



# STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

Strasbourg, 7 October 2019

CEP-CDCPP-WG(2019)3E

## WORKING GROUP ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

### *INTEGRATION OF LANDSCAPE IN SECTORAL POLICIES*

#### **1st Meeting**

#### **REPORT**

Council of Europe Office, Paris

12 September 2019

*Secretariat document of the Council of Europe  
Democratic Participation Department*

## **I. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, opened the Meeting and welcomed the participants (list of participants in Appendix 1 to this Report).

The Working Group nominated Mr Gilles Rudaz, Scientific Officer of the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment and Vice-Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on Landscape, as Chair of the Working Group on Integration of landscape in sectoral policies.

The participants thanked Mrs Krisztina Kincses, National Representative of the European Landscape Convention at the Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary, Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, for the publication on the Hungarian National Landscape Strategy (2017-2026), an important reference document.

## **II. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA**

*[Document: CEP-CDCPP-WG (2019) 1E]*

The Working Group adopted the agenda as it appears in Appendix 2 to this Report.

## **III. EXAMINATION OF THE WORKING DOCUMENT**

*[Document: CEP-CDCPP-WG (2019) 2E]*

The Working Group reviewed the working document (Version1) prepared by Mrs Lionella Scazzosi, Professor at the Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy, and Mr Yves Luginbühl, Emeritus Research Director at the National Centre for Scientific Research of France, as Experts of the Council of Europe.

The Working Group took note of the comments made by Mrs Mireille Deconinck, Attachée at the Directorate of Regional Planning of the Public Service of Wallonia for Territory, Housing, Heritage and Energy of Belgium, prior to the meeting, and made the following comments:

- The report should focus, from the introduction, on the provisions of Article 5 (d) of the European Landscape Convention on landscape integration in sectoral policies and refer to Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention;
- The report should argue for the usefulness of integrating the landscape into sectoral policies and then present the possible modalities of integration, so that general recommendations can be used in the framework of public policies, whatever the territory concerned and the level of authority, with each State implementing the Convention according to the division of powers specific to it;
- The report should be more concise and references to links could be made for specific developments;
- It would be useful to refer, where appropriate, to the thematic reports on the European Landscape Convention published by the Council of Europe (eg. page 16, the report on “Professional recognition of landscape architects” and page 46, the report, “The landscape in rural territories in energy, agricultural and demographic transition”);
- As the draft report currently focuses on the experiences of France and Italy, more general considerations should be presented so that the report can, as far as possible, concern all States; examples of various States should also be mentioned, based on the experiences shared at Council of Europe meetings for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and in the Information System for the implementation of the Convention;
- Chapter A. Dedicated and non-dedicated policies (starting on page 9): the question arises of the usefulness of listing protected areas (nature) in different States. This long description, which is of course not exhaustive, implies a reading according to which landscape is

- equivalent to nature, which does not correspond to the definition of the European Landscape Convention and the subsequent developments followed in order to implement the Convention;
- With regard to Belgium, for example (page 12-14), the Heritage law (Law of 1901) is the one which, historically, protects outstanding landscapes. Corrections should be made to the report with regard to Belgium’s landscape policies.

Discussion indicated that the report could follow the following plan:

### **Introduction**

- Definitions;
- Explanation of the desire to limit the subject of the report to the question of integration in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention in which each Party undertakes:
  - “d. 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”;
- Mention the relevant parts of Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, without repetitive reference to it;
- Highlight the responsibility of the actors in charge of sectoral policies towards the landscape.

### **Part 1. Sectoral policies (topics)**

It would be appropriate to resume the developments in the context of five major topics:

- 1) The integration of the landscape into spatial/regional planning and town planning policies (with infrastructure, in particular);
  - 2) Landscape integration in cultural and environmental policies;
  - 3) Landscape integration in agricultural policies;
  - 4) Landscape integration in energy policies;
  - 5) Landscape integration in social and economic policies (with the issue of health, in particular).
- It would be useful to indicate for each topic why actors of sectoral policies are concerned, and how the ways of acting affect the landscape; how the landscape is transformed by certain sectoral policies without the concerned actors really being aware of it.
  - The [Directive 2001/42/EC — Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive \(SEA\)](#) should be mentioned, but bearing in mind that it does not apply to all States Parties to the Convention. Furthermore Article 3.8 of the Directive states that financial or budget plans and programmes are not subject to this Directive. Finally, this evaluation will only have any real meaning for the integration of landscape into sectoral policies if it positions landscape as a vector for decompartmentalising public policies, approaching it from the angle of its diversity of uses and functionalities, and not only from the aesthetic or visual angle, which is also only in relation to the parts of territories that are subject to legal protection.

- It is appropriate to refer to case studies to show that some formulas are working and are already in effect. However, it is not a question of enumerating the policies of the States. The case studies are illustrative.

### **Boxes**

At the end of each theme, it would be necessary to make a small inset that presents a summary argument. This argument should, as a matter of priority, make it clear to sectoral policy actors that they are concerned and have a responsibility towards the landscape. Their actions impact the landscape. The central message must initiate a paradigm shift that sees the landscape as an added value, not just a constraint.

### **Part 2. Argument and concrete proposals that can guide public policies**

The purpose of this part is to promote integrated approaches, that is those that transcend sectoral approaches, to provide a holistic approach to landscape. There are various modalities to promote this approach. It would be ideal to draw up a typology.

This part 2 will be shorter than part 1.

### **Conclusion**

- Present the usefulness of national strategies for landscape;
- Indicate how landscape integration can benefit sectoral policies.

### **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

### **V. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The Working Group considered that the Report, which will be revised by the Experts by mid-November (Version 2), will be transmitted by the Secretariat to the members of the Working Group, with a view to their possible comments by the end of November.

The revised version (Version 3), based on these comments, will be transmitted to the Working Party in December 2019.

A second meeting of the Working Group could be held in the first months of 2020, to finalise the work.

### **VI. CLOSING OF THE MEETING**

The Chair of the Working Group thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

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**APPENDIX 1**

**DRAFT LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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**APPENDIX 2**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

- I. OPENING OF THE MEETING**
- II. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA**  
*[Document: CEP-CDCPP-WG (2019) 1E]*
- III. EXAMINATION OF THE WORKING DOCUMENT**  
*[Document: CEP-CDCPP-WG (2019) 2E]*
- IV. OTHER BUSINESS**
- V. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**
- VI. CLOSING OF THE MEETING**