

CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF EUROPE

Recommendation 94 (2001)¹ on the conclusions of the 12th European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning (Cemat) and the follow-up action to be taken (Hanover, 7-8 September 2000)

The Congress,

1. Having regard to the results of the 12th European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning held in Hanover on 7 and 8 September 2000;

2. Recalling the following texts adopted by the Ministerial Conference:

– the “Guiding principles for sustainable spatial development of the European continent”;

– Resolution 1 – A 10-point programme for greater cohesion among the regions of Europe;

– Resolution 2 on the organisation of the 13th European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning.

3. Recommends that the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning implement Section V – spatial development measures for the individual regions of Europe of the “Guiding Principles” by taking into consideration the following initiatives:

a. Cultural landscape

i. encourage the signature and ratification of the European Landscape Convention;

ii. support the activities, brought up in the framework of the Pan-European Strategy for Biological and Landscape Diversity, for integrating biological diversity in sectoral policies;

iii. promote better consideration of landscape planning in training programmes of several disciplines and in interdisciplinary programmes and support the initiatives of creating international landscape academies and institutes.

b. Urban areas

i. have in mind the work programme of the CLRAE Committee on Sustainable Development concerning urban policies, particularly the application of the principles of the European Urban Charter;

ii. take note of the proposals emerging from the United Nations Commission on “Human Settlements” within the context of the UN review, in 2001, of the Habitat Agenda.

c. Rural areas

envisage the preparation of guiding principles for sustainable rural development.

d. Mountains

analyse the impact which the demographic and ecological changes currently taking place in mountain regions may have on the territories of the plain.

e. Coastal and insular regions

take into consideration the model law on the sustainable management of coastal areas taken into consideration by the Committee of Ministers on 9 September 2000 and promote co-operation between the Committee of Senior Officials of the Cemat and the CLRAE who will prepare a report on local authorities and coastal management.

f. Euro-corridors

examine whether the development of the Euro-corridors is based on a strategic environmental evaluation.

g. Flood plains and water meadows

take into consideration the CLRAE studies on transboundary waters and territorial authorities and on local authorities and natural disasters, with a view to launching some specific activities such as:

– supporting the initiative of creating ecological river networks and transfrontier corridors;

– elaborating, in the perspective of spatial/regional planning, a map of river areas at high risk of flooding;

– setting-up an observatory suitable to analyse all the economic, social and ecological functions of the hydro-systems.

h. Redundant industrial sites

elaborate a project concerning the revalorisation of abandoned areas in the perspective of sustainable development.

i. Border regions

promote the preparation of transfrontier co-operation agreements concerning the different themes contained in the Guiding principles, in the perspective of sustainable development.

4. Asks the institutions of the European Union to support the initiative of launching, in the framework of the Interreg, Phare and Tacis programmes, a training programme for central and eastern European local and regional authorities, in order to ensure a know-how transfer in the field of spatial planning

1. Debated by the Congress and adopted on 31 May 2001, 3rd Sitting (see Doc. CG (8) 11, draft recommendation presented by Ms S. Rihtniemi, rapporteur).

