

Dear guests, ladies and gentlemen

Let me greet the participants of 18th Conference of European Council “European Landscape Convention Implementation National Policies: challenges and opportunities” and especially to mention efforts for elaborating the Conference of the Head of Culture, Heritage and Landscape Committee responsible for the obligations of European Council European Landscape Convention.

As we know at 2004 the Republic of Armenia verified the European Landscape Convention due to the Parliament Degree with which was started the process of protection, management and planning of natural and handmade landscapes and we were engaged to implement the provisions stated by the Convention.

During last few years in the Republic of Armenia were carried out several consecutive steps to realize the provisions stated by the Convention mostly directed to landscape problems revelation, analyze and making national basis in this regard.

These phase steps are laid down on appropriate legal acts. At the same time aiming to focus the attention of professionals and public to the landscape problem there were held conferences about spatial planning and landscapes discussion on the international level.

Main objectives of the Conference are as follows:

1. to introduce studies of National policies and developing practices on landscape protection, management and planning adopted by the states ratified the European Landscape Convention
2. to discover key challenges and identify existing problems
3. the implementation of the Convention should be aimed at the exchange of experience in connection with new concept and achievements

I am confident that the results of the Conference will give new impetus to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention objectives as well as will encourage the consistent implementation of landscape policy, especially for the development of sustainable spatial development and innovation.

Dear colleagues, I welcome the participants of the Conference once again and wish all of us a fruitful work.