form of instruments and measures agreed between the authorities (different administrative levels and general and sectoral competences) and parties concerned on both sides of the border.

Transfrontier co-operation is possible not only between neighbouring States but also between neighbouring regions and communities in the same country which have different landscape policies, on the basis either of territorial contiguity or common features.

#### ***Internet site and bibliographical references***

See on the Council of Europe website: <http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>, the various reports on themes developed since the opening of the European Landscape Convention for signature on 20 October 2000, particularly in the meetings of the Workshops for Implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

## *Appendix 2*

### ***Proposal for a framework text on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level***

*for use as a source of inspiration for public authorities when implementing the European Landscape Convention*

#### **Foreword**

In conformity with the European Landscape Convention and to provide better guidance for landscape policies, the framework text suggests certain legal and institutional measures that could be taken at the national level to assist in formulating, monitoring and evaluating landscape policies.

#### **Article 1. Definitions**

For the purposes of this framework text:

- a.* “Landscape” means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors;
- b.* “Landscape policy” means an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscapes;
- c.* “Landscape quality objective” means, for a specific landscape, the formulation by the competent public authorities of the aspirations of the public with regard to the landscape features of their surroundings;
- d.* “Landscape protection” means actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity;
- e.* “Landscape management” means action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes;
- f.* “Landscape planning” means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.

#### **Article 2. Scope**

This framework text applies to all the national territory and to all landscapes:

- a.* it covers all natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas and concerns inland and air areas, territorial waters, coastal zones and inland waters (wetlands, rivers, water courses, lakes and ponds);
- a.* il porte sur l’ensemble des espaces naturels, ruraux, urbains et périurbains et concerne tant les espaces terrestres et aériens, que la mer territoriale, les zones côtières, et les eaux intérieures (zones humides, fleuves, rivières, lacs et étangs);

#### **Article 3. General principles**

The general principles concern all public authorities responsible for developing and implementing landscape policy.

##### **1. Legal recognition of landscapes**

Landscapes are an essential component of people’s surroundings, as well as an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage and a foundation of their identity.

## **2. Rights and responsibilities**

Landscape protection, management and development entail rights and responsibilities for everyone.

## **3. Integrating the landscape dimension**

Public authorities at the national, regional and local levels must integrate the landscape dimension and allow for it in their policies in different sectors with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape. They must also introduce the landscape dimension into the various legal instruments for implementing these policies.

## **4. Public participation**

Action taken in connection with the preparation, implementation and follow-up of landscape policies must be preceded and accompanied by appropriate procedures for participation by the public and the players concerned, enabling them to play an active part in setting landscape quality objectives and implementing protection, management and planning measures. Information documents in plain, non-technical language should be prepared for this purpose.

## **5. Knowledge, awareness-raising, training and education**

*a.* Landscapes all over the territory should be studied in detail.

*b.* Information and awareness-raising activities should be organised at every level of the territory.

*c.* Landscape issues should be included in training for specialists in spatial planning, urban development, cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policy, as well as other policy areas likely to affect the landscape directly or indirectly.

*d.* Primary and secondary education syllabuses should include landscape education in the appropriate subject areas.

*e.* Special higher education studies focusing on landscape protection, planning and management should be encouraged.

## **6. Landscape policy**

*a.* Landscape policy involves dynamic action that reflects a concern for quality. This action may concern the protection, management or planning of landscapes, and result in concrete measures and processes, to be implemented separately or simultaneously.

*b.* Each national, regional and local authority, at its own level or responsibility, defines a landscape policy comprising action to protect, manage and plan the landscapes within its sphere of competence. This policy should be accompanied by measures to identify and classify landscapes, with a view to determining the particular place the public and the players concerned allocate to them, based on genuine familiarity with the characteristics of the places and the issues involved.

*c.* The various competent authorities, at their respective levels, prepare landscape quality objectives highlighting the particular characteristics and qualities of the landscapes concerned and specifying what steps should be taken to protect, manage and plan them. These objectives should be included in spatial and urban planning documents and policy documents in other sectors.

*d.* The material and legal steps taken to protect, manage or plan landscapes must contribute to sustainable development and, in particular, be compatible with the concern to protect the environment and to make the most of the natural and cultural heritage.

**Article 4. Division of responsibilities**

*a.* Landscape policy is a responsibility shared between the national authorities and regional and local authorities, in keeping with the principle of subsidiarity.

*b.* The Ministry of ... :

- i.* is responsible for implementing landscape policy and for interministerial co-ordination in that field;
- ii.* organises consultation with civil society and the assessment of landscape policies by an ad hoc body;
- iii.* in collaboration with the other ministries and with public participation, regularly develops and reviews a national landscape strategy laying down the guiding principles of landscape policy and describing the paths taken and the goals pursued in order to protect, manage or plan landscapes. This landscape strategy must be made public.

*c.* The ministries whose activities influence landscapes must equip themselves with departments responsible for implementing landscape policy in the course of their activities, in keeping with the principles embodied in Article 3, and regularly report on their landscape policy.

*d.* Regional and local authorities must have staff familiar with landscape issues who are capable of implementing landscape policy in their spheres of competence, taking landscapes into account at their respective territorial levels.

## APPENDIX 13

**DRAFT RULES GOVERNING THE LANDSCAPE AWARD  
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S  
EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

*as revised, taking account of the comments expressed at the Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention, to be forwarded via the relevant committees to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for adoption*

Provision is made for the Landscape Award of the European Landscape Convention (“the Award”) in Article 11 of the European Landscape Convention (Florence, 20 October 2000):

**“Article 11 – Landscape award of the Council of Europe**

*1 The Landscape award of the Council of Europe is a distinction which may be conferred on local and regional authorities and their groupings that have instituted, as part of the landscape policy of a Party to this Convention, a policy or measures to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape, which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities in Europe. The distinction may be also conferred on non-governmental organisations having made particularly remarkable contributions to landscape protection, management or planning.*

*2 Applications for the Landscape award of the Council of Europe shall be submitted to the Committees of Experts mentioned in Article 10 by the Parties. Transfrontier local and regional authorities and groupings of local and regional authorities concerned may apply provided that they jointly manage the landscape in question.*

*3 On proposals from the Committees of Experts mentioned in Article 10 the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the Landscape award of the Council of Europe, adopt the relevant rules and confer the Award.*

*4 The granting of the Landscape award of the Council of Europe is to encourage those receiving the award to ensure the sustainable protection, management and/or planning of the landscape areas concerned.”*

\* \* \*

**1. AIM**

a. The Award is an honorary distinction which rewards a policy or measures implemented by local and regional authorities or non-governmental organisations for the sustainable protection, management and/or planning of landscapes. It reflects the wish of the Parties to the Convention (“the Parties”) to reward exemplary practical initiatives and landscape training and education which promote the achievement of high landscape quality in their territories.

b. The Award is in line with the Council of Europe’s work in favour of human rights, democracy and sustainable development. It emphasises the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve people’s environment and quality of life.

c. The Award is the culmination of a vast process of implementation of the Convention at the national and transnational levels to give encouragement and recognition to landscapes of quality. Amongst other things, it helps to make people more aware of the importance of landscape quality in

their lives and of the various threats and opportunities that face them. It fosters public participation in the decision-making process concerning landscape policies.

d. The candidates for the Award must expressly mention to which provision of the Convention their achievement refers. This achievement must have been completed at least three years ago.

## **2. QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES**

a. “Local or regional authorities” (or their groupings) or “non-governmental organisations” may be candidates, singly or in partnership.

b. Local or regional authorities in more than one contracting Party (or their groupings) working in favour of a cross-border landscape may also apply, provided that they protect, manage and/or plan the landscape jointly.

## **3. PROCEDURE**

The procedure consists of two stages:

### **Stage 1: Presentation of candidatures to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe**

Applications must be submitted by the Parties. They may be the result of a competition organised by each Party taking into account the Award criteria appended to these rules.

Each Party may submit one candidate in each category to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe in each of the categories mentioned above.

The application, in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe (French or English), should include:

- a presentation of the candidate(s) (no more than 3 typed pages);
- a presentation of an achievement for the protection, management and/or planning of the landscape, which have demonstrated their lasting effects and can thus serve as an example (5 typed pages and 20 illustrations presented, a CD-ROM in PDF format and a video of 5 minutes).

Files that are incomplete or do not respect the rules, will not be taken into consideration.

The Award is given every two years, from 2008 on. The registration forms must be sent to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe at the latest by 30 May of the Award year.

### **Stage 2: European level**

#### ***a. Setting up a jury***

The international jury is formed for the year of the Award and composed of:

- one member of each of the committees of experts responsible for monitoring the Convention, appointed by the committees concerned;
- one member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, appointed by the Congress;

- one representative of an international non-governmental organisation, appointed by the Secretary General under proposal of the Grouping of INGOs enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe;
- three eminent authorities on landscape, appointed by the Secretariat of the Council of Europe.

Every Award year the Secretary General of the Council of Europe will appoint among the members of the Jury, a person will become its chair. In case of equal votes, the vote of the chair of the jury will be dominant.

***b. Deliberation and selection of Award winners***

The jury shall select the award winners by an absolute majority for the first two rounds of voting, and by a relative majority for the following round, based on the criteria set out in the Appendix to these Rules, stating the reasons for its choice.

One special mention per category may also be awarded.

The jury's decision is final.

***c. Presentation of the Award***

The Committee of Ministers shall present winners with the Council of Europe European Landscape Convention Award, mentioning the reasons for the Award and the year.

The Awards shall be presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his/her representative.

Awards will be presented in each of the three categories every two years from 2008 onwards, at a public ceremony, if possible on 20 October, the date on which the Convention was opened for signature.

**4. PROMOTION**

a. Each Party is invited to advertise the criteria set out in these Rules and to have the Rules translated into its national language(s).

b. Each Party and the Secretariat of the Council of Europe shall encourage media coverage of the Award in order to publicise its existence.

**5. REVISION OF THE RULES**

These Rules shall be revised every 5 years if necessary.

***Appendix***

***Criteria for the allocation of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's  
European Landscape Convention***

**CRITERION 1 – SUSTAINABLE TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT**

The policy or measures implemented should clearly be working towards the achievement of sustainable protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned and:

- be part of a sustainable territorial development policy designed to achieve their harmonious integration into the physical organisation of the land;
- demonstrate their environmental, social, cultural, economic and aesthetic sustainability;
- counter any degradation, impoverishment or deterioration of the landscape ;
- help to upgrade and enrich the landscape and develop new qualities.

**CRITERION 2 – EXEMPLARY VALUE**

The policy or measures implemented that have helped to improve the protection, management and/or planning of landscapes should set an example of good practices for others to follow.

**CRITERION 3 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The policy or measures implemented with a view to the protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned should involve the active participation of the public (local population and other players) and should clearly reflect people's aspirations for their landscapes; the public should be able to participate simultaneously in two ways:

- through dialogue and exchanges between social actors (public meetings, debates, procedures for consultation and participation in the field, for example);
- via procedures for public participation and involvement in the landscape policies set in place by the national, regional or local authorities.

**CRITERION 4 – EDUCATIONAL EFFECTS**

The policy or measures implemented with a view to the improvement of knowledge, understanding and responsible perception of the landscape values, characteristics and evolution.

## APPENDIX 14

**PROPOSALS FOR THE 2007 WORK PROGRAMME  
OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

*(and plans for some activities over the period 2008-2009)*

*The Members of the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage (CDPAT), the Committee of Senior Officials of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning (CSO-CEMAT) together with the governmental officials responsible for implementing the European Landscape Convention and other partners are asked to examine proposals for the 2007 Work Programme of the European Landscape Convention and to indicate whether they wish to make voluntary contributions towards some of the activities mentioned.*

The layout is based on the articles of the European Landscape Convention. Activities with an asterisk will be developed according to voluntary contributions received or to sponsorship. Activities not carried out in 2007 may be postponed until 2008 or 2009. Consultants will be engaged to carry out the studies.

Activities for 2007 [2008-2009]	Ordinary budget of the Council of Europe for 2007 (in Euros) <sup>17</sup>	Voluntary contributions requested for 2007 (in Euros)
<b>I. NATIONAL MEASURES (Chapter II of the Convention)</b>		
<b>A. GENERAL MEASURES (Article 5 of the Convention)</b>		
<b>a. Legal recognition of landscapes</b>		
– Updating of the study “The law applicable to landscapes in comparative and international law” <sup>*</sup> Terms of reference: update the study carried out under the aegis of the CoE Congress (document CG (4) 6 of 5 May 1997, Appendix II), translation and publication.		5000
<b>b. Definition and establishment of landscape policies</b>		
– Meeting for the preparation of the Guidance for implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level and preparation of the document Terms of reference: establish Orientations for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.	2400 2000	
– Conference on the implementation of the Guidance for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level (Rome) <sup>*</sup> (2008) Terms of reference: Conference on the implementation of the Orientations for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.		9000
<b>c. Establishment of procedures for participation</b>		
– Geographical extension of the study on participation <sup>*</sup> Terms of reference: extend the application of the “Comparative study of legislation on public participation in landscape matters in the context of implementation of the European Landscape Convention” to the States		

<sup>17</sup> These figures do not include the voluntary contributions already received.

not included yet (T-FLOR 3 (2004) 6).		
<b>d. Integration of landscapes in national policies</b>		
– Study on “Expansion of industrial zones and out-of-town shopping centres: solutions for the landscape”* Terms of reference: study the existing situation in various Council of Europe member States and make proposals for implementing Article 5.d of the Convention concerning the integration of landscape into regional and town planning policies.		4000
– Study on “Landscape, energy and windmills”* Terms of reference: make proposals for implementing Article 5.d of the Convention concerning the integration of landscape into policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.		4000
– Study on “Landscape and billposting”* Terms of reference: study existing legislation in various Council of Europe member States and make proposals for implementing Article 5.d of the Convention concerning the integration of landscape into policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.		4000
– Study on “Landscape and leisure” (With the support of The Netherlands)* Terms of reference: study existing strategies in various Council of Europe member States and make proposals for implementing Article 5.d of the Convention concerning the integration of landscape into policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.		
<b>B. SPECIFIC MEASURES (Article 6 of the Convention)</b>		
<b>a. Awareness-raising</b>		
– Special issue of the European Landscape and Heritage magazine NaturCulturoropa on “Rural vernacular housing, part of our landscape heritage”* (No. 104) Terms of reference: to examine the importance of vernacular housing in landscape.		20 000 (Voluntary contribution of 7886.87 Euros received at the beginning of 2006)
– Special issue of the European Landscape and Heritage magazine NaturCulturoropa on “Public spaces and landscape”* (for 2008) (No. 105) Terms of reference: to examine the role of public spaces and public life in relation to landscape.		
– Special issue of the European Landscape and Heritage magazine NaturCulturoropa on “Cross-cultural landscapes”* (for 2009) (No. 106) Terms of reference: to look at how landscape contributes to the formation of local cultures and is a basic component of Europe’s cultural heritage, helping to consolidate the European identity (preamble to the European Landscape Convention)		
– Project of International Heritage Photographic Experience (IHPE) for youth on the monument in the landscape*		
– Diaporama on the European Landscape Convention* Terms of reference: set up a diaporama on the Convention illustrating		

the content of the main articles.		
– Project on the Sound Column of the European Landscape*		
<b>b. Training and education</b>		
– Study on “Landscape and education of children” Terms of reference: make proposals for implementing Article 5.d of the Convention concerning the integration of landscape theme into educational policies.	3000	
– Training: landscape architects (in association with ECLAS)* Terms of reference: assess the current situation as regards training for landscape architects in Council of Europe member States and make proposals. Other professional sectors could be studied later on.		
<b>c. Identification and assessment</b>		
(See: - Document in preparation “Guidance for implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level” - Meeting of European Landscape Convention Workshops - Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention - Other meetings)	In progress	
<b>d. Landscape quality objectives</b>		
(See: - Document in preparation “Guidance for implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level” - Meeting of European Landscape Convention Workshops - Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention - Other meetings)	In progress	
<b>e. Implementation</b>		
(See: - Document in preparation “Guidance for implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level” - Meeting of European Landscape Convention Workshops - Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention - Other meetings)	In progress	
– Local Landscape Management Template Terms of reference: explain to elected representatives how to take into consideration landscape in planning operations.	3000	
<b>II. INTERNATIONAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES (Article 7 of the Convention)</b>		
<b>A. MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION (Article 8 of the Convention)</b>		
<b>a. Mutual assistance</b>		
States willing to give assistance to other States are invited to inform the Secretariat. An information seminar on the Convention has already been held in the following States:		
– Support for the development of a national strategy in Armenia*		6000
– Contribution to the international Conference “Sustainable development. Environment, society and Man”, Russian Federation*		

– Support for the development of a project in Albania*		6000
<b>b. Exchange of information</b>		
– Preparation of the 6 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention, “Landscape, agriculture and rural heritage” Participants: Contracting Parties, observer States, qualified organisations and experts active in this field Venue: Sibiu, Romania 20-21 September 2007 Terms of reference: share experience (good and bad practice) in the area in question.	9100 + <i>interpretation</i>	3000
– Preparation of the 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention, “Integrated spatial management” (provisional title) Participants: Contracting Parties, observer States, qualified organisations and experts active in this field Venue: Slovak Republic, May 2008 Terms of reference: share experience (good and bad practice) in the area in question.	9100 + <i>interpretation</i>	3000
– Network of landscape universities and centres Terms of reference: continue building the network of landscape universities and centres on the European Landscape Convention web site.	In progress	
– Stimulating the international exchange of knowledge for the European Landscape Convention, focusing on NGO’s (With the support of The Netherlands)*		
– Compendium of good experience relating to landscapes Terms of reference: gather information on positive experience in the field of landscape protection, management and planning, to be submitted when organising the Council of Europe Landscape Award.	In progress	
– Meeting on landscape and material and intangible heritage – legal aspects (in partnership with the CEDE)*		
<b>B. TRANSFRONTIER LANDSCAPES (Article 9 of the Convention)</b>		
– Study on “Transfrontier landscapes” Terms of reference: make proposals for implementing Article 9 of the Convention concerning transfrontier landscapes	In progress	
– Landscape of the Tisza/Tisa river basin* Terms of reference: support for the development of a transfrontier strategy between Ukraine, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Serbia and Montenegro.		3000
– Landscape of the Danube delta river basin* Terms of reference: support for the development of a transfrontier strategy between Moldova, Romania and Ukraine.		3000
<b>C. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION (Article 10 of the Convention)</b>		
– Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention Participants: all Contracting Parties. Observers: all the observer States and qualified organisations active in	6400 7600 + <i>interpretation</i>	

<p>this field. Venue: Strasbourg, 2 days, 11 persons and 5 consultants paid Terms of reference: promote the Convention.</p>		
<b>D. LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE (Article 11 of the Convention)</b>		
<p>– 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award Terms of reference: launch the 1<sup>st</sup> session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award (2008).</p>	In progress	
<b>III. INFORMATION MEETINGS ON THE CONVENTION</b>		
<p>– Information Seminar on the European Landscape Convention Participants: all Contracting Parties Observers: all observer States and qualified organisations active in this field. Venue: Cyprus, 3 experts paid, 2 days Terms of reference: inform the main players in the field of landscape of the objectives of the Convention.</p>	2700	
<p>– Side Event on the European Landscape Convention at the European Conference “An Environment for Europe”*</p>		6000
<b>IV. OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Fixed appropriation to cover travel expenses to attend Convention meetings		
<b>A. Chair expenses</b>		
<p>– Fixed appropriation to cover travel and/or subsistence expenses of the Chair, the former Chair or their representative after consulting the Council of Europe Secretariat.*</p>		4000
<b>B. Representatives of certain central and eastern European States</b>		
<p>– Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by representatives of certain Contracting Parties in central and eastern Europe in order to attend Convention meetings.*</p>		5000
<b>C. Experts’ and Secretariat travel</b>		
<p>– Travel and subsistence expenses for experts to attend major meetings and expenses relating to Secretariat missions.*</p>		3000
<b>D. Web site maintenance</b>	In progress	15000
<b>E. Proceedings of meetings of the European Landscape Convention Workshops and publication on European Landscape Convention reports</b>	6600	
<b>F. Information material on the Convention*</b>		
<b>Total</b>	42800 <sup>18</sup>	100000 <sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Budget allocated for European Landscape Convention Activities for 2007 under the Council of Europe’s ordinary budget. This figure does not include postage, interpretation and translation expenses.

<sup>19</sup> Figure for Projects 2005/GD4/VC/764 and 2005/GD4/VC/765.

## APPENDIX 15

### PRESS RELEASE



#### **Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention – Strasbourg, 22-23 March 2007**

Strasbourg, 23 March 2007 – The representatives of numerous European States and governmental and non-governmental organisations met in Strasbourg on 22 and 23 March 2007 for the Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention.

The Conference was opened by Mrs Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport, Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mrs Eleonora PETROVA-MITEVSKA, Representative of the Committee of Ministers, President of the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C), Mr Etienne VAN VAERENBERGH, Vice President of the Committee on Sustainable Development of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and Mr Enrico BUERGI, President of the Conference of the European Landscape Convention on the occasion of its entry into force.

The aim of the Conference is to present to all member and observer States of the Council of Europe, and to international governmental and non-governmental organisations, the progress of achievements to date in the implementation of the Convention, and to deal with practical questions following its entry into force. The participants of the Conference expressed their great interest in looking after the European landscapes and continued a co-operation process aimed at implementing the Convention. Final Conclusions were adopted.

The European Landscape Convention was adopted in Florence (Italy) on 20 October 2000 and came into force on 1 March 2004, with the aim of promoting European landscape protection, management and planning, and organising European co-operation in this area. The Convention is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with all aspects of European landscape. It applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes.

The Convention represents an important contribution to the implementation of the Council of Europe's objectives, namely to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law and to seek common solutions to the main problems facing European society today. By taking into account landscape qualities, the Council of Europe seeks to protect Europeans' quality of life and individual and collective well-being.

As of 23 March 2007, 26 States had ratified the Convention: Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom. 8 States had signed but not ratified it: Azerbaijan, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

#### ***For more information:***

*Council of Europe – DG IV – Directorate of Culture and Natural Heritage*

*Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Spatial Planning Division*  
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex, France  
[landscape@coe.int](mailto:landscape@coe.int)  
<http://www.coe.int/europeanlandscapeconvention>