

DISCUSSION ON THE PRESENTATIONS OF THE WORKSHOPS 1-3

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“Firstly, I wish to express my gratitude to the Council of Europe for the invitation to attend the highly important event on “Landscape and trans frontier cooperation” and to congratulate the organizers for their provisions and the pertinent work program. I wish to contribute with a number of concluding points to the excellent presentations of Workshops 1-3. The first one is that people and their communities have had in the past and continue to have a role in the meaning and the form of a landscape. This role needs to be recognized in the management plan. The second point is that monitoring landscape transformations is critical, as such transformations are early indicators for potential uptake for urban development. The third point is that landscape protection needs to take into account both natural and cultural heritage as well as traces of the past. The fourth point is that trans-disciplinary involvement and cooperation is missing, although it is a strong prerequisite for the holistic and integrated management plan for a landscape. The fifth and final point is that economy within and around the landscape is mutually dependent to the state of the landscape. To this end, heritage economics and natural capital accounting need to be integrated in the management plan of the landscape. Furthermore new funding sources need to be exploited, such as the natural capital facility of the European Investment Bank and the European Commission which provides investments in funds to support projects that promote the preservation of natural capital, as well as public – private partnerships with the potential to resulting in long term revenue streams. It is important to mention that such partnerships need to respect heritage conservation and be culturally sensitive.”